

**THE HARPURSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD
A SPECIAL BOARD MEETING ON THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015 AT 6:00PM IN
THE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Board President Burns. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Blakeslee, Mr. Burns, Mrs. Matts, Mrs. Snow and Mr. Weist in attendance. Mrs. Bassler was absent from the meeting. Also in attendance was Superintendent Wood. Additional attendees are noted on the guest list.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

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**PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF PETITIONS
FOR ADDITIONAL PROPOSITIONS**

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Attorney Nathan VanWhy, school district attorney with Coughlin & Gerhart, was in attendance to review the two propositions that were submitted to the District Clerk on April 20, 2015.

Attorney VanWhy explained that the propositions were submitted with the required number of signatures within the timeframe advertised. He suggests the District adopt a policy that would set forth a deadline in which proposals for propositions be submitted sixty days prior to the vote instead of thirty days to allow for discussion and, if necessary, revision.

He further explained that the proposition submitted limiting the number of consecutive terms a Board member may serve is not within the authority of the Board nor the School District voters. He recommends the Board reject the proposition.

The second proposition in which the term of a school board member be reduced from five years to three years lacks the language mandated by Education Law. The proposition does not include language which deals with later vacancies and varying terms which could eventually lead to three or four board members terms up at one time. He recommends this proposed proposition be rejected as well.

Superintendent Wood suggests that we add this to the June agenda as a discussion item and the Board can present this resolution itself and call a special referendum in the Fall.

15-0507-I

At a special meeting of the Board of Education of the Harpursville Central School District, Broome County, New York held at the Harpursville High School on the 7th day of May, 2015, the following resolution was offered by Board member Blakeslee, who moved for its adoption, seconded by Board member Anderson,

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is in receipt of the following voter propositions, received April 20, 2015:

Proposition One: Shall the terms of office for those persons elected to the office of school board member in the School District of Harpursville Central School, at the May 19, 2015 election and at each election for this office thereafter, be limited such that no person so elected may serve more than three (3) consecutive full three (3) year terms on the school board.

Proposition Two: Shall the terms of office for those persons elected to the office of school board member in the School District of Harpursville Central School, at the May 19, 2015 election and at each election for this office thereafter, be limited to a three (3) year term on the school board instead of the current five (5) year term of office.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, upon consultation with its legal counsel, has determined that neither the Board nor the School District's voters have authority to limit the number of terms a board member may serve, and that Proposition One is therefore improper; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, upon consultation with its legal counsel, has determined that Proposition Two is defective because it fails to include language mandated by Education Law §2105(3);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the voter propositions received April 20, 2015, not be submitted to the voters on May 19, 2015.

Motion carried 6-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

15-0507-II

On a motion made by Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Blakeslee, the Board agreed to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 PM.

Motion carried 6-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene M. Noyes
District Clerk