

COHOES CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

**Business Meeting
October 23, 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 6:01 p.m. by Board President, Mr. Nolin.

ROLL CALL

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

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 October 9, 2019.

Moved by: Mrs. Dion
All voted "Aye"

Seconded by: Mr. Pascale
Motion carried 7-0

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. Cohoes High School staff members: Principal Wood, Assistant Principal Tarlo and Athletic Director Huneau presented to Board with a video and gift in honor of School Board Recognition Week. They thanked the Board members for their dedication and determination and for all they do on behalf of our students, faculty and staff.
- B. Principal Wood, Assistant Principal Tarlo and Athletic Director Huneau provided a presentation, "Cohoes High School by the Numbers." Some highlights of the presentation included: chronic absenteeism, discipline, test results and strategies employed.
- C. Dr. Spring announced that renowned educator and New York Times bestselling author, Erin Gruwell, will visit Cohoes High School on Monday, October 28, compliments of Utica National Insurance. Gruwell's book, *The Freedom Writers Diary*, is a true-life story of how her unique teaching method enabled 150 students to use writing as a pathway to communicate their personal stories and change the course of their lives. The book is the basis for the 2007 movie, *Freedom Writers*, which starred Hilary Swank, as well as the recently released PBS documentary, *Freedom Writers: Stories from the Heart*. The evening event, which is free and open

to the community, will feature a screening of the documentary followed by a Q&A with Ms. Gruwell. It will run from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. in the CHS auditorium.

- D. Additionally, Dr. Spring reported that she recently attended a Superintendent Breakfast sponsored by the University of Albany School of Education. We are grateful to UAlbany for their partnership and support of the literacy tutoring program at Abram Lansing. The Dean, Dr. Jason Lane, is trying to foster a stronger partnership with local school districts to enhance our collective work to benefit students. UAlbany is currently hosting a Career Institute for 11th graders to learn more about careers in teaching and mental health. They are also offering an Academy for the Advancement of Teacher Assistants to pave the way for TAs to obtain teaching credentials. We have shared this information with staff and students.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Ms. O'Shea announced that yesterday was a positive staff development afternoon. She thanked all the administrators, teacher leaders and turnkey teacher trainers who led the professional sessions. She explained the various platforms on which teachers were trained: AimsWeb Plus, DataMate Elite and IRead.

B. BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

- Mrs. Mackey announced that Marvin & Company presented the financial statements, including findings and recommendations at last's night's Audit Committee meeting. The reports are also required to be reported to OSC and made available on the district website.
- Architect/Engineering RFP Update – The Pre-proposal meeting was held on October 16 and representatives from over 12 firms attended including: Ashley McGraw, BBS, BCA Group, Bergmann, CPL, CS Arch, IBI Group, LaBella, Mosiac Associates, Rhinebeck, SEI Design Group, Synthesis Architects and Tetra Tech. The agenda included a review of the RFP timeline and services, a brief presentation on the building conditions and a Q&A session. The Director of Facilities, James Stapleton, and I then took the group on a tour of the buildings. Ms. Mackey thanked Mr. Stapleton and the building principals that were able to join the tour. The RFP is due on November 1, interviews will be held on November 18, BOE action should be on 12/14 and voter referendum is anticipated for May 2021.
- Capital Reserve Initiatives – Currently working with CS Arch on bidding advertisement for the CMS roof project. Tentative timeline includes pre-bid conference on 11/12 (drawings and specs will be available for inspection on November 4), bid deadline is 11/26, work is anticipated for summer 2020 and the Harmony Hill boiler project bid is anticipated for this winter. Documentation on these projects (to date) was provided to financial advisor, Dr. Timbs today.

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 accepts the Minutes of the Committee on Special Education for the following meeting dates: 9/4/19, 9/10/19, 9/13/19, 9/19/19, 9/23/19, 9/24/19, 9/26/19, 9/30/19, 10/2/19, 10/3/19, 10/7/19, 10/10/19 and 10/11/19.

- B. THAT the Board of Education approves a contract with Advanced Therapy at One Rapp Road, Albany, New York for the provision of related services to students as needed at contracted rates during July 2019 – July 2020.

- C. THAT the Board of Education approves the following item as surplus:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Inventory Tag</u>	<u>Approx. Value</u>
Hot Food Unit	2005	Vollrath	20090590	\$4,604.93

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT – PERSONNEL

INSTRUCTIONAL

- A. THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individuals to the Substitute Teacher and Tutor list:

Cook, Stephanie	Nicklas, Hannah
Cox, Kelsey	Rosen, Samantha
Enous, Aaron	Ross, Danielle
Little, Kevin	Shellard, Alessandra
Long, Sabrina	

Effective: October 24, 2019

- B. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VIII (B) (CMS only) of the September 25, 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:

CMS

Clubs and Activities	Name	FTE
JR. NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY	Fallon Jennings	1.0
8 th GRADE ACTIVITIES CLUB	Fallon Jennings	0.5
	Jill Havens	0.5
“MAKE THE RIGHT MOVES” CARD CLUB	TBD Sara Schwendinger	1.0
INTRAMURALS 1 & 3	Dan Gibson	1.0/EA
INTRAMURALS 2	Terry Gendron	1.0

STUDENT COUNCIL	Elaine Briceland	1.0
TECHNOLOGY CLUB	Rebecca Laforest	1.0
ROBOTICS	Colleen Duff	1.0
ADVANCED ROBOTICS	TBD	1.0
UKULELE CLUB	Seth Warden	1.0

- C. THAT the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Jeffrey Muller from his position as Teacher Assistant. (CHS)
Effective: October 14, 2019

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

- D. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Cohoes City School District hereby appoints the following individual to the Teacher Aide 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.

Laura Bagley (all elementary schools)
Effective: October 24, 2019

ADDENDUM

- E. THAT the Board of Education hereby terminates the employment of Kimberly Ianuzzi from her position of Cleaner (VSGS).
Effective: October 11, 2019

IX. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT - BUSINESS/FINANCE

X. FINANCIAL REPORTS (Recommended by the Superintendent)

- A. I recommend that the following reports be accepted by the Board of Education:
1. Warrants – September 2019
 2. Budget Transfer – September 2019
 3. Budget Status Reports – September 2019
 4. Bank Reconciliation Report – N/A
 5. Extracurricular Activity Report – N/A
 6. Internal Claims Audit Report – July & August 2019

BOARD ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: THAT the Board of Education adopts the following resolutions of the October 23, 2019:

VII (A-C); VIII (A-E) and X (A)

Moved by: Mrs. Carey
All voted "Aye"

Seconded by: Mrs. Annely
Motion carried 7-0

XI. INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATION

XII. COMMENTS FROM BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

- A. There was a discussion among BOE members regarding graduation rates and post-graduation statistics. The discussion included ways to help students attain a purpose and plan for post-graduation endeavors.
- B. A request was made for data from BOCES regarding post-high school numbers of students' success in completing and pursuing their field to be shared with the Board.
- C. A request was made for further data on CDTA ridership by individual grade levels to be shared with the Board.
- D. A request was made for an agenda item at the next meeting to include Mrs. Carey on the Budget Committee.
- E. A request was made that Dr. Timbs' work products be shared with the Board.
- F. A request was made to send a calendar invite to the BOE to an event Dr. Spring announced.

XIII. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

XIV. BOARD POLICY REVIEW

XV. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

November 6, 2019, Cohoes Middle School Library at 6:00 p.m.

November 20, 2019, Cohoes Middle School Library at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION: THAT the Board of Education enters into Executive Session at 7:43 p.m. to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person.

Moved by: Mr. Pascale
All voted "Aye"

Seconded by: Mrs. Dion
Motion carried 7-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION: TIME: 7:51 PM

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

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 7:58 p.m.

Moved by: Mrs. Dion
All voted "Aye"

Seconded by: Mr. Nolin
Motion carried 7-0

District Clerk