

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

**DRAFT**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – April 17, 2024**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>OTHERS PRESENT</b>
Michael Kramer – President Almanda Sturtevant – Vice-President Bruce Brach Maureen Healt Robert Healt Abby Podkowka Mackenzie Smaldon	Kristy McGrath, Superintendent, Michelle Freeman, District Clerk, Heidi Smith, HS Principal; Dan Roberts, Asst. HS Principal; Linda Weber, WL Principal; Brandie Collins, MS Principal; Wendy Foye, Director of Special Education; Matthew Benson, Supt. of Buildings & Grounds; Jennifer Badaracco, Transportation Supervisor Marie Yager, Paul Repak, Pamela Repak, Tom Lastowski, Matt Lastowski, Katie Cavanaugh, Jackie Lastowski, Tina Zeigler, Emily Swancott, Cheyanne Houseman, Corey Houseman, Dana Ely, Theresa Destito, Tina Weiler, Kelly Smith, Marie Lamm, Kendra Hopsicker-ATA, Jen Gallo-ATA, Ryan Zeigler, Sam Zeigler, Cindy Youngs, James Alger
<b><u>MEMBERS EXCUSED:</u></b>	

At 7:03 p.m. Board President Kramer called the meeting to order and led the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

**PRESIDENT’S MOMENT:**

Mr. Kramer mentioned the Town of Lewis Library dedicated a plaque to former Adirondack (West Leyden Elementary) teacher, Sue Kornatowski, who recently passed away. The Adirondack Hall of Fame held a chicken BBQ over the weekend, did very well considering there were many other chicken BBQs going on. Elementary All-County was also held this weekend at neighboring Remsen Central School, congratulations to those who participated. Spring sports are in high gear.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Marie Yager stated what a great Superintendent Mrs. McGrath has been. She is going to miss her. She also stated that parents are asking her to find out more about the capital project and children being combined in one building.

Mr. Kramer explained we will be discussing the capital project later on in the meeting, but gave a summary that a little over a year ago the Board started looking at the different options. There are three options the Board is considering:

- 1 – Buildings to remain as they are West Leyden, Boonville & HS/MS with money being allocated to each.
- 2 - Closing West Leyden Elementary, moving students to Boonville Elementary which will become a UPK-4<sup>th</sup> grade building, 5<sup>th</sup> grade will move up to the middle school.
- 3 – Closing both Boonville Elementary and West Leyden, an addition would be built onto the HS/MS campus.

Katie Cavanaugh voiced concern about how meetings are posted. She didn’t know about this meeting until her mother saw it in the paper which came out today. Mr. Kramer stated the Board is always looking for better ways to get the word out about meetings. Right now meetings are posted on the school webpage, advertised on WBRV, in the Boonville Herald and Rome Sentinel. Meetings have been held the second Tuesday of every month for years with the exception of the April meeting because it is set by Jeff-Lew BOCES for their Budget Vote. Mrs. Cavanaugh also asked if the 5<sup>th</sup> graders would be switching classes if they are moved to the middle school. Mrs. McGrath stated we haven’t gotten to that point yet.

Mrs. McGrath stated information has been shared at several meetings since May of 2022. The Board has been waiting on NY State Ed. for numbers since July of 2022 and were in a holding pattern until this past March 26<sup>th</sup> when the Board received the final numbers from State Ed.

Paul Repak asked how transportation will be effected by each scenario. Mrs. McGrath stated there won't be a big impact, actually some runs will be rerouted and may take less time by not having to stop at West Leyden Elementary to pick up students.

Cheyenne Houseman asked is there room for WL students at Boonville Elementary. Her children attend WL and have a 50 minute bus ride now, how much time will be added if WL comes to BE? Mrs. McGrath stated bus routes will be rerouted and could take less time. Buses now leave Boonville Elementary and have to stop at WL Elementary to pick up students and that takes time.

Tina Zeigler stated the staff at WL Elementary know every student and that makes a difference, would hate to see it close.

Ryan Zeigler asked if all WL teachers will come to BE and would class sizes be bigger? Mrs. McGrath explained teachers would be distributed differently, class sizes would be maintained. Mr. Zeigler also asked what would be the plan for the WL building if students are moved to BE? Mr. Brach explained that would be part of the discussion included in the capital project.

James Alger asked about cost reduction, is there evidence of savings from when Forestport Elementary was closed? Mrs. McGrath stated yes there has been cost savings since closing Forestport.

Kelly Smith asked if the Health Center at the HS/MS will be re-opening. Mrs. McGrath explained we are in talks to see if we have a new partner. Hope to have one by the start of the 2024-25 school year.

Tom Lastowski asked if more land would have to be purchased to build an addition onto the HS/MS. Mr. Kramer explained the addition would attach to the back of the middle school on current property, so no need to purchase land.

Mr. Brach explained that enrollment has significantly decreased. When consolidating a building, you look at mowing, building up keep. As a district, we have to start making change. The Board has taken tours of West Leyden and Boonville Elementary. West Leyden Elementary needs a lot of love, showing structural deterioration. We need to have an open house so people can tour West Leyden and see. He knows when Forestport Elementary was closed children/community felt loss of identity. We are a small rural community.

Ryan Zeigler stated he is concerned having to come to Boonville Elementary. West Leyden Elementary is convenient and a close knit community. Parents need the convenience.

Dana Ely spoke as a former teacher at West Leyden Elementary. The roof leaks, she would have garbage cans all over to catch water. You could hear the wind whipping through the windows. It needs a lot of love.

Matt Lastowski referred to youth sports. Forestport and West Leyden come to Boonville to play sports. It's hard when the kids don't know who they are playing with. We are an Adirondack Community, not just Forestport, West Leyden, Boonville.

Mackenzie Smaldon left the meeting at 8:40, returning at 8:42.

Mandie Sturtevant left the meeting at 8:42, returning at 8:46.

Abby Podkowka asked about parking for concerts, award ceremonies and staff parking if WL moves to BE. Mr. Kramer stated that goes into the capital project plan.

Mr. Kramer thanked everyone for coming, for asking their questions, stating their concerns. The Board will have further discussions on the capital project at the next couple of meetings, he encouraged everyone to attend.

Public forum ended at 8:56 p.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Maureen Healt moved and Abby Podkowka seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education approved the following:**

**Minutes:**

- March 26, 2024 2nd Regular Meeting & April 3, 2024 Special Meeting

**Substitutes:**

Non-Teaching:

>> Emma Nowak – Sub- Teacher Aide, School Monitor, Library Aide, Office Specialist I

\*\* Pending Background Clearance\*\*

**Field Trips:**

REQUESTOR:	DESTINATION:	DATE(S):
Adirondack FFA	NYS FFA Convention in Buffalo	5/2/24
Animal & Equine Science	Hunter Hack Horse Farm in Boonville	5/7/24
Animal & Ag Science	Grassy Cow Farm in Remsen	5/16/24
Adirondack FFA	Farm Fest – DiNitto Farm in Marcy	5/31/24
National Jr. Honor Society	Destiny Mall – Apex & Wonder Works	6/6/24
8 <sup>th</sup> grade class	Water Safari in Old Forge	6/20/24

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**2024-2025 Jeff-Lewis BOCES Budget:**

Mr. Brach moved and Mrs. Smaldon seconded, carried 7-0;

Resolution to approve the 2024-2025 Administrative portion of the Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton-Herkimer-Oneida BOCES budget in the amount of \$4,763,543. **POLL VOTE**

**7- Yes, 0 No, 0- Absent;** Mr. Brach, Ms. Healt, Ms. Podkowka, Mr. Healt, Mr. Kramer, Mrs. Sturtevant, Mrs. Smaldon, Mr. Brach,

**Jeff-Lewis BOCES Board Election:**

Mr. Brach moved and Ms. Healt seconded, carried 7-0;

Resolution to cast one vote for each position in the annual election of three (3) members to the Board of Cooperative Educational Services. Three candidates have been nominated to fill these three vacancies. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to the three (3) year terms on the BOCES Board (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027). The candidates are: Lynn Murray {Copenhagen CSD}, Michael Young {Lowville Academy CSD}, Sandra Young-Klindt {General Brown CSD}. **POLL VOTE**

**7-Yes, 0 -No 0 - Absent;** Mr. Brach, Ms. Healt, Ms. Podkowka, Mr. Kramer, Mr. Healt, , Mrs. Sturtevant, Mrs. Smaldon,

**Superintendent’s Resignation:**

Mrs. Smaldon moved and Ms. Healt seconded, carried 7-0;

Resolved that, the Board of Education accepted, with regret, the resignation of Mrs. Kristy McGrath, Superintendent of Schools effective June 30, 2024.

**Tenure Appointments:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Brach moved and Ms. Podkowka seconded, carried 6-0; the Board of Education prospectively awarded tenure to the following in their respective Tenure Areas:

NAME:	TENURE AREA:	TENURE DATE:
Emily Swancott	School Counselor	9-1-2024

**Permanent Positions:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Heal moved and Mr. Brach seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education appointed the following to permanent positions after successful completion of their probationary periods:

- >> Cassandra Sokoloff - Groundworker/Cleaner
- >> Jennifer Dickinson – Food Service Helper (2.5)
- >> Joan Zimmer – Food Service Helper (5.5)

**Support Staff:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Healt moved and Mr. Brach seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education appoint the following support staff:

Name	Position	Civil Service Classification	Type/Duration of Appointment	Effective Date	Rate of Pay
Kyle Wilcox	Groundworker/ Cleaner	Non-Competitive	26-week probationary	May 2, 2024	Grade 12, Step 1

**New School Courses:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Healt moved and Mr. Brach seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education approved the following new school courses:

- >> Food & Nutrition
- >> MVCC American Sign Language 3 - AL201
- >> MVCC American Sign Language 4 - AL202

**Surplus Equipment/Books:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Healt moved and Mr. Brach seconded, carried 7-0; 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.

**Committee on Special Education:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, Mr. Brach moved and Ms. Healt seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education granted approval for placement of students.

**Permanent Chairperson for Budget Vote/Election:**

Resolved that, Ms. Healt moved and Ms. Podkowka seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education designated District Clerk, Michelle Freeman as Permanent Chairperson of the May 21, 2024 School Budget Vote and Election and designate Superintendent Kristy McGrath as acting Clerk/Permanent Chairperson in the event the District Clerk is absent or unable to act in this capacity.

**Budget Vote/Election Inspectors:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Healt moved and Ms. Podkowka seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education approved the following as Inspectors for the School Budget Vote & Election to be held on May 21, 2024:

- >> Joan Ingersoll
- >> Harold & Mary Williams
- >> Beth Fox
- >> Tonya Kazek
- >> Denise Kramer

**Oneida County Inspectors for Budget Vote/Election:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Healt moved and Ms. Podkowka seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education approved the following Oneida County Election Inspectors for the School Budget Vote & Election to be held on May 21, 2024 at the contracted rate of \$120 for the purpose of overseeing the voting scanners:

- >> Rebecca Miner
- >> Linda Acee

**Communication Board Donation:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Healt moved and seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education accepted the donation of a Communication Board for the Boonville & West Leyden Elementary playgrounds from Team Jacob – Jenn & Jacob Vogt.

**Special Patrol Officer Agreement 2023-2024:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Healt moved and Ms. Podkowka seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education approved the School District Special Patrol Officer Agreement by and between the County of Oneida effective September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024.

**Feinerman Agreement:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Healt moved and Mrs. Smaldon seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education entered into a Feinerman Agreement between the District and a retired teacher regarding employment to a temporary position and authorizes the Superintendent to sign the approved Agreement on behalf of the District.

**Professional Staff:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Healt moved and Mrs. Smaldon seconded, carried 7-0; the Board approved the following professional staff:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Appointment Type</i>	<i>Certification</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>Rate of Pay</i>
Jennifer Bowman	Science	4-year Probationary	Initial Pending	8/28/24	D1, Step 5 +Masters

**Transportation Request:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Brach moved and Mrs. Smaldon seconded, carried 7-0; the Board approved the request from the Village of Boonville to use a driver and bus to transport a small group of people associated with the grant around the village on Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

**School-Based Health Center Resolution:**

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Brach moved and Mrs. Smaldon carried 7-0; the Board adopted the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Adirondack Central School District (the “School District”) is party to agreements with Upstate Family Health Center, Inc. (hereinafter “UFHC”) to operate a school-based health center and provision of school physician services (the “Agreements”); and

**WHEREAS**, a dispute arose between the parties regarding UFHC’s failure to perform services required by the Agreements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has considered the terms of a proposed Settlement Agreement and Release to resolve the dispute and seeks to approve the same.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Education of the Adirondack Central School District as follows:

1. The Board hereby approves the proposed Settlement Agreement between the School District and UFHC in a final form to be approved by legal counsel, and authorizes the School District’s Superintendent, or designee, to take all necessary actions and to execute any necessary documents on behalf of the Board of Education upon the recommendation of legal counsel necessary to effectuate/finalize the same.
2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**INFO & DISCUSSION:**

- Policy: 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: *Mrs. Smaldon moved and Mr. Brach seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education adopted:*
  - Workplace Violence Prevention – 6190

Policy removal from Manual: *Ms. Healt moved and Ms. Podkowka seconded, carried 7-0; the Board of Education approved the removal of:*

- Peer Abuse in the Schools Policy – 7554 (now included within DASA Policy)

➤ Warrants & Receipts:

Warrants:	Receipts:
Scholarship Fund Warrant – March 2024	Federal Fund Cash Receipts – March 2024
Federal Fund Warrant – March 2024	General Fund Cash Receipts – March 2024
Lunch Fund Warrant – March 2024	Scholarship Fund Cash Receipts – March 2024
Lunch Fund Warrant – March 2024	Lunch Fund Cash Receipt – Jan 2024

➤ Treasurer’s Report – February 2024

➤ Next Capital Project – Financial Analysis

➤ Jeff-Lewis School Boards Association Annual Dinner Meeting:  
 Tug Hill Estates in Lowville, Thursday, May 16, 2024, 5:15 pm – 7:15 pm  
 Buffet Dinner - RSVP by May 1<sup>st</sup>

➤ 2023-24 Calendar - Mrs. McGrath stated there are two unused snow days left. BOCES will be closed on May 24<sup>th</sup> because most schools in our BOCES have decided to give back that day as an unused snow day, so she is proposing that if as of May 1<sup>st</sup> we have not used the two days, the 24<sup>th</sup> will be given back.

**HANDOUTS:**

- ACS Enrollment as of April 1, 2024
- District Calendar – April 2024
- Claims Auditor Report – March 2024
- Building Use Requests Approved by Superintendent
- Conferences Approved by the Superintendent
- Conference Report:  
 >> *DATAG Annual March Meeting* – L. Weber, M. Faustino
- ESSA Accountability Fact Sheet for parents – All buildings within good standing.

At 9:12 p.m. Ms. Podkowka moved and Mrs. Smaldon seconded, carried 7-0; to go into executive session to discuss Related Professionals Union contract negotiations.

Board members returned from executive session at 9:47 p.m. Mrs. Smaldon moved and Mr. Brach seconded; carried 7-0; to go into regular session.

At 9:48 p.m. Ms. Healt moved and Ms. Podkowka seconded, carried 7-0; to adjourn to the Public Hearing and Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at the high school.