

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – February 11, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Michael Kramer - President Almanda Sturtevant – Vice-President Bruce Brach Mark Emery Richard Gallo Doug Muha	Edward Niznik, Superintendent, Sharon Cihocki, Business Administrator, Michelle Freeman, District Clerk, Heidi Smith, HS Principal; Jill Rowlands-Will, MS Principal; Jill Schafer, WL Principal; Linda Guernsey, Dir. of Curriculum, Instruction; Wendy Foye, Director of Spec. Ed; Wendy Keehfus-Jones, BE Principal; Cynthia Lauzon, Athletic Director; Cameron Teachout, Director of Facilities III; Brian Maneen, Transportation Supervisor; Marie Yager, Emma Hennessey, Suzanne Ferris, Richard Chrisman-ATA, Jenifer Gaylord, Rob Hennessey
<u>MEMBERS EXCUSED:</u> John Abdo	

At 6:07 p.m. Board President, Mr. Kramer called the meeting to order.

Mr. Emery moved and Mr. Muha seconded; carried 5-0; to go into executive session to discuss Related Professionals and Administrators' contract negotiations. Mr. Niznik was appointed Clerk Pro-Tem in the absence of the District Clerk.

Mr. Brach entered the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Board members returned from executive session at 7:03 p.m. Mr. Muha moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 6-0; to go to regular session.

At 7:05 p.m. Mr. Kramer led the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

PRESIDENT'S MOMENT:

Mr. Kramer wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and hopes everyone enjoys winter break next week.

PRESENTATION:

Mrs. Ferris (HS Government teacher) introduced student Emma Hennessey who shared with the Board all the awesome things she experienced through the Cornell Cooperative 4-H County Government Program. Emma showed her certificate she received and her picture with her parents and Senator Joe Griffo. She is so grateful to the Board for allowing her to be part of this program and hopes this program will be around for a long time. Mrs. Ferris explained to the Board how in the fall someone comes to her class from the program and speaks with students about all it has to offer. She thanked the Board, Mrs. Smith and the transportation department for all of their support, and she also hopes this wonderful program continues.

Mr. Kramer thanked Emma for her persistence to participate in this program, the Board appreciates it. The Board is learning through these presentations by students how invaluable it is to do things outside of Boonville. He wished Emma the best of luck.

ACTIVITY:

Mrs. Guernsey explained to the Board how they, the Board, were going to "work outside the box" tonight and participate in inquiry-based learning. Administrators set up three stations around the room for Board members to break up into groups and evaluate three measures of success from ESSA data/accountability. Board members visited the three stations and Mrs. Guernsey stated that looking at data generates more questions. The questions will be answered in a presentation in March. She also passed out information for future reference.

BUDGET:

Mrs. Cihocki went over Draft 2 of the 2020-2021 Budget - the modifications in TRS for next year, out of district placements have been reduced. Still does not know what Tax Cap will be, waiting on BOCES tax cap. No change in Draft 2 of the Revenues.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Mrs. Marie Yager – asked if the district will be closing West Leyden Elementary and Boonville Elementary. She has had people ask her if kids are learning to read the old fashioned way, with books. Parents have voiced their concerns to her about class sizes. She would like to see teaching the lower grades how to write an essay and bring back cursive writing.

Mr. Kramer explained that the Board is in total discussion stage, looking at the facts and has a zero time table. The Board wants to prevent ill-will decisions and will not do anything to jeopardize the education of the students and teachers.

Mr. Brach explained that State Ed requires the district to answer certain questions about our buildings, especially when there is a capital project and that includes the future of our buildings. This will be a longer-course decision.

Mr. Gallo explained that students today are given more choices on what they want to read and they are reading actual books. Access to books has not been lost.

Public Forum ended at 8:48 p.m.

ADMINISTRATORS’ REPORTS:

Mrs. Rowlands-Will – Middle School Principal:

- The circus held last week was dedicated to student Bryan Jasek. His sister is a member of National Junior Honor Society who sponsored the event.
- Mr. Cotton and his Math Cat team came close to getting 3rd place. There is more to come in further competitions.
- Ms. Marchione will be taking a group of students to Lowville to participate in a Windmill Challenge.
- Elementary/Middle School Choral Concert and Art Show is tomorrow night.

Mrs. Smith – High School Principal:

- Thank you to Mrs. Ferris and Emma for their presentation tonight.
- Vaping presentation coming up on February 26th in the High School cafeteria – Open to the Public.

Mrs. Foye –Director of Special Education:

- Special Ed. Dept. is selling T-shirts for Autism month in April.
- We will be contracting with Jeff-Lewis BOCES for a behaviorist to come in, looking forward to strategies they have to offer.

Mrs. Keehfus-Jones – Boonville Elementary Principal:

- Thank you to her fellow Administrators for their help with the devastating loss of Boonville Elementary student Bryan Jasek, couldn’t have gotten through everything without them.
- AIS/STAR results are back in K, 3, 4, 5. Will review progress and have numbers at March meeting.

Mrs. Schafer – West Leyden Principal/Director of Technology:

- WL and BE Elementary will celebrate the 100th Day of School and Valentine’s Day on Friday the 14th.
- At West Leyden K-2 basketball drills have started in the mornings and is going really well. Neat to hear Mr. Dom Ventiquattro coaching and so worth starting at this age.
- WL PTA held a Valentine Craft night for students and parents, a ton of fun.
- In Technology, demonstrated three different types of Chromebooks, like two of the three models.
- VuSonic Smart Panel had to be canceled due to weather, rescheduled for March 3rd.

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

- Have been conducting curriculum reviews, 1 math, 2 ELA have been presented, 3-4 in the works for March.
- For grade level meetings in March will put curriculum samples up and will do a rubric.

Mr. Maneen – Transportation Supervisor:

- Due to enrollment and driver shortage, have asked drivers to do student counts to see if we have to make any movement changes on routes.

Mr. Teachout – Director of Facilities III:

- Facilities committee met making sure everyone was up to date on the project.
- Bus wash automatic doors in working order.
- During winter break next week planning on polishing floors, doing whatever repairs needed.

Ms. Lauzon –Director of PE, Health Athletics:

- Girls’ basketball qualified for sectionals, won league title.
- Girls’ bowling are section champions, boys bowling are co-league champs.
- Nordic Ski has had a decent year, going to sectionals.
- Wrestling, 2/3 of the team going to sectionals.
- Indoor track, one going to Opens in Long Island.
- Attended the Hall of Fame meeting.

Mr. Roberts – Asst. Secondary Principal:

No report.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mrs. Sturtevant moved and Mr. Gallo , carried 6-0; the Board approved the following by a consensus motion:

Minutes:

January 28, 2020 2nd Regular Meeting

Field Trip Requests:

Adirondack Wind-Bladers to BOCES in Glenfield	3/6/20
Jr. High All-County to Sauquoit Valley Jr/Sr. High	3/20 & 3/21/20
Elementary All-County to Waterville Jr/Sr. High	3/27 & 3/28/20
West Leyden 1 st graders to the Stanley Theatre in Utica and Treehouse Reading & Art Center in NY Mills	4/29/20

Building Use Requests:

Adirondack Athletic Association to use the HS & MS gyms and pool	3/13/20
Skills USA to use the HS cafeteria for Italian Dinner before the HS Musical	3/21/20
Enchanted Forest/Water Safari to use the pool for lifeguard instruction	4/13 thru 4/17/20
Adirondack Teachers’ Association to use the HS cafeteria, kitchen and restrooms	5/9/20

REGULAR AGENDA:

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

Bus Driver Permanent Position:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved Eric Fynmore, Bus Driver, to a permanent position after successful completion his Civil Service probationary period effective February 26, 2020.

Support Staff:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the following support staff:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Civil Service Classification</i>	<i>Type of Appointment</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>Rate of Pay</i>
Richard Wood	Bus Driver	Non-Competitive	26- week probationary	2/3/2020	Grade 20 Step 1
David Murling	Bus Driver	Non-Competitive	26-week probationary	2/3/2020	Grade 20 Step 1

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.

Community Education Courses:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the spring Community Education Course schedule.

Mr. Brach moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education agreed on the following:

Agreement for Use of Voting Machines:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education agreed to enter into a Temporary Use Agreement with Oneida County to use the Optical Scan Voting machines from the Oneida County Board of Elections for the School Budget Vote on May 19, 2020.

Mr. Gallo moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education granted approval for the following:

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 January 2020.

Mr. Emery moved and Mr. Kramer seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education adopted the following resolution:

Real Property Tax Resolution:

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;

WHEREAS, this Board has determined it to be in the District's best interests to adopt a resolution declaring that no exemption under Section 487 of New York's Real Property Tax Law with respect to any energy generation or storage system constructed in accordance with the provisions under section 487 of the Real Property Tax Law shall be applicable within its jurisdiction.

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. Brach, Mr. Emery, Mr. Kramer, Mr. Gallo, Mrs. Sturtevant, Mr. Muha.

Yes – 6, No – 0, Absent - 1

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION {Enclosures}:

➤ Policies: **Mr. Brach moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 6-0; the Board adopted the following policy:**

2nd Reading:

- Student Voter Registration & Pre-Registration - 7470

1st Reading: Will bring back for a 2nd reading

- Student Evaluation, Promotion & Placement - 7210

➤ Receipts:

- General Fund Receipts #7
- Lunch Fund Receipts #7
- Trust Agency Receipts #7
- Special Aid Receipts #5
- TE Receipts #7

➤ Warrants:

- General Fund Warrant #9
- Lunch Fund Warrant #7
- Special Aid Fund Warrant #4
- Trust Agency Warrant #7
- TE Warrant #7
- Capital Fund Warrant #7

➤ Lunch/Breakfast Quarterly Report – October 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

➤ Treasurer's Report – December 31, 2019

➤ 2020-2021 Instructional Calendar – DRAFT

➤ Jeff-Lewis BOCES notification of (4) vacancies on the BOCES Board for the term 2020-2023 and BOCES Budget Development Calendar.

➤ The terms of the following Adirondack School Board Members expire on June 30, 2020:

>> John Abdo >>> Michael Kramer

➤ Board of Education petitions will be available from the District Clerk on Monday, March 2, 2020, and must be returned by Monday, April 20, 2020. The number of signatures required on the petition is 25.

➤ Jeff-Lewis School Boards Association Legislative Breakfast, Friday, March 6, 2020 at BOCES in Watertown. Must RSVP by February 28th.

HANDOUTS

- District Calendar for February 2020.
- Enrollment Figures as of February 3, 2020.
- Claims Auditor Report.
- Conferences Approved by Superintendent.

At 9:40 p.m. Mr. Muha 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 10:57 p.m. Mr. Emery moved and Mr. Muha seconded; carried 6-0, to go into regular session.

At 10:58 p.m. Mrs. Sturtevant moved and Mr. Muha seconded, carried 6-0; the Board adjourned to the 2nd Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 in the Boonville Elementary cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.

Edward S. Niznik, Clerk Pro-Tem