

Croton-Harmon Union Free School District  
Special Meeting of the Board of Education

Date of Meeting: May 27, 2008

Kind of Meeting: Special

Place & Time: Croton-Harmon High School Community Room, 7:35 p.m.

Board Present: Katherine Brechner, Eugene Perl, Teri Lukin, Lynda Jones, Karen Zevin, Beth Roth

Board Absent: Neal Haber

Staff Present: Marjorie Castro

Call to Order Katherine Brechner called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Appointment:  
Acting District Clerk A motion to appoint Katherine Brechner as Acting District Clerk was made by Karen Zevin and seconded by Eugene Perl.

Ayes 6 Motion Carried

Agenda Approval A motion to approve the agenda was made by Karen Zevin and seconded by Eugene Perl.

Ayes 6 Motion Carried

Work Session The following was included in the work session:

- A. Technology Facilitators reported on the technology facilitator model. They provided technical expertise, but worked with each teacher to help develop how that teacher would use the technology to further their teaching skills and offerings.
1. This approach has created “demand” among the teachers as they see and think of greater and greater applications in their teaching.
  2. Discussed differences when (in the beginning Smart Board class) teachers had their own class smart board vs. not having immediate access could more easily develop to further their skills.
  3. Technology Facilitator: model allows for good conversations between and among teachers.
  4. Model: met one time a month. But it might be better to frontload in the beginning of the year.

5. Summer Cyber Camp: Essentially a continuation of the facilitator model. Sign up for the “pieces” of the technology that one might need to accomplish their task.
- B. Mathematics in Our District K-12:
1. Croton-Harmon High School: Discussed the new State Math Streams for the high school.
  2. Pierre Van Cortlandt Middle School Curriculum:
    - a. Last year of Math A. This has really been 3 years of transition. The move has been to work towards offering integrated algebra in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
    - b. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade “boot camp” helped ensure that all students were starting on the same page with the math basics.
    - c. Mobile labs are in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.
    - d. Computer lab time is harder to schedule enough time.
    - e. The use of technology is really allowing for differentiation in the class around math instruction.
    - f. Middle School Assessments: The bar is set AFTER the assessments are given so that district differences may be taken into account.
    - g. March test data has still not been received.
    - h. How do we give the kids in the same grades as similar experiences as possible? Do we stop teachers from trying to raise the bar when they want to try something new and exciting?
  3. Carrie E. Tompkins Elementary School:
    - a. Switch in test timing from May to March. In looking at Math test data, it was noted that student “stamina” was a problem for testing. Have increased the math time during the day. Also looking for K-1 consistency in the content of the instruction. Data showed that algebraic concepts were weak. Need to develop math comprehension. This lead to the use of the Investigations math program.
    - b. Next Steps:
      - (1) Have been accepted into “Math in the City” for next year (equivalent to the Columbia Reading and Writing program).

(2) Need stronger formative assessments for benchmark assessments.

c. Celebration of 28 Mathletes, Thursday, May 29, 7:10 a.m., 4<sup>th</sup> grade project room.

Hearing of the Public

An audience member asked is there enough differentiation in the math lessons at the elementary level.

Resignations:  
T. Cairl,  
L. Mackay,  
M. Corrao

A motion to accept, with regret, the following resignations was made by Eugene Perl and seconded by Beth Roth:

- A. Timothy Cairl, Social Studies Teacher, Pierre Van Cortlandt Middle School, effective June 30, 2008.
- B. Lori Mackay, Speech & Hearing Handicapped Teacher, effective June 30, 2008.
- C. Megan Corrao, English Teacher, Pierre Van Cortlandt middle School, effective June 30, 2008.

Ayes 6 Motion Carried

Appointments:  
L. Riley,  
K. Edelmann,  
Curr. Coord.,  
Substitutes

A motion to approve the following appointments was made by Eugene Perl and seconded by Lynda Jones:

- A. Luise Riley, long-term leave replacement for an elementary teacher (Kindergarten), Carrie E. Tompkins Elementary School, for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year.
- B. Kim Edelmann, Special Education Teacher, Carrie E. Tompkins Elementary School, effective September 1, 2008 (eligible for tenure September 1, 2011).
- C. Following Curriculum Coordinators for the 2008-2009 school year, at a stipend of \$2,150:
  - 1. Noel Schoenleber English
  - 2. Tom Rhindress Science
  - 3. Kurt Lindner Mathematics
  - 4. Susan Bree Foreign Language
  - 5. Jonna Deak Support Services
  - 6. Shelly Frisch Social Studies
- D. Addition of Jennifer Schafrann to the Substitute Teacher and Substitute Teacher aide lists (emergency conditional).

Ayes 6 Motion Carried

Salary Adjustment: A motion to approve the salary for Linda meo, Art leave Replacement for the 2008-2009 school year, at an amount of \$68,547 (Step 5MA) (the incorrect salary amount was approved at the May 12, 2008 meeting) was made by Lynda Jones and seconded by Beth Roth.  
L. Meo

Ayes 6 Motion Carried

Increase of Services: A motion to increase the services of Susan Bree, Foreign Language Teacher, from .5 to .6, for the 2008-2009 school year, was made by Eugene Perl and seconded by Lynda Jones.  
S. Bree

Ayes 6 Motion Carried

Tenure Change Of Date: A motion to change the tenure date for Esra Murray, Elementary Teacher, from September 1, 2008 to November 9, 2008 (an incorrect tenure date was approved at the May 12, 2008 meeting) was made by Karen Zevin and seconded by Lynda Jones.  
E. Murray

Ayes 6 Motion Carried

Substitute List A motion to approve the addition Mary Ellen Carullo to be added to the Welcome Center Teacher Aide list and the Substitute Clerical list was made by Eugene Perl and seconded by Lynda Jones.

Ayes 6 Motion Carried

Adjournment Executive Session A motion to adjourn at 10:22 p.m. to Executive Session to discuss personnel, contracts, and legal matters was made by Beth Roth and seconded by Teri Lukin.

Ayes 6 Motion Carried

---

Katherine Brechner  
Acting District Clerk

kg