

CATO-MERIDIAN BOARD OF EDUCATION
Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2006

PRESENT: Kathleen Bratt, President
Charles Ware, Vice President
Dean Cummins
Heidi Dennison
Roxanne Miller

ALSO PRESENT: Deborah Bobo, Superintendent
Janice Lee, District Clerk
Crosby Lamont, Jr. – Assistant Superintendent for Business
Ann Marie Dillon, Elementary Principal
Sean Gleason, Middle School Principal
Charles Mitchell, Interim High School Principal
Lou Chistolini, Assistant High School Principal
Margaret Schlegel, Dir. of Pupil Personnel Services
Leela George, BOCES Coordinator of Data Curriculum & Assessment
Community Members

WHERE HELD: District Conference Room

The meeting was called to order by President Kathleen Bratt at 6:00 pm.

Pledge to the flag.

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Miller, the board entered executive session at 6:01 pm to discuss the employment history of a particular individual. Exec. Session
Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

The board moved from executive session at 7:04 pm.

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Dennison, the agenda was approved with the addition of continued employment of the interim high school principal employment and substitute pay discussion. Agenda
Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

Mrs. Bratt announced that Mrs. Russo and Mr. Thompson had resigned as board members this morning. The district clerk read their letters of resignation. Russo/Thompson Resignations

Mr. Ware thanked Mrs. Russo and Mr. Thompson for their service on the board and was sure that they had valid reasons for the choices they made.

Mr. Lints and Mr. Gray updated the board on the capital project. Capital Project

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Miller the following PCO's were approved:

Approve PCO's

PCO#	DESCRIPTION
GC088	Replace HS bleachers/refinish wood floors - \$30,000
EC048	Power wiring for HS bleachers - \$6,000
GC089	Replace MS bleachers - \$30,000
N/A	Toilet partition doors - \$3,000
N/A	Hydrant protection - \$500
MC032	Relief vent caps - \$2,500
PC035	Install water meter in MS - \$5,000
GC121	MA Dady lettering stain - \$500
EC064	Power for additional stove: HS home & careers - \$600

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

Leela George, Coordinator of Data and Assessment, Cayuga Onondaga BOCES presented how data is collected and used in helping schools improve student achievement.

BOCES Program

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Dennison, the following appointments were approved:

Appointments

Donna Bundy	Sub nurse (RN)	\$75/day
Danielle Collier	Sub teacher (Health/Phys. Ed.)	\$55/day
Ron Ward	Lifeguard-PT	\$7.50/hr
Amy Kramer	Lifeguard-PT	\$7.50/hr

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

On motion of Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ware, the following mentors were appointed: Lisa Byrne, CJ Hannon, Chris Baker, Terri Mitchell, Julie Blumer, Lorraine Malecki and Kitty Dates and will be paid at \$750.00 each.

Appt. Mentors

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

On motion of Mrs. Dennison, seconded by Mr. Ware, the minutes of the meeting held on January 30, 2006 were approved.

Minutes

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

On motion of Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Dennison, the Committee on Special Education minutes were approved.

CSE Minutes

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Miller, the Shared Decision Making Plan was re-certified.

Shared Decision Making Plan

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Cummins, the BOCES bond resolution was approved as follows:

BOCES Bond

BOND RESOLUTION DATED FEBRUARY 13, 2006 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,674,834 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CATO-MERIDIAN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, NEW YORK, TO PAY SAID SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SHARE OF THE COST OF CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EXISTING BOCES FACILITIES.

WHEREAS, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services for the Sole Supervisory District of Cayuga and Onondaga Counties, New York (the "BOCES") has heretofore been created and this School District is one of the component school districts thereof;

WHEREAS, at a special election of the qualified voters of the BOCES, held on December 14, 2004, a proposition was duly approved authorizing the BOCES to acquire land and construct, reconstruct and equip improvements to various BOCES school facilities to increase their utility for the purposes of the BOCES at a maximum estimated cost of \$43,510,000 (the "Project") and in furtherance thereof, the BOCES has entered into an agreement by and among the BOCES and each of the component school districts of the BOCES providing for such land acquisition, construction, reconstruction and equipping, the allocation and apportionment of such maximum cost among such component school districts, the payment by each such component school district of its respective share to the BOCES and other matters incidental thereto;

WHEREAS, said agreement has heretofore been duly executed by the BOCES and by each of the component school districts thereof;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 1950(14) of the Education Law, neither the approval of the voters of the component school districts, nor the voting of a special tax or a tax to be collected in the installments are conditions precedent to the adoption by the boards of education of each respective component school district of the BOCES of bond resolutions authorizing the financing of their respective proportionate share of the aforesaid maximum costs;

WHEREAS, the Cayuga County Industrial Development Agency, as lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act of the State of New York and the applicable regulations thereunder ("SEQRA"), has heretofore determined that the land acquisition and new construction portion of the Project constitutes a Type I action under SEQRA, and the BOCES, acting as lead agency under SEQRA, has determined that the reconstruction portion of the Project is a Type II action thereunder, neither of which will have any significant impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to authorize an appropriation by this School District of its share of the aforesaid maximum costs and to authorize (but not require) the financing by this School District of its share of the aforesaid maximum costs, all as authorized by said Section 1950(14) of the Education Law;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Cato-Meridian Central School District, New York (hereinafter referred to as the "School District"), as follows:

Section 1. The specific object or purpose to be financed pursuant to this resolution is the share of the School District of the maximum costs of the aforesaid land acquisition, construction, reconstruction and equipping of facilities owned by BOCES, as more fully described in the preambles

hereto (the “purpose”). No money has heretofore been authorized to be applied to the payment of the cost of the purpose.

Section 2. The share of the School District of the maximum cost of the aforesaid purpose is \$3,674,834(which share of said costs constitutes the maximum estimated cost thereof to the School District, for purposes of Section 32.00 of the Local Finance Law), and said amount is hereby appropriated therefor. The plan for the financing thereof is by the issuance of up to an aggregate of \$3,674,834 of general obligation serial bonds (and, if desirable, notes (and renewals) in anticipation thereof) of said School District, hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Local Finance Law. Investment earnings on such obligations shall be applied to either the debt service on such obligations, or to the costs of the aforesaid purpose within the School District’s share amount as set forth above or as it may be proportionately increased by the Board of Education, but only if within the overall BOCES authorization. Such bonds and notes are to be payable from amounts which shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property in the School District, and the faith and credit of the School District, are hereby pledged for the payment of the bonds and notes and the interest thereon.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid purpose is thirty years, pursuant to subdivision 14(b) of Section 1950 of the Education Law.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell the bonds herein authorized and the bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of such bonds, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer, or to the Vice President of the Board in the event of the absence or unavailability of the President. Such bonds and notes shall be of such terms, forms and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said President or Vice President of the Board of Education, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 5. All other matters except as provided herein relating to the bonds and notes herein authorized including the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, within the limitations prescribed herein, and the manner of execution of the same and also including the consolidation with other issues, the determination to issue Bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, all contracts for, and determinations with respect to, credit or liquidity enhancements, if any, shall be determined by the President of the Board of Education, or by the Vice President of the Board in the event of the absence or unavailability of the President. Such bonds and notes shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals, in addition to those required by Section 51.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the President or Vice President of the Board of Education shall determine consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 6. It is hereby determined and declared that the School District reasonably expects to reimburse the general fund (or such other fund as may be utilized), not to exceed the maximum amount authorized herein, from the proceeds of the obligations authorized hereby for expenditures, if any, from such fund that may be made for the purpose prior to the date of issuance of such obligations. This is a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation §1.150-2.

Section 7. The validity of such bonds and notes may be contested only if:
Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said School District is not authorized to expend money, or

1) The provisions of law which should be complied with as of the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is

commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or

2) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 8. This resolution, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in full in each official newspaper of the School District, together with a notice of the School District Clerk substantially in the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Dennison, the following bills were approved for payment:

Bills

SN-82	\$417,180.78
SN-83	\$248,739.53
SN-84	\$142,039.32
SN-85	\$14,328.30
SN-86	\$1,578.70

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

Mr. Lamont discussed the baseline budget for 2006-07. He indicated

06-07 Budget that at the present time the budget is at 6.67% or an increase of

Discussion

\$1,042,479, with the total budget at \$16,678,081. The reasons for the increase include the BOCES building project, heating costs, health costs, security costs, and technology purchases. At this time, the revenue picture remains uncertain.

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Dennison, the board approved the recommendation of the superintendent to continue Charles Mitchell's employment on a per diem basis through the 2006-07 school year.

Mitchell Appt.

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

The board discussed substitute teacher pay. No decision was made at this time.

On motion of Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Ware, the second reading of policies 3150 and 5711 was waived.

Policies

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Cummins, policy 3150 School Volunteers was re-adopted and policy 5711 School Bus Idling was adopted.

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

The administrators updated the board.

Public comments included concerns of a special board meeting; the resignations of two board members; volunteer policy; technology assistance and prioritizing needs. Public Comment

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Miller, the board authorized \$20,000 for technology assistance in the backlog of computer imaging and to image the 100 new computers when they are delivered to the district. Mr. Lamont stated that money is available. Technology Assistance

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

Mrs. Bobo explained the procedure in sex offender notifications and Mr. Lamont noted that the maintenance peer review is scheduled for February. Discussion

Mrs. Miller has a concern with the handicapped entrance to the high school for extracurricular events. She also noted that Mr. Benton has some safety ideas and asked that he report to the board at the next meeting.

Mr. Cummins noted that there is a vacancy on the Policy Committee for a board member.

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Dennison, Mrs. Bratt was nominated as board policy committee member. Bratt-Policy Committee

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Miller, the board entered executive session at 10:28 pm to discuss a personnel issue discussing the superintendent. The superintendent was excused from executive session. Executive Session

Yes 5 No 0 Abstaining 0

The board moved from executive session at 12:04 am.

On motion of Mrs. Dennison, seconded by Mr. Ware, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 am. Adjourn

Janice Lee, District Clerk