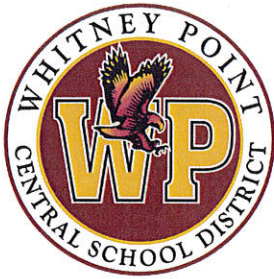


WHITNEY POINT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Education Meeting  
Whitney Point, NY



Video Conference Meeting via Zoom

MINUTES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

7:00 p.m.

**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 7:00 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	_____
Stacey Forkey	District Clerk	X	_____

Others in attendance: Murphee Hayes, Dan Sweeney, Mary Anna Sedlacek, Jeffrey Isaacs, John Whalen, Julie Lamuraglia

## **A. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No need at this time.

## **B. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **C. POLICIES 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve policy number **5660 Records Management** for first reading.

Moved by Brian Jeker

Seconded by Christine Widdall

Dr. Follette stated that the district works with Erie 1 BOCES for our policies and this change was recommended to be revised in light of the NYS Archives revising and consolidating its local government records and retention disposal schedules and issuing a single comprehensive retention schedule for all types of local governments. She noted that the new schedule supersedes and replaces the records retention and disposal schedule ED-1 and their recommendation stated that districts are required to formally adopt the LGS-1 by January 1, when Retention and Disposition Schedule Ed-1 expires. She stated that the district was given this policy verbatim to replace the previous policy.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

## **D. POLICIES 2<sup>ND</sup> READING**

None

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

None

## **F. COMMENDATIONS**

Dr. Follette commends:

- The following students for being selected by the New York State Band Directors Association for acceptance into the 2020-2021 NYSBDA Honor Bands:

### **NYSBDA High School Honor Band**

Noah Somers (Senior), Tuba

Hayley Collins (Junior), Clarinet

Cassie Hayes (Sophomore), Baritone Saxophone

### **NYSBDA Middle School Honor Band**

Logan Griffith (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Tuba

- Mr. Hartley, the High School Student Council, and Pam Powell for working together with Catholic Charities to prepare and distribute Thanksgiving food baskets for 15 local families in need.
- The Whitney Point High School for winning the American Dairy Association North East's *New York Thursdays Dairy Farm Video Sweepstakes, Fall 2020*. Students were encouraged to watch the local dairy farmers' video and then select their school to be entered into the drawing after watching. The school has won the *NFL experience package* for 50 of its students.

Dr. Follette thanked our students for participating and stated that the district is possibly choosing some of our senior athletes to receive the packages. She also noted that in addition to the 50 swag bags, 30 students will be selected to participate in a Zoom meeting with an NFL football player, who will discuss the importance of nutrition with the students.

## G. OLD BUSINESS

None

## H. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Sports Conditioning Program and Athletics Update

Ms. Murphee Hayes gave an update on the Sports Conditioning program and athletics.

The presentation covered the present and future plans for athletics.

- Whitney Point Central School District and other area districts are currently on pause, following Section IV Athletics and IAC League Athletic recommendations.
- On December 31, the Governor, along with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and the New York State Education Department (NYSED), will give further guidance regarding the start of winter session sports, planned to begin on January 4.
- Projected Sports Seasons, with high risk sports yet to be released (all subject to change):
  - Winter Sports – January 4<sup>th</sup> through March 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Fall Sports – March 1<sup>st</sup> through April 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Spring Sports – April 19<sup>th</sup> through June 11<sup>th</sup>
- The only winter sport at Whitney Point School District that is in the low to moderate risk category is indoor track and field. However, this sport is usually hosted at college venues, which are currently not allowing use of their facilities by outside groups.

Ms. Hayes also discussed the district's Strength and Conditioning and Sports Conditioning programs:

- UHS Strength & Conditioning – October 5<sup>th</sup> through November 13<sup>th</sup> for grades 9-12.
  - UHS Athletic Trainer, Lindsey Ansbro and Strength & Conditioning Coach, Jared Bowling were the leads and instructors for this program, which focused on function movement patterns, conditioning, strength, speed, and agility
- Following NYSDOH guidelines, the district moved to Sports Conditioning – November 30<sup>th</sup> through December 23<sup>rd</sup> for grades 7-12.
  - Sessions are offered to all students (fully remote and hybrid students), and incorporate sport specific drills and skills practice in addition to strength and conditioning.
  - This program is led and instructed by UHS partners, Ms. Ansbro and Mr. Bowling, along with appointed Sports Conditioning Coaches and is held Monday through Friday.
  - The students are following all COVID-19 safety protocols (health screening, temperature checks upon entering, hygiene, mask wearing, social distancing, etc.).

Ms. Hayes referenced the following as guidance for the district to make the decisions that have been and will be made regarding sports: COVID-19 Task Force, COVID-19 Section IV Committee, COVID-19 IAC Committee, NYSPHAA Return to Interscholastic Athletics Document, NYSDOH Interim Guidance for Sports and Recreation, NYSED Reopening Guidance, NYSDOH Pre-k to Gr 12 COVID-19 Toolkit.

Mrs. Champney asked what “hygiene” consists of in this context.

Ms. Hayes responded that all students are required to hand wash or sanitize before entering the gym. She stated that the students have also been educated on respiratory hygiene (coughing, sneezing) and how to replace saturated masks (disposable masks are available if needed). The facilities and equipment are properly sanitized. Locker rooms are closed, and guidance has been sent home to families regarding the importance of home hygiene before and after sessions.

Mr. Tasber asked how remote students will be able to participate and whether transportation has posed an issue for any students.

Ms. Hayes responded that the gyms are not available until later in the day, so all students require their own transportation to and from the school. She stated that no families have contacted the school regarding transportation conflicts.

## 2. Approval of Consent Agenda

*Items under the Consent Agenda will be enacted under one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items prior to the time of the Board vote, unless a Board member requests an item to be removed from the consent Agenda for separate discussion and action.*

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. Board of Education Meeting Minutes** – November 17, 2020
- b. Resignation** – Hannah Ashcraft, full-time Teacher’s Aide – effective December 11, 2020
- c. Meat and Cheese Bid** – award to Renzi Brothers Food Service, Purdy & Sons, Ginsberg’s Food Service, RC Fine Foods, BC Provisions, Lupo’s, and Slate Foods, as low bidders for the January 1, 2021 to February 28, 2021 Meat and Cheese Bid as prepared by Broome Tioga BOCES Food Service Program.
- d. Paper Bid** – Renzi Brothers Food Service, Hill & Marks, and Central Poly, as low bidders for the January 1, 2021 to August 13, 2021 Paper Bid as prepared by Broome Tioga BOCES Food Service Program.
- e. Budget Calendar** – 2021-2022 Budget Development Calendar
- f. Treasurer’s Report** – October 2020
- g. Extra-Classroom Treasurer’s Report** – October 2020
- h. Committee on Special Education Recommendations**

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Brian Jeker

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**ADDENDA**

**1. Resignation**

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the resignation of **Allyson Godbout**, Special Education Teacher, effective January 6, 2021.

Moved by Christine Widdall

Seconded by Brian Jeker

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**3. Appointments**

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the appointment of **Cindy Rego**, part-time Teacher's Aide, effective December 9, 2020.

Moved by Eddie Maslin

Seconded by Katie Perry

Cindy will be filling part of the full-time position formerly held by Amber Brink.

6 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 the appointment of **Connie Kelley**, part-time Food Service Helper, effective December 9, 2020.

Moved by Christine Widdall

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

Connie will be filling the position formerly held by Lori Piech.

6 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 the following Sports Conditioning COVID-19 Coaches for the 2020-2021 school year:

Girls' Basketball – MS  
Girls' Soccer – HS & MS  
Boys' Lacrosse – MS  
Girls' Lacrosse – MS  
Girls' Volleyball – HS & MS

Stephen Samsel  
Jesse Hartley  
William Davis  
Tonya Ellerson and Samantha Driscoll  
Nicholas Vachon

Moved by Katie Perry

Seconded by Christine Widdall

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**ADDENDA**

**2. Appointments**

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the appointment of **Xiaoyu Rafferty**, from part-time Teacher's Aide to full-time Teacher's Aide, effective December 9, 2020.

Mr. Woodard stated that Mrs. Rafferty will be filling the position formerly held by Hannah Ashcraft.

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Brian Jeker

6 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 the appointment of **Steven Skalisky**, full-time Cleaner, effective January 4, 2021.

Mr. Woodard stated that Mr. Skalisky will be replacing the position formerly held by Gordon Hall.

Moved by Christine Widdall

Seconded by Brian Jeker

6 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 the following Sports Conditioning COVID-19 Coach for the 2020-2021 school year:

Substitute

Gene Jordan

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Brian Jeker

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**3. Unpaid Tax Report**

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

Moved by Brian Jeker

Seconded by Katie Perry

Mr. Woodard stated that he was pleasantly surprised that the percentage of unpaid school taxes is the lowest amount it has been in the past three years, especially during this time with COVID. He stated that unpaid school taxes are remitted to the county, the county re-levies those on the town bills, and the district is made whole by the county.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

#### **4. External Audit Extra-Classroom Corrective Action Plan**

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District acknowledged receipt of the External Audit Extra-Classroom Corrective Action Plan addressing the June 30, 2020 Extra-Classroom Audit Report.

Mr. Woodard noted that this letter from the Board, which will be sent to the Comptroller in response to the audit report that was reviewed by the district's auditing firm in October does not require formal board action. He reminded the Board members that there were two findings related to the extra-classroom accounts for student activity funds. Both findings were related to the March shutdown due to COVID and this letter addresses those issues.

#### **I. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

- Second semester update

Dr. Follette stated that a letter will be posted to inform parents that if they would like to change their student(s) from fully remote to in person learning or vice versa, there will be forms on the website or they may call the school to request the change. The numbers will then be reassessed to decide on an in person learning model for the second semester. She noted that we initially had a hybrid model planned for grades PreK through 12, but were able to move grades PreK through 5 to in person learning 5 days per week. Most preK-5 classrooms are close to capacity. We will need to look at how we can best meet the needs of our students.

- COVID-19 testing in schools

Dr. Follette stated that in preparation for the possibility of becoming a yellow or orange zone, she has begun working with UHS to apply for a testing license for the Whitney Point Central School District. The district will also need to provide and collect consent forms from parents and guardians to create a list of students who can be tested. She stated that being proactive in getting the licensing and consent forms may allow the district to remain open if it falls into a yellow or orange zone.

Dr. Follette commended UHS on being helpful to the district in handling testing until we are able to obtain our own license, if needed. She stated that well over 300 students have been sent home for testing and that in school testing would possibly decrease the amount of time those students are not physically in school, if they test negative.

#### **J. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

#### **K. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS**

Dr. Widdall questioned how the district is monitoring, if it is, people vacationing and/or leaving the State over the winter break.

Dr. Follette stated that this has been discussed with other Superintendents in our area and that the district will be continuing to follow the Governor's guidelines and plans to remain open. A notice will be sent to staff and families regarding travel and travel advisories prior to the winter break.

**L. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**BE IT RESOLVED** upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District recess the public meeting at 7:42 p.m. and adjourn to Executive Session to hear discussion on personnel matters.

Moved by Christine Widdall

Seconded by Katie Perry

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

The Board reconvened to the regular meeting at 8:20 p.m.

**M. 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

Adjourn the Public Meeting at 8:21 p.m.

Moved by Katie Perry

Seconded by Eddie Maslin

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**N. FYI**

November Monthly Enrollment Comparison

December 24, 2020 – January 1, 2021 – Winter Recess, No School

January 12, 2021 – Board of Education Workshop, 6:30 p.m., Location TBD

January 12, 2021 – Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Location TBD

Respectfully Submitted,



Stacey Forkey  
District Clerk