

# COHOES CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Board of Education  
Cohoes, New York  
LGI Room, CHS**

**Business Meeting  
November 17, 2021  
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, Mrs. Giller.

### ROLL CALL

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

Also Present: Ms. Peggy O'Shea, Superintendent  
Mr. Daniel Martinelli, Assistant Superintendent for Education Services  
Mrs. Stacy Mackey, School Business Official

### II. DISTRICT REPORTS

- A. Long-Range Financial and Reserves
- B. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Update

### III. BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Mrs. Giller addressed agenda item VI (C) asking if there were any other members who would like to serve on the Facilities Committee. There was no response.
- B. Mr. Pascale and the Board thanked the volunteers assisting the coaches listed in item VII (I).
- C. Mrs. Giller pointed out the adjustments being made to Policy 9206 – 1<sup>st</sup> reading on the agenda.

### IV. COMMUNITY DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

### V. OLD BUSINESS

### 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 November 3, 2021.
- B. THAT the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the Committee on Special

Education for the following dates: 9/14/21, 9/16/21, 9/20/21, 9/24/21, 9/29/21, 9/30/21, 10/4/21, 10/14/21, 10/18/21, 10/19/21, 10/20/21, 10/21/21, 10/25/21, 10/26/21, 10/28/21, 10/29/21, 11/1/21, 11/2/21, 11/3/21, 11/4/21 and 11/5/21.

- C. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VI (B) of the August 11, 2021 Minutes to read as follows:

THAT the Board of Education authorizes the following Committees for the 2021-22 school year:

Audit	Mrs. Dion, Mrs. Giller and Mrs. Snyder
Budget	Mrs. Carey and Mr. Jackson
District Safety	Mr. Annely, Mrs. Giller and Mr. Pascale
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion	Mr. Annely, Mrs. Giller and Mrs. Snyder
Policy	Mrs. Giller and Mr. Jackson
Technology	Mrs. Giller and Mrs. Snyder
Wellness	Mr. Annely, Mrs. Dion and Mr. Pascale
<b>Facilities</b>	<b>Mr. Jackson</b>

- D. THAT the Board of Education approves the Independent Contractor Agreement with Building Better Futures-Jennifer Bashant to perform Collaborative Classroom Training & Coaching at Harmony Hill Elementary School in accordance with the terms and services outlined therein. This Agreement is effective November 4, 2021 and will remain in effect until the completion of services for a flat fee of \$3,900.

## VII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT – PERSONNEL

### INSTRUCTIONAL

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

Marro, Andrew  
Effective: November 8, 2021

Nieves, Jonathan  
Sancilio, Christine  
Shaw, Samantha  
Tshwene, Kagiso

Effective: November 18, 2021

- B. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VIII (L) of the August 1, 2018 Minutes to read as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Cohoes City School District appoints Amanda Kapusniak to a four-year conditional term in the tenure area of Guidance Counselor effective

September 1, 2018 and expiring on ~~August 31, 2022~~ **February 18, 2023** on an emergency conditional basis. Ms. Kapusniak holds Provisional Certification in the area of School Counselor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this appointment is made on an emergency conditional basis and subject to both a statement from Ms. Kapusniak regarding criminal conviction(s) or pending criminal charges and the receipt of criminal background clearance from the Commissioner of Education. Ms. Kapusniak'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.

Amanda Kapusniak

Position .....1.0 FTE School Counselor  
Certification ..... School Counselor  
Tenure Area .....Guidance Counselor  
Effective Date ..... September 1, 2018  
Tenure Date.....~~August 31, 2022~~ **February 18, 2023**  
Salary ..... Step 4 of the current CTA Contract  
Reason..... Replaces Megan Beauchamp

- C. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VIII (C) of the May 22, 2019 Minutes to read as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Cohoes City School District appoints Jillian Egnaczyk to a four-year conditional term in the tenure area of Speech effective September 1, 2019 and expiring on ~~August 31, 2023~~ **October 12, 2023** on an emergency conditional basis. Ms. Egnaczyk holds professional certification in the area of Speech and Language Disabilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this appointment is made on an emergency conditional basis and subject to both a statement from Ms. Egnaczyk regarding criminal conviction(s) or pending criminal charges and the receipt of criminal background clearance from the Commissioner of Education. Ms. Egnaczyk'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.

Jillian Egnaczyk

Position ..... 1.0 FTE Speech Teacher  
Certification ..... Speech and Language Disabilities

Tenure Area ..... Speech  
Effective Date ..... September 1, 2019  
Tenure Date..... ~~August 31, 2023~~ **October 12, 2023**  
Salary ..... Step 3 of the current CTA Contract  
Reason..... Replaces Cathy Boudreau

- D. THAT the Board of Education approves a salary increase due to additional teaching assignments for the following individual for the 2021-2022 school year:

Kerry Bottenfield – 0.2 FTE as per CTA contract –ESL (1.2 FTE total)  
Effective: October 18, 2021

- E. THAT the Board of Education approves the following student teacher placement from the following school (unpaid):

THE COLLEGE OF SAINT ROSE  
March 14 – May 11, 2022  
Riley Hansbury with Andy Quinn at Cohoes Middle School

**NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

- F. Robert Clark  
Position ..... 1.0 FTE Custodian/Groundskeeper (**PERMANENT** appt.)  
Effective Date ..... November 29, 2021  
Probation Period..... May 28, 2022  
Salary ..... per CSEA contract  
Reason..... Received “Certification of Eligibles” from  
..... Cohoes Municipal Civil Service Commission

- G. Paula Ahearn  
Position ..... Part-Time Teacher Aide (CHS)  
Effective Date ..... November 9, 2021 through June 30, 2022  
Salary ..... \$13.25 per hour  
Reason..... Open Position

- H. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Cohoes City School District hereby appoints Zhane Smith to the position of Part-Time Teacher Aide subject to the rules of the Cohoes Civil Service Commission on a conditional basis, in accordance with the Civil Service Rules, such appointment is a temporary appointment.

Zhane Smith  
Position ..... Part-Time Teacher Aide (VS)  
Effective Date ..... November 10, 2021 through June 30, 2022  
Salary ..... \$13.25 per hour  
Reason..... Replaces Mary Beth Galarneau

**ADDENDA**

- I. THAT the Board of Education **amends** Item VII (P) of the November 3, 2021 Minutes to read as follows:

THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individuals to the coaching positions listed below for the 2021-2022 school year, contingent upon acceptable program enrollment:

<b>CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>FTE</b>
Basketball - Boys Varsity	Jeff Huneau	1.0
Basketball – UPAID assistant	Bill LeBeau	0.0
Basketball – UPAID assistant	Mike Marcil	0.0
Basketball – UPAID assistant	Brian Murley	0.0
Basketball - Boys JV	Nick Izzo	1.0
Basketball - Boys Modified	TBD <b>Ed Krajewski</b>	1.0
Basketball - Girls Varsity	Morgan Blizinski	1.0
Basketball - Girls JV	Bill Smith	1.0
Basketball - Girls Modified	TBD <b>Kristy Jarosz</b>	1.0
Bowling – Boys & Girls	Pamela Bertrand	1.0
Bowling – UNPAID assistant	Bill Lajeunesse	0.0
Track – Indoor, Boys	TBD <b>Kerry Winters</b>	1.0
Track – Indoor, Girls	TBD	1.0
Cheerleading – Varsity	TBD <b>Amya Sousis</b>	1.0
Cheerleading – Modified	TBD	1.0

- J. THAT the Board of Education approves a salary increase due to additional teaching assignments for the following individual for the 2021-2022 school year:

Alicia Ozols – 0.2 FTE as per CTA contract –Spanish (1.2 FTE total)  
Effective: September 7, 2021

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT - BUSINESS/FINANCE

**IX. FINANCIAL REPORTS (Recommended by the Superintendent)**

- A. I recommend that the following reports be accepted by the Board of Education:
- Warrants – October 2021
  - Budget Transfers – October 2021
  - Budget Status Report – October 2021
  - Bank Reconciliation Report – October 2021
  - Internal Claims Audit Report – September 2021

**BOARD ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** THAT the Board of Education adopts the following resolutions of the November 17, 2021 Agenda:

**VI (A-D); VII (A-J) and IX (A)**

Moved by: Mrs. Carey  
All voted “Aye”

Seconded by: Mrs. Dion  
Motion carried 7-0

**X. INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATION**

THAT the Board of Education accepts a donation of \$81 from Hannaford Helps Schools Program to be used for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS).

**XI. COMMENTS FROM BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS**

- A. Mrs. Giller and the Board thanked Hannaford’s Helps Schools Program for tonight’s donation to be used for the PBIS program.
- B. Mrs. Giller addressed Policy 2360 - Minutes that was reviewed in the Nov. 15 Policy Committee Meeting. In the discussion at the policy committee meeting, it was decided that it necessarily isn’t a change in policy. A procedure needs to be developed for what the minutes actually look like on paper as far as a breakdown of information and conversations that we’ve had during the meeting just to identify on paper those discussions, potential resolutions and/or follow up on certain dates that should be reflected in the minutes.
- C. Mr. Annely brought up a question regarding clubs, specifically the Drama Club, and current procedures for purchasing necessary items. Mrs. Mackey addressed the question explaining there was a new GASB standard enacted, and the District must be in compliance. She mentioned that she has an upcoming meeting with the club’s advisor to address any concerns and questions.
- D. Mr. Jackson inquired about the upcoming winter weather and our readiness regarding both staff and equipment for snow removal and the supply chain. School Business Official, Mrs. Mackey, replied that she has a weekly meeting on Friday with the Director of Facilities. The Superintendent will respond in her weekly update to the Board.
- E. Mrs. Snyder and the Board thanked all the kids from Harmony Hill and Cohoes High that jumped into the freezing water at Lake George on Saturday to raise

- money for the Special Olympics. They were one of the top school-based teams.
- F. Social Worker, Elaine Flatow, provided the Board with an update on the Holiday Hope Program. They are currently asking for donations of Thanksgiving dinners for district families. She said anyone interested in helping can contact her directly at [eflatow@cohoes.org](mailto:eflatow@cohoes.org)

XII. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

XIII. BOARD POLICY REVIEW

1<sup>st</sup> Reading  
9206 – Personnel

XIV. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

**December 1, 2021**, LGI Room, CHS & Livestreamed at 6 PM  
**December 15, 2021**, LGI Room, CHS & Livestreamed at 6 PM

XV. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** To adjourn at 7:23 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Annely  
All voted “Aye”

Seconded by: Mrs. Dion  
Motion carried 7-0

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District Clerk