

JOHNSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL
Monday, June 24, 2019
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Minutes

Board Members Present: Rachel DeGroat
William Conner
Chris Jay
Erwin Morris
Tom Ordway
Tara Sears
Sarah Williams

Board Members Absent: N/A

Call to Order Rachel DeGroat called the meeting to order at 7:00

Approval of Minutes: Chris Jay made a **Motion** to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2019, Board of Education Meeting, seconded by Erwin Morris and carried.

CSE/CPSE/504: Tara Sears made a **MOTION** to accept the recommendations of the CSE/CPSE/504 meetings, seconded by Tom Ordway and carried.

Agenda Changes: Letter E under V. Items and/or Action: TRS Discussion

Financial: Larry Ringer will provide at a later date a worksheet with financial data regarding the School Lunch Fund.
Mike Markwica stated the Board of Education needs to make a decision soon on our Free Lunch Program.
Sarah Williams suggested having a survey given to students asking for lunch menu ideas. William Conner stated the federal requirements need to be considered.
Rachel DeGroat stated this will be discussed during Summer Retreat.
William Conner asked a question regarding last meetings General Fund account pertaining to the hot water heater.
Mike Markwica answered the tank was the old hot water heater.

Motions: Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to approve tenure for Sally Eichler, seconded by Erwin Morris and carried.
Mike Markwica stated that Sally Eichler was doing an incredible job with the Pre-School Program.

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to approve the following resolution:

Be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Johnsbury Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools hereby approves the agreement dated May 31, 2019, extending the probationary appointment of Kathryn Cole for a period of one year, to August 31, 2020, in accordance with the terms of said agreement., seconded by Tara Sears and carried.

Erwin Morris asked why the date went to August 31, 2020.

Mike Markwica explained that all tenure appointments end on August 31st of the completion of there tenure year.

Tara Sears made a **MOTION** to accept Sarah Kelly as Principal's Secretary at level 18 as stated in the CSEA contract beginning July 1, 2019, seconded by Chris Jay and carried.

Tom Ordway made a **MOTION** to accept Ilena Corr as an Elementary Teacher at Step 1, with Masters beginning September 1, 2019, seconded by Tara Sears and carried.

Mike Markwica stated that Heather Flanagan and committee interviewed 6 candidates, three were moved on to interview with him and Heather. Ilena was the top pick at both interviews.

TRS DISCUSSION:

Larry Ringer explained the new regulations for a TRS reserve The Finance committee is recommending we create this reserve.

Erwin Morris asked if this fund would affect what the TRS would be for next year. Larry Ringer replied no. Mike Markwica stated the rate is set by the State.

MOTION:

William Conner made a **MOTION** to fund the TRS up to 2%, of the prior year's teachers' salary, seconded by Tara Sears and carried.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Rachel DeGroat spoke of the meeting the Finance Committee held with Judy Cook. Judy Cook located minimal errors.

William Conner stated the purpose of Judy Cook's position is to find these errors before they go out - a system of checks and balances.

Updates:

Vaccinations: Mike Markwica stated that the State of New York has passed a law that eliminates religious waivers for vaccinations. Students have fourteen days after the start of the school year to be in compliance.

William Conner asked if staff need to be immunized, Mike Markwica stated he did not know but will look into it.

Other Business:

Old Inventory Sale: Mike Markwica reported Johnsbury Central School will hold an old inventory sale the week of July 15-19th.

Items no longer needed will be available for purchase.

Tom Ordway asked if the items in the home ec. room will be sold. Mike Markwica stated not at this time.

Baccalaureate: Mike Markwica reported that the Baccalaureate Celebration will be held on Thursday at 7:00 PM at the Sodom Church.

Coordinators: Erwin Morris asked if it was true that the 4-6 grade coordinator is now a 4-8 grade coordinator.

Mike Markwica replied that Heather Flanagan and he have looked into creating a "middle school" and by involving the 4-8 grade teachers in monthly meetings will help.

Erwin Morris stated he felt that 4th and 5th grades were very different from 7th and 8th grades.

Heather Flanagan stated this move will help these grades with the transition process.

Visitor's Comments:

Mike Sharp asked if Johnsbury creates a "middle school", what happens to the elementary teacher. Heather Flanagan responded that these classes are larger in size. When one group is out for a subject, the classroom teacher is able to teach another subject but with smaller classes.

Mike Sharp also asked what the benefits were for creating a TRS fund is this legal.

Larry Ringer stated it is legal and the money will come from the surplus fund if available.

Mike Sharp asked what the justification was of starting Sarah Kelly at level 18. Mike Markwica replied that level 18 was the appropriate starting salary for the Principal's Secretary position.

Thank You:

Board President, Rachel DeGroat presented retirees, William Conner, and Chris Jay with a framed portrait of Johnsbury Central School and thanked both gentlemen for their many years of service.

Executive Session:

Tara Sears made a **MOTION** to adjourn to an Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue at 8:11 seconded by Tom Ordway

and carried.

William Conner made a **MOTION** to return to Regular Session at 9:03, seconded by Chris Jay and carried.

Adjournment:

William Conner made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 9:03, seconded by Chris Jay and carried.