

JOHNSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL  
May 10, 2021  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
MINUTES

Board Members Present: Rachel DeGroat  
Tom Ordway  
Tara Sears  
Sarah Williams

Board Member Absent: Erwin Morris  
Jake Sauer-Jones  
Mike Sharp

**Call to Order:** Rachel DeGroat opened the meeting at 7:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Tara Sears made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2021, Board of Education Meeting, seconded by Sarah Williams and carried.

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to approve the CSE/CPSE/504 report, seconded by Sarah Williams and carried.

**Motions/ Discussion** **DISCUSSION:** Kevin Hajos, Superintendent of Public Works, and Andrea Hogan, Town of Johnsburg Supervisor spoke on the issue of sidewalks and student safety. Kevin Hajos outlined the timeline and the plans for improvement on Main Street. He suggested widening the shoulder may be the option we have for safer pedestrian traffic. This area would be maintained in the winter by Warren County. He did say his project will not be installing new sidewalks. Mr. Hajos did suggest we could look into two grants for the future. He gave Mike Markwica a contact for flashing school crossing signs. Mike Markwica said he will pursue this further. Andrea Hogan commented that the Town is also interested in Widening the shoulders due to winter weather conditions. Rachel DeGroat recommended that the Building and Grounds Committee partner with the Town of Johnsburg to explore more options.

**PRESENTATION:** Max Garrett gave a presentation titled “Making Musical Lemonade.” He spoke about his daily class schedule and the positive side effects that COVID has allowed him to pursue.

**PRESENTATION:** Katy Ashe shared a video titled “Out of the Box”. She showcased the student’s talents and lessons during her COVID schedule.

**MOTION:** Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to accept a Letter of Retirement from Shelley Fuller as of June 30, 2021, with gratitude, seconded by Tara Sears and carried.

**MOTION:** Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** approve Eliza Ellsworth as a tuition Pre K student at \$3,000 for the 2021-2022 school year, seconded by Tara Sears. Tom Ordway asked if the price was the same for Pre K as the Elementary fee. Mike Markwica said it was and added that we would pro-rate the tuition cost accordingly if we need to have two half-day sessions due to enrollment size. **MOTION** was carried.

**MOTION:** Tara Sears made a **MOTION** to approve Nicole Owens as a full-time bus driver at Level 9, \$13.10 per hour beginning May 10, 2021, seconded by Sarah Williams. Mike Markwica reported that Nicole’s training would be during the daily bus runs, and once she obtains her license, she may have the afternoon BOCES run. Tom Ordway asked if Nicole Owens’ salary will increase once she gets her license and Mike Markwica said it would. **MOTION** carried.

**Updates:**

**Handouts:** Heather Flanagan provided a handout with our “opt-out” numbers for this year’s State Testing. Mrs. Flanagan also provided a handout with the number of students taking courses remotely from 1:30 through 2:30 daily and the course names. She did tell the Board that the classes were going well. Sarah Williams asked if our State Aid will be affected because of the number of opt-outs, and Mike Markwica said it would not.

**Activities:** Mike Markwica reported that the State requirements on participants for graduation has increased to 500 people, so we should be fine this year. We have purchased the same stage as last year, but it will be set up on our field. He told the Board that Prom, Honor Society, Pre-K Graduation, and the Sports Banquet will all be held under a tent we are renting. Julie Allen will run a carnival for Prom. Honors Day is also scheduled.

**Health Insurance:** Mike Markwica reported that Small Group Health Insurance has been approved up until 2025.

**JCSTA:** Rachel DeGroat read a letter address to the Board of Education that was signed by members of the JCSTA Executive Committee regarding their feelings regarding some comments that were made at the April 27, 2021 Board of Education meeting.

**Visitor's Comments:**

Kim McKenna asked if the Board members who are absent would get a copy of the letter that was read tonight. Rachel DeGroat said the District Clerk, Cindy Homer, will send paper copies home the next day. Tom Ordway asked if the members present tonight could also, receive a copy, and Rachel DeGroat said a digital copy would be emailed by Ms. Homer tomorrow as well.

**Adjournment:**

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 8:07, seconded by Tara Sears and carried.

District Clerk: Cindy Homer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_