

**ADIRONDACK CENTRAL SCHOOL
BOONVILLE ELEMENTARY
BOONVILLE, NY 13309**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – March 12, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT	OTHERS PRESENT
<p>John Abdo - President Richard Gallo – Vice-President Sandra Beasock Mark Emery Michael Kramer Doug Muha Almanda Sturtevant</p> <p><u>MEMBERS EXCUSED:</u></p>	<p>Edward Niznik, Superintendent; Sharon Cihocki, Business Administrator; Michelle Freeman, District Clerk; Cameron Teachout, Director of Facilities III; Brian Maneen, Transportation Supervisor; Dan Roberts, Asst. HS Principal; Heidi Smith, HS Principal; Jill Rowlands-Will, MS Principal; Jill Schafer, WL Principal/Director of Technology; Wendy Keehfus-Jones, BE Principal; Wendy Foye, FPT Principal/Spec. Ed Director; Linda Guernsey, Director of Curriculum; Marie Yager, Lesa Wilbert, ATA; Richard Chrisman, ATA; Mary Healt, Linda Smith, Rod Smith, Joe Ritter, Rick Ritter, Shannon Johnson, Becky Pisani, Nancy Kardash, Gail Haile, Gene Peck, Rhonda Peck, Edward Cleary, Matt Benson, Jamie Benson, Melissa Miller, Shannon Brach, Wendy Muller, Sam Krantz, Trish Okusko, Shereen Newman, Bruce Brach, Lisa Peters, Elise Bourgeois, Charles Rogen, Sharon Gillett, Dennis Gillett, Darlene DeFazio, Aaron DeFazio, Amy Neary, Tasha Ritter, Brittany Smith, Shelley Entwistle, Loraine Murwin, Christina Havens, Kendra Hopsicker, Jill Hoke, Kristina Noto, Jackie Layton, Sandy Joslin, Miriam Dowd, Ed Moose, Lori Lee, Steven Fox, Elizabeth Fox, Kelly Backer, Roy Johnson, Kathy Hennessey, Nicole James, Erica Ready, Kyle Ready, TJ Entwistle, Robert Healt, Beau Zanker, Kelly Zanker, Joseph Kirk</p>

At 6:00 p.m. Board President, John Abdo called the meeting to order.

Mrs. Beasock moved and Mr. Gallo seconded; carried 7-0; to go into executive session to discuss contract negotiations. Mr. Niznik was appointed Clerk Pro-Tem in the absence of the District Clerk.

Board members returned from executive session at 6:58 p.m. Mr. Kramer moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 7-0; to go to regular session.

At 7:01 p.m. Mr. Abdo led the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

PRESIDENT’S MOMENT:

Congratulations to 2016 Adirondack graduate, Derek Spann, Wrestling Champion. 4th graduate to qualify. Mr. Abdo encouraged everyone to check out the HS Musical the Addam’s Family next Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Tickets are on sale now.

PRESENTATION:

Mr. Niznik gave a power-point presentation on Elementary Data Consolidation Consideration. The data included:

- District Enrollment Trend – Showing enrollment history and the declining trend.
- Instructional Staffing Reductions – Since 2005 to present.
- Current 2018-2019 class sizes at BE 357, WL 139, FPT 79.
- Projected 2019-2020 class sizes at BE with Forestport consolidation 393, WL 136.

- Effects on Academics no direct correlation with NYS Assessments or reading levels, comparable performance averages across grade levels regardless of class size, instruction time gained with fewer traveling staff members, balanced class sizes across grade levels, increased collaboration for faculty.
- Transportation – reconfigured with consolidation – Forestport students picked up at 6:28 a.m. compared to 6:07 a.m., single bus runs in AM/PM, fewer miles on buses, save on fuel costs, PM drop-off for MS/HS students no longer includes transitioning Forestport students.
- Cost of Operations & Maintenance of Buildings:

BE: \$165,267 5-yr. average cost	WL: \$119,980	FPT: \$92,002
103,878 sq. footage	43,873	19,700
\$1.59 cost per sq. footage	\$2.73	\$4.67
- Financial Impact:

Salaries/Benefits:	\$494,380
Operations	\$ 92,002
Materials/Supplies	\$ 8,210
BOCES Svs	\$ 28,341
Subs/Contractual/ Transportation	<u>\$ 44,103</u>
	\$667,036

- Financial Considerations: Tax Cap, State Aid, Fund Balance, Yearly Operational Expense Increases, State Mandates

BUDGET:

Mrs. Cihocki, Business Administrator, went over the following:

2019-2020 Budget Draft 3 – No significant modifications from Draft 2 other than curtains on auditorium stage, music department needs to purchase a French horn, SRO/SPO Program – two SPO's have not started yet. No additions in staffing, anticipated health insurance increase.

Revenue Draft 3 – Modified from Draft 2 to reflect changes in expenditures. State aid numbers given to us seem solid. Tax cap calculation is 4.3%, tax levy 7.1% increase.

Board scheduled to adopt the budget at the March 26th meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Gene Peck – substitute bus driver – stated he is concerned about kids being picked up at 6:10, 6:20 in the morning and won't get home until 4:30 in the afternoon. Asked when decision is going to be made. Doesn't think timer period is fair. Knows Board is just doing their job, but he would like to see a vote.

Miriam Doud – parent of two children who attend Forestport stated you do see a difference in a class of 7 students versus a class of 17 students. Look at current National Jr. Honor Society members, a good portion are from Forestport. Travel time is a concern. Pre-K numbers probably decreased because it is only 2 hours a day. Would like to see it be extended to a full day. This decision should be done by a vote. Personally she would pay more for child's education.

Ryan Arce – asked if the class goes over 32 kids what does the Board do? Mr. Niznik explained the Board would split the classes into two. Mr. Arce feels the less students in the classroom makes for a better education.

Loraine Murwin – granddaughter will attend Forestport and the amount of time she will be on the bus should be illegal. Are there regulations as to how long students can be on the bus? Not fair Boonville Elementary kids have a short ride and Forestport Elementary kids have a longer ride. Not enough thought put into this, serious injustice. Don't close the school, she is scared for the kids to be on the bus that long.

Rick Ritter – Forestport resident – stated it all comes down to the numbers. Town of Forestport gives 40% to the District. Doesn't understand when they give that amount of money why the Board wants to close the school. It will kill the community. It is an injustice. Should be put to a public referendum.

Nicole James – parent – stated the numbers are a little skewed as not all rooms are used for students. Asked what the bus capacity is going to be? She would not be comfortable if her child was on the bus with a capacity of 44. Board members should be ashamed of themselves for taking it upon themselves to close this building.

Samantha Krantz – parent – stated kids would have to get on the bus 2 hours earlier and we want to push these kids into bigger classes. She went to Inlet which is still open with 14 students, all on honor roll. Her son has his needs met every day in the smaller class. This transition is not good for any of them.

Steve Fox – bus driver for 12 years at Adirondack working under different supervisors, always short of drivers. His son is in 7th grade and he requested he attend Forestport for the small class sizes (he should have attended BE). He knows there are ways to override the tax cap. He recommends to the Board there are other ways to save money. There could be more students at Forestport if the Board did some redistricting.

Kathy Hennessey – parent- stated she is emotional about this. She asked if the numbers in the power point are realistic and not hypothetical. We are one district, all of our kids have the same issues. If they come together they meet different kids. The Board keeps programs going, it's a hard decision. There needs to be balance district wide. The teachers rise to the occasion and kids adapt.

Bruce Brach – thanked the Board for keeping cool, it is not easy. His advice, don't overreact, come up with a long-term plan. When he was on the Board the district put money into a fund for the consolidation to one complex at the HS/MS. Bring WL, BE, FPT together to one complex.

Ed Cleary – Forestport resident for 3 years – he inherited two school-age children. His education was in a one room school house. Forestport is a small community. We know everyone. We make sure our kids have everything. We have a love for our teachers and school. Closing the school will really harm our community. He googled NYS Assessments and Forestport takes a lot of pride. You couldn't find that elsewhere. Don't take away their way of life.

Amy Weaver – mother of three, one at Forestport, stated she is not originally from here, but one thing they looked at was the school. She is deeply saddened as a member of the community and stakeholder. The Board should be looking at totality when it comes to school consolidation, students do worse. She would like to see the school remain open and how this data was computed. She is concerned about school violence. Forestport Elementary has a connection with their students. She asked the Board to consider coming together to form a committee to look at the data.

Public Forum ended at 8:22 p.m.

Mrs. Beasock left the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mrs. Smith – High School Principal:

- National Honor Society held a successful Blood Drive with the American Red Cross.
- Conducting testing for ELA MVCC course for next year.
- Chromebooks have been distributed to 9th and 10th graders.
- Students are working hard on the HS Musical the Addam’s Family.
- April 6th will be the Annual Garage Sale.

Mr. Roberts – Asst. High School Principal:

- Students have been practicing after school, nights and weekends for the HS Musical.
- SAT prep.
- MVCC will be visiting seniors for Instant Admission Day.

Mrs. Guernsey – Director of Curriculum, Instruction Assessment & Data:

- February wrapped up grade level meetings. Professional Development focused on building content knowledge.
- Attended a Data meeting on Data Security to protect student data.
- Professional Development for new teachers in Effective Teaching Session II coming up in March.

Mrs. Rowlands-Will – Middle School Principal:

- March is national nutrition month.
- Art Dept. is holding “Make Art Monday” on Monday evenings.
- 6th graders went to BREIA for snow shoeing.
- Congratulations to Mr. Cotton and Math Cat students for their win.
- Music students will participating in the Jr. High All-County at Westmoreland HS.
- MS Student Council held its spring dance.
- Mr. Jokajty of the Boonville Elks, awarded students who participated in the Patriotism contest.

Mrs. Keehfus-Jones – Boonville Elementary Principal:

- Back in October the Young Writers Association chose 20 students to publish in a book.
- 5th graders met with School Lunch Manager, Mr. Ballister and talked about lunch portion sizes, once a month they will get to pick a lunch.
- February 28th the Jump Rope for Heart was held, students learned about the health benefits of exercise.
- Gertrude Hawk PTA Fundraiser was held raising enough money to purchase school supplies for students.

Mrs. Foye – Forestport Principal/Director of Special Education:

- Forestport Library Club presented Treasure Island.
- Forestport Elementary Library received a donation from the Levan family in memory of Beverly Peterson.
- Mr. Jokajty of the Boonville Elks awarded our Patriotism contest writer winners.

Mrs. Schafer – West Leyden Elementary Principal:

- 5th graders will be visiting the Recycling Center in Utica as part of their project-based learning about recycling.
- Chromebooks have been rolled out.
- As part of PARP a STEAM Family Night was held with lots of activities. Well attended.
- For the 100th day celebration students collected food items and donated them.
- Two students from WL were winners of the fishing license drawing.
- Students participated in a music instrument project with Mrs. Muller.

Mr. Maneen – Transportation Supervisor:

- State DOT claims Route 294 is their first priority this spring.
- In-house training is being brought back to the Transportation Department, used to go outside the department for it.

Mr. Teachout – Director of Facilities III:

- We have acquired a new sander for one of the trucks. Now we can hit areas earlier or just prior to events if need be.
- Capital project going out to bid later this week.
- Looking at equipment, going through and consolidating, some we may not need anymore.
- Last capital project Johnson Controls made corrections, now ready to train at no cost to the district.

Ms. Lauzon – Director of PE, Health & Athletics: No report.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mr. Muha moved and Mr. Kramer, carried 6-0; the Board approved the following by a consensus motion:

Minutes:

February 26, 2019 Special Meeting

Teaching and Non-teaching Substitutes:

Teaching:

>> William Copeland – Substitute Teacher, Tutor (MS, non-certified)
pending background clearance

Field Trip Requests:

WL 5 th graders to the Regional Landfill in Boonville	3/14/19
WL 5 th graders to Recycling Center in Utica	3/20/19
HS Guidance students to Hart’s Hill Inn	3/21/19
Robotics class to Town of Webb School	3/25/19
Elementary All-County students to Remsen CSD	4/5 & 4/6
8 th graders to Watertown Career Jam	5/16/19
FPT 3 rd graders to Moose River Farm in Old Forge	6/6/19
BE & FPT 2 nd graders to Billy Beez in New Hartford	6/7/19
FPT Kindergartners & 1 st graders to The MOST Museum	6/12/19
Boonville 4 th graders to Uncle Sam Boat tours	6/13/19

Building Use Requests:

ACS Related Professionals Union to use the MS Library	3/14/19
HS Guidance to use the MS gym for SAT’s	4/9/19
Enchanted Forest/Water Safari to use the pool, locker room, 1 classroom	4/15 - 4/18/19
Boonville Girls’ Softball to use the HS and BE softball fields	4/15 - 6/30/19

REGULAR AGENDA:

Mr. Emery and Mr. Gallo seconded, carried 6-0; the Board approved the following:

Bus Driver Resignation:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepted the resignation of Mr. Matthew Roberts, Bus Driver, effective March 15, 2019.

Teacher Retirement:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepted the resignation for the purpose of retirement from Mrs. Ruth Domago, AIS Teacher, effective June 27, 2019.

Permanent Position - FSH:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appointed Mr. Kevin Fox, 3- hour Food Service Helper to a permanent position following the successful completion of his probationary period effective March 1, 2019.

Transfer of Funds:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the following transfer of funds:

Amount	From Account	To Account	Reason
\$6,000	5510.210.00	5510.200.00	Purchase Tire Changer
\$18,000	2110.400.01	1621.400	Day Automation – Cameras
\$15,000	2110.400.18	1621.400	\$33,000 total

Volunteer Coaches & Scorekeepers:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve the following volunteer coaches and scorekeepers for the spring sports season:

Volunteer Coaches:

Softball: Dom Ventiquattro Courtney Foll Rachel Hitt Susie Case	Baseball: RJ Lewis Golf: RJ Lewis Mickey Fauvelle	Track: RJ Lewis Delaney Dorrity
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Score Keepers:

Softball: Crickets Jokajtys Lynn Ventiquattro Jessica Ventiquattro	Baseball: Laura Puleo Mike Gaylord Carl Martin	Dom & Lynne Ventiquattro
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Quiz Bowl Trip:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education granted approval to the ACS Quiz Bowl Team to travel to Chicago, Illinois for the 2019 NAQT Small School National Championship, May 3rd – May 5th, 2019.

Surplus Equipment/Books:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education declared equipment and/or textbooks from the District as surplus and be disposed of in the most expedient manner as per the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.

Committee on Special Education:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, the Board granted approval for placement of students.

Budget Transfers:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the budget transfers for February 2019.

Jeff-Lewis BOCES Board Nomination:

Be It Resolved, the Adirondack Board of Education nominated Mr. Michael Kramer for a seat on the Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton-Herkimer-Oneida Board of Cooperative Education Services from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION {Enclosures}:

➤ Policy: **Mrs. Sturtevant moved and Mr. Muha seconded, carried 6-0; the Board adopted the following policy:**
2nd Reading:

- Child Abuse & Maltreatment, 7530

➤ Warrants:

- General Fund Warrant # 10
- Lunch Fund Warrant #8
- Special Aid Fund Warrant #6
- Capital Fund Warrant #6

➤ Treasurer's Report – December 2018

➤ Draft 2 of 2019-2020 Instructional Calendar

➤ January 2019 Regents Results

➤ Generous donation of photography related items to the photography class

➤ Jeff-Lewis BOCES Annual Dinner Meeting Invite > Wednesday, April 10, 2019, BOCES in Watertown. Tour at 5:00 p.m. with buffet dinner to follow at 6:00 p.m. Budget presentation is at 7:15 p.m.

HANDOUTS

- District Calendar for March 2019.
- Enrollment Figures as of March 1, 2019.
- Claims Auditor Report February 2019.
- Conferences Approved by Superintendent.

At 8:45 p.m. Mrs. Sturtevant moved and Mr. Muha seconded, carried 6-0; to go into executive session to discuss ATA negotiations.

Michelle Freeman, District Clerk

Board members returned from executive session at 10:30 p.m. Mr. Kramer moved and Mr. Muha seconded; carried 6-0, to go into regular session.

At 10:31 p.m. Mr. Gallo moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 6-0, the Board adjourned to the Special Meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 in the Boonville Elementary cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.

Edward S. Niznik, Clerk Pro-Tem