

AJOHNSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL
Tuesday, May 28, 2019
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Minutes

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

Board Members Absent: Erwin Morris

Call to Order Rachel DeGroat called the meeting to order at 7:01

Approval of Minutes: Tara Sears made a **Motion** to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2019, Board of Education Meeting, Seconded by Sarah Williams and carried.

Chris Jay made a **Motion** to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2019, Election Results Board of Education Meeting, Seconded by Tara Sears and carried.

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

Financial: Larry Ringer Notified the Board of the opportunity to establish a TRS Reserve. This is a new practice and he recommends this reserve. Rachel DeGroat replied the Finance Committee will look into this and report their decision back to the board.

Discussion/Motions:

Presentation:

PreK

Sally Eichler spoke to the Board regarding the Pre-K program. She brought samples of student's work and presented a PowerPoint to demonstrate the importance of this program. Rachel DeGroat asked if there were any accommodations for students who are not ready for the kindergarten. Sally Eichler replied that students will attend the morning session with and Pre-K and transfer to the afternoon session with

Kindergarten.

If students are still not ready, they will repeat Kindergarten but some have moved on to first grade in the fall.

Tom Ordway asked if all students needed to be toilet trained. Sally Eichler replied that the New York State law states

students in Pre-K and Kindergarten do not need to be toilet trained. If a student has a soiled diaper, they are sent down to the nurse to be changed.

Mike Markwica asked Sally if she had a Teaching Assistant. Ms. Eichler stated her T.A. was Mrs. Jennifer Glode. Mrs. Glode works well with the daily routine as well as giving students individual attention when needed.

Natural Helpers

Jodie Seymour presented her program Natural Helpers with students: Gabe Morris, Thomas Fuller, Sydney Selleck and Sheridan Millington. Jodie Seymour stated there is a much-needed focus on middle school students. The group presented a slideshow of the year's activities. Jodie Seymour asked the Board to consider appointing an additional advisor so the program can expand from 12 mentors to 24. She would like to work with the one on one student mentors (there were 6 this year) and the new advisor (possible Sarah Fink) would work with the 24 student mentors.

Foreign Language Club

Pete Gilbertson and Jodie Seymour showed a video of the eight students who traveled to Spain this Spring. Pete Gilbertson also stated that parents will be receiving a refund check due to the generous donation from the Adirondack Foundation. Pete Gilbertson stated that the number is projected to be higher for 2021.

Sports Merger

Rachel DeGroat presented the five different pieces of paperwork the committee has been working on for the sports merger. A contract between the two schools, Coach's Handbook, Coach's Application, Ineligibility Policy, and the Student Athletic Handbook.

Rachel DeGroat explained that only one district will hire a coach. Johnsburg's coach will be on Johnsburg payroll and Minerva's coaches will be paid by Minerva.

Tom Ordway asked if Physical Education teachers get a position over regular teachers. It was explained that the most qualified person would be offered the position.

William Conner asked how the two Athletic Directors would handle the scheduling. Mike Markwica explained that the two Superintendents will assign certain sports to each A.D.. He also stated that the two Athletic Directors, Ryan Carpenter from Johnsburg and Ed Pagnotta from Minerva have been working very well with each other.

William Conner asked if there was any discussion on paid assistant coaches of volunteer coaches. Mike Markwica stated that they have discussed assistant coaches but not volunteer

coaches. Rachel DeGroat stated it will be a varsity coach's decision if he/she would like an assistant coach. Sarah Williams made a note that Johnsbury Central School has a lower rate of pay for coaches than Minerva Central School. She provided a sheet with salaries and cost. It was noted that the idea as of this writing is if both varsity coaches applied for the merged sport, one would become the varsity coach and the other would be asked to coach the modified team at the same rate of pay as the varsity coach. This salary adjustment would continue until the modified coach became the varsity coach and a new modified coach was hired or the coach resigned from the position. William Conner wanted to thank the members of the merger committee for their hard work.

MOTION

Sarah Williams made the following **MOTION**. Resolved that the Board of Education of the Johnsbury Central School District hereby nominates William Conner of the Johnsbury Central School Board of Education for the R. Dyer for Distinguished School Board Service, seconded by Tom Ordway and carried.

**Updates:
External Audit Update**

Chris Lanchanten sent the BOE an email regarding the External Audit that was presented at the last Board meeting. Mike Markwica asked if there was a different form available. The Board will table this for now.

After School Debt

Heather Flanagan informed the Board that our debt is much lower than last year. At this meeting we are \$126.00 due, \$42 we will receive, \$84.00 will not be recovered due to students moved out of the district.

Lunch Debt

Larry Ringer reported that at this meeting we are \$9.00 in debt due to lunch but we should receive this balance.

NYCLASS

Larry Ringer reported that to date we have \$13,015 earned in interest. Last year our total interest was \$405.00. This is listed under interest and earning line items in our budget.

Lighting Project

Mike Markwica stated we had three companies come in today to bid on the Lighting Project.

Other Business:

Health Care: Mike Markwica, Rachel DeGroat, and Larry Ringer are traveling to Albany tomorrow to work with Lobbyist on the Small School Health Consortium.

Graduation: Tom Ordway and Chris Jay will be handing out diplomas at the Graduation on June 29, 2019.

Calvary Church: An invitation was sent to the Board of Education Members to attend a barbecue as a thank you for community support.

Grandparents Day: Heather Flanagan reported that we had a very successful Grandparent Day with over 200 attending.

Sectionals: Heather Flanagan reported that there would be a Girls Sectional Softball game at Johnsbury tomorrow at 4:30.

Visitor's Comments: Jodie Seymour wanted to thank both William Conner and Chris Jay for their years of support.

Michael Sharp asked Larry Ringer if the county paid interest on our money that they held back. Larry Ringer responded they did not but we will receive the check by the end of September from now on.

Executive Session Tara Sears made a **MOTION** at 8:50 to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

Regular Session Tara Sears made a **MOTION** to return to Regular Session at 9:42, seconded by Sarah Williams and carried.

Adjournment: Tara Sears made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 9:42 seconded by Sarah Williams and carried.