

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Regular Meeting  
December 20, 2023

Present: Mrs. Cathi Root, President  
Mrs. Pamela Zwierlein, Vice-President  
Mr. Gregory Schweiger, Member  
Mr. Scot Taylor, Member arrived at 6:03pm  
Mr. Joshua Whitmore, Member  
Mrs. Lee Wood, Member

Adm./Others: Mr. Joshua Roe, Superintendent  
Mr. Willard Cook, MS Principal  
Mrs. Mary Grace Camin, Director of Instruction/CSE Chair  
Mrs. Michelle Bombard, ES Principal  
Mr. James Wood, Interim HS Principal  
Mrs. Kristy Robertson, Clerk

Others: Ms. Marie Chianese  
Mrs. Jackie Medovich  
Miss Emma Jaye  
Miss Lily Mesler  
Mr. Mason Green  
Mrs. Des Ford

Absent: Mr. Aaron Lounsbury, Member

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Root called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**3. VOICE OF THE PUBLIC**

**4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

A MOTION was made by Gregory Schweiger, seconded by Joshua Whitmore, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the December 6, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

**5. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS**

The next Legislative meeting will be held on January 18, 2024

The next Health Trust Consortium meeting will be held on February 23, 2024

The next Workers' Compensation Alliance meeting will be held on March 22, 2024

There was nothing to report for other board reports, events, or updates.

Mr. Wood introduced Ms. Marie Chianese and Mrs. Jackie Medovich who gave a presentation to the board about regarding the Spanish Club's 2022 trip to Spain and the upcoming trip planned for 2024 to Costa Rica.

Mr. Scot Taylor, Member arrived a 6:03pm

Ms. Chianese introduced Spanish Club members, Lily Mesler and Mason Green who were part of the 2022 trip to Spain. The students spoke of their experiences including their favorite food, places they visited and what they gained educationally from the trip. A slide show of pictures from the trip was also presented. Ms. Chianese introduced Spanish Club member, Emma Jaye who will be part of the 2024 trip to Costa Rica, in 97 days. Emma shared that she is excited to travel to a different part of the world and experience a different culture. She also expressed being grateful that she is going as part of the Spanish Club because there is a sense of safety being with people you know. Ms. Chianese stated that the cost of the trip per student is \$4,300.00 and students have done several fund raisers to offset the cost of the trip. A total of 16 students and several chaperones will be going on the 11-day trip. Ms. Chianese gave an overview of what was planned for the 2024 trip including, visiting the Gold Museum and National Museum in San José, touring a coffee plantation, a tour of a chocolate making facility, the Irazú and Arenal volcanos, La Paz waterfalls and hot springs, hanging bridges in the rainforest, Manuel Antoneo National Park, and snorkeling. As part of the trip, students will also be participating in two service projects, one to help with reforestation and one at a wildlife refuge.

Ms. Marie Chianese, Mrs. Jackie Medovich, Miss Emma Jaye, Miss Lily Mesler, and Mr. Mason Green left the meeting at 6:17pm.

Mr. Cook reported that 15 week progress reports showed some regression in grades, the best way to support student needs is being reassessed; modified boys basketball and volleyball seasons have ended; on Monday the Middle School hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Winter Wonderland event, Janice Barto, Jenn Parker, and Laura Santobuono did a great job organizing the event, it was well attended by our families and plans are being made to make it bigger and better for next year; this week staff and students are celebrating with a holiday themed Spirit Week.

Mr. Cook left the meeting at 6:21pm

Mrs. Camin reported that this month's Teacher Meeting for first year teachers was scheduled with Kendra Seaver as a training for purchasing classroom materials and resources along with the best way for them to plan for the 24-25 school year; CSE meetings for Juniors and Seniors are complete, a big thank you to the High School office staff, teachers, and Mr. Wood for their collaboration; thank you to Mary Cary and Beth Klingbeil for their patience and understanding during the CSE transition, they have played a big role in helping Mrs. Camin to become more comfortable and confident; regional comparative data is still not available.

Mrs. Bombard reported it is the MOST fun time of the year in the elementary school; thank you to all of our community supporters who helped make the holiday special for some of our families; today's holiday concerts were lots of fun, great job Alex and Ian MacDonald; this year's food drive collected over 1,000 pounds of food and helped to fill food boxes for 27 of our district families; the Winter Wonderland event at the Middle School was lots of fun for our students and families; tomorrow is the next Top Tiger assembly; plans for the Book Fair are underway and it will be held the last week of February, more details will be coming soon.

Mr. Wood reported winter sports have started; congratulations to Evan Sickler for scoring 1,000 career points; a great job was done by all with the Winter Wonderland event, it was great to see all of the high school students helping to make the evening special for our younger students and families; musicians in Tri M Music Honor Society held a community performance in Nichols; students and staff together held the annual coin drive and collected over \$1,000.00 to help support 27 of our district families, amazing job done by all; Nick Alexander, Alex MacDonald, and Ian MacDonald did a great job with music students at the holiday concert.

Mr. Roe reported that Mr. Wood delivered the last 3 family boxes, it is impressive to watch all of our buildings come together this time of year to support our school community; the holiday concerts have been fantastic, watching Alex MacDonald lead the 12 Days of Christmas is impressive; over the break, the railings at the high school gym entrance will be installed and the crawl space under the girls side of the middle school gym will be abated; weekly meetings have begun with Kendra Seaver to do the preliminary work on the 24-25 budget; the district is looking into two different programs that offer monetary incentives to offset the cost of purchasing electric buses.

## **6. FINANCIAL**

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

***Approval** of the November 2023 Extraclassroom Report*

***Approval** of the Health and Welfare Contract for 1 student attending a private school within the Horseheads Central School District for the 2023-24 school year in the amount of \$500.75*

***Approval** to advertise for fuel bids for the 2024-2025 school year*

***Acceptance and approval** of the generous donation received from Tioga State Bank, for the Middle School Student Council in the amount of \$450.00 toward sponsoring Mathalon*

***Approval** of the Bus Lease Request received from Animal Aholics for travel to the PA Farm Show in January*

## **7. PERSONNEL**

A MOTION was made by Gregory Schweiger, seconded by Joshua Whitmore, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to approve Personnel Agenda Item A:

*Approval of the following addition(s) to the substitute list(s):*

*Abigail Hildebrant- Instructional Staff and Support Staff (Monitor)*

*Summer Chamberlain- Instructional Staff*

*Michael Leary- Instructional Staff*

## **8. VOICE OF THE PUBLIC**

## **9. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A MOTION was made by Joshua Whitmore, seconded by Scot Taylor, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to enter executive session at 6:50pm 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 Gregory Schweiger, seconded by Scot Taylor, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to approve CSE/CPSE/504 Recommendations.

A MOTION was made by Gregory Schweiger, seconded by Joshua Whitmore, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to return to public session at 7:32pm.

## **10. ADJOURN**

A MOTION was made by Lee Wood, seconded by Pamela Zwierlein, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:33pm.

Kristy Robertson  
Clerk