

Board of Education Meeting, Tuesday, August 27, 2019

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Members present

Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

Members absent

Larry Young

Meeting called to order at 7:16 PM

1. Meeting Called to Order

Action, Procedural: A. Call to Order

Procedural: B. Account for Absences

2. Proposed Executive Session, subject to Board Approval

Action: A. It is anticipated that the Board will act upon a resolution to convene an executive session for discussions and a review of Tax Certiorari and School Security Contract.

3. Return to Public Session

Action, Procedural: A. Return to Public Session

Motion to return to Public Session.

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by Amy West.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

4. Approval of Agenda

Action: A. Approve Tonight's Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by David Francis, second by Amy West.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

5. Approval of Consensus Agenda Items

Action (Consent): A. MOTION for Approval of Consensus Agenda Items

Motion to approve all items of the Consensus Agenda

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by Joe Alati.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

Action (Consent), Minutes: B. Board Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve all items of the Consensus Agenda

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by Joe Alati.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

Action (Consent): C. Personnel Appointments

Motion to approve all items of the Consensus Agenda

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by Joe Alati.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

Action (Consent): D. CSE & CPSE Recommendations

Motion to approve all items of the Consensus Agenda

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by Joe Alati.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

6. Public Comment

Information, Procedural: A. Public May Address the Board of Education

There was an inquiry made regarding new hire, Emily Mancuso, if she is any relation to Superintendent, Gene Mancuso? Mr. Mancuso confirmed that Emily is his niece. Ms. Mancuso was hired for a temporary assignment for a teacher on leave. Mr. Mancuso further clarified that he was not aware that his niece had interviewed, and it was not until after the offer was made that the relationship was realized.

7. Board President's Remarks

No remarks from President Bellavia.

8. Superintendent's Report

Discussion, Information: A. Announcements - Opening Day(s)

Superintendent Mancuso spoke briefly and played a video portion of the morning's Superintendent's Welcome back message and celebration with staff at the Middle School. This included a group line dance by the administrators, and the board members who were in attendance joined in on the fun as well.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Renee Williams, indicated that everyone appeared to be in great spirits, and are glad to be back.

Director of Professional Development, Holly Sidebottom, indicated that a focus on safety and security continues tomorrow, with instructional options. There is time built into the schedule for this mandatory staff development requirement as well as some additional options to attend presentations of choice. Many leaders are staff members. Additionally, the Transportation Department was applauded this morning and there was much appreciation by that staff for this recognition in light of the loss of two drivers and driver shortage issues last school year.

The morning messages also included the latest updates on continuing capital project work occurring at all buildings and resounding messages in support of team building and digital teaching and learning lessons. Learning management systems were also toured.

Superintendent Mancuso reminded members of the annual Tour of School Buildings as the students return and the official school year kicks off next week. The tour is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 9/5 and will start at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Presently, the following members have indicated that they will attend: Gary Stottler, David Francis, Stephanie Templeton, and Amy West.

Superintendent Mancuso highlighted action items on the agenda this evening.

Tomorrow evening, Mrs. Cimmerer will be reading to her students on Facebook Live at 7pm.

Discussion, Information: B. Update on Proposed Action Items

Discussion, Information: C. Presentation - Cougar Tech Robotics Team Report & Presentation

The Cougar Tech Robotics Team Captain, Anna Carter, and Assistant Captain, Ellie Fairchild, reported.

The students highlighted the powerpoint presentation, duly kept a part of the BoardDocs packet.

Q - Retail in RH is high and it seems that their district would have room to provide additional financial support. A - There are not many RH students on the team at this time. This might be an area of focus if additional RH students join. Mr. Stottler added that exchanging contact information and introductions by the students to local businesses and events is the approach most commonly taken. A robotic demonstration was provided in the accompanying band room.

The revised budget calendar was presented with updates from Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations, Dr. Bruce Capron. It was clarified that March 31 is an added meeting.

Information regarding PBAC recruitment strategies was shared.

Q - Is there an opportunity to use social media to advertise the PBAC? Also, the drive to market is to focus on community residents, Booster Groups, etc. Also, open to recommendations.

Q - Recruitment details will be provided on the webpage and social media and perhaps a tri-fold brochure to be left at open houses, etc.

Q - Also, is there still a goal to get one person from each building? A - Recommendations for people from all stakeholder groups. The District's Public Relations Coordinator will address the social media messaging and will help to design a tri-fold upon her return to school on Wednesday, September 4.

9. Board of Education - Action Items

Action: A. Revised Tax Rates for 2019-20 & Tax Rate Resolution

Q - \$150,000 change overall? A - Dr. Capron clarified that a fractional change divided among all residents will be minimal.

Motion to approve the Revised Tax Rates for 2019-20 & Tax Rate Resolution, as presented.

Motion by Stephanie Templeton, second by Gary Stottler.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui

Action: B. Monthly Treasurer's Report

Audit Committee Chairperson, Gary Stottler, indicated that the report was fairly standard and a closeout report is anticipated for the year which will conclude and allow the overall audit. Reserve funding will continue as presented in June. Dr. Capron will further elaborate.

Motion to approve the Monthly Treasurer's Report, as presented.

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by Amy West.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidui

Action: C. Appropriation of Funds to Purchase School Buses

Motion to approve the Appropriation of Funds to Purchase School Buses, as presented.

Motion by David Francis, second by Amy West.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

Action: D. Approval of Food Service Pizza Bid for the 2019-20 School Year

Motion to approve the Food Services Department Bid for Pizza for the 2019-20 School Year, as presented.

Motion by Stephanie Templeton, second by Amy West.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

Action: E. Resolution to Fund BOCES Capital Project

Dr. Capron explained that last spring, all of the component districts, including HFL, approved a resolution to complete a capital project by contributing equal portions. This appropriation will fund \$500,000 now, and later fund the second and third payments after aid is returned to the District, following the same process of receiving the aid back. The funds will be a transfer based on the aid that comes back from the project.

Year one this will show as both a revenue and an expenditure.

Year two, when the largest payment would be coming in, the District will have both aid and revenue to pay for it. It was clarified that there is no money being taken from other programs to pay for this.

Motion to approve the Resolution to Fund BOCES Capital Project, as presented.

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by Joe Alati.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

Action: F. Substance Abuse Education and Counseling

Motion to approve the Substance Abuse Education and Counseling, as presented.

Motion by David Francis, second by Gary Stottler.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

Action, Discussion, Information: G. Second Review/Approval of Erie I Policy Recommendations

Motion to approve the Erie I Policy Recommendations, as presented.

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

Action: H. Second Review/Approval 2019-20 Board of Education Goals

Edits are shown from the last meeting.

Motion to approve the 2019-20 Board of Education Goals, as presented.

Motion by Joe Alati, second by Amy West.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

Action: I. Approval to Dispose/Donate District Property - Books

Motion to approve two donations of books, as presented.

Motion by Stephanie Templeton, second by Caralyn Ross.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

10. Board President's Update

Discussion, Information: A. NYSSBA Convention - Board Member Attendees & Delegate

Gary Stottler spoke about the role of the voting delegate. A local meeting is held a couple of weeks prior to the event which provides more insight into the resolutions.

Caralyn Ross volunteered to serve as HF-L's delegate at the conference.

C - NYSSBA's Annual Convention - Preconvention seminar on communications: Stephanie Templeton will join Amy West in attendance.

Discussion, Information: B. Board President's Update

11. Board of Education - Review Only Items

Discussion, Information: A. 2019-20 District Organizational Chart

Superintendent Mancuso indicated that it is an annual obligation to provide an updated organizational chart.

Discussion, Information: B. Continued Discussion/Ranking of 2019-20 Board Workshop Topics

Holly Sidebottom conducted the ranking activity to assist board members in deciding their workshop topics for the 2019-20 school year.

Discussion included, but were not limited to the following insights:

Revenue and Expenses: Gary elaborated that this is about the relationship between assessment, housing, tax revenue changes, enrollment, over the long-term. Economic and political science breakdown and relationships between assessment, housing, tax revenue changes, enrollment, long-term planning exercise. While it's essentially the role of the Chamber of Commerce, it is important for the Board of Education to understand the long-term outlook. Board members agreed that there is merit to this conversation. There is a policy about board members having some responsibility in gaining revenue for the community, as appropriate.

Online Learning Potential: Comments are provided. What's out there and available to us as enrollment changes? It was noted that four of the comments are related to similar issues in the first topic on revenue and expenses. Cooperative Agreements can be established between Districts. There was a question about BOCES brokering an agreement. To this point, this has not been possible but might be worth looking at. Superintendent Mancuso shared that when in Penfield, there was an agreement with a neighboring District to do such a thing. There was a breakdown of state aid disbursement accordingly. Online learning by a certified NYS teacher is also possible. To narrow down, perhaps identifying models in which to deliver. Requirements. Dual enrollment, sharing, online, etc. Cost analysis. Looking at what is being done elsewhere in NYS and outside the region as well. How does this align with the teacher contract?

Culture: Comments are provided. Define what is being measured. Board members are asked to evaluate this annually and would appreciate a better understanding of how to do so. For example, what do other school district's do? This is a major focus of the NYSSBA conference. Dave Francis suggested that this is a community-specific need to understand.

K-12 Integrated STEAM Curriculum: Comments are provided. There was agreement that, which there is much focus in this area, further knowledge about the long-term outlook would be helpful. Writing literacy and integrating STEM and STEAM into all areas of the curriculum has been a focus for the District. Capital project enhancements for MAKER Spaces, are we ready to seize this opportunity? Music and sound imaging, mathematical nature of music, students are more invested in learning opportunities.

After the second round of voting, the three highest number of votes for workshop topics were:

Revenue and Expenses

Online Learning Potential

K-12 Integrated STEAM Curriculum

The Culture topic will be well heard at the NYSSBA conference, and members agreed that they can decide if this topic warrants further workshop time at some point.

Discussion, Information: C. First Review Board of Education Code of Ethics

In the last sentence of the introductory paragraph, it was agreed that the sentence should begin with, "To that end".

With regard to the proposed changes, it was clarified that the expectation is to be in attendance and engaged at as many meetings possible. Removing the "all" was agreed to be acceptable by all members. The Code of Ethics document will be presented at the September 10 meeting as an action item for approval.

Discussion, Information: D. Updates on Committee Meetings

Board member, Joe Alati attended some recent meetings with local legislative political parties. He also spoke with Monroe One BOCES Superintendent, Dan White. Based on these conversations, a shortage of educators, and other staff (bus drivers, etc.), appear to be a continuing trend. The question remains about what the federal government can do about this. Another topic was the Higher Education Act - student loan forgiveness. And, adding a possible separate category of CDL requirements just for bus drivers, if this helps to build longevity in these positions. Capital project costs were also part of the discussion. Farm to Table conversations were not very familiar to the senators and that due to the regulations, it becomes very difficult to implement these programs. They expressed interest in this topic. Perhaps some elimination of regulation in specific communities would help to move these conversations and considerations forward. Mental health budgeting and staff were also among the conversations. The teacher shortage is minimizing the ability to teach kids who are on waiting lists. It is rumored that a \$7-billion cut in education is what the current president is proposing.

Amy West announced that she was invited to sit on the MCSBA Steering Committee this year - LT of operations. The MCSBA Executive Committee votes on Steering Committee recommendations and action items. Amy further clarified that the Steering Committee sets the goals for the year, dues calculations - a committee has been formed. Also, a staffing committee is looking at per diem, and school to career connections.

The Alumni group is also an MCSBA organization of past presidents.

District Safety Committee - Gary Stottler attended the latest meeting and indicated that it was all about getting preparations in place as well as staff training for the opening of schools. The Fire chief was also in attendance. The meeting centered mostly around safety and security. Discussion about drop off and bus displacement and plans for handling this were well communicated.

12. Questions from the Audience

Discussion, Information: A. Questions from the Audience

Community member, Danny Bassette expressed appreciation for the board reviewing, discussing and revising their Code of Ethics document.

13. Adjournment

Action: A. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Motion by Stephanie Templeton, second by Caralyn Ross.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

14. Next Board of Education Meeting Topics

Information: A. Next Board of Education Meeting Topics