

# COHOES CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Board of Education  
Cohoes, New York  
Cohoes Middle School – Library**

**Business Meeting  
October 9, 2019  
6:00 PM**

(The Board of Education may entertain a motion to enter into an executive session subject to Board approval.)

## MINUTES

I. The Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Board President, Mr. Nolin.

### ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Giller  
Mrs. Annely  
Mr. Jackson  
Mrs. Dion  
Mrs. Carey  
Mr. Nolin

Excused: Mr. Pascale

Also Present: Dr. Jennifer Spring, Superintendent  
Ms. Peggy O’Shea, Assistant Superintendent for Education Services  
Mrs. Stacy Mackey, School Business Official

**MOTION:** To accept the Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of September 25, 2019.

Moved by: Mrs. Dion  
All voted “Aye”

Seconded by: Mrs. Carey  
Motion carried 6-0

### II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. Representatives from the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Capital Area were introduced to and welcomed by the Board.
- B. Cohoes Middle School by the Numbers Presentation  
Principal Martinelli provided the Board with the total number of this year’s student population and staff members; daily attendance; chronic absenteeism; suspension days and longitudinal Math & ELA performance by CMS cohort.
- C. Dr. Spring shared that the Utica National Insurance Group has invited Ms. Erin Gruwell, renowned educator and New York Times bestselling author of *The Freedom Writers Diary*, to come and speak to Cohoes 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Her message focuses on how, as a teacher, she used the power of writing to change the direction of her students' lives. This event will be held at the Cohoes High School Auditorium on Monday, October 28, 2019. In addition, 9<sup>th</sup> graders from Watervliet, Waterford and Lansingburgh will also be attending the presentation. During that afternoon, Erin will meet with smaller groups of Cohoes students to help inspire them

for their future. The high school will also be hosting the evening event that night with Erin at 6:00 p.m. It will feature a screening of the new PBS documentary, *Freedom Writers: Stories from the Heart*, and will be followed by a commentary from Erin along with a Q&A. The evening event is free and open to the public.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Curriculum and Instruction

B. Business and Operations by Stacy Mackey

- Last night, Marvin & Company provided pre-draft financials and a full draft is expected by end of the week. The full report along with our response will be forwarded to the Board.
- The ST-3s can now be edited and certified by end of the week.
- GASB 75 report received last week and provided to BOE in the weekly update. This was our first full evaluation with N-Visions and results did indicate that a data scrub is required.
- Audit Committee Meeting is scheduled for October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5 p.m. Attendees will include Superintendent, Treasurer & Marvin & Co. team and will be advertised as it is open to the public.
- Architectural/Engineering RPF has been advertised and sent to vendor list with a proposed timeline: pre-proposal meeting on 10/16, response deadline on 11/1/19, interviews on 11/18/19 BOE action on 12/14/19 contract on 1/1/20 and voter referendum on May 2021.
- Acknowledgment and appreciation was expressed for the retirement of Betty Jacques and Mike Nolan.

IV. BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

V. COMMUNITY DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VII. REPORT FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

- A. THAT the Board of Education adopts the Building Level Emergency Response Plan for the 2019-20 school year for the following schools:

Abram Lansing Elementary  
Harmony Hill Elementary  
Van Schaick Grade  
Cohoes High  
Cohoes Middle

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT – PERSONNEL

**INSTRUCTIONAL**

- A. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VIII (K) of the July 2, 2019 Minutes to read as follows:

THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individuals to the Building Leadership Teams listed below for the 2019-20 school year:

VAN SCHAICK SCHOOL

Carrie Bennett  
Bonnie-Jo Bellville  
Katrina Keith  
Pam Krupski  
Anna Muscatello  
Marilyn Case  
Jacqueline DeChiaro

COHOES HIGH SCHOOL

Erin Abbott  
Alicia Tomasino  
~~Amanda Powers~~ **Brian Smith**  
Dominic Bondi  
Heather Ball  
Sherry Thornton  
Laura Tarlo  
Jeff Huneau  
Bryan Wood

COHOES MIDDLE SCHOOL

Carrie Briggs  
Fallon Jennings  
Elaine Flatow

COHOES MIDDLE SCHOOL (Cont'd)

Lindsay Fontaine  
MaryAnn Bailey  
Deanna Kelly  
Kelly Tessier  
Dan Martinelli  
Tom Kostrzebski

HARMONY HILL SCHOOL

Kim Rooney  
Stacy Smith  
Christine Guarnieri  
Sharon Laughlin  
~~Brett Daley~~ **Raychel Marcil**  
Kate Lamica  
Mark Perry

ABRAM LANSING SCHOOL

Jennifer Crucetti  
Christina Kellar  
Melissa Lowden  
Jackie Skidmore  
Erin Terrizzi  
Carole Blide  
Cliff Bird

- B. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VIII (A) of the August 28, 2019 Minutes to read as follows:

THAT the Board of Education approves the following individuals for participation in necessary meetings of the Committee on Special Education during summer 2019 not to exceed five (5) hours each at the curriculum writing rate:

Matthew Flannery  
William Sheldon  
**Sara Schwendinger**

- C. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VIII (M) (Elementary Only) of the July 2, 2019 Minutes to read as follows:

THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individuals as Advisors to the clubs and activities listed for the 2019-2020 school

year, contingent upon acceptable program enrollment:

**ELEMENTARY**

<b>Clubs and Activities</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>FTE</b>
MUSICAL (ELEM) - CO-ASST. DIRECTOR	Rachel Marer	0.33
	<del>Christian Gunn</del>	
	Lynette McGovern	0.33
	Katie Dobbins	0.33

- D. THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individuals as Advisors to the clubs and activities listed for the 2019-2020 school year, contingent upon acceptable program enrollment:

<b>Clubs and Activities</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>FTE</b>
Internal Accounts Auditor (CHS)	Scott Ciarlone	1.0
Internal Accounts Auditor (CMS)	Jamie Harris	1.0

- E. THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individuals to the Coaching positions listed below for the 2019-2020 school year, contingent upon acceptable program enrollment:

<b>Co-Curricular Activity</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>FTE</b>
Basketball - Boys Varsity	Aaron Boudreau	1.0
Basketball - Boys JV	Nick Izzo	1.0
Basketball - Boys Modified	Nick Foglia	1.0
Basketball - Girls Varsity	Morgan Blizinski	1.0
Basketball – UNPAID Varsity	Bailei Tetrault	0.0
Basketball - Girls JV	Kerry Bottenfield	1.0
Basketball - Girls Modified	Bill Smith	1.0
Bowling – Boys & Girls	Pamela Bertrand	1.0
Cheerleading - Varsity (Basketball)	TBD	1.0
Cheerleading - Modified	TBD	1.0

Indoor Track – Boys	Kirsten Dunn	1.0
Indoor Track - Girls	Fiona Recchia	1.0
Indoor Track – UNPAID	Kerry Winters	0.0
Wrestling - Varsity	TBD	1.0
Wrestling – Varsity Assistant	TBD	1.0
Wrestling - Modified	TBD	1.0

**NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

F. THAT the Board of Education accepts the resignation for retirement purposes of Elizabeth Jacques from her position of Cook (CHS).  
Effective: October 1, 2019

G. THAT the Board of Education accepts the resignation for retirement purposes of Michael Nolan from his position of Maintenance Mechanic (DW).  
Effective: November 30, 2019

H. THAT the Board of Education approves days per diem, not to exceed five (5), for Jennifer Sangiacomo to work as Instructional Technology Integration Specialist during the 2019-2020 school year.

I. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Cohoes City School District hereby appoints Blaine Shafer to the position of Full-Time Teacher Aide, subject to the rules of the Cohoes Civil Service Commission on an emergency conditional basis, in accordance with the Civil Service Rules, such appointment is a probationary appointment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this appointment is made on an emergency conditional basis and subject to both a statement from Ms. Shafer regarding criminal conviction(s) or pending criminal charges and the receipt of criminal background clearance from the Commissioner of Education. Her continued employment is specifically contingent upon the District’s receipt of notice from the Commissioner of Education that she is fully cleared for employment.

Blaine Shafer

Position.....1.0 FTE Teacher Aide (CMS)  
Effective Date.....October 15, 2019  
Probation Period..... April 14, 2020  
Salary..... Entry level per current CSEA contract  
Reason ..... Replaces Janice Marsett

J. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Cohoes City School

District hereby appoints the following individual to the Cleaner Substitute list, subject to the rules of the Cohoes Civil Service Commission on an emergency conditional basis, in accordance with the Civil Service Rules, such appointments are a temporary appointment.

Lori Paro

Effective: October 1, 2019

**ADDENDA**

K. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Cohoes City School District appoints Cory Prairie to a four-year conditional term in the tenure area of School Psychologist effective November 4, 2019 and expiring on November 3, 2023 on an emergency conditional basis. Mr. Prairie holds Provisional Certification in the area of School Psychologist.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this appointment is made on an emergency conditional basis and subject to both a statement from Mr. Prairie regarding criminal conviction(s) or pending criminal charges and the receipt of criminal background clearance from the Commissioner of Education. Mr. Prairie’s continued employment is specifically contingent upon the District’s receipt of notice from the Commissioner of Education that he is fully cleared for employment.

Cory Prairie

Position..... 1.0 FTE School Psychologist  
 Certification.....School Psychologist  
 Tenure Area.....School Psychologist  
 Effective Date..... November 4, 2019  
 Tenure Date..... November 3, 2023  
 Salary.....Step 3 of the current CTA Contract  
 Reason ..... Replaces Megan Martinez

L. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VIII (I) (CHS only) of the August 28, 2019 Minutes to read as follows:

THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individuals as Advisors to the clubs and activities listed for the 2019-2020 school year, contingent upon acceptable program enrollment:

CHS

Clubs and Activities	Name	FTE
ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER	Lydia Cappadonia	1.0
ACTIVITIES CLUB	Sean Dollard	1.0
CHARACTER ED. CLUB	Andrea DeStefano	1.0
COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUB	Rob Santarcangelo	1.0
COOKING CLUB	Andrea DeStefano	1.0
DRAWING AND PAINTING CLUB	Meg Brownell	1.0
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CLUB	TBD	1.0

Clubs and Activities	Name	FTE
FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLUB	Jackie Calabrese	0.5
	Andrea DeStefano	0.5
GSA	Ellen Alexeew	0.5
	Laura Murawski	0.5
INTRAMURALS 1	Andrea DeStefano	1.0
INTRAMURALS 2 & 3	Robert Santarcangelo	1.0/ea
JOURNALISM CLUB	Aaron Cagwin	1.0
MOCK TRIAL	Tom Mullins	1.0
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY	Terrin Griffin	1.0
PLAY – ART DIRECTOR	<del>TBD</del> <b>Nikki Reed</b>	1.0
PLAY – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	Courtney Mentzer	1.0
PLAY DIRECTOR	<del>TBD</del> <b>Tara Judd</b>	1.0
SELECT CHOIR	Carrie Briggs	1.0
SKI CLUB	Karin Lackmann,	0.5
	Gabrielle White	0.5
STUDENT COUNCIL	Jackie Calabrese	0.5
	Amanda Gebur	0.5
UNIFIED SPORTS (ADVISOR)	Meg Brownell	1.0
UNIFIED SPORTS (COACH)	Nick Foglia	1.0
YEARBOOK	Scott Ciarlone	0.5
	Caryn Dollard	0.5
DEAN – CLASS OF 2020	Erin Abbott	0.5
	Alicia Ozols	0.5
DEAN - CLASS OF 2021	Gabrielle White	0.5
	Caryn Dollard	0.5
DEAN - CLASS OF 2022	Meg Brownell	0.5
	Lydia Cappadonia	0.5
DEAN - CLASS OF 2023	Matt Corwin	0.5
	Brian Smith	0.5

IX. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT - BUSINESS/FINANCE

X. FINANCIAL REPORTS (Recommended by the Superintendent)

**BOARD ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** THAT the Board of Education adopts the following resolutions of the October 9, 2019 Agenda:

**VII (A) and VIII (A-L)**

Moved by: Mrs. Carey  
All voted “Aye”

Seconded by: Mrs. Giller  
Motion carried 6-0

XI. INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATION

XII. COMMENTS FROM BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

XIII. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

XIV. BOARD POLICY REVIEW

XV. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

**October 23, 2019**, Cohoes Middle School Library at 6:00 p.m.

**MOTION:** THAT the Board of Education enters into Executive Session at 7:02 p.m. to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person.

Moved by: Mrs. Giller  
All voted "Aye"

Seconded by: Mrs. Annely  
Motion carried 6-0

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: TIME: 7:09 PM**

Present: Mrs. Giller  
Mrs. Annely  
Mr. Jackson  
Mrs. Dion  
Mrs. Carey  
Mr. Nolin

Excused: Mr. Pascale

Also Present: Dr. Jennifer Spring, Superintendent  
Ms. Peggy O'Shea, Assistant Superintendent for Education Services  
Mrs. Stacy Mackey, School Business Official

**DISCUSSION**

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** To adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Nolin  
All voted "Aye"

Seconded by: Mr. Jackson  
Motion carried 6-0

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District Clerk