

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
EDGEMONT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Edgemont Junior-Senior High School Auditorium  
May 24, 2016  
8:15 P.M.

Board president David M. C. Stern, vice-president Anish Nanavaty, Board members, Michael Bianchi, David Chao, Jennifer Darger, Jonathan Faust, and Brian Yarrington were present. Superintendent Victoria S. Kniewel and Assistant Superintendent Susan Shirken, District Clerk Rosemary DeVito, Jennifer Allen, Michael Curtin, Eve Feuerstein, Devan Ganeshananthan, Edward Kennedy, and Edward W. Stickles also attended. There were 10 community members present including students, faculty, and staff.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board president David M. C. Stern called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

At 7:01 P.M. Jennifer Darger made a motion to adjourn the public meeting and to begin Executive Session to discuss special education students, personnel, negotiations, legal and professional matters. Jonathan Faust seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

At 8:24 P.M. Jennifer Darger made a motion to readjourn to public session. Jonathan Faust seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING

Jennifer Darger made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes for May 10, 2016. Anish Nanavaty seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Anish Nanavaty made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for April 2016. Brian Yarrington seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

#### IV. RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY

David M. C. Stern welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting.

Eve Feuerstein announced Jeremy Goldstein, senior, as the Edgemont High School winner of a National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship.

She then read the names of the 2016 Metropolitan High School Theater Awards recipients. They are James Brandfonbrender (Outstanding Instrumentalist for this year's spring musical, *Into the Woods*) and Aya Nakamura (Graphic Design for this year's spring musical, *Into the Woods*). Eve announced that the Edgemont High School Orchestra was nominated under the Best Student Orchestra category and consultants Ellen Pyne and Nathan Mattingly were nominated under the Costume Design category.

All students received a round of applause.

Jennifer Allen announced the results of the "kids' vote" involving students from Seely Place and Greenville Schools. On Tuesday, May 17, 2016 students were asked two questions: (1) to vote for their favorite electronic device--the results were 51 for the iPad, 45 for the iPhone, and 30 for the Chromebook. Question: (2) out of four choices, which lunch would you like to see offered next year—the results were 64 for quesadillas, 44 for barbecue chicken sandwich, 42 for tacos and 22 voted for burritos. As a result of the vote, Edgemont Elementary PTA will offer quesadillas as a lunch choice next year at both schools.

Eve Feuerstein then introduced Edgemont's Chamber Choir/Vocal Jazz Ensemble and the vocal music director, Kelley Morse. Kelley announced that the ensemble won their third consecutive Berklee National Vocal Jazz Festival Championship. The students performed three songs for the board, administration, and the community.

The first song they performed was, "*Come Back to Me*" arranged by Kerry Marsh, "*Lullaby of Birdland*" was the second song performed arranged by Kerry Marsh, and the last "*Oh Lady be Good*" arranged by Darmon Meader.

Kelley said she is very proud of the students she teaches because of their dedication and hard work.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS

Victoria Kniewel asked the board to approve the gifts as listed.

Jonathan Faust made a motion to accept the monetary gifts from the Edgemont PTSA, anonymous donors, Target, the Autism Speaks Club, and the Nibhanipudi family as listed. Jennifer Darger seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

- The Nibhanipudi Family:  
\$2,000 for Student Scholarship Award in Memory of Vijay Nibhanipudi,  
Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School

RESOLUTION

15-521

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts, with great appreciation, a gift in the amount of \$2,000 to be awarded to a student at the awards ceremony on June 1, 2016 to honor the memory of Vijay Nibhanipudi.

- Anonymous Donors
  - \$1,372 Requested for Edgemont Athletics

RESOLUTION

15-522

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts, with great appreciation, a donation in the amount of \$1,372 from anonymous donors to be used for Edgemont Athletics.

- Target, Take Charge of Education Program
  - \$100 Requested for Seely Place School

RESOLUTION

15-523

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts, with great appreciation, a gift in the amount of \$100.00 to be used for Seely Place School from Target, through their Take Charge of Education Program.

- \$100 Requested for Edgemont Jr./Sr. High School

RESOLUTION

15-524

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts, with great appreciation, a gift in the amount of \$100.00 to be used for Edgemont Jr./Sr. High School from Target, through their Take Charge of Education Program.

- Edgemont PTSA
  - \$1,860.68 Requested for Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School Activities

RESOLUTION

15-525

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts, with great appreciation, a donation in the amount of \$1,860.68 from the Edgemont PTSA to be used as follows:

- \$587.68 for buses for Science Scholars Student Exchange Program
  - \$503 for the Senior Barbeque
  - \$770 for the Field Day lunch for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders
- Autism Speaks Club
    - \$550 Requested for Greenville School's Intensive Communication Achievement Program (ICAP) Program

RESOLUTION

15-526

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts, with great appreciation, a donation in the amount of \$550 to be used for the Intensive Communication Achievement Program (ICAP) at the Greenville School in memory of Marla Weizner.

David M. C. Stern thanked the community for their generosity with great appreciation. David then asked that Personnel Item 2.2.1 be taken out of order.

Victoria Kniewel asked Dr. Edward Kennedy to come forward to say a few words.

Dr. Kennedy spoke on behalf of Elizabeth Molisani and her time at Edgemont. He said it has been a privilege and an honor to work with Elizabeth who started in 1973. Dr. Kennedy described Elizabeth as "bright and skilled in her craft; she will be sorely missed."

David Chao made a motion to accept the Resignation Due to Retirement of Elizabeth Molisani, teacher at Seely Place School, with great appreciation for many decades of outstanding service. Jennifer Darger seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

Elizabeth received a standing ovation.

2. Resignations Due to Retirement
- 2.1 Elizabeth Molisani, Teacher, Seely Place School

#### RESOLUTION

15-527

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Elizabeth Molisani, Teacher at Seely Place Elementary School, effective June 30, 2016.

Elizabeth Molisani spoke of her time at Edgemont and how much Edgemont means to her and to her family. She said, “Edgemont will always be a special place to me.”

#### VI. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

1. Chamber Choir Performance Kelley Morse

Please note the Chamber Choir Performance was recognized under the Recognition of Community portion of the agenda.

2. Budget and School Board Election Results Victoria Kniewel and Susan Shirken

Victoria Kniewel presented a budget update and thanked the community for a very successful budget vote. Victoria reported a total of 443 votes: 355 yes votes and 88 no votes. Victoria thanked Sue Shirken for all her hard work and the Board for their support.

David M. C. Stern congratulated Alec Clarke, Ken Orce, and Judy Seiff as newly-elected members of the board. They will join the Board beginning in July of this year. Alec, Ken, and Judy received a round of applause.

Victoria Kniewel then introduced Mike Curtin to give an update on the Tri-States Math Visit Preparation

### 3. Update on Tri-States Math Visit Preparation

Michael Curtin

Victoria Kniewel asked Mike Curtin to talk about the Tri-States Math Visit Preparation. Through PowerPoint, Mike and Bryan Paul gave the Board an update on the work to prepare for the upcoming Tri-States Consortium K-12 Math visit scheduled to take place on March 15-17 of 2017. Mike began with a brief overview of the purpose and process of Tri-States and talked about the essential questions that they prepared. He said this is an ongoing process and that planning has proven to be very valuable as it fosters collaboration among the schools.

Comments and Questions among board members:

David Chao asked for clarification regarding what Tri-States is looking for. Mike Curtin responded that they will look at the things the committee shows them. They will not identify anything as being right or wrong, and they don't specifically say what should be adopted. David asked for clarification regarding the selection of high-performing districts. Mike Curtin said he doesn't know what the criteria are. Victoria Kniewel interjected that there is an application process.

Jonathan Faust asked how do we make sure the right questions are being asked. Mike Curtin responded that the questions are shared with consultant, Kathy Riley, and she in turn provides feedback.

Michael Bianchi asked whether the dialogue regarding Science Tri-States has continued and whether there is a plan to assure that what is learned from the experience is progressing. Bryan Paul responded that there is a great deal of sharing among teachers resulting in curriculum realignment. Michael Bianchi asked how STI courses add value to this model. Michael Curtin responded that the STI courses act as the driver and can be the best kind of professional development when teachers work together organizing the curriculum and charting a path forward.

Anish Nanavaty asked about objectives and the focus. Bryan responded that Tri-States will make recommendations using the four essential questions as a guide.

David M. C. Stern commented that Tri-States is something that he looks forward to because their visits have led to more progress and bringing us forward in educating students. This experience gives teachers a chance to corroborate with each other. David said, "I am delighted that we are continuing to put the emphasis on this."

Jennifer Darger asked what benefits have been derived from the work regarding placement practices. Bryan responded that it is the hope that current instructional strategies will be addressed to improve the academic needs of all students at various levels. Jennifer said it seems to be more data driven than emotion driven; we are looking forward to this visit.

David M. C. Stern asked that Walk-In-Business Item C.8. be motioned separately and approved by roll call vote.

Anish Nanavaty made a motion for the authorization to cast a roll-call vote on the Westchester Putnam School Boards Association Nominating Committee Slate of Officers and Directors. Jonathan Faust seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

#### Business

C.8. Authorization to Cast Vote on the WPSBA Nominating Committee  
Slate of Officers and Directors

#### RESOLUTION

15-528

RESOLVED: At the meeting of the Edgemont Board of Education, held on Tuesday, May 24, 2016, that the 2016-2017 Nominating Slate of Officers and Directors was voted upon as requested by Westchester Putnam School Boards Association.

The following Board Members voted Aye:

David M. C. Stern, Board president	Jennifer Darger, Board member
Anish Nanavaty, Vice-president	Jonathan Faust, Board member
Michael Bianchi, Board member	Brian Yarrington, Board member
David Chao, Board member	

The following Board Members voted Nay:

None

The vote on the above resolution was as follows:

Aye	<u>Seven (7)</u>	Nay	<u>Zero (0)</u>	Absent	<u>None (0)</u>
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Victoria Kniewel asked that students with the following numbers be approved for services:

Jennifer Darger made a motion to approve the programs/services for Student #1775 and Student #1669 as listed by the Director of Pupil Personnel Services. Anish Nanavaty seconded the motion. David M. C. Stern recused himself and the motion was approved as follows: 6 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Recusal 0 Absent

Jennifer Darger made a motion to approve the programs/services for the remaining eleven (11) students as listed by the Director of Pupil Personnel Services. Jonathan Faust seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

B. Students

1. Programs/Services for thirteen (13) CPSE students and seven (7) CSE students (CPSE and CSE meetings held during April and May, 2016)

RESOLUTION

15-529

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Committee on Preschool Special Education/Committee on Special Education, the Board of Education arranges for the programs and services as recommended for the thirteen (13) CPSE students and seven (7) CSE IEP's for meetings held during April and May 2016.

Victoria asked the Board to approve Personnel Items A.1.1, A.1.2, A.2.2, A.3.3.1 and A.4.1 as listed.

Anish Nanavaty made a motion to approve the Personnel Items as listed by the Superintendent of Schools. Jonathan Faust seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.



VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Personnel

1. Appointments

- 1.1 John Catoliato, Chaperone, NYSSMA Annual Winter Conference  
(Retroactive Appointment)  
Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School

RESOLUTION

15-530

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of John Catoliato as a weekend Chaperone for the upcoming science competition described below:

December 3-6, 2015

Stipend

\$1,439

3 Nights at \$399/night

2 weekend daytime at \$121/day

- 1.2 Patricia DelBene-West, Guidance Intern, Edgemont Jr./Sr. High School

RESOLUTION

15-531

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Patricia DelBene-West as an unpaid intern in the Edgemont Jr./Sr. High School's Guidance Department for the 2016-2017 school year.

Please note Agenda Item A.2.1 was motioned separately and out of order.

2. Resignations Due to Retirement

- 2.1 Elizabeth Molisani, Teacher, Seely Place School

- 2.2 Luisa Angrisani, Teacher Aide, Greenville School

RESOLUTION

15-532

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Luisa Angrisani, Teacher Aide at Greenville School, effective June 23, 2016.

3. Resignation
- 3.1 Nancy Zelentz, Teacher Aide, Greenville School

RESOLUTION

15-533

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Nancy Zelentz, Teacher Aide at Greenville School, effective June 23, 2016.

4. Extension of Leave of Absence
- 4.1 Joyce Cleary, Secretary to the Principal, Greenville School

RESOLUTION

15-534

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education retroactively accepts an extension of the leave of absence for Joyce Cleary, Secretary to the Principal at Greenville School, from her original return date of May 16, 2016 to May 23, 2016.

Please note Agenda Item B. Students was motioned separately and out of order.

Victoria asked the Board to approve Business Items C.1. through C.7. as listed as a group, save Walk-In-Business Item C.8. motioned separately and out of order.

Jonathan Faust made a motion to approve the Business Items as listed by the Superintendent of Schools. Anish Nanavaty seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

C. Business

1. Authorization for Annual Risk Assessment

RESOLUTION

15-535

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Board of Education authorizes the appointment of Cullen & Danowski, LLP as Internal Auditors for the Edgemont Union Free School District for 2016-2017 and to complete a Risk Assessment of the District's business operations for the 2016-2017 school year at a cost of \$9,200.

2. Approval of Budget Amendment

RESOLUTION

15-536

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Edgemont Union Free School District budget for the 2015-2016 school year be amended to reflect the receipt of \$73,723.69.

3. Approval of Budget Transfer

RESOLUTION

15-537

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following budget transfer(s):

	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1.	A2250 460 00 0000 Tuition-Public	A2256 201 00 0000 Equipment-CSE	\$3,000

4. Authorization to Dispose of Broken Audio-Visual Equipment

RESOLUTION

15-538

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the disposal of broken equipment as listed below. Replacement parts for these items are no longer available and some are obsolete.

MANUFACTURER	MODEL	SERIAL #	DATE OF PURCHASE	CONDITION	EHS TAG
Smartboard	SB680	SD76R2316	2006	Broken	12710
Smartboard	SB680	M2-D54133	2012	Broken	N/A
HP Scanjet	3970	CN472B247K	N/A	Broken	11276
IPAD	2	N/A	N/A	Broken	15168
IPAD	2	N/A	N/A	Broken	15187
HP Laserjet Printer	1320N	CNHC65YOFM	N/A	Broken	12343
Lexmark Laserjet Printer	X544	94F8582	N/A	Broken	15133

5. Recommendation to Award Bid Contract to IP Associates for District-wide VOIP Telecommunication System Installation

RESOLUTION

15-539

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the contract award for a District-wide VOIP Telecommunications System Installation to IP Associates, for the total bid amount of \$191,000, to be completed by September 6, 2016.

6. Recommendation to Award Bid Contract to NUA Construction Corp. for the Edgemont Jr./Sr. High School Tunnel Repairs

RESOLUTION

15-540

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the EHS Tunnel Repairs Project for the base bid amount of \$595,000, contingency allowance of \$42,500 and Alternate GC-1 for \$220,000 for a total contract award of \$857,500, work to be substantially completed by August 31, 2016.

David Chao asked for clarification regarding Agenda Item C.6., specifically whether the tunnel repairs are aidable. Sue Shirken responded "Yes."

7. Authorization to Approve Extension of Agreement for Consultant Services for Shelley Klein, New Directions for Excellence

RESOLUTION

15-541

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education authorizes Victoria Kniewel to enter into an Agreement for Consultant Services for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year and for the 2016-2017 school year with Shelley Klein, New Directions for Excellence, at a daily rate of \$1,500 per day.

Please note Walk-In-Agenda Item C.8 Business was motioned separately and out of order.

- C.8. Authorization to Cast Vote on the WPSBA Nominating Committee Slate of Officers and Directors

David M. C. Stern announced the next regular board meetings to be held on Tuesday, June 14th and Tuesday, June 28th.

#### VIII. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

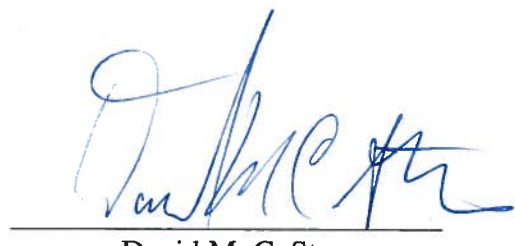
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|----------|---|
| 06/14/16 | Board of Education Regular Meeting 7:00 P.M.*<br>Executive Session before Regular Meeting<br>Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School LGI |
| 06/28/16 | Board of Education Regular Meeting 7:00 P.M.*<br>Executive Session before Regular Meeting<br>Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School LGI |

\*Please note that all regularly scheduled evening Board meetings will be called to order at 7 P.M. in the Edgemont Jr.-Sr. High School Library. There will then be an immediate adjournment to Executive Session with a readjournment to public session in the LGI at 8:15 P.M.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:34 P.M. Jennifer Darger made a motion to adjourn the public meeting. Jonathan Faust seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve this motion.

  
Rosemary DeVito  
District Clerk, Board of Education

  
David M. C. Stern  
President, Board of Education