

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 2020 - Via Zoom Meeting**

| MEMBERS PRESENT | MEMBERS ABSENT | ADMINISTRATION PRESENT |
|---|-----------------------|---|
| Dr. Archer Dr. Corcoran Mrs. DeForest Mr. Gross Mr. Leach Mrs. James-Murad Mrs. Rhodes Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz Mrs. Woodcock Dettor | | Dr. Smith, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Decker, School Business Administrator Mr. Reyes, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Franz, Assistant Superintendent |

Mrs. Rhodes called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

**Presentation - 2019/2020 External Audit Report,
Grossman St. Amour**

Mark Ciaralli, CPA and Jaimie Galante, CPA presented the 2019-2020 independent audit report to the Board of Education. (See Supplemental Minutes). The auditors expressed an unmodified opinion with no weaknesses noted and no major issues. The district has complied with all ethics requirements. There was one adjustment proposed and accepted. Both Mark and Jaimie said that this district does a great job, which starts at the top with Mr. Decker and Dr. Smith and that the team did a great job getting them everything they needed. Mark said the District is in a stable financial position and thanked Mr. Decker, Jean Carter and the business office for the help in getting the audit completed remotely.

Mr. Decker thanked Mark and Jaimie.

Community Comment Time

There were no comments.

**Approve Minutes of Board of Education Meetings,
September 10, 2020 and September 14, 2020**

Mr. Gross moved and Mrs. James Murad seconded the approval of the minutes of the Board of Education meetings of September 10, 2020 and September 14, 2020, as amended.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked Dr. Smith if he has seen any need to increase staff with the remote learning and Dr. Smith responded that teaching assistants have been added at the elementary levels on a trial basis to help the kindergarten and first grade teachers. He said we need to continue to support the kids and staff as best as possible.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

INSTRUCTIONAL

| Name and position | Location | <u>Appointments</u> Annual Salary | Cert | Effective |
|---|-----------------|--|-----------------------|------------------|
| Laura C. Williams Spanish Teacher Regular Sub Replacing H. Cline | HS | \$25,641.96 (B+M-30) (prorated) | Perm. Spanish 7-12 | 9/14/20-1/29/21 |

Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2020-2021

Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School

| Name | Assignment | Stipend |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| John Barlow | Student Council 7/8 Advisor | \$882 |
| Amy Bissetta | Student Council 7/8 Advisor | \$865 |
| CarolLynn Boice | Student Council 5/6 Advisor | \$919 |
| Lisa Kerwin | Student Council 5/6 Advisor | \$882 |
| Melissa Quinn | Student Council 5/6 Advisor | \$1,020 |
| Kari Sebast | Student Council 7/8 Advisor | \$1,001 |
| Amy Spitzer | Bus Supervision AM | \$1,158 |
| Amy Spitzer | Student Council 7/8 Advisor | \$901 |
| Kurt Sweeney | Student Council 5/6 Advisor | \$882 |
| Dan Vinette | Yearbook Advisor | \$2,017 |

Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2020-2021

Jamesville-DeWitt High School

| Name | Assignment | Stipend |
|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Solace Amankwah | French Honor Society Advisor | \$1,020 |
| Amy Boettger | Junior Class Advisor | \$2,731 |
| Laura Bond | National Honor Society Advisor | \$1,232 |
| Leo Brown | Mock Trial Advisor | \$1,821 |
| Maria DeJesus | Spanish Club Advisor | \$1,033 |
| Diane Ennis | National Honor Society Advisor | \$1,311 |
| Clete Gualtieri | Hole in the Wall Club | \$1,796 |
| Will Hartley | Bus Supervision AM | \$1,158 |
| Will Hartley | Freshman Class Advisor | \$1,861 |
| Michael Keenan | Science Olympiad Advisor | \$2,791 |
| Michael Keenan | Senior Class Advisor | \$3,876 |
| Lauren Ludovico | French Club Advisor | \$939 |
| Meghan McGee | Student Council Advisor | \$3,876 |
| Melissa Moore | AXCO Advisor | \$1,796 |
| Melissa Moore | SADD Club Advisor | \$1,861 |
| Connie Myers | High School Yearbook Advisor | \$3,152 |
| Connie Myers | Rambunctious Advisor | \$901 |
| Andrea Ninestein | Math Team Advisor | \$756 |
| Donna Oppedisano | Sophomore Class Advisor | \$1,643 |
| Donna Oppedisano | MUN/Political Affairs Advisor | \$3,793 |
| Matthew Phillips | Rampage Advisor | \$3,216 |
| Lori Pratt | Bus Supervision AM | \$1,158 |

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| Sabrina Scott | UMOJA Advisor | \$1,513 |
| Linda Slade | Spanish Honor Society Advisor | \$882 |
| Larry Stroh | Science Olympiad Advisor | \$2,791 |
| Larry Stroh | High School Yearbook Advisor | \$3,496 |
| Erin Sullivan | Math Team Advisor | \$805 |
| Lisa Troubetaris | Key Club Advisor | \$2,481 |
| Kristine Wisniewski | International Club Advisor | \$1,673 |
| Vitaliy Yanchuk | MUN/Political Affairs Club Advisor | \$3,283 |

Change in Status

| Name and position | Location | Change | Effective |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Maria DeJesus Spanish Teacher | High School | Additional Class - \$14,172 | 9/1/20-6/25/21 |
| Linda Slade Spanish Teacher | High School | Additional Class - \$13,067 | 9/1/20-6/25/21 |

Request for Leave

| Name and position | Location | Type of Leave | Effective |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Jennifer Ogata Teaching Asst. | MS | FMLA | 9/8/20-12/1/20 |
| Courtney Farranto Counselor | MS | FMLA | 10/23/20-1/4/21 |
| Katelin Giorno Math Teacher | MS | Unpaid | 10/1/20- 6/25/21 |

Resignation

| Name and position | Location | Effective |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Sophia King Reg. Substitute – English | HS | 10/9/20 |

NONINSTRUCTIONAL

Appointments

| Name and position | Location | Salary | Effective |
|---|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| Amber Hyatt Full-time Teacher Aide Replacing K. Durkin (1 year leave) | JES | \$11.80/hr. | 10/6/20 |
| Theresa Quinn Substitute Food Service Worker | Cafeteria | \$12.50/hr. | 10/6/20 |
| Celeste Willey Sub Custodian | Custodial Dept. | \$12.50/hr. | 10/6/20 |

Request for Leave

| Name and position | Location | Type of Leave | Effective |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Lindsay Amidon Teacher Aide | MS | FMLEA | 9/16/20-12/23/20 |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------|------------------|
| Patrick McCarthy Bus Driver | Transp. | FMLEA | 9/11/20-10/30/20 |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------|------------------|

| Name and position | Location | <u>Resignation</u> | Effective |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| Lisa Banac Teacher Aide | JES | | 11/6/20 |
| Ashley Halbritter Teacher Aide | JES | | 9/1/20 |
| Contessa Sepulveda Food Service Worker | Cafeteria | | 9/1/20 |

Mrs. James Murad moved and Mrs. DeForest seconded the approval of the Superintendent’s Personnel Recommendations.

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

**Approve Bond Resolution for Improvements to
School District Buildings and Facilities**

WHEREAS, at a special district meeting of the Jamesville-DeWitt Central School District, Onondaga County, New York (the “School District”), duly called, held and conducted on December 17, 2019, the duly qualified voters of the School District approved a proposition authorizing the renovation, reconstruction, improvement, rehabilitation, repair, furnishing or equipping the Tecumseh Elementary School, Moses DeWitt Elementary School, Jamesville Elementary School, Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School, Jamesville-DeWitt High School and District Bus Garage, including the renovation and reconstruction of building exteriors and interiors, refurbishment of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, grading or improvement of the sites and the acquisition of original furnishings, equipment, machinery and apparatus required for the purposes for which such buildings, facilities and improvements are to be used at a total estimated maximum cost not to exceed \$33,000,000; to withdraw \$500,000 from the School District’s existing Capital Reserve Fund to pay a portion of said costs and to raise the sum of \$32,500,000 by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the School District to be collected in annual installments as provided in Section 416 of the Education law, which tax may be offset by New York State aid available therefore; and

WHEREAS, all conditions precedent to the financing of the capital projects described above, including compliance with the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, have been performed; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to provide for the financing of such capital projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Jamesville-DeWitt Central School District, Onondaga County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The renovation, reconstruction, improvement, rehabilitation, repair, furnishing or equipping the Tecumseh Elementary School, Moses DeWitt Elementary School, Jamesville Elementary School, Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School, Jamesville-DeWitt High School and District Bus Garage,

including the renovation and reconstruction of building exteriors and interiors, refurbishment of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, grading or improvement of the sites and the acquisition of original furnishings, equipment, machinery and apparatus required for the purposes for which such buildings, facilities and improvements are to be used is hereby authorized at a total estimated maximum cost not to exceed \$33,000,000.

Section 2. The plan for the financing of such estimated maximum cost shall consist of the following

(a) the issuance of up to \$32,500,000 serial bonds of the School District (the “Bonds”), which are hereby authorized pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law; and

(b) the appropriation and expenditure of \$500,000 from the School District’s existing Capital Reserve Fund.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid objects or purposes is thirty (30) years pursuant to subdivision 97 of paragraph (a) of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of this resolution and of the Local Finance Law, and pursuant to the provisions of Sections 21.00, 30.00, 50.00 and 56.00 to 63.00, inclusive, of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the Bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, and the power to prescribe the terms, form and contents of the Bonds, and any bond anticipation notes, and the power to sell and deliver the bonds and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds, and the power to issue Bonds providing for substantially level or declining annual debt service, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education (the “President of the Board”), the chief fiscal officer of the School District.

Section 5. The temporary use of available funds of the School District not immediately required for the purpose or purposes for which the same were borrowed, raised or otherwise created, is hereby authorized pursuant to Section 165.10 of the Local Finance Law, for the capital purposes described in Section 1 of this resolution.

Section 6. The reasonably expected source of funds to be used to initially pay for the expenditures authorized by Section 1 of this resolution shall be from the School District’s General Fund (the “General Fund”). It is intended that the School District shall then reimburse expenditures from the General Fund with the proceeds of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized by this resolution and that the interest payable on the Bonds and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds shall be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

Section 7. This resolution is intended to constitute the declaration of the School District’s “official intent” within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 to reimburse the expenditures authorized by this resolution with the proceeds of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized herein. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are reasonably expected to be received, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the objects or purposes described herein.

Section 8. The faith and credit of the School District are hereby irrevocably pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, and any bond anticipation notes issued

in anticipation of the Bonds, and provision shall be made annually in the budget of the School District by appropriation for (a) the amortization and redemption of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes to mature in such year, and (b) the payment of interest to be due and payable in such year.

Section 9. The Bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized to be issued by this Bond Resolution are hereby authorized to be consolidated, at the option of the President of the Board of Education, the Chief Fiscal Officer, with the Bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized by other Bond Resolutions previously or hereafter adopted by the Board of Education for purposes of sale in one or more bond or note issues aggregating an amount not to exceed the amount authorized in such Bond Resolutions. All matters regarding the sale of the Bonds, including the date of the Bonds, the use of electronic bidding, the consolidation of the Bonds and the bond anticipation notes with other issues of the School District and the serial maturities of the Bonds are hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the School District.

Section 10. The Bonds, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds, shall contain the recital of validity prescribed by Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and the Bonds, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds, shall be general obligations of the School District, payable as to both principal and interest by a general tax upon all the real property within the School District without legal or constitutional limit as to rate or amount.

Section 11. The validity of the Bonds or any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale of the Bonds may be contested only if:

- (a) such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which the School District is not authorized to expend money;
- (b) the provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of the publication of this resolution or a summary hereof are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days (20) days after such publication; or
- (c) such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of the State of New York.

Section 12. The President of the Board, as chief fiscal officer of the School District, is hereby authorized to enter into an undertaking for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds from time to time, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale of the Bonds requiring the School District to provide secondary market disclosure as required by U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12.

Section 13. This resolution, or a summary hereof, shall be published in the official newspapers of the School District, together with a notice of the School District Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 14. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mr. Gross moved and Mrs. James Murad seconded the approval of the Resolution for Improvements to School District Buildings and Facilities.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

Approve Bond Resolution for Energy System Improvements

WHEREAS, at a special district meeting of the Jamesville-DeWitt Central School District, Onondaga County, New York (the "School District"), duly called, held and conducted on December 17, 2019, the duly qualified voters of the School District approved a proposition authorizing the renovation, reconstruction, improvement, rehabilitation, repair, furnishing or equipping the Tecumseh Elementary School, Moses DeWitt Elementary School, Jamesville Elementary School, Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School, Jamesville-DeWitt High School and District Bus Garage through the enhancement of the School District's energy services, including, but not limited to, electricity, heating, ventilation, cooling, steam or hot water, involving the installation, maintenance or management of energy systems or equipment to improve the energy efficiency of, or production of, energy in connection with a building or facility at a total estimated maximum cost not to exceed \$3,000,000; and, to raise the sum of \$3,000,000 by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the School District to be collected in annual installments as provided in Section 416 of the Education law, which tax may be offset by New York State aid available therefore; and

WHEREAS, all conditions precedent to the financing of the capital projects described above, including compliance with the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, have been performed; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to provide for the financing of such capital projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Jamesville-DeWitt Central School District, Onondaga County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The renovation, reconstruction, improvement, rehabilitation, repair, furnishing or equipping the Tecumseh Elementary School, Moses DeWitt Elementary School, Jamesville Elementary School, Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School, Jamesville-DeWitt High School and District Bus Garage through the enhancement of the School District's energy services, including, but not limited to, electricity, heating, ventilation, cooling, steam or hot water, involving the installation, maintenance or management of energy systems or equipment to improve the energy efficiency of, or production of, energy in connection with a building or facility is hereby authorized at a total estimated maximum cost not to exceed \$3,000,000.

Section 2. The plan for the financing of such estimated maximum cost shall consist of the issuance of up to \$3,000,000 serial bonds of the School District (the "Bonds"), which are hereby authorized pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid objects or purposes is thirty (30) years pursuant to subdivision 97 of paragraph (a) of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of this resolution and of the Local Finance Law, and pursuant to the provisions of Sections 21.00, 30.00, 50.00 and 56.00 to 63.00, inclusive, of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the Bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, and the power to prescribe the terms, form and contents of the Bonds, and any bond anticipation notes, and the power to sell and deliver the bonds and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds, and the power to issue Bonds providing for substantially level or declining annual debt service, is hereby

delegated to the President of the Board of Education (the “President of the Board”), the chief fiscal officer of the School District.

Section 5. The temporary use of available funds of the School District not immediately required for the purpose or purposes for which the same were borrowed, raised or otherwise created, is hereby authorized pursuant to Section 165.10 of the Local Finance Law, for the capital purposes described in Section 1 of this resolution.

Section 6. The reasonably expected source of funds to be used to initially pay for the expenditures authorized by Section 1 of this resolution shall be from the School District’s General Fund (the “General Fund”). It is intended that the School District shall then reimburse expenditures from the General Fund with the proceeds of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized by this resolution and that the interest payable on the Bonds and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds shall be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

Section 7. This resolution is intended to constitute the declaration of the School District’s “official intent” within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 to reimburse the expenditures authorized by this resolution with the proceeds of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized herein. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are reasonably expected to be received, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the objects or purposes described herein.

Section 8. The faith and credit of the School District are hereby irrevocably pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds, and provision shall be made annually in the budget of the School District by appropriation for (a) the amortization and redemption of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes to mature in such year, and (b) the payment of interest to be due and payable in such year.

Section 9. The Bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized to be issued by this Bond Resolution are hereby authorized to be consolidated, at the option of the President of the Board of Education, the Chief Fiscal Officer, with the Bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized by other Bond Resolutions previously or hereafter adopted by the Board of Education for purposes of sale in one or more bond or note issues aggregating an amount not to exceed the amount authorized in such Bond Resolutions. All matters regarding the sale of the Bonds, including the date of the Bonds, the use of electronic bidding, the consolidation of the Bonds and the bond anticipation notes with other issues of the School District and the serial maturities of the Bonds are hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the School District.

Section 10. The Bonds, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds, shall contain the recital of validity prescribed by Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and the Bonds, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the Bonds, shall be general obligations of the School District, payable as to both principal and interest by a general tax upon all the real property within the School District without legal or constitutional limit as to rate or amount.

Section 11. The validity of the Bonds or any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale of the Bonds may be contested only if:

- (a) such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which the School District is not authorized to expend money;

(b) the provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of the publication of this resolution or a summary hereof are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days (20) days after such publication; or

(c) such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of the State of New York.

Section 12. The President of the Board, as chief fiscal officer of the School District, is hereby authorized to enter into an undertaking for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds from time to time, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale of the Bonds requiring the School District to provide secondary market disclosure as required by U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12.

Section 13. This resolution, or a summary hereof, shall be published in the official newspapers of the School District, together with a notice of the School District Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 14. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Dr. Corcoran moved and Mrs. James Murad seconded the approval of the Bond Resolution for Energy System Improvements.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Approve Resolution Agreement

Dr. Smith explained a Resolution Agreement for a Special Education Complaint where the District has agreed to pay attorney's fees. (See Supplemental Minutes).

Mr. Gross moved and Mrs. DeForest seconded the approval of the Resolution Agreement.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Approve External Audit Report

Dr. Smith and Mr. Decker both thanked Jean Carter, District Treasurer for her dedication and hard work.

Dr. Corcoran moved and Mrs. Woodcock Dettor seconded the motion to approve the External Audit Report.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Approve Change in Board Meeting Calendar

Dr. Smith suggested the scheduled October 19, 2020 Board Meeting be pushed to October 26, 2020 to allow for a vote on the District Safety Plan after the public comment period has ended. The November 2, 2020 meeting will remain the same.

Mrs. DeForest moved and Dr. Corcoran seconded the motion to approve the change to the Board meeting calendar.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Policy Review – First Reading

The following Board Policies were brought to the Board for a First Reading:

- 7240 – [Student Records: Access and Challenge](#)
- 7250 – [Student Privacy, Parental Access to Information, and Administration of Certain Physical Examinations to Minors](#)
- 7340 – [Bus Rules](#)
- 7350 – [Corporal Punishment/Emergency Interventions](#)
- 7360 – [Weapons in School and the Gun-Free Schools Act](#)
- 7410 – [Extracurricular Activities](#)
- 7420 – [Sports and the Athletic Program](#)
- 7430 – [Contests for Students, Student Awards and Scholarships](#)
- 7460 – [Constitutionally Protected Prayer in the Public Schools](#)

Dr. Smith reviewed the following policies:

With regard to Policy 7240, there is a need to ensure that protections are in place when sharing educational records with the juvenile justice system.

With regard to Policy 7410, the first sentence from our previous policy was added to reflect the Board considers Extra Curricular Activities to be valuable.

With regard to Policy 7420, language is used from our previous policy as the language from the Policy Service did not reflect our current practices. Regarding student athletic injuries, a sentence was added to reflect the ability of our athletic trainer to decide whether an athlete can play or practice. Language was tailored around the supervision of student athletes to decrease the exposure of the school district.

Mrs. Rhodes asked about financial equity for participation related to the athletic policy and the extra-curricular policy. She wanted to know if there is protection for students who might need financial assistance or is that more appropriate for the procedures in those two situations.

Mrs. James said we did address this in the fundraising policy, that no student would be denied participation if they could not fundraise. Mrs. Rhodes asked if we could refer to the fundraising policy within the athletic policy and extra-curricular policy for guidance.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated that the language does not support what is being asked about and that previously it was addressed within the permission slip. The permission slip said that no student would be excluded due to financial inability. She said if the Policy Committee agrees, it should be brought back, as it is not explicitly covered in the fundraising policy.

Policy Review – Second Reading

The following Board Policies were brought back for a Second Reading:

- 7120 – [Age of Entrance](#)

- 7121 – [Diagnostic Screening of Students](#)
- 7130 – [Entitlement to Attend – Age and Residency](#)
- 7131 – [Education of Students in Temporary Housing](#)
- 7132 – [Non-Resident Students](#)
- 7133 – [Education of Students in Foster Care](#)
- 7140 – [School Census](#)

Mr. Gross moved and Dr. Corcoran seconded the approval of Policies 7120, 7121, 7130, 7131, 7132, 7133, 7140.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Potential Consideration for Future Meetings

Mrs. Rhodes explained the running list of topics that have been brought forward for further discussion. She indicated she would resend the list and highlight the prioritized topics.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz said she has heard of Board presentations and scheduled reviews which outlines what needs to be reviewed throughout the year by the Board. She wanted to know if there is something that outlines a rotation of these topics two months prior to being reviewed by the Board.

Dr. Smith stated that it would be nice to synthesize the yearly work the Board does. Mrs. DeForest is putting together a handbook and with the use of previous agendas, we could put together a calendar into place.

Mrs. Rhodes said the handbook is a guidance on how the Board works during the course of the year.

Mrs. DeForest stated she is looking at other Board handbooks and has put together a draft table of contents that should be reviewed at a future meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Smith thanked the students, staff and parents that participated in the recent Thoughtexchange survey that focused on what is and what is not working with our hybrid model of learning. He said we had excellent participation and that the District has begun to analyze the data to help with improvements going forward. He shared some quick takeaways, some of which include families looking for more synchronous learning opportunities and weekly plans. From the staff, the data indicates that teachers are under a tremendous amount of pressure trying to meet the needs of all students. He said it is our responsibility to help them find ways to meet the needs of students and maintain a safe working environment. Dr. Smith stressed to the Board and the public that we are asking the staff to do is unprecedented and everyone is trying to do the best they can. He thanked the families and wanted them to know we are fully committed to making sure all students and staff stay healthy and continue to learn and grow.

Dr. Smith shared his goals for the 2020-2021 school year which are: maintain operations during the coronavirus pandemic, culturally responsive curriculum, culturally responsive sustaining education framework, improve communication with community and staff and to develop a new District Safety Plan. (See Supplemental Minutes).

Mrs. Rhodes asked if there was a scope of recommendations for next steps in Goal #2. Dr. Smith stated he is looking forward to the work of the Curriculum Council as they go through the curriculum

audit. He said that as a result of that audit we should have some recommendations of how to make our curriculum more culturally responsive and the next steps that will need to take place.

Mrs. Rhodes asked about the communications goal, and the method of evaluation of social media posts as well as which platforms are being used. Dr. Smith responded that our communications director has some access to social media posts as well as the Board of Education, and we get feedback regarding the posts made and the success of programs evaluated through the social media. Mrs. Rhodes asked if it was anecdotal monitoring and Dr. Smith said that is will be.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked if there was a way to tie these opportunities to measurements in the school. She said she was concerned about the first one, for instance, our ability to stay open might not be in our control. There should be some other measurement we can assign.

Mr. Gross suggested more of a focus on continuing the educational process given the circumstances beyond our control, regardless of how it happens.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated that she is concerned that the measurement is the activity. She said there is a disconnect if we are only assessing our success because there was activity. We should be assessing success based on reaching the goal. She said we need a real measurement.

Dr. Smith stated that the recommendations of the curriculum audit may not be implemented this year. He said, we first need to train the curriculum council in the culturally responsive sustaining education framework and then train them in the curriculum audit process. He said it is important to give them the audit process and then have them make recommendations for change.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked what it means that there are concerns about the sustainability of the work.

Dr. Smith responded that the district has taken on achievement and opportunity gaps in a number of different ways and this work has been sidetracked by other things that have hindered progress. He said that he believes education is a niche that is littered with initiatives and as a whole, we need to maintain a focus on the strategic plan and not be distracted.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated she would love to see the a goal more focused and that equity, diversity and inclusion of our students is not a fad, it is their experience as individuals and that is the part that needs to be imparted to our staff.

Mrs. DeForest moved and Dr. Corcoran seconded the motion to approve the Superintendent's Goals for 2020-2021.

Motion carried (8-1-0). Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz opposed. She stated that she would like to see the Goals amended per the discussion.

Dr. Smith continued his report with an update on the COVID virus and positive cases among the buildings. He said the most visible of the cases was the closing at the middle school for the week. He said that despite the fact that there were only two positive cases, as a result of the students being in school, there were a number of staff and students that needed to be quarantined. Some staff teach across grade levels, which made filling substitute positions extremely difficult. Dr. Smith stated that the quarantine length was not at the discretion of the school district but rather the Department of Health.

Dr. Smith updated the Board and public on District Calendar. He said November 3, which is Election Day, was originally a Staff Development Day. In order to prepare staff for the re-opening of school, that Staff Development Day was moved to the beginning of school. He said that due to the number of visitors to the school on Election Day, both Tecumseh and the High School, which are both polling locations, will be fully remote on November 3rd. All other buildings will operate as normal. The announcement will go out to the community tomorrow.

Dr. Smith shared that Max Mimaroglu, J-D High School Senior, was elected by the student body, as the next student representative to the Board of Education. He will take his oath on October 26.

Dr. Smith stated that starting this week, the special area classes at the elementary buildings will be moving back to their respective spaces. He said that since the start of the year, the special area teachers have been traveling to the general education classrooms and we believe those classes can relocate back to their rooms and still follow the guidelines by the DOH and the New York State Department of Education. He explained how this can be done safely with cleaning between classes, no sharing of materials and organization of traffic flow. This change will allow for a better experience for our students and will allow teachers to do planning in their rooms.

Board President's Report

Mrs. Rhodes began her report saying that the reopening of schools remains the top priority and thanked the students, parents and teachers for learning new technologies, and the nurses, administrators and the staff for all the work that is being done.

Mrs. Rhodes reminded the Board members about the upcoming NYSSBA Annual Conference. She said it is a completely virtual format this year and members should reach out to Tish for registration. She said there are pros and cons to the virtual format but it is a great opportunity as you can attend at your own time.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that both she and Mrs. DeForest attended Board Officer Academy which reviewed the rules and responsibilities as well as leading with a vision. She said that Mrs. DeForest has compiled detailed notes and will share with the Board. She shared that two books were recommended, "The Trust Edge" and "Eight Pillars of Trust". She said that we should consider reading these as a Board later this year.

Mrs. Rhodes said we are rounding out the end of the first quarter of Board service and she will be reaching out to each member to check in. Also, looking to the future, she is hoping to leverage NYSSBA and their expertise for the next Board retreat. In addition, we will be talking about the Board evaluation process as the Board is required to do an annual self-evaluation.

Mrs. DeForest said the Board Officer Academy was phenomenal and the only down part is that it couldn't be done in person. She said that some highlights were the books, retreats and working in unity, which doesn't necessarily mean we all agree but all know we are focused on the same things which is our District Mission and Vision. She said although it won't be the same as last year, she definitely recommends the conference.

Unfinished and Continuing Business

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked if there have been any orders from the Governor during COVID that change any of our deadlines for submissions for reporting.

Mr. Decker stated that there has been no reprieve at all and that the District Office staff has been fantastic with everything being submitted on time. He is very proud of his staff and their dedication to getting things done.

Mrs. Rhodes reminded the Board that the date of the next meeting is October 26th at which time we will be voting on the District Safety Plan.

At 8:38 p.m., Dr. Corcoran moved and Mrs. Woodcock Dettor seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Decker
Clerk of the Board

BOARD APPROVED: 10/26/20