

**MINUTES OF THE 929 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AMHERST CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
April 13, 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; School Business Administrator Laura Bosinski

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

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

VISITORS WISHING TO SPEAK

None

REPORT OF BOARD AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Board President Paul Steimle discussed withholding the Exit Poll at the Annual Budget Vote and Elections this year due to COVID restrictions. The board unanimously agreed.

Board member Mark Smith reported the Audit Committee met to review the Internal Audit, which was in good standing. He commended Mrs. Bosinski and her team.

Board member Jessica McLaughlin stated the Smallwood Reopening Committee has been meeting regularly to go over details on reopening.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Debt Refinancing

Rick Ganci from Capital Markets demonstrated how the District could reduce future debt payments due to low interest rates in a currently favorable market by refinancing District bonds from 2011. The board agreed to approve a resolution on this evening's agenda.

Proposed 2021-2022 Budget

Business Administrator Laura Bosinski updated the Board on provisions included in the NYS Legislative budget and reviewed revenue projections. Due to state aid increases, reserves and fund balance allocations have been reduced and a balanced budget was presented. The Board plans to adopt a budget of \$64,316,000 at the next board meeting, which will be put forth to the voters in May along with a proposal to establish a new Capital Reserve.

Reopening Update

Superintendent Panella reviewed updated New York State guidelines and a transition timeline to in-person instruction 5 days per week. The principals from each building will present their school's reopening plan in full at the April 20 board meeting.

Pathfinder's Task Force

The High School Pathfinder's Task Force nominated Mr. Jon Himes and Ms. Sherry Ciurczak (January 2021), Ms. Susan Saladino and Mr. Justin Pomietlarz (February 2021), and Mr. James Eick and Ms. Susan Lasch (March 2021) as "Teachers of the Month". The following were nominated as "Students of the Month": Nathaniel Clor, Iris Izydorczak, Alex Kang (January 2021); Aaron Felong, Elizabeth Stollof (February 2021); Rebekah Grande, Ni San, Liam Terhune (March 2021).

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

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approve **Minutes** of March 16, 2021 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 the **Refunding Bond Resolution** (for the refinancing of serial bonds issued in 2011) to achieve Debt Service Savings.
- e. Approve the **2019-2020 Internal Audit**.
- f. Approve the **2019-2020 Internal Audit Corrective Action Plan**.
- g. Readopt the **2021-2022 School Calendar** with changes.
- h. Approve awarding the **Collection and Recycling Bid** for refuse collection and recycling services to Modern Disposal in the amount of \$171,593.58.
- i. Approve the increase in the Election Inspector **rate of pay** to \$12.50/hour and the Chief Election Inspector rate of pay to \$12.90/hour.
- j. Approve disposing of **excess inventory** from Athletics: Forty-one (41) Lacrosse helmets and nineteen (19) Football helmets.
- k. Approve disposing of **excess textbooks** from Amherst Central High School: as per attached.

PERSONNEL

Administrative

1. Appoint **Patrick Kapperman**, who holds a valid School District Leader Internship certificate, to a four-year probationary appointment **as an Assistant Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services**--Administrator-Assistant Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services Tenure Area at the District Office (replacing Jessica O'Hern) effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025.

Instructional – Faculty

1. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Amanda Giordano**, Elementary Teacher at the Middle School, effective with her last day of work on April 23, 2021.
2. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Melany Michalski**, English Language Learner (ELL) Teacher at Windermere Boulevard School, effective with her last day of work on June 30, 2021.
3. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Michelle Unger**, School Library Media Specialist at Smallwood Drive School, effective with her last day of work on June 30, 2021.
4. Appoint **Susan Paul-Saladino**, who holds a valid permanent Special Education certificate, as a **part-time Special Education Teacher (0.4 FTE)** at the High School and Middle School (replacing Teresa Simmons) effective for the 2021-22 school year.
5. Appoint **Mackenna Daly**, current per diem sub who holds a valid initial SWD (1-6) certificate, **as a Special Education Teacher long-term substitute** at Smallwood Drive School (replacing Lindsay Klose) effective March 30, 2021 through April 23, 2021 (tentative dates).
6. Approve **maternity/child care leave** for **Jessica Bologna**, Special Education Teacher at the Middle School, effective May 10, 2021 through June 18, 2021 (tentative dates).
7. **Terminate** the employment of **Kaleigh Creeden**, **part-time School Counselor** (.5 FTE) at the Middle School, in accordance with New York State Education Law, Section 2510, Subdivision 3, without rights to recall effective June 30, 2021.

8. **Terminate** the employment of **Kimberly Murphy, part-time Science Teacher (.8 FTE)** at the Middle School, in accordance with New York State Education Law, Section 2510, Subdivision 3, without rights to recall effective June 30, 2021.
9. **Terminate** the employment of **Karen L. Redding, part-time Elementary Teacher (.7 FTE)** at Windermere Boulevard School, in accordance with New York State Education Law, Section 2510, Subdivision 3, without rights to recall effective June 30, 2021.
10. **Terminate** the employment of **Natalie P. DuBois, English as a Second Language Teacher** serving in an **encumbered** position at Windermere Boulevard School, in accordance with New York State Education Law, Section 2510, Subdivision 3, without rights to recall effective June 30, 2021.
11. **Terminate** the employment of **Gabrielle M. Zafonte, Special Education Teacher** serving in an **encumbered** position at Windermere Boulevard School, in accordance with New York State Education Law, Section 2510, Subdivision 3, without rights to recall effective June 30, 2021.

Instructional – Teaching Assistants

1. Appoint **Robina Robert Vedhanayakam** who will obtain a valid Teaching Assistant I certificate, as a **part- time Teaching Assistant (19 hours/week)** at Windermere Boulevard School (replacing Jessica Belous' vacancy) effective **April 14, 2021**.
2. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Anna Wagner**, Teaching Assistant-Special Education at Windermere Boulevard School effective **April 9, 2021**.

Civil Service

1. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Dawn Funderburk**, part-time Teacher Aide-Special Education at Windermere Boulevard School, effective with her last day of work on April 1, 2021.
2. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Lynn Stubbe**, Teacher Aide-Special Education at the Middle School, effective with her last day of work on March 26, 2021.
3. Approve **leave of absence** for **Dominique Shelton**, Food Service Helper at Windermere Boulevard School, effective March 15, 2021 through the end of the 2020-21 school year.
4. Approve **health leave of absence** for **David Ennis**, Cleaner at the High School, effective March 23, 2021 through April 12, 2021 (tentative dates).

Other

1. Approve changes to the **2020-21 substitute list**.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Budget Amendment (March 2021); Budget Transfers Report [over \$25,000]: General Fund (March 2021)

Follow Up Action Items

1. Send the board members registration links for all town board meetings.

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

The meeting adjourned 8:20 PM.

The next regular Board of Education meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Deborah Custodi, District Clerk.