

BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF WEBB UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017
LIBRARY
6:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Phaneuf, George Hildebrant, Sharon Evans, Anne Garbarino and Philip Petty
ALSO PRESENT: Rex Germer, John Swick, Jennifer Dunn and Diane Kull
OTHERS PRESENT: Katie Langworthy

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President, Joseph Phaneuf.

SPECIAL TOPICS: The members in attendance reviewed the following:

- 2017-2018 Budget Discussion: Revenue and Fund Balance
- Board Policy Review Section 500 – 504.7

APPROVAL: On the recommendation of the Board President, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by A. Garbarino, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2017 regular meeting.
MINUTES 3/3/17

Vote: Yes- 4 No- 0

APPROVAL: On the recommendation of the Board President, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by A. Garbarino, the Board voted to accept warrants and claims:
WARRANTS & CLAIMS

- #17 Fund A with 50 checks written for a total of \$46,973.17
 - #15 Fund C with 6 checks written for a total of \$1,525.11
 - #3 Fund F with 1 check written for a total of \$9,460.00
 - TA-2 Fund TA with 1 check written for a total of \$2,090.42
- Vote: Yes- 4 No- 0

APPROVAL: On the recommendation of the Board President, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report for February 2017 as presented.
TREASURER’S REPORT

Vote: Yes- 4 No- 0

APPROVAL: 1st READING On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by A. Garbarino, the Board voted to approve the 1st reading Board Policy – 509.7
BOARD POLICY 509.7
Emergency Interventions

Vote: Yes- 4 No- 0

APPROVAL: On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by A. Garbarino, the board voted to approve the Cooperative Educational Services Agreement entered into by Madison-Oneida BOCES and the Town of Webb UFSD effective July 1, 2017.
MADISON-ONEIDA
BOCES SERVICE
AGREEMENT

Vote: Yes - 4 No – 0

APPROVAL: On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by A. Garbarino, the Board voted to appoint the Jefferson-Lewis BOCES Office of Inter-Municipal Legal Services as School District Counsel and authorizes the Superintendent to execute the contract for legal services for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018.
INTER- MUNICIPAL
LEGAL SERVICES
AGREEMENT-BOCES

Vote: Yes- 4 No- 0

APPROVAL: On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by A. Garbarino, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the termination of John DeVoldre as Custodian effective March 10, 2017.
TERMINATION

Vote: Yes -4 No – 0

APPROVAL:
USE OF SCHOOL
BUS

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the request from Adirondack Scenic Railroad for the use of buses and drivers:

- July 8 – August 31, 2017 – Thursdays and Saturdays, one or two buses, from Thendara Train Station to various locations in town, and return to Thendara Station.
- September 14 – October 21, 2017 Thursdays and Saturdays, one or two buses, from Thendara Train Station to various locations in town, and return to Thendara Station.
- Wednesday, July 26, 2017 & other dates and times to be finalized for special charter trains.

The Adirondack Scenic Railroad bearing all related costs and upon provision of a certificate of insurance naming the school district as an additional insured and pending driver availability.

Vote: Yes -4 No – 0

DECLARE SURPLUS:
UNIFORMS

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by A. Garbarino, the Board voted to approve and declare the following uniforms as surplus:

- 22 Basketball Jerseys
- 33 Warm up Jackets
- 28 Girls Jerseys
- 17 Softball Jerseys
- 17 Basketball Jerseys
- 21 Maroon Shorts
- 22 White Shorts

Vote: Yes - 4 No – 0

APPOINTMENT:
LONG TERM SUB

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by A. Garbarino, the Board voted to approve the appointment of James Cole II as a long-term substitute custodian for the period March 20 – June 30, 2017 at the rate of \$10 per hour.

G. Hildebrant left the room 7:20 pm

Vote: Yes – 4 No – 0

P. Petty entered the room 7:30 pm

APPROVAL:
PURCHASE OF PROPERTY
139 PARK AVENUE

On a motion by S. Evans, seconded by A. Garbarino, the board voted to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: WHEREAS, the District has been made aware that the owner of real property adjacent to the south-western property line of the District's property and located at 139 Park Avenue, which is at the northeast intersection of Park Avenue and Gilbert Street, has listed the 139 Park Avenue property for sale;

WHEREAS, the owner of the property at 139 Park Avenue has expressed an interest in providing the District the opportunity to purchase the 139 Park Avenue property at fair market value; and

WHEREAS, the District believes that the purchase of the property at 139 Park Avenue would provide the District a potential opportunity to expand and enhance the District's educational programs and current existing school building and grounds.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Education hereby approves and authorizes:

1. The Superintendent of Schools is authorized to engage in negotiations with the owner of the property located at 139 Park Avenue to settle on a best price for the purchase of said property providing that such final price shall not be more than fair market value or \$200,000, whichever is lower; and
2. The Board of Education hereby approves and directs the Business office to authorize the expenditure of District funds from the District's unappropriated fund balance, subject to the limitations contained in this resolution, for the purchase of the property located at 139 Park Avenue.

Vote: Yes- 4 (Phaneuf, Garbarino, Petty & Evans) No- 0

G. Hildebrand returned to the room 7:43 pm

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: John Swick, Principal reviewed the following:

- We had two teams that qualified for the Scholar Athlete distinction. Girls Alpine Skiing and Girls Nordic Skiing both qualified for this honor.
- The Sources of Strength group created a Kindness Tunnel with positive signs and encouragement one morning for our K-5 to have a positive day.
- We had 2 girls finish in the top 10 at the Nordic State Championship races for both races (L. Levi, E. Greene). Ours girls team finished 3rd overall. Our boys team finished 4th overall in New York State.
- Our Alpine teams both finished in 6th place overall in New York State. A. Hollister was honored with the NYS Sportsman Award for Section III.
- The K-3 Buddy Reader night took place on Thursday, 2/23, with Magic School Bus themed activities.
- The 8th Grade Immigration Luncheon took place for our 8th graders on Friday, 2/24.
- The NHS sponsored a Red Cross Blood Drive on Wednesday, 3/1, and together collected 37 units of blood.
- PARP Kick-off set our Kindergarten through 5th grade off to a great start with the theme, “Under the Sea” on Friday, 3/3.
- The PE department and Varsity Club hosted a Fitness Challenge Finale in the gym on Friday, 3/3, from 3pm-5pm.
- Student Council hosted a Hawaiian themed dance on Saturday, 3/4.
- Winter Sports Awards took place on Monday, 3/6.
- The 25 week progress reports were mailed out on Friday, 3/10. The 3rd Quarter marking period closes on Friday, March 31.
- Diane Amos was recognized in the Observer-Dispatch for being an Outstanding Teacher on Sunday, 3/12.
- The Drug Quiz Team competed at HCCC today, 3/21 under the direction of Mr. McGrath, Mrs. Ehrensbeck and Mrs. Griffin to take 5th place.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Rex Germer, Superintendent reviewed with the Board of Education:

- Last week BOCES organized and ran a trip to the Atlanta area to visit high schools that are working on a different academic model than we currently see in northern NY. The model is that of academies with a career focus. They also operate on a block schedule model with an emphasis on project based learning and internships. These schools all had corporate sponsorships and connections for their programs. Although these schools are much larger and this model would not be completely applicable to our size school there were a number of ideas which some of our teachers/administration are already working on. The schools we visited are all located in the same county and the directive for the academy model was pushed to all the schools on a very tight timeline.
- The school messenger system was activated last week for both our early release and our delayed opening. We encountered a couple of issues with the system trying for the first time to activate it remotely which caused several messages to go out after hearing that not all anticipated recipients had received the messages. We still have over 100 cell phones on the system that have not activated their phones to allow the messages to come through but the majority of phone calls and emails did go through. Currently we don't plan to send out general information messages through this system and would typically not use it to inform our families of drills required by the State such as fire drills and lock down drills. We will continually evaluate its use over time to see if there are other applications where its use may be more appropriate.
- For the last few years we have used Facebook and Twitter to help get information out to families about school happenings. These systems have their use but unfortunately there is a down side to using them as well. Before school messenger this was a quick way for us to get urgent information out although the intended audience has not always seen these postings in a timely manner based on service connectivity and other factors. Recently we have had several of our postings turn into discussion topics and a place for people to vent and voice their concerns. These postings were never meant to create this type of forum. We have recently taken down a few postings where the negativity posted in the comments distracted from the message we were sending out to our families sometimes by individuals not impacted or connected to the information or decisions being made or announced. As always we would ask that you contact the school if you ever have a concern or question about what is happening here or about decisions that are being made. We welcome your thoughts and feedback and would love to talk with you about them in person and not through a social media posting.

- Our large tree out front next to the bus circle sustained quite a bit of damage this winter through the loss of most of the limbs on the circle side of the tree. I have reached out to a former BOE member who researched all of our trees last time we faced removal and she assured me that this tree was not planted in anyone's name. We have solicited quotes from two local companies for the removal of the tree and will unfortunately commence with taking this tree down when the weather and timing allow this to happen with minimal disruption.
- There is a growing concern about opiates and the addictions associated with them in our society today. This topic garners a great deal of attention at many of the conferences and workshops being offered across the state and nation. We have worked to bring as much information to our staff as we can regarding these addictions among others and also include these topics in our educational programming. This morning we posted an article and video to our Facebook page that were shared with our faculty on Friday during our training day. We are currently working on developing a policy that would allow the District to have and administer NARCAN in case an opiate overdose ever presents itself at school. This is another step that is being taken across the state to attempt to save lives during this epidemic. This topic is one that must be recognized, addressed and talked about in school and at home. The statistics in our region are significant and worrisome with both overdoses and deaths.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion made by G. Hildebrant, seconded by A. Garbarino, to enter into executive session at 7:54 p.m. to discuss the health and safety of students, the employment history of a particular CSEA employee, the employment history of several TOWTA employees and a possible future contract.

Vote: Yes -5 No – 0

The health and safety of students, the employment history of a particular CSEA employee, the employment history of several TOWTA employees and a possible future contract were discussed, no action was taken.

REGULAR SESSION:

Motion made by G. Hildebrant, seconded by A. Garbarino, to return to regular session at 8:49 p.m.

Vote: Yes - 5 No – 0

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by P. Petty, seconded by A. Garbarino, to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Vote: Yes - 5 No – 0

District Clerk