

Call to Order at 7:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was done by Mr. Sutton, President.

Emergency Exit Review was done by Mr. Sutton, President.

Board Members Present were Mr. R. Ferrannini, Mrs. L. Gormley, Mr. J. Helft, Mr. D. Skott, Mrs. B. Stacy, Mr. D. Sutton and Mr. D. Wilwol. Also present was Ms. P. Cottrell, District Clerk, Mr. K. Facin, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. P. Hatfield, School Business Admin, Mrs. K. Philpott, Director of Spec Ed, Mr. P. Dailey, K-6 Principal and Mrs. S. Vadney, 7-12 Principal.

Board Presentations:

Mr. Facin stated that 49% of students in grades 5-12 earned honor roll distinction. The District quite happy for students, parents and faculty for this outstanding academic achievement.

1. Principal's List Student Recognition: Presenters Stacy Vadney and John Helft
 - Mrs. Vadney explained that students obtained a 95 or higher average during the 2nd marking period and that they were being honored as our academic leaders.
2. Drama Scholars: Presenters Stacy Vadney, Robert Allen and John Helft
 - Mrs. Vadney explained that students obtained a 90 or higher average while participating in drama during the 2nd marking period.
3. Scholar Athletes: Presenters Stacy Vadney, Mike Lilac and John Helft
 - Mrs. Vadney explained that students obtained a 90 or higher average while participating in a varsity sport during the 2nd marking period. This year all 5 winter sports teams had scholar athletes.
4. NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team Awards: Presenters Stacy Vadney, Mike Lilac and John Helft
 - Mrs. Vadney explained that these teams had a minimum number of student athletes obtain an accumulative average of 90 or higher. This year all 4 winter sports teams earned the distinction of being a Scholar Team; boys basketball, girls basketball, bowling and wrestling
 - Also recognized were the "Highest Individual Student Average" for their respective team and each student received a plaque.
 - David Ciuk for boys basketball
 - Samantha Skott for girls basketball
 - Kaitlyn Snyder for cheerleading
 - James Lynch for bowling
 - Bradley Burns for wrestling
 - Mr. Facin announced that following the presentations, there was going to be an "Ice Cream Social" for students and parents in the high school cafeteria.
5. Mark & Carol Folgert: Verizon Donation to Ron Jones
 - Mark Folgert presented a check from Verizon in the amount of \$750 to Ron Jones. This check is in recognition from Verizon for his 50 volunteer hours. Mr. and Mrs. Folgert also personally donated \$250 to Ron Jones.

Executive Session A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mrs. Gormley to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue at 7:22 pm.

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carries.

A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mrs. Gormley to return to Regular Session at 7:29 pm.

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carries.

New Board Actions #1:

1. A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mrs. Gormley to approve the following Resolution:
Whereas, the Hoosick Falls Central School District Board of Education preferred charges against Lawrence M. Haskell, Jr., alleging misconduct, insubordination, incompetence and conduct unbecoming a teacher together with related specifications for which termination was sought; and
Whereas, Lawrence M. Haskell, Jr., pursuant to procedures set forth within Section 3020-a of the New York State Education Law, requested a hearing regarding the charges; and
Whereas, John T. Trela was designated as Hearing Officer to hear and decide the aforesaid charges; and
Whereas, the hearing was conducted at the school district office in Hoosick Falls, New York on November 1, 2010, December 6, 2010 and December 23, 2010; and
Whereas, on each hearing date the parties were afforded full and fair opportunities to elicit evidence on the transcribed record, including the testimony of witnesses and the receipt of documentary evidence; and
Whereas, on March 7, 2011 the Hearing Officer rendered his decision, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, and filed the same with the State Education Department on March 9, 2011 and
Whereas, Section 3020-a (4)(b) of the Education Law of the State of New York provides in part that within fifteen days of receipt of the Hearing Officer's decision the employing Board of Education shall implement the decision.

Now, Therefore, It Is Resolved:

1. Based upon the decision of the Hearing Officer dated March 7, 2011, Lawrence M. Haskell, Jr. is terminated as an employee of the Hoosick Falls Central School District effective March 18, 2011.
2. The Board of Education hereby adopts the conclusions of the hearing officer contained within the decision dated March 7, 2011 and incorporates those conclusions herein by reference.
3. A certified copy of this resolution together with the decision upon which it is based shall be filed with the District Clerk for the Hoosick Falls Central School District and shall be served upon Lawrence M. Haskell, Jr. at his last known residence, and his attorney, Stephen F. Coffey, Esq. by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Roll Call Vote was taken by District Clerk Pam Cottrell

	Yes	No
Mr. R. Ferrannini	X	
Mrs. L. Gormley	X	
Mr. J. Helft	X	
Mr. D. Skott	X	
Mrs. B. Stacy	X	
Mr. D. Sutton	X	
Mr. D. Wilwol	X	

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

Public Comment Session: Started at 7:32 pm and Ended at 7:37 pm.

1. Ken Marbot spoke on behalf of the youth football league using the school fields on Sundays. Mr. Marbot indicated why Sunday use was necessary due to the availability of game officials and some teams refusal to play on Saturday evening under the lights.
 - Mr. Sutton stated that in public comment session there is no question and answer time.
2. Charles Kolowski from the NYSARC program spoke about the proposed elimination of the program in next year's budget. Mr. Kolowski stated that they have received numerous letters of support from parents and students and would like to have an opportunity to sit down with the board to discuss the program.
 - Mr. Sutton stated that the board will discuss this in Board Forum and thanked Mr. Kolowski for his interest in retaining the program.

Board President's Report:

1. Mr. Sutton commented that the activity on the route 22 next to the school is in regard to the installation beacon lights by the NYSDOT. The beacon lights will be solar powered and that they will be flashing during school hours to highlight the 45 mph speed limit.

Board Forum: This is an opportunity for Board Members to ask clarifying questions and discuss issues.

1. Mr. Helft commented on a news segment on "60 Minutes" regarding a NYC charter school that receives public money, pays top salaries to its' teachers and like HFCS, they hold their teachers accountable for their student's achievements.
2. Mr. Sutton responded to the public comments made earlier this evening:
 - A.) Regarding Mr. Marbot's comments, the board is working in the right direction on Sunday games and practices. Mr. Sutton asked if having these activities on Sunday has any cost impact to the district with custodial staff, maintenance to the field, etc.
 - Mr. Facin stated that there are exceptions to any policy or rule and the board should take that into consideration.
 - Mr. Sutton commented on the town fields in regard to HFCS and SMA having priority use of the fields as stated in the deed. However, the pee wee football team is not considered a school function. The town holds annual carnival events on the field and that destroys the field and they do not fix it, they leave spikes in the ground and this is dangerous to our children.
 - Mr. Ferrannini stated on limiting varsity teams from practicing on Sunday, but not the community, leave it along.
 - Mr. Skott stated that parents know what is entailed when they sign their child up and that we need a little leeway.
 - Mrs. Stacv still feels that they need a day of rest and family time.
 - Mr. Facin stated that their usually is not a cost to the district if we do not have to open up the school building, if the building is needed, yes there would be a custodial cost. He will work with Paul Baker so that there will be no cost to the district.
 - Mr. Sutton stated that we will do the best we can for the kids and the community.
 - Mr. Helft stated that this has two parts:
 1. We as a school not having events on Sunday
 2. Outside not have use of our facility on Sundays, not comfortable imposing on the community.
 - Mrs. Gormley asked if there was a price for upkeep on the field?
 - Mr. Facin stated that the field is prepared for the Friday night game, no cost having the program here on Sunday and they should continue using the field.
 - Mr. Sutton stated that the school does not have enough fields for our kids
 - B.) Regarding the NYSARC Program:
 - Mr. Sutton stated that this situation is similar to many other programs. Our district is in better shape than many others. If the district simply rolls over last years' budget, we would have a 22% increase and that is not going to happen. We still have more decisions that need to be made and they are very hard decisions to make as we need to protect our students and taxpayers.
 - Mr. Facin stated that this program costs the district \$40,000 a year. I do not see an elimination of the program, but we will do it internally through our administration. He asked if Rensselaer County ever thought of reducing the cost to \$10,000. It is an extremely valued program, but we do need to reconstruct it.
 - Mr. Sutton stated that the letters received is testament to what you do with the students. You have touched many lives and it is appreciated.

Approval of Minutes:

1. A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mr. Wilwol to approve the Board Minutes of February 10, 2011 special meeting.
Vote: 6 ayes 0 noes 1 abstain (Mrs. Stacy); motion carried.

2. A motion was made by Mr. Wilwol seconded by Mrs. Stacy to Amend the Board Minutes of February 17, 2011 as follows:
To approve the lowest External Auditor bids to The Bonadio Group for the 2010-2011 school year in the amount of \$15,000. Bids were opened on February 8, 2011 at 2:00 pm.
- Mr. Facin explained that the previous motion stated for the 2011-2012 school year audit.
Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

3. A motion was made by Mrs. Gormley seconded by Mr. Helft to approve the Board Minutes for February 17, 2011 regular meeting.
Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

Superintendent's Report:

1. 2011 – 2012 Budget Presentation:
 - a.) Transportation
 - b.) Buildings & Grounds
 - c.) Debt Service
- Mr. Facin stated that this draft budget reflects a 2.92% tax levy increase. This is in part of the elimination of many positions, both teaching and non-teaching, plus the elimination of several BOCES programs.
 - Administrative Structure:
 - increase accountability
 - working with the HFTA on the new teacher evaluation (APPR); 40% student achievement and 60% will be classroom observation and other supporting documentation of success.
- Mr. Sutton stated that if the district uses the money we have in reserve now, it will be more difficult next year
- A.) Transportation:
 - Inspection of school buses is done every 6 months, not annually. Safety of our students is the top priority and if a bus has significant rust, the bus inspector will not pass that bus, and that has happened
 - Following the Fleet replacement plan we will place before the taxpayers the purchase of 3 – 60 passenger buses for a purchase price not to exceed \$308,500 . This will be accomplished through a 5-year borrowing plan and we will receive 87% state aid.
 - Mr. Weeden stated that our new mechanic does more repairs inhouse than before, thus saving the district money. The only items sent out were warranty items.
 - Mr. Skott asked why the district purchases 60 passenger buses and not 65 passenger as we did in the past and Mr. Weeden stated that due to the room in the bus garage outside storage, 65 passenger buses does not leave room enough to lift the hoods up to check the oil and other things in the morning before the bus leaves for student pickup.
 - Mr. Helft stated that the retired buses are due to rust and not mechanical. Is there anything that we can do to extend the life of a bus?
 - Mr. Weeden stated that we have a part-time bus washer and we do what we can prevent the rust.
 - Mrs. Hatfield stated that with the new mechanic, the district did purchase some new equipment and that expenditures associated with transportation are aidable.

B.) Buildings & Grounds:

- Mrs. Hatfield reviewed fuel consumption, electrical costs, certifications/licenses and training requirements.
- Elimination of the night head custodian position was also reviewed.
- The creation of a Comprehensive Maintenance Plan was underway with the assistance of Questar III BOCES.
- Paul Baker is cross-training his staff to be able to cover all areas of the school as verses only one or two areas.
- Mr. Helft asked if the district saw a decrease in fuel consumption with new capital project.
- Mrs. Hatfield answered that the district is seeing a reduction in areas of fuel and electric costs due to the new windows and roof.

C.) Debt Service:

- A comprehensive review of the district's borrowing and payment schedule was presented.

School Business Administrator's Report:

1. 2011 – 2012 Budget Presentation

Administrator's Report:

- Special Education: see written report
- K-6 Elementary School: see written report
- 7-12 Secondary School: see written report

* A motion was made by Mrs. Stacy seconded by Mr. Helft to give consent to have the students on the MasterMinds team and their advisor to travel to Washington DC to attend and compete in the national competition on April 16 and 17, 2011.

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

Committees:

a. Facilities / Green: D. Sutton, Chair (rotating members)

March 9, 2011 @ 6:00 PM (Dave, Laurie, Beth)

April 13, 2011 @ 6:00 PM (Dave, Dwain, Don)

- Sidewalks out in front of the school will be removed and replaced.

b. Academic Review: J. Helft, Chair (rotating members)

March 17, 2011 @ 6:00 PM (John, Rick, Beth)

April 14, 2011 @ 6:00 PM (John, Laurie, Dwain)

- Writers workshops being introduced into curriculum in grades K-6

c. Audit: L. Gormley, Chair; D. Sutton, J. Helft

d. Policy: L. Gormley, Chair; R. Ferrannini, B. Stacy

April 6, 2011 @ 6:00 PM

- First reading on policies on agenda tonight. Need to remove 3 policies as they have already been approved.

PTA: April 13, 2011 @ 6:30 PM

- March 23, 2011 is the next meeting as the March 16 meeting was cancelled due to a concert
- Family Fun Bingo is scheduled for March 19th @ 9:00 AM.
- Library Revitalization – Literacy Program

HFTA Report by Judy Petrino:

- Staff Party is scheduled for March 23rd at Guisepppe's Restaurant
- Getting students ready for exams
- Thank you to the board for your support

Old Board Actions: None

Board Correspondence: None

New Board Actions:

A. Leaves / Resignations:

- Mr. Facin stated that the retirees will be invited to attend the regular session on May 17th for recognition.
- 1. A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mrs. Gormley to accept the Letter of Resignation from Sarah Stetson, Teacher of Mathematics, effective June 30, 2011, for retirement purposes, with deep regret.
7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.
- 2. A motion was made by Mr. Skott seconded by Mr. Helft to accept the Letter of Resignation from Deborah Tudor, Teacher of Reading, effective June 30, 2011, for retirement purposes, with deep regret.
7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.
- 3. A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mrs. Gormley to accept the Letter of Resignation from Dale Ninivaggi, Teacher of Elementary Education, effective June 30, 2011, for retirement purposes, with deep regret.
7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.
- 4. A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mrs. Gormley to accept the Letter of Resignation from Catherine Denerley, Teaching Assistant, effective April 29, 2011, for retirement purposes, with deep regret.
7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.
- 5. A motion was made by Mr. Skott seconded by Mr. Helft to accept the Letter of Resignation from John Hickey, Bus Driver, effective June 22, 2011, for retirement purposes, with deep regret.
7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.
- 6. A motion was made by Mrs. Gormley seconded by Mr. Helft to accept the Letter of Resignation from Lois King, Food Service Helper, effective June 30, 2011, for retirement purposes, with deep regret.
7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.
- 7. A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mrs. Gormley to accept the Letter of Resignation from Mary Waytkus, Head Cook, effective June 30, 2011, for retirement purposes, with deep regret.
7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

B. Appointments:

The use of a consent agenda permits the Board of Education to make more effective use of its time by adopting a single motion to cover those relatively routine matters which are included. Any member of the Board who wishes to discuss a particular piece of business on the consent agenda may request that item to be transferred to the regular agenda for consideration and a separate vote.

- A motion was made by Mrs. Gormley seconded by Mr. Wilwol to approve by Consent Vote, items #1 through #7.
- 1. To approve the Appointment of the following Drama Pit Musicians to be paid \$125 each for the 2010-2011 school year:
 - Bill Brown
 - Ray Connolly
 - Pam Fricke
 - Leslie Green
 - Kim Hayden
 - Marcia Keefe
 - Steve Keena
- 2. To approve the appointment of the following Tutors for the 2010-2011 school year:
 - Medical Reasons
 - Chris Marsh
 - Chris Zakrzewski
 - Discipline Reasons
 - Chris Marsh
 - Chris Zakrzewski
- 3. To approve the appointment of the following Southern Vermont College nursing students for observation with Jan McGuire, Elementary Nurse:
 - Kerri Rainville (March 21, 24, 28 & 30, 2011)
 - Laura Smittle (April 11 & 13, 2011)
- 4. To approve the appointment of the following College of St. Rose student teacher for 12 hours of classroom observation for the Spring 2011:
 - Stefanie Monahan with Sara Steller
- 5. To approve the change of appointment of Stacy Hill to a BA-1 with a salary of \$35,047 pro-rated effective February 10, 2011. Ms. Hill has been a certified substitute teacher since November 29, 2010. (vice: M. James)
- 6. To approve the Appointment of Kelly Rossley as a Long-Term NYS Certified Substitute Teacher effective February 9, 2011 through on or about May 31, 2011 at a BA 1 with a salary of \$35,047 pro-rated. Ms. Rossley has been cleared by NYSED. (vice: A. Glover)
- 7. To approve the Appointment of Helen Hemendinger as a Long-Term NYS Certified Substitute Teacher effective March 2, 2011 through on or about April 25, 2011 at a BA 1 with a salary of \$35,047 pro-rated. Mrs. Hemendinger has been cleared by NYSED. (vice: T. Friel)

C. Miscellaneous:

1. A motion was made by Mrs. Stacy seconded by Mrs. Gormley to approve the 1st Reading on the following Policies:

1000	Community Relations Goals
1130	Media Relations
4311.1-R	Display of the Flag Regulation
4526	Computer Use In Instruction
4526-R	Computer Use In Instruction Regulation
6000	Fiscal Management Goals
6150	Budget Transfers
6240	Investments
6240-R	Investments Regulations
6255	Gifts and Grants
6410	Authorized Signatures
6600	Fiscal Accounting and Reporting
6650	Claims Auditor
6660	Independent/External Audits
8115	Pesticides and Pest Management

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

2. A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mrs. Gormley to approve the Treasurer's Report for December 2010.

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

3. A motion was made by Mr. Wilwol seconded by Mr. Helft to approve the Treasurer's Report for January 2011.

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

4. A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mr. Wilwol to accept a \$1,000 donation from Hoosick Falls Central PTA to be used as needed for the author/illustrator presentation and for the books that will be given as prizes as part of this year's PARP program.

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

5. A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mr. Wilwol to Excess the following items per list:

- Various computer / video equipment
- Washer / Dryer

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

6. A motion was made by Mrs. Stacy seconded by Mr. Helft to approve a senior class trip to Warrensburg, NY for a white water rafting trip on June 12, 2011 from 6:30 AM to 7:00 PM.

- Mr. Helft asked if the trip would still go if there is bad weather and if seniors can attend both trips.

- Mr. Facin stated that the trip would go on rain or shine and yes seniors can attend both trips.

As we have done in the past, offer two trips to the students for those that would have a conflict or those that cannot afford the PA trip, they would be able to attend one or both of them.

- Mr. Sutton asked about transportation and chaperones and Mr. Facin stated that transportation would be provided by the district as well as chaperones.

- Mrs. Stacy asked about the price and Mr. Facin stated that it would be \$60 per student which includes lunch and dinner.

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

CSE Recommendations:

A motion was made by Mr. Wilwol seconded by Mrs. Stacy to have the Board of Education approve the appropriate special education programs and services to be provided to students with disabilities as recommended by the Committee on Special Education.

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

Subsequent Meeting Dates:

- The Board of Education will hold a Budget Worksession on April 7, 2011 at 6:00 PM in the high school library.

- The Board of Education will hold the Regular Meeting on April 14, 2011 @ 7:00 PM in the high school library.

2nd Public Comment Session: Started at 9:21 pm and Ended at 9:25 pm.

1. Jim Martinez stated that the administrative structure is working and should keep it the way it is.

He also stated a quote from the anti-bullying assembly he recently attended here at school "if you don't have something nice to say, don't say anything at all", which pertains to the local newspaper article from the last board meeting regarding the budget.

Also during his attendance at the anti-bullying assembly while standing in the hall, he was very impressed with the way students interacted with Mr. Facin.

Board Forum: This is an opportunity for Board members to ask clarifying questions.

- None

Executive Session: A motion was made by Mr. Wilwol seconded by Mr. Helft to go into Executive Session at 9:25 pm for reason to discuss personnel issues and contract negotiations.

* There will be no board actions following this executive session.

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Helft seconded by Mrs. Stacy to return to Regular Session at 10:33 pm.

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Mrs. Gormley seconded by Mr. Helft to Adjourn the meeting At 10:33 pm.

Vote: 7 ayes 0 noes; motion carried.