

Jason Chevrier
Superintendent
518-732-2297



Shelley Palmer
President
Board of Education

**Thursday, October 21, 2021
Board of Education Minutes - Regular Meeting**

Minutes are final and were approved at the November 4, 2021 meeting.

Meeting Time: 6:00 pm

In-Person Meeting Location: 1477 South Schodack Road, Room 308

Members of the public wishing to listen/view remotely can click on the video button or enter the following link in their browser:

<https://schodackk12.webex.com/schodackk12/onstage/g.php?MTID=edabe8607f5dcc3a534828a80afe84207>

Join by telephone:

1-408-418-9388

Event/Access Number: 2333 220 0128

Present: Shelley Palmer, Sherri Gibson, Kurt Maier, Mary Yurista, Tylea Gebbie, Marion Spar, Charles Peter, Daniel Grandinetti, and Amanda Nebral.

Absent: Kyle Hurysz

Also Present: Jason Chevrier, Brian Carey, Michael Bennett, Jacqueline Hill, Hillary Brouchu and Michele Reickert

1. MEETING OPENING

- A. President Shelley Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.
- B. President Shelley Palmer asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- C. **Mary Yurista moved** for approval of the present agenda, **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**
- D. **Mary Yurista moved** to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2021, meeting, **Daniel Grandinetti seconded, all present in favor.**

2. RECOGNITION

A. SFA will presented books that were chosen by school librarians to be donated to the school libraries in recognition of the board of education. The SFA thanked the Board of Education for all they do for the school district.

3. REPORTS

A. Independent Audit Report - Marvin & Company

Heather Lansing presented a summary of the 2020-21 Audit of the district's finances.

B. Building Project – Synthesis Architects, LLP

Jim Graham talked about the capital project replacing the roof over the high school gymnasium.

C. Superintendent Update – Jason Chevrier shared the results of the recent survey of households asking how the district is doing with the start of school as well as the count of positive cases by building.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Melissa Seeberger asked about the approval of high risk sports, why are only unvaccinated students required to be tested, vaccinated students can get sick too. Why was it not required last winter sports season but it is this year.

Mr. Chevrier explained that he would like to test all athletes, but the supply issues have made it difficult to do so.

Jessica Colvin asked where she could find the information on the grants and how to associate what is getting grant funds, what effects the grants and us getting it or not getting it.

Mr. Chevrier answered that the district has applied to NYSED, once approved it will be on the website for public viewing, there were community forums over the summer that discussed grant use, information will be shared with Mrs. Colvin from those meetings.

Kendra Severance asked if there were any grants that we did not take advantage of?

Mr. Chevrier explained that work is still being done on the Universal Pre-K grant, but at this time it is not being utilized.

Stephanie Leonard expressed that she is grateful for the opportunity for the fall sports season and that there were no positive cases and spectators were allowed at the games. She thanked Principal Hill for getting lockers for the students at the high school and asked that future surveys give more options to explain answers.

5. DISTRICT / BUILDING UPDATES

A. District Updates

- Fall Sports Weekend – thanked Booster Club, Mike Silver, and all the coaches for the great job.
- Surveillance and Point of Care COVID Testing – Family Id will be used for gathering consent for surveillance testing of unvaccinated students. Testing will begin of all unvaccinated employees and students soon. Surveillance testing will be done by Questar and will be rolled out first. Point of care testing of symptomatic students with consent as well as symptomatic employees can be tested at the school.
- Satellite Clinic – Mental Health Clinic in collaboration with Rensselaer County Department of Mental Health will hold 1 half day per week to start, as need increases, the amount of time will increase as well.
- Enrollment Report attached for review.

B. Building Updates

- Castleton Elementary School – Leadership had to leave the meeting early and were not able to give an update.
- Maple Hill Jr./Sr. High School – Jacqueline Hill talked about Spirit week, the bon fire has been a tradition for quite some time students were great, the 7/8 grade dance had a great turnout, Hillary Brouchu talked about the roll out of lockers for grades 7 and 8 completed this week, upperclassmen can request lockers if they want them. Amanda Nebral talked about homecoming, it was different but a lot of fun. Pep Rally was a great way to bring everyone together.

6. ACTION ITEM FOLLOW UP / BOARD DISCUSSION

A. Action Item Follow-up

- The vacant plot of land by CES – still being worked on.
- Student-athlete vaccinations, who will play us – addressed in the Superintendent Update above.

B. Board Discussion

Kurt Maier asked about CYO and if they will have a season using the facilities.

- Jason Chevrier answered that there is interest and a process is being worked on for outside groups wanting to use the facilities.

Mary Yurista asked about the School Psychologist position and its status.

- There have been multiple postings with no applicants, the district is still searching.

Tylea Gebbie asked about the RFP for Universal Pre-K and where it stands.

- Jason Chevrier explained some of the work that has been done and plans moving forward to gather interest from a provider.

Sherri Gibson asked about the enrollment report and when it is pulled, asked about policy 1500 specifically the language about a staff member always being on duty and asked for information on discipline trends.

Kurt Maier asked about policies 1500 and the language about 30 day notice and 5425, how many staff are trained to use the AED

Charles Peter asked about the limited number of students that can participate in the YMCA aftercare program and the bathrooms at the high school.

- Mr. Chevrier answered that the YMCA is looking at getting more staff, they have enough high school staff to supervise students but need more adult staff to supervise. Schodack's location is specific to Schodack resident students, the YMCA has other locations but the one at Schodack is currently full.
- Jacqueline Hill talked about the Tik Tok challenge that has caused some problems in the bathrooms as well as vaping in the bathrooms, they are working on solutions and will get a letter out to parents.

Shelley Palmer talked about the resolution for winter sports and whether the testing was required or optional last year, there was guidance from the State that came out late that changed things.

7. POLICY(IES)

Sherri Gibson moved for approval of items A. and B., **Tylea Gebbie seconded, all present in favor.**

A. Approval to rescind the following policies:

- 2-202 - Board Member Attendance at Board Meetings
- 2-302 - Ballot Propositions
- 3-202 - Policy Regarding Disaster Preparedness
- 3-206 - Crisis Intervention Plan
- 3-204 - Visitors to the Schools

B. Approval of the 1st reading of the following policies:

- 1500 - Use of School Buildings and Athletic Fields
- 1500-E - Use of School Buildings and Athletic Fields - Exhibit
- 4000 - Student Learning Standards and Instructional Guidelines
- 5425 - Automatic External Defibrillators
- 9645 - Disclosure of Wrongful Conduct

8. FINANCE

Mary Yurista moved for approval of items A. through F., **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

A. Acceptance of the Treasurer's Reports for the months of July 2021 and August 2021.

B. Acceptance of the Claims Auditor Reports for the months of July 2021 and August 2021.

C. Acceptance/Acknowledgement of Donation(s)

Schodack Central School District				
Gifts & Donations for Acceptance (Increasing General Fund) at Board Meeting				
Date:				
DONOR NAME	DONATION AMOUNT	PURPOSE	CODE	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Castleton Schodack Kiwanis Club	\$300	Glover Invitational	A2855 400 80 0000	for T-Shirts
Schodack Central School District				
Gifts & Donations to be Acknowledged (TA & TE) at Board Meeting Date:				
DONOR NAME	DONATION AMOUNT	PURPOSE	CODE	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Hannaford (Atten: Robert Leclair)	Food valued at approx. \$300	Support HS BackPack Prg.	n/a	Donation of food items for BackPack Program

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D. Approval to Declare Surplus

Schodack Central School District				
Surplus Approvals for Board Meeting: Date: 10/21/21				
SURPLUS ITEMS	VALUE OF SURPLUS	TAG #/SERIAL-VIN #	CONDITION	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
CES Library Weeding Log	N/A	N/A		Discarded library items

E. Approval of a Revised Pay Rate Schedule for the 2021-2022 School year.

F. Approval of a Resolution - Transfer Unused Funds

A **RESOLUTION** of the Board of Education of the Schodack Central School District No. 1, Towns of Schodack and Stuyvesant, Counties of Rensselaer and Columbia, State of New York:

WHEREAS, unused proceeds exist from BANS that were used to finance bus purchases over various years. The unused portion of the 2019-2020 Bus BAN is \$3,561.50 and of the 2020-2021 Bus BAN is \$157.09 (Total \$3,718.59).

THEREFORE, the District Treasurer is directed to close the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Bus BANs and transfer all unused portions (\$3,718.59) to the Reserve for Debt.

Mary Yurista moved for approval of item G., **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

G. Approval of a Resolution – SEQRA

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Schodack Central School District, based upon the record before it and the general, specific and detailed knowledge of the Board of the proposed Project and under the applicable standards of SEQRA and 6 NYCRR Part 617.5, hereby determines that the Project is a Type II Action, and that no further action is required to satisfy the requirements of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Mary Yurista moved for approval of item H., **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

H. Approval of a Resolution - Calling for a Special Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SCHODACK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (the "District") that a special meeting of the qualified voters of the District be and the same is hereby called to be held in the gymnasium of the Maple Hill High School, 1216 Maple Hill Road, Castleton-on-Hudson on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 (the "Special Meeting") from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. prevailing time for the purpose of voting on the following propositions:

PROPOSITION #1

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to replace the Maple Hill High School gymnasium roof at a maximum cost of \$350,000, (2) expend such sum for such purpose, (3) expend \$350,000 from the existing Capital Reserve Fund?

PROPOSITION #2

Shall that the Board of Education be authorized to establish a new Capital Reserve Fund in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000, with a probable term of ten years, for the purpose of financing the construction of additions to and reconstruction of various District buildings, facilities and sites, and acquisition of furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus, with such Capital Reserve Fund being funded from unappropriated fund balance and future budget surpluses?

Mary Yurista moved for approval of item I., **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

I. Acceptance of the 2020-2021 Audit Report as presented.

9. OTHER ACTION

Tylea Gebbie moved to approve items A, B, C, and E. and Table item D., **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

A. Approval of the recommendation of the District Committee on Special Education and Preschool Special Education as indicated on the attached reports.

B. Approval of the corrective action letter for the 2020-2021 Audit (Unappropriated Fund Balance) and approval for the President of the Board of Education to sign on behalf of the Board of Education.

C. Approval of the corrective action letter for the 2020-2021 Audit (Child Nutrition Fund) and approval for the President of the Board of Education to sign on behalf of the Board of Education.

TABLED to the November 4, 2021 meeting

D. Approval of Winter High-Risk Sports

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
Varsity Wrestling***

***Junior Varsity Girls Basketball
Junior Varsity Boys Basketball***

***Modified Girls Basketball
Modified Boys Basketball
Modified Wrestling, and***

be it further declared that, any athlete wishing to participate in high risk winter sports must be vaccinated against COVID-19 or submit to weekly COVID-19 screening tests. Anyone unvaccinated that refuses to be tested weekly will not be allowed to participate in any high risk winter sport.

E. Approval of the Board of Education Goals for the 2021-22 school year.

10. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS

Mary Yurista moved for approval of item A., **Sherrri Gibson seconded**, all present in favor.

A. Appointment of Staffing Action(s):

Schodack Central School District				
Staffing Actions for Board Meeting Date: October 21, 2021				
LEAVE OF ABSENCE	POSITION	DURATION	COMMENT	
Edward Kraus	School Bus Driver	11/9/21 - 11/17/21	Unpaid leave of absence.	
APPOINTMENTS	APPONTMENT TYPE	AREA	EFFECTIVE DATE	RATE
Samantha Tedford	Probationary - 6 hours per day	Teaching Assistant	October 22, 2021	
Joanna Wolfe	Probationary - 4.25 hours per day (plus .50 late bus Tue., Wed., & Thurs as needed)	School Bus Driver	September 27, 2021	CSEA Start Rate
Lindsay Leo	Part-time - 4 hours per day	Teaching Assistant	September 27, 2021	Substitute Rate
Theresa Frey-Alexander	Part-time - 4 hours per day	Teaching Assistant	November 1, 2021	CSEA Start Rate
Joseph Beber	Probationary - 2.75 hrs. per day	School Monitor	October 22, 2021	CSEA Start Rate
CHANGE IN HOURS	POSITION/APPOINTMENT TYPE	CURRENT HOURS	NEW HOURS	EFFECTIVE DATE
Bruce Smith	School Bus Driver	5	5.25	October 22, 2021
Deborah Clifford	School Bus Driver	5.75	6	October 22, 2021
Kelly Travers-Main	School Bus Driver	6	6.5	October 22, 2021
Noelle Zoller	School Bus Driver	5.5	6.25	October 22, 2021
Jeffrey Gibney	School Bus Attendant	4.75	5.25	October 22, 2021
Seth Hendrick	School Bus Driver	4.75 (plus .75 hr late bus Tue.,	5 (plus .75 hour late bus	October 22, 2021

		Wed. & Thurs. as needed)	Tue., Wed., & Thurs as needed)	
Deborah Pfeffer	School Bus Driver	5	5.5	October 22, 2021
CORRECTION TO APPOINTMENT	AREA / POSITION	CORRECTION		
Andrea Cavagnaro	Senior School Monitor	6 hours per day, original appointment did not indicate the number of hours.		
Eilish Murray	Teaching Assistant	Rate should be substitute rate until Teaching Assistant certification is obtained.		
Alexandra DelVecchio	Teaching Assistant	Rate should be substitute rate until Teaching Assistant certification is obtained.		
Julia Michel	Teaching Assistant	Rate should be substitute rate until Teaching Assistant certification is obtained.		
Brett Lauterbach	Extended Term Substitute	Rate should be BA3, original appointment was incorrect at BA1		
ADVISOR	ACTIVITY	DURATION	RATE	
Angela Beber (co-advisor)	Key Club	2021-22 school year	Stipend in accordance with Appendix C	

Angela Beber (co-advisor)	Builders Club	2021-22 school year	Stipend in accordance with Appendix C	
Alison Lattimore (co-advisor)	Book Club	2021-22 school year	Stipend in accordance with Appendix C	
SUBSTITUTE	AREA		RATE	
Megan Novak	Non-Instructional		Rate set at July Organizational meeting and revised at the October 21, 2021 meeting.	

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Melissa Seeberger asked about the protocol on curriculum and highly controversial topics, like Critical Race Theory (1619 project). She expressed it is not factual, but one person's opinion.

Lori Martin expressed concern that testing of only some athletes could make those being tested feel excluded.

12. ACTION ITEMS

Question about policy 1500, YMCA aftercare program, AED Use, Resolution on high-risk sports and Discipline trends

13. ADJOURNMENT

A. **Mary Yurista moved** to adjourn into executive session at 8:13 pm. to discuss CSEA Contract Negotiations and SFA Contract Negotiations and a disciplinary matter of a particular person, **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

B. **Sherri Gibson moved** to reconvene to open session and adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm, **Daniel Grandinetti seconded, all present in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,

Michele A. Reickert

District Clerk