

Jason Chevrier
Superintendent
518-732-2297



Shelley Palmer
President
Board of Education

**Thursday, December 16, 2021
Board of Education Agenda - Regular Meeting**

Minutes are final and were approved at the January 20, 2021, meeting.

Meeting Time: 6:00 pm

Meeting Location: 1477 South Schodack Road, room 310.

Public can view by clicking on Video button or by pasting the following link in their web browser:

<https://schodackk12.webex.com/schodackk12/onstage/g.php?MTID=ea2b539c5fb40ca08b0feb54fce429e63>

Event ID: 2348 311 4700

Event password: 2021

By telephone: 408-418-9388

Present: Shelley Palmer, Tylea Gebbie, Mary Yurista, Marion Spar, Kurt Maier, Daniel Grandinetti, Sherri Gibson, Kyle Hurysz, Charles Peter (arrived at 6:14pm), and Amanda Nebral

Also present: Jason Chevrier, Brian Carey, Michael Bennett, Jacqueline Hill, Hillary Brochu, Nicole Martin, James Derby and Michele Reickert

1. MEETING OPENING

- A. President Shelley Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:09 pm.
- B. President Shelley Palmer asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- C. **Mary Yurista moved** to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2021, workshop meeting and November 18, 2021 board meeting, **Marion Spar seconded, all present in favor.**

2. REPORTS

A. Superintendent Update

Jason Chevrier talked about activities that have been brought back after not having them for at least a year. Heather Brewer and building principals shared the process of contact tracing and how they determine who was a close contact. A new pilot for school bus seating and who would be quarantined was shared, it could lessen the number of quarantines from contact while riding on a school bus. Point of Care testing has begun in the school, the responsibility for the testing lies on the school nurses. Testing of unvaccinated employees has taken place for two weeks as well as testing of athletes with consent. COVID positive case counts were shared.

B. Capital Project

Jason Chevrier and Brian Carey talked about a proposed capital project to be presented to voters at the May vote. There was discussion about what could be cut from the priorities and potentially be completed through a transfer to capital project. The district will not be able to do another capital project for approximately 12-13 years.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Christopher Nebral talked about the air conditioning units and how they are designed to operate.

Chris Fowler co-president of SFA, talked about the role Ed Finney holds supporting teachers with many areas of technology, he also supports our students, students at CES are learning coding. She also expressed that air conditioning would be appreciated in the High School; her classroom is one in the upper South wing that is excessively hot.

Kristopher Gardner talked about the air quality and how difficult it is to use outside air to cool a room off when the temperatures outside rise.

4. DISTRICT/BUILDING/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES

A. District Updates

- Gym Roof/Capital Reserve Vote – Mr. Chevrier thanked everyone that came out to support the vote to repair the gym roof.
- TikTok Threat – Information was shared about the internet “threat” for December 17, 2021, police have been consulted and will be supporting the district tomorrow, and a notice was sent to employees to have an increased presence in the hallways. The intent is not to make students feel scared or nervous, but safe. Kids should come to school. Marion Spar asked about an SRO and if the district would revisit having an SRO.
- Anchor Food Pantry – Mr. McInerney wanted to express his thanks and appreciation for the use of the freezer at the District Office to store turkeys for families for Thanksgiving. Jen Sober, Michelle Stilson, and Brian Carey were mentioned as deserving acknowledgement.
- Enrollment Report attached

B. Building Updates

- Castleton Elementary School – 5th and 6th grade concerts have taken place, kids did a great job. Holiday bazaar was a great event, students were excited. Kids that were not in school during the bazaar were allowed to shop when they came back in from being out.
- Maple Hill Jr./Sr. High School – spirit week will be held next week.

C. Student Representative to the Board – Update – Amanda Nebral spoke about the winter concerts and how students loved having parents attend. Student activities are being held again, Chess Club has been added this year and is well attended. The spelling bee is coming up, things are getting more back to normal with things that students used to do.

5. ACTION ITEM FOLLOW UP/BOARD DISCUSSION

A. Action Item Follow-up

- The vacant plot of land by CES – The district is in the process of costing out options of what we can do with the two plots of land. There are four options, get an appraisal and approach the neighboring property owners to see if they want to purchase, gift the land to the county, village or town, get an appraisal and put it up for public auction or do nothing with the parcels and maintain them ourselves.
- Discipline trends – presentation will follow at a later date.
- Vacant Board Member Seat voting and quorum questions. – Charles Peter has submitted his resignation as a board member effective December 31, 2021.

B. Board Discussion

- Shelley Palmer shared the options the board of education has for the vacant seat.
 - Leave the seat vacant until May and let voters decide.
 - Approach previous board members to see if there is interest in filling the seat.
- Kurt Maier asked about approaching the write in candidate with the next largest number of votes from May. Discussion ensued and it was decided to wait to fill the vacant seat at the May 2021 vote and let the voters decide.
- Mary Yurista mentioned that Questar is not going to be sending a notice with each positive case, but would be setting up a dashboard to communicate with families.

6. FINANCE

Tylea Gebbie moved to approve items 6. A. through G., Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.

A. Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the month(s) of: October 2021

B. Approval of the Claims Auditor report for the month of October 2021.

C. Approval of a change order #1 with Kipper Plumbing & Heating decreasing the contract by \$925.73.

D. Approval of a change order #2 with Kipper Plumbing & Heating decreasing the contract by \$10,000.00.

E. Approval of a change in rates as indicated on the attached, revised rate sheet.

F. Approval of contracts:

Schodack Central School District				
Contract / Lease Approvals for Board Meeting: Date: 12/16/21				
CONTRACTOR / VENDOR NAME	TERM OF CONTRACT	PURPOSE	RATE/RETAINER	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Rensselaer County	7/1/21 - 7/31/22	Covid Testing Coordinator	not a district cost	District will be paid up to \$47,000.00 by Rensselaer

				County towards costs associated with the District hiring a Covid Testing Coordinator.
Hudson Valley Community College	2021-2022 School Year	Cooperative Agreement	no cost to district	Provides opportunity for high school students to earn college credit by taking college courses in the classroom.
TENANT NAME				

G. Acknowledgement of Gifts/Donation(s):

Schodack Central School District				
Gifts & Donations for Acceptance (Increasing General Fund) at Board Meeting Date: 12/16/21				
DONOR NAME	DONATION AMOUNT	PURPOSE	CODE	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
None.				
Schodack Central School District				
Gifts & Donations to be Acknowledged (TA & TE) at Board Meeting Date:				
DONOR NAME	DONATION AMOUNT	PURPOSE	CODE	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Schodack Faculty Assoc. Retiree Chapter	\$186	Support Backpack Prg.	CM1935.BACKPACK	
Nicholas & Suzanne Pazienza	\$25	Support Backpack Prg.	CM1935.BACKPACK	
Thomas & Florence Heeder	\$25	Support Backpack Prg.	CM1935.BACKPACK	
Castleton Fish & Game Protective Assoc.	\$250	Support Backpack Prg.	CM1935.BACKPACK	
Red Shift Recruiting LLC	\$1,000	Holiday Giving Prg.	CM2705	to purchase gifts for students
Maple Hill Athletic Booster Club	\$1,225	1/2 payment of Hurdle	A2855 450 80 0000	Cover 1/2 of the cost on PO #210486

7. OTHER ACTION

Sherri Gibson moved to approve items 7. A. through C., Daniel Grandinetti seconded, all present in favor.

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

B. Approval of a Resolution - Lacrosse Merger

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Schodack Central School District hereby authorizes Schodack Central School District to enter into a merger with Ihabod Crane Central School District for the formation of a Boys’ Lacrosse Team in Section II for the Spring 2022 season.

C. Acceptance of Results of the December 14, 2021 Special Vote:

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE Board of Education accepts the results of the December 14, 2021, district special vote as follows:

(Number of ballots scanned 185 plus 17 absentee ballots)

Proposition 1 (Use of Capital Reserve funds) Yes	192	No	10
Proposition 2 (Creation of new Capital Reserve)	Yes	176	No 25

8. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Sherri Gibson moved to approve items 8. A. through B., Marion Spar seconded, all present in favor.

Shelley Palmer added that the retirements were accepted with regret and appreciation of long service.

A. Approval of Staffing Actions:

Schodack Central School District				
Staffing Actions for Board Meeting Date: 12-16-21				
RESIGNATIONS	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE	REASON	COMMENT
Christine Charsky	Elementary Education Teacher	June 30, 2022	Retirement	Has taught for 30 years in Schodack.
Wendy Nolan	Special Education Teacher	June 30, 2022	Retirement	Has taught for 34 years in Schodack
APPOINTMENTS	APPONTMENT TYPE	AREA	EFFECTIVE DATE	RATE
Meghan Hughes	Provisional	Account Clerk Typist	December 7, 2021	CSEA Start Rate
Jason Lyon	Non-Instructional hourly	School Bus Driver Trainee	November 18, 2021	Non-instructional substitute rate set at the

				October 21, 2021, meeting.
CHANGE IN HOURS	POSITION/APPOINTMENT TYPE	CURRENT HOURS	NEW HOURS	EFFECTIVE DATE
Leigh Stevens	School Bus Driver	On Leave	4.25 hours per day plus a late bus run T/W/Th .5 hours per day (as needed)	December 13, 2021
SUBSTITUTE APPOINTMENTS	SUBSTITUTE AREA			RATE
Stacy Hand	Teaching Assistant			Rate set at October 21, 2021 Board Meeting.
Luciano Smullen	Teacher			Rate set at October 21, 2021 Board Meeting.
Christian Beber	Teaching Assistant			Rate set at October 21, 2021 Board Meeting.
Zachary Frese	Regular Substitute Teacher for Business Teacher Position			Rate set at July 6, 2021 organizational meeting.
ADVISOR/COACH	ACTIVITY	DURATION	RATE	
Nicholas Servidone	Volunteer Assistant Coach - Wrestling	2021-22 Season	n/a - Volunteer	

B. Motion to approve a (4) four-year probationary appointment of Emily VanKempen, (certification: Literacy Birth-Grade 6), commencing on September 1, 2021, as Reading Teacher, in the tenure area of Reading Education, at a salary of MA Step 1, 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 3 of the 4 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.

Mr. Chevrier spoke to the long service of Christine Charsky and Wendy Nolan of 64 years combined. He thanked them for the service to the district and students and wished them the best of luck in retirement.

Mary Yurista spoke about Christine Charsky having taught her son and expressed appreciation for all she had done.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

10. ACTION ITEMS: Celebration for retirees.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A. **Mary Yurista moved** to adjourn to executive session at to discuss contract negotiations with CSEA and SFA and the evaluation of the Superintendent, **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

B. Having no further business before the board, President Shelley Palmer adjourned the meeting at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele A. Reickert

District Clerk