

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

DRAFT

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 8, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Michael Kramer – President Almanda Sturtevant – Vice-President Bruce Brach Mark Emery Richard Gallo Joan Ingersoll Doug Muha	Edward Niznik, Superintendent, Sharon Cihocki, Business Administrator, Michelle Freeman, District Clerk, Heidi Smith, HS Principal; Dan Roberts, Asst. HS Principal/Interim AD; Jill Rowlands-Will, MS Principal; Linda Weber, WL Principal; Jill Schafer, BE Principal; Kristy McGrath, Director of Technology, Curriculum & Instruction; Brian Maneen, Trans. Supervisor; Cameron Teachout, Director of Facilities; Marie Yager, Lisa Stanford, Jasmine Radcliff, Eric Freeman, Kendra Hopsicker, Richard Chrisman-ATA, Joan Sturtevant
<u>MEMBERS EXCUSED:</u>	

At 5:59 p.m. Board President, Mr. Kramer called the meeting to order.

Mr. Gallo entered the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Mr. Emery moved and Mr. Muha seconded, carried 5-0; to go into executive session to discuss RPU contract negotiations and the employment history of particular personnel. Mr. Niznik served as 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 Mr. Brach seconded; carried 6-0; to go into regular session.

Mrs. Sturtevant entered the meeting

At 7:06 p.m. Mr. Kramer led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESIDENT’S MOMENT:

Mr. Kramer stated Adirondack lost a member of our extended school community, Mr. Dale Roberts, a man who would do anything for you. Mr. Roberts served many years in law enforcement and often filled in when our SPO was not here. Our thoughts and prayers to his family. Mr. Kramer asked for a moment of silence for Mr. Roberts.

Being the last of the regular meetings for the school year, Mr. Kramer acknowledged outgoing board member, Mr. Gallo for his 9 years of service on the Adirondack Board of Education. Mr. Gallo brought a wealth of knowledge to the board as a parent, as an educator from another district, life-long resident of the community and had an understanding of the culture of the community. A big thank you.

Mr. Niznik presented a certificate to Mr. Gallo thanking him for his service on the board. Mr. Gallo was always advocating for students. He sat on our policy committee, always attended workshops and was always supportive. Mr. Niznik stated he appreciated his honesty while on the board.

Mr. Niznik stated Mrs. Sandy Witzigman, foster grandparent in West Leyden in Jill Bator’s kindergarten class, passed away. He had a chance to work with her when he was Principal at West Leyden. She was great with the students. She and Mrs. Bator made an awesome team and she will be greatly missed. She was Mrs. Tammy Smith’s mother.

PRESENTATIONS:

New Math Series – Ms. Weber spoke to the Board and gave a handout to each member regarding their piloting of the new enVision Math Series 2.0. The version we currently have is no longer supported. Mr. Freeman (K) and Mrs. Hopsicker (3rd) both piloted the series for a few months and talked about what they did and didn't like about the series.

Mr. Brach asked if Success Maker comes with the series. Ms. Weber stated it does not, but she would still like to give it a try.

ESSER (Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief) Stimulus – Mr. Niznik, Mrs. McGrath and Mrs. Cihocki gave a presentation on the stimulus money. The money came quickly and has a very tight timeframe on how and when to be spent. Two types of money, CRRSA (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act) which must be expended by 9/30/2023 and ARP (America Rescue Plan) which must be expended by 9/20/2024, is required to have stakeholder input and must post the plan on how money will be spent. They talked about the Rules and Adirondack Goals.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Marie Yager – Congratulations to Mr. Gallo thank you for all he has done while on the Board. Thank to Mr. Niznik for all he has done as a teacher, principal and superintendent. Wished him a wonderful retirement.

Jasmine Radcliff – spoke to the Board about racism in the district and the ignorance of kids here. She asked if there is any diversity teaching, high school students do not know about diversity.

Mrs. Stanford – stated this is her 4th complaint regarding racism. It is now to the point her daughter does not want to go to school. She knows many parents agree the bullying policy is not adhered to. The school teaches about drunk driving, why don't they teach about diversity, racism. Why not add a diversity club at Adirondack.

Mr. Niznik apologized, this should not be tolerated. Diversity needs to be taught throughout the year.

Mr. Brach asked if the district treaded bullying the same as bringing a weapon to school. If not, we should be. How can the district monitor this? He gets the sense it is tolerated more than it should be.

Mr. Kramer stated the school district does truly apologize.

Mr. Emery stated these are two different issues (bullying and racism) that are systemic. It is critical something be done about this.

Mrs. Yager stated she gives a lot of credit to Ms. Radcliff for standing up, this should not be happening to her.

Mr. Freeman stated he tries to incorporate diversity teaching in kindergarten.

Mrs. Sturtevant stated diversity would be more purposeful in the curriculum.

Mrs. Schafer stated Boonville Elementary has implemented a program to encourage students to speak up when something is said or happens so it can be addressed.

Mrs. McGrath stated webinars have come out in the last month and they will be brainstorming new policies.

Mrs. Rowlands-Will stated this ties into the club that is on the agenda tonight. She asked Mrs. Stanford to please let them know if there is anything more they can implement.

Public Forum ended at 8:37 p.m.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:**Mrs. Smith – High School Principal:**

- Senior Walk was this past Friday. Seniors got to walk through the school buildings with students cheering them on.
- Jr. Prom was held this past Saturday.
- Senior Ball coming up this Sunday.
- Seniors were given their banners.
- Preparing for graduation.
- Awards will be held on the 15th.
- Digital Art show can be accessed on the webpage.

Mrs. Rowlands-Will – Middle School Principal:

- June 21st will have awards by grade level.
- National Jr. Honor Society made tie-dyed shirts and will have a picture taken by a drone flying overhead.
- District nurses were honored by the Boonville Historical Club as “Women of the Year”.
- Capri Pizzeria teamed up with National Jr. Honor Society and sponsored “Pizza with a Purpose” and matched the donations for the Leukemia Society.
- 8th grade Science test was given this past Monday.

Ms. Weber – West Leyden Elementary Principal:

- June has been a busy, but exciting month with the 5th grade track meet coming up, trip to Erwin Park, Fun Day, all with COVID precautions.
- 5th grade Spelling Bee was a great time. Students did a wonderful job – glad we were able to keep the tradition.
- Awards will be held on the 21st and 22nd, livestream will be available.
- Shout out to all the West Leyden teachers and students, it has been an absolute pleasure. Teachers have stepped up seamlessly.

Mrs. Schafer – Boonville Elementary Principal:

- 5th grade Spelling Bee – winning word was hibernation- a lot of fun. Kids proved to themselves they could do it.
- BREAs field trips and Fun Day coming up – try to make as fun as we can.
- Kindergarteners will be going to Erwin Park for their end of year celebration.
- 5th grade track meet will be held – will do the best to maintain records.
- 4th grade Science tests were completed.
- Awards will be livestreamed.
- Thank you to teachers, students, transportation and buildings and grounds for all they have done this crazy year.

Mr. Roberts – Asst. HS Principal/Interim Athletic Director:

- We have a few scholar athletes from spring sports, varsity softball and varsity track.
- Sectional play for track, golf and varsity softball advances to semi-finals.

Mrs. Foye – Director of Special Education:

- CSE finalized summer programs – huge kudos to transportation department for coordinating transportation for these students.
- There are three recommendations on tonight’s agenda for two counseling and one special education positions. Thank you to the interview committee.
- Will be attending a wonderful virtual workshop that has sold out. Hope to bring the information to train the Special Education Dept. in the fall.

Mr. Teachout – Director of Facilities:

- Getting ready for graduation.
- Setting up summer project work.
- Recently put out surplus equipment for auction, received \$26,000 in sales back to the district.

Mrs. McGrath – Director of Technology, Curriculum & Instruction:

Refer to stimulus presentation.

Mr. Maneen – Transportation Supervisor:

- June 23rd will have a mandated reporter class.
- Have one new bus driver in training, hopefully by late summer will have on board.
- Thank you to Mr. Roberts for pushing game times out when we had a busing conflict.
- Applaud the Board of education and Superintendent for working together this past year.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mr. Brach moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education approved the following minutes:

Minutes:

- >> May 11, 2021 Public Hearing/Regular Meeting
- >> May 18, 2021, Annual Meeting – Budget Vote & Election
- >> May 22, 2021 Special Meeting – Executive Session

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

Teaching & Non-Teaching Substitutes:

- >> Jessica Briones – Sub-Teacher
 - >> Diane Ross – Sub-Teacher
 - >> William Pritchard – Sub-Bus Driver
 - >> Scott Zeigler – Sub –Bus Driver
- *pending background clearance**

Mr. Brach moved and Mrs. Ingersoll seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education approved the following Field Trips:

West Leyden 5 th graders to Erwin Park	6/16/21
7 th & 8 th graders to Enchanted Forest Water Safari	6/18/21

Mr. Brach stated his expectation for field trips is that a plan be put together, he encourages getting kids back to school to ride their own bus home. Using Birnie Bus should be a last resort.

Even Mr. Emery supports having field trips.

Mr. Gallo moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education approved the following Building Use:

Oneida County Fair to use the HS parking areas during the week of July 27 th – August 1st	6/16/21
Dodge-Pratt Northam to use auditorium and music room at Boonville Elementary for summer musical rehearsals and performances	7/19 – 8/16/21 8/12 & 8/13 performances
Pop Warner Football to use the football field for practices Monday – Friday 5:30-8:00 p.m. and games on Sundays 1 p.m. - p.m. August 1st through November 1, 2021	8/1-11/1/21

REGULAR AGENDA:**Bus Driver Resignation:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Ingersoll moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education accepted the resignation of Mr. David Murling, Bus Driver, effective May 14, 2021.

Art Teacher Resignation:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Ingersoll moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education accepted the resignation of Mrs. Melissa Kirk, Art Teacher, effective June 30, 2021.

At 9:18 p.m. Mr. Brach moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded, carried 6-0; to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of particular personnel.

Mr. Emery moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded, carried 6-0; to return to Regular Session.

Termination of Teacher:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Ingersoll moved and Mr. Brach seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and review of the relevant circumstances, the Board hereby votes to terminate the probationary employment of teacher Karen Napolitano, effective July 9, 2021. The Superintendent shall promptly notify the employee of this decision.

Termination of Substitute:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Ingersoll moved and Mr. Brach seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and after discussion in executive session, Kathy Hennessey is removed from the District's list of substitute teachers effective May 25, 2021.

Mr. Brach moved and Mr. Gallo seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education did the following:

Permanent Appointment:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appointed Mrs. Karen Philbrick, Office Specialist I, to a permanent appointment following the successful completion of her probationary period effective June 23, 2021.

FFA Request:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the request of the Adirondack FFA to attend the 2021 National FFA Convention Tuesday, October 26th thru Sunday, November 1, 2021 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Transportation will be needed to drop off and pick up FFA members at a location to be determined when final arrangements are made. This approval is contingent on COVID-19 travel protocols in both states and all trip deposits will be fully refunded if canceled.

Surplus Equipment and/or Textbooks:

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

2021-2022 Board Meeting Schedule:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the 2021-2022 Board Meeting schedule.

2021-2022 Fine Arts Schedule:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the 2021-2022 Fine Arts Schedule.

Summer Program Rate of Pay:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education set the rate of pay for the following summer program positions:

- >> Summer School Coordinator - \$45.00/hr. >> Wildcat Camp Coordinator - \$20.00/hr.
- >> Wildcat Adult Counselors - \$17.50/hr. >> Wildcat Student Counselors - \$12.50/hr.

Transfer of Funds:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approved the transfer of \$500,000 from the unappropriated fund balance to the tax certiorari and \$250,000 to capital reserve.

Mr. Emery moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education did the following:

Create Two School Counselor Positions:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby created 1 FTE School Counselor position and 1 FTE School Counselor position funded under the 3-year ESSER Grant.

Professional Staff:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appointed the following professional staff:

Name	Tenure Area	Type of Appointment	Certification Status	Effective Date	Rate of Pay
Erika Kistowski	School Counselor	4-year probationary	Provisional	9/01/2021	D1 Step 2 plus Masters
Kaela McDaniels	Special Education	4-year probationary	Initial	9/01/2021	D1 Step 1 plus Masters

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 teacher 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.

3-Year Grant School Counselor Position:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appointed the following funded under the 3-year ESSER grant:

Name	Tenure Area	Type of Appointment	Certification Status	Effective Date	Rate of Pay
Emily Swancott	School Counselor	3-year Probationary	Permanent	9/01/2021	D1, Step 8 plus Masters

This will be a 3-year position using funds under the 3-year ESSER grant

Special Education:

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

2021-2022 SEQRA – Bus Garage:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopted the following SEQRA Resolution for the 2021-2022 Capital Project at the Bus Garage:

WHEREAS, the Adirondack Central School District is considering undertaking a capital improvement project consisting of Bus Wash upgrades at the District's Bus Garage, including, site improvements, original furnishings, fixtures and equipment (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the District, as a local agency pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"), ECL Section 8-0 IO1, et seq., and implementing regulations, 6 NYCRR Part 617 (the "Regulations"), having reviewed the impact of the Project upon the environment, intends hereby to determine that the Project constitutes a "Type II Action" under 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(25) of the Regulations and is not subject to review under SEQRA.

NOW THEREFOR, BE IT RESOLVED by this Board of Education as follows:

Section 1. The Project constitutes a "Type II Action" under 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(25) of the Regulations and is not subject to review under SEQRA. The regulatory bases for this determination are Section 617.5(c)(1): "maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility"; Section 617.5(c)(2): "replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site" and 617.5(c)(8): "routine activities of educational institutions, including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area...."

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Superintendent Retirement:

Resolved that, Mr. Gallo moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education accepted the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Mr. Edward Niznik, Superintendent of Schools, effective August 1, 2021.

Mr. Kramer thanked Mr. Niznik for a great run.

New Superintendent Appointment:

Mr. Brach moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 6-0; the Board adopted the following resolution to appoint a new superintendent:

BE IT RESOLVED that, the Board of Education hereby appoints Mrs. Kristy McGrath as a consultant for the District at a per diem rate of \$558 per day effective 7/1/2021 thru 7/31/2021 and **FURTHER IT BE RESOLVED** that, the Board of Education hereby appoints Mrs. McGrath as Superintendent of the Adirondack Central School District effective 8/1/2021.

New Math Series:

Resolved that, Mr. Gallo moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education approved the purchase of a new enVision Math Series.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:➤ **Policies: 1st Reading:**

Mr. Brach moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education adopted polices 1330 and 6213 with the following notations:**

- >> Appointments & Designations by the Board – 1330 ** Claims Auditor should be a mandatory appointment**
- >> Registration & Professional Learning – 6213 **Acknowledge communication**

This policy will be brought back for a 2nd Reading:

- >> Public Access to Records – 3310

➤ Gender & Sexuality Alliance (GSA) Club for MS/HS students – **Mr. Brach moved and Mr. Gallo seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education approved the creation of the GSA Club effective immediately.**

➤ Treasurer's Report April 30, 2021

HANDOUTS:

- Enrollment Figures as of June 1, 2021
- District Calendar, June 2021
- Claims Auditor Report – May 2021

At 10:19 p.m. Mrs. Ingersoll moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded, carried 6-0 to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of particular personnel.

Board members returned from executive session at 11:36 p.m. Mr. Brach moved and Mr. Emery seconded; carried 6-0; to go into regular session.

At 11:37 p.m. Mrs. Ingersoll moved and Mr. Gallo seconded, carried 6-0; to adjourn to the Re-Organizational/Regular Meeting to be held at Boonville Elementary on July 13, 2021