

MINUTES
Special Board Meeting
Almont Community Schools Board of Education

October 21, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

President Hoffa called the Special Board Meeting of the Almont Community Schools Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room at Almont Elementary.

Present

Steven Hoffa, Jonathan Owens, John Brzozowski, Nancy Boxey, Scott Kmetz, John Miles and Superintendent Joseph Candela.

Visitors: 2

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mr. Manko was absent

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was approved as presented

COMMUNICATIONS

Comments: Audience

Comments: Board of Education

Mr. Miles wondered if we are going to open the back door for the meetings

NEW BUSINESS

Work Session

No action was taken. Various informational items were discussed:

FINANCE

Budget Questions/Random Checks

Random checks were pulled and discussed

Bond Resolution was discussed

CURRICULUM

Middle School math proposal – consensus was to move forward

PERSONNEL

Resignation – Mr. Maier

New Hires – Bussen, Miller, Hall

CoachEZ positions

ACS Coaches

ACS Contract – Kay

POLICY

Health Insurance Statutory Caps

BUSINESS

Post Issuance Tax Compliance Policy

Release of Students

Insurance Review

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

K. Heim Land proposal discussed
Update on Maintenance issues

OTHER

Insurance Review
Merit Pay for Teachers – Highly Effective \$500
Athletic Council – donating \$25,000 toward 2013/2014 Budget

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: AUDIENCE

Audience: Matt Janicki is concern of parents regarding the filter for the middle school. It is a 13-16 year filter and you have a school with 10 years olds in it. Web sites on making weapons with middle school supplies. How to get even with teachers and parents. Student found Bolivia prostitutes. There should be a remedy after 2 months. It is a little surprising that we have language on our web site that is inappropriate. Wants to know if we are aware of the situation and need to inform parents on how to guide the students. Decades we kept it out of the library and in a manner of seconds they have access to it all. Some teachers have great strategies but that is Issue isn't the browser, it is the filter. His at home doesn't allow for these types of things. Would rather work together than spend a lot of time fighting each other.

Miles - getting the feeling that the board doesn't care and that is any insinuation that we are just throwing it out there without regard is inappropriate.

Kmetz - Need to have parents approach the administrator and then superintendent and then the board. There are ways to find sites to defeat the filter. Impression that the board doesn't care and that is not true.

Mr. Hoffa - feels that the speed is not going to be fast enough because it is very sensitive to you. Things can't always happen at the pace we like when we are passionate about the issue. We will meet challenges head on when we have them.

As a board or iPad committee we will address concerns.

Discussion on issue was held. Better communication could be had.

QUESTION AND COMMENTS: BOARD OF EDUCATION

Kmetz - curriculum question on dual enrollment. Why would we not allow a college course be considered advance placement for GPA?

Brzozowski - How are things going at OP?

Boxey - monitoring at the north end of the football field

Miles - future agenda on PE credit for sports, please have as a future agenda item.

Hoffa - Ask that Mr. Candela bring in another health instructor by third trimester if he needs one.

Brzozowski - questions on where we are with the final numbers.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Approved _____
Date

Signed: _____
Nancy Boxey, Secretary

Signed: _____
Steven Hoffa, President