

The **Special Meeting** of the Batavia City School District Board of Education was called to order on **Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at 5:30 PM** in the District Administration Conference Room, 260 State Street, Batavia, NY by Board President, Patrick Burk.

Members Present: Patrick Burk, Peter Cecere (6:15 PM, Executive Session), Tanni Bromley (via Google Meeting), John Marucci, Barbara Bowman, Shawna Murphy

Excused: Aubrey Towner, Ex-Officio Student Representative

Others Present: Anibal Soler Jr., Superintendent, Brittany Witkop, Assistant Clerk to the Board; Dr. Molly Corey, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction (via Google Meeting); Scott C. Rozanski, Business Administrator/Clerk (via Google Meeting), Alice Ann Benedict

Mr. Burk welcomed those present to the meeting and led the pledge to the flag.

Presentations

2020-21 Budget Update – Mr. Anibal Soler Jr. & Mr. Scott Rozanski

Mr. Soler and Mr. Rozanski said that we are looking to cut thirty staff positions to produce a personnel savings of \$1,586,513.00 which will put the district within \$47,000.00 to comply with the tax cap. The positions are:

Two administrators
One treasurer
One secretary
One math teacher (Gr. 7-12)
School Resource Officer (2nd Officer)
Two special education teachers
One clerk-typist
One maintenance worker
Five reading teachers
Five elementary teachers
One half-time music teacher
Ten teaching aides (long-term substitutes)

Mr. Soler said the Batavia Teachers' Association is discussing and will be voting on transportation changes that could save the district \$200,000.00 and would provide all students busing to and from school. This would mean that Batavia Middle and High School schedules would be 7:30 AM – 2:15 PM and Jackson Primary and John Kennedy schedules would be 9:00 AM – 3:15 PM. For the students at Batavia Middle and High School we will look into having a study hour prior to athletic practice, so that the kids can get school work done in-between dismissal and practice beginning.

We are also waiting on Governor Cuomo to determine whether further spending reductions are called for during four specified measurement periods:

- April 1 to April 30, 2020 (This year's budget!)
- May 1 to June 30th, 2020 (This year's budget!)
- July 1 to December 31, 2020
- January 1 to March 31, 2021

Governor Cuomo mentioned that schools could see further reductions of twenty percent, which would

Call to Order

Roll Call

Pledge to Flag

Budget Update

devastate schools. Mr. Soler said we have to start planning ahead in case we do see further budget cuts. We should know more by May 15, 2020 and may have to revisit our budget after each adjustment period.

Mrs. Bromley asked what the plan is for the two administrative positions and the work that must still get done. Mr. Soler said they are talking with Edutech and will also work with the Leadership Team regarding the duties. The conversations are ongoing at this time.

Motion made by Ms. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Marucci, to accept the personnel cost savings and cut thirty district positions.

Personnel Cost Savings – Cut 30 Positions

Yes – 4 [Burk, Marucci, Bowman, Murphy] No – 1 [Bromley] Absent – 1 [Cecere]

Motion carried. [4-1]

Meeting closed to the Public due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Motion made by Mr. Marucci, seconded by Mrs. Bowman, to amend the agenda, as altered.

Agenda Alterations

ADD:

- 3. Lori A. Ferris – Food Service Helper [BHS], COVID-19 Family Medical Leave, effective April 20, 2020 *through date to be determined*
- 4. Roxanne Salvania – Food Service Helper [JK], COVID-19 Family Medical Leave, effective April 20, 2020 *through date to be determined*

Yes – 5 [Burk, Marucci, Bowman, Bromley, Murphy] No – 0 Absent – 1 [Cecere]

Motion carried. [5-0]

Motion made by Mr. Marucci, seconded by Ms. Murphy – **Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, BE IT RESOLVED** to approve the following Consent Items, A-F, as altered.

Consent Items

- A. Board of Education Minutes: 4/14/20
- B. CPSE Reports: Amendment without a meeting (1)
- C. Retirements
- 1. Janet O’Geen, Cook [BMS], Effective May 24, 2020
- D. Leave of Absence
 - 1. RESCIND – Mary Beth Teresi, Vocational Coordinator [BHS], Family Medical Leave, effective May 6, 2020 through on or about May 20, 2020 (*postponed until further notice*)
 - 2. Patricia Diehl – Food Service Worker [BMS], COVID-19 Family Medical Leave, effective April 20, 2020 *through date to be determined*
 - 3. Lori A. Ferris – Food Service Helper [BHS], COVID-19 Family Medical Leave, effective April 20, 2020 *through date to be determined*
 - 4. Roxanne Salvania – Food Service Helper [JK], COVID-19 Family Medical Leave, effective April 20, 2020 *through date to be determined*
- E. Financials
 - 1. Warrants
 - A-56: A 4/24/20 Warrant for 4/10/20-4/24/20
 - A-57: March 2020 Manual Checks 3/1/20-3/31/20
 - TA-24: TA Processing 4/24/20 Payroll for 4/24/20-4/24/20
 - E-18: E 4/24/20 Warrant for 4/10/20-4/24/20

BOE Minutes

CPSE

Retirements

J. O’Geen

Leave

RESCIND –

M. Teresi

P. Diehl

L. Ferris

R. Salvania

Warrants

F. Contracts

1. Memorandum of Agreement, Nutritional Services Association - \$1.00 an hour more per hour for actual hours (COVID-19 hazard pay) for those working effective April 20, 2020 (No longer OT and base pay)
2. Memorandum of Agreement, Nutritional Services Association – Article 5, Salary revision as specified retroactive
3. Memorandum of Agreement, Custodial Association; \$1.00 an hour more per hour for actual hours (COVID-19 hazard pay) for those working effective April 20, 2020 (No longer OT and base pay)

Contracts

*MOA –
Nutritional Services*

*MOA – Nutritional
Services*

*MOA – Custodial
Association*

Yes – 5 [Burk, Marucci, Bowman, Bromley, Murphy] No – 0 Absent – 1 [Cecere]

Motion carried. [5-0]

Motion made by Mrs. Bromley, seconded by Mrs. Bowman, to accept and approve the appointment of Mrs. Alice Ann Benedict to fill the vacancy, due to resignation, of Mr. Zachary Korzelius, effective April 28, 2020 through date to be determined.

**New Board
Member**

Yes – 5 [Burk, Marucci, Bowman, Bromley, Murphy] No – 0 Absent – 1 [Cecere]

Motion carried. [5-0]

Motion made by Mrs. Bowman, seconded by Ms. Murphy, to accept and approve the COVID-19 Resolution for closure of the Batavia City School District, effective March 16, 2020, due to State of Emergency.

**COVID-19
Resolution for
School Closure**

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has resulted in the Federal, State and County governments declaring a state of emergency; and

WHEREAS the Governor has ordered, pursuant to Executive Order No. 202.4, the closure of schools statewide through May 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Genesee County Department of Health declared a State of Emergency beginning at 12:00 a.m. on March 15, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education resolves as follows:

1. The Board of Education hereby declares the COVID-19 virus is an emergency for the School District.
2. The school district is closed for students March 16, 2020 ending May 15, 2020 pursuant to the Governor’s Order and the earlier County Executive Order.
3. During the period of school closure for students, all District stakeholders shall establish plans to ensure the continuity of learning to the extent feasible and appropriate in accordance with consultation with the State Education Department, Department of Health and the Office of Children and Family Services consistent with Executive Order 202.4.
4. The Board of Education may be required to amend the school calendar to address these extraordinary circumstances and make up instructional days.

5. The Board of Education meetings from March 16, 2020 forward until further notice shall be closed to the public under Governor Executive Order 202.1. The school district shall make the meeting accessible to public participation through video streaming or by conference call at the time of the meeting and the school district will record the Board of Education meeting and post the video, audio or transcript on the district website.

6. The Superintendent of Schools is authorized to follow the Federal, State and County orders and to take such action as necessary and proper to operate the school district during this time of emergency.

**Yes – 6 [Burk, Marucci, Bowman, Bromley, Murphy, Benedict] No – 0 Absent – 1 [Cecere]
Motion carried. [6-0]**

Motion made by Mrs. Bowman, seconded by Ms. Murphy, to accept and approve the Resolution for Emergency Measures to Ensure Continuity of Operations.

**Resolution for
Emergency
Measures**

WHEREAS, On March 14, 2020, the Genesee County Department of Health recommended that school Districts in Genesee County close to students, effective as soon as practicable, and until further notice due to the COVID-19 virus;

WHEREAS, As of 12:00 AM on Sunday, March 15, 2020, the Genesee County Board of Supervisors in collaboration with the Genesee County Department of Health declared a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, Andrew Cuomo, Governor of the state of New York, signed an executive order closing schools statewide for two (2) weeks beginning on March 18, 2020 and ending on April 1, 2020; and then extended the closure through May 15, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Batavia City School District complied with these orders and closed to students beginning March 16, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education recognizes the undue hardship this unprecedented event may have on its community;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education recognizes the undue hardship this situation may have to safely maintain and operate its facilities;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education recognizes the need to provide its vulnerable student populations with meals during the mandated closure;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education recognizes the need to continue the essential functions of the Business Office,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education authorizes Anibal Soler Jr., Superintendent of Schools to take necessary measures, including waiving current District policies, to ensure the continuity of Business Office functions including but not limited to purchasing, bill payment, banking, and payroll for all District employees and long-term substitutes;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education authorizes Anibal Soler Jr., Superintendent of Schools to designate select staff, faculty and administration as essential to

address the aforementioned concerns;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall remain in effect until such time the as District is allowed to reopen to students and non-essential personnel and resume functions as prescribed by regulatory authorities.

Yes – 6 [Burk, Marucci, Bowman, Bromley, Murphy, Benedict] No – 0 Absent – 1 [Cecere]
Motion carried. [6-0]

Motion made by Mrs. Bowman, seconded by Ms. Murphy, to accept and approve the Resolution to approve hourly pay for Batavia City School District employees from March 16, 2020 through May 15, 2020.

Resolution for
hourly pay, BCSD
employees

BOARD RESOLUTION APPROVING HOURLY PAY

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has resulted in the Federal, State and County governments declaring a state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Genesee County Health Department has ordered a State of Emergency beginning March 15, 2020 due to the threat from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Governor, pursuant to Executive Order No. 202.4, has closed schools statewide for a period of two weeks ending on April 1, 2020; and extending through May 15, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Batavia City School District (“School District”) intends to provide alternate instruction and continue the operation of educational and related programs provided by the School District to the extent reasonable and consistent with direction from the State Education Department, Department of Health, Office of Children and Family Services, and Federal, State and Local officials; and

WHEREAS, the School District desires to pay hourly School District employees during the closure of the traditional School District operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Board of Education hereby declares the COVID-19 pandemic is an emergency for the School District.

2. To the extent not already provided for in a collective bargaining agreement, hourly employees shall continue to be paid for the period of March 16, 2020 to May 15, 2020 during the School District closure for students, provided such employees are available for work and report to work when directed to do so. This is meant to make such employees whole for missed work due to the school closure and shall be consistent with such employees’ regular compensation during normal school district operations. Hourly ten month employees that are not scheduled to work over a recess period, when staff and students are not in attendance, will not be compensated unless they are called into work.

3. Depending on the length of School District closure, the Superintendent of Schools may extend the length of payment to reflect an extended School District closure.

4. This resolution shall apply only for the specific and limited purpose of

addressing the unique challenges presented by the outbreak of COVID-19. It shall not set any precedent or practice regarding any aspect of the Resolution.

5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Yes – 5 [Burk, Marucci, Bowman, Bromley, Murphy, Benedict] No – 0 Absent – 1 [Cecere]
Motion carried. [6-0]

Reports

Superintendent Report – Mr. Soler

Mr. Soler thanked the principals and teachers for all of their hard work and extra social/emotional support of our students.

The district has added a meal for Saturday that is given out on Friday. Food distribution is going well and our community is very grateful.

Our budget will continue to be a main concern moving forward.

Mr. Soler thanked Dr. Corey and her team on their work to complete the Continuity of Learning Plans for our district and each school.

Curriculum & Instruction – Dr. Corey

Dr. Corey stated that New York State Education Department is requiring all districts to submit a plan for how we are providing continuity of learning to students by May 4, 2020. Together, the principals and Dr. Corey documented what has been happening. The document outlines what teachers are doing and provides expectations for students. Instructional Leadership Team members then met in a virtual meeting and had time to review the plan and offer questions and comments. Our Superintendent, Mr. Soler reviewed and approved the final document. Each school plans to mail a one page document to families. Hopefully, this will help provide teachers and parents more guidance on our expectations. Teachers have also been keeping track of students that may need further support. These students will be contacted by a staff member to provide them assistance.

On a lighter note, Kathie Scott, Public Relations Coordinator, has been posting via social media all of the good work our staff and students have been doing, so please share items with her.

Other Reports – Mr. Burk

Mr. Burk said that a group of parents started ‘Adopt a Senior Program’ to let them know we are thinking of them. They are sending them notes, small gifts, and graduation signs to put in front of their houses or in their windows. This is such a nice way to stay in contact with them and celebrate their final year.

Genesee Valley School Boards Association has had several meetings and more information will be forthcoming from Governor Cuomo regarding school funding. We do not have a budget vote date yet, but New York State School Boards Association has been working hard to keep school districts up to date with new information.

Thanks to everyone who is helping to feed our students and community members. It is going extremely well!

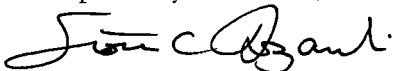
Reports
Superintendent

C & I

Other Reports

<p>Motion made by Mrs. Bowman, seconded by Mr. Marucci to enter into Executive Session at 6:08 PM to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Yes – 6 [Burk, Marucci, Bowman, Bromley, Murphy, Benedict] No – 0 Absent – 1 [Cecere] Motion carried. [6-0]</p>	<p>Executive Session</p>
<p>Motion made by Ms. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Cecere to return to public session at 6:42 PM. Yes – 7 [Burk, Cecere, Marucci, Bowman, Bromley, Murphy, Benedict] No – 0 Absent – 0 Motion carried. [7-0]</p>	<p>Return to Public Session</p>
<p>Motion made by Mr. Marucci, seconded by Mrs. Bromley to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 PM. Yes – 7 [Burk, Cecere, Marucci, Bowman, Bromley, Murphy, Benedict] No – 0 Absent – 0 Motion carried. [7-0]</p>	<p>Adjournment</p>

Respectfully submitted,



Scott C. Rozanski, Clerk
baw