

Jason M. Chevrier  
Superintendent  
518-732-2297



Michael Tuttle  
President  
Board of Education

**Thursday, September 24, 2020**  
**Board of Education Agenda - Regular Meeting**

**Minutes are FINAL, they were approved at the October 15, 2020 meeting.**

**Meeting Location: Maple Hill Jr./Sr. High School, 1216 Maple Hill Road, Castleton, NY 12033 for Members of the Board of Education**

The public can join virtually using the Video button on the agenda screen or pasting this link in your browser:

<https://schodackk12.webex.com/schodackk12/onstage/g.php?MTID=ede2545696561d09966fec1bbd56f03>

Event password: scsd2020

To join by phone:

1-408-418-9388

Access code: 173 458 2886

Meeting Time: 6:00 pm

**Present in person:** Michael Tuttle, Mary Yurista, Michael Hiser, Kyle Hurysz, and Daniel Grandinetti

**Present virtual:** Shelley Palmer and Sherri Gibson

**Absent:** Charles Peter and Michael Charsky

**Also present in person:** Jason Chevrier, Brian Carey, and Michele Reickert

**Also present virtual:** Michael Bennett, Jacqueline Hill, James Derby and Keri Rosher

## **1. MEETING OPENING**

A. President Michael Tuttle called the meeting to order at 6:19 pm.

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

C. Mary Yurista moved to approve the Present Agenda, Michael Hiser seconded, all present in favor.

## **2. REPORTS**

A. Audit Report

Heather Lewis from Marvin and Company talked about the audit of the 2019-2020 fiscal year. The district's financial statement are fairly stated. Revenue was just over budget and expenses under budget consistent with other district this year due to the closure. The audit did have one material find; the district was over the four percent limit for reserve fund, a planned decision.

Extra classroom activity funds were fairly stated. The district did an excellent job of implementing alternate procedures during the shutdown.

#### B. Fund Balance and Reserve Plan

Brian Carey shared information about the reserve plan for the upcoming school year. Interest income will be considerably less next year, he shared the anticipated uses of reserve fund, unassigned fund balance is over the 4% limit, the district plans to use those funds to pay for unexpected COVID costs that the district may have. He talked about the proposed 20% cut in aid and how it could affect the different funds in the plan. Information changes daily from the state and it can be confusing. There was a question and discussion about the tax certiorari fund from Mr. Hiser. If the district does not have a pending tax certiorari, they cannot set money in the reserve for that. Ms. Yurista asked for clarification on workmen's compensation and unemployment reserves.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### 4. DISTRICT / BUILDING / COMMITTEE UPDATES

#### A. District Updates

- A document was shared showing the number of students and faculty on the optional fully remote program. CES: K-6 = 79 students and 4 faculty fully remote, Jr/Sr High School 7-12 = 53 students and 1 faculty fully remote.
- Mr. Chevrier discussed the Dashboard that is being talked about by the Governor, schools are required daily to report information about the number of students, teachers and staff expected on school grounds, the number of students faculty and staff referred to healthcare providers and the number of students, faculty and staff tested to our knowledge. If we aren't told a person was tested, we don't know.
- Pikmykid App has been an asset for arrival and dismissal of students. It has taken time to get used to it and work some things out. It helps parents screen their children in the morning for drop off, announce their arrival for pickup and help manage classroom dismissals for teachers.
- Athletics has begun, it has had its challenges but we pushed through to have athletics happen in the fall. School ending time being later, reduced capacity on school busses and shortened daylight hours, limited spectators per athlete and health screening sign in sheets for spectators pose challenges for sports.

#### B. Building Updates

- Mr. Derby and Ms. Hill spoke about the instructional models in their buildings. Mr. Derby talked about the K-3 in person program at CES, a full day program for K-3 students, a playground schedule for cohorts has been created, the hybrid model has its challenges but people are working hard and improvements are coming. Students are adapting well with wearing the masks, they have breaks and have not had any known problems. Teachers in the remote only model are working hard, and are working across different grade levels. Pick up and drop off is improving, the first few days were pretty slow, but improvements have been made to speed it up.

Ms. Hill shared that the hybrid model is different in the HS. The way it is designed helps to limit the contract tracing numbers. Planning time for teachers is substantial but the time for them to

plan is less. Full remote is going well, some students are not connecting and the district is contacting parents. The high school has had successful drop off and dismissal since the start.

- Mr. Chevrier spoke about the learning management system that the district is waiting for setup to be complete, the district is in contact with the company and working to get that up and running as soon as possible.

## 5. ACTION ITEM FOLLOW UP / BOARD DISCUSSION

### A. Action Item Follow-up

- Community Advisory Committee (Revisit in December 2020)
- BoardDocs upgrade costs: the cost to upgrade to the higher platform would be an additional \$8,300.00 per year a total cost of \$11,000.00. The district currently pays \$2,700.00 per year for the LT version.

### B. Board Discussion

- Mr. Hiser expressed that based on the reports, things seem to be going very well. He asked that at a future meeting, possibly November, the district discuss concerns and weaknesses the district is seeing and the strategies to address the weaknesses and shortcomings.

## 6. POLICY (IES)

**Michael Hiser moved for approval of item A., Mary Yurista seconded, there was discussion about policy 4765 and the language on engagement, after discussion all present members voted in favor.**

### A. Approval of the 1st reading of Policy(ies):

4765 Online, Remote and Distance Learning  
5151 Homeless Children  
5151-R Homeless Children Regulation  
5420 Student Health Services  
5420-R Student Health Services Regulation  
8131 Pandemic Planning

## 7. FINANCE

**Daniel Grandinetti moved to approve items A. through F., Michael Hiser seconded, all present in favor.**

- A. Treasurers Report
- B. Claims Auditor Report
- C. Approval of Fund Balance and Reserve Plan
- D. Approval / Acceptance of Donation(s)

<b>Schodack Central School District</b>				
<b>Gifts &amp; Donations to be Acknowledged (TA &amp; TE) at Board Meeting Date: September 24, 2020</b>				
<b>DONOR NAME</b>	<b>DONATION AMOUNT</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>CODE</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>

School Systems Federal Credit Union	\$200 value (\$25/ea x 8 backpacks)	School Supplies for Kids		8 Backpacks for Kids w/school supplies
Environmental Surface Solutions	\$50,400	Treating Classrooms		To kill germs on surfaces for up to 90 days in classrooms (EAP & FDA Certified)

E. Approval of Contract(s) and/or Lease(s)

<b>Schodack Central School District</b>				
<b>Contract / Lease Approvals for Board Meeting: Date: 9/24/20</b>				
<b>CONTRACTOR / VENDOR NAME</b>	<b>TERM OF CONTRACT</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>RATE/RETAINER</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>
Rensselaer CSD & Schodack CSD	Effective 9/1/20	Amendment to existing agreement 7/1/14	n/a	SCSD drivers may drive RCSD buses for: repair, maintenance, inspection svcs. SCSD may use RCSD buses as spares for: student transportation

F. Acceptance of Audit Report for fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 as presented.

**8. OTHER ACTION**

None.

**9. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS**

Daniel Grandinetti moved for approval of items A. through D., Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.

A. Approval of Staffing Actions

<b>Schodack Central School District</b>				
<b>Staffing Actions for Board Meeting Date: September 24, 2020</b>				
<b>RESIGNATIONS</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>REASON</b>	
Danielle Hiller	Senior Class Advisor	September 1, 2020	To be reappointed co-	

			advisor with Rochelle Obie	
<b>NON-INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS</b>				
<b>NON-INSTRUCTIONAL APPOINTMENTS</b>	<b>APPONTMENT TYPE</b>	<b>AREA</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>RATE</b>
Robert Morris	6 month probationary	School Bus Driver	September 10, 2020	CSEA Contract Start Rate
Augustine Greco	6 month probationary	School Bus Driver	September 10, 2020	CSEA Contract Start Rate
Emmie Hagadone	Part-time 4-hour	Teaching Assistant	September 21, 2020	CSEA Contract Start Rate
<b>LEAVE OF ABSENCE</b>				
<b>LEAVE OF ABSENCE</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>TYPE</b>	<b>DURATION</b>	
Nancy Dorr	Teaching Assistant	Unpaid Leave of Absence	2020-2021 School Year	
Lilly Tedford	Teaching Assistant	Unpaid Leave of Absence	Effective September 8, 2020 return date to be determined	
Cathy Reed	Reading Teacher	Leave of Absence	2020-2021 school year	
Zenia Dingman	Reading Teacher	Leave of Absence	2020-2021 school year	
<b>SUBSTITUTE APPOINTMENTS</b>				
<b>SUBSTITUTE APPOINTMENTS</b>	<b>SUBSTITUTE AREA</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE</b>	<b>RATE</b>	
Nicholas Purificato	Custodial Worker	September 15, 2020	Rate set at July 7, 2020 Organizational Meeting	
Jessica Hernandez	Regular Substitute Teacher for Crystal Martin	September 1, 2020		
Michael G. Guarini	School Bus Attendant	September 22, 2020	Rate Set at July 7, 2020 Organizational Meeting	

<b>SUMMER SCHOOL PERSONNEL APPOINTMENT</b>	<b>AREA / POSITION</b>			<b>RATE</b>
<b>ADVISOR</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>DURATION</b>	<b>RATE</b>	
Danielle Hiller	Co-Advisor Senior Class	2020-2021 school year	Stipend in accordance with Appendix C.	
Rochelle Obie	Co-Advisor Senior Class	2020-2021 school year	Stipend in accordance with Appendix C.	
<b>COACH/VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT COACH</b>	<b>COACH/VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT</b>	<b>SPORT</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE</b>	<b>RATE</b>
Zachary Frese	Coach	Boys Modified Soccer	Fall Season	Stipend in accordance with Appendix C
Kolby Flach	Volunteer Assistant	Boys Modified Soccer	Fall Season	Volunteer - no stipend

**B. Probationary Appointment – Teacher**

Motion to approve a (3) three-year probationary appointment of Zenia Dingman, (certification: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6), Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2), and Literacy (Birth-Grade 6), commencing on September 1, 2020, as Elementary Education Teacher, in the tenure area of Elementary Education, at a salary of MA Step 9, provided that, except to the extent required by law, in order to be granted tenure, she shall have received composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Education Law §3012-c or §3012-d of either effective or highly effective in at least 2 of the 3 preceding years, and if she receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period, she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.

**C. Probationary Appointment – Teacher**

Motion to approve a (3) three-year probationary appointment of Cathy Reed, (certification: Nursery, Kindergarten, & Grades 1-6, and Reading Teacher), commencing on September 1, 2020, as Elementary Education Teacher, in the tenure area of Elementary Education, at a salary of MA Step 17, provided that, except to the extent required by law, in order to be granted tenure, she shall have received composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Education Law §3012-c or §3012-d of either effective or highly effective in at least 2 of the 3 preceding years, and if she receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period, she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.

**D. Approval of a Resolution - Appointment modification**

Approval of a resolution modifying the appointment of Kayla Proulx.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kolby Flach commended the leadership team, IT, and business office for the handling of the tough choices with short notice given from above, meaning the state and local government. He expressed that the kids are resilient and old dogs can learn new tricks, technology being one of them. There are opportunities for improvement through shortcomings. The opportunity for athletics enhances the community feel and he congratulated them on that tough choice as well, he asked if the district could stream the contests and that it may be beneficial to those who cannot make it.

## **11. ACTION ITEMS**

Report on the shortcomings in November.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

A. Having no further business before the board, President Tuttle adjourned the meeting at 8:19 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Michele A. Reickert*

District Clerk