

**MINUTES OF THE 891 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMHERST CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
April 9, 2019  
District Office Conference Room**

**Present:** Paul Steimle, Jeanne Ernst, Lorry Goldhawk, Jessica McLaughlin, Mark Smith, Dominic Vivolo

**Not Present:** Lynn Errington

**Others Present:** Superintendent Anthony Panella, Assistant Superintendent Michael Belle-Isle, Assistant Superintendent Lynn Shanahan, Business Administrator Laura Bosinski

Meeting called to order by Paul Steimle, President, at 7:00 pm

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATION**

None

**VISITORS WISHING TO SPEAK**

A parent addressed the board regarding implementation of a club in the Middle School.

**REPORT OF BOARD AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Board member Jessica McLaughlin stated the Transportation Committee met to review the First Student App. They've decided to continue testing and meet again in May.

President Steimle prepared the Board for the upcoming BOCES Budget Vote and Election on April 16, 2019.

The Board of Education unanimously agreed to conduct an Exit Poll at the Annual Budget Vote and Election on May 21, 2019.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**Pathfinder's Task Force**

The High School Pathfinder's Task Force nominated Mr. Mark Busalachi & Ms. Pamela Fordham as "Teacher of the Month" for January 2019, Ms. Jennifer Koepfel-Keenan for February 2019, and Ms. Mary Baczkiewicz for March 2019. The following "Students of the Month" were nominated: Parker Alabisi and Julia Georgakis for January; Maxana Grubb and Max Whitton for February; Erica Norris and Byron Stickels for March.

**Budget and Fund Balance Update**

Business Administrator, Laura Bosinski, reported on revenue and expenditure assumptions, projections for the 2019-20 school year and fund balance. The Board plans to adopt a budget of \$60,143,000 and establish a Teacher Retirement System reserve at their April 16, 2019 board meeting.

*A motion was made by Jeanne Ernst and seconded by Jessica McLaughlin to approve the following New Business Items: E-1-a through i, E-2-a through e, and E-3-d and g. The motion unanimously carried (6-0).*

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Approve **Minutes** of April 9, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.
- b. Approve the Recommendations of the **Committee on Special Education** and the Subcommittee on Special Education.
- c. Approve the Recommendations of the **Committee on Preschool Special Education**.
- d. Approve rejection of all **2018-2019 Capital Outlay bids** received March 12, 2019 due to base bids exceeding the allowable budget for the Capital Outlay.

- e. Approve the request of a **Private School Student** to attend Erie 1 BOCES Harkness Program for the 19-20 school year.
- f. Accept **Gifts/Donations** on the attached list and increase the District's 2018-2019 Budget Appropriation by \$2,000.00.
- g. Approve the **honorarium request** from the Middle School in the amount of \$400.00 payable to Paul Biddle as accompanist for two concerts during the second semester of 2018-2019.
- h. Approve disposing **Excess Textbook Inventory**: Please see attached.
- i. Approve disposing **Excess High School Music Department Inventory**: Please see attached.

## PERSONNEL

### Administrative

1. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Kiel Illg**, District Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics, effective his last day of work on May 31, 2019.

### Instructional – Faculty

1. Appoint Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Holly Cleary**, School Psychologist at Smallwood Drive School, effective June 30, 2019.
2. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Laura Nowak**, Mathematics Teacher at the High School, effective June 30, 2019.
3. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Milton Sheehan**, Mathematics Teacher at the High School, effective June 30, 2019.
4. Appoint **Erum Jenks**, current long-term substitute for Danielle Gorney who holds a valid Initial Childhood Education (1-6) certificate, as an **Elementary Teacher long-term substitute** at Smallwood Drive School (replacing Michelle Degener) effective May 3, 2019 through the end of the 2018-19 school year (tentative dates).
5. Approve **extended maternity/child care leave** for **Danielle Gorney**, Elementary Teacher at Windermere Boulevard School through May 31, 2019 (tentative dates).
6. Appoint **Cynthia Zelasko**, who holds a valid Initial Music certificate, as a **Music Teacher long-term substitute** at Smallwood Drive School (replacing Julie Furlong) effective April 12, 2019 through the end of the 2018-19 school year (tentative dates).

### Instructional – Teaching Assistants

1. Accept with regret and appreciation the resignation for purposes of **retirement** of **Beverly Wicher**, part-time Teaching Assistant at Smallwood Drive School effective her last day of work on June 24, 2019.

### Civil Service

1. Accept with regret and appreciation the resignation for purposes of **retirement** of **Robert Germain**, Custodian at Smallwood Drive School effective June 29, 2019, with his last day of work being June 28, 2019.
2. Approve the **satisfactory completion of the 26-week probationary period** for **Robert Muir**, Custodian at the Middle School, effective May 7, 2019 in accordance with civil service rules and regulations.
3. Appoint **Matthew Firmstone** to a **26-week probationary period as a full-time Laborer** (40 hours/week) at the High School (replacing Robert Muir who transferred to a Custodian position) effective April 10, 2019 through October 9 2019 in accordance with the ASSA contract.

4. Appoint **Robert Anderson** to a **26-week probationary period as a part-time Laborer** (20 hours/week) at the Middle School (replacing Christopher Crawford) effective April 10, 2019 through October 9, 2019 in accordance with the ASSA contract.
5. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Gary Green**, Teacher Aide-Special Education at Windermere Boulevard School, effective March 27, 2019,
6. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Stephanie Preziotte**, part-time Teacher Aide at Windermere Boulevard School, effective her last day of work on April 2, 2019.
7. Appoint **Joanne Aronica-Olyaei** as a **part-time teacher Aide/Cafeteria Monitor** (13.75 hours/week) at Windermere Boulevard School (replacing Stephanie Preziotte) effective April 10, 2019.
8. Appoint **Jennifer Raby** as a **full-time Teacher Aide-Special Education** (30.0 hours/week) at Smallwood Drive School effective April 10, 2019 (replacing Cheryl Weigand who transferred to 4th Grade Teaching Assistant).
9. Appoint **Jennifer Gribbin** as a **full-time Teacher Aide-Special Education** (30.0 hours/week) at Smallwood Drive School effective April 10, 2019 (new position).

**Other**

1. Approve the updated **mentor list** for the 2018-19 school year.
2. Approve changes to the 2018-19 **substitute list**.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Budget Transfers [over \$25,000] General Fund (April 2019), Capital Funds Project (April 2019);  
Warrant Reports: #0037 (March 8, 2019), #0039 (March 22, 2019)

**Follow Up Action Items**

1. District Clerk to provide board members with last year's Exit Poll questions in anticipation of their discussion at the next board meeting.

A motion to convene to Executive Session for collective bargaining negotiations was made by Mark Smith, seconded by Dominic Vivolo. Motion unanimously carries (6-0).

The Board convened to Executive Session at 7:43 pm.

A motion to convene to Public Session was made by Lorry Goldhawk, seconded Mark Smith. Motion unanimously carries (6-0).

The Board convened to Public Session at 8:01 pm.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jeanne Ernst, seconded by Jessica McLaughlin. Motion unanimously carried (6-0).

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

The next regular Board of Education meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Deborah Custodi, District Clerk