

**MINUTES OF THE 945 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AMHERST CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
January 11, 2022
Virtual Meeting**

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

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 - None

VISITORS WISHING TO SPEAK - None

REPORT OF BOARD AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Board member Mark Smith attended the ECASB Budget & Finance Committee meeting where they approved the BOCES budget.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Smallwood Building Update

Principal Richard Crozier and Assistant Principal Melissa Martin highlighted Smallwood's initiatives regarding student life, learning and achievement and pride in their school. Some highlights included skillstreaming for life skills, the return of summer school, implementation of Phonics First, and the Promising Practice Recognition they received from Character.org.

Pathfinder's Task Force

The High School Pathfinder's Task Force nominated Ms. Jennifer Koepfel-Keenan and Mr. Mitchell Newport as "Teachers of the Month" for November 2021 and Ms. Alexandra Montesano for December 2021. Natalie D'Arata and Eric Kay were nominated as "Students of the Month" for November 2021, Dhiraj Baral and Alison Whitton for December 2021.

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

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approve **Minutes** of December 14, 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. Appoint members to the **Professional Learning Committee** in accordance with the Commissioner's regulations.
- e. Approve the **honorarium request** from the High School in the amount of \$2,250.00 payable to David Hahm for Operetta scenic construction and stage crew manager.
- f. Approve the **honorarium request** from the High School in the amount of \$1,500.00 payable to James Featherstone as Operetta rehearsal repetiteur and musician.
- g. Approve the **honorarium request** from the High School in the amount of \$1,500.00 payable to Matthew Pendrak for Operetta orchestra direction
- h. Approve the **honorarium request** from the High School in the amount of \$1,000.00 payable to Anne Kelly for Operetta scenic construction.

- i. Approve the **honorarium request** from the High School in the amount of \$1,000.00 payable to Alex Montesano for Operetta costume design and choreography.
- j. Approve the **honorarium request** from the High School in the amount of \$1,000.00 payable to Kiersten Roetzer as ticketing manager, properties coordinator, and orchestra coach.
- k. Approve the **honorarium request** from the High School in the amount of \$1,000.00 payable to John Shotwell for Operetta sound design.
- l. Approve the **honorarium request** from the High School in the amount of \$850.00 payable to Norm Sham for Operetta scenic design and consulting.
- m. Approve the **honorarium request** from the High School in the amount of \$750.00 payable to Katherine Kuo for Operetta program and graphic design.
- n. Approve the **honorarium request** from the High School in the amount of \$250.00 payable to David King for Operetta scenic consulting.
- o. Approve **disposal** of twelve (12) girls' volleyball uniforms and thirty (30) boys hockey uniforms from Amherst Central High School.
- p. Approve **disposal** of thirty-three (33) textbooks from Amherst Central High School: *Microsoft Office 2010 Fundamentals*.
- q. Approve **Gifts / Donations** on the attached list and increase the District's 2021-2022 budget appropriation by \$250.00.

PERSONNEL

Administrative

None

Instructional – Faculty

1. Approve **Hunter Dimitroff**, who will obtain a valid initial Physical Education certificate, as a **Health and Physical Education Teacher long-term substitute** at Amherst Central High School (.2 FTE) and Amherst Middle School (.8 FTE) (replacing Michael Ortman) effective January 14, 2022 through February 11, 2022 (tentative dates).
2. Approve the **tenure appointment**-Art tenure area for **Jillian Roeser**, Teacher at Amherst Middle School, effective January 16, 2022.
3. Approve **maternity/child care leave** for **Kelly Gay**, Reading AIS Teacher at Windermere Boulevard School, effective March 11, 2022 through April 22, 2022 (tentative dates).
4. Appoint **maternity/child care leave** for **Lauren Ladowski**, Elementary Teacher at Windermere Boulevard School, effective February 21, 2022 through May 19, 2022 (tentative dates).
5. Approve **leave** for **Michael Ortman**, Health and Physical Education Teacher at Amherst Central High School (.2 FTE) and Amherst Middle School (.8 FTE), effective January 20, 2022 through February 17, 2022 (tentative dates).
6. Approve **maternity/child care leave** for **Carly Fanton**, Elementary Teacher at Windermere Boulevard School, effective March 7, 2022 through June 6, 2022 (tentative dates).
7. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation for purposes of retirement** of **Alexis Sleight**, Science Teacher at Amherst Central High School, effective July 1, 2022 with her last day of work on June 30, 2022.
8. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation** of **Megan Crowley**, English as a New Language (ENL) Teacher at Amherst Middle School, effective January 30, 2022.

Instructional - Teaching Assistants

1. Appoint **Megan Bielecki** who holds a valid Teaching Assistant Level-1 certificate **to a four-year probationary appointment as a Teaching Assistant - Special Education (32.5 hours/week) special subject tenure area 30.8(d)** at Amherst Middle School (replacing Elizabeth Zucco) effective January 20, 2022.

Civil Service

1. Appoint **Martinique Fenderson-Reid** as a **part-time Food Service Helper (20 hours/week)** at Windermere Boulevard School (replacing Kathleen Balduf) effective date January 12, 2022.
2. Appoint **Michele Sengbusch** as **part-time Food Service Helper (17.5 hours/week)** at Amherst Central High School (replacing Lynn Myers) effective January 12, 2022.
3. Amend the appointment of **David Torres, Laborer** in Smallwood Drive School, from probationary to permanent effective February 1, 2022, upon successful completion of his 26-week probationary period in accordance with civil service rules and regulations.
4. **Rescind the appointment of Myron Jones** as a Laborer (one-year position) at Smallwood Drive School (new position) effective December 28, 2021.
5. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation for purposes of retirement of Martha Boyle**, Occupational Therapist at Smallwood Drive School, effective July 1, 2022 with her last day of work on June 30, 2022.
6. Accept with regret and appreciation the **resignation of Chinenye Ibegbu**, Teacher Aide at Amherst Middle School, effective February 4, 2022.
7. Appoint **Heather Wolfe** as a **Teacher Aide/Building Monitor (40 hours/week)** at Amherst Central High School (replacing Daniel Robinson) effective January 20, 2022 (tentative date).

Other

1. Approve addition to the **2021-22 substitute list**.
2. Approve the changes to the **Support Staff pay schedule for the 2021-22 school year** retro effective December 10, 2022.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Budget Summary & Detail Reports (November 2021); Budget Transfers Report: General Fund (December 2021), Capital Projects Fund (December 2021), School Lunch Fund (December 2021), Special Aid Fund (December 2021); Budget Transfers Report [over \$25,000]: General Fund (December 2021), Capital Projects Fund (December 2021); Cash Flow Statement (July 1, 2021 – November 30, 2021); Warrant Report: #0025 12/10/21, #0027 12/24/21; Treasurer's Report (November 2021)

Follow Up Action Items

1. None

A motion to convene to Executive Session to hear and decide an appeal concerning a student discipline matter and a personnel matter was made by Mark Smith, seconded by Lorry Goldhawk. Motion unanimously carried (7-0).

The Board convened to Executive Session at 7:40 pm.

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

The Board convened to Public Session at 8:47 pm.

At the request of the parent's counsel and in agreement with the Board of Education the student discipline hearing was adjourned and will reconvene February 8, 2022.

A motion to terminate the employment of Angela Earle as principal clerk typist of the District effective January 12, 2022 by reason of her lacking continued qualification for employment was made by Lorry Goldhawk, seconded by Lynn Errington. Motion unanimously carried (7-0).

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lynn Errington, seconded by Jessica McLaughlin. Motion unanimously carried (7-0).

The meeting adjourned 8:49 pm.

The next regular Board of Education meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Deborah Custodi, District Clerk.