

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING – OCTOBER 5, 2020

Via Zoom Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	ADMINISTRATION PRESENT
Dr. Archer		Dr. Smith, Superintendent of Schools
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		

Via Zoom, Mrs. Rhodes called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Smith provided an overview of the draft of the District Safety Plan which is available on the website as part of Supplemental Minutes. Dr. Smith explained the next steps including public comment period open through October 24 and a vote to accept the Plan on October 26. Then the plan will be submitted to the Commissioner of Education and shared with NYS Police and Town of DeWitt Police Department. He stated that the Task Force for the School Resource Officer will begin immediately and once complete the District Safety Team will reconvene.

Community Comment Time

Mrs. Rhodes opened Public Comment Time.

Benedicte Doran commented in favor of an SRO and asked for data for the task force to consider.

Gera Rezar commented in favor of an SRO and asked the task force to consider scientific facts.

Jean Leiker commented in favor of an SRO and said that people are disturbed by the stories in the news.

Edda Kassis commented in favor of an SRO and said the district and community need to continue to work together.

Katie Rybinski commented in favor of an SRO and said that an SRO is the first line of defense for students and staff.

Amy Kallander commented against an SRO and said no statistics support placing SRO's in schools.

Cecilia Blackwood commented against an SRO and said students of color are not being treated equitably.

Rachel Wagner commented that she is concerned about the focus on an SRO when there are many other safety concerns.

Max Mimaroglu commented that student input should be considered and students should be made aware of Board meetings.

At 6:50 p.m. Dr. Corcoran moved and Mrs. James Murad seconded the Public Hearing be adjourned.

Motion carried. (9-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Decker
Clerk of the Board

BOARD APPROVED: 10/26/20