

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

Board Members Present:

Tara Sears
Tom Ordway
Sarah Williams
Erwin Morris
Mike Sharp

Board Member Absent:

Rachel DeGroat
Jake Sauer-Jones

- Call to Order:** Tara Sears opened the meeting at 7:04 with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of Minutes:** Tom Ordway made a MOTION to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2021 Board of Education Meeting, seconded by Mike Sharp and carried.
- CSE/CPSE/504:** Tom Ordway made a MOTION to accept the CSE/CPSE/504 reports, second by Mike Sharp and carried.
- Financial:** Mike Sharp asked Larry Ringer if it was difficult obtaining some items due to COVID 19 and Larry Ringer reported that they have had no trouble except with the bid on food delivery. He explained that since there was not any company who applied for the bid, we are using the State bid with Sysco Foods along with Minerva and Newcomb. He said the company is working with us due to our small volume.
- Discussion/Motions:** Tom Ordway made a MOTION to accept Elizabeth Dague, a fourth-grader, as a tuition student for the 2021-2022 school year, seconded by Mike Sharp and carried.
- Sarah Williams made a MOTION to accept the resignation of John

Lamela as Pre-K-12th grade School Counselor effective immediately, 1, 2021, seconded by Tom Ordway and carries. Mike Sharp stated he was disappointed and Erwin Morris asked if we had any candidates. Mike Markwica stated we did and the interview process was being started.

Sarah Williams made a MOTION to accept the resignation of Karen Lamela as Family and Consumer Science Teacher effective immediately, seconded by Tom Ordway and carried.

Mike Markwica started the DISCUSSION of bussing by explaining we are in need of drivers and because of that we are doing double runs. Mike Markwica and Heather Flanagan were picking up students in the vans to help with the driver shortage. Mike Sharp asked if bussing was the reason for the sports change with Modified players leaving school early to travel to Minerva daily. Mike Markwica stated it was.

Mike Sharp stated he was upset by this new practice and reminded the Board that the merge was based on a 50/50 split. Mike Markwica stated he would meet again with Minerva to discuss this further. Erwin Morris stated that there are no chaperones on the bus if a Minerva bus is dropping our students off at school after a game.

Sarah Williams asked if Administration could talk to Minerva about the lack of changing space for our players. Mike Markwica stated he would.

Mike Markwica stated that the new plan for modified soccer players allow them to get the late bus for a ride home. If we have later practices then parents would have to pick up student-athletes daily.

Erwin Morris stated that parents were not notified on Friday about this new change and Heather Flanagan stated that it was not finalized until today (Monday. September 13th).

Updates:

Heather Flanagan reported that the start of the school year was running very positive. There were a few bumps but students and staff are seeing positive results.

Mike Markwica stated that the Elementary Coordinator, Kim McKenna reported that the students are needing very little adjustment to coming back.

Other Business:

Tom Ordway thanked the bus drivers for putting in extra hours and their dedication to the school. He thanked the kitchen staff for the smooth transition to having meals in the cafetorium again, and the custodians for all their hard work at keeping our building clean and disinfected. He also thanked the secretarial staff and nonteachers for their professionalism. He also thanked teachers for all their hard work as well as the administration for listening to the concerns of the Board as well as all the extra hard work they were doing over the summer and stated he appreciated the teachers, staff, and all substitutes for coming back.

Sarah Williams thanked the administration for fixing the problem with busses and morning drop-off. She also asked if students could arrive earlier than 7:45. Mike Markwica stated that by contract, teachers do not start their day until 7:45 and he does not want students in halls for safe health practices.

Erwin Morris asked if the Department of Health mandated testing for students and staff members. Mike Markwica stated that we were not testing students but we are testing all staff weekly unless they show proof of vaccination.

Visitor Comments:

Andy Bennett stated that the District needs to come up with a different incentive to hire bus drivers. Health insurance is not enough. He suggested offering higher pay if the employee opts out of having insurance and both Mike Markwica and Larry Ringer reported that by law we have to offer it. Mr. Bennett also stated he was not happy with the communication with parents regarding sports. He asked for a daily update on our FaceBook page. Heather Flanagan stated she will work on that. Mike Markwica said he will talk to our AD Zachary Pierson about setting up a sports Facebook page that could be linked with the schools.

Adjournment:

Sarah Williams made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 8:19, seconded by Tom Ordway and carried.

District Clerk: Cindy Homer

Date: _____