

IROQUOIS SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
School Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 16, 2021
5:30 PM

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Board Members and Officers:

Present: Mrs. Julie Abele, Mr. Jeremy Coblentz, Mr. Andrew Jackula, Mrs. Amber Miller, Mrs. Rita Nicolussi, Mr. Richard Ragen, Jr. (late arrival at 5:36 p.m.), Mr. Edward Rickrode, Mrs. Jennifer Sheldon, and Atty. Christine McClure (Solicitor)

Absent: Mrs. Susan Bartlett

Administration:

Present: Mrs. Karen Barringer, Mrs. Jennifer Foutz, Mrs. Maria Modzelewski, Mr. Shane Murray, Mrs. Kimberly Smith, Dr. Thad Urban, Mr. Douglas Wilson, Mrs. Kelly Titus, and Mrs. Brenda Tombaugh

Absent: Mrs. Veronica Will, and Mrs. Jeannene Willow

Guests: Carl Zimmerman

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Iroquois School District Board of Directors was called to order by Board President Julie Abele at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, in the Iroquois Elementary School Cafeteria, 4231 Morse Street, Erie, Pennsylvania.

B. MOMENT OF REFLECTION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mrs. Abele opened the meeting with a moment of reflection and then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

On a motion by Mr. Rickrode, seconded by Mrs. Sheldon, the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on February 16, 2021, were unanimously approved. (7-0)

D. AGENDA CHANGES:

(None)

Mr. Ragen arrived at this time (5:36 p.m.)

E. PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST/CITIZEN COMMENTS:

- PSBA services and upcoming events – Jim Summerville
- District Students' Mental Health Update – Maria Modzelewski
- COVID-19 Update - Karen Barringer

F. BUSINESS OFFICE REPORTS:

1. BUDGET TRANSFERS
2. APPROVAL OF BILLS:
 - a. PAID BILLS
 - b. UNPAID BILLS
3. TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD
4. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
5. CAPITAL PROJECT REPORT, BILLS, AND INVESTMENTS
6. STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND REPORT
7. LOCAL TAX REPORTS (EIT and LST)

On a motion by Mr. Ragen, seconded by Mr. Rickrode, the Board unanimously accepted the Business Office Reports. (8-0)

G. CAFETERIA REPORT:

On a motion by Mr. Rickrode, seconded by Mrs. Miller, the Cafeteria Report was unanimously approved. (8-0)

H. STUDENTS/EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

1. Recommendation to approve professional development opportunities:
 - a. Jacob Trojak (IHS) to Virtual Schoology, ConnectPA, March 4, 2021. Cost: \$115
 - b. Stacey Dell (IHS) to Virtual Schoology, ConnectPA, March 4, 2021. Cost: \$115
 - c. Jessica Chrapowicz (IHS) to Virtual Schoology, ConnectPA, March 4, 2021. Cost: \$115
 - d. Jennifer Foutz (IES) to 2021 PAFPC Annual Conference (virtual), May 4-5, 2021. Cost: \$125.
 - e. Brenda Tombaugh (DAO) to virtual 2021 Spring A/CAPA Child Accounting Conference, April 14-15, 2021. Cost: \$134.
 - f. Shane Murray (DAO) to virtual PASA Leadership Forum, March 29, 2021. Cost: \$189.
2. Recommendation to approve Emergency Substitute Teacher through the IU#5 consortium:

David Brown

On a motion by Mr. Ragen, seconded by Mr. Rickrode Items 1(a-f), and 2 were unanimously approved. (8-0)

I. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

1. Recommendation to approve Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5's 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget: (Attachment)

On a motion by Mr. Coblentz, seconded by Mr. Jackula, Item 1 was approved with the following vote results:

Abele – Yes	Jackula – Yes	Ragen – Yes
Bartlett – Absent	Miller – Yes	Rickrode – Yes
Coblentz – Yes	Nicolussi – Yes	Sheldon – Yes

Motion carried with 8 “yes” votes and 0 “no” vote with 1 “Absent”.

2. Recommendation to renew the Food Service Management Contract with The Nutrition Group, Inc., for the 2021/2022 School Year: (Attachment)

This is the second of four allowable one-year renewals. Total Operating Costs are projected at \$743,265.67, with an estimated loss of (\$171,363.08). Services assume the continuation of Breakfast in the classroom at IES, and the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) at both Iroquois Elementary School and Iroquois Jr./Sr. High School. Due to the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, no Erie Rise meals are included in this budget projection, and a reduced number of meals are estimated based on the current year numbers for our in-school students.

3. Recommendation to approve participation in the PJM Demand Response program with NRG Curtailment Solutions, Inc. for the annual period from June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022. Projected Payment of \$8,891.12 for participation in one test and any mandatory events: (Attachment)
4. Recommendation to approve a Disabled Veterans Real Property Exemption for Aaron J. Boylan, 2740 Euclid Blvd., Erie, PA 16510, effective for all taxes that become due on or after January 4, 2021. This exemption will be reviewed every five years for determination of continued financial need: (Attachment)
5. Motion to confirm the Superintendent's recommendation to close Iroquois Jr./Sr. High from February 16-23, 2021 (6 days) due to COVID-related factors based on PDE and Erie County Department of Health guidance and the lack of available staff.

6. Request for extension to previously approved FMLA Medical leave:

Julia Gabrys, Drug Free Communities Program Coordinator – requesting additional four (4) weeks of leave, with return to work date of March 29, 2021.

7. Recommendation to approve non-resident, tuition-waiver enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year for children of District employees:
 - a. Michael Greider, Grade 9
Parent/Employee: Mike Greider, IES Custodian
Home Address: 3832 Pennsylvania Avenue, Erie, PA 16504
District of Residence: Erie City SD
 - b. Riley Greider, Grade 7
Parent/Employee: Mike Greider, IES Custodian
Home Address: 3832 Pennsylvania Avenue, Erie, PA 16504

District of Residence: Erie City SD

- c. Emmalynn Greider, Grade 3
Parent/Employee: Mike Greider, IES Custodian
Home Address: 3832 Pennsylvania Avenue, Erie, PA 16504
District of Residence: Erie City SD

On a motion by Mr. Coblenz, seconded by Mr. Rickrode, Items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7(a-c) were unanimously approved. (8-0)

J. POLICY COMMITTEE:

(NONE)

K. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

- 1. Recommendation to approve requests from outside groups to use District facilities:
 - a. DCNR Presque Isle State Park requesting use of IHS pool and stadium track for lifeguard assessments, May 19 29, 22, 23, 29, 31, and June 5, 6, 21, 2021. Contact person: Mike Kujawinski and Bob North. Category 3. Recommended fees to apply: \$50 per day of use. Total \$500.
 - b. Lions Club/Lawrence Park Police Dept. requesting use of IES parking lot, gym, front lobby, LGI room, and cafeteria for the 2021 Safety Town program, June 14-18, 2021, 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM. Contact person: Commissioner Tammy Benovic. Category 2. No fees apply. Use dependent upon COVID restrictions at the time.
 - c. Lawrence Park Township requesting use of IES parking lot for Lawrence Park Street Dances, June 18, 2021, and August 3, 2021, 5:00 PM – 11:00 PM. Contact person: Commissioner Tammy Benovic. Category 2. No fees apply. Use dependent upon COVID restrictions at the time.

On a motion by Mr. Rickrode, seconded by Mr. Coblenz, Items 1(a-c) were unanimously approved. (8-0)

On a motion by Mr. Rickrode, seconded by Mrs. Miller, the Board unanimously accepted the remainder of this report. (8-0)

L. ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

- 1. Resignations:
 - a. Sombath Inthavong, Boys Varsity Soccer Head Coach
 - b. Jennifer Cadden, Girls Varsity Soccer Head Coach

On a motion by Mr. Ragen, seconded by Mr. Coblenz, Items 1(a-b) were unanimously approved. (8-0)

On a motion by Mr. Ragen, seconded by Mr. Coblenz, the Board unanimously accepted the remainder of this report. (8-0)

M. SAFETY COMMITTEE

(NONE)

N. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

(NONE)

O. LEGAL REPORT:

(NONE)

P. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

1. ERIE COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL REPORT: January 2021
2. NORTHWEST TRI-COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT #5 REPORT: January 2021
3. LAWRENCE PARK TWP RECREATION PLANNING BOARD REPORT: (NONE)
4. IROQUOIS SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUNDATION REPORT: (NONE)

On a motion by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Jackula, the Board unanimously approved the Representative Reports. (8-0)

Q. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

1. IROQUOIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPORT
2. IROQUOIS JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Coblenz, seconded by Mr. Miller, the Board unanimously accepted the Administrative Reports presented by Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Foutz. (8-0)

R. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Appointment of Member to represent School Board at the 2021 Iroquois High School commencement on Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.: Julie Abele
2. Resignation:
Spencer Cadden – High School Drama Advisor
3. Recommendation to approve employment:
 - a. Draven Douglas – Junior High Track Co-Coach, 50% shared position.
 - b. Michael Thielman – Junior High Track Co-Coach, 50% shared position.
4. Recommendation to approve day-to-day substitute teacher during leave of absence of permanent employee. To begin on or about April 14, 2021, through the end of the 2020-2021 school year:

Demarise Eadie – Secondary Art Substitute Teacher

5. Recommendation to approve request for FMLA medical leave:

Michele Buzard, Elementary Teacher – requesting leave January 4, 2021 – April 28, 2021.
6. Recommendation to approve new bus drivers for First Student Transportation:
 - a. Amy Garten
 - b. Alyssa Grande
7. Recommendation to approve contracts with Sarah A. Reed for the 2020/2021 School Year: (Attachment)
 - a. Refocus Room Classroom Staff member with Program Supervision and Program Consultation, \$50,900
 - b. Classroom Support Aide in Emotional Support Classroom, \$50,900
 - c. Classroom Support Aide in Emotional Support Classroom, \$47,800
8. Recommendation to approve Act 80 Days for the 2021/2022 School Year:
 - a. Iroquois Elementary School – Grades K-6:

Tuesday, November 9, 2021 Parent/Teacher Conference Day
Thursday, January 27, 2022 Parent/Teacher Conference Day
 - b. Iroquois Junior High School – Grades 7-8:

Tuesday, November 9, 2021 Parent/Teacher Conference Day
Thursday, January 27, 2022 Parent/Teacher Conference Day
9. Recommendation to approve non-resident, tuition-waiver enrollments for child of District employees for the 2021/2022 School Year:
 - a. Clara Haslett, Grade 2
Parent/Employee: Kathleen Haslett, IHS English Teacher
District of Residence: Erie City SD
 - b. Xavier Bayhurst, Grade 10
Parent/Employee: Jennifer Bayhurst, IES Kindergarten Teacher
District of Residence: Wattsburg Area SD
10. Recommendation to approve professional development opportunity:

Susan Kiddo (IES) to “Building A Strong Program: Using Your Tools to Inspire Growth”, virtual spring grantee meeting, March 24, 2021. Cost: \$90 for substitute teacher.
11. Recommendation to approve student teachers for the Fall 2021 Semester:
 - a. Amelia Chapman-Burke, Mercyhurst University – assigned to Anne Kelly, Music Teacher. November 1 – December 10, 2021

- b. Abigail Harrington, Edinboro University – assigned to Adam Hadbavny, Secondary Social Studies Teacher. October 19 – December 9, 2021.
12. Recommendation to approve requests from outside groups to use District facilities:
- a. Lawrence Park Township requesting use of Elementary School parking lot for Street Dance on July 3, 2021, 5:00 PM – 11:00 PM. Contact person: Commissioner Tammy Benovic. Category 3. Fees waived. Use dependent upon COVID restrictions at the time.
 - b. Lawrence Park Township requesting use of Elementary and High School practice field, auxiliary field, and parking lots for 4th of July parade and fireworks, July 4, 2021, Noon – 11:30 PM. Contact person: Commissioner Tammy Benovic. Category 3. Fees waived. Use dependent upon COVID restrictions at the time.
13. Motion to approve the offer of an early retirement incentive of \$15,000 to qualifying faculty members. Interested teachers must accept this irrevocable offer by April 15, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Rickrode, seconded by Mr. Jackula, Items 2, 3(a-b), 4, 5, 6(a-b), 7(a-c), 8(a-b), 9(a-b), 10, 11(a-b), 12(a-b), and 13 were unanimously approved. (8-0)

S. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

(NONE)

T. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Mrs. Sheldon, seconded by Mr. Ragen and carried as unanimous, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m. (8-0)

Jeremy R. Coblentz, Board Secretary