

Wappingers Central School District Legislative Action Committee Meeting
Monday, November 26, 2018
5:30 p.m. – Public Session
District Office, 25 Corporate Park Drive, Business Office Conference Room
Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

Agenda

1. Approve Minutes
 2. Letter on Impact of Cost Increases due to Delay of SSBA Approval Process
 3. Continue Discussion on Diversity
 4. Update on Special Education Surveys
 5. Schedule Next Meeting Date
 6. Adjournment
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Legislative Action Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Eddy Slosower, Peggy Kelland (arrived 5:39 p.m.), James Spencer, Linda Rappaport, Karen Karath, Marie Johnson, Alberta Pedro, Jayna Bryant (JJ)

Absent: Michaela Rumley (RCK)

Public: No one from the public was present.

1. Chairman Eddy Slosower called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.
2. Approve Minutes - the Committee discussed the minutes and sought clarification of item g on the minutes. The Committee agreed by consensus to approve the minutes.
3. Letter on Impact of Cost Increases due to Delay of SSBA Approval Process - The Capital Improvement Committee had discussed the Legislative Action Committee (LAC) preparing a letter to the Governor, State Senators, and Commissioner Elia regarding the cost impact as a result of the delay of approving the district's security vestibule project through the Smart Schools Bond Act (SSBA), which provides funding for security and safety for school districts. The two year delay in funding the project has resulted in an increase to the cost for labor and materials. The Capital Improvement Committee suggested the LAC draft a letter that districts should not be responsible for cost increases

due to the State's delay in approving SSBA funding. It was suggested to hold off on sending the letter until the District received the money, as the Committee does not want to jeopardize the processing of the funding. It would take some time for the Committee to generate and for the Board to approve the letter. In addition, more definite costs will need to be finalized to include in the letter. It was suggested that it may be a good idea to contact the Dutchess County School Boards Association (DCSBA) to join us in advocating as a group.

Chairman Slosower made a motion to move ahead to begin to craft a letter to the Governor, State Senators, and Commissioner Elia on the impact of cost increases due to the State's delay in the SSBA approval process. The Committee will then reach out to DCSBA, New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA), and the Lower Hudson Education Coalition (LHEC) to ask if other districts would like to join in the advocacy efforts. *Chairman Slosower will request timelines and information from Daren Lolkema in order to start the letter.* Mrs. Rappaport expressed an interest in helping to draft the letter and Mrs. Kelland agreed to work with her. This motion was seconded by Marie Johnson. Motion Carried. Unanimous.

4. Continue Discussion on Diversity - Ms. Johnson visited the State Education website and found a link for a [principal workshop on diversity](#). Two years ago Commission Elia started a committee with parents, students, and administration to gather information on diversity. It appears the report provides similar language referenced in the NYSSBA Convention resolution #19.

Mrs. Kelland explained the background information behind the NYSSBA Resolution #19. In the discussion at the Convention, delegates felt it was important to address this issue by broadening the approaches. To a degree it would be what we would like to see in policy. Student Jayna provided [NYSED EngageNY Promoting Diversity Integration](#) powerpoint. She expressed an interest in how we bring all the students into the fold - inclusion and would like to see an understanding between all groups of people.

The District Clerk will share the link provided by Ms. Johnson and the link provided by Jayna by email with the Committee members.

Step 1: The Committee members will gather information and share by email.

Step 2: The students will create a draft slideshow and start putting ideas and information together for their presentation on diversity.

5. Update on Special Education Surveys - The surveys will be emailed to all special education staff in the District. The survey has been created on google forms for easy data collecting. There will be a follow-up presentation provided to the Board.
6. Testing and APPR - The Committee discussed conducting a survey targeted to juniors and seniors in the district on whether they experienced difficulty during the transition in their learning due to the implementation of Common Core. *The Committee will email sample questions to include in the survey for the students.*
7. Schedule Next Meeting Date: The LAC will meet on **Monday, December 19 at 5:15 p.m. at the District Office.**
8. Adjournment
 - a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.