

**MINUTES OF THE 892 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AMHERST CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
April 16, 2019
District Office Conference Room**

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

Not Present: None

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

None

REPORT OF BOARD AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Exit Poll Discussion

The Board decided to maintain all questions from the prior year exit poll.

Town of Amherst Housing Study

President Steimle and Superintendent Panella attended a meeting regarding a housing study being conducted by the Town of Amherst. All three Amherst school districts were represented.

Alternative Funding Committee

Board Member Lorry Goldhawk stated the Alternative Funding Committee will be disbanding once the final grants have been awarded this spring. The focus will now be on funding grants through the Alumni only. A liaison from the school district will now attend Alumni board meetings to aid in the decision making for grants.

ECASB Meeting

Board member Lorry Goldhawk attended a meeting this past week. Many positive changes are happening such as updates to the Association's bylaws, budget finance practices and website. Mrs. Goldhawk shared upcoming event dates with the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Unifed Basketball

Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics Dr. Kiel Illg and teacher Jennifer Higgins introduced some of the Unified Basketball student athletes. The students invited the Board and Superintendent to their first game May 7 at 4:15 pm.

Student Services & Mental Health Update

Assistant Superintendent Michael Belle-Isle, along with Jennifer Noe, Melissa Stasio, Julie Terry, and Dave Benton reviewed legislation and mandates regarding mental health and Amherst's mental health curriculum. Each school representative explained what they are teaching and how they are handling mental health issues.

Superintendent's Student Cabinet

Per Superintendent Panella the Student Cabinet met in March. While the conversation started with extracurriculars it ended up leading into the need for mental health awareness and acceptance among students. The Superintendent is thankful our student leaders take time to share their concerns and suggestions.

A motion was made by Jessica McLaughlin and seconded by Jeanne Ernst to approve the following New Business Items: E-1-a through k, E-2-a through e, and E-3-b, c, e, f, and h. The motion unanimously carried (7-0).

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approve **Minutes** of April 16, 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 declaring the District's proposed **Capital Outlay Project** (involving the replacement of the backup generator at Amherst Middle School) to be a Type II action under SEQRA, and authorize and direct the inclusion of funding for such project in the District's proposed 2019-2020 budget.
- e. Adopt the **2019-2020 Budget** in the Amount of \$60,143,000 for Voter Approval.
- f. Approve establishment of a sub-fund within the Reserve for Retirement Contributions to be known as **the Amherst Central School District Retirement Contribution Reserve Sub-Fund**.
- g. Approve **2018-2019 Property Tax Report Card**.
- h. Adopt the **BOCES Administrative Budget for 2019-2020** in the amount of \$3,503,597.
- i. Vote for three (3) **members of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services**: Raymond Carr, Andrew Loeb, and Mary Busse.
- j. Appoint Gerard Keppel as **Chief Inspector** for the May 21, 2019 District Vote.
- k. Approve the appointment of **Election Inspectors** for the May 21, 2019 District Budget Vote and Election of Board Members.

PERSONNEL

Administrative

1. Appoint **Amy Steger**, who will obtain a School Building Leader certificate (May 2019), to a four-year probationary appointment as an Elementary Assistant Principal—**Elementary Assistant Principal** tenure area at Windermere Boulevard School (new position) effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023.
2. Approve the **administrator tenure**—Secondary Assistant Principal appointment for **Nancy Ables**, Assistant Principal at Amherst Central High School effective September 2, 2019.

Instructional – Faculty

1. Approve the **tenure appointment** —tenure area **General Special Education** for **James Eick**, Teacher at Amherst Central High School, effective October 13, 2019.
2. Approve the **tenure appointment** —tenure area **Business Education** for **Christina Evans**, Teacher at Amherst Central High School, effective September 2, 2019.
3. Approve the **tenure appointment** —tenure area **Mathematics** for **Brandon Ihrig**, Teacher at Amherst Central High School, effective September 2, 2019.
4. Approve the **tenure appointment** —tenure area **Elementary Education** for **Mary Newman**, Teacher at Amherst Middle School, effective September 2, 2019.
5. Approve the **tenure appointment** —tenure area **Elementary Education** for **Lauren Honsberger**, Teacher at Smallwood Drive School, effective September 2, 2019.

6. Approve the **tenure appointment** —tenure area **Elementary Education** for **Amanda Walter**, Teacher at Smallwood Drive School, effective September 2, 2019.
7. Approve the **tenure appointment** —tenure area **Remedial Reading** for **Kelly Gay**, Teacher at Windermere Boulevard School, effective September 2, 2019.
8. **Extend the appointment** of **Gabrielle Zafonte**, current Elementary Teacher long-term substitute at Windermere Boulevard School through May 31, 2019 (replacing Danielle Gorney) (tentative dates).

9.

Instructional – Teaching Assistants

1. Accept Approve the **tenure appointment** —tenure area **Teaching Assistant** for **Carmelina Criola**, Teaching Assistant at Amherst Middle School, effective September 8, 2019.

Civil Service

1. Appoint **Robin Thongratsamy**, current food service helper substitute, **as a part-time food service helper (4.5 hours/day)** at Windermere Boulevard School (replacing Anna Elsaesser) effective April 17, 2019 (tentative dates).

Other

1. Approve changes to the 2018-19 **substitute list**.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Budget Status Reports: Summary (March 2019), Detail (March 2019); Budget Transfers Report: General Fund (March 2019); Capital Funds Project (March 2019); Cash Flow Statement (July 1, 2018-March 31, 2019); Treasurer's Report (March 2019), Investments (March 2019).

Follow Up Action Items

1. Promote the videoed board meetings in the Budget Newsletter.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dominic Vivolo, seconded by Mark Smith. Motion unanimously carried (7-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted by: Deborah Custodi, District Clerk