

Minutes are draft until approved at the June 13, 2019 meeting.

Board of Education Agenda - Regular Meeting (Tuesday, May 21, 2019)

Generated by Shelli Reickert on Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Present: Christian Olsen, Michael Tuttle, Michael Hiser, Michael Charsky, Mary Yurista, Bruce Romanchak and Charles Peter

Absent: Daniel Grandinetti

Also Present: Jason Chevrier, Brian Carey, Michael Bennett, James Derby, Keri Rosher, Jacqueline Hill, Jodi Sullivan, Michele Reickert and Mikaylia Maier

1. MEETING OPENING

- A. President Christian Olsen called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.
- B. President Olsen asked everyone to stand for the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- C. Charles Peter moved to approve the present agenda, Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.
- D. Bruce Romanchak moved to approve the minutes of April 16, 2019 meeting, Michael Hiser seconded, all present in favor.
- E. Bruce Romanchak moved to approve the minutes of April 30, 2019 meeting, Charles Peter seconded, all present in favor.
- F. Bruce Romanchak moved to approve the minutes of May 9, 2019, public hearing and meeting, Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.

2. REPORTS

A. Capital Project Update

Mr. Chevrier first thanked Michele Reickert for her work and time getting the budget vote up and running this morning. He thanked Matthew LaClair, Lisa Smith-Auer and the custodial staff for their work in getting the building and grounds set up for the budget vote.

Mr. Chevrier and Mr. LaClair updated the board on the closeout of the capital project. They also spoke about the bids for the work to be done in the Auditorium, Technology Room and Cafeteria, they shared that the bids came in higher than expected. Mr. LaClair explained that bids are coming in high for all projects in the area. Mr. Chevrier suggested the district go back out to bid for the work that needs to be done in the Auditorium and wait to do the improvements to the Technology Room and Cafeteria in a later, smaller capital project. Mr. Charsky asked about holding off on the project for a year and see if the construction market lowers making it more favorable for the district. There was discussion about the tennis courts and the plan for what the district will do if the Tennis courts cannot be used any longer, as well as the parking lot, what has been done to improve the flow of traffic, and what still needs to be done.

B. TRS Reserve

Brian Carey explained what the TRS reserve is, the limits of the contributions allowed by law and what the fund will be used to pay for. There is a resolution on the agenda approving the creation of the reserve.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. BOARD DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEM FOLLOW UP

A. Board Discussion

- Information about Student Activity Fund will be discussed at a later time.
- Mr. Peters June 11, 2019 is a rescheduled date for the recognition of Paul Puccio at the Legislature.

B. Action Item Follow-up

- SRO discussion will take place more in the future.
- Excessive heat and blinds in classrooms in the Jr/Sr High School – There was a meeting with a few teachers, building leaders and Matt LaClair, a plan has been put together and the rooms will continue to be monitored.
- Discipline 4th & 5th from enrollment conversation. Mr. Derby spoke to the questions from the board meeting on April 16th about the handling of discipline. The decision of whether there is a referral for a student from a teacher to the principal. A referral is recorded in the student file and that is what appears on the report from April 16th. Mr. Derby mentioned that most discipline is not in the classroom but it is during the less supervised times such as recess and lunch. Mr. Derby felt the discipline incidents were typical behaviors with the level of maturity of the students.
- Questar III Presentation remembering Paul Puccio was emailed to the Board of Education – shared with the Board of Education

5. DISTRICT / BUILDING / COMMITTEE UPDATES

A. District Updates

- Parent meeting from May 13 - Mr. Chevrier shared about the meeting that took place for parents of the current 3rd grade. He shared that he has already begun to look at what to do differently next year during the budget process to communicate and share information with the public, such as adding a workshop between draft 2 and draft 3 of the budget and look for more ways to engage the public in budget discussions.
- Questar is looking to take more classrooms in the former middle school, there are discussions about the lease to cover the use of the classrooms. Mr. Olsen asked what would enrollment need to increase to for the district to need to use the middle school for students again. There was discussion but no answer was determined.
- Congressman Delgado visited the elementary school – he engaged elementary aged students in conversation on the three levels of government and took questions and answers from students at the high school. Mr. Chevrier stated that he was impressed with the level of the questions the students asked. Makaila Maier felt it was a good holistic, world knowledge experience. Mr. Chevrier thanked Caitlin Colwell for coordinating the visit.
- Draft OFC report was shared with the board, an exit interview will take place later this month with the auditors the district will respond and get a final report to take corrective action on the areas that they had findings in.
- Lt. Reickert received the Civic Leader, Champion of Character Award at the Academy of Character, Champions of Character awards dinner, Brian Carey, Jason Chevrier and Michele Reickert attended. Congratulations. He was nominated by Michael Bennett for his time and efforts supporting the district. He is present each morning on his own time greeting students and parents, he participates in safety drills, coordinates getting other officers here for trainings, and participates in the safety planning. He goes above and beyond. The entire Schodack Police Department is a great support.

- Draft OSC Audit was given to the district, Mr. Chevrier asked the board to review and send questions to him and Brian Carey. The District will meet with auditors for OSC with two board members, and then write a response. Once that is done, the District will then receive the final audit report. The district chose to have the extracurricular activities audited knowing there may be findings but wanted to see if there were areas of improvement that were necessary. Mr. Chevrier shared that the findings were process related.
- Dates will be looked at for a Board Retreat, potentially one day in July and a follow up in August.
- Enrollment Report attached for review.
- Donations under the minimum amount set for board approval in district policy 1800 and/or donations for scholarships - list attached for review.

B. Building Updates

- Castleton Elementary School – Mrs. Rosher talked about the Gala with Guest Author Suzanne Verede which incorporated a mental health aspect, she stated that it was a great event and a whole building effort. Mr. Derby talked about Mike Fonda who works for St. Peter’s Hospital talking to students about various safety topics, most recently Internet Safety. He will be in tomorrow night to meet with parents and discuss the same topic and then again for 5th grade students. Field day will be different this year K-2 will be in the morning, 3-4 the afternoon and then 5th and 6th will go to the HS track for a special event.
- Maple Hill Jr/Sr High School – Ms. Sullivan talked about the Jr/Sr Prom, the walkthrough photos were moved inside and it was beautiful. Students were dressed very classy, the students received many compliments for their interactions with the employees of the State Room in Albany. The after prom party was coordinated by the SADD Club at an ice cream place in Albany, SADD paid for the entire bill. Ms. Hill highlighted Hillstock, an upcoming event that is always fun, there are various dinners coming up and invited the board to look at the events and come join.

C. Committee Reports

- CES Building Planning Team – Met and finished looking at the student handbook, made some decisions and hope to have it ready for use in September.
- Jr/Sr HS Building Planning Team – In the process of a virtual meeting, revising the extracurricular contract and looking for comments from the committee members.
- Professional Development Planning Team – There was additional work on the survey put out to the faculty and teaching assistants, to plan professional development opportunities.
- Technology Committee – Survey feedback was reviewed and they will be meeting to discuss professional development offers regarding technology.
- NYSSBA Legislative Committee - nothing
- Health Safety / SAVE Committee - nothing
- Audit Committee – will be meeting in June
- Policy Committee – Voting on the last of the 8000 series and have received the next series just recently and will begin work on this.

6. POLICIES

Mary Yurista moved to approve item A., Bruce Romanchak seconded, all present in favor.

A. Approval of the 2nd reading and adoption of the following policy(ies):

8210.1 Use of Surveillance Cameras on School Property

8220 Buildings and Grounds Maintenance and Inspection

8330 Authorized Use of School-Owned Materials and Equipment

8332 Use of Cellular Phones

7. FINANCE

Bruce Romanchak moved to approve items A. through G., Michael Charsky seconded, all present in favor.

- A. Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2019.
- B. Acceptance of the Claims Auditor's Report for the month of March 2019.
- C. Approval of the Student Activity Report for the quarter of January 2019 - March 2019.
- D. Approval of a Health Services contract with Rensselaer City School District for the 2018-2019 school year for (3) three resident students at a rate of \$583.48 per student.
- E. Approval of a resolution establishing a sub-fund within the Employee Retirement System to be known as the Teachers Retirement System District Retirement Contribution reserve Sub-Fund.
- F. Acceptance of a donation of a 12 X 16 7 foot Shed from Maple Hill Athletic Booster Club valued at \$6,074.00 in support of the Athletic Department.
- G. Acceptance of a donation of \$765.00 from Castleton Elementary School PTO for the purchase of Rafael Lopez Books for Castleton Elementary School.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. **Michel Hiser moved** to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:45 pm. to discuss a potential personnel matter of a particular person, Superintendent Contract Negotiations and SFA Contract Negotiations, **Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.**
- B. Adjourn to Open Session at 9:00, go down to the polls and hear the results and reconvene the meeting at 9:20 pm.

9. OTHER ACTION

Romanchak moved to approve items A. through F., with budget vote and election numbers read aloud by District Clerk, Michele Reickert, Michael Charsky seconded, all present in favor.

- A. Approval of the recommendation of the District Committee on Preschool Special Education and Committee on Special Education regarding 2018-19 Special Education Services for student(s) as indicated on attached reports.
- B. Approval of the recommendation of the District Committee on Preschool Special Education and Committee on Special Education regarding 2019-20 Special Education Services for student(s) as indicated on attached reports.
- C. Approval of a Lease with Friends of Castleton Kids, Inc. for (2) two classrooms (305 & 308) in the former Maple Hill Middle School building for a period of June 1, 2019, through June 30, 2022.
- D. Approval of library books on attached lists, to be declared surplus and to be disposed of by the district in accordance with district policy.
- E. Approval of the 2019-2020 school calendar.
- F. Approval of a resolution accepting the results of the 2019-2020 School Budget Vote and Election.

10. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS

Michael Charsky moved to approve items A. through B., Bruce Romanchak seconded, all present in favor.

A. Approval of staffing actions:

Recommendation: Approval and/or Acceptance of the following personnel actions:

Resignations:

Morgan Macera as Teaching Assistant, effective May 12, 2019.

Lucas Ashby as Special Education Teacher effective June 30, 2019.

Juanita Milot as Custodial Worker effective June 30, 2019.

Non-Instructional Appointments/change in hours

Douglas Earle, 6 mo. – Probationary appointment as Laborer – Seasonal Grounds effective May 10, 2019, at a rate of \$17.16 per hour.

Substitute Appointments

Sarah Konig Substitute Teaching Assistant based on rates set at July 2, 2018 Organizational Meeting.

Garrett Renslow as Substitute Teacher based on rates set at July 2, 2018 Organizational Meeting.

Mary VanVliet as Substitute Teacher based on rates set at July 2, 2018 Organizational Meeting.

B. Approval of a resolution approving the conditional four-year probationary appointment of Meghan Krug as a Secondary Science Teacher.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Chevrier thanked Mary Yurista for her commitment to the Board and expressed that he was sorry that the voting results were not in her favor.

12. ACTION ITEMS: Dates for Board Retreat, and enrollment numbers necessary to re-open the middle school.

13. ADJOURN

A. Michael Charsky moved to adjourn to executive session to continue to discuss a potential personnel matter of a particular person, Superintendent Contract Negotiations and SFA Contract Negotiations at 9:39 pm. Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.

B. Bruce Romanchak moved to reconvene to open session and adjourn the meeting at 10:46 pm, Michael Charsky seconded, all present in favor.