

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

**DRAFT**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – September 14, 2021**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>OTHERS PRESENT</b>
Michael Kramer – President Almanda Sturtevant – Vice-President Bruce Brach Mark Emery Robert Healt Joan Ingersoll Doug Muha	Kristy McGrath, Superintendent, Sharon Cihocki, Business Administrator, Michelle Freeman, District Clerk, Heidi Smith, HS Principal; Dan Roberts, Asst. Secondary Principal; Jill Rowlands-Will, MS Principal; Jill Schafer, BE Principal; Linda Weber, WL Principal; Michael Faustino, Director of Technology, Instr. & Curriculum; Wendy Foye, CSE Director; Brian Maneen, Transportation Supervisor; Marie Yager, Gail Wood Haile, Mary Ann Miller, Robin & Steve Butts, Ryan Green, Darlene DeFazio, Aaron DeFazio, Diana Stock, Samantha Blake, Michelle Harris, Taryn Taylor, Chris Taylor, Caitlin Banner, Eric Wright, Amanda Lampman, Chris Rice, Richard Chrisman-ATA, Diane Gallo, Amanda Nellenback, Heather Platt, Lissa Garlock, Mike Garlock, Lisa Pominville, Wendy Muller, Tina Weiler, Nicole Baker, Heather Phillipp, Matt Thornton, Nicole James, Kelly Zanker, Beau Zanker, Kathy Hennessey
<b><u>MEMBERS EXCUSED:</u></b>	

At 7:04 p.m. Mr. Kramer, Board President called the meeting to order and led the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

**PRESIDENT’S MOMENT:**

Mr. Kramer addressed those in attendance without masks that the Board would not be taking comments until they complied with the mandate and district policy that masks must be worn while in school buildings.

Due to noncompliance of many attendees, the Board adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m. Mrs. Ingersoll moved and Mr. Muha seconded, carried 7-0; the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of particular personnel and contract negotiations.

Mr. Muha moved and Mr. Brach seconded, carried 7-0; the Board returned to Regular Session at 7:52 p.m.

Mrs. Cihocki served as Clerk Pro-Tem in the absence of the District Clerk.

Mr. Kramer once again addressed those in attendance without masks, if they are willing to comply, the Board will listen to their comments.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

The following is a summary of attendees addressing their concerns regarding the mask mandate in schools:

Steve Kraeger – read a written statement on behalf of Mrs. Mary Ann Miller stating school district is infringing on her child’s privileges as a citizen by requiring masks. Mr. Kraeger asked the Board if they know the power/authority the Board of Education has.

Ryan Green – it should be choice of parent for child to wear a mask. Is there a waiver a parent can sign? Asked if district thought of a way/solution to not wear masks? Would kids be wearing masks if there was not a mandate? District needs to voice concern with NY State.

Michelle Harris – asked Board members if they have children that have to wear masks. Board has the power to change this mandate. Students talk about how awful it is. This is power abuse, letting kids down every day.

Aaron DeFazio – if Forestport Elementary was still open that would help. 1961 anti-vaccine – not follow mandate. Board needs to do something heroic for kids.

Matthew Thornton – he lived through the Bird Flu, never wore a mask. He submitted notes from a medical doctor for his kids not to wear masks. After evaluation by school doctor and school attorney notes were denied because doctor was from out of state. Who is holding school doctor and attorney accountable? Should be parent freedom of choice, informed consent, and right to refuse.

Darlene DeFazio – strength in numbers. Send letter to the state. She was not on the committee.

Sheena Horn –this is a mandate, not a law, cannot enforce a mask. Let them breathe.

Larry Green – kids can’t wear masks. Does Superintendent discipline every person?

Lucy Green – afraid they will make people sick if they don’t wear a mask, bullying with a mask.

Diana Stock – child is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader and teachers are targeting students for types of masks they are wearing.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Mr. Brach moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education approved the Consent Agenda following:**

**Minutes:**

- August 10, 2021 – Regular Meeting

**Building Use:**

National Jr. Honor Society to use the MS lobby for Scholastic Book Fair	Sept. 10 through 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
Adirondack Intramural Football for Pre-K-2 <sup>nd</sup> graders to use the turf football field or grass area	Weds or Thurs. evenings, Saturday mornings, Sept. 15 through October
Boonville Elementary PTA to use the BE cafeteria for meeting	September 20, 2021
Wholesome Living Inc. to use BE auditorium for yoga and dance classes	October 4 <sup>th</sup> – November 17 <sup>th</sup>
Pop Warner Cheer to use the HS gym, auditorium, MP room for Cheer Competition	October 23, 2021

**Field Trip:**

6 <sup>th</sup> grade students to BROEC Jackson Hill for outdoor education hiking & biking	October 4, 2021
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**Teaching Substitute:**

- Brittany Marks – Substitute Teacher  
\*\*pending background clearance\*\*

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**Resignations:**

**Mr. Muha moved and Mrs. Ingersoll seconded, carried 7-0;**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepted the following resignations:

- Erika Kistowski – *School Counselor* – effective August 20, 2021
- Courtney Streifert – *School Counselor* – effective October 1, 2021
- Patricia Stempien - *Part-Time Bus Dispatcher* – effective August 19, 2021
- Eric Fynmore – *School Bus Driver* – effective September 7, 2021

**Bus Driver Retirement:**

**Mrs. Sturtevant moved and Mr. Muha seconded, carried 7-0;**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepted the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Mr. Dennis Gillett, School Bus Driver effective September 17, 2021.

**Professional Staff:****Mr. Brach moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 7-0;**

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
Rhiannon Hickox	School Social Worker	4- year Probationary	Licensed Clinical Social Worker	10/15/2021	D1, Step 1 +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.”\**

**Support Staff:****Mr. Muha moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded, carried 7-0;**

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

Name	Position	Civil Service Classification	Type of Appointment	Effective Date	Rate of Pay
John Reppucci	School Bus Driver	Non-Competitive	26 week - Probationary	9/15/2021	Grade 20 Step 1

**Related Professionals Union MOA:****Mr. Emery moved and Mrs. Ingersoll seconded 7-0;**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the Memorandum of Agreement between the Adirondack Central School District and the Adirondack Related Professionals Union (RPU) for a Successor Agreement to the 2017-2020 Collective Bargaining Agreement as extended by a 2020-2021 Rollover Agreement. This agreement shall remain in effect 2021-2024.

**Litigation Resolution:****Mr. Brach moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 7-0;**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopted the following resolution authorizing commencement of e-cigarettes and vaping litigation:

**WHEREAS**, the use and abuse of e-cigarettes and vaping devices has increased dramatically among high school and middle school students in recent years, leading to significant risks of addiction, potentially life threatening respiratory ailments, and other health consequences; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of e-cigarettes and vapid devices by students has caused the Adirondack Central School District (the "School District") to incur costs in the form of staff time, disciplinary proceedings, and other costs, with the expectation that these costs will only increase unless and until student use of these devices decreases; and

**WHEREAS**, the School District's Board of Education (the "Board") has been invited to join a nation-wide lawsuit by school districts against JUUL Labs, Inc. the largest seller of e-cigarettes in the United States and other parties responsible for the production, marketing, sale and distribution of e-cigarettes and vaping devices; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board wishes to join this lawsuit to discourage the proliferation of e-cigarettes, end the marketing of e-cigarettes to children, and seek compensation for harm caused to the District due to e-cigarette use.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education hereby resolves:

1. To appoint the law firms of Ferrara Fiorenza PC, and the Frantz Law Group, APLC and approve the agreement to provide legal services in connection with pursuing claims for damages against JUUL Labs, Inc. and others consistent with the recitals above;
2. To authorize the Superintendent to take all steps necessary for the District to become an active co-plaintiff to pending litigation filed on behalf of school districts Nationwide by the Frantz Law Group against JUUL Labs, Inc. and others.

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

**Committee on Special Education:**

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

**Budget Transfers:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the Budget Transfers for June 2021, July 2021 and August 2021.

**Resignation Date:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education granted approval of the request from Mrs. Leah Boek, School Nurse, to rescind her original resignation date of 10/1/2021. New resignation date will be 10/17/2021.

**Donation of Mats:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve the request to donate high jump landing mats that have been previously submitted for surplus, be donated to the Woodsmen's Field Days.

**INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:**

- Revenues, Warrants & Receipts:
  - Revenues – Year End June 30, 2021
  - Budget Status Reports – Year End June 30, 2021
  - Trial Balance – Year End June 30, 2021
  - Cash Receipts – July 2021
  - Cash Receipts – August 2021
  - Lunch Fund Cash Receipts – July 2021
  - Special Aide Cash Receipts – August 2021
  - General Fund Cash Receipts – July 2021
  - General Fund Cash Receipts – August 2021
  - CM Warrant – July 2021
  - Capital Fund Warrant #1 - July 2021
  - Capital Fund Warrant #2 – August 2021
  - Special Aid Warrant #1- July 2021
  - Special Aid Warrant #2 – August 2021
  - Lunch Fund Warrant #1 – July 2021
  - Lunch Fund Warrant #2 – August 2021
  - General Fund Warrant #1, #2– July 2021
  - General Fund Warrant #3 – August 2021
- Set dates for District Goals
- NYSSBA Convention Attendance

**HANDOUTS:**

- Enrollment Figures - September 1, 2021
- District Calendar - September 2021
- Claims Auditor Report – August 2021

At 9:00 p.m. Mr. Brach moved and Mr. Emery seconded, carried 7-0 to go into Executive Session to continue discussion on contract negotiations and the employment history of particular personnel.

Board members returned from executive session at 10:25 p.m. Mrs. Ingersoll moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded; carried 7-0; to go into regular session.

At 10:26 p.m. Mrs. Ingersoll moved and Mrs. Sturtevant seconded, carried 7-0; to adjourn to the Regular Meeting to be held at West Leyden Elementary on Tuesday, October 12, 2021.