

WESTFIELD ACADEMY AND CENTRAL SCHOOL

WESTFIELD, NEW YORK 14787

Special Business Meeting
Board of Education
Large Group Instruction Room – 6:30 PM

Minutes
May 24, 2021

Members Present: Wendy Dymont Phyllis Hagen
 Steve Cockram Deanne K. Manzella
 Barbara Fay Kimberly Maras
 Tom Tarpley

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Michael Cipolla, Tina Winslow, Bob Dymont

1.0
Board President Wendy Dymont called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

CALL TO ORDER
BOARD

2.0
Board President Wendy Dymont led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

3.0
Draft Letter to SED Regarding Further Relief on Graduation Attendance Requirements. Mr. Tarpley emailed a revised version of the last sentence in the first paragraph and requested that it be considered. He also noted that CDC does not require masking for outside gatherings and would like to strike anything about masking. Mr. Tarpley stated that these graduation requirements should be for all Chautauqua County Schools and not just for WACS. Mr. Cipolla noted that this is a timely letter. He spoke with Christine Schuyler of the Chautauqua County Health Department and her interpretation is to have outdoor gatherings up to 500 without vaccinations and no proof of vaccination. Mr. Cipolla will push to have some written document to support the school. Mrs. Manzella stated that with other gatherings going on like the Taste of Buffalo and the Fair, there should be a push for the schools for gatherings. After discussion on the letter and it was determined that the first paragraph and last sentence be changed to: New York State schools in which less than 100 students are in a graduating class should not have any capacity limitations, and any COVID mitigation measures should be left up to individual districts who are well versed in these matters. Absent this relief, WACS requests a simple six foot spacing for outdoor graduations. In addition, the word masking be removed from the third paragraph first sentence.

DISCUSSION
ITEM:
LETTER TO BE
SENT TO SED RE:
GRADUATION
REQUIREMENTS

Moved by Phyllis Hagen seconded by Thomas Tarpley, that the Westfield Academy and Central Board of Education approve the amended letter to the SED regarding further relief on graduation attendance requirements. The motion carried 7-0.

APPROVAL OF
SED LETTER

alternate days now. This provides an opportunity for WACS to have their own employee and adjust as needed. Mrs. Manzella noted that under holidays, it should read Christmas Eve Day and not Christmas Eve. The motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Thomas Tarpley and seconded by Steve Cockram that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Westfield Academy and Central School Board of Education accept the resignation of Brenna Culbreth, Special Education Teacher with thanks and appreciation for one year of service, effective August 13, 2021. Mr. Cockram asked if this teacher was going to work during the summer school program and Mr. Cipolla responded that yes she was to work over the summer. Mr. Cipolla noted that Miss Culbreth will be relocating. The motion carried 7-0.

ACCEPTANCE OF
BRENNA
CULBRETH'S
RESIGNATION

Moved by Phyllis Hagen and seconded by Thomas Tarpley that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Westfield Academy and Central School Board of Education Teacher approve Courtney Christopher for Family Medical Leave from May 4, 2021 through May 21, 2021. Mr. Tarpley asked if the employee is back at work. Mr. Cipolla responded that yes she was back to work.

APPROVAL OF
COURTNEY
CHRISTOPHER'S
FMLA

There was no public comment.

PUBLIC
COMMENT

Moved by Thomas Tarpley and seconded by Phyllis Hagen that there is a need to recess into executive session for the purpose of negotiations at 6:53 PM. There will be no further business after executive session. The motion carried 7-0.

RECESS INTO
EXECUTIVE
SESSION

Moved by Steve Cockram and seconded by Phyllis Hagen to return to regular session at 7:25 PM. The motion carried 7-0.

RETURN TO
REGULAR
SESSION

Moved by Thomas Tarpley seconded by Phyllis Hagen to adjourn the meeting of the Westfield Academy and Central School Board of Education at 7:26 PM. The motion carried 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted by:



Tina F. Winslow, District Clerk