

DRAFT

COHOES CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

**Business Meeting
January 8, 2020
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 6:03 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

II. DISTRICT REPORTS

- A. Mayor Bill Keeler introduced himself and expressed interest in discussing ways the city and the Board can effectively work together. The 2020 Census, the city’s 150th anniversary celebrations, the impact of economic development, show casing student achievements throughout the city and student safety were some areas mentioned. The Board thanked the Mayor and expressed their interest in future discussions.
- B. Principal Bird introduced the play advisors of the Cohoes Jr. Drama Club: Rachel Marer, Lynette McGovern, Katie Dobbins and Tara Judd. The students performed a song from the upcoming play, *Frozen, Jr*. The Board thanked everyone for the delightful performance and all their hard work.
- C. Special Education Program by the Numbers - Erin Hill and Karen Ronesi provided the Board with a complete overview of the current program including a breakdown of staff members, students, challenges, opportunities and the wide range of partners. The Board thanked the department for their continued commitment and dedication to students.
- D. Dr. Spring asked the Board if January 29 from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. would work for a Capital Project Workshop. The Board agreed. Dr. Spring said she will provide the BOE with a chart which includes the items from the most recent Building Condition Survey and other items which have been identified as priorities and those which would help to promote a 21st Century learning environment.

Dr. Spring reported that the district is in receipt of the new ESSA accountability information. She and Ms. O’Shea have attended training at the Capital Region BOCES and have been reviewing the data with school principals. The public release of the data is January 23. The Board can expect to be informed of the district’s ESSA designations and performance progress after the public release.

Dr. Spring announced the district will be administering the School Climate Survey to staff and students from mid-January through the beginning of February.

E. Ms. O’Shea announced elementary grade-level meetings have begun. The agenda includes a discussion of our new reading series, Into Reading, to determine the strengths and areas in which teachers might need assistance as well as to determine next steps for coaching. We are also reviewing next Gen Science standards and determining which Smithsonian Science kits to implement next. We are exploring career connections in our current curriculum and discussing future possibilities and in grades 3, 4 and 5 we are continuing to dive deeper into Data Mate. Dr. Spring has also been joining us to discuss the National Student Clearinghouse report on post-graduation outcomes.

F. Mrs. Mackey reviewed the following items with the Board.

- Long-Range Plan – updated to include the budget goals and assumptions discussed at the last meeting. Discussion included the necessity to review our current programs and resources to ensure an optimal return on investment is being attained, and it may become necessary for the district to shift existing resources to address identified building and/or districtwide needs. In an effort to preserve cash position over the next few years, we must concentrate on reducing our dependency on fund balance and reserve use.
- OSC Fiscal Stress Monitory Report - is based on 18/19 data and was released just after the December meeting. The district was identified as “Susceptible Fiscal Stress” as expected. The areas identified that require immediate attention are operation deficits, cash position and fund balance. The planned deficit of \$317,000 trending nearly double. Corrective action – Dr. Spring announced a districtwide spending freeze this week, and we will continue to work to identify efficiencies in an effort to mitigate the deficit.
- Budget Update – Completed needs assessments: BLTs – elementary levels, Teacher Leaders – secondary levels, January 15-16 – open office hours for administration, Budget Committee Meetings – scheduled for 21-29, preliminary budget to the Board scheduled for February 7, City meeting – January 29, Tax cap calculation – OSC deadline is March 1, budget presentations – dates & expectations and Assemblymember McDonald – January 22.
- Budget Timeline – presented, discussed and dates/meetings were revised. The revised timeline will be sent to the Board and put on our website.
- Facilities Update – CMS Roof Bid awarded to S&L Roofing & Sheetmetal and came in under budget; Harmony Hill Boiler – Jim Stapleton is working with CS Arch on bid specs with a February bid anticipated, and CS Arch meeting is scheduled for January 15 to discuss building future ready progress.

III. BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

The Board expressed their sincere gratitude for all the donations on the agenda.

IV. COMMUNITY DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

V. OLD BUSINESS

The Board recapped a discussion from the December 11 meeting regarding holding the 2020 Graduation ceremony at the high school vs. HVCC. Dr. Spring will invite Principal Wood to the January 22 meeting to answer any outstanding questions the Board may have.

VI. REPORT FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

- A. THAT the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of December 11, 2019.
- B. THAT the Board of Education approves a contract with Wynantskill Union Free School District, 25 East Avenue, Troy, New York in the amount of \$496.65 per student to provide health services for students residing in the Cohoes City School District and attending school within the Wynantskill Union Free School District during the 2019/20 school year.
- C. THAT the Board of Education awards the Cohoes Middle School Roof Bid (SED#01-05-00-01-0-001-022) dated 11/26/19 to S&L Roofing & Sheetmetal, Inc. for \$371,900.
- D. THAT the Board of Education accepts a donation in the amount of \$306.08 from Cohoes Middle School parents for transportation of students to the Capital Repertory in Albany on December 17, 2019.
- E. THAT the Board of Education **amends** the 2019/20 budget in the amount of \$306.08 to cover transportation costs of students from Cohoes Middle School to the Capital Repertory in Albany on December 17, 2019.
- F. THAT the Board of Education accepts a donation in the amount of \$528.34 from the Harmony Hill School PTA for transportation of students to Bowman Orchards in Rexford on October 4, 2019.
- G. THAT the Board of Education **amends** the 2019/20 budget in the amount of \$528.34 to cover transportation costs of students from Harmony Hill Elementary School to Bowman Orchards in Rexford on October 4, 2019.
- H. THAT the Board of Education accepts a donation in the amount of \$1,056.68 from the Harmony Hill School PTA for transportation of students to Proctors in Schenectady on October 11, 2019.
- I. THAT the Board of Education **amends** the 2019/20 budget in the amount of \$1,056.68 to cover transportation costs of students from Harmony Hill Elementary

School to Proctors in Schenectady on October 11, 2019.

- J. THAT the Board of Education accepts a donation in the amount of \$941.44 from the Harmony Hill School PTA for transportation of students to Theatre Institute at Sage in Troy on December 11, 2019.
- K. THAT the Board of Education **amends** the 2019/20 budget in the amount of \$941.44 to cover transportation costs of students from Harmony Hill Elementary School to Theatre Institute at Sage in Troy on December 11, 2019.

VII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT – PERSONNEL
INSTRUCTIONAL

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

Kathy Collopy
Effective: December 13, 2019

Bradley, Mary	Gallant, Patricia
Dube, Jacob	Hogan, Ashley
Funk, Zakary	Waldron, Cassie
<u>Effective: January 9, 2020</u>	

- B. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VIII (J) of the May 17, 2017 Minutes to read as follows:

THAT the Board of Education appoints the following employee:

Amy Mosher
 Position..... 1.0 FTE Senior Account Clerk Typist
 (12 Month CO) (PERMANENT)
 Effective Date..... ~~August 10, 2015~~ **May 17, 2017**
 Probation period N/A
 Salary..... per CSEA contract
 Reason Replaces Dianna Mendoza
 Permanent appointment replacing provisional appointment
 Received “Certification of Eligibles” from
 Cohoes Municipal Civil Service Commission

- C. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VII (B) of the December 11, 2019 Minutes to read as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Cohoes City School District appoints Kelly Soriano to a three-year conditional term in the tenure area of Music effective October 21, 2019 and expiring on October 20, 2022 on an emergency conditional basis. Ms. Soriano holds Professional Certification in the area of Music ~~7-12~~.

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

Kelly Soriano

Position..... 1.0 FTE Music
Certification..... Music ~~7-12~~
Tenure Area..... Music
Effective Date..... October 21, 2019
Tenure Date..... October 20, 2022
Salary..... Step 10 of the current CTA Contract
Reason..... Replaces Christian Gunn

- D. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Cohoes City School District appoints the following individual to the Long-Term Substitute Teacher list on an emergency conditional basis.

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

Bailey Caruso

Position..... Long-Term Substitute Teacher
Tenure Area..... Science
Effective Date..... March 15, 2020 through June 30, 2020
Salary..... Step 1 of CTA contract
Reason..... Replaces Alicia Tommasino

- E. THAT the Board of Education approves the following student teacher placements from the following school:

THE COLLEGE OF SAINT ROSE
January 15, 2020 - March 6, 2020
Danielle Dumas with Lindsay Fontaine at Cohoes Middle School

March 9, 2020 - May 1, 2020
Elizabeth McGee with Sheri Frueh at Harmony Hill Elementary School

- F. 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:

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY	NAME	FTE
Baseball - Varsity	Robert Keith	1.0
Baseball - Junior Varsity	Mike Kloczko	1.0
Baseball - Modified	Chris Fournier	1.0
Lacrosse - Varsity	TBD	1.0
Softball - Varsity	Shawn Gibson	1.0
Softball - Junior Varsity	John Ketchoyan	1.0
Softball - Modified	Terry Gendron	1.0
Track - Boys Varsity	Kerry Winters	1.0
Track - Boys Assistant Varsity	Paul Wheeler	1.0
Track - Girls Varsity	Kiera Hovey	1.0
Track - Girls Assistant Varsity	Brianna Houle	1.0

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

- G. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VII (I) of the December 11, 2019 Minutes to read as follows:

THAT the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Maria De La Piedra from her position as Part-Time Teacher Aide (AL).
Effective: ~~November 25, 2019~~ December 9, 2019

- H. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Cohoes City School District hereby appoints Crystal Kelly to the position of Part-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 temporary appointment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this appointment is made on an emergency conditional basis and subject to both a statement from Ms. Kelly 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.

Crystal Kelly

Position.....Part-Time Teacher Aide (AL)
Effective Date..... January 9, 2020 through June 30, 2020
Salary..... \$12 per hour
Reason Open position

- I. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Cohoes City School District hereby appoints the following individual to the Clerical 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.

Kathy Santoro

Effective: January 9, 2020

ADDENDUM

- J. THAT the Board of Education approves the Agreement by and between the Cohoes City School District and the CSEA Local 1000, AFSCME, AFL-CIO Cohoes School District Unit, dated January 6, 2020.

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT - BUSINESS/FINANCE

IX. FINANCIAL REPORTS (Recommended by the Superintendent)

BOARD ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: THAT the Board of Education adopts the following resolutions of the January 8, 2020 Agenda:

VI (A-K) and VII (A-J)

Moved by: Mr. Pascale
All voted "Aye"

Seconded by: Mrs. Annely
Motion carried 7-0

X. INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATION

- A. THAT the Board of Education is aware of a \$20 donation to Cohoes High School from David Kinney.

XI. COMMENTS FROM BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

XII. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

XIII. BOARD POLICY REVIEW

XIV. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

January 22, 2020, Cohoes Middle School Library at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION: THAT the Board enters into Executive Session at 7:37 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining with the Cohoes Principals’ Association.

Moved by: Mrs. Giller
All voted “Aye”

Seconded by: Mrs. Carey
Motion carried 7-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION: TIME: 7:45 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

XV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:51 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Nolin
All voted “Aye”

Seconded by: Mrs. Giller
Motion carried 7-0

District Clerk