

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – January 10, 2022**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dr. Archer  
Mrs. Austin (attended remotely)  
Mrs. DeForest  
Mr. Gross  
Mrs. James Murad  
Mr. Leach  
Ms. McKenney (attended remotely)  
Mrs. Souser  
Mr. Zoghby  
Ms. Evans (Student Board Member)

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT**

Dr. Smith, Superintendent  
Mr. Reyes, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Franz, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Timothy Decker

Mrs. DeForest called the meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Large Group Room of the High School.

**Presentation – Jamesville-DeWitt High School,  
Mr. Gasparini, Principal**

Mr. Gasparini welcomed the Board of Education to the High School. He introduced two groups of students, and a group of teachers that would be presenting. Members of the student government introduced themselves as well as other members. Each member shared his or her name, grade and information about clubs he or she are involved in. The next group of students that presented to the Board included members of the Dialogue Circle. Each person shared information about his or her experience including how the group facilitates discussions around important issues, a review of the rules of the group, recommendations and nominations to become a member, topics of discussion as well as the upcoming spring session and how students can get involved. This group is advised by Ms. Lawrence and Mr. Hartley. Lastly, Mr. Clinton, Mrs. Oppedisano, Ms. Jutzler and Ms. Panek, presented a proposal for a Senior Capstone seminar course for the 2022-23 school year. They explained how the seminar will connect students with both teacher and community mentors to conduct a research based project culminating in a presentation at the end of the school year. Lastly, Mr. Gasparini introduced Mr. Nysten and Ms. Johnson, Asst. Principals at the High School. Mrs. DeForest thanked the students and teachers for the valuable information.

**Red Ram Recognition**

Mrs. DeForest recognized the high school students who participated in the Poetry Out Loud event. She said they did an outstanding job. Two students will represent the high school at the regional competition in February. She thanked Mr. Phillips for organizing the event and to the judges, Ms. Rushford, Ms. Romeiser, Ms. Nowicki and Mr. DeChick. Mrs. DeForest recognized the Middle School Scholastic Art winners and honorable mentions. She congratulated all the students who participated as well as their teachers. Lastly, Mrs. DeForest recognized and congratulated Mr. Bunyan and Mr. Cottet for earning National Board Certification status.

**Community Comment Time #1**

None.

## Approve Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Minutes of December 20, 2021 Board Meeting
- b. [Accept Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations](#), and Substitute Appointments
- c. Approve MOA with the J-D Food Service Unit adjusting hourly rates of pay due to increased minimum wage
- d. Approve MOA with the J-D Transportation Unit adjusting hourly rates of pay due to increased minimum wage

Ms. McKenney requested "Item b" be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Mrs. Souser moved and Mr. Zoghby seconded the approval of the revised Consent Agenda.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

### Accept Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations And Substitute Appointments

After an explanation of a specific appointment from provisional to probationary, Mr. Zoghby moved and Mrs. Souser seconded the acceptance of the Superintendent's Personnel as follows:

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

### PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – January 10, 2022

The following personnel changes are recommended by the Superintendent:

#### ***INSTRUCTIONAL***

<b>Name and position</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b><u>Appointments</u> Annual Salary</b>	<b>Cert</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Danielle Manzone Special Education Teacher Probationary Appt. (3 years) Replacing S. Benson-Reid	Middle School	\$69,703 (B+69-8M) Prorated on start date	Prof. SWD Grades 7-12 - generalist	1/31/22
Kathleen McDonald Teaching Assistant Probationary Appt. (4 years) New Position	Moses DeWitt	\$28,364 (B) Prorated on start date	TA III	1/24/22

#### **Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2021-2022**

##### **Coaching – Winter Season**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Stipend</b>
Cheyenne Brebeck	Varsity Cheerleading Coach (volunteer)	\$0

**Extra duty assignments/extended teaching 2021-2022**

**Intramural Coaching**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Stipend</b>
Jessica Marko	Session 2: Basketball, Pillow Polo & Pin Elimination	\$250.56
Mitzi Longway	Session 2: Basketball, Pillow Polo & Pin Elimination	\$271.44
Daniel Glazier	Session 2: Substitute Coach	\$41.76

**Request for Leave**

<b>Name and position</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Type of Leave</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Jeannine Abbott Music Teacher	Middle School	Parental Leave (Paid & FMLA)	4/8/22-6/30/22

***NONINSTRUCTIONAL***

**Appointments**

<b>Name and position</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Jane Aliberto Substitute Dispatcher	Transportation	\$16.00/hr.	1/11/22
Roberta Manradge Full-Time Teacher Aide Probationary Appt. (52 wk.) New Position	JES	\$13.68/hr.	1/12/22
John McClary Substitute Custodian	Custodial Dept.	\$13.20/hr.	1/12/22

**Change in Status**

<b>Name and position</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Rose Marano Teacher Aide	Moses DeWitt	Part-Time to Full-Time	1/11/22
Nikoahl Rioux Dispatcher	Transportation	Provisional to Probationary (52 wks)	1/11/22

Substitute Appointments – See Supplemental Minutes

Motion carried (9-0-0).

**Board Policies –Second Reading**

The following Board Policies were brought to the Board for a first reading:

- 5661 [Wellness](#)
- 7150 [Remote Learning](#)
- 7512 [Student Physicals](#)
- 7513 [Medication and Personal Care Items](#)
- 7660 [Parent Involvement For Children With Disabilities](#)

Mrs. James Murad explained there were no recommended changes.

Mr. Gross moved and Ms. McKenney seconded the approval of Board Policies 5661, 7150, 7512, 7513, and 7660.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

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

Mrs. Souser suggested an update on the Positivity Project.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Smith's report included updates on COVID-19, Pre-K and upcoming events. He shared the numbers of positive COVID-19 cases by building. He explained that prior to now, we were tracking cases reported by the Department of Health and the current numbers reflect both the DOH numbers and self-reporting by families and staff. Dr. Smith explained that the most recent spike in cases was likely due to the gatherings during the holiday break and the availability of in-home test kits. He explained the data used to determine if changes are necessary to operations. Dr. Smith shared daily attendance rates for the previous week. He said a handful of people reached out asking for remote/hybrid learning and that it would take a dramatic change in circumstances to pivot to hybrid learning given the challenges students faced while learning remotely. Dr. Smith said that the District will continue to monitor daily attendance and will keep watching instructional and non-instructional staff absences as well. Dr. Smith thanked and congratulated Mr. Decker and Ms. Palmer for their forward thinking to accommodate absences among bus drivers and to keep the District running. Dr. Smith stated the importance of staying on top of safety procedures including wearing masks, social distancing, surveillance testing and most importantly, staying home when not feeling well.

Ms. McKenney stated that many students are not aware of how to get the help they need from teachers when they are quarantining.

Dr. Smith stated that Mr. Gasparini will help communicate the message with teachers. Dr. Smith stated throughout the fall, we have been able to offer tutors to students who are quarantining. He said that with the numbers growing, we can no longer provide tutors. Dr. Smith said with the decrease in amount of time in isolation/quarantine, students/staff will be able to come back to the classroom in a shorter time period. He also said students are able to access Google Classroom.

Ms. McKenney suggested reaching out to marginalized students.

Dr. Archer asked about our ability to contract trace. Dr. Smith stated that with large numbers of cases contact tracing is increasingly more difficult. In line with recommendations from the County, families are being asked to do their own contact tracing and to notify those who may have been in close contact when they experience a positive case.

Dr. Smith shared the remaining dates on the Pre-K timeline. He said the Pre-K teachers started on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be busy with professional learning, technology sessions, curriculum instruction and assessment training, lesson planning and setting up their classrooms. Dr. Smith said the teaching assistants will be starting on January 24<sup>th</sup> and will have one week to prepare with the teachers for the incoming students. Dr. Smith stated that unfortunately a few families have withdrawn their children, primarily due to fears of COVID-19. He said that if they change their mind in spring, they will be able to come to school.

Dr. Archer said she appreciated the way the Pre-K was being introduced to the other elementary school students. Finally, Dr. Smith shared upcoming events.

### **Student Board Member Report**

Ms. Evans provided the Board with her report which included student concerns, compliments and recommendations. (See Supplemental Minutes).

### **President's Report**

Mrs. DeForest shared information on the board's upcoming book study and said the J-D Board of Education was very well represented. She reminded the board that they will be completing a mid-year evaluation of Dr. Smith which will be reviewed on January 24<sup>th</sup> during executive session. She also thanked Dr. Archer for offering to host a board get together. She said it was postponed due to the uptick in COVID -19. Mrs. DeForest reviewed hygiene guidelines including practicing good masking protocols, washing masks, using disposable masks only once and parents signing their kids up for surveillance testing if they haven't already done so.

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

There were no comments.

### **Unfinished and Continuing Business**

Mrs. DeForest thanked the contractors and Mr. Decker for the tour of the High School construction project.

At 8:35 p.m., Mr. Gross moved and Mrs. James Murad seconded the adjournment to Executive Session to discuss personnel history of particular employees.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

At 9:56 p.m. Mr. Gross moved and Mrs. Souser seconded the adjournment of Executive Session.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

At 9:57 p.m. Mr. Gross moved and Mrs. Souser seconded the adjournment of the Board of Education meeting.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Decker  
Clerk of the Board

**BOARD APPROVED:**