

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**April 12, 2021**

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

Dr. Smith opened the Budget Forum by presenting the revenue section of the budget and then he reviewed the expense plan and the propositions that will be on the ballot (See Supplemental Minutes).

Mrs. Rhodes called the meeting to order immediately following the Budget Forum.

**Red Ram Recognition**

Mrs. Rhodes recognized the Transportation Department and the Custodial Department for their hard work as the district transitions to additional in-person learning.

**Community Comment Time**

There were no comments.

**Approve Minutes of Board of Education  
Meetings, March 15, 2021**

Dr. Corcoran moved and Dr. Archer seconded the approval of the minutes of the Board of Education meeting of March 15, 2021.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

**Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations**

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

**PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – April 12, 2021**

***INSTRUCTIONAL***

| <b>Name and position</b>        | <b>Location</b> | <b><u>Change in Status</u></b> | <b>Stipend</b>  |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Kristine Wisnieski<br>*prorated | High School     | Additional Class - \$4,008.38* | 4/12/21-6/30/21 |

**Extra Duty Assignments/Extending Teaching 2020-2021**

**Middle School – Second Semester**

| <b>Name and position</b> | <b>Location</b>            | <b>Stipend</b> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Anastasia Arriaga        | 5/6 Musical Set Production | \$1,513        |
| Anastasia Arriaga        | 7/8 Musical Set Production | \$1,513        |
| Justin Bird              | 7/8 Musical Director       | \$3,782        |
| Robin Carruthers         | 5/6 Musical Director       | \$2,622        |

**Request for Retirement**

| <b>Name and position</b>                   | <b>Location</b> | <b>Effective</b> |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Janet Thomas<br>Physical Education Teacher | Tecumseh        | 9/26/21          |

**Resignation**

| <b>Name and position</b> | <b>Assignment</b>                   | <b>Effective</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Justin Bird              | Modified Girls Lacrosse Coach       | 3/11/21          |
| Steven Scaramuzzino      | Varsity Asst. Track and Field Coach | 3/15/21          |
| Jordan Zapisek           | Modified Softball Coach             | 4/1/21           |

**Extra Duty Assignments/Extending Teaching 2020-2021**

**Coaching – Spring Season**

| <b>Name and position</b> | <b>Assignment</b>                         | <b>Stipend</b> |
|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Joseph Bulone            | Modified Asst. Softball Coach (Volunteer) | \$0            |
| Jeffrey Ike              | Modified Asst. Softball Coach             | \$3,088        |
| Alan Zimmerman           | Modified Asst. Softball Coach             | \$3,026        |
| Duane LeBlanc*           | Modified Wrestling Coach                  | \$3,540        |
| Sean Mulvihill*          | Varsity Asst. Track and Field Coach       | \$3,460        |
| Steven Scaramuzzino      | Modified Asst. Track and Field Coach      | \$3,026        |

\*Pending completion of the certification process

**Extra Duty Assignments/Extending Teaching 2020-2021**

**Jamesville Elementary School**

| <b>Name and position</b> | <b>Location</b>    | <b>Effective</b> | <b>Stipend</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Patty Hill               | AM Bus Supervision | 4/13/21          | \$168.50*      |
| Debra Cosbey             | AM Bus Supervision | 4/13/21          | \$336.44*      |

\*prorated

**Resignation**

| <b>Name and position</b> | <b>Assignment</b>                                 | <b>Effective</b> |
|--------------------------|---|------------------|
| Sonia Holmes Rickman     | AM Bus Supervision – Jamesville Elementary School | 4/15/21          |

**Request for Leave**

| <b>Name and position</b>                       | <b>Location</b> | <b>Type of Leave</b>    | <b>Effective</b> |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Lynette Neumann<br>Speech Language Pathologist | Middle School   | Parental Leave (Unpaid) | 9/1/21-6/30/22   |

|  |               |                   |                 |
|--|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Sunnet Placito-Raymond<br>School Counselor | Middle School | Intermittent FMLA | 4/5/21 – 4/5/22 |
|--|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|

**Resignation**

| <b>Name and position</b>                 | <b>Location</b> | <b>Effective</b> |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Jacqueline Chiodo<br>Administrative Aide | District        | 3/30/21          |
| Teresa Demmon<br>Food Service Helper 1   | Food Service    | 4/6/21           |
| Gene Grenga<br>Driver/Messenger          | Transportation  | 4/30/21          |

**ADDENDUM - PERSONNEL CHANGES FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
April 12, 2021**

The following personnel changes are recommended by the Superintendent:

***INSTRUCTIONAL***

**Extra Duty Assignments/Extending Teaching 2020-2021**

**Moses DeWitt Elementary School**

| <b>Name and position</b> | <b>Location</b>    | <b>Effective</b> | <b>Stipend</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Rhonda Francey           | AM Bus Supervision | 4/12/21          | \$342.91*      |
| Stephanie Smith          | AM Bus Supervision | 4/12/21          | \$342.91*      |

\*prorated

**Extra Duty Assignments/Extending Teaching 2020-2021**

**Tecumseh Elementary School**

| <b>Name and position</b> | <b>Location</b>    | <b>Effective</b> | <b>Stipend</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Susan Brown              | PM Bus Supervision | 4/12/21          | \$171.72*      |
| Molly Schunck            | PM Bus Supervision | 4/12/21          | \$171.72*      |

\*prorated

***NONINSTRUCTIONAL***

**Appointments**

| <b>Name and position</b>                | <b>Location</b> | <b>Salary</b> | <b>Effective</b> |
|---|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| David Chrysler<br>Substitute Dispatcher | Transportation  | \$16.00/hr.   | 4/13/21          |

Motion carried (7-2-0). Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz and Mrs. Rhodes voted no.

**Approve Request by the Town of DeWitt  
For Use of Buses for Summer Camp**

Mr. Gross moved and Dr. Corcoran seconded the approval of the request by the Town of DeWitt for Use of Buses for Summer Camp.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

### **Approve Higher Risk Sports of Boys Lacrosse and Wrestling**

Dr. Smith recommended the approval of the higher risk sports of Boys Lacrosse and Wrestling. He said the district's plan has been approved by the school physician (See Supplemental Minutes). Dr. Corcoran asked if the athletes will continue testing and Dr. Smith responded that the higher risk athletes will continue to be tested. Mrs. Rhodes asked if there have been positive cases found from the testing of athletes and Dr. Smith responded yes. Mrs. Rhodes asked if it was at a higher percentage than the county or the district and Dr. Smith responded no.

Mrs. DeForest moved and Mrs. James Murad seconded the motion to approve all levels of Boys Lacrosse.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

Mr. Gross moved and Mrs. DeForest seconded the motion to approve all levels of wrestling.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

### **Policy Review – First Reading**

The following policies brought to the board for a first reading were reviewed:

- 7110 [Comprehensive Student Attendance](#)
- 7311 [Loss of Destruction of District Property or Resources](#)
- 7313 [Suspension of Students](#)
- 7314 [Students Presumed to Have a Disability for Discipline Purposes](#)
- 7315 [Student Acceptable use Policy \(AUP\)](#)
- 7316 [Student Use of Personal Technology](#)

Mr. Reyes gave an overview of the discussion in the policy committee. He said that Policy # 7110 included the first paragraph from the previous policy. He said there were no adjustments for policies #7313 and 7314. Policy #7315 changes were made to reflect district level technology personnel. Mr. Reyes said that in Policy # 7316 there was a clarification made about the use of personal technology to violate an individual's personal privacy.

Mrs. Rhodes asked about the suspension policy and where the definition of *morals* comes from, is it from the policy service or statute. Mrs. James Murad said the language comes from Education Law 3214 Section 5.

Mrs. Rhodes asked about the review schedule for the code of conduct. Mr. Franz responded that there will be a team formed to review the code of conduct. He said the first step will be to meet with the administrators and to review the work that came out of the SRO Task Force.

These policies will come back to the next meeting for a second reading.

### **Potential Consideration for Future Meetings**

Dr. Smith updated the board about the information around universal pre-k. He said there have been questions about whether we would be instituting pre-k in September based on the state budget. He said that while this has been a topic for consideration, it is not a possibility for September. He said all aspects of operations would need to be studied. Dr. Smith said that this is a stated goal to be addressed in year two of the Strategic plan and we will continue to look at pre-K on that timeline.

Dr. Smith recommended the district hire a consulting firm to look at enrollment in our elementary schools and building capacity. He said this study will help provide necessary information for the implementation of pre-k as well provide information on space utilization and the best use of district resources.

Mrs. Rivera-Ortiz asked about the objective for this work and Dr. Smith stated it is to maximize space utilization and to ensure that district resources are being used effectively.

Mrs. Woodcock Dettor asked if this firm would look at competition in the marketplace such as who else has pre-k in our area. Dr. Smith stated the firm will be looking at enrollment projections and building analysis and that the work around implementing a pre-K program will be done in house.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Smith updated the board on increased in-person instruction. He shared experiences from the first day, including the energy and excitement of students and teachers. He shared the numbers of students at the elementary, middle and high schools that were in person and remote. He said there will be another opportunity for families to switch learning models at week 35, which will be the last five weeks of school. Dr. Smith shared that although there were some hiccups, transportation went well overall. He said bumps will be smoothed out over the next few days. Dr. Smith also acknowledged the monumental work that the Transportation Department and Custodial Department have had before them. Mr. Leach asked if there is any idea of why so many middle and high schoolers are choosing to stay remote. Dr. Smith responded that although he has heard information that people did not want to get caught in quarantines, he does not have specific information about why more middle school students and high school students continue to learn remotely.

Dr. Smith gave an update on the Capital Project. He said the project was approved by the State Education Department, contractors are working on bid documents which will be submitted by the end of April, and we hope to have the board award bids at the May 10<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

Dr. Smith shared information about the mental health initiative through the county and said he was very happy with the county's commitment to helping districts provide supports for students. He said that the county is looking at school based mental health clinics as well as access liaisons to work with schools and families.

Dr. Smith also shared information about the 3-8 tests and June regents exams. The NYSED submitted a waiver to the USDOE which would allow districts to not administer these exams this year. The US Dept. of Education rejected the waiver so districts are forced to administer some part of the 3-8 tests and four required regents exams.

Dr. Smith said he believes it is safe to say that we have gotten through this year with only two emergency closings and that at this time, Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup> will become a vacation day. He said the buildings will follow-up so that families can plan accordingly.

Lastly, Dr. Smith shared information about a partnership with the county to administer Pfizer vaccines for 16 and 17 year olds. He said a survey was sent out by the county and the results indicated that J-D parents would like their 16 and 17 year old children to be vaccinated at school. The district is waiting for more information from the county.

### **Board President's Report**

Mrs. Rhodes stated that any students celebrating Ramadan should reach out to their teacher or principal if they need accommodations. She asked Dr. Smith for an update on board elections. Dr. Smith responded that we currently have eight petitions that have been picked up and three returned to the district office. Mrs. Rhodes said the deadline is April 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Rhodes asked Dr. Corcoran about the Leadership Award that the board sponsors. Dr. Corcoran shared information regarding the senior award and asked for contributions. She said she will get information out to the board this week and then will send contributions to Mrs. Diane Ennis. The award will be presented to a deserving student at the high school awards event.

Mrs. Rhodes asked to have a discussion regarding when the board would resume in person meetings. Dr. Smith responded that the Governor's Executive Order has extended the time for virtual meetings through the end of April and our legal counsel expects that to be renewed again. He said he does not see an immediate need to meet in person.

Mrs. Rhodes said she believes the remote format has increased accessibility would like to continue to have some form of remote accessibility for parents and the community to access meetings.

Dr. Corcoran asked if the board does decide to meet in person, will the community have an opportunity to continue to meet remotely. Mrs. Rhodes suggested that this discussion take place closer to the time when the format changes. Mr. Gross said he supports the idea of a return to in person meeting but likes the idea of a hybrid meeting availability. Mrs. Rhodes asked Dr. Smith to speak to legal counsel about options for a hybrid model of meetings.

Mrs. Rhodes announced that Mrs. Woodcock Dettor has resigned from the board, effective April 30<sup>th</sup>. She thanked her for her service on the board. Mrs. Rhodes asked Dr. Smith the options for filing the open seat. Dr. Smith shared three options and it was decided that this vacancy would be filled during the upcoming election. The candidate earning the fourth highest number of votes would assume Mrs. Woodcock Dettor's seat beginning May 24 and would serve the remaining two years of the term.

### **Community Comment Time #2**

There were no comments.

### **Unfinished and Continuing Business**

Mrs. DeForest thanked Mr. Reyes for updating the edits to the Board Governance Manual after the board retreat. She proposed that these be brought before the community to approve and asked for volunteers to help complete the update of procedures.

At 8:34 p.m., Dr. Archer moved and Mr. Gross seconded the motion to adjourn to the meeting.

Motion carried (9-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Decker  
Clerk of the Board

**BOARD APPROVED: 4/19/21**