

Board of Education, Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 21, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was held in the High School Library and was called to order by President Hannah Murray at 6:30 p.m., with the following additional board members present: Josh Soper, Brent Doane, Raymond Parmarter, Michael Blake, Kate Davenport, and Nate Brace, as well as Superintendent Brent Suddaby.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:30 p.m., a motion was made by Nate Brace, seconded by Kate Davenport, to adjourn to executive session to discuss a particular personnel matter. All board members listed above were present, as well as Superintendent Brent Suddaby. At 6:32 p.m., Claims Auditor Kathlyn Hinkle entered executive session to discuss the bi-annual claims auditor report with the Board. Mrs. Hinkle exited executive session at 6:44 p.m. at 6:45 p.m., Director of Special Education Angela Holmes entered executive session to discuss the CSE/CPSE reports. Mrs. Holmes exited executive session at 6:51 p.m. At 6:53 p.m., School Business Official Sydney Wade and independent auditor from INSERO & Co., Ben Owens, entered executive session to discuss the audit for the 2020-2021 school year. Mrs. Wade and Mr. Owens exited executive session at 7:13 p.m.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:

At 7:14 p.m., Nate Brace made a motion, seconded by Josh Soper, to return to regular session. The motion carried unanimously. All board members listed above were present, as well as Superintendent Brent Suddaby, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Kimberleigh Nichols, Elementary Principal Kathryn Volpicelli, Director of Special Education Angela Holmes, Asst. Elementary Principal/Athletic Director Peter Ahart, Director of Technology Instruction Matt Gelder, Director of Transportation Holly Carling, School Business Official Sydney Wade, and Board Clerk Kathlyn Hinkle. The Pledge of Allegiance was said to begin the regular session.

CSE/CPSE REPORT APPROVED:

A motion was made by Josh Soper, seconded by Raymond Parmarter, to approve the CSE/CPSE report, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED:

A motion was made by Raymond Parmarter, seconded by Nate Brace, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 16, 2021, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

School Business Official Sydney Wade summarized her written report to the Board.

Mrs. Wade included the Budget Transfers and expenditure reports for September with her report.

Mrs. Wade gave the Board an update on the latest grants she has been working on. The District was just allocated two new grants under the American Rescue Plan specifically for Special Ed K-12 and Pre-K. The allocation for IDEA 611 ARP is \$40,455, and for IDEA 619 is \$4,505. Funds can be used similarly to the regular IDEA grants. The period of performance is 7/1/21 through 9/30/23.

The permanent Universal Pre-K application is \$8971/student, up to a maximum of 36 students; Candor's maximum allocation is \$322,956. The estimated student count for 2021-2022 is 26 students at this time, so the grant allocation would be \$233,246, which comes pretty close to covering costs. The remaining costs of the grant will be covered under the 90% ESSER Allocation grant. The application has been submitted and waiting for approval

The Title Funds grant allocations for 2021-2022 are: \$164,892 for Title IA (almost a \$30k decrease from 2020-2021), \$21,247 for Title IIA (about \$9k less than 2020-2021), and \$14,285 for Title IV (about \$1k less than 2020-2021). Title IA funds support improving education for children from low-income families. Title IIA funds support professional development for teachers and district leaders. Title IV funds support providing students with a well-rounded education, supporting safe and healthy students, and supporting the effective use of technology. The applications have been submitted and are waiting for approval.

Regular Meeting, October 21, 2021

Mrs. Wade listed the allocations for the ARPA Funds. The 90% ESSER allocation is \$1,427,529.00, the Learning Loss allocation is \$1,041,893.00, the Summer Enrichment allocation is \$208,385.00, the After-School allocation is \$208,385.00, for a total of \$2,886,192. The 90% ESSER Allocation grant was submitted but kicked back and needs to be resubmitted.

Mrs. Wade added that she recently received an email informing her that the District will be receiving more ESSER funds. She stated that it is great to have the money coming in.

Mrs. Wade informed the Board of the Building Condition Survey (BCS). On October 12th, Highland Associates' architects were out to conduct the fieldwork for the BCS. Jim Wintermute walked around with them and highlighted areas of concern, including the aging roofs and HVAC units. The actual BCS should be ready in a few weeks. Highland will also submit the BCS to NYSED. The cost of the BCS is 100% aidable.

TREASURER'S REPORT ACCEPTED:

A motion was made by Michael Blake, seconded by Brent Doane, to accept the Treasurer's Report, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATIONS TRANSFERS ACCEPTED:

A motion was made by Josh Soper, seconded by Kate Davenport, to accept the Appropriations Transfers, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

WARRANTS ACCEPTED:

A motion was made by Raymond Parmarter, seconded by Nate Brace, to accept the following warrants for September 2021, as presented: General Fund #13, Federal Fund #5, and School Lunch Fund #7. The motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

President Murray acknowledged the visitors present, Sara Loomis, Ben Taylor, and Ben Owens from INSERO, Co., the District's independent auditors. Mr. Owens gave a brief review of the 2020-2021 school year independent audit.

CONSIDERATIONS:

Independent Audit Report Accepted:

With the recommendation of Superintendent Brent Suddaby, a motion was made by Raymond Parmarter, seconded by Michael Blake, to accept the 2020-2021 Independent Audit Report and Audit for Extra-Classroom Activity funds with the following resolution.

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts receipt of the final Independent Audit Report and Audit for Extra-Classroom Activity funds, prepared and presented by INSERO & Co. for Candor Central School District for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021."

CONSENT AGENDA:

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Suddaby, a motion was made by Brent Doane, seconded by Kate Davenport, to approve the following personnel items, pending fingerprint-supported criminal history background checks, where applicable*:

Recommended Appointments:

Approved the appointment of **Jennifer Oakes** as a Full-Time Special Education Administrative Assistant (12-months), effective October 14, 2021 (retroactive), with salary and benefits in accordance with the 2021-2022 Candor Employees Unit Contract.

Approved the appointment of **Sabrina Swartz** as a Long-Term Substitute Teacher for the Special Education Department, effective September 27, 2021 (retroactive), pending SWD 1-6 certification, with salary and benefits in accordance with the 2021-2022 Substitute Teacher Pay Schedule.

Regular Meeting, October 21, 2021

Once Ms. Swartz receives her SWD 1-6 certification (currently holds a Childhood Ed NYS Certification), she will become a regular Special Education Teacher, effective the date of her certification date.

Approved the appointment of **Christopher Teribury** as a Full-Time Bus Driver/Instructional Support Room Aide, effective September 27, 2021, (a change in title from the September 2021 appointment as a Bus Monitor/Aide; he has received his license to drive bus) with salary and benefits in accordance with the current Candor Employees Unit contract.

Approved the appointment of **Madison Hornbrook** as a Full-Time Food Service Worker, effective September 27, 2021 (retroactive), with salary and benefits in accordance with the current Candor Employees Unit Contract.

Approved the appointment of **Jasmine Inners*** as a Part-Time Teacher Aide, effective October 20, 2021, with salary and benefits in accordance with the current Candor Employees Unit Contract.

Approved the appointment of **Beth Blomberg** as a Part-Time Teacher Aide, effective September 27, 2021 (retroactive), with salary and benefits in accordance with the current Candor Employees Unit Contract.

Approved the appointment of **Heather Stouffer** as a Part-Time Teacher Aide (H.S. Library), effective October 22, 2021, with salary and benefits in accordance with the current Candor Employees Unit Contract.

Approved the appointment of *Extra-Curricular Activities* positions for the 2021-2022 school year, with salary in accordance with the 2021-2022 Extra-Curricular Activities Pay Schedule:

- 1.) **Boyd Andrews** - Girls JV Basketball Coach
- 2.) **Nick Petrie** - Varsity Wrestling Coach
- 3.) **Adam Zwierlein** - Modified Boys Basketball Coach
- 4.) Volunteers:
 - **Jennifer Copping** - Varsity Basketball Cheerleading
 - **Josh Soper** - JV & Varsity Boys Basketball

19-A Roster of Active Bus Drivers:

Approved the revised list of bus drivers for 2021-2022. All drivers are in total compliance with the provisions of Section 156.3 (b)(1),(6) of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, and the Department of Motor Vehicles Article 19-A.

Approved the additional *Substitute Teachers* for the 2021-2022 school year, with salary and benefits in accordance with the current Substitute Teacher Pay Schedule:

- 1.) **Nicholas Petrie:** B.S. Psychology (E.L. & H.S.)
- 2.) **Paula Gates:** NYS Certified English 7-12 (HS Only)

Approved the additional *Non-Instructional Substitutes* for the 2021-2022 school year, with salary and benefits in accordance with the current Non-Instructional Substitute Pay Schedule:

- 1.) **Weslee Bankston** - Substitute Custodian
- 2.) **Richard Jager*** - Substitute Custodian
- 3.) **Lori Kay Callahan** - Substitute Teacher Aide
- 4.) **Rebecca Tuttle** - Substitute Teacher Aide
- 5.) **Barbara Anderson** - Substitute Bus Monitor
- 6.) **Cheryl Spicer** - Substitute Bus Monitor

Regular Meeting, October 21, 2021

Approved the appointment of **Phebe Jackson** as a Part-Time Custodial Worker, effective October 22, 2021, with salary at \$12.50/hour for hours worked, no benefits, in accordance with the current Candor Employees Unit contract.

SVEC Sports Merger(s):

Approved the SVEC Sports Mergers with the following resolutions:

SVEC Section IV Sports Merger - 2021-2022 school year (Wrestling)

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Candor Central School District hereby authorizes the merger of athletic programs with the Spencer-Van Etten School District for the 2021-2022 school year. The sport to be merged is Varsity, J.V., and Modified Wrestling."

SVEC Section IV Sports Merger - 2021-2022 school year (Boys and Girls Bowling)

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Candor Central School District hereby authorizes The merger of athletic programs with the Spencer-Van Etten School District for the 2021-2022 school year. The sport to be merged is Varsity, J.V., and Modified Boys & Girls Bowling."

Maternity Leave Request – Monahan:

Approved the maternity leave request from **Amy Monahan**, beginning tentatively January 18, 2022, through June 15, 2022. Ms. Monahan will use 64 days of her sick time; any remaining days will be unpaid leave. These dates are tentative upon the recommendation of her physician.

Maternity Leave Request – French:

Approved the maternity leave request from **Aria French**, beginning tentatively March 10, 2022, through June 15, 2022. Mrs. French will use 63 days of her sick time. These dates are tentative upon the recommendation of her physician.

Resignations:

Accepted the resignation from **Madison Hornbrook** as a Full-Time Food Service Worker, effective November 4, 2021, with regret.

Accepted the resignation from **Karen Oakley** as Substitute School Nurse, effective November 30, 2021, with regret.

The motion for all consent agenda items carried unanimously.

Administrator Reports:

Jr/Sr High School Principal Wayne Aman's report to the Board.

Mr. Aman was not present for the meeting. A summary of his written report to the Board is as follows.

Mr. Aman gave the Board an update on CREW. The team has scheduled CREW to meet the first day each week, alternating between the morning and afternoon. The schedule seems to be working well at this point. CREW is an opportunity for students to build stronger relationships with other peers and faculty in the building and address important issues that may not be found in the standard school curricula. Mr. Aman shared that, from his experience as a principal, they have seen an increase in negative, disrespectful, and often inappropriate comments revolving around political and societal issues within the building over the past few years. In his mind, this is clearly connected to the polarizing political climate that seems to be prevalent in the country today. CREW has the potential to be an opportunity to have discussions on how to have thoughtful, respectful conversations about controversial issues without resorting to insults and name-calling. It is not an opportunity to proselytize or promote one side over another but to treat others with respect and agree to disagree. The High School team is routinely asking for feedback and will assess the effectiveness of CREW to make sure it is meeting the goals over the school year.

Regular Meeting, October 21, 2021

Mr. Aman stated that he was able to host the TST BOCES Principal's meeting at Candor on October 12th. The principals took a tour of the building and visited and discussed the career readiness programs that are offered in the District. They were very impressed with the breadth of programs, and some are planning to bring teachers back to explore introducing these programs into their respective districts. Between the vast dual credit offerings and career-based programs, it's evident Candor has a nice balance between college and career readiness. Mr. Aman stated that he appreciates the Board's support in the programs.

Elementary Principal Kathryn Volpicelli presented her report to the Board.

Mrs. Volpicelli presented the Board with a chart that listed the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 iReady Diagnostic Data for Reading and Math. Mrs. Volpicelli stated that it is reassuring to see students' gains during 2020-2021 when many challenges were presented.

Mrs. Volpicelli stated that as the District enters the 2021-2022 school year, the priorities being focused on are implementing Superkids and Side By Side curriculums with fidelity. The core curriculum must be rooted in The Science of Reading and aligned vertically. The second priority is to tighten up on Response To Intervention practices, specifically tiered supports and targeted instruction during the Intervention Block as well as at the end of the Math Instructional Block. The third priority is to continue to focus on social-emotional learning and supports. The well-being of the students is foundational to their education.

Mrs. Volpicelli informed the Board that the Elementary team was able to hold open house this year after making a few adjustments. They had a great turnout and positive feedback from families. She stated that it was a delightful evening.

The administrators and the Board discussed possible ways to help improve the iReady scores and to keep the parents informed.

Asst. Elementary Principal/Athletic Director Peter Ahart summarized his report to the Board.

Mr. Ahart informed the Board of the Coaching Mentor Program. He stated that providing support for the coaches is a priority, particularly at the J.V. and Varsity level. Mr. Ahart feels it is valuable moving forward to implement a mentor program for new and inexperienced coaches. The details of this program are currently being discussed with a few veteran coaches in the District, Pam Quinlan and Jason Banks, who have decades of experience in coaching. This program must be executed correctly to support those coaches needing it, thus supporting student-athletes and their success.

Mr. Ahart stated that he recently attended the annual Section IV Athletic Director Workshop in Chenango Valley. At this workshop, the executive director of NYSPHSAA, Robert Zayas, spoke about COVID-19 updates, rules and regulations review, and several informational topics. They discussed many NYSPHSAA rules which the athletic directors address on a frequent basis within athletic departments. Several of the same topics/questions come up yearly, which makes this workshop extremely valuable as it allows athletic directors to stay current on any changes at the state level.

Mr. Ahart spoke of the importance of having an athletic department mission statement. But, what's more important is actually acting on the mission statement. Mr. Ahart has been working with a few community members to see where services are needed. Currently, the department is asking for volunteers from teams to assist the Methodist Church with their Harvest Dinner prep. This dinner is offered free to the community in November. Last year they gave away one thousand meals to the community. Unfortunately, this volunteering service had to be canceled because of a game, but Mr. Ahart is working with Denice Peckins to reschedule. The volunteer service would consist of picking and cleaning squash from a field on Kelsey Road. Additionally, in an effort to engage the community in a meaningful and positive way, several players and coaches will be handing out candy to trick-or-treaters on the front lawn of the High School on Halloween Night.

Mr. Ahart offered congratulations to several students. Mason Holmes was chosen for the WETM athlete of the week honors. Mason scored eight goals and recorded six assists in three wins last week. Nick Thomas was chosen for the WETM athlete of the week honors. Nick had four total touchdowns for the Eagles as they rolled past Moravia at home 64-6 to move to 2-0. The SVEC Varsity Boys Soccer are Division champs. They played at TC3 against Lansing for the IAC Championship. The Varsity Girls Cross Country are Division champs (first since 1998). They are Bella Matisco, Olivia Bennett, Ashley Ellison, Kristin Baker, and Ayasha Schweiger.

Mr. Ahart provided the Board with the minutes from the recent steering committee meeting.

Regular Meeting, October 21, 2021

Director of Special Education Angela Holmes presented her report to the Board.

Mrs. Holmes informed the Board that Jennifer Oakes has accepted the position of Special Education department administrative assistant. Her first day of work was October 14th. She will have two full weeks to train with Cyndi Forbes prior to her retirement on October 29th.

Mrs. Holmes informed the Board that Sabrina Swartz has accepted the Elementary Special Education position. She began on September 27th and has been very positive about her new role. Ms. Swartz has been working with the first-grade team.

Director of Curriculum and Instruction Kimberleigh Nichols presented her report to the Board.

Mrs. Nichols updated the Board of Curriculum and Instruction priorities. For PreK, the focus is Language Domain (problem-solving and letter names). For grades K-2, it is the implementation of the Super Kids reading program. For grades 3-6, it's the Implementation of Side By Side reading program and practice using rubrics for student writing and learning practices (i.e. turn and talks). In grades 1-6, it's iReady instructional plans and targeted lessons based on Fall 2021 Reading Diagnostic during intervention. In Junior High (Grades 7 & 8), the focus will be on common expectations, procedures and routines for students; ELA Support Lab with small group, teacher-led iReady lessons focused on vocabulary and reading comprehension as identified by iReady Fall Diagnostic results; Math Support Lab with small group, teacher-led iReady lessons and teacher created lessons focused on iReady Fall Diagnostic results. In Senior High (Grades 9-12), the priorities were discussed at the first department chairs meeting on October 21st.

Mrs. Nichols spoke of promoting great teaching. She stated that the Framework for Teaching (Danielson, 2011) is the teacher evaluation rubric the District uses and is organized into four domains. The Framework provides a foundation for professional conversations and professional development. During the October Early Release Day, teachers identified their areas of effectiveness and areas of improvement. Mrs. Nichols provided a chart that showed a summary by domain and element.

Mrs. Nichols stated that the next steps are for instructional conversations and coaching to focus on areas identified. Peer visits can be arranged based on need and/or area of effectiveness.

Director of Technology Instruction Matt Gelder summarized his report to the Board

Mr. Gelder informed the Board that the department is working on a website redesign and District communication. The department continues to collect parent, community member, and student feedback through the communications survey that was sent out. Mr. Gelder provided the preliminary results. This is one avenue of data collection and will be supplemented with the parent/community group and student focus groups that will give the information needed to implement the tools and systems needed to effectively communicate with all of the stakeholders. A parent/community group meeting was held in mid-October. Twenty-two community members participated. The attendees gave ideas as to what websites on the internet they like. Mr. Gelder provided graphs that showed how the community, parents, and students currently receive mass communication from the District, how often they visit the District website, what method of communication they prefer for mass communication from the District, if the District had a free app that provided critical information and notifications would they use it, the type of information they are interested in seeing about Candor Schools, the ways that they would like to receive communication about what is happening in their child's classroom, etc.

Director of Transportation Holly Carling summarized her report to the Board.

Mrs. Carling informed the Board that a new navigation system has been installed in 12 of the buses. They are AT&T Fleet Complete Navigation devices. The system gives real-time information on each of the buses. Mrs. Carling can see where the buses are, how fast they are going, etc.

Mrs. Carling stated that, like everyone else, the transportation department is struggling with getting parts. There are several crucial parts for the buses that are currently on national backorder.

Mrs. Carling informed the Board that the department is still waiting for two new buses; they might arrive in November. Mrs. Carling stated that she is working on manuals for the parents and students, and for the drivers. She will share them with the Board before they go out.

Network Administrators Report for September 2021 was submitted.

Regular Meeting, October 21, 2021

Superintendent Brent Suddaby presented his report to the Board.

Mr. Suddaby informed the Board that the District has a Superintendent's Conference Day scheduled for October 22nd. The day is planned for faculty and staff to do N.Y. State-mandated in-services that include the Right to Know training, Sexual Harassment Prevention, the Dignity for All Students Act, and Cybersecurity.

Mr. Suddaby stated that with the support of the Department of Public Health, the District has been able to conduct in-house weekly testing of unvaccinated faculty and staff at school. The District has been working on expanding the ability to test for COVID at school so that testing can be offered to students, with parental consent, or to any staff member that has symptoms that could indicate COVID.

Hannah Murray asked how many people signed up for the vaccination clinics. Mr. Suddaby stated that only 25 were vaccinated at the first clinic, and the second clinic was canceled because of low participation.

Board Comments:

Michael Blake commented that he thinks everyone is on the right track with the work they have been doing, and they have really good plans.

Hannah Murray stated that the ceremony for Stephen Lindridge was cool and that it was very nice for him to get that recognition.

Recognition of Visitors:

President Murray recognized the visitors present. No comments were made at this time.

Adjournment:

President Murray announced the regular session of the meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m. The Board and Superintendent Suddaby reconvened for a second executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathlyn M. Hinkle, Clerk of the Board