

SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION



# MINUTES

March 16, 2021

Virtual Meeting  
7:00 pm



# CORE VALUES

## We Believe:

- \* That all children can learn.
- \* In educating the whole child so he/she can meet the District's Standards.
- \* In focusing on student achievement.
- \* In providing a comprehensive and enriched curriculum for all students reflecting the needs and available resources of the community.
- \* That the combined commitment of the Board of Education, staff, families, students, and community is the key to educational success.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Preparing successful contributing citizens of the world through school, family and community partnerships, while addressing the diverse needs of all students.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the South Colonie Board of Education was called to order by Board President, Ms. Gigliello at 7:03 pm.

**1. ROLL CALL****Members Present:**

Brian Casey	Colleen Gizzi	James T. Ryan
Stephanie Cogan	Neil Johanning	Edward Sim
Rose Gigliello	David Kiehle	

**Members Excused:**

Michael Keane

**Also Present:**

David Perry, Superintendent of Schools  
Tim Backus, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction  
Sherri Fisher, Assistant Superintendent for Management Services & Strategic Planning  
Christopher Robilotti, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources & Safe Schools  
Amber Lanigan, District Clerk

**2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

Board President, Ms. Gigliello led the pledge to the flag.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan and seconded by Ms. Gizzi, that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 2, 2021 be approved.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Perry wanted to update the Board on our status of return to performances, specifically in the area of music. We have been working with the Capital Region music supervisors, along with our local Department Chairperson, Mr. Cannistraci, and our music supervisor, Mr. Roemer, to develop a plan to return to musical performances K-12. We are happy to report that our plan has been approved by our school medical director, Dr. Silverman. We are recommending the following actions to safely return to music in our schools. This would include a reduction of the recommendation of 12 feet of social distancing to 6 feet to allow for the groups to be a little closer together. We will use bell covers on the musical instruments that are applicable. In addition, all students will continue to wear masks. General music and chorus at the K-6 level will return to singing and utilizing masks. At the 7-12 level it will

allow for our students to safely engage in their performing groups, as well as limited singing. At this time, we do not anticipate full scale concerts but that is something that we are looking at as an additional phase to the reopening and eventually getting back to providing the ability for a concert to be attended by audience members. We believe this is a safe plan and we are excited about making this recommendation to the Board tonight. Unlike high risk sports, the Board does not need to have a resolution passed but we wanted to make sure that the Board was aware of the plans and that we would start working with Mr. Cannistraci and Mr. Roemer to implement that safely throughout our school buildings. This would also be applicable for our summer programs.

Dr. Perry also wanted to discuss the status of board meetings and committee meetings going forward. We have been discussing the possibility of returning board members to in-person meetings. This has an impact on the committee meetings that meet sometimes prior to the meetings. If we were to come back to an in-person board meeting, we would also have to consider whether or not committee meetings that are prior to the board meetings are also in-person. There are still restrictions on community members attending in-person so we would continue to record and livestream the meetings for the public but this would be a chance for the board members to come back to the board room in-person to conduct board business, beginning with the April 13<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting. Ms. Gigliello asked the board members if everyone was comfortable returning to in-person on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ryan inquired if the meetings would be in the board room or if they would be held in a different location. Dr. Perry stated that we would plan to return to the board room. Mr. Johanning mentioned he would like to hold out and see when the date of his second vaccine will be. Ms. Gigliello requested that he update the board when he gets this information.

Ms. Gigliello stated that tomorrow night is the SEPTA meeting. Dr. Gina Cosgrove is going to be speaking and if anyone has a chance to attend she would highly recommend as she is an excellent speaker. Ms. Gigliello spoke with Patrick Longo at NYSSBA and we are in the process of setting up a board retreat/training that was previously talked about. Board members should reach out to Ms. Gigliello if they have not already done so.

## 5. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Cogan stated the South Colonie Parent and Family Engagement Committee is still working through their priorities but if you wanted to see some nice quick progress please hop onto the ASPEN page and click on the Colonie Central High School tab and you will see how nice this looks. The committee is in motion! Mr. Johanning requested a copy, as he does not have ASPEN. Ms. Cogan stated she would send everyone a copy.

## 6. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Requests to Speak: There were no requests to speak.

**7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS & ACTION ITEMS**

Board Committees have met since the last Board of Education meeting. Chairpersons will make recommendations to the full Board, and/or seek clarification on issues. Board members who are liaisons to District-wide committees will also report at this time.

**A. Strategic Planning**

Ms. Cogan, Committee Chair, provided a report on the Strategic Planning Committee meeting that was held on February 25, 2021.

David Perry, Superintendent, and Sherri Fisher, Assistant Superintendent for Management Services and Strategic Planning, provided a brief update on the District's Strategic Planning process and timeline.

**B. Communications**

Ms. Gizzi, Committee Chair, provided a report on the Communications Committee meeting that was held on March 2, 2021.

**C. Facilities/Transportation**

Mr. Casey and Mr. Ryan, Committee Co-Chairs, provided a report on the Facilities/Transportation Committee meeting that was held on March 4, 2021.

**D. Policy**

Single Reading & Approval

Policy 4110 – Student Attendance Calendar (2021-2022)

A motion made by Mr. Johanning and seconded by Mr. Ryan, that the revisions made to the above stated Policy (4110) be approved as presented.

  8   Yes        0   No        0   Abstain                      **Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

**8. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION AND STUDY**

**A. Capital Project Update**

Sherri Fisher, Assistant Superintendent for Management Services & Strategic Planning, reported on capital project items for consideration in the 2021-2022 budget and provide an update on future Capital Project Plans.

**B. 2021-2022 Budget Development**

Sherri Fisher, Assistant Superintendent for Management Services & Strategic Planning, provided a report on the first draft of the 2021-2022 budget. Additional adjustments are expected.

\*Michael Keane joined the meeting at 8:00 pm.

**9. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following:

**A. Committee on Special Education**

Placements as indicated on the attached sheets.

**B. In-Service Courses**

Approval of in-service courses as per attached list. Interested staff may register for courses on PD Express.

**C. Health & Welfare Contract**

1. Approval of a contract with the North Colonie Central School District for the 2020-2021 school year to provide health and welfare services to seventy-five (75) South Colonie resident students attending non-public schools located in the North Colonie Central School District. The health service cost per pupil is \$748.41. The total cost of the contract shall be \$56,130.75.

**D. Public Employer Health Emergency Plan**

Approval of the Public Employer Health Emergency Plan for the South Colonie Central School District, effective March 17, 2021. The plan addresses continuation of operations plans in the event of a public health emergency involving communicable disease and will supplement the District's School Safety Plan.

**E. Proposals**

1. Acceptance of a proposal based in an amount not to exceed \$12,000.00 plus reimbursable expenses from SEI Design Group, 187 Wolf Road, Suite 304, Albany, New York 12205, for Site Acquisition Architectural Design Services.
2. Acceptance of a proposal in the amount of \$30,000.00 plus reimbursable expenses from SEI Design Group, 187 Wolf Road, Suite 304, Albany, New York 12205, for Architectural Services in relation to the Lisha Kill Middle School Electrical Switchgear Replacement.

**F. Bid Award – Mobile Storage Unit Rental**

Awarded to only bidder:  
Mobile Mini  
1620 Halfmoon Pkwy U.S. 9  
Clifton Park, NY 12065

**G. Final Payment to Contract**

1. Approval of a final payment in the amount of \$21,775.00 to TBC Industries, LLC, 7391 Cider Street, Suite 200, Westmoreland, New York 13490. Lisha Kill Middle School, Emergency Asbestos Abatement Capital Project, NYSED #010601-06-0002-019.
2. Approval of a final payment in the amount of \$5,292.65 to Mazone Plumbing & Heating, 93 Elsmere Avenue, Delmar, New York 12034. Colonie 2020 Phase III Capital Project, Lisha Kill Middle School, NYSED #010601-06-0002-016 and Colonie High School, NYSED #010601-06-0001- 028.

**H. 2020 School Nutrition Foundation Grant**

Acceptance of a Help Feed School Kids Now COVID-19 Fall 2020 Feeding Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 from the School Nutrition Foundation, 2900 South Quincy Street, Suite 700, Arlington, Virginia 22206. Grant proceeds will support the purchase of Personal Protective Equipment and/or Temperature Controlled Food Packaging for students at Colonie High School.

**I. Budget Transfers**

Approval of 2020-2021 budget transfers as per the attached sheet

A motion was made by Ms. Cogan and seconded by Ms. Gizzi, that the above stated Reports and Recommendations, be approved.

  9   Yes        0   No        0   Abstain                      **Vote Carried: 9 – 0 – 0**

**10. PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTION (Pages 10-11)**

A motion was made by Mr. Casey and seconded by Mr. Sim, that the Instructional Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated March 16, 2021 be approved.

  9   Yes        0   No        0   Abstain                      **Vote Carried: 9 – 0 – 0**

**11. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT** (Pages 12-13)

A motion was made by Mr. Keane and seconded by Mr. Ryan, that the Support Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated March 16, 2021 be approved.

9 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain      **Vote Carried: 9 – 0 – 0**

**12. RESOLUTION**

RESOLVED, the Board of Education of the South Colonie Central School District approves a certain Purchase and Sale Agreement dated March 16, 2021 by and between Joseph R. Bianchine and Christine R. Bianchine, as Co-Trustees of the Bianchine Federal QTIP Trust dated 12/15/1995 as Sellers and the South Colonie Central School District as Purchasers with respect to real property located at 96, 96A, 100, and 100A Broderick Street, Village of Colonie, New York; and, it is further

RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education of the South Colonie Central School District be authorized to execute the aforesaid Purchase and Sale Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

A motion was made by Ms. Cogan and seconded by Ms. Gizzi, that the above stated Resolution be adopted.

Roll Call Vote:	<u>✓</u> Brian Casey	<u>✓</u> Colleen Gizzi	<u>✓</u> David Kiehle
	<u>✓</u> Stephanie Cogan	<u>✓</u> Neil Johanning	<u>✓</u> James T. Ryan
	<u>✓</u> Rose Gigliello	<u>✓</u> Michael Keane	<u>✓</u> Edward Sim

9 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain      **Vote Carried: 9 – 0 – 0**

**13. RESOLUTION**

National Autism Awareness Month – April  
National School Library Month – April

A motion was made by Mr. Johanning and seconded by Mr. Ryan, that the above stated Resolution be approved.

9 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain      **Vote Carried: 9 – 0 – 0**

**14. FUTURE MEETINGS**

- **March 22** Policy Committee Meeting – 6:00 pm – Virtual
- **March 30** Strategic Planning Committee Meeting – 6:00 pm – Virtual
- **April 13** Graduation/Athletics Hall of Fame Committee Meeting – 6:00 pm- Virtual
- **April 13** Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 pm – Virtual
- **April 20** Communications Committee Meeting – 6:00 pm – Virtual
- **April 21** Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 pm – Virtual
- **April 26** Policy Committee Meeting – 6:00 pm – Virtual

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan and seconded by Mr. Keane, to enter Executive Session to discuss fiscal and employment matters relating to particular persons.

9 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain      **Vote Carried: 9 – 0 – 0**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:21 pm.

\*Mr. Sim did not attend Executive Session.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan and seconded by Mr. Casey, to adjourn Executive Session.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain      **Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

The Board adjourned Executive Session at 9:07 pm

**15. RESOLUTION**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the South Colonie Central School District hereby designates Dr. Warren Silverman, MD as school medical inspector for the purpose of preparing a medical examination pursuant to Education Law Section 913 regarding an employee's capacity to perform his/her duties. The doctor's report shall be given to the Board of Education in executive session after the examination is complete.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources is delegated the authority to coordinate such examination.

A motion was made by Mr. Keane and seconded by Ms. Cogan, that the above stated Resolution be approved.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain      **Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**



**16. ADJOURN MEETING**

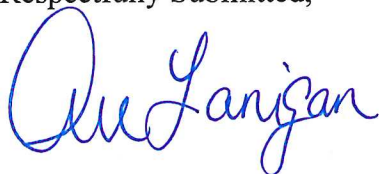
A motion was made by Mr. Casey and seconded by Ms. Gizzi, that the Regular Meeting be adjourned.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amber M. Lanigan  
District Clerk

**10. PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTION**

**A. Retirement**

1. Name: Patricia Vardaro  
Position: Teaching Assistant  
Location: Lisha Kill Middle School  
Effective Date: June 30, 2021  
Years of Service: 23+ years (1997-2021)
  
2. Name: Joseph Guardino  
Position: Administrator/Athletic Director  
Location: Colonie Central High School  
Effective Date: July 1, 2021  
REVISED:  
Years of Service: 25+ years (1995-2021)

**B. Temporary Appointment**

1. Name: Rachel Palmer  
Address: 8 Riesling Road, Niskayuna, NY 12309  
Type: Temporary (1.0)  
Tenure Area: Special Education Teacher  
Location: Forest Park Elementary School  
Effective Date: April 2, 2021  
Ending Date: June 30, 2021  
Salary: Schedule II, Step 1 As per the SCTA Contract (pro-rated)  
Education: B.S. from Sage Colleges and M.S. from SUNY Albany  
Certification Status: Initial in Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6)

**C. Substitute Teachers**

Approve substitute teachers on the attached list for regular appointments.

**D. Interscholastics for Fall/Winter – 2020-21 School Year**

Appoint the following previously approved positions at the approved rate of compensation:

**Colonie Central High School**

Assistant Coach Varsity Boys Football	Gabe Young	1.0
Coach Varsity Cheerleading-Fall	Ann Grasso-Little	1.0
Coach Junior Varsity Cheerleading-Fall	Christine Boisvert	1.0

**E. Resignation**

1. Name: Amy Hayes  
Position: Childhood Education Teacher  
Location: Virtual Academy-Lisha Kill Middle School  
Effective Date: April 9, 2021  
Reason: Personal

**F. Cafeteria Supervision for the 2020-21 School Year**

**Rescind** the following previously approved position effective March 15, 2021:

**Saddlewood Elementary School**

Sara Vann 1.0

**Appoint** the following previously approved position at the approved rate of compensation effective March 15, 2021:

**Saddlewood Elementary School**

Maria Ziamandanis 1.0

**11. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT****A. Creation of Position**

*Effective March 17, 2021:*

(1) .50 Part-Time Account Clerk I (12 months)

**B. Resignation**

1. Name: Asante Chandler  
Position: School Bus Driver  
Effective: March 13, 2021  
Reason: Personal

**C. Appointments**

1. Name: David Toombs  
Address: 52 Sand Creek Road Read Apt. Albany, NY 12211  
Position: Custodial Worker Substitute  
Effective: March 17, 2021  
Salary: \$13.75 per hour

2. Name: Thomas Burek  
Address: 7 Bridget Circle, Cohoes, NY 12047  
Position: School Monitor Substitute  
Effective: March 17, 2021  
Salary: \$12.50 per hour

3. Name: Kathryn McDermott  
Address: 32 Runnell Drive, Schenectady, NY 12304  
Position: School Monitor Substitute  
Effective: March 17, 2021  
Salary: \$12.50 per hour

4. Name: Edward Drucker  
Address: 1002 O'Brien Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12303  
Position: School Monitor Substitute  
Effective: July 1, 2021  
Salary: \$12.50 per hour

5. Name: Renee Sciotti  
Address: 9 Braintree Street, Albany, NY 12205  
Position: School Monitor Substitute  
Effective: July 1, 2021  
Salary: \$12.50 per hour

**D. Retirement**

1. Name: Jean Cassino  
Position: School Monitor (LK)  
**Revised Effective** June 29, 2021  
Date:  
Years of Service: 2000-2021