

**Horseheads Central School District
Special Business Meeting of the Board of Education
Educational Support Training Room
August 10, 2015**

Present: Christiansen, Conklin, Dale, Jacobus, Johnson, Sadler, Strollo

Also Present: Buzzetti, Christiansen, Gray, Moyer

Absent: Boulas, Lynch

Call to Order: Board President Jim Jacobus called the Special Business Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 8:00 AM.

Board President’s Remarks and Agenda Changes

Board President Jim Jacobus stated there are no agenda changes and noted for the Board to disregard Agenda Item 8.7 that you may have seen in your Board Packet.

Questions/Comments

There were no Questions/Comments from Board Members.

Report From The Board President

Board of Education Committee and Liaison Appointments

Moved by Conklin, seconded by Sadler.

RESOLVED, that the Horseheads Central School District Board of Education approve the Board of Education Committee and Liaison Appointments as submitted.

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Noes</u>	<u>Abstained</u>	<u>Absent</u>
			Boulas

Christiansen
Conklin
Dale
Jacobus
Johnson

Lynch

Sadler
Strollo

MOTION CARRIED

Board President Jim Jacobus brought the Board of Education Committee and Liaison Appointments to the Board for Board action. Jim stated that Board Vice-President Karen Boulas and he spent about one hour putting the list together. The goal was every person who was an incumbent on the Board was the Chair of a Committee. Jim stated that we knew that one person(Warren Conklin) would be Chair of two Committees because he came up just short on the number of Committees.

~~Board Member Doug Johnson commented it was obvious that five members of the Board had spoken about appointing people prior to this meeting which is a violation of the law. Doug stated in the future if there is a majority of the Board discussing Board Policy then we need to consider it a meeting and have it advertised on the District Web Site. We need to follow the law so that other Board Members are aware that a meeting is going to take place.~~

ADD the following "corrected comment" by Board Member Douq Johnson:

Board Member Doug Johnson commented that it was obvious that five members of the Board had spoken about Policy 2250 regarding appointing members to Board Committees prior to the July 1 meeting. The Open Meetings Law says that any records that are scheduled to be the subject of discussion at a board meeting must be posted on the District website prior to such meeting. Therefore, the failure to post Policy 2250 on the website prior to the July 1 meeting was a violation of the Open Meetings Law. Doug stated in the future if there is a majority of the Board of Education discussing a Board Policy that will be brought up at a Board meeting, it needs to be posted on the District website.

Board Member Pam Strollo stated that she is not able to receive email any longer on her work email, so please make sure to contact her via her personal email which she is able to also access on her phone. Pam also noted that both Board Member Warren Conklin and Vice-President Karen Boulas are Chairs of two Sub-Committees. Board President Jim Jacobus noted that Pam is correct in acknowledging this oversight.

Update on the August 24th Board of Education Retreat

Board President Jim Jacobus updated the Board on the August 24th Board of Education Retreat. Jim stated that it was just put together with the assistance of Superintendent Dr. Thomas Douglas. Jim stated when discussing the Board of Education Self-Evaluations it was noted that some did not complete one because they felt they were not beneficial. Jim stated that a survey will be sent to Board members to complete regarding Board Self-Evaluations which will be discussed during the Board Retreat. Jim stated at the end of the Retreat if there is time a discussion involving the Facility Capacity/Utilization and Grade Configuration Study and Consolidation/Feasibility Study with Elmira Heights Central School District may be discussed,

Board Member Pam Strollo inquired as to exactly what will be discussed regarding the Board's Self-Evaluation so that she will be prepared. Board President Jim Jacobus stated we will discuss the effectiveness of the Board and also the possibility of maybe reducing the Committees since that is what Dr. Douglas is used to, but does not mean we have to. Jim stated we have had changes on the Board, four new Board Members since the last cycle so it is almost like starting from scratch. We will look at how a School Board operates whenever new Board Members come on board. Jim stated he would like to see us familiarize them with the operations of the School Board and using the evaluation tool helps us get to that point. Pam inquired as to what does the term "governance" refer to?" Jim stated he believes it is the way the Board operates with the support of the Superintendent. Board Member David Sadler stated he thought it refers to how the Board President and Vice-President interacts with the Superintendent. Board Member Warren Conklin inquired for clarification if "governance" refers to the full Board, all nine members in its entirety? The inference is where the clarification is needed. Board President Jim Jacobus stated this will be discussed in further detail at the August Board Retreat to clear up the meaning of "governance" and the importance of the Board's Self-Evaluation. Jim also stated one of his Goals is to work hard including the Board in the decision-making process. He wants to hear from all the Board members and wants the Board to weigh in on all the business of the Board of Education.