

JOHNSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL
Monday, November 14, 2022
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Minutes

Board Members Present: Rachel DeGroat
Tom Ordway
Sarah Williams
Melissa Freebern

Board Members Absent: Erwin Morris
Tara Sears
Chris Jay

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

Approval of Minutes: Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2022 Board of Education Meeting, seconded by Sarah Williams. Tom Ordway asked why the minutes referenced three ADs. Mike Markwica stated that the third AD was Candice Husson from Minerva. **MOTION** carried.

CSE/CPSE/504 Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** to accept the CSE/CPSE/504 Reports seconded by Melissa Freebern and carried.

Financial: Larry Ringer informed the Board that a new van was ordered.

Presentation: Dr. Turina Parker, Superintendent of WSWHE BOCES, spoke on her roles as Chief Executive Officer and her service to the Commissioner of Education in the field. She spoke and explained what the SkillsUSA Program was. She then introduced Tony Muller.
Tony Muller spoke on the CTE Programs and he brought students from Johnsburg to speak on their programs and personal experiences.

Everett Parker: Heavy Equipment
Cole Sears: Criminal Justice
Scott Patton: Heavy Equipment
Micheala Thomas: Early Childhood

Mike Varney was also introduced as the business office director at WSWHE BOCES. He spoke on the Health Insurance Consortium Trust and the Regional Consortium of School Business Officials.

David Petruska spoke on behalf of the open WSWHE BOCES Board of Education seat available and asked our Board to consider running.

Scott Preusser present the 2021-2022 Johnsburg Central School Audit.

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to accept the 2021-2022 Audit Report and the 2021-2022 Extra Classroom Activity Report, seconded by Sarah Williams and carried.

Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** to accept the 2020-2021 Corrective Action Plan in response to the Management Letter from the audit of the Johnsburg Central School District for the year ended June 30, 2021, prepared by Raymond Preusser CPA, PC., seconded by Melissa Freebern, and carried.

Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** to adjourn to Executive Session for Contractual reasons at 7:44 PM, seconded by Melissa Freebern and carried.

Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** to return to Regular Session at 7:58 PM, seconded by Melissa Freebern and carried.

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to approve the salary and sick day adjustment for Mary Alexander's contract. Both changes are effective from July 1, 2022, seconded by Sarah Williams and carried.

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to appoint Shannon Ryan as Business Office Assistant, effective November 15, 2022, as per her contract, seconded by Melissa Freeberns and carried.

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to appoint Eilene Totzke as a Long term Substitute for Science beginning December 19, 2022,

until June 13, 2023, at level one of her degree per the JCSTA contract, seconded by Sarah Williams.

Mike Markwica explained that this position is to cover Jeff Ordway's retirement. Eilen Totzke will cover some of David Pede's schedule of classes, as well as seventh-grade science and adding the History of Rock and Roll elective. David Pede will cover physics and chemistry with some STEM electives.

MOTION carried

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to appoint Joe San Antonio, Peter Morehouse and Julie West as Nordic Coaches for the 2022-2023 school year. The stipend for each coach will be the sum of the modified and varsity Nordic stipends, per the JCSTA contract, divided by four, seconded by Sarah Williams, and carried.

Tom Ordway made a **Motion** to appoint Jake Sauer-Jones as the Modified Basketball Coach as per the JCSTA contract and as a volunteer boys' varsity basketball assistant coach for the 2022-2023 school year, seconded by Sarah Williams and carried.

Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** to appoint Peter Olesheski and John Hurley as volunteer modified boys' basketball assistant coaches for the 2022-2023 school year, seconded by Melissa Freebern and carried.

Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** to appoint both Allison Gonyo and Zachary Pierson as assistant coaches for all sports for the 2022-2023 school year, seconded by Tom Ordway and carried.

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to appoint Gene Maiorana as a volunteer assistant coach for girls' varsity basketball for the 2022-2023 school year, seconded by Sarah Williams and carried.

Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** to adjust the area of Tenure for David Pede, from STEM to Computer Science. seconded by Melissa Freebern. Mike Markwica stated he spoke to Jennifer Lunt, BOCES Administrator for Personnel Development, informed him that the STEM certification had been changed to Computer Science. David Pede's four-year tenure track is scheduled for June 2023, MOTION carried.

Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** to approve the MOA for the CSEA and Carrie VanDeMark, Dated October 26, 2022, seconded by Melissa Freebern and carried.

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to appoint Cathy Kennedy as Dean of Students, effective November 15, 2022, at \$6,000 pro-rated for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year with the understanding that she will receive an additional \$500 when she obtains her Administrative degree. Mrs. Kennedy will also receive an additional \$50 half-day or \$100 for a full day if both Michael Markwica, Superintendent, and Heather Flanagan, Principal are out of the building at the same time, seconded by Sarah Williams. Michael Markwica stated that appointing Cathy Kennedy now allows her time to work with Jeff Ordway.

Tom Ordway asked how many classes will Cathy Kennedy lose by taking this position. Heather Flanagan stated that there will be a minor adjustment. She stated that Michelle Krzypkowski will pick up some of her duties. Tom Ordway explained his concern because he feels that Cathy Kennedy is an excellent teacher who works with students who need help most.

Rachel DeGroat thanked Jeff Ordway for his twenty years of service as our Dean of Students. She then thanked him for staying to help Cathy Kennedy with the transition.

Mike Markwica added that Jeff Ordway has been an administrator longer than anyone at JCS.

MOTION carried.

Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** to accept the 2022 Return Taxes Report, seconded by Tom Ordway and carried.

Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** to accept the 2022 Tax collector's Report, seconded by Melissa Freebern and carried.

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to approve the RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE Johnsburg CSD 403(b) RETIREMENT PLAN. (per attachment), seconded by Sarah Williams and carried.

Sarah Williams **MOTION** to accept a Resolution to establish a broker account for Scholarships, seconded by Melissa Freebern.

Larry Ringer explained how the Dollars for Scholars organization is no longer at Johnsbury and when it disbanded it had two stocks in its scholarship portfolio. This account was created to house the two stocks.

MOTION carried.

Discussion:

Visitor Comments:

Rachel DeGroat asked the Policy Committee to meet to look into establishing a Visitor's Policy for speaking at Board of Education meetings.

Mike Markwica stated that most schools do have set policy/guidelines set for the Public Comment section.

Sarah Williams stated having a clear policy to follow was a good idea.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Sarah Williams reported that the Finance Committee met to discuss contracts.

They also stated that some committee members received Judy Cooks Claims Auditor report, others did not. Mike Markwica will ask Judy to resend the report.

Wellness Committee: Sarah Williams reported on the Wellness Committee. The committee met and reviewed the current Wellness Policy. They are also discussing looking for outside space for older students.

Update Report:

Merger: Mike Markwica reported that he spoke to Dr. Parker and she is working with the State to set up an initial meeting regarding the merger. Mike Markwica also reported that the merger study will cost about \$50,000, but it will be split into two ways, as well as a grant that can offset the cost. He also stated he is going to set up three drop boxes throughout the school so parents, citizens, and students can submit questions and or concerns regarding the merger and the process.

Mike Markwica stated that he attended a Rotary meeting and a Business Alliance meeting and spoke regarding the merger. Debra Cunningham was very informative regarding the State's role.

Sport's Appeal: Heather Flanagan reported that the tuition student for who she had sent an appeal to the State on her behalf to play has been granted. She will be allowed to play both winter and spring sports.

Other Business:

Tom Ordway thanked the students for coming to the Board meeting tonight and said how well-spoken each student was.

Visitor Comments:

Sarah Fink: Commented that the new Grow Towers were a great addition to the school. She thanked Cindy Homer for the updated website and then asked about the status of the new app.

Mike Markwica explained the app is still being worked on at this time.

Adjournment:

Sarah Willaims made a **Motion** to adjourn at 8:35, seconded by Melissa Freebern and carried.