

March 5, 2018

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – March 5, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	ADMINISTRATION PRESENT
Mr. Brown Dr. Corcoran Mrs. Kielbasinski Mrs. Petrosillo Mr. Schulman Mrs. Tyson Mr. Van Schaick Mrs. Woodcock Dettor	Mrs. Murphy	Dr. Kendrick, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Decker, School Business Administrator Dr. Smith, Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Schulman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room in the District Office. Others in attendance were Justin Lambert, Jr., Justin Lambert, Sr., Nico Modesti, Lauren Saletsky, Sheana Zombek, Melissa Braun, Kelsey Braun, Morgan Berube, Laura Sandroni, Lauren Sevak, Dina Pettiford, Danielle Jaffe, Grace Vander Molen, Leah Netti, Rose Zhou, Rachel Vaknine, Cameron Howe, Lily O’Bryan, Teresa Greenwood, Paula Greenwood, Lia Ivanick, Cathy Keough, Alex Payne, Max Mimaroglu, Nancy O’Connor, Maddy Sullivan, Katie Sullivan, Jamie Layhew, Karen Mueller, Rachel Gilchrist, Katie Kenna, Eric Kenna, Anthony Ciccone, Ronna Louise, Luke Smith, Karlie Huckins, Sloane Leach, Claudia Hauser, Sean Hlywa, Nicole Peios, Joshua King, Jeremy Sandroni, Michael Fitzpatrick, James Dougherty, Scottie O’Bryan, David Tyler, Parker Wing, Takuya LaClair, John Taylor, Adriana Sugar, Robert McTague, Arhamah Beg, Rana Ayash, Ryan Evans, Caelen Constantino, Nicole Adams, Kathy Brodsky, Jomarie Vespi, Ebony Grant, Max Kravec, Lila Benz, Ann Wright, Paul Gasparini.

Statement by Dr. Kendrick

Dr. Kendrick addressed the Board and audience with regard to school safety and security, summarizing decisions made in the past concerning a school resource officer and security measures currently in place. Dr. Kendrick read a letter from Town of DeWitt Chief of Police, John Anton discussing their department’s role in security and prevention. A District Wide School Safety Team will be approved at the Board Meeting tonight which will meet as soon thereafter as possible. This team will make recommendations to the Board concerning strategies to improve our security and safety plans.

Community Comment

Katie Clinton asked about full-time mental health professionals in all buildings. Dr. Kendrick responded that there will be a recommendation in the instructional budget to accomplish that goal. Mrs. Clinton also asked about full-time armed officers. Dr. Kendrick responded that the District-Wide Safety Team will be discussing this.

Kelly Wichmann asked if upgrades in camera systems will include cameras on school buses. Dr. Kendrick responded that this will be considered.

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A conversation began about the District-Wide Safety Team and who would be on it. There was also a conversation about parents on the building safety teams. State regulations prohibit students participating on a district safety team when building safety plans are discussed.

Caelen Constantino, a senior at JD, spoke about how she was glad that the doors are now locked. She voiced her concerns about many topics including what she feels is poor communication,

Ron Saletsky asked about what the approach is for the youngest kids, what is being done about talking to them about their fears. Dr. Kendrick responded that the school psychologists and classroom teachers who know the children best work with students to try to allay concerns.

Lauren Sevak expressed grave concern about the safety and security in our schools, indicating the district is way behind the times and is unprepared. She stated that we are all in the JD District because we want to be here. We should not wait for tragedy to happen to make a change.

Nico Modesti spoke about student safety being paramount. He was inquiring as to the time frame to changes and asked to be kept informed.

Grace Vander Molen said she feels the mindset has changed from this could never happen to when will this happen.

Kathy Brodsky asked whether students and other community members could be involved in the District-Wide School Safety Team as a sub-group. This would allow them to participate. She also said that the school district can't do everything. Parents need to be involved. She asked if there could be a parents mentoring program for other parents. This could be a support where children are having problems and others have experienced/gone through these types of problems.

Lila Benz, a 12th grade student, expressed that she does not feel safe in school. She doesn't think an S.R.O. will help. She wanted to know how students can make a difference. Lila asked Dr. Kendrick about her opinion on the walkouts being planned, if students will get a "pass" on it. Dr. Kendrick responded that students will not be disciplined for simply participating in the walkout.

Mrs. Clinton commented that the High School staff have been working to incorporate the Positivity Project into this and are in the planning phases to make it a positive experience.

Danille Jaffe, a senior expressed concern over the lack of communication since the November incident.

Lisa Patchen inquired about training for support staff/substitutes for a lockdown/emergency situation.

Nicole Adams expressed concern with the consistency of communications to parents and training for all staff as well. She wanted to know if there is communication between other districts on safety issues.

Kate Kenna expressed grave concern over the security in our schools, mentioning the differences between our schools and the school where she teaches. She thinks the infrastructure and security are lacking and doesn't understand why.

Lisa Conley asked if there will be a public comment made once a recommendation is made by the Safety Committee. Dr. Kendrick responded that it will be on an agenda of an upcoming Board Meeting once a recommendation is made.

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Jomarie Vespi stated she is veteran teacher who works in a building with a resource officer and sees the benefits to all the students and staff. She feels that it works as a community builder. The children respond in a positive way. She spoke about the security measures they have. She wants the students at JD to feel secure and that parents need to know they are sending their children to a safe place. She feels taxpayers need to know that changes are being made now. What changes can be made quickly from now until June to make parents and students feel safer?

Caelen Constantino wanted to know who is on the task force and also reiterated that she does not feel safe in school.

Pat Sullivan asked about why it has taken 3 weeks since Florida shooting and when will the Board approve a Safety Team. Mr. Sullivan questioned why there isn't anything on the capital project addressing security. Dr. Kendrick explained the process of getting a capital project approved, legal notices, etc. She said there is not sufficient time to get a capital project approved in time for the budget vote.

Mr. Schulman explained that they are doing what they can without a capital project. He said that this is not something that can wait for state approval.

Eric Kenna said he felt that the letter that was read by Dr. Kendrick was identical to the one read five years ago. He said, as a voter, he has a problem with kids being scared to be in school.

Ebony Britt expressed concern for students, that they are worrying all the time. She wanted to know what has been done since November.

Christiana - indicated there is a lack of communication, an example is the location of District Office. She came into the school looking for the District Office and wandered the building with no directions.

Rachel Gilchrist, said she lived in Colorado at the time of the Columbine school shooting. She feels that we can learn from other schools by doing what they are doing. For example, in Colorado, there is a *Safe To Tell Hotline*. She feels that students are the first line of defense, they have their finger on the pulse of what is going on. We need a sense of safety and community at JD which she feels is not happening.

Caelen Constantino said the monitor that was placed at the front entry is no longer patrolling school hallways. She wants to let the Board know that she and several students will be here at the Board meetings until something is done.

Nancy O'Connor asked who the school monitor is that was placed at front entry.

Sheehan McIntosh said her father is a retired police officer who is a resource officer in another district. She has discussed safety at JD with her father who expressed concern about school safety at J-D. She said that is a terrible feeling because they have always thought they were safe here.

Lisa Conley asked if when the Safety Team is evaluating, will it look to the fire departments for comments regarding safety.

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Kelly Wichmann said she has been listening to all comments presented here and she was unaware that JD is interactive with other districts. She feels other districts are doing more and there needs to be an urgency for action.

Karen Mueller has been at JD for many years and has never been afraid of the halls. Now she is. She thinks the badge and hotline ideas are great and is urging the Board to listen to these kids now, they deserve to be safe.

Joshua King said he is proud of these young people that they want to be involved in the process. He believes that we need to engage kids on how to act, that's the real issue not being talked about.

Leah Netti expressed concern that our district is not as safe as others in the area.

Grace Vander Molen asked if there will be a change made to the District Office entrance.

Max Kravec, a senior, relayed his feelings, that within the school community, there are "packs". He is worried that there is not enough attention being paid to the "mental" affiliations or issues.

Sean McIntosh said that they could all keep going around in circles, nodding their heads. He urged the Board to prioritize, react and fully commit. He said there have been many great ideas here, and suggested "Let's Go, Let's Move It".

Mr. Schulman thanked everyone for their comments and assured them that they would be taken seriously.

Minutes of February 12, 2018 Board Meeting

Dr. Corcoran moved, Mrs. Kielbasinski seconded approval of the minutes of the February 12, 2018 Board of Education meeting.

Motion carried (7-0-1). Mrs. Petrosillo abstained.

Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations

Mr. Brown moved, Mr. Van Schaick seconded approval of the following personnel changes as recommended by the Superintendent:

Motion carried (8-0-0).

INSTRUCTIONAL

Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2017-2018

Name	Assignment	Stipend
Dan Blumenthal	Instrumental Performance Group Advisor	

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Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2017-2018
Inter-Scholastic Coaching

Name	Assignment	Stipend
Jess Duerr	Basketball Tournament (16 Sessions)	
Dan Glazier	Coach Substitute (3 Sessions)	
Jason Martin	Basketball Tournament (6 Sessions)	
Pat Sawatzke	Basketball Tournament (14 Sessions)	

Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2017-2018

Moses DeWitt

Name	Assignment	Stipend
Stacie Fitzgerald	Resource Leader (Second Semester)	

NONINSTRUCTIONAL

Name and position	Location	<u>Appointments</u> Salary	Effective
Anthony M. Caporizzo Driver/Messenger Replacing G. Bryant	Maintenance		3/8/18
Katie Reitz Substitute (as needed)	Food Service		3/6/18

Change in Status

Name and position	Location	Salary	Effective
Jessica Reitz Substitute to Food Service Helper Replacing T. Korkue	Food Service – M.S.		3/6/18
Scott Hallman School Bus Driver Substitute to Probationary Appt. Replacing P. Ansley	Transportation		3/6/18
Dorey Youngblood School Bus Driver Substitute to Probationary Appt. Replacing A. Ly	Transportation		3/6/18
Lewis Obit, Jr. School Bus Driver Substitute to Probationary Appt. Replacing C. Pfrang	Transportation		3/19/18

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Request for Leave

Name and position	Location	Type of Leave	Effective
Karen Graham Teacher Aide	Tecumseh	Parental Leave (unpaid)	3/5/18- 3/30/18

**ADDENDUM TO PERSONNEL CHANGES
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The following personnel changes are recommended by the Superintendent:

Extra duty assignments/teaching 2017-2018
Coaching Spring Season

Name	Assignment	Stipend
Brian Wright *	JV Baseball Head Coach	

*Contingent upon completion of the certification process.

Use of Buses by Town of DeWitt

Dr. Kendrick presented the annual request from the Town of DeWitt for the use of school buses for their summer day camp program. (See Supplemental Minutes.) Mr. Brown moved, Dr. Corcoran seconded the approval of the Town of DeWitt's request for the use of four (4) school buses and two (2) back-up buses for their summer recreation program.

Motion carried (8-0-0).

Districtwide School Safety Team

Dr. Kendrick provided the Board with a recommendation of members to comprise the Districtwide School Safety Team. Once approved, the Districtwide School Safety Team will be meeting as soon as possible. After discussion among the Board, it was decided that the Districtwide School Safety Team would consist of the following members:

Superintendent of Schools or designee, School Board President or designee, Assistant Superintendent, High School Counselor, Middle School Counselor, Elementary School Psychologist, High School Principal, Middle School Principal, Elementary School Principals (3), One non-instructional staff member (recommendation of a nurse), and one parent representative and one teacher representative from each building safety team, Timothy Decker, Business Administrator, Town of DeWitt Police Chief or designee, Town of DeWitt Fire Chief or designee, and Jamesville Fire Chief or designee.

Mr. Brown moved, Mrs. Kielbasinski seconded the approval of the above mentioned Districtwide School Safety Team.

Motion carried (8-0-0).

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School District Calendar 2018/2019

Dr. Kendrick presented the Board with the proposed school district calendar for the 2018/2019 school year. (See Supplemental Minutes.)

Mrs. Petrosillo moved, Mrs. Kielbasinski seconded the approval of the 2018/2019 school district calendar.

Motion carried (8-0-0).

Budget Discussion – 2018/2019 Athletics and Central Office

Dr. Kendrick reviewed the budget process to date and then presented the proposed Athletics and Central Office budget for the 2018/2019 school year. (See Supplemental Minutes.) The athletic budget maintains all current programs and is projected to increase 6.34%. This increase represents personnel costs and trainer costs going up as well as an increase in equipment reconditioning. The central office budget is status quo. As Dr. Kendrick explained previously, the BOCES account code changes that have been made reflect relocation of budget codes, but no change to overall dollars budgeted. This reflects in the central office budget. Dr. Kendrick reviewed upcoming dates relevant to the Budget.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kendrick congratulated the High School for being recognized by as being a Project Lead the Way Distinguished High School. Only 11 high schools in New York and 133 in the United States have received this honor. This is due to the hard work of students and staff. Dr. Kendrick also congratulated the three elementary buildings for being in the top 8 of all elementary schools to be named Best Elementary Schools in Onondaga County by *Niche*. The Science Olympiad Team has again qualified for the State Competition and Dr. Kendrick wished them the best. The Capital Project has been picked up for review by Albany. We hope this this will move along quickly to allow construction to begin this summer. Dr. Kendrick updated the Board with regard to emergency closings. To date, we have used four snow days. If a fifth emergency day is taken, it will be a staff development day. If we need a sixth day, the last day of school which is currently a half day, will become a full day. The newly approved 2018-2019 School Calendar is set up the same way. Dr. Kendrick reported back on the parent meeting which took place on February 15, 2018 at the High School where the discussion was diversity, inclusivity and equity. There were over 100 people that attended and there were great conversations that took place. Dr. Kendrick explained that she is in the process of collating the information received. The information will be released after that has been done. Dr. Kendrick advised the Board of upcoming events.

Board President's Report

Mr. Schulman invited the Board Members to email him with any thoughts, ideas/suggestions that he can bring to the District-Wide Safety Meeting. Mr. Schulman congratulated the girls Varsity Basketball team on their Sectional Championship and wished them luck on their way to Regionals.

Community Comment

Karen Mueller expressed a critical concern with regard to how substitute teachers are hired.

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Caelen Constantino expressed her belief that students who spoke were treated with disrespect.

Paula Greenwood shared that this is a great group of students, great group of parents, great ideas, we are living in a great area but that is not an amulet. The time is now.

There was a question as to when the results of the diversity and inclusivity conversation would be made available. Dr. Kendrick said that the information from that meeting is being collated. It will be presented back to the Board, back to teachers and back to parents. She said the staff will be participating in a similar meeting. It was suggested that an expert in diversity be brought in to help with this process.

Karen Wichmann suggested that with regard to the diversity meeting, we should survey the student body. Dr. Kendrick said that there has been a survey done of our 7th – 12th grade students. They received good information about some things and will be reaching out to students for more information.

Caelen Constantino said that the student led forum went extremely well. There were approximately 100 to 120 students in attendance who expressed their feelings on issues.

Rachel Gilchrist said she thinks we need to find representation of experts that understand community building to help us out.

Paul Gasparini shared that a Student Safety Committee will convene at the high school and will bring information to the District-Wide Safety Committee. Any student who wants to be a part of this is welcome. He will share the minutes/notes with Dr. Kendrick.

Max MiMargoglu, a freshman, feels that a big issue is how we get students to make an impact and that students have a voice on so many different issues.

Unfinished Business

Mrs. Kielbasinski commented that she feels that before we bring any recommendations to the Board after collating the information from the Diversity Meeting, it should be reviewed by a specialist/expert.

At 9:45 p.m. Mrs. Kielbasinski moved, Dr. Corcoran seconded the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried (8-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Decker
Clerk of the Board