

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – September 9, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT

MEMBERS ABSENT

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Mrs. Archer
Dr. Corcoran
Mrs. DeForest
Mrs. James-Murad
Mrs. Petrosillo
Mrs. Rhodes
Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz
Mr. Souser
Mrs. Woodcock Dettor

Dr. Peter Smith, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Decker, School Business Administrator
Mr. Reyes, Assistant Superintendent

Mrs. Petrosillo called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the District Office. Others in attendance were Will Guisbond, Sophia Stokoe, Tracey Edson, Paige Keeler, Seth Zurbruegg, Matthew Allen, Fiona McNeil, Sue McNeil, Emily Bobrek, Rachel Wagner, Sydney Baker, Ann Wright, Kerry Coleman-Herrick, Ginnie Murphy, Katie Cappelletti, Alex Pomeroy, Jacob Barry, Aakash Yalamanchili, tom taylor, Kristine , Maureen Aliani, Michael Fitzpatrick, Gabriella Kielbasinski, Christiana Semabia, John Costello.

Community Comment Time #1

Christiana Semabia commented on the Guidance Plan and stated that we are not serving children of color equally.

Rachel Wagner commented on the Guidance Plan, she reviewed with professionals, she asked it has been newly written and well researched.

Minutes of September 9, 2019 Meeting

Mrs. DeForest moved and Mr. Souser seconded the approval of the Minutes of the August 26, 2019 Meeting.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations

Mrs. James Murad moved and Mrs. Woodcock Dettor seconded the approval of the Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations as follows:

INSTRUCTIONAL

Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2019-2020

High School

Name	Assignment	Stipend
Linda Slade	National Spanish Honor Society Advisor	
Lori Pratt	Bus Supervision (a.m. only)	
Sabrina Scott	UMOJA Advisor	

<u>Request for Leave</u>			
Name and position	Location	Type of Leave	Effective
Trinity Conner English Teacher	HS	Parental (paid & unpaid)	12/31/19 – 6/26/20
Kristin Gallivan English Teacher	HS	Parental (paid & unpaid)	12/18/19 – 6/26/20
Tiffany Kelly Occupational Therapist	District	Parental (paid & unpaid)	11/29/19-3/30/20

<u>Resignation</u>			
Name and position	Location		Effective
Daniel Law Extra Duty Assignment – Cafeteria Supervision	H.S.		9/3/19
Maria DeJesus Extra-Duty Assignment – National Spanish Honor Society – Co-Advisor	H.S.		9/4/19
Xiomara Santos Extra-Duty Assignment – National Spanish Honor Society – Co-Advisor	H.S.		9/4/19

<u>Termination</u>			
Name and position	Location		Effective
Patricia Schaefer Bus Driver	Transportation		8/27/19

ADDENDUM - PERSONNEL CHANGES– September 9, 2019

The following personnel changes are recommended by the Superintendent:

INSTRUCTIONAL

<u>Change in Status</u>			
Name and position	Location	Change	Effective
Keith Bryant Technology Teacher	Middle School	Additional Class - Every other day –first semester	9/3/19-1/24/20
Laurie Fabian Family & Consumer Science Teacher	Middle School	Additional Class - Every day – first semester	9/3/19-1/24/20
Maria Koster French Teacher	Middle School	Additional Class - Every day – full year	9/3/19-6/26/20
Kitty Robinson French Teacher	Middle School	Additional Class - Every day – full year	9/3/19-6/26/20

Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2019-2020

Middle School

Name	Assignment	Stipend
Dan Vinette	Yearbook Advisor	

Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2019-2020

Coaching – Fall Season

Name	Assignment	Stipend
Alexander Way	Modified Football Coach	

NONINSTRUCTIONAL

Name and position	Location	<u>Appointments</u> Salary	Effective
Denise Campbell Food Service Worker Replacing N. Rioux	Moses-DeWitt	3.75 hrs/day	9/10/19

Mrs. Archer asked if teachers that are taking on additional classes are working outside their certification. Dr. Smith responded in this case they are working outside their certification areas, but the teacher is certified 6th grade, so they can teach the French Class. Dr. Smith responded that if they are teaching outside of their certification area, it is reported to NYS.

Motion carried (7-0-2). Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz and Mrs. Rhodes opposed.

Guidance Plan

Mr. Reyes presented the Board with the K-12 Comprehensive School Counseling Plan. He explained how the plan aligns with the Commissioner’s Regulations and that how adding extra counseling staff last year allowed us to develop this plan in a timely manner. He reviewed the components of the plan, the delivery system and the results and evaluations. This plan ensures all students have access to a certified guidance counselor.

Mrs. Rhodes asked if the components are requirements from NYSED or did Mr. Reyes develop them? Mr. Reyes stated that they come from the American School Counseling System.

Mrs. Rhodes asked what membership looks like for an advisory council. Mr. Reyes stated that we are developing this, it will be stakeholders as advised by the district.

Mrs. Rhodes asked about where in this is training for staff to stay on top of current trends. Mr. Reyes responded much of it is through professional learning plans.

Dr. Corcoran asked how much of this plan is written fresh vs. carried over. Mr. Reyes responded most of it is designed to meet NYSED requirements. We took the 9-12 plan already prewritten, used several models from other districts, melded them together, met with the counseling team to make sure that the plan resulted in what was needed.

Dr. Corcoran stated that she is concerned that if we do what is always done, we have get where we have gotten. Mr. Reyes responded we make sure we meet requirements, when the experts are around the table, we see where the pieces fit together.

Dr. Corcoran asked about outside providers with regards to curriculum revisions. Mr. Reyes responded, McMahon Ryan Center, Social Emotional Support from BOCES and the Dept. of Social Services.

Dr. Corcoran asked about bridging the disparity gap between students of color and were experts consulted when we looked at this plan? Mr. Reyes responded that when the council around the table, it will be addressed.

Mrs. Petrosillo asked will the council be part of the advisory on the plan? Mr. Reyes responded that they set the direction. There are smaller groups that work and spread through the counseling department. A breakout group that pursues experts in the field comes to counsel and goes to professional development.

Mrs. Archer asked if there is framework to make sure no steps are missed. Dr. Smith responded that idea of curriculum advisory council is a new group and they have to figure out what is on agenda, how will we expand curriculum, etc. We don't have those protocols in place because we are just establishing this council.

Mrs. James Murad asked if parents and/or members of the Board be part of the committee, and how many members will there be. Does the Superintendent pick the members?

Mr. Reyes responded that we are not that far, we will figure it out.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked if we could compare last year's plan to this year's plan.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked if we can get results from last year's plan.

Mr. Reyes responded it is for the council to establish.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked when this needs to be done. Dr. Smith responded that the council needs to be in place during the 2019-2020 school year.

Dr. Corcoran asked about the timeline for the council. Mr. Reyes responded that we have a rough sketch of an outline at this point.

Mrs. DeForest stated that it looks as though we are heading into more consistency and this is the start of it.

Mrs. Archer asked if the council determines, will trauma support and restorative practices be present and was any of the data used from the Perception Institute used to develop the plan?

Mr. Reyes responded no, we didn't have the results at the time.

Mrs. Archer asked if counseling will be available to all or just those with an iep? Mr. Reyes responded yes to all.

Mrs. Rhodes what date this needs to be filed with the state. Mr. Reyes responded it needs to be posted on the website.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that she understands the plan does not have information on selection of counsel, and it is challenging to think what we are approving, such as council, is so central to what the plan is.

Dr. Smith stated that the Plan was due by July 1, 2019. That is the state benchmark. He stated he understands what is being said. He is asking that you go back and think about what has been done and respectfully asks that the Board approve this plan knowing we will come back with framework or come back after council meet.

Mrs. Rhodes stated there is a lot of confusion about the council and who is on them, how they are selected, who they include. She feels it is challenging to approve with so much we don't know.

Mrs. Petrosillo suggested we need to hear more about the advisory council, timeframe, data points and come back with that information.

Mrs. Woodcock Dettor asked if this is something that is measured every year.

Mr. Reyes stated we look at traditional measures: attendance, discipline reports, academic success or lack thereof, highest needs students, we need counselors to determine what are we currently measuring. We need counseling advisory group together to do this. We have data available. The District has contracted with data collection from BOCES. This data will look at how we measure, identify pieces, gather data and work on strategic plan. These parts are all in progress. We can't do it all until we have strategic plan to guide it all.

Mr. Souser stated that he feels like what the Board is asking is some kind of definition of what a stakeholder will look like. He might be more comfortable if it takes a week to create this.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated we need to go back and update policy.

Dr. Smith responded this will be done with the update.

Mrs. DeForest asked if it should be up on the website. Dr. Smith responded, yes, it should say, "in progress".

Mrs. Petrosillo asked if guidance and counseling are interchangeable. Mr. Reyes stated certified school guidance counselors are specifically trained for school counseling. Some of the staff are social workers.

Mrs. Corcoran asked who is in charge of the evaluation (as in the components) and Mr. Reyes responded the building administrators.

It was agreed that the approval would be tabled until the September 16, 2019 Board Meeting.

Discussion – Board Self-Evaluation

Mrs. Petrosillo provided the Board with a handout with results of the Board's self evaluation which is required annually by Policy # 2340. She reviewed the results and discussed suggestions to improve the areas in question. This evaluation will be done again in May. Mrs. Petrosillo will look into what other Boards do.

**Discussion – November 14, 2019
Board of Education Forum**

Mrs. Petrosillo suggested that communication be a possible topic for the public forum. She suggested we discuss how the public would like to be communicated with, what do they want to hear about and also how they would communicate back.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz suggested ESSA requirements to create parent engagement and school climate platform as it ties in with communication.

Dr. Smith said we will move forward with the forum around communication and we will frame it. It will take place on Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. He will think about the location.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Smith updated the Board on back to school saying things went smoothly, with the exception of a few transportation issues. Everyone got home safe and issues always iron out quickly. Dr. Smith provided the Board with an updated set of District Goals. He thanked the Board for their input. (See Supplemental Minutes).

Dr. Corcoran asked if he would revamp achievement evidence as we move forward and Dr. Smith responded yes, as any good educational institution monitors and adjusts.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked about bullet for DEI, the achievement is listed as climate survey.

Dr. Smith responded that we are not sure what will come out of the climate survey but presumes there will be some disparity in belonging to community. He is hesitant to connect that goal to this target.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked about the vision of curriculum documents, can we put dates on these? Mr. Reyes responded that the Curriculum Advisory council will look at what current practices are in place, review current state ed initiatives, look at other models, discuss what will be the best fit for our district.

Dr. Smith provided the board with current enrollment numbers. (See Supplemental Minutes). He stated that the first thing to caution is that the numbers are still influx. Official enrollment numbers will come on BEDS day. Dr. Smith provided the Board with an update on the strategic planning process. The consultants have identified benchmark comparison schools to compare JD against and set as targets. These schools are identified based on enrollment, combined wealth ratios and graduation rates. The experts are putting together a program report, an analysis of our data against those schools. On September 16, the district staff will be gathered throughout the day as data is collected on the perception of the district. A survey will be available on September 16th which will be available in many different languages. The Board will meet as a focus group on September 16th at 5:45 p.m. before the Board Meeting. Dr. Smith updated the Board with upcoming events.

Board President's Report

Mrs. Petrosillo commented that the welcome back teachers' event was on Tuesday was wonderful. It took place in the gym which was very bright. She thanked the Board members that attended. She said they had a great lunch which was catered by the JDFA. She reported that she spoke on inclusion that day, about belonging. She is happy to share with anyone who is interested. She reminded the Board to read the OnBoard articles as there many good articles that apply. She also noted that she gets asked about Shoppingtown Mall all the time. There is an excellent article in the Town of DeWitt flyer, written by the Town of DeWitt Supervisor, Ed Michalenko. That article will be linked on our website.

Unfinished and Continuing Business

Mrs. DeForest commended the Buildings and Grounds Department for all their hard work with all the construction during the summer. She also commended Mr. Goodson as he opened the fall season sports with the meeting. She said it was a great meeting which included student athletes,

And expectations, what's important, and tying the work to the Positivity Project. She also said that it was nice to see a homecoming game that was another sport, girl's volleyball. She congratulate the girls JV and Varsity for beating Oswego.

Mr. Souser- commented that he has heard from families that cub scouts are no longer available to convene in schools. This has crushed the number of participants in scouts. They are down to 6 from about 30. They are no longer associated with school, so there is a division in perception. Dr. Smith responded that was part of the district safety plan last year, relocating all events to the high school.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz commended all students for attending the Board Meeting.

Community Comment Time #2

Will Guisbond commented that Max Mimaroglu is currently in Washington, DC as part of The Senate page program. He asked Will to pass out packets on Student Involvement in Government. Will distributed to Board members.

Gabriella Kielbasinski commented about an Equity Audit and that she felt it is urgent for the district.

Christine Bialy-Viau commented on the lack of acceptable automatic doors at the Middle School and how it limits students' independence.

Michelle Kielbasinski commented on the Equity Audit and said we should not look at it as an accusation but use it to identify where we need work.

Christiana Semabia commented on DEI, asked if we understand what the terminology means. She also questioned who will be on the council.

At 9:02 p.m. Mrs. James Murad moved and Mrs. DeForest seconded the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Decker
Clerk of the Board