

**MINUTES OF THE 925 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AMHERST CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
January 12, 2021
Windermere Boulevard School Cafeteria**

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

Not Present: None

Others Present: Superintendent Anthony Panella; Assistant Superintendent Michael Belle-Isle; Assistant Superintendent Lynn Shanahan

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

Board member Jessica McLaughlin attended the District Safety Committee Meeting where they were updated on the Smart Schools Bond and reviewed school safety plans. The committee discussed the newly required pandemic plan which is expected to be approved by April 2021. The committee also agreed to continue to work on the threat assessment process.

Board member Mark Smith attended the Erie County Association of School Board's Budget and Finance meeting. A detailed discussion of the budget occurred along with conversation regarding COVID-19.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Pathfinder's Task Force

The High School Pathfinder's Task Force nominated Mr. Christopher Banas and Ms. Allison Boyer-Stang as "Teachers of the Month" for November 2020 and Mr. John Flis and Ms. Kiersten Roetzer for December 2020. Jack Lenz and Ada Bastedo were nominated as "Students of the Month" for November 2020 and Stephanie Froebel, Connor Gill, and Julia LoTempio for December 2020.

Elementary Reopening Update

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Lynn Shanahan, Principal Julie Flanagan and Assistant Principal Melissa Martin gave an update on the reopening of the District's elementary schools. Both schools continue to focus on the health and safety of students and staff, the social emotional well-being of students and staff, and the Virtual Academy for students.

A motion was made by Jeanne Ernst and seconded by Lynn Errington to approve the following New Business Items: E-1-a through f; E-2-a through d; and E-3-d and g. The motion unanimously carried (7-0).

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approve **Minutes** of December 15, 2020 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. Accept **Gifts / Donations** on the attached list and increase the District's 2020-2021 budget appropriation by \$1,009.70.
- e. Approve disposing of **excess inventory** from Windermere Boulevard School: One (1) Reach-In Cooler / Freezer.

- f. Approve disposing of **excess inventory** from the Technology Department: Please see attached.

PERSONNEL

Instructional – Faculty

1. Approve **health leave** for **Amy Gattuso**, Speech-Language Pathologist at Windermere Boulevard School, effective February 12, 2021 through April 9, 2021.
2. Approve **maternity/child care leave** for **Rebecca Walsh**, Elementary Teacher at Windermere Boulevard School, effective April 12, 2021 through the end of the 2020-21 school year (tentative dates).

Instructional – Teaching Assistants

1. Accept a with regret and appreciation the **resignation of Jake Carrol**, Teaching Assistant at the Middle School, effective December 31, 2020.

Civil Service

1. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation of Joseph Vecere**, Head Custodian at the Middle School, effective January 22, 2021.
2. Amend the appointment of **Jason Banach**, Custodian at Smallwood Drive School, **from probationary to permanent** effective February 10, 2021 upon successful completion of his 26-week probationary period.
3. Approve a **change of status** for **David Germain**, current Cleaner at Smallwood Drive School, to a 26-week probationary period **as a full-time Custodian (40 hours/week - 12-month position)** at the Middle School (replacing Mark Dranger) effective January 18, 2021 through July 17, 2021 in accordance with civil service regulations and the ASSA contract (tentative dates).
4. Approve a **leave of absence** for **Sharon Cefalu**, Teacher Aide-Special Education at Smallwood Drive, from January 4, 2021 through February 21, 2021 (tentative date).

Other

1. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation of Jake Carrol**, Modified Swim Assistant Coach, effective December 31, 2020.
2. Approve changes to the **2020-21 Coach List**.
3. Approve changes to the **High School and Middle School Extracurricular Clubs** for the 2020-21 school year.
4. Approve changes to the **2020-21 substitute list**.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Budget Transfers Report [over \$25,000]: General Fund (December 2020, January 2021), Capital Projects Fund (December 2020); Warrant Report (#0025 12/11/20, #0027 12/25/20)

Follow Up Action Items

1. None

A motion to convene to Executive Session for matters regarding the employment of a particular person was made by Mark Smith, seconded by Lorry Goldhawk. Motion unanimously carried (7-0).

The Board convened to Executive Session at 7:55 pm.

A motion to convene to Public Session was made by Jessica McLaughlin, seconded by Jeanne Ernst. Motion unanimously carried (7-0).

The Board convened to Public Session at 8:58 pm.

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

The meeting adjourned 8:58 PM.

The next regular Board of Education meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Deborah Custodi, District Clerk.