

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

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING – October 29, 2020**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>OTHERS PRESENT</b>
Michael Kramer, President	Edward Niznik, Superintendent
Almanda Sturtevant, Vice-President	Sharon Cihocki, Business Administrator
Bruce Brach	Michelle Freeman, District Clerk
Mark Emery	Richard Chrisman, ATA; Kristy McGrath
Richard Gallo	
Joan Ingersoll	
Doug Muha	
<b><u>MEMBERS ABSENT:</u></b>	

Mr. Kramer called the special meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and led the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

**PRESIDENT’S MOMENT:**

Thank you to Mr. Niznik, administrators and school nurses who participated in a COVID situation. Hats off to them for their hard work.

Mr. Brach stated we were lucky it was a Friday and we could do contact tracing otherwise we would have had to shut down.

Mr. Niznik stated until you hear from the Department of Health that it is a confirmed positive you can’t do much so we had to wait for them to tell us and get our process started, worked through the weekend. There is a lot of background information they need about the person and their contacts. It is a big deal to make sure we have and keep track of seating charts in the classrooms and on the buses.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

No one for public forum.

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**Professional Staff:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Mr. Emery moved and Mr. Muha seconded, carried 6-1; the Board approved the following Professional Staff:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Type of Appointment</i>	<i>Duration of Appointment</i>	<i>Certification</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>Rate of Pay</i>
Kristy McGrath	Administrator	Probationary	3-years	Permanent	11/30/20	\$93,500

*\*“This expiration date is tentative and conditional only. Except to the extent required by the applicable provision of Section 3012 of the Education Law, in order to be granted tenure the principal must receive composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law of either effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years, and if the teacher or principal (as applicable) receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of probationary period the teacher or principal (as applicable) shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.”\**

Mr. Brach stated the following: My vote on this recommendation is not a vote for the person, but rather a vote for the position. In our External Auditor’s Report, we learned that our district ended the 2018-2019 school year with a fund balance of \$4,426,947. We ended the 2019-2020 school year with a net position of -\$1,410,817. We also learned that Other Post Employment Benefits liabilities increased by an amount of \$10,795,149 or 13.2% to a value of \$92,073,352. It is generally accepted that districts will be losing a portion of their state aid. The question is what will the percentage be? Some have suggested that this number could be as high as 20%. When you consider our Basic Formula projections at \$16,767,466, we could see a reduction in funding of over \$3,000,000.

When you look at the elements of a district balance sheet, Accounts Payable (with the capital project), Accounts Receivable (reductions in state and federal aid), Assets (reduced reserve funds over the last 5 years) and Liabilities (Long term debt and OPEB liabilities), for fiscal reasons, I do not support the addition of this position and feel we need to be spending more time preparing a plan that assesses what cuts might need to be made based on assumed reductions in funding.

Mr. Emery stated he previously voted against the contract increases due to COVID. He agrees with Mr. Brach to a point, but feels this position effects the direct learning of our students and now with remote learning feels this position will help our students and teachers.

Mr. Niznik welcomed Mrs. McGrath to Adirondack.

**Long-Term Substitute:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Mr. Brach moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 7-0; the Board approved following:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Type of Appointment</i>	<i>Certification Status</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>Rate of Pay</i>
Erika Kistowski	School Counselor	Long-Term Substitute	Provisional	11/16/2020	B5.5, Step 1

Mr. Niznik spoke to the Board about extra help being provided to students after school, quite a few students have stayed to receive help. Safety protocol is being followed.

Mr. Niznik also advised the Board that once Extra-Curriculars were approved at the last meeting advisors started their google meetings, fundraising, etc. which is very positive.

Mr. Niznik stated Mrs. Foye, CSE Director, has had very positive comments from parents during their meetings. She wanted to get feedback from more parents so an Elementary Parent Committee was formed for the purpose of getting feedback and information on ways the district can best support families during this public health emergency. The first meeting was held with 7 participants both in person and virtually with more participants scheduled for the next meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Kramer thanked Mrs. Cihocki for submitting the “No Kid Hungry Grant” which awarded Adirondack \$32,500 to help maximize our child nutrition program.

Mr. Niznik stated that three sports meetings have been held. One thing being discussed is how indoor sports are definitely going to be a challenge. Section III has sent out a survey to school districts to fill out regarding winter sports.

At 7:41 p.m. Mr. Muha moved and Mr. Brach seconded, carried 7-0, to go into executive session to discuss negotiations.

Board members returned from executive session 9:56 p.m. Mr. Muha moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded; carried 7-0; to go into regular session.

At 9:57 p.m. Mr. Emery moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded, carried 7-0; to adjourn to the Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at Boonville Elementary.

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**Michelle Freeman, District Clerk**