

Northern Adirondack Central School District

March 9, 2021 – 6:00 PM

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Ellenburg, NY

Roll Call:

Paul Gilmore- Present
Phalon Miner-Present
Bryan Trombley-Present
Steven Bartlemus- Present
Willie Venne- Present

Others Present:

James Knight, Jr. - Superintendent
Brian Tousignant - Business Manager
Richard Harriman Sr.

Absent Excused:

Trevor Finley
Mark Decose

Mr. Gilmore Board of Education's President, called the meeting to order at 6:14 PM.

Attendance was taken by Brittany LaBombard, District Clerk, Five Board of Education members were present for this evening's meeting. With two excused absents Mr. Finley and Mr. DeCoste.

A motion was made by Mr. Bartlemus seconded by Mr. Trombley and passed unanimously to go into Executive Session, at 6:17 PM. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss a matter of collective negotiations pursuant to article 14 of civil service law (The Taylor Law).

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Miner seconded by Mr. Bartlemus and passed unanimously to come out of Executive Session, at 7:00 PM.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Trombley seconded by Mr. Barlemus, to pass meeting minutes from previous meetings.

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All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

Superintendent Knight's Report.

Good Evening! A lot has gone on since our last regularly scheduled board meeting back on February 9th. First and foremost there has been a variety of things related to COVID-19 pandemic. Some positive news includes the number of staff members that have received a first if not a first and second dose of one of the available vaccinations. Approximately 80% of our teaching staff has been vaccinated fully or has at least received a first dose. It will also help with possible exposure situations that result in quarantining situations, now that individuals 14 days post their 2nd vaccination do not necessarily require quarantining if exposed up until 90 days after their 2nd dose. This health department recommendation is helpful, but has already been over turned for one of our staff member based on a positive case with very close contact. It is important to remember that the vaccination does not prevent an individual from contracting or transmitting the virus, it only helps the severity of the virus if it is contracted. I had reported at the February 9th meeting that we had just had out 1st positive cases up until that point. Since February 9th, we have had 7 more cases warranting contact tracing and 8 other positive cases. 3 of the positive cases were of individuals that had been quarantined due to their school related exposure which has prompted the Clinton County Health Department to suggest the student to student transmission does and is happening at schools. They let me know that our district was not alone in experiencing this recently, and they are concerned and wonder if it is a result of a new variant that is easier to transmit. The team of staff that has been involved in the contact tracing efforts must be applauded for their diligence and cooperative efforts. Especially for the amount of time that have worked with me after school hours and on weekends to accomplish a task that has never been done before. Sadly as a result of some practice we have reduced our incident turn-around time from 10 hours to about 4 hours on our most recent case.

Another item that has come up since the last board meeting is that the Biden administration denied the waiver application that New York State submitted regarding standardized tests for this year. It appears that the 3-8th English, Math, and Science tests along with the 11th grade English regents, Algebra, Earth science, and biology regents exams will be given. The NYS board of regents has not finalized a plan yet, which is frustrating because if the 3-8 assessment dates are not adjusted the ELA assessments are in 6 weeks and will require a tremendous amount of planning with our COVID criteria. The good news is that there is no expectation to have remote students come in to take them. There is also the possibility that our High School Students in the courses that may have a regent's exam to meet the Federal requirement may get a waiver for their test scores related to their high school graduation requirements. All in all it is confusing and unsettled at this point.

A third item since our last meeting has provided a small resemblance to what we used to consider normalcy, and that is high school athletics. Our boys and girls varsity basketball teams have started playing games, and our cheerleaders have cheered as well. Our sports merger in boy's ice hockey with Saranac is also off to a positive start. Starting tonight the boys JV and

Modified will begin playing games which was not initially set in stone, but has become a possibility. The girls modified might be scheduled to play beginning next week depending on the availability of other schools.

In closing, next Monday, March 15th marks the day that the North Country superintendent's met with the Clinton County Health Department and UVM CVPH's head of infectious diseases and decided to close schools. The Governor followed suit for the entire state a few days later. At that point I nor anyone else could have imagined all that we have been through this past year. I would like to publicly thank all of the district staff for their efforts to maintain a productive operation throughout this hopefully once in a lifetime event. It is not over, and many of us are showing fatigue, I know I am, but our collaborative efforts help us to move forward. Thank you for all of your support and encouragement.

Personnel –Appointments/ Resignations

Employee	Position	Department	Effective Date	Pay Rate	Comments
A. Rosemary Trombley	Part-time Teacher's Aid	District	2/12/2021	N/A	Resignation
B. Jacqueline Whelden	Elementary 5 th Grade Teacher	District	June 30, 2021	N/A	Retirement
C. Pam Pitts	Varsity Competitive Cheerleading	Athletics	February 2021	Per NATA Contract appendix C	
D. Mark Flick	Modified Girls Basketball	Athletics	February 2021	Per NATA Contract appendix C	
E. Gregory Manney	JV Boys Basketball	Athletics	February 2021	Per NATA Contract appendix C	
F. Abby Brown	JV Volleyball	Athletics	February 2021	Per NATA Contract appendix C	
G. Kelly Carey	Teacher	MS/HS	On or About May 3, 2021 to the end of the school year	N/A	Medical Leave

A motion was made by Mr. Bartlemus seconded by Mr. Miner and passed unanimously

to approve all personnel appointments and resignations.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

Financial:

A motion was made by Mr. Trombley and seconded by Mr. Miner approve the expenditures and warrants.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried

A motion was made by Mr. Bartlemus and seconded by Mr. Venne approve budget status report and treasurer’s report.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried

Reports to School Board:

A motion was made by Mr. Miner and seconded by Mr. Bartlemus approve the CSE recommendations.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried

There were no updates to the following:

- Food Service Report
- Custodial – Maintenance Report
- Student Association Reports and Bank Reconciliation Reports
- Administrators
- NATA
- CSEA

The Board opened the meeting for public comment:

Richard Harriman, Sr. - Gave us a quick update on the BOCES project. They are hoping to be in the south building by September. Project is still going within the budget.

New Business:

A motion was made by Mr. Miner and seconded by Mr. Bartlemus to approve resolution to nominate Richard Harriman Sr. as a candidate for the CVES Board Cooperative Educational Services.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried

Voting Location

Superintendent Knight- We will only be holding one polling place this year because of COVID reasons. The only voting place will be held on this campus. You can still request mail in ballots. But I would be remitted saying that this is something that we will be supporting in the future as well. We are going to see how it goes.

A motion was made by Mr. Miner and seconded by Mr. Bartlemus to approve resolution for the Notice of Annual District Meeting of Voter of the Northern Adirondack Central school District.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried

Policy Updates

A motion was made by Mr. Bartlemus and seconded by Mr. Trombley to approve the following policies: 0101 Gender Neutral Single-Occupancy Bathrooms and 2100 School Board Legal Status.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried

Poll Workers 2021-2022

A motion was made by Mr. Bartlemus and seconded by Mr. Trombley to approve poll workers for 2021-2022 election.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried

Tax Corrections

A motion was made by Mr. Bartlemus and seconded by Mr. Trombley to approve 2 property tax corrections FY 2020-2021.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried

3rd Discussion of Policy 5152 ADMISSION OF NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS

At this point next meeting we will be voting on new policy update. Board members have come up with a couple different updates that Mr. Knight will be typing up for review at our next meeting. Non- resident students that are currently attending are grandfathered in. But new non-resident students have to be paying taxes within the district for example on land, keeping the staff rate constant, and increasing the non-employee rate to a tiered payment. In addition, if and when the new policy has been approved they are going to be reviewing policy on an annual

basis. That way if something comes up and the policy doesn't seem to be working they are able to look back on and possible change by updating the policy.

The Board opened the meeting for public comment.

Richard Harriman, Sr. - Suggested to keep track of how many people do not attend the vote that are out of town like Churubusco and Lyon Mountain.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Bartlemus, seconded by Mr. Miner and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:50PM.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

Brittany LaBombard, District Clerk
N.A.C.S. Board of Education