

Summary of Jasper-Troupsburg Board of Education Meeting March 4, 2009

This summary is intended to help the Board and the Superintendent inform the community of the Jasper-Troupsburg School District about the issues the district is addressing. If anyone has a question or concern, please feel free to contact Chad C. Groff, Superintendent (792-3675).

Prior to the agenda items, Mr. Michael Surowka conducted a presentation with the Board. Mr. Surowka is one of the partners in the district's legal firm. This presentation is one of the benefits included in the district's retainer with Hogan & Sarzynski.

Communications to the Board. A tabled request, from last meeting, was discussed. Miss Elizabeth VanOrsdale requested financial support for her Criminal Justice trip to Syracuse. The Board approved a \$70 contribution for her trip. The high school cafeteria was reviewed by the Office of General Services (NY). This is the state organization that oversees our participation in the government food program. The OGS inspector complimented the cafeteria program for a job well done.

Personnel items. Mrs. Patricia Gross was approved as the Varsity Softball Coach. This will be our reemergence back into the ranks of varsity competition. We wish the girls and Coach Gross a good and fun season. The Board approved Mr. Richard McIntosh as the Varsity Baseball Coach. Mr. McIntosh has been the modified coach for a number of years. Good luck boys. Mrs. Jennifer Porter was approved as the Modified Softball Coach. Mrs. Porter volunteered with the JV team last year. Good luck ladies. The following spring coaches were approved: Adrian Essigmann – Girls Track & Field, Mike Davis – Boys Track & Field, Kerry Davis – Modified Track & Field, Scott Helgeland – Varsity Golf, and Sean Barnes – JV Golf.

Action items. The following volunteers were approved: Adam Thurber – Varsity Baseball, Krys Watkins – Track & Field, and Lori Thomas – Softball. Updates for names and dates for the district's Project SAVE documentation were approved.

Discussion items. The Board was given a first look at the 2009-10 school budget. We continue to wait for a confirmed picture regarding revenue from the federal government and the school aid from New York State. We are slated to receive Title 1 and Special Education money from the federal stimulus package. We also anticipate a restoration of the state funds that were taken away in the governor's first budget run. The governor has pledged that the federal stabilization money will off-set the anticipated shortfall. The Board and I will have the difficult task of making adjustments to the school budget this year. The state comptroller's audit will contain recommendations to change some of the ways we create the school budget. In some cases, this will initiate differences in what the budget looks like compared to last year. The district goals were also reviewed and will be posted to the school website. The Board had an initial discussion regarding the purchase of additional Activboards for next school year. The Board was very supportive of the purchase of boards for next year. I will be distributing the applications to teachers for their consideration. We also discussed the potential of pursuing other sources of funding for the purchases.