

COOPERSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES

DATE: November 18, 2020

KIND OF MEETING: Regular

PLACE: Videoconferencing Meeting ID# 939 2570 9580

MEMBERS PRESENT: Timothy Hayes, Marcy Birch, Gillian Spencer, Matthew Schuermann, Marielle Ainsworth, Anthony Scalici, and Wendy Kiuber

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Romona N. Wenck, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Amy B. Kukenberger, Business Administrator  
Ann Meccariello, Secondary Principal  
Tracy Durkee, Elementary Principal  
Kevin Kelly, Director of Pupil Personnel Services

President Hayes called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Under public comments several parents of junior/senior high students expressed their concerns with the need to plan for possible future sports and emphasis in working to allow our student athletes the opportunity to get back to some sense of normal through athletics. Parents asked the Board and the district to be proactive and have a plan in place, so that when and if sports can proceed, we are prepared, unlike what occurred with our fall sports. Mr. Horvath spoke of his concern about the percentage of education that his son is receiving compared to neighboring school districts. He commented on what he has heard what teachers are concerned about and stated that they should lead by example. He asked the Board to think of how we can change instruction for the rest of the school year.

Timothy Hayes called upon Monica Wolfe, Advisor to the Leadership Training for Athletes to introduce tonight's student speakers. She began by stating the mission of LTA "To develop and strengthen positive leadership qualities fostering a community where students lead by example." Several student athletes then spoke of why they play sports, why would they like to see winter sports offered and how playing sports has affected their mental health.

Timothy Hayes introduced Alan Walther, CPA with the Bonadio Group. Mr. Walther provided a quick overview of the Independent Audit conducted for the year ending June 30, 2020. He stated the audit was completed 100% remotely. The Audit was presented to the Budget and Finance Committee on November 9 in detail. He stated one item to note was the School Lunch Fund deficit, and that this will need to be addressed by the District. Timothy Hayes thanked Alan Walther for his time speaking with the Board this evening. Romona Wenck expressed her sincere thanks to Amy Kukenberger for all her daily work that resulted in a favorable Audit. A copy of the 2020 Extraclassroom Activity Funds Statement, Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2020, and required communications letter are on file with the minutes of this meeting.

Interim Superintendent Wenck began her report by addressing the winter sports season and sharing information received from NYS and Section III Athletics. She gave an update on the Athletic Coordinator position, Superintendent search process, and Visual Inspection Reports. She shared information on the *Catskill Area School Study Council*, CASSC, offering grant money to schools in our area for STEAM project. Mrs. Wenck was notified by a teacher, that he has witnessed on several occasions, community members using the track during school hours and

November 18, 2020

she has asked Matt Murphy to investigate better signage. She shared that she has received several emails sharing concerns about the lack of in-person instruction for our students. She reported that the School was informed that transportation expenses that accrued with delivering food and packets to students may not be reimbursed by NYS because these acts did not involve transporting students. Mrs. Wenck talked about her decision process when deciding to have students go to remote instruction this week. She spoke further on letters that the School Nurses are using to communicate with parents when their child is not feeling well. She spoke about Governor Cuomo establishing a COVID-19 infection rate that would require school districts to move to remote instruction. Recently, Governor Cuomo has modified this guidance with the development of micro clusters which are outbreaks of new COVID-19 cases within a limited and definable geographic area. She described what we would be required to do if our county went into the Yellow Zone and how 20% of people at school would have to be tested to remain open. Mrs. Wenck shared the Hawkeye Review weekly publication that Maureen Schuermann produces. Mrs. Wenck thanked Maureen for her leadership with this new initiative and expressed her gratitude to Maureen for doing such a great job. The Hawkeye Review is available online on the school website.

Under Principal's reports, Tracy Durkee stated that student attendance is remaining static, observations of teachers and staff have begun; teachers in grades 3-6, Special Education, and AIS took part in a SAVVAS training for our new math program. Josh Reiss presented at the faculty meeting about drill protocols, both fire and lockdown drills included that reflect SED and FCNYS requirements. She has attended the monthly PTA meeting, Principal's Academy and has given building tours to new families. Ms. Durkee then stated that student work is proudly gracing our walls, celebrating their learning! She reported that she worked with Grade Chairs to create a simulated schedule in the event of an Emergency Remote situation. These new schedules are consistent and have been communicated to all families and staff.

Principal Meccariello reported on the efforts of bringing in students in grades 7 & 8 that are on the failing list to work with their teachers. She spoke about continued struggles of poor attendance, especially the 100% remote, students not completing work, and the lack of connections teachers have with students. She stated that a community member approached her to offer help with student and teacher morale. Extracurricular clubs and activities have begun. She gave a shout-out to Rebecca Burk-Sciallo and Mary Clare Roberts on their Senior Star project. She spoke about students in P.I.G. classes doing a letter writing activity; report cards going out next week and provided a remote/hybrid numbers update.

Motion by Timothy Hayes, seconded by Gillian Spencer. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, does hereby approve the regular meeting minutes of October 21, 2020, as presented.

Ayes 7

Noes 0

Motion carried.

Anthony Scalici gave a Budget, Finance and Audit Committee meeting report of November 18, 2020. The next Committee meeting is December 9, 2020 at 8:15 am.

Motion by Anthony Scalici, seconded by Matt Schuermann. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, does hereby accept the Cooperstown Central School District's Extraclassroom Activity Funds and Financial Statements as prepared by The Bonadio Group, Certified Public Accountants, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.

Ayes 7

Noes 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Anthony Scalici, seconded by Wendy Kiuber. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District hereby approves the following, to wit:  
TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE RESOLUTION DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2020. A RESOLUTION

November 18, 2020

DELEGATING TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE COOPERSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, OTSEGO COUNTY, NEW YORK (THE "DISTRICT"), THE POWER (1) TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF AND TO SELL TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE DISTRICT IN ANTICIPATION OF THE RECEIPT OF TAXES TO BE LEVIED FOR THE FISCAL YEARS OF THE DISTRICT COMMENCING JULY 1, 2020 AND/OR JULY 1, 2021, (2) TO PRESCRIBE THE TERMS, FORM AND CONTENTS THEREOF AND (3) TO MAKE CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Cooperstown Central School District (the "District"), in Otsego County, New York (the "State"), desires to authorize, in advance, the issuance of tax anticipation notes of the District in anticipation of the collection of real estate taxes to be levied for District purposes for the fiscal years of the District commencing July 1, 2020 and/or July 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, no portion of such real estate taxes to be received in either of such fiscal years has been collected as of the date hereof; and

WHEREAS, no tax anticipation notes have heretofore been authorized to be issued in anticipation of the collection of such real estate taxes by the District in such fiscal years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Tax anticipation notes of the Cooperstown Central School District, in the County of Otsego, New York (the "District"), and any notes in renewal thereof (collectively, the "Notes"), are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the provisions of Sections 24.00 and 39.00 of the Local Finance Law, constituting Chapter 33-a of the Consolidated Laws of the State of New York (the "Law"). Such Notes are authorized to be issued in any amount up to the maximum amount permitted under the Law.

Section 2. The Notes shall be issued in anticipation of the collection of real estate taxes to be levied for school purposes for the fiscal years of the District commencing on July 1, 2020 and/or July 1, 2021, and the proceeds of the Notes shall be used only for the purposes for which such taxes are levied. The total anticipated amount of such taxes for each such fiscal year remains uncollected as of the date of adoption of this resolution.

Section 3. The Notes shall be issued in such amount(s), shall be dated, shall mature, shall be in such denominations and shall bear interest at such rate or rates per annum as may be determined at the time of the public or private sale of the Notes by the President of the Board, as the chief fiscal officer of the District (the "President"), in accordance with the provisions of the Law and Chapter 2 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations.

Section 4. Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 21.00, 24.00, 30.00, 39.00, 50.00, 56.00 and 60.00, inclusive, of the Law, the power to sell, issue and deliver, and to prescribe the amount(s), terms, form, and contents of the Notes is hereby delegated to the President. The President is hereby authorized to execute the Notes on behalf of the District, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized to affix the seal of the District to the Notes and to attest such seal. The President is hereby authorized to deliver the Notes to the purchaser(s) thereof upon receipt in full of the purchase price thereof. Without in any way limiting the scope of the foregoing delegation of powers, the President, to the extent permitted by Section 58.00(f) of the Local Finance Law, is specifically authorized to accept bids for the Notes that are submitted in electronic form.

Section 5. The faith and credit of the District are hereby and shall be irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Notes as the same shall become due.

Section 6. The President is hereby directed to file with the Board a certificate or certificates reporting the amount of Notes issued, the date of the Notes, the date the Notes mature, the rate or rates of interest borne by the Notes, the purchaser(s) of the Notes and any other information or statements that may be required under the Law, and such certificate(s) shall contain a statement to the effect that the powers of the President to sell, issue and deliver the Notes are in full force and effect and have not been modified, amended or revoked prior to the delivery of and payment for the Notes.

Section 7. In the absence of the President, the Vice President of the Board is hereby authorized to exercise the powers that are delegated to the President in this resolution.

Section 8. The District covenants, for the benefit of the holders of the Notes, that it will not make any use of the proceeds of the Notes, any funds reasonably expected to be used to pay the principal of or interest on the Notes, or any other funds of the District which would cause the interest on the Notes to become subject to federal income taxation under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") or subject the District to any penalties

November 18, 2020

under Section 148 of the Code, and that it will not take any action or omit to take any action with respect to the Notes or the proceeds thereof if such action or omission would cause the interest on the Notes to become subject to federal income taxation under the Code or subject the District to any penalties under Section 148 of the Code. The foregoing covenants shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding the defeasance of the Notes or any other provision hereof until the date which is 60 days after the final maturity date of the Notes (or any earlier prior redemption date thereof).

Section 9. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Ayes 7

Noes 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Marcy Birch, seconded by Gillian Spencer. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District hereby approves the following, to wit:

REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTE RESOLUTION DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2020. A RESOLUTION DELEGATING TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE COOPERSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, OTSEGO COUNTY, NEW YORK (THE "DISTRICT"), THE POWER (1) TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF AND TO SELL REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE DISTRICT IN ANTICIPATION OF THE COLLECTION BY THE DISTRICT OF NEW YORK STATE AID (AND/OR CERTAIN OTHER DESIGNATED REVENUES, OTHER THAN REAL ESTATE TAXES OR ASSESSMENTS) FOR THE FISCAL YEARS OF THE DISTRICT COMMENCING JULY 1, 2020 AND/OR JULY 1, 2021, (2) TO PRESCRIBE THE TERMS, FORM AND CONTENTS THEREOF AND (3) TO MAKE CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Cooperstown Central School District (the "District"), in Otsego County, New York (the "State"), desires to authorize, in advance, the issuance of revenue anticipation notes of the District in anticipation of the collection by the District of State aid (and/or certain other designated revenues, other than real estate taxes or assessments) for the fiscal years of the District commencing July 1, 2020 and/or July 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, no portion of such revenues to be received in either of such fiscal years has been collected as of the date hereof; and

WHEREAS, no revenue anticipation notes have heretofore been authorized to be issued in anticipation of the collection of such revenues by the District in such fiscal years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Revenue anticipation notes of the Cooperstown Central School District, in the County of Otsego, New York (the "District"), and any notes in renewal thereof (collectively, the "Notes"), are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the provisions of Sections 25.00 and 39.00 of the Local Finance Law, constituting Chapter 33-a of the Consolidated Laws of the State of New York (the "Law"). Such Notes are authorized to be issued in any amount up to the maximum amount permitted under the Law.

Section 2. The Notes shall be issued in anticipation of the collection by the District of State aid (and/or certain other designated revenues, other than real estate taxes or assessments) for the fiscal years of the District commencing on July 1, 2020 and/or July 1, 2021, and the proceeds of the Notes shall be used only for the purposes for which revenues are to be utilized. The total anticipated amount of such revenues for each such fiscal year remains uncollected as of the date of adoption of this resolution.

Section 3. The Notes shall be issued in such amount(s), shall be dated, shall mature, shall be in such denominations and shall bear interest at such rate or rates per annum as may be determined at the time of the public or private sale of the Notes by the President of the Board, as the chief fiscal officer of the District (the "President"), in accordance with the provisions of the Law and Chapter 2 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations.

Section 4. Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 21.00, 25.00, 30.00, 39.00, 50.00, 56.00 and 60.00, inclusive, of the Law, the power to sell, issue and deliver, and to prescribe the amount(s), terms, form, and contents of the Notes is hereby delegated to the President. The President is hereby authorized to execute the Notes on behalf of the District, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized to affix the seal of the District to the Notes and to attest such seal. The President is hereby authorized to deliver the Notes to the purchaser(s) thereof upon receipt in full of the purchase price thereof. Without in any way limiting the scope of the foregoing delegation of powers, the President, to the

November 18, 2020

extent permitted by Section 58.00(f) of the Local Finance Law, is specifically authorized to accept bids for the Notes that are submitted in electronic form.

Section 5. The faith and credit of the District are hereby and shall be irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Notes as the same shall become due.

Section 6. The President is hereby directed to file with the Board a certificate or certificates reporting the amount of Notes issued, the date of the Notes, the date the Notes mature, the rate or rates of interest borne by the Notes, the purchaser(s) of the Notes and any other information or statements that may be required under the Law, and such certificate(s) shall contain a statement to the effect that the powers of the President to sell, issue and deliver the Notes are in full force and effect and have not been modified, amended or revoked prior to the delivery of and payment for the Notes.

Section 7. In the absence of the President, the Vice President of the Board is hereby authorized to exercise the powers that are delegated to the President in this resolution.

Section 8. The District covenants, for the benefit of the holders of the Notes, that it will not make any use of the proceeds of the Notes, any funds reasonably expected to be used to pay the principal of or interest on the Notes, or any other funds of the District which would cause the interest on the Notes to become subject to federal income taxation under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") or subject the District to any penalties under Section 148 of the Code, and that it will not take any action or omit to take any action with respect to the Notes or the proceeds thereof if such action or omission would cause the interest on the Notes to become subject to federal income taxation under the Code or subject the District to any penalties under Section 148 of the Code. The foregoing covenants shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding the defeasance of the Notes or any other provision hereof until the date which is 60 days after the final maturity date of the Notes (or any earlier prior redemption date thereof).

Section 9. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Ayes 7                      Noes 0                      Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Kiuber, seconded by Marcy Birch. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, does hereby accept the Statements of Unpaid School Taxes from 2020-2021 Warrant, dated November 16, 2020, as presented by Kelly Liner, Tax Collector.

Ayes 7                      Noes 0                      Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Kiuber, seconded by Gillian Spencer. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, hereby accepts the Monthly Treasurer's reports for the period of September 1-30, 2020, and October 1-31, 2020, as prepared by Amy Kukenberger, Business Administrator.

Ayes 7                      Noes 0                      Motion carried.

Motion by Matt Schuermann, seconded by Anthony Scalici. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cooperstown Centrals School Board of Education, that Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein. FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with Article 57-A: (a) only those records will be disposed of that are described in Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein; (b) only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods.

Ayes 7                      Noes 0                      Motion carried.

November 18, 2020

Motion by Anthony Scalici, seconded Matt Schuermann. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, hereby accepts the September 2020 Warrants 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, the Claims Auditor's report for the period September 1-30, 2020, October 2020 Warrants 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, and the Claims Auditor's report for the period October 1-31, 2020, as presented.

Ayes 7

Noes 0

Motion carried.

Timothy Hayes presented for Board information the Quarterly Extraclassroom Activity Reports for the period July 31, 2020 through September 30, 2020, prepared by Michael Leggett, Treasurer of Extracurricular Accounts. Wendy Kiuber expressed her concern that the issue with the money left over from the Class of 2020 has not been addressed. It was suggested to bring this topic to the next Policy Committee.

Matt Schuermann gave a Building, Grounds & Safety Committee meeting report of November 10, 2020. The next Committee meeting is November 19, 2020 at 8:00 am.

Tim Hayes commented on a possible clean-up project for the LaCava Nature Center that the end results should be aligned with curriculum and outside classroom needs.

Gillian Spencer gave Curriculum & Instruction Committee meeting reports of October 22, 2020 and November 12, 2020. Gillian Spencer stated the next Committee meeting is December 10, 2020 at 8:30 am.

Marcy Birch gave a Personnel & Recruitment Committee meeting report of November 12, 2020. She stated the next Committee meeting is December 10, 2020 at 7:30 am.

Motion by Marcy Birch, seconded by Marielle Ainsworth. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, hereby accepts the resignation of Lara Hurysz, 12-month Secretary, effective November 4, 2020.

Ayes 7

Noes 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Marcy Birch, seconded by Gillian Spencer. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, pursuant to Section 4.5 of the Rules and Regulations of the Civil Service Law, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, does hereby assign Alan Thayer to the ten month, part-time position of Bus Driver, for a 52-week probationary period, effective November 16, 2020; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that he be paid an annual salary of \$12,963.45 as stipulated in the Negotiations Agreement with the Service Unit.

Ayes 7

Noes 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Marcy Birch, seconded by Marielle Ainsworth. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Amy Parr to the Professional Services position of Junior High Student Council Advisor, effective November 18, 2020; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED she be paid a stipend of \$2,954 according to the Agreement Between the Superintendent of Schools of the Cooperstown Central School Board of Education and the Cooperstown Central School Faculty Association July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2023.

Ayes 7

Noes 0

Motion carried.

November 18, 2020

Motion by Marcy Birch, seconded by Gillian Spencer. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, does hereby grant the request of Brayden Dorsey, Teacher Aide, for an unpaid leave of absence under the Family and Medical Leave Act, to begin November 5, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Ayes 7                      Noes 0                      Motion carried.

Motion by Marcy Birch, seconded by Gillian Spencer. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Ramona Luetzger to the position of daily (long-term) substitute as Elementary Special Education Teacher, to commence on November 2, 2020 and to expire on or about March 27, 2021; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that during this time period she be paid at a daily rate of \$125.00.

Ayes 7                      Noes 0                      Motion carried.

Motion by Marcy Birch, seconded by Anthony Scalici. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve the addition of Jeremy Wainright, Melissa Sellars, and Paige Smith, to the non-certified substitute teacher list.

Ayes 7                      Noes 0                      Motion carried.

Marielle Ainsworth gave a Public Relations, Policy & Extracurricular Program Committee meeting report of November 9, 2020. The next Committee meeting is December 14, 2020 at 8:15 am.

Motion by Marielle Ainsworth, seconded by March Birch. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee to the Interim Superintendent of Schools, does hereby abolish 5682: Disaster Recovery Plan.

Ayes 7                      Noes 0                      Motion carried.

Motion by Timothy Hayes, seconded by Matt Schuermann. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education as listed in the Board Action Sheet for the meeting date range October 23, 2020 through November 9, 2020.

Ayes 7                      Noes 0                      Motion carried.

Motion by Timothy Hayes, seconded by Matt Schuermann. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cooperstown Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, hereby sets the High School Graduation Date to June 27, 2021.

Ayes 7                      Noes 0                      Motion carried.

Under public comments, several more students spoke in support of winter sports and the need to get prepared. One student spoke about how students have shown great responsibility in the fact they can be safe, and this concern can/will carry over into sports. Mr. Kennedy stated to the Board that value of athletics should not be overlooked, it adds to a well-rounded education.

President Hayes stated the next regular Board meeting is December 16, 2020 at 5:30 pm.

November 18, 2020

Motion by Timothy Hayes, seconded by Wendy Kiuber, move to executive session for the purpose of discussing litigation and personnel matters at 9:53 PM.

Ayes 7

Noes 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Timothy Hayes, seconded by Marcy Birch moved to return to the business of the regular meeting at 10:52 PM.

Ayes 7

Noes 0

Motion carried.

Motion by Tim Hayes, seconded by Marcy Birch, moved to immediately adjourn at 10:54 PM.

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Clerk