

Jason Chevrier
Superintendent
518-732-2297



Shelley Palmer
President
Board of Education

**Thursday, January 20, 2022
Board of Education Agenda - Regular Meeting**

Minutes are final and were approved at the February 17, 2022 meeting.

Meeting Time: 6:00 pm

Public Meeting Location: Schodack CSD District Office Building, Room 310.

Virtual viewing access for members of the public, click on the video button or paste the following link into your web browser:

<https://schodackk12.webex.com/schodackk12/onstage/g.php?MTID=eeee04563c365aec789e9e4be0fe22404>

Join by phone: 1-408-418-9388

Access Code: 2337 527 1395

Event Password: 2022

Present: Shelley Palmer, Tylea Gebbie, Sherri Gibson, Marion Gurdineer-Spar, Kurt Maier, Kyle Hurysz and Student Representative, and Amanda Nebral. Mary Yurista and Daniel Grandinetti were present virtually.

Also Present: Jason Chevrier, Brian Carey, Michael Bennett, Jacqueline Hill, Hillary Brochu, James Derby, Nicole Martin, Michael Silver, Rhonda Greenway, Kristopher Gardner, Jim Yox and Michele Reickert

1. MEETING OPENING

A. President Shelley Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

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

C. Nomination of Vice President

Marion Gurdineer-Spar nominated Mary Yurista, Tylea Gebbie seconded, Mary Yurista abstained, all others present vote in favor.

Mary Yurista was elected as Vice President.

D. Oath of Office – District Clerk Michele Reickert will contact Mary Yurista to make arrangements to have her file her oath.

E. **Kyle Hurysz moved** for approval of the Present Agenda, **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

F. **Tylea Gebbie moved** to approve the minutes of the regular meeting: December 16, 2021, and special meeting: January 11, 2021, **Kyle Hurysz seconded, all present in favor.**

2. REPORTS

A. Building/Department Presentations

Administrators presented on their building and department successes and challenges from the year. The following people presented:

Jason Chevrier – District Level
Michael Bennett – Curriculum and Special Education
Jacqueline Hill - Jr/Sr High School
James Derby – Castleton Elementary School
Michael Silver – Athletics
Rhonda Greenway – Transportation
Kristopher Gardner – Facilities
Jim Yox – Technology

B. Rollover Budget for 2022-23

Brian Carey shared the rollover budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year. He talked about what is known at this point, what is unknown and projections of increases in costs.

C. Capital Project

Jason Chevrier shared a capital project budget summary, options to be considered in the project and expressed that the Board of Education could make a decision tonight or at the February 17, 2022, meeting. There are deadlines that need to be met to have this on the May ballot for public vote.

Tylea Gebbie asked about the Electrical Switch in the District Office Building.

Mary Yurista asked about the electrical switch and networking equipment, where it is housed, in district office or throughout all buildings. If there was a major electrical problem at the District Office Building would you have the machines running that are needed to run school, what is the expected life of the equipment.

Brian Carey spoke about the infrastructure upgrade plan and use of Smart Bond funds to upgrade technology in the future and will check with the architects to see what the expectancy is of the electrical switch.

Kurt Maier asked about is we could re-appropriate stimulus money and asked about the entrance doors at the district office building.

Jason Chevrier responded that he cannot answer with 100% certainty that air conditioning would be approved for improving ventilation, and info on the doors would be forwarded to the Board.

D. Superintendent Update

Jason Chevrier shared the Covid positive numbers since the last meeting and talked about the time that has gone into these cases, guidance has changed 8 times since December 24th. Changes require a lot of work to come up with a plan, to keep impact to the classroom low, and to get the information out to stakeholders. The state has lessened some requirements, contact tracing in the district will be changing. Asymptomatic unvaccinated students can test at home to remain coming to school, testing on day 3 and

again on day 5 as long as they remain negative they can attend school. If a parent does not want to test, the student can remain home.

Marion Spar expressed her concern of continuing with something that is guidance rather than a requirement. If it is not required, then why continue? She asked about the mask mandate in schools and if it is to expire on February 1st, are we prepared?

Jason Chevrier answered that if it is not a requirement, we would not be able to require everyone to wear a mask. Schools want to get back to the business they are here to do, this may be a beginning to the end, he will verify that we are required vs. recommended.

Shelley Palmer expressed that as long as there is an emergency, there is still an executive order, until this ends we need to follow the guidelines, especially being a state funded entity. We do not want to lose our Aid.

Kyle Hurysz asked about the duty of care for districts. If we are not following guidance, we are potentially opening the district up to liability. Is that still the case, do we have a duty of care in effect?

Daniel Grandinetti expressed he understands the cautious approach, directives are slanted and moved from New York City, need to be leary of the lack of success down there, and ask questions.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. DISTRICT / BUILDING / STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES

A. District Updates

- CES Library Project – work is scheduled to begin over February break and then between February break, the library will need to be closed for a short period of time and then work will pick up again over April break.
- Enrollment Study – Mr. Chevrier recommended moving forward with an enrollment study and asked the board permission to move forward. Board members were in favor of the district moving forward with an enrollment study.
- Enrollment Report attached for review.

B. Building Updates

- Castleton Elementary School – Scholastic Book fair is coming back, snow is here and kids are excited to be out playing in the snow. A thanks to the office staff and health office staff. Students are returning as subs and it is great to see them coming back after graduation to help.
- Maple Hill Jr./Sr. High School – A behavior response committee has been formed, information will be shared shortly, cellphone policy in classrooms, tardiness to school, classrooms and being in hallways. A digital pass system will be put in place and communicated to families and staff.

C. Student Representative Update

Amanda Nebral spoke about the New Visions program, she is in the Health program, it is good for college preparation, very vigorous, has had life changing experiences, visit hospitals and help where needed. The program teaches things you cannot learn in a classroom.

Mary Yurista thanked Amanda and mentioned the Questar III EPIC program at HVCC.

5. BOARD DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEM FOLLOW UP

A. Board Discussion

Kurt Maier asked about the HUDL program and if it is available to all sports teams or just basketball?

Mary Yurista asked about the number of students in the K-2 classroom? Mr. Bennett answered that there are 6.

Shelley Palmer asked if there were any questions about the capital project so the board can move forward and stay on track.

Kurt Maier asked about the partition in the middle school gym.

Jason Chevrier answered that it is not in danger of falling but it is not working properly and warrants attention.

B. Action Item Follow-up

- The vacant plots of land by CES Mr. Chevrier recommended that the district keep it and maintain the property. There is a sizable file on this and it may not be feasible to do anything more than keep and maintain it.
- Discipline trends – presentation will follow at a later date possibly February.
- Celebration for retirees.

6. FINANCE

Sherri Gibson moved to approve items 6. A. through 6. F., Kyle Hurysz seconded, all present in favor.

A. Acceptance Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2021.

B. Acceptance of Claims Auditor's Report for the month of November 2021.

C. Approval of Contract(s)

Schodack Central School District				
Contract / Lease Approvals for Board Meeting: Date: 1/20/22				
CONTRACTOR / VENDOR NAME	TERM OF CONTRACT	PURPOSE	RATE/RETAINER	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
East Greenbush CSD	9/8/21 - 6/24/22	Spec. Ed. Svcs.	Rate established by the Commissioner of Ed.	Current Rate: \$23,077 per student for a 10 month period. Currently for (1) student

TENANT NAME				

D. Approval 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
Schodack Central School District				
Gifts & Donations to be Acknowledged (TA & TE) at Board Meeting Date:				
DONOR NAME	DONATION AMOUNT	PURPOSE	CODE	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Dan Gillespie & Lee Wetherby	\$100	Charities Account	CM691.1	Students in need

E. Acceptance of Insurance Funds and Increase the General Fund

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, Section 1718 of the Education Law provides that no school board shall incur a district liability in excess of the amount appropriated by a district meeting unless the board is specially authorized by law to incur such liability; AND

WHEREAS, Section 1718 of Education Law provides for appropriation by resolution at any time for items of expense in which insurance proceeds are received for loss, theft or damage or destruction of real or personal property, when proposed to be used or applied to repair or replace such property; AND

WHEREAS, the district will incur unanticipated expenses during the 2021-2022 school year necessitated by the replacement of school bus No. 125, resulting from an accident causing a total loss of bus #125.

WHEREAS, in the development of the General Fund budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, the appropriations budget did not anticipate expenditures for the above referenced vehicle replacement,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 1718 of the Education Law, the Board of Education of the Schodack Central School District hereby authorizes and directs that the 2021-2022 budget be increased by \$59,861.68 to be used towards the replacement of bus number 125, to be offset by insurance proceeds in the amount of \$59,861.68 from Utica National Insurance Group.

F. Approval of a revision to adult meal prices for the 2021-22 school year effective February 1, 2022, as follows:

Breakfast \$2.71 plus tax and Lunch \$5.02 plus tax.

7. OTHER ACTION

Sherri Gibson moved to approve items 7. A. through 7. B., Marion Spar seconded, all present in favor.

A. Approval of the recommendation of the District Committee on Preschool Special Education and the District Committee on Special Education regarding Special Education Services for student(s) as indicated on the attached report(s).

B. Motion to approve a Memorandum of Agreement between Schodack Central School District, Schodack Faculty Association and Christina Yager regarding the retirement of Christina Yager.

8. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS

Sherri Gibson moved to approve items 8. A. through C., Tylea Gebbie seconded, all present in favor. Shelley Palmer added the language with regrets and gratitude for long service on the retirement or Christina Yager.

A. Approval of Staffing Actions

Schodack Central School District				
Staffing Actions for Board Meeting Date: January 20,2022				
RESIGNATIONS	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE	REASON	COMMENT
Christina Yager	Elementary Education Teacher	October 13, 2022	Retirement	
Lucas Ashby	Special Education Teacher	February 4, 2021	Resignation	
Kayla Benoit	Teaching Assistant	January 14, 2022	Resignation	Probationary appointment as Speech Teacher is increasing to a 1.0 FTE.
SUBSTITUTE APPOINTMENTS	SUBSTITUTE AREA			RATE
Steven Soltys	School Bus Driver Trainee			Rate set at July 6, 2021 meeting and revised at the October 21, 2022 meeting

Lauren Gagnon	Extended-term Substitute for Tara O'Grady Day		January 18, 2022	MA Step 1
Ashley Davidson	Teacher and Teaching Assistant			Rate set at July 6, 2021 meeting and revised at the October 21, 2022 meeting
Hunter Pomykaj	Teacher and Teaching Assistant			Rate set at July 6, 2021 meeting and revised at the October 21, 2022 meeting
William Valley	Teacher and Teaching Assistant			Rate set at July 6, 2021 meeting and revised at the October 21, 2022 meeting
Rachel Horgan	Teacher and Teaching Assistant			Rate set at July 6, 2021 meeting and revised at the October 21, 2022 meeting
Madeline Gibney	Teacher and Teaching Assistant			Rate set at July 6, 2021 meeting and revised at the October 21, 2022 meeting
Luc Charlebois	Teacher and Teaching Assistant			Rate set at July 6, 2021 meeting and revised at the October 21, 2022 meeting

B. Approval of a resolution that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the probationary appointment of Kayla Benoit (f/k/a Kayla Proulx) within the speech tenure area shall be increased from .4 FTE to 1.0 FTE, effective January 18, 2022. Her probationary term shall be unaffected by this change of assignment within the speech tenure area.

C. Motion to approve a (4) four-year probationary appointment of Daniel Gildart, (certification: Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)), commencing on January 21, 2022, as Special Education Teacher, in the tenure area of Special Education, at a salary of MA Step 1, provided that, except to the extent required by law, in order to be granted tenure, he 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 he receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period, he shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

10. ACTION ITEMS

11. ADJOURNMENT

A. **Sherri Gibson moved** to adjourn to executive session at 8:57 pm. to discuss a potential litigation matter and to discuss contract negotiations with CSEA and the SFA, **Marion Spar seconded, all present in favor.**

B. **Marion Spar moved** to reconvene to open session and adjourn the meeting at 9:43 pm., **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,

Michele A. Reickert

District Clerk