

Jason M. Chevrier  
Superintendent  
518-732-2297



Michael Tuttle  
President  
Board of Education

**Tuesday, February 2, 2021**

**Minutes were approved at the March 18, 2021, meeting  
Board of Education Agenda - Special Meeting**

**Meeting Time: 6:00 PM**

**Meeting Location: Virtual**

**Public Link:**

**<https://schodackk12.webex.com/schodackk12/onstage/g.php?MTID=e50650ec90999d6709d9524d56f6fd05a> or click on the video button in agenda screen.**

**Event Password: scsd**

**To join by phone:**

**1-408-418-9388**

**Access code: 179 091 5861**

**Present: Michael Tuttle, Mary Yurista, Kyle Hurysz, Sherri Gibson, Shelley Palmer, Michael Charsky, Michael Hiser, Daniel Grandinetti, Charles Peter and Jenna Hoffman**

**Also Present: Jason Chevrier, Michael Silver and Michele Reickert**

**1. MEETING OPENING**

- A. President Michael Tuttle called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.
- B. President Michael Tuttle asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- C. **Michael Hiser moved** for approval of the Present Agenda, **Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.**

**2. REPORTS**

**A. Winter Sports**

Jason Chevrier shared a timeline that began January 22<sup>nd</sup> when Governor Cuomo authorized the start of high-risk sports effective February 1<sup>st</sup> contingent upon guidance from local Departments of Health. The district created a return to play plan with a potential to begin "high-risk" sports February 3, 2021. The District will begin COVID testing of athletes; parental consent forms will be distributed asking parents to consent to their child being tested. A question was asked if the district can mandate that, Mr. Chevrier would look into that. Michael Silver talked about the different sports classified as "high-risk" sports, of sports; the district would be participating in basketball and wrestling. He shared the how practices and drills will be handled as well as how cleaning and disinfecting will be handled. A question was asked about lists for contact tracing, the answer was yes, also of spectators if allowed. Most schools have made the decision to not allow spectators and live stream the games. There was a question about quarantine and how that would affect competition, if a student is placed in quarantine, they cannot play, if students are put in remote learning because of a staffing shortage, they would still be allowed to

play. There was discussion about sports officials and how they will be handled, as well as face coverings and if all school will have the same policy, the Fall II season for Volleyball will be held in March and the spring season is scheduled to start May 2 and run through June 25<sup>th</sup>. Jenna Hoffman expressed that athletes are excited and revitalized, a light at the end of the tunnel. Students have taken an oath to follow requirements and are confident they can.

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **4. BOARD DISCUSSION**

Discussion ensued about approving a resolution to authorize the district to participate in “high-risk” sports. Michael Hiser expressed that he is supportive of moving forward, Michael Charsky said it is a good idea to have a resolution, asked everyone to think about how colleges and professional sports handling sports and asked if it was worth the risk, he also expressed that if his son was a senior he would feel different, Mary Yurista felt it was good to have the discussion and felt it protected the district, Daniel Grandinetti expressed he had the same thoughts, Sherri Gibson expressed her support and Charles Peter stated if we can do it safely, we owe it to the kids.

**Mary Yurista moved** to add a resolution for approval by the board of education, **Charles Peter seconded, all present in favor.**

**Kyle Hurysz moved** to approve a resolution authorizing the district to participate in “high-risk” sports: Varsity Girls Basketball, Junior Varsity Girls Basketball, Modified Girls Basketball, Varsity Boys Basketball, Junior Varsity Boys Basketball, and Modified Boys Basketball, **Michael Hiser seconded, all present in favor.**

**RESOLUTION** of the Board of Education of Schodack Central School District *to approve Winter Higher Risk Sports in accordance with New York State Department of Health Regulations and Guidelines and as permitted by the Rensselaer County Health Department*

Whereas on January 22, 2021, the Governor and the New York State Health Department authorized schools to operate certain higher-risk winter sports effective February 1, 2021 and only as permitted by local county health departments and,

Whereas, the New York State Department of Health subsequently issued updated guidelines for the operation of Sports and Recreation related to higher-risk winter sports and,

Whereas the NYSPHSAA association issued revised guidelines for Return to Interscholastic Athletics for the 2020-21 season and,

Whereas, on January 28, 2021 the Rensselaer County Executive Steven F. McLaughlin and Public Health Director Mary Fran Wachunas approved schools within Rensselaer County to operate higher risk sports, and

Whereas, the Superintendent has indicated that all New York State, Rensselaer County and league health and safety requirements will be implemented during all practices and games.

**Now therefore be it declared that**, based on the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Schodack Central School District is hereby approving the operations of the following interscholastic sports for the 2021 winter season:

Varsity Girls Basketball  
Varsity Boys Basketball

Junior Varsity Girls Basketball  
Junior Varsity Boys Basketball

Modified Girls Basketball  
Modified Boys Basketball

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, President Michael Tuttle adjourned the meeting at 7:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michele Reickert*  
District Clerk