

Board of Education, Regular Meeting
May 18, 2023

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: Hope VanScoy, Brent Doane, Raymond Parmarter, Kate Davenport, Josh Soper, 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 Josh Soper, to adjourn to executive session to discuss a particular personnel matter. All board members listed above were present, as well as Superintendent Brent Suddaby and School Business Official Christine Pierce. Mrs. Pierce exited executive session at 6:46 p.m.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:

At 7:00 p.m., Brent Doane made a motion, seconded by Kate Davenport, to return to regular session. The motion carried unanimously. All board members listed above were present, as well as Superintendent Brent Suddaby, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services Kimberleigh Nichols, Elementary School Principal Peter Ahart, Director of Instructional Technology Matt Gelder, Athletic Director/Director of Transportation Holly Carling, School Business Official Christine Pierce, and Board Clerk Kathlyn Hinkle.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said to begin regular session.

CSE/CPSE REPORTS ACCEPTED:

A motion was made by Raymond Parmarter, seconded by Brent Doane, to accept the CSE/CPSE Reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED:

A motion was made by Nate Brace, seconded by Josh Soper, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 20, 2023. The motion carried unanimously, with Hope VanScoy abstaining.

A motion was made by Nate Brace, seconded by Raymond Parmarter, to approve the minutes of the Budget Hearing held on May 9, 2023. The motion carried unanimously, with Hope VanScoy abstaining.

A motion was made by Hope VanScoy, seconded by Josh Soper, to approve the minutes of the Budget Vote held on May 16, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

A motion was made by Hope VanScoy, seconded by Kate Davenport, to approve the Treasurer's Report for April 2023 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROPRIATIONS TRANSFERS:

A motion was made by Raymond Parmarter, seconded by Nate Brace, to approve the Appropriations Transfers report for April 2023, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

WARRANTS ACCEPTED:

A motion was made by Brent Doane, seconded by Kate Davenport, to accept the following Warrants for April 2023, as presented: General Fund #37, Federal Fund #13, School Lunch Fund #11, and Capital Fund #10. The motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

President Murray recognized there were no visitors present at this time.

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CONSENT AGENDA:

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Suddaby, a motion was made by Josh Soper, seconded by Nate Brace, to approve the following personnel items, pending fingerprint-supported criminal history background checks, where applicable*:

Resignations:

Accepted the resignation from **Jamie Garrett** as a Reading Teacher, effective June 30, 2023, with regret.

Accepted the resignation from **Lisa Pasternak** as a Spanish Teacher, effective July 1, 2023, with regret.

Accepted the resignation from **Gail Darrow** as a Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective June 23, 2023, with regret.

Recommended Appointments:

Approved the appointment of **Sara Loomis** as a Teacher on Special Assignment (Summer Academy 2023 Principal), effective July 1, 2023, with salary and benefits in accordance with the 2023-2024 Candor Faculty Association contract.

Approved the appointment of **Pamela Harvey** as an Elementary Teacher (Fifth Grade) effective July 1, 2023, with salary and benefits in accordance with the 2023-2024 Candor Faculty Association contract.

Approved the appointment of **Hannah Cummins*** as a Special Education Teacher effective August 1, 2023, with salary and benefits in accordance with the 2023-2024 Candor Faculty Association contract.

Approved the appointment of **Joan Roberts*** as a part-time teacher aide, effective May 22, 2023, with salary at \$14.20 per hour for hours worked, no benefits, in accordance with the 2022-2023 Candor Employees Unit Contract.

Approved the appointment of **John Benjamin and Steven Fales** as Driver Education Instructors for Summer 2023, with salary in accordance with the 2023-2024 Candor Faculty Association Contract.

Approved the Non-Instructional Substitute List for the 2022-2023 school year, with salary in accordance with the 2022-2023 Non-Instructional Pay Schedule.

1. **Joseph Opper*** - Substitute Bus Driver

Payroll Calendar 2023-2024

Approved the 2023-2024 Payroll Calendar as presented.

Tenure Appointment:

Granted tenure to **Peter Ahart**, Administrator (Elementary School Principal), effective July 1, 2023.

Memorandum of Understanding - CFA: Summer 2023 Pay Rate

Approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the District and the Candor Faculty Association regarding the hourly pay rate for the summer of 2023, as presented.

Bond Resolution

Approved the bond resolution, as presented, authorizing general obligation bonds to finance the acquisition of four (4) school buses and one (1) 7-passenger vehicle as approved by the qualified voters of Candor Central School District on May 16, 2023.

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Equipment Disposal

Approved the disposal of items, as presented, from Katie Anderson, Transportation Supervisor. These items are no longer of use to the District. An advertisement for public bids will be sent out for these items.

SVEC Sports Mergers 2023-2024:

Approved sports mergers for the 2023-2024 school year with the following resolutions:

SVEC Section IV Sports Merger - 2023 - 2024 school year (Football)

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 2023-2024 school year. The sport to be merged is Varsity, JV, and Modified Football.

SVEC Section IV Sports Merger - 2023 - 2024 school year (Girls Soccer)

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 2023-2024 school year. The sport to be merged is Varsity and Modified Girls Soccer.

SVEC Section IV Sports Merger - 2023 - 2024 school year (Boys Soccer)

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 2023-2024 school year. The sport to be merged is Varsity and Modified Boys Soccer.

SVEC Section IV Sports Merger - 2023 - 2024 school year (Field Hockey)

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 2023-2024 school year. The sport to be merged is Varsity and Modified Field Hockey.

SVEC Section IV Sports Merger - 2023 - 2024 school year (Fall Cheerleading)

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 2023-2024 school year. The sport to be merged is Varsity and Modified Fall Cheerleading (Football).

The motion carried unanimously for all consent agenda items.

Administrator Reports:

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

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

Mr. Aman stated that the Jr/Sr High School team has identified concerns about the number of 7th-grade students failing two or more classes this year. Since COVID, the number of students (particularly Jr. High) has increased significantly. The 7th Grade Data Team has been looking at data associated with students failing two or more classes to determine an effective action plan to address this concern. Not surprisingly, attendance appears to be a clear issue with this group of students. Two other items of interest based on the data are homework practices and grading policies. They will continue to meet to explore these data points further and work on a plan of action.

Mr. Aman informed the Board that over the past year, TST BOCES, component schools, and the Cayuga Medical Center have been developing standard procedures for streamlining communication between all stakeholders in the event of a psychiatric intake of a student. In the past, there have been challenges associated with communication and clarity of responsibilities throughout this process. Thanks to the help of Jadyn McCune and the TST BOCES Team, all parties have met multiple times to develop a PST document detailing the roles and responsibilities of the schools, hospital, and parents throughout the intake, hospitalization, and discharge process. So far, these guidelines have been extremely helpful in streamlining responsibilities.

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Mr. Aman stated that on May 17th and 18th, the Senior Seminar students will be presenting to available Administration and Board of Education members. The Senior Seminar course has been offered for six years and is required for all students in the Early College program.

Starting last year, Meredith Roessner was approved by TC3 to offer this course as ENGL 201 Public Speaking, allowing students to earn concurrent enrollment credit for the class. The students in this course benefit tremendously from their public speaking experiences, and Mr. Aman appreciates Mrs. Roessner's continuing hard work in developing and enhancing this course.

Elementary Principal Peter Ahart presented his report to the Board.

Mr. Ahart stated that since the attendance committee initiated the new attendance plan in February, the Elementary School has seen an increase in attendance. Mr. Ahart provided the Board with a chart that showed attendance data for February, March, and April and the grade-level winner for each month. The attendance committee initiatives are geared towards engaging and educating families, addressing the health needs of students, building student accountability, providing monthly incentives, and utilizing monthly data tracking measures to efficiently and effectively address attendance rates.

Mr. Ahart informed the Board that PreK Registration was held on May 9th and 10th. They currently have 40 students registered. The PreK grant allows the District to have a maximum of 18 students in a class. Two families are on a waitlist. During the visit, the children completed a screening to determine a baseline of their skills (academic, social, behavioral, motor) and allow them the opportunity to meet the teachers and service providers they will be working with. During the screening process, parents spent time with Mr. Ahart and Sara Loomis, learning about the logistics of their child's upcoming school experience and providing families with a tour of the building. Kindergarten registration for students not enrolled in the current PreK program will take place on May 17th.

Hannah Murray asked if a student would get bumped off the list if a parent wanted to register a high-needs student and there wasn't space. Mr. Ahart stated that the list is first come, first serve; that is how it is written in the grant. Once a student is on the list, they do not get bumped.

Mr. Ahart stated that the senior class gave Kindergarten students a wonderful opportunity. The seniors will be coming to the elementary school, reading to Kindergarten students, and giving them a book to keep. The Elementary School staff is extremely appreciative of such a meaningful tradition the seniors offer. Additionally, the seniors will be completing their graduation walk on June 1st, walking in their cap and gown throughout the halls for the Elementary School students.

Mr. Ahart thanked Nate Brace and his colleagues at Lockheed Martin for visiting the District on STEM Day. He also thanked Matt Gelder, who, along with TST BOCES, offered STEM program for 3rd grade. Mr. Ahart stated that he would like to hold a STEM Day every trimester next year.

Mr. Ahart informed the Board that the Elementary School will be having a Field Day on June 20th. The PTSA is covering the cost of the activities. He stated that the PTSA has been a pleasure to work with and that they have not turned down a request he has made yet.

Mr. Ahart stated that the 5th and 6th Grade Band & Chorus concert will be held on June 8th, as well as the Elementary Art Show. The PreK Graduation and 6th Grade Moving Up ceremonies will be held on June 16th.

Director of Instructional Technology Matt Gelder summarized his report to the Board.

Mr. Gelder informed the Board that the ELA and Math State Testing was completed successfully. Students worked diligently and persevered over the four days of testing. Eva Collier helped organize testing and took over the coordination of testing in grades 3-6, while Mr. Gelder managed the 7th and 8th grades. Only one morning of testing began a bit rocky due to some technical issues with the Amazon Web Services that Questar contracts with to host the text-to-speech functionality. Overall, things went very smoothly.

Mr. Gelder and Mrs. Collier would like to thank the teachers, support staff, and administrators who helped to complete testing with as little disruption to day-to-day learning as possible.

Mr. Gelder stated that the annual software review is underway to determine what tools are being used and what the District will renew next year. These are a few of the top software applications used by teachers (2022 data in parenthesis):

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- Remind- Average monthly numbers- Messages delivered: 24,732 (21,646); Conversations: 8,390 (11,112); Announcements: 16,342 (10,534). We had a total of 300,676 messages delivered in the last year.
- Schoology- Typical monthly numbers- 2064 (2626) assignments, number of logins- Parent:341 (444), Student: 8,598(13,995), Teachers: 1,714 (2435).
- Google Classroom- Typical month- 17 (15) active classes, 8-12 (12-15) posts/assignments,

Mr. Gelder provided the Board with a chart containing data collected from GoGuardian that represents the top 30 websites visited by students using Chromebooks in and out of school over the last month, along with 2022 data for comparison.

Mr. Gelder thanked Branden Whitmarsh for his hard work over the last three weeks, helping him in the tech department. Branden, a senior in the technology education program at TST BOCES, joined Mr. Gelder three mornings a week, provisioning and repairing devices, getting devices ready for secure recycling, troubleshooting AV problems, and even helping during STEM day in the elementary school. Mr. Gelder stated that he sees a bright future in store for Branden as he moves into a field with unlimited potential and believes he will do great things.

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

Mrs. Carling updated the Board on the spring sports season, which consisted of a week and a half of steady rain. Once the fields dried out and the teams were able to get back on the fields, the season was about over for the Varsity and JV teams. The modified teams will go strong into June. Varsity Baseball and Softball will head to sectionals. JV Baseball will play in a JV tournament. The Boys and Girls Track teams continue their quest for postseason competition with many individual athletes achieving personal records and proving very competitive at the meets. Last but not least, the Girls and Boys Golf teams have IACs and Sectionals within the next couple of weeks, and they have a pretty solid chance of winning team and individual titles and competing in the State Tournament. Best of luck to all of the athletes and coaches.

Mrs. Carling added that Jacob Banks has received the Soccer Athlete of the Year from ESPN Ithaca, and Kim White has received the Boys & Girls Cross Country Coach of the Year. Congratulations to both.

Mrs. Carling informed the Board that the Mascot Committee will meet on May 24, 2023 to review the submissions for the coyote mascot designs. There have been over 20 designs submitted.

Mrs. Carling informed the Board that the Steering Committee will meet within the next week to discuss the fall sports mergers.

Mrs. Carling stated the End of Year Sports Awards Celebration will be held on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. At 6:30, there will be a signing for those seniors going to college and playing a sport if they choose to be recognized.

Mrs. Carling informed the Board that she has received a request from students for a Flag Football team. She received a petition signed by 21 students. This may start as a club to see how it goes, but more needs to be discussed and researched. She has also had a request for indoor track.

Mrs. Carling informed the Board that the District has received the Award of Excellence for Exemplary Display of Sportsmanship, Ethics & Integrity for the 2022-2023 school year from NYSPHSAA. Mrs. Carling stated that she is very proud of the students and community.

Mrs. Carling provided the Board with information for the Transportation Department. The department is currently planning for the summer 2023 bus runs. They will be transporting students to TST BOCES in Ithaca, Upward Bound in Ithaca, Camp Ahwaga in Owego, and the Summer Academy at the Candor campus.

The Transportation Department has finally received all the buses slated for a July 2022 delivery. They are all in the shop getting their final touches and will be ready to add to the daily routes soon.

The Transportation Department has been hosting a Candor High School Senior as an intern in the shop with the District's Mechanic, Rob Truss. The student has had the opportunity to learn the ins and outs of the transportation garage and support Mr. Truss with many tasks. The department is thankful to be able to give him this opportunity and appreciative to have his support to help with the many tasks at hand.

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services Kimberleigh Nichols presented her report to the Board.

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Mrs. Nichols informed the Board that since February, five special education teachers have worked with a literacy specialist and a special education specialist to improve academic results for students with disabilities. In addition to teaching the PHONICS for Reading program, teachers are implementing a weekly reading fluency progress monitoring program and a daily intensive fluency intervention practice. Mrs. Nichols plans to share student data at the June board meeting.

Mrs. Nichols stated that the District is providing several Professional Development opportunities for this summer. Registrations are currently being accepted for:

- SuperKids (PK-2 ELA curriculum) Virtual Conference
- District Professional Development: Science of Reading; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; PK-12 Curriculum Council work; Trauma Informed Practices; and, Technology Integration;
- Responsive Classroom Middle School Model
- Therapeutic Crisis Intervention for Schools
- Eureka² Math Curriculum Training
- Responsive Classroom Vertical Alignment (PK-8)

To date, there are fifty-four teachers registered. Additionally, twenty curriculum work proposals have been submitted. Registration for proposals is open until May 26th. Mr. Ahart, Mr. Aman, and Mrs. Nichols will review each proposal, and determine the approval status based on the support of district priorities.

Mrs. Nichols informed the Board that Matt Gelder, Eva Collier, Pete Ahart, Wayne Aman, and the teachers planned and executed another successful year of computer-based testing for grades 3-8. Mrs. Nichols thanked everyone who helped with this task.

Mrs. Nichols gave the Board an update on the District priorities, which are to implement:

- Use data to drive instructional decisions and practices
- Literacy instruction across all content areas
- Vocabulary and comprehension
- Core Instruction and Tier 1 Interventions
- Implement a multi-tiered system of support (MTSS)
- Maintain a safe and supportive environment and encourage a positive culture

School Business Official Christine Pierce summarized her report to the Board.

Mrs. Pierce updated the Board on the ARP/ESSER Funds. She has begun to complete the survey for the Targeted Review of all ARP and ESSER funds from March 2020 to March 2023. The review is designed to ensure that districts follow the programmatic and fiscal plans submitted in the Education Stimulus Fund Applications and that the District is complying. This requires uploading documentation related to the use of funds, along with evidence, including payroll documentation for all employees, contracts, invoices, purchase orders, and receipts for items and services paid for with stimulus funds. The portal is open until June 2nd for the survey completion and evidence uploads. A virtual visit will then be scheduled with the District. The entire process continues through the Fall of 2023.

Mrs. Pierce informed the Board that the District continues to see favorable rates at NYCLASS and the TSB ICS accounts. The month of April yielded \$21,436.87 in interest.

Mrs. Pierce stated that the business office is working hard to wrap up 2022-2023 and roll into 2023-2024. The independent auditors from Mengel, Metzger, Barr & Co. will begin their pre-work soon, and the business office is preparing records for their review. The department has significant obligations coming due for BOCES and debt service payments at the end of this month. The last large State Aid revenue payment is expected by the end of this month.

Mrs. Pierce stated that the initial training in requisition entry in nVision has been completed. As the budget is posted, they will begin preparing for purchasing in the 2023-2024 school year. Mrs. Pierce provided the Board with a draft purchasing policy and procedures manual for review. The department continues to evaluate payroll processes and the drafting of a policy and procedures manual for payroll as well.

The Network Administrator's Log was submitted for April 2023

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Superintendent Brent Suddaby summarized his report to the Board.

Mr. Suddaby thanked everyone who worked to build the 2023 -2024 District Budget and everyone who came out to vote. He stated that he is appreciative and proud of the work that the Administration, Budget Committee, and especially the School Business official, Christine Pierce, did to allow him to present a budget to the community that preserves the academic programming already offered in the District.

He knows that investing in the students is crucial to their success, and this budget reflects the commitment to providing a high-quality education to all students in the District.

Mr. Suddaby congratulated Nate Brace and Gregg Houck on being elected to the Board of Education. He also congratulated the Candor Free Library Association for their proposition for additional funding passing.

Mr. Suddaby stated that rebuilding the outside auditorium stairs has gone so well. King & King Architects and Boland's Excavating work well with the District. They have kept Mr. Wintermute, and Mr. Suddaby informed each step of the way. The work was done with consideration for the school schedule and in a way that created minimal disruption. Mr. Suddaby hopes this indicates how all the site work will proceed. He will keep the Board, Facilities Committee, and the community informed as work progresses and timelines of the projects and implications for the communities.

Mr. Suddaby congratulated Elementary School Principal Peter Ahart for receiving tenure.

Board Comments:

Raymond Parmarter stated that he, Hope VanScoy, and Mike Blake attended the Senior Seminar presentations as evaluators. The students were very impressive. It is apparent that the program is working. Mr. Aman would like to make it a mandatory course. Presently, it is an elective, and students will receive college credit for taking the course. He added that Meredith Roessner has done a great job leading and teaching the students.

Recognition of Visitors:

President Murray recognized there were no visitors present at this time.

Adjournment:

President Murray declared regular session adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Executive Session:

The Board adjourned to executive session to discuss the CSE/CSPE reports with Kimberleigh Nichols.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathlyn M. Hinkle, Clerk of the Board