

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – December 2, 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
William Guisbond

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. at in the Cafeteria of Jamesville Elementary School.

Others in attendance were Jacqueline Kadish, Sonia Kraugh, Nick Signorelli, Rachel Bush, Ann Wright, Trey Romano, Rachel Wagner and Michael Fitzpatrick.

Capital Project Presentation

Dr. Smith shared a presentation outlining the specifics of the Capital Project that will be voted on by District residents on December 17, 2019. He reviewed the propositions, the scope of the project at each location, the cost of the project and the timeline.

Presentation, Jamesville Elementary School Principal, Marcy Baker

Mrs. Baker welcomed everyone and gave the Board a snapshot of what has been going on throughout the year. She highlighted the work of the Building Level Team and the Character Education Program. She spoke about the Pupil Service Team and how they work to support students with academic and behavior needs. She spoke about the PTA being supportive of the school and how they are helping connect with “where we are”. Mrs. Baker spoke about Student Behavior and Social Emotional Learning, highlighting the dedication of her staff, the school psychologist and social worker who all work together to support students. She talked about the Brain Break Room and how it is lowering stress and anxiety for students. Lastly, Mrs. Baker spoke about her goals for the school, highlighting the work that will be taking place, with support from BOCES, to inform teachers on trauma informed care, brain architecture and restorative practices.

Dr. Corcoran asked if the PST only focuses on struggling students. She asked about support for students at a higher level. Mrs. Baker responded that the Team is focused primarily on

struggling students but the teachers are sharing ideas for enrichment through their Together Towards Tomorrow meetings.

Mrs. Rhodes asked if the work being done at Jamesville Elementary to support students' social and emotional well-being will be replicated in other schools. Dr. Smith responded that this is a test model. Mrs. Baker responded that Kelly Burke, an early childhood advocate from BOCES, said they prefer to do one school at a time.

Mrs. Woodcock Dettor asked about the difference in governance of the PTG and PTA. Mrs. Baker responded the PTG pays its own insurance and it is not tax exempt. The PTA needs 30 members, who all pay \$4, and they are covered for insurance and they are tax exempt.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked what are the best things to come from the CTD model. Mrs. Baker shared an observation she made during a recent visit to a classroom with a special education teacher teaching alongside a general education teacher. She stated that if she did not actually know, she would not be able to distinguish the special education students. She said that students say "I love that I don't have to leave my classroom". Students are loving that piece and parents are thrilled.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked if there was anything teachers are asking for to support them in the process. Mrs. Baker responded, more training in specially designed instruction and more planning time together. She also stated that there is a specific grade level that we might want to incorporate into two CTD rooms next year school year.

Community Comment Time #1

There were no comments.

Minutes of November 18, 2019 Meeting

Mrs. Woodcock Dettor moved and Dr. Corcoran seconded the approval of the Minutes of the November 18, 2019 meeting as amended.

Motion carried (8-0-1). Mr. Souser abstained.

Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations

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

NONINSTRUCTIONAL

Name and position	Location	<u>Change in Status</u> Change	Effective
Danielle Simon Teacher's Aide F/T position replacing P/T L. Saraceni & P/T D. Simone	JES	P/T to F/T	12/3/19

Name and position	Location	<u>Retirement</u>	Effective
Gail Alexander Food Service Worker	MS		11/30/19

Addendum – Personnel Changes – December 2, 2019

INSTRUCTIONAL

Name and position	Location	<u>Appointments</u> Annual Salary	Cert.	Effective
Candace Johnson Assistant Principal Replacing W. Dowdell Probationary Appointment (4 year)	H.S.		Perm. School Social Worker	1/2/2020

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

Policy Review - First Reading

There are eight policies that came to the Board for a first reading. There are recommendations for modifications. The following Policies were discussed as a first reading:

- [Board Policy 1320 – Nomination and Election of Board Officers and Duties of the President and Vice President](#)
- [Board Policy 1410 – Policy and Administrative Regulations](#)
- [Board Policy 1510 – Regular Board Meetings and Rules \(Quorum and Parliamentary Procedure\)](#)
- [Board Policy 1520 – Special Meetings of the Board](#)
- [Board Policy 1530 – Minutes](#)
- [Board Policy 1540 – Executive Sessions](#)
- [Board Policy 1610 – Annual District Meeting and Election/Budget Vote](#)
- [Board Policy 1611 – Business of the Annual District Election](#)

The following Policies were brought back for a second reading:

- [Board Policy 1332 – Duties of the District Treasurer](#)
- [Board Policy 1333 – Duties of the Tax Collector](#)

- [Board Policy 1334 – Duties of the External \(Independent Auditor\)](#)
- [Board Policy 1335 – Appointment and Duties of the Claims Auditor](#)
- [Board Policy 1336 – Duties of the Extra Classroom Activity Fund Central Treasurer and Faculty Advisor](#)
- [Board Policy 1337 – Duties of the School Attorney](#)
- [Board Policy 1338 – Duties of the School Physician/Nurse Practitioner](#)
- [Board Policy 1339 – Duties of the Internal Auditor](#)

Regarding #1320:

Mrs. DeForest questioned the extensive language around replacing a Board member but the lack of language around replacing an officer, especially the Vice President should the office become vacant during the year.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated that there is no policy, if a president resigns, the VP takes over until another is elected.

Mrs. James Murad stated it is very detailed in the statute.

Mrs. DeForest asked if we want to be clearer.

Mr. Souser asked what happens if both President and VP resign.

Mrs. Rhodes stated we need to clarify what that means.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz will check with the policy service for a recommendation.

Regarding # 1410:

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated that it is the Superintendent's responsibility to keep the Board up to date on policies that need to be revised.

Regarding # 1510:

Mrs. Petrosillo asked if we can consider using social media as a means to inform the public; can we understand posting to be broad in our practice.

Dr. Smith stated that the expectation is that information is posted, but we should be careful not to call out social media as a particular means to share information. Mrs. Petrosillo and Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz agreed.

Will asked about the existing policy and the listing of specific equipment used to record meetings. Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated that in the new policy this is not specified but it is intended.

Regarding #1520:

Mrs. Petrosillo asked about Special meetings and what makes a meeting special.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz responded that if it is not on our calendar of meetings, it is considered a special meeting.

Mrs. Petrosillo asked if it is necessary to follow the same protocol to call a special meeting as is used for a regular meetings. Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated yes unless they are an executive session meeting.

There was a discussion regarding a member calling for a special meeting and having a clear meaning of how this is handled.

Regarding # 1530:

There was a discussion regarding who “keeps” the minutes, the clerk or his designee. Mrs. Rhodes asked for clarity on the keeping of the minutes. Mrs. Rhodes responded that the policy service interprets that minutes are the responsibility of the clerk. The clerk may allocate the responsibility to anyone they want.

Will asked why the word *district* was in italics and Dr. Smith responded that italics indicate language that can be customized for the district.

Regarding #1610:

Mr. Souser asked about the use of religious versus legal holidays in this policy. He said the district should define religious holidays or use legal holiday. He said in May there are over 120 different religious holidays. Changing the date of the annual meeting based on a religious holiday may lead to bigger problems. Mrs. Petrosillo asked why we need to call out religious holidays and Dr. Corcoran agreed that we stick with legal holidays. Mrs. DeForest stated that all districts vote on the same day. Mr. Souser asked if we acknowledge conflict due to legal holidays under different policies. Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated she will check back with the policy services and that we should be able to petition the commissioner to do something different if the vote conflicts with a religious holiday.

Policies 1332 through 1339 were brought back for a second reading.

Dr. Corcoran moved and Mrs. James Murad seconded the motion to approve policies 1332, 1333, 1334, 1335, 1336, 1336, 1337, 1338 and 1339.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated that the next meeting of the Policy Committee is December 10, 2019.

Potential Consideration for

Future Meetings

No suggestions for new consideration.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Smith shared information about the inaugural induction ceremony for the JD Fine Arts Hall of Fame. He said it was a fantastic evening in the new auditorium where eight people were inaugurated. This group included five alumni and three former educators. The inductees were introduced by students and each gave a short acceptance speech. The Jazz Band and the Chorus performed at the event. He shared his personal connections with two of the inductees. Dr. Smith also shared that the Art Department partnered with the Environmental Club at the high school to put on the Million Tree Art Show and Sale during the Chorus concert last week. They sold 175 works of art which will benefit the organization, Trees for the Future. Dr. Smith updated the Board on upcoming events.

Board President's Report

Mrs. Petrosillo thanked the Facilities Committee, architects and Dr. Smith for presenting the Capital Project. She stated the Capital Project Newsletter flyer was the very nice and hoped to use this format for the JD Journal. Mrs. Petrosillo has been in touch with Jackie Kadish and Sonia Kraugh from the Sierra Club and will find time to meet with them regarding sustainability. Both Will and Dr. Corcoran have expressed interest in attending that meeting. She spoke about the agenda for the Board retreat on December 9, which includes a recap of the NYSSBA Convention and a moderated discussion of the book, *White Fragility*, by Kofi Addai and Andrea Jacobs from Interfaith Works. She passed out the book to every Board member and asked that they read it before the retreat.

Unfinished and Continuing Business

Dr. Corcoran brought her OnBoard Magazine and shared an article on page 7 regarding school start times.

Mr. Souser shared his experience attending a vaping forum with his family at ESM recently. He said it was exceptionally well done and that the panel included police officers and doctors, but the most powerful message came from a 20 year old man who spoke about his near death experience. He said that Crouse Hospital has offered to come and speak to JD and would make themselves available if we are interested.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz stated that she would be attending the NYSSBA Roundtable in Latham, New York on Friday, December 6th. The topics being discussed are teacher diversity, school safety threats and the Commissioner search/transition. She asked the Board to email her with any questions or comments.

Mrs. DeForest stated that she attended the Fine Arts Inaugural Induction and that two inductees specifically recognized the Board of Education support for Fine Arts. Mrs. DeForest gave kudos to Mr. Goodson, Athletic Director, for his presentation in the auditorium for the Winter Sports. She said the presentation was really great and that Mr. Goodson always does a great job including the kids in speaking and engaging the audience.

Community Comment Time #2

Ann Wright thanked Dr. Smith for supporting the referendum by reaching out to people to get out and vote. She asked that anyone interested in taking a tour of BOCES facilities to get in touch with her.

Rachel Wagner commented that she has heard progress tonight and sees movement. She asked about the logistical issue that exists with the board agenda and requiring community members sit through the whole meeting to comment. She asked for more transparency by adding more detail to the agenda.

At 9:17 p.m. Mr. Souser moved and Mrs. James Murad seconded the meeting adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

At 10:00 p.m. Mrs. James Murad moved and Mr. Souser seconded the move to adjourn from Executive Session.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

At 10:00 p.m. Mrs. James Murad moved and Dr. Corcoran seconded the move to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Decker
Clerk of the Board

Board Approved: 12/16/19

