

Board of Education Meeting, Tuesday, November 10, 2020

Generated by Rhonda Schaefer, District Clerk

Members present

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

1. Meeting Called to Order

Action, Procedural: A. Call to Order

Procedural: B. Account for Absences

Members absent

Stephanie Templeton (arrived at 6:04PM)

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 to review the tenure matrix for probationary teachers and administrators.

Motion to Move to Executive Session at 6:00PM

Motion by Gary Stottler, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

Member S. Templeton arrived at 6:04PM

3. Return to Public Session

Action: A. Motion to Return to Public Session at 7:06PM

Motion to Return to Public Session.

Motion by Jeff Klein, second by David Francis.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

4. Approval of Agenda

Action: A. Approve Tonight's Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by David Francis, second by Stephanie Templeton.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

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 David Francis, second by Stephanie Templeton.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

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

Motion to approve all items of the Consensus Agenda

Motion by David Francis, second by Stephanie Templeton.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

Action (Consent): C. Personnel Appointments

Motion to approve all items of the Consensus Agenda

Motion by David Francis, second by Stephanie Templeton.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

Action (Consent): D. CSE & CPSE Recommendations

Motion to approve all items of the Consensus Agenda

Motion by David Francis, second by Stephanie Templeton.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

6. Public Comment

Information: A. Public May Address the Board of Education as Outlined - see agenda item content
Middle School student, Jenna Quinn addressed the Board of Education via Zoom, with a presentation on the Blue Light effect.

7. Board President's Remarks

Discussion, Information: A. Board President's Remarks

8. Superintendent's Report

Discussion, Information: A. Announcements

A brief recap of Superintendent Mancuso's highlights:

- Update on Week-10 back to school
- Integrating SEL into Academics. HF-L's Lindsay Ali helped to lead a national Zoom conversation through the Solution Tree Professional Development platform about balancing academic standards while focusing on social-emotional well-being. Kudos to Mrs. Ali!
- Transition to S'mores for ENews Notes. The transition will roll-out to the S'mores platform for all building weekly ENewsnotes in the coming weeks.
- NYS State Aid Transportation Reimbursement. The District received a letter from NYSED indicating there would be no reimbursement for transportation aid from March-June 2020. There is an obvious lack of clarity by the NYSED on use of busses to deliver meals, educational materials, and other school related materials during this timeframe. Superintendent Mancuso urged others to join him in advocating for this legislative correction.
- The NYSPHSAA (New York State Public High School Athletic Association) announced that low and moderate winter sports are permitted to be played starting November 30th. These include, bowling, gymnastics, indoor track & field, skiing, and swimming & diving.
- Wednesday, November 11, 2020 is Veteran's Day with no school for students. Teachers will attend for a staff development day.
- Update on Micro-Cluster zone designations and potential testing if District's enter into the yellow, orange or red zones.

The superintendent's presentation materials are duly kept a part of the BoardDocs packet.

Q - Are we calling our assembly people? A - This is a legislative issue. The new commissioner finds this is an issue.

Q - Were we required to provide meals on behalf of the state? A - Yes, there were many mandates.

Q - What about any district residents in our Henrietta/Rush area? A - The zone boundaries follow the physical nature of each school district.

C - The neighboring districts that are designated in zoned areas (yellow zone) are leading us to believe that this could not be good news for our District. HF-L could move directly to an orange zone in theory. The Superintendent assured members and observers that District officials are paying very careful attention to all that is happening around us. The District is training for administering tests, if needed.

Unknowns were also discussed, as outlined in the final slide of the superintendent's report in the BoardDocs packet.

HF-L received its first positive result for a student who is asymptomatic. The high school principal is contacting families at this time. Notification letters have been prepared to notify all those identified as having been in contact with this student. The rules have changed to 60-minutes of cumulative contact, even with a mask on and socially distanced, during the course of the person's illness. Mask enforcement and distancing has kept the schools in this region in good standing with lower numbers.

C - New strain is more contagious is ironically less long term harmful, but a lot more contagious.

C - Until outcome data is known, it will be difficult to draw too many conclusions. While information continues to change and will continue to, we need to move forward and adjust to be the best we can within the parameters.

Doubling down on precautions is necessary at this point. Everyone is tiring but it's no time to become lax.

Q - Pool testing? A - Have not been offered this an option yet.

Q - Any good sports news? A - Mr. Donohue reported that it has been a great season. Girls soccer is 10-0. Boys soccer is number one seed - presently scoreless at the half. Girls swimming won the County championship, cross-country will run next week at Wayne HS. Section V will not allow spectators. HF-L will still allow for the 2-person rule.

Section V is streaming swimming and diving. Find the links on the athletic page, twitter page.

C - Vigilance in our protocols will remain imperative. A - Reminders of expectations have been sent to all families.

Discussion, Information: B. Update on Proposed Action Items

Discussion, Information: C. Presentations

9. Board of Education - Action Items

Action: A. Health Services Contract - Child and Family Therapy and Consultation Services

Q - Mrs. Ali confirmed that the larger of the two numbers is accurate for this contract amount. The amount is \$49,000. vs. \$39,000.

Motion to approve the Health Services Contract with Child and Family Therapy and Consultation Services, 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 Ghidui, Jeff Klein

Action, Discussion: B. Deferred payment plan for Xerox copiers and multifunction devices

Motion to approve the Deferred payment plan for Xerox copiers and multifunction devices, as presented.

Motion by Amy West, second by Stephanie Templeton.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

10. Board President's Update

Discussion, Information: A. Board President's Update

President Bellavia reminded members of the Saturday, 11/14 morning meeting for a budget workshop.

Due to COVID restrictions, it was suggested that members bring their own coffee, however wrapped breakfast items, juice, water and soda will be provided.

11. Board of Education - Review Only Items

Discussion, Information: A. Update on Committee Meetings & NYSSBA Convention

Music Boosters - Mrs. West reported that a recent Emojiland video was highlighted by Governor Cuomo including some very talented HF-L student musicians. Superintendent Mancuso included this as part of a recent weekly update to the board. The video link is there for anyone interested in viewing!

Steering Committee - A. West attended. Co-chairs from various MCSBA committees attend and provide updates from the various committees.

Sports Boosters meeting was cancelled.

Legislative Committee Update - Mrs. Ross attended and suggested that the attached minutes are a good representation of what was discussed. She added that, any NYS money logistically might be too late for next year's planning. District's were encouraged to take opportunities for financial support during this pandemic. How can work force difficulties be addressed? Albany often sees things in terms of downstate, however if local leaders can continue talking about upstate issues, it might lead to some change. Two position papers updated in a couple of ways. Have until November 12 to make changes. Mandates there is a reference to academic insolvency... unsure what this means. A - It has to do with elimination of grades but more clarity should be provided. College conversation, unsure if this is new about graduation requirements. Whatever the testing requirements are should not be anticipated for the end of the year.

ILC Meeting - S. Templeton reported that there is not much new occurring now. Lesson plans are shared and the group reviews, critiques, and provides feedback. A very ambitious project and in HF-L fashion. The meeting was opened focusing on super-teacher syndrome. A lot of energy and effort is put in, but teachers were encouraged to remind themselves that it was okay not to be super-heroes all the time.

NYSSBA Convention feedback:

Mr. Francis attended a very interesting and engaging presentation on a "**Superintendent's Snapshot**". It was a representation of the establishment of re-opening taskforce groups and the demographic of superintendents around the state.

Mr. Francis also attended, "**Working Together toward a Culture of Excellence**", along with Mr. Ghidui and Mrs. West.

Thought Exchange results were shared about open and honest communication.

Another session was entitled, "**How well does my board disagree**"? - Interesting regarding climate and culture, shared leadership and being purposeful. Unity of purpose, what are we trying to create?

"**Using Social Media to Celebrate Success**" focused on, things such as, What is the tone of your message setting forth to the community? It was recommended to reinforce the culture using social media. Also engaging negativity privately is often beneficial. How much their graduation rate, and enrollment increased as a result of social media campaign.

"**State Aid in the Age of COVID**" reviewed impacts of state budget agreements.

"**The Future of Work - Are Schools Ready?**" - That unsettled feeling is not going away soon. Gen Z and Gen Alpha - those born after 2010, don't have the same filters, and lifelong learning is the new normal. Mr. Ghidui also attended and he felt it was one of the best presentations he's ever attended. Great energy and vision regarding K-12 Education.

"**Remote Learning in NYS**" - nothing new, really. The best take-away was taking what is learned during this time and making things better overall. Also changes involving having parents in the classroom - some challenge and uncertainty and some benefit.

School Finance - Understanding history of foundation aid. State budget plan for budget process planning is unknown. Message was try not to react. Develop multiple scenarios. Get out and communicate. Talk about reserves. Board members main role should remain at 30,000 feet and remain part of the conversation.

Gary attended

LGBTQ - very interesting. take-away was that students see themselves as normal kids and they would appreciate being treated as such.

Health Safety and School Climate - District Safety committee was taking a look at school climate. Forming school based health centers. Plenty of data about benefits and keeping students healthy, especially in impoverished areas. Not clear about funding.

School Climate Surveys - Not sure that much more was learned. Same positives and negatives that have been discussed previously.

Keynote address - Very interesting and good speakers. Not sure how this can be replicated.

Mr. Ghidui attended some others already mentioned. He did not find anything that HF-L isn't already doing exceptionally well. Renewed appreciation for things happening at HF-L. "Please share with others. Feels good about what we're doing."

Superintendent Mancuso attended parts of the keynote as there were competing commitments on his calendar. Mr. Mancuso spoke about a recent virtual conference that he attended, and the education associated with learning online. Great statistical information was shared.

Operational options were also discussed with assistance being provided after school hours and zoom making this easier.

Community schooling support agencies are being recommended to city schools.

The superintendent will follow up on a request from board members to receive access to the presentations he attended.

President Bellavia shared an interesting fact, "School nurses were introduced and added to schools for the first time, following the Spanish Flu pandemic".

Many of the workshops will be made public over time via the NYSSBA website.

12. Questions from the Audience

Discussion, Information: A. Questions from the Audience - Click for contact information

Community Member, Danny Basette shared his thoughts about asymptomatic people in the buildings and suggested that this is nothing new - it has been happening from year to year. He expressed appreciation regarding several items highlighted during the meeting.

13. Adjournment

Action: A. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 9:00pm

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Stephanie Templeton, 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, Jeff Klein