

LYNCOURT BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
May 5, 2009  
6:00 P.M.

**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

Lawrence Salamino called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting was held in the Library Media Center Board Room.

Present: Lawrence Salamino, Julia Riverso, David Florczyk, Michael Leonardo and Joseph Tartaro

Absent: None

Also Present: Michael Schiedo, Superintendent  
James Austin, Principal  
Katherine Mahoney, Director of Special Education  
James Stevens, School Business Administrator

Visitors: George Vasilev, Lyncourt teacher

There was no Addendum to the Agenda.



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Julia Rivero asked School Business Administrator James Stevens about the anticipated fiscal conclusion for the 2008-2009 school year. He stated that he and Superintendent Michael Schiedo have met a number of times. At this time, the recommendation will include continued funding of the capital reserve fund and the employee benefits reserve fund. This is made possible by the positive fiscal conclusion to the 2007-2008 school year, the receipt of PILOT money (\$ 204,708.39) from Southern Wine and Spirits (this is 2.5 % of the 2009-2010 budget), using the EBP as the state aid basis for the 2008-2009 school year, controlling expenditures, and sound fiscal management by district administration. He also stated that he would be very comfortable in recommending a 5% unappropriated fund balance at the end of this school year. This will protect the school district.

It was noted that positive positioning is very important at this time due to the extreme economic uncertainty of the times and the poor fiscal condition of the state. The stimulus package is a two year program, which will then go away.

**IV. Educational Presentation**

- A. 2007-2008 School Report Card – Information/Discussion
- NYS School Report Card Fiscal Accountability Supplement

Superintendent Michael Schiedo discussed the 2007-2008 School Report Card. He made the following points.

- The embargo on the school report card is now lifted.
- Lyncourt UFSD is a district in good standing.
- The Fiscal Accountability Supplement indicates that costs in the Lyncourt UFSD are below the costs of other comparably sized schools in the state. Our relationship with the Solvay UFSD helps to contain costs.

- B. Who's Who in Science: James Austin – Information/Discussion

Principal James Austin described Who's Who in Science, which was held on Thursday, April 26. This sixth grade event was a great success and was well received by parents and students. Students dressed up and impersonated well known scientists and mathematicians. Visitors then interacted with the 'in-character' students. The purpose of the event was to cultivate interest in science, math and technical fields.

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C. Video Conferencing Equipment Grant: James Austin – Information/Discussion

James Austin discussed this grant which was initiated through the BOCES Curriculum Council of which he is a member. The grant is being offered by S.U.N.Y. at Cortland. \$6,000.00 worth of video conferencing equipment is provided and given to the selected school district once that district has provided 40 hours of video conferencing of teachers and classroom 'lessons in progress' to the college. This is designed to be a learning tool for college students, which will save time and travel in their college program. Many of our teachers have already volunteered to participate in this program. The equipment is good for webinars and conferencing.

D. Amy Rotundo: The Sensory Sensitive Classroom Grant – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo presented information on The Sensory Sensitive Classroom Grant which was recently earned by special education teacher Amy Rotundo. This is a \$500.00 grant from the CNY Teaching Association. This grant will be used to buy materials conducive to the education of autistic students. He noted that this is the 4<sup>th</sup> grant awarded to faculty this year.

**V . Old Business**

A. PERSONNEL: Family and Medical Leave Act – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo noted that no changes are needed to this policy as it is presently written.

B. Waste Management Cost Saving – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo presented information compiled by District Treasurer Linda Oltz in which she was able to save the district over \$150.00 per month in disposal and recycling services. She accomplished this by requesting bigger dumpsters, ordering another recycling container and having fewer container pickups per week.

C. Budget Committee Report – Information/Discussion

Julia Rivero provided the Budget Committee Report. She informed the Board that the final meeting was on Tuesday, April 21. She is very pleased with this committee. The budget brochure is well received by district residents due to the solid academic program and fiscal stability of the school district. An exit poll will take place at the budget vote on Tuesday, May 19, and will be staffed by student council representatives. The committee will continue next year.

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D. Flag Pole Update/Paving Bricks – Information/Discussion

James Stevens informed the Board that the contractor has assured us that the flagpole will be ready for Memorial Day. Michael Schiedo described the paver project; this will be done on both sides of the front sidewalk and around the base of the flagpole. This is in conjunction with the flagpole replacement project. This will make the front of the school look very nice.

E. State Aid/Stimulus Package – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo discussed the State Aid Stimulus package. Guidance and direction on the use of stimulus money is being disseminated to school districts. At this time, this information appears to be in need of further clarification. Money is received through the routine 'FS-10' grant application process. Lyncourt is scheduled to receive approximately \$ 81,000.00. He noted that this money will not exist after the 2010-2011 school year.

**VI. New Business**

A. Corporate Challenge – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo discussed the Corporate Challenge which will be held on Tuesday, June 23 at Onondaga Lake Park. Lyncourt will participate as a team in this event which is a 3.5 mile course.

B. Little League Opener – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo initiated discussion on the Little League Opener which took place on Saturday, April 25. It was a beautiful day and was attended by a number of Lyncourt employees. The school band played at this event.



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- G. Solvay 2009 Awards Ceremony, May 21, 2009, 7:00PM, Auditorium – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo spoke about this awards ceremony. Julia Rivero plans to attend this very important event.

- H. Solvay Academic Awards Banquet, May 27, 2009 – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo spoke of the Awards Banquet which is being held in the Empire Room at the State Fair. Lawrence Salamino plans to attend.

- I. Solvay Athletic Awards Banquet, June 3, 2009 – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo spoke of the Athletic Awards Banquet. Attendance is yet to be determined.

**VII. Superintendent's Report**

- A. PTO Budget Presentation – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo described his recent PTO Budget Presentation which was held on April 9. The presentation was well received.

- B. Seniors Meeting Budget Presentation – Information/Discussion

Michael described his recent Seniors Meeting Budget Presentation which was held on April 15. He had the opportunity to clarify and address a number of budget questions and concerns. He was glad to report that many of the seniors took the microphone and spoke in strong support of the school district, the academic program and the support given to the seniors.

- C. Budget Hearing/Budget Vote Days – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo discussed the Budget Hearing/Budget Vote Days. The Budget Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12 at 6:00 P.M. The Budget Vote is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.

- D. Building Project Update – Information/Discussion

Michael Schiedo updated the Board about the Phase II Reconstruction/Addition Building Project. He was pleased to report that all is proceeding on schedule. The final drawings will be sent to NYSED-Facilities Planning by May 15. He will remain in contact with John O'Donnell of SED to monitor the processing of our project.





