

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Regular Meeting
February 5, 2025

Present: Mrs. Cathi Root, President
Mrs. Pamela Zwierlein, Vice-President
Mr. Aaron Lounsbury, Member
Mr. Robert Seymour, Member
Mr. Scot Taylor, Member
Mrs. Lee Wood, Member

Adm./Others: Mr. Joshua Roe, Superintendent
Mrs. Mary Grace Camin, MS Principal
Mrs. Michelle Bombard, ES Principal
Mr. Michael Williams, Director of CSE
Mr. James Wood, Interim HS Principal
Mrs. Kendra Seaver, Business Executive
Mrs. Kristy Robertson, Clerk

Others: Miss Madeleine Legas
Mrs. Desiree Ford
Mr. Brennan Sindoni
Miss Cristina Earley
Mrs. Andreea Earley

Absent: Mr. Gregory Schweiger, Member

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Root called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

3. VOICE OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Roe introduced members of the high school student body who attended the meeting to discuss how the changes to the cell phone policy are going so far. Miss Madeleine Legas, Miss Cristina Earley, and Mr. Brennan Sindoni each addressed the board to give an update on the new phone policy. Their assessment included both positive and negative feedback. Positives include an increase in student interaction and face to face communication along with better grades and a decrease in the likelihood of cheating and using AI. Negatives include minor disruption to AM/PM routines, some students are having a hard time getting to their bus in the afternoon, using other electronics in place of their phone, for example smart watches, Kindles, iPads, earbuds, Nintendo Game Boys, etc. especially in study halls, some students are entering through doors that are not being watched closely, students are lying about their phone being in

their car or at home, and there seems to be a lack of consistency in following the disciplinary rules that were set when the policy changed. Overall, the students have found the change to be a positive. They would like to see the policy extended to all electronics and better enforcement of the rules along with follow through of the disciplinary guidelines that have been set equally among all students.

Miss Cristina Earley, Mrs. Andreea Earley, and Mr. Brennan Sindoni left the meeting at 6:23pm.

Mrs. Desiree Ford addressed the board on behalf of the volleyball program. Mrs. Ford extended an apology to the District and the Tioga Center Fire Department for an error made in a memo sent home with her players that created a controversy on social media regarding the Fire Department's Pancake Supper. As soon as she was made aware of the controversy, she checked the memo that was sent and emailed the parents of her players to let them know that there was an error in the memo.

Mrs. Desiree Ford left the meeting at 6:28pm.

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A MOTION was made by Aaron Lounsbury, seconded by Robert Seymour, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to approve the January 22, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

5. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

The Legislative breakfast will be held Friday, February 21, 2025, at 7:45am. Scot Taylor will be hosting Representative Christopher Friend at the breakfast.

There was nothing to report for Health Trust Consortium, Workers' Compensation Alliance, other board reports, events, or updates.

Mrs. Camin reported that report cards for the second marking period have gone home, most students with failing grades are in 8th grade and only failing one subject; last Saturday the 7th and 8th grade Math Counts team had a competition in Delhi and placed 4th; on Friday, 19 Quiz Bowl teams are coming to Tioga for a competition; the Attendance Challenge is underway, points can be earned by both individuals and grade levels; the middle school will be having its first ever Pep Rally at the end of the month.

Mrs. Bombard reported that the end of the marking period means a new round of student of concern meetings are being held; attendance has been good for 1st through 4th grades, PreK and K are still working on being more consistent; last Thursday, 4th grade completed their CBT simulation, everything went great and it was not super scary to students or teachers; despite a two-hour delay last Friday, Mr. Williams in the bus garage was able to make a field trip to the Clemens Center still happen; the book fair arrives next week, Reading Night will be held on February 26th from 3:30-6:30pm; after school sessions are being planned now to offer extra help

in ELA and Math ahead of state testing; it is an exciting time for our PreK, K, and 1st grade students as their learning starts clicking and their academic growth is incredible.

Mrs. Cathi Root asked how students in the 8:1:1 classroom are doing. Mrs. Bombard replied that they are doing well thanks to the hard work of the classroom teacher and aides.

Mr. Williams reported that annual meetings are continuing; new meetings are also continuing; along with Mrs. Bombard and Mrs. Cary, ideas are being brainstormed on ways to help our PreK students in the classroom; the search for a PT provider continues.

Mr. Wood reported that the Quiz League team, led by Mr. Gutierrez and Mr. Burrowes, finished 2nd at their last competition; the high school Drama Club performance of Seussical was January 25th and 26th, everyone did a great job and it was a well-run show; the Tioga Center Fire Department will have their annual pancake supper this Saturday; Brooke Delmage participated in the Area All-State band; Mrs. Barnhart and Mr. Meadows took the Science Olympiad team to Ithaca for a competition and were pleased with how they performed; the winter sports season is winding down, the wrestling and cheerleading teams both placed 2nd at their respective IAC Championships; Section IV wrestling championships will be in Oneonta February 8th at 9am; spring sports sign ups start tomorrow; on March 1st there will be a First Aid class for all coaches, assistant coaches, and volunteers; the Winter Ball will be held on February 13th.

Mrs. Cathi Root asked for an update on the car project. Mr. Wood replied that the car build is progressing, the engine is in, and Mr. Layman has assured him that it will be done on time.

Mr. Roe reported that there is heat in the bus garage, both boilers have been installed and one burner was retrofitted so it could be used while waiting for the new burners to be delivered; the Middle School bleachers are still a work in progress, the company will be back in on February 14th to work on them again; the terrazzo tile installed in the middle school boys locker room and high school kitchen did not pass final inspection, the company will be coming back in to fix a list of issues; on February 12th an all call message will go out to parents/guardians to opt into receiving all call messages by text; winter weather is here, so far we have had two snow days and two 2-hour delays.

Miss Madeleine Legas left the meeting at 7:02pm

Mr. Roe gave a brief presentation on health insurance. The presentation included an overview of how the Health Trust Consortium and Blue Cross Blue Shield work together to negotiate and pay medical expenses for district employees and factors behind the rising cost of health benefits.

6. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A MOTION was made by Aaron Lounsbury seconded by Scot Taylor, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to approve Old/New Business Agenda Item A as follows:

Approval of the 1st read of Policy 7350 revisions.

7. FINANCIAL

A MOTION was made by Pamela Zwierlein, seconded by Robert Seymour, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to approve Financial Consent Agenda Item A as follows:

Approval of the Food Service Meat and Cheese Bid

8. PERSONNEL

A MOTION was made by Aaron Lounsbury, seconded by Pamela Zwierlein, and carried by a vote of 6-0, to approve the Personnel Consent Agenda as follows:

Approval of the following probationary appointment:

Name of appointee: Michele Herin

Civil Service Position: Bus Driver

Probationary Service Begins: retroactive to February 3, 2025

Expiration of Probationary Service: February 2, 2026

Approval of the request for unpaid leave under FMLA received from Sierra Vergason to begin approximately May 19, 2025, through June 30, 2025. Sierra will use sick days from approximately March 31, 2025, through approximately May 16, 2025.

Approval of the following spring coaching appointments:

TIOGA CENTRAL SCHOOL

EXTRA-CURRICULAR SALARIES 2024/25

SPRING SPORTS

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	STEP	ACTIVITY	N/C	EXP	LEVEL	PERCENT	LONG	24/25
Kevin	Evanek	Varsity	Baseball		15	3	14	2	8,296
Eric	Gutierrez	Varsity	Track		18	3	14	2	8,296
David	Sickler	Varsity	Golf		17	3	14	2	8,296
James	Walsh	Varsity Asst	Track		19	3	9	2	5,704
Jack	Short	Modified	Baseball		9	3	6		3,111
Stephanie	Hills	Varsity	Softball		8	3	14		7,259
Kara	Steele	2% Assistant	Track		5	3	2		1,037
James	Burrowes	Modified	Track		6	3	6		3,111
Jake	Howland	2% Assistant	Baseball		4	2	2		1,037
Nicholas	Aiello	Modified	Golf		2	2	3		1,556
Brian	Grube	JV	Softball		1	1	6		3,111
Olivia	Ayres	Modified	Softball		1	1	4		2,074
Adam	Layman	JV	Baseball		0	1	6		3,111
Eric	Shay	2% Assistant	Softball		0	1	2		1,037

Acceptance and approval of the notice received from Robert Rockwell, resigning his custodial worker position. Robert's last day of service will be 2/7/25

Approval of the following additions(s) to the substitute list(s) for the 24-25 school year:

- Rebeca Prutisto- Instructional Staff

9. VOICE OF THE PUBLIC

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A MOTION was made by Aaron Lounsbury, seconded by Robert Seymour and carried by a vote of 6-0 to enter executive session at 7:34pm to discuss CSE/CPSE/504 matters, and the employment history of a particular person or persons leading to the appointment of a particular person or persons.

A MOTION was made by Aaron Lounsbury, seconded by Robert Seymour, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to approve CSE/CPSE/504 Recommendations.

A MOTION was made by Scot Taylor, seconded by Lee Wood, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to return to public session at 8:18pm.

11. ADJOURN

A MOTION was made by Aaron Lounsbury, seconded by Robert Seymour and carried by a vote of 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:18pm.

Kristy Robertson
Clerk