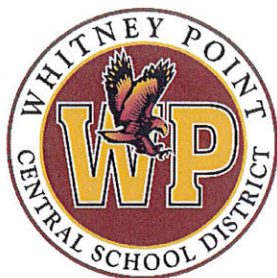


WHITNEY POINT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Board of Education Meeting

Whitney Point High School Building
High School Library/Zoom
PO Box 249
Whitney Point, NY 13862

MINUTES

Monday, April 18, 2022

District Mission:

6:00 p.m.

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 6:04 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Stephanie Champney	President	X	_____
Kathleen Driscoll	Vice-President	X	_____
Donette Griffith	Member	X	_____
Brian Jeker	Member	X	_____
Eddie Maslin	Member	X	_____
Thomas Tasber	Member	X	_____
Christine Widdall	Member	X	_____
Jo-Ann Sexton	Superintendent of Schools	X	_____
Shannon Gillette	Assistant Superintendent	_____	X
Zachary Woodard	School Business Executive	X	_____
Stacey Forkey	District Clerk	X	_____

Others in attendance: Melanie Smith, Erik Sculley, Erin Macaluso, Molly Goosman, Tyanna Moseman, Murphee Hayes

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) Presentation

Mr. Barry Entwistle, NYSSBA's Director of Member Relations presented the value and benefits of a NYSSBA membership.

- Testimony Video
- Advocacy
- Budget Assistance
- Voting Assistance
- Policy Assistance
- Training
- Guidance through difficult times
- Administrators' access to membership
- 92% of NYS school districts are members
- Dues \$9,031 – January-December or July-June

Mrs. Griffith asked what information is used for research on legislation guidance and how do you determine what to include in that?

Mr. Entwistle stated that they have a research department who looks into many issues, not only legislative. He said that on the legislative side, sometimes districts have questions unique to their budget or their circumstances and they ask the district to appoint one person from the Board to be their advocacy liaison. NYSSBA would send out toolkits on how to reach out to your legislators on important issues.

Mrs. Griffith stated that Whitney Point has been experiencing ups and downs in regard to covid mandates this past year and asked what NYSSBA has put out for boards as far as research on that sort of legislation.

Mr. Entwistle stated that they did a school reopening guidance as well as guidance on transportation. He said that there may have been some schools that wanted the State school board to take a position on masking, but they are unable to weigh in on that issue. More guidance for school districts on what their role is in curriculum. He said that they offered a statewide complimentary webinar for all school board members to participate in. He said that NYSSBA tries to stay on top of issues such as the transportation situation that many districts are having with school bus driver shortages.

Mr. Jeker asked about the mentioning of boards bringing issues up that would be brought to their constituents and then there would be an annual vote on such topics. He inquired about the timeliness of issues if the vote is annual?

Mr. Entwistle explained the annual resolution process. He said that sometimes there are things that require immediate action and need to be brought by the State board of directors to local representatives, which for our region is Sandy Ruffo. He said that she is one of 12 or more board members who would ask NYSSBA to move something pressing along.

Mrs. Champney thanked Mr. Entwistle and stated that they would discuss as a Board whether to move forward with the membership.

The Board decided to research and think about NYSSBA membership and discuss at an upcoming meeting.

Dr. Widdall stated that she knows that the Board wanted to join and that the issue in the past has been the cost. She said that Whitney Point is not the only Broome County Board that is not a member of NYSSBA and that she does not feel that we are not represented because of this. She said that the non-members are always given the same information and the vote is always done collectively.

Mrs. Griffith stated that as a new board member, she believes having an outside source of information would be useful.

Mr. Tasber stated that we were members of NYSSBA previously but decided to stop due to loss of teachers and positions at that time. He said that we did not at the time have the money in the budget for the membership, but that he thinks we are in a much better place now.

Dr. Widdall stated that this is by far the cheapest price that they have ever given us.

B. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

No need at this time.

C. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

D. POLICIES 1ST READING

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve policy number **7513.1 Students with Life Threatening Health Conditions** for first reading.

Moved by Brian Jeker

Seconded by Christine Widdall

Ms. Sexton stated that this is an update to our current policy. It covers our ability to treat things such as diabetes, seizure disorders, asthma and allergies within the district. The policy allows mostly nurses the ability to provide interventions in some cases where it is legally and medically appropriate. She said that the change to the policy is to now include Narcan. She stated that overdoses across the nation have skyrocketed, and some students are inadvertently exposing themselves to things like fentanyl through vapes and other medications. She said that the district's nurses want to be trained in using Narcan and want to have a supply and to do so, we need to have a policy on it.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

E. POLICIES 2ND READING

None.

F. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Melanie Smith, Triangle resident and parent of one current student and one graduated student stated that she was in attendance to discuss athletics. She said that football and baseball seem to be weaker sports at Whitney Point School District. She stated that she would like support and ideas about how to strengthen these sports programs. She said that stats and video analysis are unavailable for athletes

and parents need to do this for students who are planning to continue athletics in college and who are seeking scholarships. Ms. Smith also stated that she feels that not enough funding is put into equipment for some of the sports. She also stated that there have been some concerns with bussing for sports. She said that sports are how some students get through school because their love of their sport(s) makes them want to do well in school. She is hoping to work on communication with all sports and find where she can help as well.

Erik Sculley, resident of the school district and parent of a Whitney Point High School student gave “kudos” to Ms. Sexton and Board of Education regarding the policy for first reading that includes the addition of Narcan as a treatment allowed by the district. He said that his suggestion to the Board and school would be to eventually consider allowing coaches to learn and carry it, noting concerns of potential overdoses of spectators at sporting events. Mr. Sculley asked Ms. Sexton if staff members are trained in crisis intervention.

Ms. Sexton stated that the district currently uses TCI and is in the process of changing over to CPI.

Mr. Sculley stated that he is unsure of the financial impact but suggests to the Board to adopt a policy to include bus drivers and monitors in that training.

Ms. Sexton stated that bus drivers and monitors do participate in a de-escalation and non-violent crisis intervention training as well.

G. COMMENDATIONS

Ms. Sexton commends:

- The following TRA and High School students for their participation in the NYSSMA Solo & Ensemble Festival:

Instrumental Participants

Level 5

Halie Quail, Grade 10, Clarinet Solo
Carley McGrath, Grade 11, Alto Saxophone Solo
Kierstin Gehres, Grade 11, French Horn Solo

Level 4

Payton Martin, Grade 7, Bassoon Solo
Alex Ellerson, Grade 8, Alto Saxophone Solo
Logan Griffith, Grade 9, Tuba Solo
Lauryn Nichols, Grade 10, Trumpet Solo
Hayley Collins, Grade 12, Clarinet Solo
Paige Humphrey, Grade 12, Flute Solo

Level 3

Eli Baker, Grade 7, Snare Solo
Riley Burke, Grade 7, Euphonium Solo
Hannah Somers, Grade 8, French Horn Solo
Billie Leet, Grade 8, Alto Saxophone Solo
Zach Collins, Grade 8, Trombone Solo
Alex Ellerson, Grade 8, Jazz Alto Saxophone Solo
Isaac Jordan, Grade 9, Alto Saxophone Solo
Abigail Lewis, Grade 9, French Horn Solo
Miranda Burke, Grade 9, Flute Solo
Paige Lee, Grade 10, Baritone Saxophone Solo

Katelyn Merlin & Carley McGrath, Grade 11, Saxophone duet
Madisyn Beach, Grade 12, Flute duet

Level 2

Hailey Hogan, Grade 7, Alto Saxophone Solo
Alexa McLain, Grade 7, Flute Solo
Eli Baker, Grade 7, Timpani Solo
Breanna Lee, Grade 8, Trumpet Solo
Chloe Mullen, Grade 8, Flute Solo
Cecelia Calice, Grade 8, Clarinet Solo
Calleigh Nichols, Grade 9, Euphonium Solo
Izzy Kiehle, Grade 9, Flute Solo

Level 1

Mackenzie Price, Grade 7, Snare Solo
Blake Jackson, Grade 7, Snare Solo
Elle Rought, Grade 7, Snare Solo
Savannah Cratsley, Grade 7, Flute Solo
Andrew Beardsley, Grade 8, Snare Solo

Vocal Participants

Level 6 – All-State (highest degree of difficulty & highest level of scrutiny)

Kierstin Gehres, Grade 11, Soprano 1

Level 6 (highest degree of difficulty)

Logan Griffith, Grade 9, Bass 1
Owen Hubbard, Grade 10, Bass 1
Madison Stanton, Grade 11, Soprano 1

Level 5

Christine Holcomb, Grade 10, Soprano
Ian McMullen, Grade 10, Bass
Peyton Smith, Grade 9, Tenor
David Tupy, Grade 10, Tenor
Gerek Tupy, Grade 10, Tenor

Level 4

Max Juraska, Grade 9, Alto
Isabelle Kiehle, Grade 9, Soprano

- The following High School art students, whose artwork is displayed in the *Emerging Artists Juried Show* at the Oakdale Mall April 5th through 29th.

Kelsey Barrows	Ruby Burns
Taylor Canniff	Connor Coyne
Elizabeth Czebiniak	Roberta D'Amico
Acadia Head	Brynn Heath
Regan Prentice	Alana Roe

- Ken Jones with the Whitney Point Schools Music Department and all of those who assisted with the production of Cabaret as well as those who participated in performances on April 5 and 6, 2022.

- Andrea Stanley and her 4th grade class for raising \$583 for a donation to the World Central Kitchen to help humanitarian relief efforts.

ADDENDA

A. COMMENDATIONS

Ms. Sexton commends:

- *The following TRA students for their participation in the NYSSMA Solo & Ensemble Festival:*

Instrumental Participants

Level 2

Violet Frost, Grade 5, Piano Solo

Level 1

Charlie Abbott & Leah Griffith, Grade 5, Alto Saxophone Duet

Leah Griffith, Grade 5, Alto Saxophone Solo

Vocal Participant

Level 2

Leah Griffith, Grade 5, Soprano

H. OLD BUSINESS

None.

I. NEW BUSINESS (CONT.)

2. 2022-2023 Budget Presentation

Ms. Sexton, Superintendent gave a presentation on the 2022-2023 School Budget.

- Budget Goals
- The adopted NYS Budget
- Recap from the March 15, 2022, budget presentation
- Bridging the Gap
- Closing the Gap
- Revenue Projection
- 2022-2023 Proposed Budget

Mrs. Champney applauded our legislators for not cutting education funding, but increasing it, stating that in the last 21 years, this is the most dramatic increase she believes she has seen.

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the 2022-2023 School District Budget in the sum of \$38,787,745 with a zero percent (0.0%) tax levy increase.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Donette Griffith

Mr. Tasber stated that the budget is much different from when he started on the Board years ago and that it is nice to see this. He thanked Mr. Woodard for all the work to keep the district where it needs to be financially.

Mr. Woodard stated with the Medicare Advantage Plan savings, low insurance increase, and increase in foundation aid, this was made possible.

Mrs. Champney stated that regarding the insurance, the overwhelming response she hears from retirees is that the advantage plan is fabulous and is also better coverage than what they had previously.

Mr. Woodard stated that the plan is significantly cheaper for the retirees as well.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

3. 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 2022-2023 Property Tax Report Card.

Moved by Christine Widdall

Seconded by Brian Jeker

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

4. 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** – March 15, 2022
- b. **Resignation** – Leanna Steffler, Bus Monitor – effective April 6, 2022
- c. **Resignation** – Brooke Pratt, Part-Time Food Service Helper – effective April 8, 2022
- d. **Resignation** – Christina Philbert, English Teacher – effective June 30, 2022
- e. **Chicken Bid** – award to Tyson, as low bidders for the July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023 Chicken Bid as prepared by Broome Tioga BOCES Food Service Program.
- f. **Processed Foods Bid** – award to Asian Food Solution, Renzi, Nardone's, Maidrite, Ginsberg, Yangs, Big Apple, as low bidders for the July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023 Chicken Bid as prepared by Broome Tioga BOCES Food Service Program.
- g. **Meat and Cheese Bid** – award to Ginsberg, Renzi, Slate, Cascu, Head as low bidders for the July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023 Chicken Bid as prepared by Broome Tioga BOCES Food Service Program.
- h. **Chemical Bid** – award to Hill & Markes, as low bidders for the 2022-2025 Chemical Bid as prepared by Broome Tioga BOCES Food Service Program.
- i. **Geographic Preference Bid** – award to 607 CSA, Russell Farms, Catskill Cattle Company, Headwater Food Hub, and Cascun Farm, as low bidders for

the 2022-2023 Geographic Preference Bid as prepared by Broome Tioga BOCES Food Service Program.

- j. **Field Trip Request** – HS Band and Chorus, May 20-22, 2022, to Cleveland, OH
- k. **Field Trip Request** – 7/8 Concert Band and Chorus, 6-8 Jazz Band, June 3, 2022, to Lake George, NY
- l. **Field Trip Request** – HS Math & Physics/Science Club, June 7, 2022, to Hershey, PA
- m. **Treasurer's Reports** –March 2022
- n. **Extra-classroom Treasurer's Report** – March 2022
- o. **Committee on Special Education Recommendations**
- p. **Spring Coaching Recommendations:**

Boys' Baseball	
Modified	Craig Richards
Boys' Lacrosse	
Varsity Assistant	Gene Jordan
Modified Assistant	Will Manvell
Girls' Lacrosse	
Varsity Assistant	Nicole Huston
Modified Assistant	Tonya Ellerson

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Eddie Maslin

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

5. Retirement Resignations

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the retirement resignation of **Rebecca Foran**, Elementary Teacher, effective April 18, 2022.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Brian Jeker

Ms. Sexton stated that Rebecca Foran was hired on September 1, 2000. During her time with the district, she has been an Elementary Teacher in the TRA and CEA. She has served as a Department/Grade Co-Chairperson. Ms. Foran's students are always ready to learn in her fun teaching environment.

Dr. Widdall stated that she will miss working with Ms. Foran and that she was a great teacher.

Mrs. Griffith stated that Ms. Foran was the first teacher that helped her son to enjoy school.

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 the retirement resignation of **Sheila Davies**, Music Teacher, effective July 1, 2022.

Moved by Donette Griffith

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

Ms. Sexton stated that Sheila Davies was hired on September 1, 1998. During her time with the district, she has taught Music in the TRA and has served as Co-Advisor for the High School Marching Band, Jazz Band, and Color Guard. Ms. Davies' always encourages student engagement in her classroom and provides a well-rounded musical experience for them.

Mrs. Champney stated that Ms. Davies taught her daughter to play the clarinet.

Mr. Tasber stated that there has been a lot of time and effort put it for the students by Ms. Davies and that it is appreciated by the students and parents.

Mr. Jeker recalled that Ms. Davies was also involved with past field trips.

Mrs. Griffith stated that Ms. Davies has been the door to music for our students.

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 the retirement resignation of **Violet Davis**, Special Education Teacher, effective July 1, 2022.

Moved by Eddie Maslin

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

Ms. Sexton stated that Violet Davis was hired on September 1, 1998. During her time with the district, she has taught Special Education in the TRA. She has served as Grade Co-Chair/Team Leader. Ms. Davis provides a welcoming environment with mutual respect for all her students, allowing for open communication.

Ms. Sexton stated that she was recently speaking with a student who said that Ms. Davis changed her life completely by believing in her.

Mrs. Griffith wished Ms. Davis well in her retirement.

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 the retirement resignation of **Christine Gregoire**, Special Education and English as a New Language Teacher, effective July 1, 2022.

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Brian Jeker

Ms. Sexton stated that Christine Gregoire was hired on September 1, 1998. During her time with the district, she has taught Special Education and continued her learning to become certified in teaching English as a Second Language. She has served as Co-Grade Chair/Team Leader, taught an afterschool program, and chaperoned for dances and field trips. Ms. Gregoire encourages her students to explain their thinking to help work through their thoughts and achieve their goals.

Ms. Sexton stated that when Ms. Gregoire became a TESOL, she worked with our English language learners and went above and beyond by even going to their homes to work with them.

Mrs. Griffith stated that she had the pleasure of working with Ms. Gregoire at the TRA and that it was great to see her interact with her students.

Mr. Tasber stated that Ms. Gregoire always put in a lot of effort for her students and did go above and beyond always.

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 the retirement resignation of **Barbara Welsh**, Special Education Teacher, effective January 31, 2023.

Moved by Donette Griffith

Seconded by Christine Widdall

Ms. Sexton stated that Barbara Welsh was hired on January 19, 1993. During her time with the district, she has taught in the TRA as a Special Education teacher and in both the TRA and High School as an English Language Arts teacher. She has served as TRA Student Council Advisor, 6-8 ELA Department Chair and TRA Grade Team Leader. Ms. Welsh's classroom has always been a great balance of warm inviting positivity and high expectations for her students.

Mrs. Champney stated that Ms. Welsh will definitely be missed.

Mrs. Griffith stated that Ms. Welsh is one of her favorite teachers and was the first teacher she subbed for. She said that she is very inspirational and that students rise to the high standard that she holds them to.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

ADDENDA

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Retirement Resignation

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the retirement resignation of **Patricia Sluznis**, Full-Time Teacher's Aide, effective June 30, 2022.

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

Ms. Sexton stated that Patricia Sluznis was hired on December 11, 2007. During her time with the district, she has worked 1:1 with students as a Teacher's Aide, providing direct and concentrated support. Mrs. Sluznis is known to be reliable and dedicated to her students and co-workers. She is always willing to help where she can and has an excellent sense of humor.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

6. 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 **Edward Driscoll**, Bus Driver, effective January 10, 2022.

Moved by Eddie Maslin

Seconded by Christine Widdall

Mr. Woodard stated that the normal process is that upon retirement, bus drivers come back as a substitute driver, so he was processed as such originally. It was later discovered that he had actually applied to return full time as a driver and has been driving daily. It is allowable in his contract.

6 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstained *Kathleen Driscoll* 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 **Susan McCarthy**, Bus Driver, effective April 19, 2022.

Moved by Donette Griffith

Seconded by Brian Jeker

Ms. McCarthy is filling the position formerly held by Robert Blass.

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 the appointment of **Jonathan Abbott**, Bus Driver, effective April 19, 2022.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Christine Widdall

Mr. Abbott is filling the position formerly held by Donna Morton.

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 the appointment of **Bethany Frank**, Bus Monitor, pending fingerprint clearance.

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Donette Griffith

Ms. Frank is filling the position formerly held by Kathryn Donenko.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained APPROVED

ADDENDA

C. NEW BUSINESS

2. Appointment

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the appointment of **Loretta Neimiec**, Full-Time Teacher's Aide, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Brian Jeker

Ms. Neimiec is filling the position formerly held by Colleen Lindow.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained APPROVED

7. Instructional Calendar

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve of the amended 2022-2023 Instructional Calendar.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Christine Widdall

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

8. Equipment Disposals

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

Disposal Method: Mel & Son Manasse Auctioneers (any items not accepted will be disposed of through scrap, e-waste, or another viable method to maximize district return.)

Items for auction	Quantity	ID number
Cres-Cor food warming cabinet	1	A00401103
Cres-Cor food warming cabinet	1	A00400265
Vulcan food warmer 4 door	1	A00749415
Vulcan food warmer 4 door	1	No ID
Western plow 9'	1	A00748715
Western plow 9'	1	A00381468
Fridge freezer	1	A00400346
Horizontal belt sander	1	A00400209
Hot water pressure washer	1	A00366118
Floor wet vac	1	A00749425
Atlas wall mount shelf enclosure	4	No ID
Atlas microphone base	6	No ID
Pyle microphones	14	No ID
Atlas mic booms	3	No ID
Black and Decker Drill	1	No ID
F-350 tailgate	1	No ID
F-350 Bumper	1	No ID
Advanced floor machine	1	Old Inventory tag 000095
Tascan CD player	2	No ID
Teach Logic Microphone system	2	No ID
Ceiling fan	1	No ID
Weil-Mclain Hot Water Heater	1	No ID

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

9. BOCES Budget Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the Broome-Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services administrative budget in the amount of \$3,245,861.

Moved by Christine Widdall

Seconded by Donette Griffith

Dr. Widdall stated that she has the book from the meeting she attended if anyone on the Board would like to look at it and said they are reducing their program slightly to stay within budget. She said that she had a great evening with the culinary students serving.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

10. Board Member Vote: BOCES Board of Trustees

There are three, three-year position Board seats, with the term ending June 30, 2025, which will be filled by a vote of the component districts. The following candidates have been nominated for the Office of Trustee on the Broome-Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services:

Nominee:	Nicholas Matyas
Nominee:	William Powell
Nominee:	Sandra Ruffo

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve a motion be made to cast votes for the Broome-Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services as follows:

THREE YEAR POSITIONS

First Nominee:

Kathleen Driscoll moves that the following name be included on the ballot:

Sandra Ruffo

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Second Nominee:

Christine Widdall moves that the following name be included on the ballot:

William Powell

Seconded by Brian Jeker

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Third Nominee:

Donette Griffith moves that the following name be included on the ballot:

Nicholas Matyas

Seconded by Christine Widdall

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

IT IS RESOLVED:

The Whitney Point Central School District Board of Education casts a vote for the Broome-Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services Board candidates as identified above.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Eddie Maslin

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

11. Poll Clerk Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the following list of poll workers and rate of pay for the 2022 Annual Meeting for the sole purpose of the Budget, Bus, Repair Reserve Fund, and Board of Education Member Vote.

Rate of pay \$13.20 per hour

**Sandra Burghardt
Mary Green
Grace Knapp
Kathy Mackey**

Moved by Donette Griffith

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

12. Drawing for Ballot Order

Whitney Point Central School District Clerk Stacey Forkey conducted a lottery drawing to determine the order of names on the May ballot for the candidates in the May 17, 2022, School Board Election. The order was drawn as follows:

1. Erik Sculley
2. Chris Widdall
3. Tyanna Moseman
4. Brian Jeker

13. BOCES Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve that the district will participate in all services approved by the Superintendent and/or her designee for the 2022-2023 school year. The Board of Education agrees to pay Broome-Tioga BOCES the charges identified on the base contract according to the schedule as determined by Broome-Tioga BOCES. Also, be it resolved that payments on supplemental contracts will be implemented by the district in accordance with the Broome-Tioga BOCES requirements.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

14. Transportation Maintenance Services Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the proposed bus maintenance agreement and lease with New York Bus Sales, LLC for the 2022-2023 school year.

Moved by Eddie Maslin

Seconded by Christine Widdall

Mr. Woodard stated this is our annual maintenance agreement with NY Bus sales for the work they do at our bus garage. We RFP'd this about ten years ago and were able to do five-year agreements but were told by the State that we can no longer have more than one-year agreements with them. Mr. Woodard said that we receive 90% aid back on the contract.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

15. Extension of Benefits

BE IT RESOLVED upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District approve the continuation of the current benefit plan with Excellus BlueCross BlueShield for the contract period April 1, 2022 and ending March 31, 2023.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Donette Griffith

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

J. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

- **COVID Update** – Ms. Sexton stated that the numbers in our region have recently peaked. Right now, there is no move to change any rules or regulations. We are hoping that the spike will be short-lived. Some of the issues that were raised at previous meetings was what will you do if that does happen? The response to that is that Whitney Point is a New York State public school and we are authorized by the Board of Regents to exist and are supervised by the New York State Education Department. The District must follow the rules of New York State Education Law, the Board of Regents regulations, and public health law. As a New York State public school, we need to follow rules such as mandated topics of instruction, number of instructional minutes per day, number of instructional days per year, requirements for testing, subjects that are taught, how long they are taught for, who is evaluated and how, how we hire, transportation rules, the number of drills per year, the training provided, and the cleaning products and safety equipment that we use. We each take an oath of office each year that says we will uphold these rules. When the Department of Health says that school districts need to do certain things then we have to do those things. Board of Education members oversee the school district in a manner that looks after the entire school district and they have to look out for the varied viewpoints within it. They also take an oath of office and have an obligation to uphold the law and operate as instruments of the New York State constitution, the New York

State statute, New York State Education Department, and the Commissioner of Education, who when they give us a direct edict, we have to follow that. If a school board member or superintendent violates any rules set forth for them, it is called willful disobedience and allows the Commissioner to remove any board member or administrator who does not uphold the rules. Any community members who feel strongly about an issue has a right to make their feelings known and to lobby to the appropriate people/entities who set the rules for public schools. She said that one of the other questions raised was “do we look into other districts (Nassau County) and what they have done?” Ms. Sexton said that she does. There were some things that happened in our state. In Nassau County, there was a newly elected county executive. He immediately signed executive orders stating that schools did not need to follow the masking rules and that schools could make their own rules on this topic. He was very quickly told by the governor and NYSED that he had no authority to do that. Some of the schools in that county did put out statements stating that they would lift the mask mandate when it became an option to do so. Whitney Point was asked to put out a similar statement and was discussing putting out something similar while waiting for the government to make decisions. Ms. Sexton stated that the communications she put out to families were clearly stating that the mask mandate was not our rule. Moving forward, with anything related to this or any other issue, she asks people to take those concerns to the entities that make those decisions for our school.

- **Board of Education Retreat** – Suggested bringing calendars to the meeting in two weeks to discuss options for a date.

K. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Erik Sculley thanked the school district for the opportunity to attend the BOCES program for prospective board members. He stated that the program opened his eyes about what the Board of Education does. He said that he wishes parents could stream that and understand the function of a Board of Education.

Mrs. Champney stated that she will pass that along to those who put together the training. She said that they are a great resource for any acting board member as well. She thanked Tyanna and Erik for running and stated that it is nice to see people interested in joining.

L. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS

Mr. Maslin stated that he is again bringing up an issue that he brought up previously when there was extra money coming in for covid relief. He said that it is troubling to him that those who are cleaning especially during these times are the lowest paid. He stated that he would like this to be reconsidered and that applicants for these positions are hard to find because of the pay grade.

Dr. Widdall stated that NYS Dept of Education Board of Regents decided last week to discontinue one of the state tests for our future teachers. She said that this has been done because of the lack of teachers. She stated that they are backtracking and pulling any students who failed this exam over the past nine years and they will be able to retake it. She stated that they also took away the ATSW. Dr. Widdall stated that she brought this up to alert the Board and superintendent because we may need even more mentoring or training for new teachers in the near future.

Mrs. Griffith stated that she has not been able to sit in on all of the new things that will be added with the capital project and wanted to know if a new scoreboard for the baseball field will be included.

Mr. Woodard stated that there is nothing in the project for the baseball field, but if it is a concern, they could reach out to Murphee to see what that would look like on a smaller scale.

Mrs. Griffith asked if there could be a posting put out for people who could drive in just the evenings as there has been some evening transportation issues for sporting events.

Ms. Sexton stated that the district would accept applications for bus drivers of any hours. She noted some of the difficulties that the district has been experiencing in the transportation department is due to lack of drivers.

Mrs. Griffith gave a "big shout out" to all of the NYSSMA students and thanked Ms. Sexton for recognizing them.

Mr. Tasber stated that he appreciates Mr. Sculley's comments about what he learned at the prospective board member training. He said that it does get difficult to sit and listen to our neighbors being upset with what we are doing. He said that he appreciates him running for the Board of Education. He said if there is anything you can do to spread that information to your friends and neighbors, please do.

Ms. Driscoll also thanked Mr. Sculley for bringing up the training about what a board does. She said that the board members attend meetings to discuss what they offer for those who are interested in running and that she appreciates that they listened and came to understand more about the board and its role. She also said that she understands Ms. Smith's concerns about baseball and football as a parent of a past football and baseball student. She thanked Ms. Sexton and Mr. Woodard for their hard work.

Mrs. Champney stated that she is happy to hear that Ms. Smith wants to be proactive with her son.

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 8:01 p.m.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Christine Widdall

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

O. FYI

March Enrollment in District

April 22, 2022 – 3rd Quarter Report Cards issued

May 3, 2022 – Budget Hearing and BOE Meeting, 6:00 p.m., HS Library

May 17, 2022 – Budget Vote and School Board Election, 1:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., HS Cafeteria

May 17, 2022 – BOE Meeting, 6:00 p.m., HS Library

Respectfully submitted,



Stacey Forkey
District Clerk