

JOHNSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL
December 13, 2021
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Rachel DeGroat
Tara Sears
Erwin Morris
Tom Ordway
Sarah Williams
Jake Sauer-Jones
Mike Sharp

Board Member Absent:

N/A

- Call to Order:** Rachel DeGroat opened the meeting at 7:01 with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of Minutes:** Tom Ordway made a MOTION to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2021 Board of Education Meeting. Erwin Morris asked if a majority of members had to approve/oppose a motion in order for it to pass/fail. He questioned the opposed motion from the November 8, 2021 meeting regarding accepting a tuition student. Rachel DeGroat stated there was a majority present so the final decision 1-3 opposed is final. Motion was seconded by Tara Sears and carried.
- CSE/CPSE/504:** Tom Ordway made a MOTION to accept the CSE/CPSE/504 reports, second by Tara Sears and carried.
- Financial:** Tom Ordway asked if it was any better-getting food and Larry Ringer stated he has not heard of any problems.
- Discussion/Motions:** **Presentation:** Matthew Parobeck, Justin Gonyo, Amy Potter, Jim Sirum, and Chuck Barton from the Town Sewer Committee

presented a PowerPoint presentation on the positive reasons for creating an affordable sewer system. There were questions that the committee answered. More information to come.

Motions: Tara Sears made a MOTION to accept the Johnsburg Central School District Board of Education Resolution regarding Advocacy Priorities for the 2022 Legislative Session, seconded by Sarah Williams and carried.

Tara Sears made a MOTION to appoint Shannon Wood as a Full-Time Evening Custodian at Step 13 of the CSEA contract beginning Tuesday, November 23, 2021. seconded by Tom Ordway and carried.

Tom Ordway made a MOTION to accept the resignation of Lisa Horton, Guidance Secretary, with gratitude effective immediately. seconded by Tara Sears. Mike Sharp asked what our plans were for a replacement. Mike Markwica stated we will have her replacement at our next meeting. The motion was carried.

Tom Ordway made a MOTION to accept the resignation of Jean Comstock, CSE Secretary, with gratitude, effective December 31, 2021, seconded by Tara Sears. Jake Sauer-Jones asked if we were looking for a replacement and Mike Markwica stated that we posted the position internally and will put it in the Sun as well. Motion 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 Extraclassroom Activity Funds of the Johnsburg Central School District for the year ended June 30, 2021 prepared by Raymond Preusser CPA, PC., seconded by Jake Sauer-Jones and carried.

Tara Sears 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 Sarah Williams and carried

Tara Sears made a MOTION to appoint Jake Sauer-Jones as Elementary Basketball Coach for \$750 for the 2021-2022 school year, seconded by Tom Ordway. Erwin Morris questioned the hiring a Board Member was a good idea. Mike Markwica reported that we are still looking for two coaches without any offers to coach. Sarah Williams stated that we are a small district and we need to do what we can do to help our students. Mike Markwica reported he check with the school attorney and we are allowed to pay a Board Member up to \$750. Rachel DeGroat asked if the \$750 was per contract year or per position. Mike Markwica stated he would look into that. MOTION was carried.

Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds Committee: Mike Markwica reported that the committee met and talked about the security camera system. He stated that we need to replace the cameras and we were looking at options and costs. Committee also discussed outdoor lighting.

Finance Committee: Mike Markwica reported that the committee is working on the 2022-2023 school budget.

Curriculum Committee: Rachel DeGroat reported that the committee met with a BOCES employee to discuss a CTE program that would be tailored to our communities needs.

Sports Merger Committee: Rachel DeGroat and Jake Sauer-Jones will be on the committee with Minerva to discuss the merger. This committee will meet in January.

Updates:

Mike Markwica reported:

COVID-19 updates: We were out of school for five days because our numbers peaked after the Thanksgiving Holiday. As of this meeting, our COVID 19 numbers were down. Most quarantines are due to family connections.

One Call Now: Mike Markwica explained that the One-Call Now system has been used to inform families of each COVID case involving a school member. Parents have stated this phone call has been causing anxiety. He would like to stop the One-Call Now reports and use the school's website to

keep parents notified of new cases.

Activities: Mike Markwica stated that we were hosting our first basketball game tonight and our first concert in two years next week. Mike Sharp asked why we put a limit on the number of people who can attend the concert but no limits at the basketball game.

Both Heather Flanagan and Mike Markwica stated the numbers at a basketball game are considerably lower than at a concert. Mike Markwica also went on to explain that all the True North superintendents agreed to the same plan regarding indoor basketball and having no limit for spectators. Only one school changed what was agreed on after the meeting. The high school concert will have more in attendance so this sets a precedence for the other concerts coming up.

Heather Flanagan reported that we had a guest speaker on November 15th who talked to the students regarding bullying. Joe San Antonio, our newest school counselor is pushing into classrooms for anti-bullying lessons.

Heather Flanagan also provided a handout with the first quarter grade reports.

Other Business:

Tom Ordway asked how we were doing on hiring a new head custodian and the radio ad Mike Markwica said we would run it.

Erwin Morris stated that the Student Council met and sent a letter to the Administration that was to be shared with the BOE members. He reported that no one on the Board has received the letter and it has been two weeks. He stated that student letters should not be ignored and students should be able to make suggestions on policy. The only feedback the students received was the Advisor influenced the students. We should not ignore this. He stated that someone discouraged the students from sending the email to the Administration.

Mike Markwica asked who discouraged the students, but Erwin Morris would not say.

Heather Flanagan replied that she has met twice with the Student Council, they were not being ignored. The issue was being looked

into but there was not a solution yet.

Tom Ordway stated that if there is someone we want to hire for a position, we should think about raising the salary. If the applicant wants more we may agree to it. Mike Sharp stated that the Board needs to be involved in this discussion. Tom Ordway then stated he over-spoke and it was the Administration's job to hire and the Boards' job to approve the candidate.

Adjournment:

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 9:09 seconded by Jake Sauer-Jones and carried.

District Clerk: Cindy Homer

_____ Date: _____