

WHITNEY POINT CENTRAL  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Education Meeting  
Whitney Point, NY

Video Conference Special  
Meeting via Zoom  
May 12, 2020

**District Mission:**

To provide an excellent education ensuring that all children maximize their potential, become contributing citizens, and pursue lifelong learning.

**District Beliefs:**

- All children possess unique qualities and come to school eager to learn and be successful.
- We respect all people within our community and treat them with dignity at all times.
- Learning is a partnership that includes school staff, parents, family and the community.
- Knowledge allows for critical thinking and effective decision-making.
- The community is well served by maximizing the use of available resources and by the responsible stewardship of assets.
- Purposeful and intentional change is a constant that leads to educational improvement and positive results.
- Compliance with state and federal regulations is critical to School District success.

**District Vision:**

- To be a community of excellence achieved through a commitment to HIGH performance, morale, and involvement.

Meeting called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Stephanie Champney	President	X	
Kathleen Driscoll	Vice-President	X	
Brian Jeker	Member	X	
Eddie Maslin	Member	X	
Katie Perry	Member	X	
Thomas Tasber	Member	X	
Christine Widdall	Member	X	
Patricia Follette	Superintendent of Schools	X	
Jo-Ann Sexton	Assistant Superintendent	X	
Zachary Woodard	School Business Executive	X	
Cynthia Burchell	District Clerk	X	

Others in attendance: Naomi Collins, Laura Dunham, Jenny Gac, Murphee Hayes, Jeff Isaacs, Jo-Anne Knapp, Julie Lamuraglia, Daniel Sweeney.

**A. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**B. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

**C. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. 2020-2021 Budget Presentation**

Dr. Follette gave a 2020-2021 presentation on the budget. She stated it was a very difficult budget and she thanked Mr. Woodard for all of his hard work. She stated although we had quite a significant gap, this year we were able to make it work. She stated they are always respectful of the people in the community and develop a reasonable tax levy within the applicable regulations. She stated this was a year where there were a lot of retirements and the budget at this time does not include any layoffs. She explained several positions will not be replaced including 8.5 teaching positions, one district security and surveillance manager, and one district office clerical position. She explained the district is bringing back two special education classrooms to the district to further help reduce costs.

Dr. Widdall asked where the elementary positions will be cut.

Dr. Follette stated, K – 5 elementary classrooms will have five sections, except for 1<sup>st</sup> grade will have six sections.

Dr. Widdall asked if it will affect the three-year-old Pre K Program.

Dr. Follette stated the Pre K programs are not affected.

Mr. Tasber asked if secondary science is just going to cover more sections.

Dr. Follette stated they are reducing one science teacher in the high school.

Mr. Sweeney stated they are offering some electives every other year instead of every year, but students in their four-year span should be able to access them all.

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the 2020-2021 School District Budget in the sum of \$38,028,278 with a tax levy increase of 2.16%

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Christine Widdall

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

## 2. Property Tax Report Card

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the 2020-2021 Property Tax Report Card.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Brian Jeker

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

## 3. Whitney Point Central School District Amended Notice of School Budget Hearing and Annual Budget Vote

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Education Law prescribes the requirements for the annual school board election and budget vote along with other propositions that may be submitted;

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Education Law prescribes certain notice requirements; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that:

A public hearing, budget vote, election of board members, and consideration of submitted propositions shall occur as stated in the NOTICE OF SCHOOL BUDGET HEARING AND ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE, as set forth below, and it is further,

**RESOLVED** that the NOTICE OF SCHOOL BUDGET HEARING AND ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE is approved and shall be published as required by law.

### **Whitney Point Central School District Notice of School Budget Hearing and Annual Budget Vote**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Public Budget Hearing of the Whitney Point Central School District (the "District") for the discussion of the expenditures and budgeting of funds for the 2020-2021 school year will be held in the District Office, 10 Keibel Road, Whitney Point, New York on May 26, 2020, at 6 p.m. Eastern Daylight Savings Time (E.D.S.T.). In accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.15, the District will conduct its hearing on the proposed District Budget by telephone conferencing, and in-person attendance will not be permitted due to the COVID-19 public health crisis. The telephone conferencing number may be accessed on the District's internet website at: <https://www.wpcsd.org>

**NOTICE** is also given that in accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.26, the Annual District Meeting and Election ("Election") will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020, for the purpose of: (a) voting on the District budget for the 2020-2021 school year (Proposition No. 1); (b) voting on a vehicle purchasing proposition (Proposition No. 2); (c) voting on a proposition to levy and collect additional funds for the Mary Wilcox Memorial Library and the Lisle Free Library (Proposition No. 3); (d) electing Trustees of the Board of Education; and (e) transacting such other business as is authorized by law.

**NOTICE** is also given that in accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.26, the Election shall take place remotely, and qualified voters shall vote in such Election only by absentee ballot, to be provided to all qualified voters by the District.

**NOTICE** is also given that a copy of a statement prepared by the Board of Education of the estimated expenses and the amount of money that will be required for school purposes for the fiscal year ending



June 30, 2021, may be obtained during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding said Election, except Saturday, Sunday, or holidays, at the District Office, 10 Keibel Road, Whitney Point, New York, by contacting the District Office at (607) 692-4434, on the District's internet website at: <https://www.wpcsd.org/>; and at the public libraries and free association libraries located within the District.

**NOTICE** is also given, in accordance with §495 of the N.Y. Real Property Tax Law, that the District shall prepare a Real Property Tax "Exemption Report" which shall show how much of the assessed value on the final assessment roll (utilized for the school tax levy) is exempt from taxation by the District. This exemption report will list every type of exemption granted and will show: (1) the cumulative impact of each type of exemption; (2) the cumulative amount expected to be received as payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTS), or other payments, from recipients of each type of exemption; (3) the cumulative impact of all exemptions granted. This Exemption Report will be posted on the District's website no later than May 22, 2020, and on District bulletin boards utilized for posting public notices. The Exemption Report will be annexed to any preliminary District budget, and shall become part of the final budget.

**NOTICE** is also given, that in addition to the proposed District budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year and school year, which will appear on the ballot as Proposition No. 1, the following proposition will be submitted to the voters, which will appear on the ballot as Proposition No. 2:

Shall the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District, located in the counties of Broome, Chenango, Cortland and Tioga, New York, be authorized to purchase three (3) new 71 passenger diesel buses at a cost not to exceed \$129,557.00 each and one (1) new 5 passenger gas-powered Dodge Durango (or equivalent) at a cost not to exceed \$38,685.00, for a combined maximum estimated expenditure of \$427,356.00, including incidental expenses in connection therewith; and that such sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and in anticipation of such tax, the Board of Education is hereby authorized to issue bonds or other obligations of the School District in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$427,356.00?

**NOTICE** is also given, that the following proposition will be submitted to the voters, which will appear on the ballot as Proposition No. 3:

Shall the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District be authorized to levy and collect an additional twenty two thousand dollars (\$22,000) in annual taxes, year after year, separate and apart from the annual school district budget, thereby authorizing a total annual tax in the amount of one hundred sixty two thousand dollars (\$162,000), of which ninety seven thousand dollars (\$97,000) shall be paid to the Mary Wilcox Memorial Library for the support and maintenance of the library and sixty-five thousand dollars (\$65,000) will be paid to the Lisle Free Library for the support and maintenance of the library; with this appropriated amount to be the annual appropriation until thereafter modified by a future vote of the electors of the Whitney Point Central School District?

**NOTICE** is also given that four (4) members will be elected to the Board of Education. Three (3) members will be elected to the Board due to the expiration of the terms of: Stephanie Champney, Kathleen Driscoll, and Thomas Tasber. The three candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to full, three-year terms. In addition, the person receiving the fourth highest number of votes will be elected to complete the balance of the unexpired term of office of currently held by Eddie Maslin ending June 30, 2021.

**NOTICE** is also given that pursuant to the provisions of the Education law, candidates for the office of Member of the Board of Education shall be nominated by petition. Petitions nominating candidates for the office of Member of the Board of Education shall be filed by sending same to the District Clerk, District Office, 10 Keibel Road, Whitney Point, New York, not later than Monday, May 11, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., prevailing time.

**NOTICE** is also given that absentee ballots will be automatically mailed to all qualified voters of the District. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots have been issued will be available for public inspection in the office of the District Clerk during regular office hours, until the day of the election. Qualified voters who wish to inspect the registration list must arrange an appointment for same with the District Clerk by calling (607) 692-8313 or by emailing [cburchell@wpcsd.org](mailto:cburchell@wpcsd.org). No absentee voter's ballot shall be canvassed unless it shall have been received in the office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the Election.

Moved by Katie Perry

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

#### 4. Retirement Resignations

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve of the retirement resignation of **William MacNeill**, Science Teacher, effective June 30, 2020.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Dr. Christine Widdall

Dr. Follette stated Mr. MacNeill is known for his communication and great support of the school district. She stated he made a difference in the lives of the many athletes he has worked with as a coach and he will be missed.

Mr. Sweeney commented on the great connections Mr. McNeill has with so many students, and how he seeks out and supports students that need help.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve of the retirement resignation of **Karen O'Brien**, Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2020.

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Eddie Maslin

Dr. Follette stated from the minute you walk into Mrs. O'Brien's classroom you knew you were in a special place. She stated Karen is a dedicated teacher and she will be greatly missed.

Mrs. Knapp stated Mrs. O'Brien found so much enjoyment in her students and she experienced so much joy in her teaching.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

#### 5. Appointment

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the transfer of **Meredith Scott** from Reading Teacher, to a three (3) probationary appointment as Elementary Teacher, in the Elementary Teacher tenure area effective September 1, 2020.

The expiration date provided herein is tentative and conditional only. Except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Section 3012 of the Education Law, in order to be granted tenure the teacher must receive composite or overall annual performance review ratings, pursuant to Education Law Section 3012-d of either Effective or Highly-Effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years and if the teacher receives an Ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period, the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Brian Jeker

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

## **E. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Ms. Hayes stated she just wanted to recognize three of the recent retirees Linda Burghardt, Tom Kraly and William MacNeill. She stated they have all been long-term coaches within the district. She stated this is the first time in history public high school athletics have been suspended and cancelled. She stated it's a very unique time for people who have coached and done part of sports their entire life. She explained she just wanted to recognize and celebrate the three of them for their retirement and their commitment to athletics.

Mr. Tasber commended the teachers and the staff that came to his house to celebrate his daughter's senior year.

Dr. Follette stated it's a tough year for seniors and she knows they are working really hard to make it special for them.

Mr. Tasber said it was a very powerful thing for them to do.

Dr. Follette stated there were many people involved in that effort through the Booster Club. She stated people donated money and it was very impressive. She stated these things never happen alone, and there was a great amount of spirit. She said they spread the effort out over three days, and had a hard time finding some of the houses.

Dr. Widdall asked what BOCES is thinking about if things don't go as we hope in the fall. Are they going to help teachers with instructional strategies?

Dr. Follette stated there will be a lot of coordination. They are all just working hard to get through the end of school right now. She stated there are re-entry plans and they have had some detailed conversations and meetings about it. She stated BOCES has a very strong professional development department and once we decide what direction we are going in, they will be able to meet those needs.

Ms. Sexton stated there is a real strong focus on simplifying things to make it easier for families and for students. She stated we have 60 on a bus and not enough drivers so the moment the day starts there's an issue.

## **F. ADJOURNMENT**

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the motion to recess the public meeting at 6:50 p.m. and adjourn to Executive Session to hear discussion on negotiations and contracts.

Moved by Christine Widdall

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll



7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

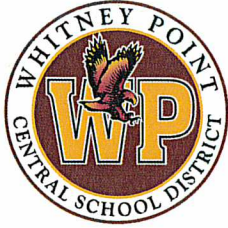
**G. FYI**

May 26, 2020 Budget Hearing and Board of Education Meeting, via Zoom  
June 9, 2020 Budget Vote and School Board Election via absentee ballot  
June 9, 2020 Board of Education Meeting, Location/Access TBD

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia Burchell  
District Clerk



**WHITNEY POINT CENTRAL SCHOOL  
DISTRICT**

**Board of Education Meeting**

**Whitney Point High School Building  
High School Library**

**P.O. Box 249  
Whitney Point, NY 13862**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION  
MINUTES**

**Tuesday, May 12, 2020**

**District Mission:**

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**District Beliefs:**

- All children possess unique qualities and come to school eager to learn and be successful.
- We respect all people within our community and treat them with dignity at all times.
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**District Vision:**

- To be a community of excellence achieved through a commitment to HIGH performance, morale, and involvement.

Meeting called to order at 6:50 p.m.

		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Stephanie Champney	President		X
Kathleen Driscoll	Vice-President		X
Brian Jeker	Member		X
Eddie Maslin	Member		X
Katie Perry	Member		X
Thomas Tasber	Member		X
Christine Widdall	Member		X
Patricia Follette	Superintendent of Schools		X
Jo-Ann Sexton	Assistant Superintendent		X



**Executive Session**

or discussion about negotiations and contracts.

**Meeting Adjournment**

Stephanie Champney motioned to adjourn the Executive Session at 6:58 p.m.

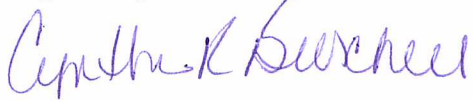
Moved by Kathy Driscoll

Seconded by Katie Perry

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia Burchell  
District Clerk