

Jason M. Chevrier
Superintendent
518-732-2297



Michael Tuttle
President
Board of Education

**April 23, 2020
Board of Education Regular Meeting**

Minutes were approved at the June 25, 2020 Board Meeting.

Present via Video Conference: Michael Tuttle, Christian Olsen, Shelley Palmer, Sherri Gibson, Daniel Grandinetti, Michael Hiser, Michael Charsky, Charles Peter and Makaila Maier

Also Present via Video Conference: Jason Chevrier, Brian Carey, Michael Bennett, Jacqueline Hill, Jodi Sullivan, James Derby, Keri Rosher and Michael Reickert

Meeting Location:

Video Conference via Google Meet for Board Members

Time: 6:00 p.m.

For public access, call the telephone number below and enter the pin followed by # as shown below:

Telephone phone number: 1-401-315-8310

Pin: 769 908 014#

1. MEETING OPENING

A. Called to Order by President Michael Tuttle at 6:05 pm.

B. President Michael Tuttle asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

C. **Christian Olsen moved** for approval of the Present Agenda, **Michael Hiser seconded, all present in favor.**

D. **Michael Charsky moved** for approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 19, 2020, **Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.**

2. REPORTS

A. COVID-19 / School Closure Update

Jason Chevrier shared a timeline through April 13 and talked about the district's response each change in direction from the state, the various requirements of schools: food service plan, childcare plan and instructional plan. Jason thanked the Chartwells team for the work they do to feed the students of Schodack Central school District every day as well as the custodial crew for taking on the Pat Wood Backpack Program to be sure the distribution of the food to those families continue. He explained the childcare plan that the State approved. Schodack has partnered with the East Greenbush YMCA, the program is being run at Goff Middle School, Schodack could be an additional location for childcare if needed. The instruction plans were made and implemented. He shared that all employees are still being paid, that their services are being utilized as needed and are available for any task asked of them.

James Derby shared how proud he was with the community and teachers and what they have been able to do in a short time. He shared that morning announcements will continue to keep some normalcy for students. He talked about grading and report cards and the change to a standards base reporting. He shared the how curriculum and instruction is handled, how decisions are made for what is being taught, what new instruction is introduced, class meetings to help with social-emotional health, teacher office hours for questions. Teachers have weekly faculty meetings, and the instructional support team continues to meet.

Jacqueline Hill shared that the Jr./Sr. High School is using Google Classroom and email to communicate with students, and teachers are holding office hours. Communication continues from the guidance department sharing information with students and seniors. Curriculum and instruction is based on priority standards, assignments are assessed often, a Child Study Team and has reached out to struggling students, grading was discussed, most area schools are using the pass fail grading for third quarter and GPA will be calculated using the first semester and midterm, guidance has collected information from colleges and shared that information, the letter that was sent is on the website.

The District still continues to use the website, eNews emails, Social Media, Text Alerts, Electronic Signs, Google Meet for communication with the community and students. There has been a google meet with the Class of 2020 and with the community for questions and answers.

The district continues to wait for orders and guidance from the state for extended school closure or return, to look at other options for prom, graduation, kindergarten orientation, honors night, and moving up ceremonies. A new calendar may be presented for adoption at the May meeting adjusting for the days school was in session over April break, possibly ending school 6 days earlier than the original calendar indicated.

B. Budget

Changes to the budget were shared based on the reduction in aid in the State budget, the new hiring indicated in Draft 2 for next year was removed, the district is looking at significantly less revenue, it is not responsible to bring on new staff that we may not be able to support. The SRO and additional section for 4th grade will not be included in the budget as originally planned. A spreadsheet was shared showing the things included in the budget and the things that were omitted. There was discussion about the additional propositions, transfer to capital to do work in the CES library and tile areas of floor. The money may need to be used to offset loss of revenue so the project may be put on hold if needed. The transfer from capital reserve proposition to replace the hot water tank at the District Office building will go to the public for vote, it is a necessary repair. Money is put in a reserve requiring voter approval to use it, and can only be used for Capital repairs, this being one of those repairs. The propositions for buses will remain, the district receives aid making the cost minimal to the district. There are still unknowns with the vote and how it will be conducted, how petitions will be done, we are waiting for guidance from the State. A plan for the reduction waves from the State was shared, wave 1 will be captured in the Superintendent's Budget, wave 2 could require use of unappropriated fund balance above the allowable 4% with a spending freeze on July 1 and wave 3 could require the use of reserves and reduction in force if needed. Reductions could start as early as April 30, 2020.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Nichole Henderson thanked teachers, staff, the board, everybody for the support that has been shown, and that the continued morning announcements at CES are really helpful and they help get the day

started, gives a semblance of the school day. She expressed concern to how the district is going to support the kids when they come back and spoke to the potential 50% aid reduction to schools, concern of social distancing if schools return especially in a class with 28 students as well as other classes and upper classes. She has questions about the budget such as the printer and engraver, the CES work for the capital project for \$100,000.

Renee Seymour, a teacher at the Jr./Sr. High school thanked everybody. She spoke about how seamless the transition was compared to parents and teachers in other areas and states she has talked to. The district was on top of things quickly. She expressed appreciation for the support by your our administrators.

4. BOARD DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEM FOLLOW UP

A. Board Discussion

Michael Hiser asked that a list be kept of post-pandemic topics so as not to lose sight of things that were being discussed before it began. Also, to remember the past things we have gone through and came out of, we will come out of this too, we should keep a list of lessons learned through this.

Sherri Gibson asked how the district plans to handle the gaps in knowledge that students will have when they return. There was discussion about how the district will handle those gaps. Plans are in process, students that have had little contact with teachers are being contacted directly by teachers and student to help lessen those gaps.

B. Action Item Follow-up: None discussed.

5. DISTRICT UPDATE

The March 2020 enrollment report was shared.

Michael Charsky moved to approve Sections 6. A. through D, 7. A. through C. and Section 8. A., Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.

6. FINANCE

- A. Treasurer's Report
- B. Claims Auditor's Report
- C. Approval of Contract(s) / Lease(s)
- D. Approval to Declare Surplus

7. OTHER ACTION

- A. Approval of the recommendation of the District Committee on Preschool Special Education
- B. Motion to Approve Resolution
- C. Approval of School Days Calendar

8. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

- A. Appointment of Data Protection Officer

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. NONE.

10. ACTION ITEMS

May 7th meeting, potential to adopt the budget at the meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A. Having no further business before the board, President Michael Tuttle adjourned the meeting at 8:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele A. Reickert
District Clerk