

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

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES – March 26, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT	OTHERS PRESENT
John Abdo - President Richard Gallo – Vice-President Sandra Beasock Mark Emery Doug Muha Almanda Sturtevant	Edward Niznik, Superintendent, Sharon Cihocki, Business Administrator, Michelle Freeman, District Clerk, Jill Rowlands-Will, MS Principal; Linda Guernsey, Director of Curriculum; Brian Maneen, Transportation Supervisor; Wendy Keehfus-Jones, BE Principal; Jill Schafer, WL Principal; Marie Yager, Miriam Doud, Alicia Morales, Linda Smith, Rod Smith, Tracy Northrup, Tyler Terry, Rebecca Jackson, Cheri Pulquerio, Kelly Hoehn, Erica Ready, Kyle Ready, Shannon Johnson, Edward Cleary, Bruce Brach, Shannon Brach, Gene Peck, Rhonda Peck, Samantha Krantz, Amy Weaver, Richard Chrisman, ATA; Vicky Palen, FPT PTA; Roy Johnson, Marianne Johnson, Becky Pisani, Nancy Kardash, Michelle Lisowski, TJ Lisowski, Nancy Combs, Matt Benson, Jamie Benson, Jessica Petrusis, Joan Sturtevant, Disgruntled Tax Payer, Sandra Joslin, Mark Joslin, Donna Sweeney, Tyler Bourgeois, Joseph Kirk, Michael Muller, Amanda Jasek, Mary Healt, Nicole James, Charles Rogan, Jill Hoke, Melissa Miller, Kristina Noto, Lori Lee
<u>MEMBERS EXCUSED:</u> Michael Kramer	

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

Mr. Muha moved and Mr. Gallo seconded; carried 6-0; to go into executive session to discuss the employment history of particular personnel. Mr. Niznik was appointed Clerk Pro-Tem in the absence of the District Clerk.

Board members returned from executive session at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Emery moved and Mrs. Beasock seconded, carried 6-0; to go to regular session.

At 7:06 p.m. Mr. Abdo led the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

PRESIDENT’S MOMENT:

Mr. Abdo thanked everyone for coming.

BUDGET:

Mrs. Cihocki went over the BOCES Capital Project with the Board. First project in 30 years. Adirondack’s share is \$1.1 million in two installments and we will receive BOCES aid back in the year the debt service payments are made. She went over the amortization schedules for the financing.

Mrs. Cihocki went over Draft 4 of the 2019-20 Budget. Modification from Draft 3 is the BOCES Debt Services. Additionally, health insurance has been decreased to reflect the 6.5% increase in that code. The tax increase is currently 6.4%.

Mrs. Cihocki went over Draft 5 of the 2019-20 Budget. This draft has the expenses related to Forestport Elementary taken out. The tax levy for this draft is .1%. Mr. Gallo said he would like to see what the taxes would look like per \$100,000 household if Forestport closed. Mrs. Cihocki explained the closure savings in the Budget. Other options to make up the \$600,000 in the budget would be cut in salary and benefits, combine classes at Boonville Elementary, compact the Master Schedule at the HS/MS.

Mrs. Beasock asked are we monetarily supporting Forestport for the right reasons. Mr. Emery stated it is not fair to the other students of the district to put equity into Forestport and then cut programs. Mr. Gallo stated combining classes at Boonville Elementary would bring class size to about 24 students.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Bruce Brach gave a handout to the Board referring to the school year of 1989 when there were 4.5 administrators with more students. There are currently 8 administrators with less students. There was no Buildings & Grounds administrator, no HS Asst. Principal or no full-time Athletic Director. What are we gaining, what are we risking by closing Forestport. He stated he knows Mrs. Cihocki is good at finding money and can find how to come up with the money to keep Forestport open.

Marie Yager stated her daughter graduated with high honors and she went to Forestport. The Board has to think of the students and not the money. The smarter the classroom, the smarter the students.

Miriam Doud spoke about equity and class sizes. There are many students in Boonville that want to go to Forestport. There could be a centralized pick up and drop off point. They know this is inevitable, but want to be more involved in the process and want to work together.

Amy Weaver spoke about the mental health and nurses. There are recommendations a school nurse can impact a student’s ability to learn. In neighboring districts there are 3 nurses for 700 students. Recommendation is 1 nurse per 250 students. No evaluation or needs assessment of our nurses has been done.

Mr. Gallo explained he has a son with special needs at Boonville Elementary and the nurses now and previous have done a fine job meeting his needs.

Donna Sweeney stated as elementary school students, they are too young to ride the bus for that long from Forestport to Boonville. Some of the lines have been changed as to where students attend. The people of Forestport feel disrespected as to how this was all handled.

Public forum ended at 7:30 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mr. Muha moved and Mrs. Beasock seconded, carried 6-0; the Board approved the following:

Minutes:

Minutes from the March 12, 2019 Regular meeting.

Non-Teaching Substitute:

>> Matthew Roberts – substitute bus driver
 pending background clearance

Building Use Requests:

FPT PTA/PARP to use the gym and art room	3/27/19
AYSO Soccer to use the HS & K5 soccer fields	4/1 – 6/30/19
Adirondack ATA to use the HS lecture room	4/2/19
Class of 2020 to use the HS cafeteria and A-wing parking lot	5/4/19
Center Stage Studio of Dance	5/17, 5/18, 5/19/19
BE PTA to use room 303	5/17-5/24/19
6 th Grade Club to use the MS cafeteria, MS gym and HS gym	6/10/19
Upstate Aquatics to use the pool, locker rooms and classroom	6/20,6/21,6/22/19

Field Trip Requests:

Tech students to MBCI/ABC in Westmoreland	3/28/19
Forestport Elementary students to Billy Beez in New Hartford	3/29/19

Mrs. Beasock moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 6-0; the Board tabled the vote regarding Forestport Elementary to a Special meeting to be held on April 4, 2019.

Forestport Consolidation Resolution:

Resolved that, the Adirondack Central School Board of Education adopted the following resolution:

Deliberation to approve the closing of Forestport Elementary School and Relocation of k-5 students to Boonville Elementary

Background Information :

The Board of Education and Administration have been investigating and researching opportunities for cost saving plans to support the long-term fiscal health of Adirondack Central School District, while supporting the programs and services for our students. Based on a declining student enrollment, declining State and Federal aid, increase in expenditures, increase use of our fund balance, and a 2% tax cap, the recommendation at this time is to close Forestport Elementary, and relocate Forestport K-5 students to Boonville Elementary School.

WHERE AS, the Board of Education of Adirondack Central School District has carefully studied and examined the education, financial and facilities functions associated with an efficient operation of the Forestport Elementary School, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has reviewed the current and projected pupil enrollment, the prospective need for such building; ramifications of such closure upon the community; the initial cost and savings from such closing; and the potential disposability of the closed school; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined a need to consolidate its operations into fewer buildings to preserve resources for education programs; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined Boonville Elementary School can accommodate all K-5 from Forestport Elementary School: and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education determines that the Forestport Elementary School located at 10275 State Route 28, Forestport, New York will be closed effective June 30, 2019 and be it further

RESOLVED that Forestport Elementary School’s K-5 students be relocated to Boonville Elementary School effective June 30, 2019, and be it further

RESOLVED that the Superintendent is directed to establish and thereafter, communicate all necessary plans to facilitate a smooth transition for the relocation of students and reassignment of personnel, and upon further approval of the Board to implement the same; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Superintendent is directed to proceed with all necessary plans for the sale or disposal of the current Forestport Elementary School building at 10275 State Route 28, Forestport, New York, and to advise the Board accordingly, subject to the requirements for the disposal of unneeded real property as contained in the Education law of New York State.

Poll Vote

Mrs. Beasock moved and Mr. Gallo seconded, carried 6-0; the Board adopted the following resolution:

Solar Energy Tax Exemption:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopted the following resolution prohibiting tax exemptions under the real property tax law:

WHEREAS, Section 487(2) of the New York State Real Property Tax Law as enacted prior to December 31, 2017 authorizes an exemption from real property taxes for certain alternative energy projects, including a solar energy system, wind energy system, or a farm waste energy system approved in accordance with the provisions of section 487 of the Real Property Tax Law;

WHEREAS, Section 487(2) of the New York State Real Property Tax Law as amended and effective on and after January 1, 2018 authorizes an exemption from real property taxes for certain alternative energy projects, including a solar energy system, wind energy system, farm waste energy system, micro-hydroelectric energy system, fuel cell electric generating system, micro-combined heat and power generating equipment system, electric energy storage equipment, and electric energy storage system approved in accordance with the provisions of section 487 of the Real Property Tax Law;

WHEREAS, Section 487(8) of the New York State Real Property Tax Law also provides that, notwithstanding the authorized exemption, a board of education of a school district may adopt a resolution to provide that no such exemption shall be applicable within its jurisdiction with respect to any energy generation or storage system constructed subsequent to the effective date of such resolution;

WHEREAS, this Board has determined that no such exemption should be applicable within its jurisdiction with respect to any energy generation or storage system constructed in accordance with the provisions under section 487 of the Real Property Tax Law as identified above subsequent hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board as follows:

Section 1. This Board hereby declares that, pursuant to New York State Real Property Tax Law 487(8), no exemption under New York State Real Property Tax Law 487(2) shall be applicable within its jurisdiction with respect to any energy generation or storage system constructed in accordance with the provisions under section 487 of the Real Property Tax Law constructed after the effective date of this resolution.

Section 2. Upon adoption of this resolution, the District Clerk is hereby directed to file copies of this resolution with the President of the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority, the New York State Tax Department Office of Counsel, and the County’s office of Real Property Tax.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Poll Vote: Mr. Emery, Mrs. Beasock, Mr. Abdo, Mr. Gallo, Mrs. Sturtevant, Mr. Muha - 6 Yes 0 No; 1 Absent – Mr. Kramer

Mr. Muha moved and Mrs. Beasock seconded, carried 6-0; the Board approved the following:

Capital Project Bids:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education awarded the following contract bids for the capital project:

Contract	Company Name	Lowest Bid Amount
General Construction	Beebe Construction Corp, - Utica	\$1,950,000
Electrical Contract	S.C. Spencer Electric, Inc – Constableville	\$ 542,580
Site Contract	Adhan Piping, Co – Cortland	\$2,812,500
Roofing Contract	EV Roofing & Construction Supply Corp. - Westmoreland	\$1,329,000

Voting Machines:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board agreed to enter into a Temporary Use Agreement with the Oneida County Board of Elections to use the Optical Scan Voting Systems owned by the County for the School Budget Vote on May 21, 2019.

Scorekeeper:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved Mrs. Brittany Lewis as a scorekeeper for the 2019 baseball season.

Surplus Equipment:

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.

INFO & DISCUSSION:

- Draft 3 of the 2019-2020 Instructional Calendar
- Reminder: Jeff-Lewis BOCES Annual Dinner Meeting April 10, 2019. Reservations by April 3rd.

At 7:50 p.m. Mrs. Beasock moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 6-0; to go into executive session to discuss the employment history of particular personnel.

Michelle Freeman, District Clerk

Board members returned from executive session at 9:10 p.m. Mr. Emery moved and Mrs. Beasock seconded; carried 6-0, to go into regular session.

At 9:11 p.m. Mrs. Beasock moved and Mr. Muha seconded, carried 6-0; the Board adjourned to the Special Meeting to be held on Thursday, April 4, 2019 in the Boonville Elementary cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.

Edward S. Niznik, Clerk Pro-Tem