

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
November 16, 2020 - Via Zoom Meeting

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

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

Red Ram Recognition

Mrs. Rhodes and the Board of Education recognized and honored the fall coaches and athletes. She congratulated them on their efforts and their ability to do so safely. Also, Mrs. Rhodes shared that this week is American Education Week and she offered a special recognition and thank you to all the educational support professionals, including clerical, custodial/maintenance, food service and teacher aides. Mrs. Rhodes welcomed suggestions for recognition.

Community Comment Time

There were no comments.

Approve Minutes of Board of Education Meeting, November 2, 2020

Dr. Corcoran moved and Mrs. James Murad seconded the approval of the minutes of the Board of Education meeting of November 2, 2020.

Motion carried (9 -0-0).

Accept Internal Claims Auditor Reports

Mrs. DeForest moved and Mr. Gross seconded the acceptance of the Internal Claims Auditor Reports.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz noted that there was a typo on the date on the Internal Claims Auditor Report.

Accept the Recommendations of the CPSE & CSE

Mr. Gross moved and Mrs. James Murad seconded the acceptance of the Recommendations of the CPSE & CSE from

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations

Mrs. James Murad moved and Mrs. DeForest seconded the motion to approve the Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations as follows:

INSTRUCTIONAL

Name and position	Location	<u>Change in Status</u>	Effective
Laurie Fabian	Middle School	Additional Class - (\$7,210)	9/8/20-1/29/21

Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2020-2021

Coaching – Winter Season

Name	Assignment	Stipend
Alanna Jones*	Varsity Head Cheerleading Coach	\$4,034

*Pending completion of the Certification Process

Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2020-2021

Coaching – Fall - 2 Season

Name	Assignment	Stipend
Alanna Jones*	Varsity Head Cheerleading Coach	\$4,034

*Pending completion of the Certification Process

Request for Retirement

Name and position	Location	Effective
Julie Wagner Teaching Assistant	MS	11/28/20

NONINSTRUCTIONAL

Name and position	Location	<u>Appointments</u>	Effective
Alfredo Cordero Custodial Substitute	Custodial Dept.	\$12.50/hr.	11/17/20

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

Approve Resolution to Award Capital Outlay Project to the Lowest Bidder

Mrs. Rhodes read questions that Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz sent prior to the meeting with regard to the bids received for the Capital Outlay Project. Questions included who were the other bidders, what were their bids, where were these advertised, have we used Zero Draft before and when are they slated to start and complete the work.

Mr. Decker stated that there were five bidders, with a base bid and an alternate bid. He said the maximum amount is \$100,000 and shared the bidders and their bids. Mr. Decker stated the bids are for 11 doors and hardware at the high school. He said Zero Draft was the lowest responsible bidder and research was done to see that they have the capacity to complete the work. He said that the architects, Ashley

McGraw, confirmed this information. Zero Draft has been used as a subcontractor so they are familiar with our district. The work will start after the Board approves the Resolution. Dr. Smith will sign the contract tomorrow and work will be started as soon as possible.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked if we have a guarantee that it will be completed by the end of summer and Mr. Decker responded, no there is never a guarantee.

Mr. Leach asked for clarification between base bids and alternate bids. Mr. Decker explained that the base bid was for eight doors and three doors were listed as alternates to ensure that the base bids did not exceed \$100,000. It is presented this way so that we can get good pricing and proceed.

Mr. Leach asked how many bidders are we required to get and Mr. Decker responded one. He said the only legal requirements are that we need to place a legal notice in the newspaper and take the lowest, responsible bidder. He explained that we do this in conjunction with Ashley McGraw and LeChase Construction.

Mrs. Rhodes asked what will we do to ensure there are not quality issues such as have occurred in the past. Mr. Decker responded that there is a “punch list” at the end of the job and typically we retain five to ten percent of the payments until the architect and construction manager sign off on the work. Mrs. Rhodes asked if there is a warranty on the work and Mr. Decker said that there is a warranty but we don’t want the warranty to begin until the work is done correctly.

Mrs. Rhodes asked if the doors are handicap accessible. Mr. Decker said they are not designed to be handicap accessible.

Mr. Gross moved and Mrs. James Murad seconded the approval of the Resolution to Award the Capital Outlay Project to the Lowest Bidder. (See Supplemental Minutes).

**JAMESVILLE-DEWITT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Resolution

The Board of Education hereby resolves, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mr. Gross and seconded by James Murad, to approve the resolution below:

RESOLVED, that Zerodraft of CNY Inc. is hereby recognized as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for scope of work pertaining to the 2020-2021 Capital Outlay Project and the Board President, Wendy Rhodes, is hereby authorized, on behalf of the School District, to enter into an agreement with Zerodraft of CNY for \$99,950 in such form as is acceptable to the Superintendent and Counsel.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

Policy Review – First Reading

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

- 7510 – [School Health Services](#)
- 7511 – [Immunization of Students](#)
- 7512 – [Student Physicals](#)
- 7513 – [Medication and Personal Care Items](#)
- 7514 – [Student Health Records](#)
- 7520 – [Accidents and Medical Emergencies](#)
- 7521 – [Students With Life-Threatening Health Conditions](#)
- 7522 – [Concussion Management](#)
- 7530 – [Child Abuse and Maltreatment](#)
- 7540 – [Suicide Prevention and Abuse](#)

Mr. Gross asked about one of the policies which references the homeless coordinator. Mr. Reyes indicated that is his responsibility. Mr. Gross asked about the McKinney Vento liaison and Mr. Reyes indicated that is his responsibility, as it is the same thing.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz said it is important to add the McKinney-Vento liaison to the list of personnel on the website. She said this liaison should be added to that list but the policy does not need to be updated. Both Dr. Archer and Mrs. James Murad agreed.

Mr. Gross stated that with regard to Policy # 7511, he didn't see where it was listed which immunizations were required. He wanted to know if there was a reference list in State Law.

Dr. Archer stated that currently immunizations changed because of COVID, the deadline was extended. She said we can probably expect more changes due to COVID.

Mrs. James Murad responded the policy should be more general and reference the regulations.

Mr. Gross moved and Dr. Corcoran seconded the motion to approve policies 7510, 7511, 7512, 7513, 7514, 7520, 7521, 7522, 7530, and 7540.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Potential Consideration for Future Meetings

Mrs. Rhodes reviewed the list of topics which she has shared with the Board members. She said the timeline has been reviewed with Dr. Smith and Mrs. DeForest. She shared that Max has suggested student engagement and sustainability. She asked Max to come to the Board at an upcoming meeting and share the tools he would use to facilitate feedback from students. Max stated that he has been in touch with students and discussed how this might be facilitated as well as how issues will be brought to the Board. Mrs. Rhodes said she will put this on the agenda in December or January. With regard to sustainability and electric busses, as part of the Capital Project, an electric charging station that will be suitable for maintenance vehicles is planned for the 2022 school year. She said an action item that the Board could work on is converting some or all of our maintenance vehicles. She said she would be putting that on the Agenda at the beginning of next year and would like to put together a committee

that might include administration, students, Max and another Board member, as well as a liaison from the Facilities Committee, possibly Dr. Corcoran.

Dr. Corcoran said they had started this work last year, meeting with the Sierra Club. She said they had a lot of great ideas and were willing to help with grants, and who to talk to about funding. Mrs. Rhodes said she would leave this item with Dr. Corcoran, Mr. Decker and Max to move forward with.

Mrs. Rhodes addressed the concept of having a Board member who would be a conduit of information from the NYSSBA, specifically related to legislative efforts. Dr. Corcoran asked what the goal of that would be. Mrs. Rhodes responded that initially, the concept was to be better at budgeting but it is also to be an advocate for legislation that affects education.

Mrs. Rhodes said the Master Teacher Program review, Board of Education liaisons and long term effects of COVID on education are all important topics. She said these topics will be addressed in the spring, along with a long term topic, elementary space constraints. Mrs. Rhodes also said she agreed with Mr. Gross' comments that the school and the Town work together and will bring this back to the Board when we know better what it will look like. Max commented that it would be beneficial to speak with the Town when discussing sustainability.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated that with regard to the liaison with the state, the Board members are the only advocates for the school district and that if the Board does not advocate, nobody else will. She said it is important for all Board members to be involved. Mrs. Rhodes asked for any Board member interested in spearheading this to contact her.

Max stated that he has many contacts with the state senate and can reach out to them if needed for a presentation for the Board.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Smith's report focused on COVID-19 and the impact of the yellow zone designation on the school district. He said that when a school is in a yellow zone, 20% of in person students, staff and teachers must be tested for at least two weeks or for as long as a school is in that yellow zone. He shared the logistics of testing including where the testing would take place and getting permission from parents to have children tested. Dr. Smith stated the DOH is providing non-invasive testing kits at no cost to schools, which will give results in minutes. Dr. Smith explained that we are not presently in a yellow zone but we are experiencing an increase in infections rates. He said that the Middle School will learn remotely for the rest of the week, with the exception of the 12:1:4 program, due to staffing issues. Dr. Smith said that in speaking with other area Superintendents, they are facing similar challenges. Dr. Smith shared a letter that will be sent out to the community tomorrow, that he put together in conjunction with Dr. Mitchell Brody, to encourage our families to be safe. He thanked Dr. Brody for reaching out and authoring the letter.

Mr. Leach asked what the criteria is for a yellow-zone, how close are we and if we become one, do we receive assistance from the state. Dr. Smith responded that he does not have the specific metrics, but an outline of reasons (increased viral spread, new cases, etc.) but not a dashboard to indicate if or when we will be identified as a yellow zone. Dr. Smith said the state provides help to the local DOH and they will reach out to the District.

Mr. Leach asked if we are learning from the Districts surrounding us as they are already have set up their testing. Dr. Smith responded that every Wednesday he meets with the Superintendents in

Onondaga, Cortland and Madison County, and one of the standing items on the agenda is COVID-19 and the reactions and responses. He said that at the upcoming meeting he will get more information, as some schools will have done the testing. Dr. Smith emphasized the partnership the School District has with Dr. Gupta and her staff at the Department of Health and the County Executive and his office. He said they have provided tremendous support to the district.

Max asked if the 20% is the in-person population and Dr. Smith responded yes. Max shared that the County is offering tests to certain groups of people and because he works in a restaurant, he was able to sign up for a test. He said it was very easy to do.

Mr. Gross shared that he spoke with a school board member from another county and wanted to recognize that Onondaga County has “stepped up” as the school district in another county has plans to go remote as soon as they go into a yellow zone.

Dr. Archer provided clarification on how the 20% required to test is calculated.

Mr. Gross said, to date, he has had no stories of COVID spreading in schools. Dr. Smith responded that that the information he is getting from both Dr. Gupta’s office and the County Executive’s office is that the schools are doing a great job of preventing the illness from spreading in school.

Dr. Corcoran asked what the next steps would be for recruiting 20% of students if we go to a yellow zone. Dr. Smith said that affected school districts in the area have put together an announcement and a survey asking if families are willing to participate. He said that other Superintendents have reported 75% to 80% percent of their districts willing to be tested. He said that we will be sending out similar information.

Lastly, Dr. Smith said we need to be thinking about our actions and leading by example in order to keep in person learning going.

Mrs. Rhodes echoed Dr. Smith’s comments and said that as leaders in the community we can help stop the spread of COVID-19, and that need to be safe and make good choices.

Dr. Smith said he has a “save the date” email that will be going out to remind the community. He said we will use the forum as an opportunity to provide an update on the Strategic Plan and specific work being done.

Board President’s Report

Mrs. Rhodes highlighted the Public Forum coming upon November 30th. She shared that Mr. Franz and Mr. Reyes provided context around what the Forum will look like focusing on the Strategic Plan and the public rollout.

Dr. Smith said he has a “save the date” email that will be going out to remind the community and that we will use the forum to provide an update on our actions steps to achieve the goals and to provide a space for feedback.

Mrs. Rhodes asked for everyone to please wear a mask, stay outside and follow social distancing to keep yourself and others safe.

Unfinished and Continuing Business

Dr. Corcoran shared that the Facilities Committee met a few weeks ago to talk about the Capital Project. She said they met with the architects at Ashley McGraw and that everything is moving forward and going out for bid in spring. The new members of the Committee were updated with the plans.

Mrs. Rhodes asked the members of the Finance Committee to stay on the Zoom to set up next meeting.

At 8:02 p.m., Mr. Gross moved and Dr. Corcoran seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Decker
Clerk of the Board

BOARD APPROVED: 12/7/20