



Westchester-Putnam School Boards Association
Minutes of WPSBA Board Meeting of Thursday April 26, 2012
Education House, White Plains, NY

Present: Ifay Chang (*Somers*); Lisa Davis (*WPSBA*); Kendall Egan (*Rye City*); Anita Feldman (*P/NW BOCES*); Rita Golden (*Mt. Pleasant-Cottage*); Frank Hariton (*Ardsley*); Jeffrey Hastie (*New Rochelle*); Stephen Jambor (*Brewster*); Rick Kreps (*Carmel*); Wendy Naidich (*Hastings-on-Hudson*); Anna Sterne (*Dobbs Ferry*); Brett Summers (*Byram Hills*); Susan Elion Wollin (*Bedford*); Karen Zevin (*Croton-Harmon*); Peggy Zugibe (*NYSSBA Area 10*). Also in attendance: Vince D'Ambroso (*WPSBA liaison, Mt Pleasant*)

Excused: Lynn McBride (*Mt. Vernon*); David Quattrone (*SW Chief School Administrator*); Richard Rugani (*Bronxville*); Linnet Tse (*Mamaroneck*);

Absent: Kelly Chiarella (*PTA Yonkers*); David Lacher (*New Rochelle*); Dan McCann (*P/NW Chief School Administrator*);

Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 6:19 pm by Kendall Egan, who asked if there were any changes to the March 22, 2012 meeting minutes. There were none.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Rick Kreps opened his report with a presentation of the proposed 2012-13 WPSBA dues scenarios. Last year district dues were not raised. Two dues scenarios were discussed, both of which link the WPSBA dues to the school district tax levy rather than to the school district budget. By using tax levy as the basis, both district budget/size and district wealth will be factored into the dues schedule. Discussion followed. The board agreed that WPSBA dues should be determined on the basis of the tax levy and favored an eight tier option. In order to move districts from the old schedule to the new one, it was explained that most district dues will remain flat for 2012-13, two will go down, and 16 will increase. Special Act School District dues will not change.

Rick also discussed the 2011-12 budget year to date, noting that reserve dollars would be used for the following one-time projects: graphic design of a new logo; contracting with NYCON to revise the current by-laws (from 2005); potentially underwriting up to \$3000 in expenses for the Anniversary Gala (dependent on advertising dollars); and purchasing a third computer for the WPSBA office. Lisa Davis presented the proposed 2012-13 budget. Any key changes were highlighted.

Consent Agenda: Karen Zevin moved to accept the Consent Agenda. It was seconded by Rick Kreps and passed unanimously.

President's Report: Kendall brought board members up-to-date on the 50th Anniversary Gala. She asked for volunteers to reach out to advertisers and encourage board members to purchase "Golden Tweets" which would be placed in the Gala journal. She shared that the program will include performances by student groups from member school districts and that the evening's Master of Ceremonies will be Alex Witt from MSNBC. Kendall went on to thank Frank, Anita, and Wendy who are working to pull documents and photos for the journal history, and Lois Winkler who wrote a history for the journal. Kathy Brechner was also acknowledged for her work on a photo/video montage which will run throughout program. Centerpieces for the event will be tote bags donated by school districts and then filled with books and school supplies, which will be gifted to the Special Act Districts after the event.

Executive Director's Report: Lisa mentioned her attendance at the NSBA Annual Conference in Boston from April 21-23. She spoke about the speakers and workshops which particularly impressed her, and suggested that WPSBA keep them in mind for future programs.

On April 17 an editorial appeared in the Journal News entitled "School Districts Learn Their Lesson." Lisa sent in a response which was published in the Community Views section of the paper on April 22.

Area organizations continue to approach WPSBA about working collaboratively. The community group Best4NY has asked Lisa to sign their electronic mandate relief petition which would infer WPSBA approval. There is also a forum in New Rochelle to discuss the potential Middletown School District lawsuit regarding the tax levy limit legislation. Discussion on these topics followed. Kendall asked for a vote on those in favor of having Lisa sign the Best4NY petition. Eight members voted "yes" and 4 voted "no". It was also determined that WPSBA would attend the forum, but not take a position on, the pending litigation.

NYSSBA Area 10 Report: Peggy announced that NYSSBA is looking into membership retention and will be asking districts their views on NYSSBA services and membership.

Lisa thanked Peggy for her fine representation of NYSSBA Area 10.

Jeffrey Hastie moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Karen Zevin.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.