Board of Education Meeting, Tuesday, November 26, 2019
Generated by Rhonda Schaefer, District Clerk

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

Meeting called to order at 6:56 PM

1. Meeting Called to Order

Action, Procedural: A. Call to Order
(not specified)

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
Procedural: B. Account for Absences

Members absent
Larry Young

2. Approval of Agenda
Action: A. Approve Tonight's Agenda
Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Caralyn Ross, 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

3. 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 Amy West.
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 Amy West.
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 Amy West.
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 Amy West.
Final Resolution: Motion Approved
Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

4. Public Comment

Information, Procedural: A. Public May Address the Board of Education
There were no comments from the public.

5. Board President's Remarks
Discussion, Information: A. Board President's Remarks

6. Student Representative's Update
Discussion, Information: A. Student Representative's Update

7. Superintendent's Report
Discussion, Information: A. Announcements
Superintendent Mancuso provided a brief update on the latest happenings around campus.

Mr. Mancuso spoke about the resolution for the upcoming budget vote, regarding state aid. He clarified that the proposition

legally requires wording to indicate that the district is responsible and liable. Should the State of New York go bankrupt and not pay any of the New York State school districts, the tax payers would be liable for the cost of the project. This has not ever occurred, at least not in the last 200-years. Yet, legal requirements dictate the language for protection purposes.

Discussion, Information: B. Update on Proposed Action Items

Discussion, Information: C. Presentations

8. Board of Education Workshop
Workshop: A. Group Workshop Topic: On-Line Learning Potential
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Renee Williams introduced Instructional Technology Specialist, Rob Sanford, who will be co-presenting this evening for the On-Line Learning Workshop. Rob invited all board members to log into the Nearpod.com link with the code provided in the packet.

Mr. Sanford and Dr. Williams shared the vision of the District on this topic on On-Line Learning. Questions that board members presented in the past were shared as reminders for preparation of the workshop.

Board members were invited to share responses to some prepared questions via the Nearpod presentation module.
- What is your understanding of Online Learning?

Board members provided a variety of answers based on their personal thoughts.
- Highlight the parts of this definition that stand out to you.

Board members shared their responses virtually by highlighting the areas of the definition that stood out to them, personally. ("teacher lead education"; "synchronous vs. asynchronous", for example.)
- What does online learning look like?

Board members shared and exchanged comments about some of their personal online learning experiences.
- Based on these definitions and any experience you have with blended and online learning, what do you believe are some benefits of the approaches?

Board members shared their responses virtually, with responses including but not limited to, working at own pace; ability to ask questions and receive feedback; go back and rewind. Board members agreed that these methods prepare students for the real world as webinars and such are a regular expectation in a workplace today. Also, the teacher may receive analytics and learn more specifically about their own teaching style by seeing repeated questions, or realizing many students needed to rewind, etc.
- Based on these definitions and any experience you have with blended and online learning, what do you believe are some drawbacks of the approaches?

Board members shared their responses virtually, with responses including but not limited to, lack of personal connection and interaction; availability of internet access for all students; teaching and learning soft skills; possible apprehension about communicating; missing the body language connections, which sometimes brings the message home; importance of using emojis and moticons would likely become more important in an online learning environment.

Examples of practical applications were considered:
Tutors
Long-term illness
Credit recovery
Lack of substitutes
Packed student schedules
Smaller student populations
Interest in specific curriculum that the District doesn't offer
Budget lightening
Enrichment and intervention needs

Current Online Opportunities:
Accelerate U - Wayne-Fingerlakes BOCES
MCC - Monroe Community College
Tell Me More - Rosetta Stone
Blended learning opportunities - Schoology (Discussion boards, submission of assignments, etc.)
iReady - fill gaps in student learning & challenges
Virtual trips and interviews
Looking at iTutor in tutoring situations - NYS certified teachers provide this service. The student sees a split screen with a teacher (BOCES aidable - about the same cost as a traditional tutor)
Online PD opportunities is something that the District has used in the past. The District is again beginning to embark on development and implementation of more offerings.

Board members brainstormed some potential scenarios where online learning would be impactful, including but not limited to:
- Perhaps, BOCES programs might see greater participation if students could free up their schedules by utilizing some online coursework, allowing more time to participate in BOCES program offerings.
- K-6 students may see this as part of their normal learning environment.
- Perhaps, if an algebra class were offered online, it would free up an algebra teacher to teach a BC Calc class.
- Perhaps, meeting in person every other day would maintain personal interaction, while freeing up time for a teacher to rotate into teaching additional levels.
- Self-selection to use online versus class time might often be enough to create balance.
- A Board member who is also an educator suggested that the online learning environment often requires more time than a traditional classroom setting because there is generally more frequent interaction than in a traditional classroom setting.

- Superintendent Mancuso suggested that with the decreasing population, the Board will be required to make decisions in the near future, as current options do not include online learning.

Cost-savings was an interesting consideration as salaries vary based on years of service, etc.
So, based on a sixth assignment scenario, face to face is $469 vs. online $532 on average, which would change depending on the number of students. Could be much higher.
Q - DIY on Schoology for example? A - For teachers who have a very solid understanding, this would require solid paid training initially, but this would be a one-time investment.

Legal and practical options were also discussed.
One board member wondered if differentiation might really become a focus.
Law 2d is also a major consideration when it comes to protecting students and all data.

Capabilities: Tools, Skill, Will - as outlined in the ppt presentation, duly kept a part of the BoardDocs packet.

Mr. Sanford spoke also about the District's focus on digital citizenship. PD, professional development and support from ITS.

Board members agreed that they have learned a great deal from the presentation, and many considerations must be taken.

Examples to explore:
iNacol
NYSCATE
ISTE
Keep an eye on the research
Speak Up and Project Tomorrow (online surveys for teachers, students, parents, etc. - free data gathering and analysis).

Additional Board Member Questions:
Has NYS developed standards around online learning? A - They have released some, for computer science and digital literacy, which is important to start with.
How will our tech infrastructure need to change to support this? A - Much to consider.
Are there any schools in the state who have explored options? A - Lists are being prepared and will be submitted in follow-up to this presentation.
Locally, PE; 2-one semester courses; economics; and personal finance are offered at Brighton CSD.
Dr. Williams shared that the topic of discussion regarding more of a move toward online learning is common at her monthly ASI meetings. Much to consider, including this being a community decision, challenges, who will go first, management, contractual considerations, etc.

Superintendent Mancuso suggested that Board Members must decide the answer to the question, "what do you want from this"? The WHY's really matter. This is needed in order to seek further specific scenarios to address and fulfill the WHY's.
Where does it fit in the right time? This will need to be a community conversation. There are a number of drivers at this point, economic, managing staffing shortages, pedogogical reasons - preparation for college, etc.... Mr. Mancuso again said, this is a good example of a WHY that must be agreed upon by multiple stakeholders.

Members discussed the importance of teaching the children first to work in this environment before launching.

Board members expressed appreciation to the presenters for the valuable information provided in the workshop this evening.

9. Board of Education - Action Items
Action: A. Monthly Treasurer's Report
Audit Committee Chairperson, Gary Stottler, reported that the Audit Committee met on Thursday, 11/22 to review the Treasurer's Report. Members looked at revenue, cash flow and food service. All appears to be in order. The Treasurer answered any minor questions to satisfaction.

Motion to approve the Monthly Treasurer's Report, 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: B. Health Services Contract - Wynn Farms
Lindsay Ali, PPS Director, spoke about credits earned by some students on a horse farm that the District is utilizing as part of an alternative education program. The program seeks to decrease chronic absenteeism and establish a more meaningful connection to curriculum in an alternate setting with animals.

Motion to approve a Health Services Contract with Wynn Farms, as presented.

Motion by Dave Ghidiu, 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: C. Second Review/Approval Policy Recommendations
Motion to approve the Policy Recommendations, as presented.

Motion by David Francis, 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

Action: D. Approval of additional 2020-21 Program Budget Advisory Council Members
Meeting room accommodations may be required due to the increased participation in membership. This is an outstanding turn-out.

Motion to approve additional 2020-21 Program Budget Advisory Council Members, as presented.

Motion by Joe Alati, second by Stephanie Templeton.
Final Resolution: Motion Approved
Yea: Joe Alati, Carol Bellavia, David Francis, Caralyn Ross, Gary Stottler, Stephanie Templeton, Amy West, Dave Ghidiu

Action: E. Gift to the School – New Bench Seat for Buddy Bench, Lima Primary School
Motion to approve the Gift to the School – New Bench Seat for Buddy Bench, Lima Primary School, 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

10. Board President's Update
Discussion, Information: A. Board President's Update
President Bellavia reported that she has received favorable feedback re SuperEval for the board self-evaluation. Nothing negative thus far. Some members have not yet had an opportunity to review the tool yet, however, it was noted that there are ways to adjust the tool to fit this board. Further discussion will continue at the next meeting.

11. Board of Education - Review Only Items
Discussion, Information: A. School Tax Collection Report
Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations, Dr. Bruce Capron, highlighted his report on the School Tax Collection, highlighting that 100% of PILOT invoices are paid at this point.

Discussion, Information: B. Health Services Contract - Rush Henrietta Schools
Clarification was provided that the invoice is for Norman Howard School nursing services.

Discussion, Information: C. Third Discussion on NYSSBA Convention, October 24 – 26, 2019
Legal Guides Do's and Dont's - A. West attended. The message was that individuals take what they know when placed in an environment that they are not a part of 99% of the time. It was an interesting and funny presentation. Amy also learned that abstaining from a vote at the board table for philosophical ideas is not good practice. There must be clear conflicts of interest to abstain.

Responding to Allegations of Child Abuse - C. Ross attended and suggested that the pdf attachments and cheat sheet are very beneficial. The examples presented covered reporting obligations. A relevant point was that the training element would need to be provided to board members. Our HR department or CPS might be helpful with suggesting appropriate training opportunities. While this is not required, it is highly recommended, as board members are considered required reporters.

Dave Ghidiu left briefly at 9:05pm

Commonalities & Differences 504 - J. Alati, R. Williams, and H. Sidebottom, attended - Discussions were focused regarding definitions on a case-by-case basis of what District's must provide or what is personal equipment to support needs of a 504 plan. A saddle, or wheelchair, for example. Joe suggested the education factor for the public is an important one.

Dave Ghidiu returned at 9:07pm

Social Media - A. West attended. Amy reported that the session was not very beneficial as the presenters were not school attorney's and found their material was not very relevant.

Social Media Guidance for School Board Members - J. Alati attended. Conversation focused on freedom of speech. Some highlights included: Five board members talking on social media is considered a quorum. No-one is your friend and can be held accountable for anything you say; nothing is private. Does provide positive opportunity for transparency. Best practice suggests board members not engage at all. However, responders should encourage people to allow time for data collection and for an organization to respond. Or to refer to the appropriate personnel. Any threats, contact police. Harassment, take a screenshot and present to superintendent immediately. Social media policy, 5480.

Student Leadership in an Elementary School Setting - C. Bellavia attended. The presentation focused on colleges that are participating in a program similar to our Fellows program. However, it is considered a residency program and is paid through BOCES by a grant for the first two years. It was clarified that HF-L currently also pays fellows and are considering reimbursing mileage as well.

Steam, Stem, Career Readiness - G. Stottler attended three separate sessions and concluded that educational results must be in mind prior to creating spaces.

Solar Power - G. Stottler attended and found that the business and capital constructs were interesting.

Amy West and Stephanie Templeton will report on the Communications Workshop and the Generative Governance at the next meeting.

Navigating Cyber-Security Threats - D. Ghidiu attended and will send notes to the Clerk to add to the post-conference materials section.

Fab 5 - Joe will report next time.

Dual Enrollment - R. Williams attended. Handouts are available in the post-conference materials section.

Standards Based Grading - R. Williams attended. Handouts are available in the post-conference materials section.

Community Engagement - R. Williams and D. Francis attended. Both agreed that the session was not meaningful.

Neuropsychological Investment - C. Ross and D. Ghidiu attended. Areas of highlight include regular mindfulness practices, management of this - is the District as proactive with this in higher grade levels, as they are in the lower levels? It was suggested that The District is actively increasing staff and student awareness of daily habits.

School Law Conference - C. Ross attended. Status checks and awareness seemed to indicate that HF-L is engaging in good practices.

Discussion, Information: D. Updates on Committee Meetings
Labor Relations - Gary and Amy attended. Taylor Law, State Law - The Board's role should not be as a member of the negotiating team. HF-L is following best practices. Board should not be micro-managing, but making sure that the negotiating team is empowered.

Information Exchange - Dr. Williams attended the session on vaping. Renee said it was well-done. The documents will be scanned in and added to the packet. Good warning signs and staggering numbers. 105% increase in one-year. Chemicals and flavorings are extremely unknown and widely available.
Lindsay Ali, Director of PPS is setting up a resource/tool box that will assist with recognizing these issues, as well as others.

Music Boosters - Amy & Joe attended. Fundraising information .(add line to grid). New membership.

Legislative meeting coming up soon.

12. Questions from the Audience Regarding Agenda Items
Discussion, Information: A. Questions from the Audience Regarding Agenda Items

13. Adjournment
Action: A. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting 9:23pm
Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Motion by Caralyn Ross, 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

14. Next Board of Education Meeting Topics
Information: A. Next Board of Education Meeting Topics