

**WYNANTSKILL UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education**  
**October 20, 2016**  
**Regular Meeting @ 7:00 PM**  
**Gardner-Dickinson School Media Center**  
[Audio Link of Meeting](#)  
**Minutes**

**1.0 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mr. Lanesey.

1.1 Record of Attendance

Mrs. Castle	Present
Mr. Lanesey	Present
Mrs. Mack	Present

1.2 Review of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Dr. Reardon reviewed the agenda.

1.3 Royal Recognition

Discussion: Dr. Reardon and Ms. Albright described the criteria of the Royal Recognition program and the details of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade health projects that were displayed, winning 1<sup>st</sup> place ribbons, at the Schaghticoke Fair in August of 2016.

Royal Recognition was awarded to the 12 7<sup>th</sup> grade students for their above and beyond work to have their 6<sup>th</sup> grade health projects displayed at the Schaghticoke Fair.

a. Avery Barnes	g. Melana McGivern
b. Hailey Barnes	h. Antonio Morales
c. Nicholas Carbone	i. Guiliana Mulinio
d. Rielly Countois	j. Jayden Richardson
e. Liam Gavin	k. Gaetano Tedesco
f. Hannah McCleery	l. Evan Vejvoda

1.4 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- a. September 15, 2016
- b. October 12, 2016

Mrs. Mack made a motion to approve the September 15, 2016 regular meeting minutes and the October 12, 2016 special meeting minutes.

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3/0.

1.5 Acceptance of Financial Reports

- a. Internal Claims Auditor's Report September 2016
- b. Treasurer's Monthly Report with Budget Transfers
- c. Quarterly Revenue at September 30, 2016
- d. Extra Classroom Activity Fund at September 30, 2016

Mrs. Mack made a motion to approve the District Treasurer's Financial Reports.

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.  
Motion Carried 3/0.

#### 1.6 Building Use

Group	Time/Dates	Location
Boy Scout Troop # 502	7-8:30 pm / Tuesday	Café

Mrs. Mack made a motion to approve the building use request from Boy Scout Troop #502.  
Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.  
Motion Carried 3/0.

Discussion: Dr. Reardon clarified that on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> there are two events happening for students that night. There is a Kindergarten social as well as a movie night. Dr. Reardon clarified that there should be enough time for Kindergarten students to attend both events.

#### 1.7 Visitors and Communication

Mr. Lanese reviewed the 4 communications to the Board of Education.

- a. Communications to the Board of Education
  - i. Email from Bonnie Pangburn
  - ii. Letter from Katrina Dinan
  - iii. Letter from Patricia Gray
  - iv. Email from Meredith Gavin
- b. Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

Mr. Devery stated that the Veterans tax exemption started over a year ago. He gave thanks to the Board of Education members, Mrs. Angrisano, Mrs. Hillis, Dr. Reardon and all of the tax payers who voted yes for the Veterans Tax exemption.

Gentleman in the audience: Gave thanks to the Board of Education.

Mr. Yager had questions on the letters received by the Board of Education. Mr. Yager would like the letters received by the Board of Education read aloud. Mrs. Mack and Mr. Lanese both clarified that copies were available through Mrs. Hillis as the Records Access and Records Management Officer.

### 2.0 Reports to the Board of Education

#### 2.1 Board of Education Reports & Updates

- a. Mr. Lanese gave an update on the open Board of Education Seats. Four community members have sent letters of interest.
- b. Mrs. Castle reported that she and Dr. Reardon would be participating in a dialogue with NYS Commissioner of Education at Questar III this coming Saturday.

#### 2.2 District / Superintendent Program Report

Dr. Reardon reported the following:

- a. Ed Planning Committee has been meeting to look at the Districts' Professional Development Plan. When complete the document will be presented to the Board of Education for final approval.
- b. Homework Center is up and running. Currently there are between 5 to 9 students attending each session.
- c. The school district received \$15,000 in bullet aid from Senator Kathy Marchione. The aid has been earmarked for technology pieces that need to be replaced or updated. A thank you note will be sent to Senator Kathy Marchione.

- d. DC Trip planning with our 8<sup>th</sup> grade families. The trip is planned for April 5 to April 7, 2017.
- e. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking a field trip to Tech Valley High School on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Tech Valley is one of the 5 choices students have to attend for high school.
- f. Capital Project drawings have been provided by CSArch. They will be on display in the school. The district will be forming a Prekindergarten planning committee over the winter months. Please watch our website and social media for more information.

### 2.3 Principal's Report

Mrs. Yodis reported the following:

- a. Assessments: Every student in grade K-8 has been assessed in ELA and Math. Every K-5 student has been assessed 1:1 with their teacher for reading. Big shout out to Stephanie Carbone for getting our 350 students tested, thank you for all of the hard work you have put into it. Kim Hertz-Betz and Stephanie Carbone have compiled all of the data from the testing for ELA and Math testing on all 350+ students. Keli Pautler, Andrew Newmark, and Judy Dutton have analyzed the data and special services have begun.
- b. Mid term progress reports for the middle school went home on the 7<sup>th</sup>. First quarter report cards will be mailed out on November 10<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Parent Conferences are on November 8<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Wellness Fair was a huge success, with over 30 local businesses participating. Thank you to all of the community members, staff, students, and parents who supported the event. Thank you to Tricia Gibbs for organizing the entire event.
- e. Band information night was a huge success, with 30 5<sup>th</sup> grade students signing up for band. For the first time the majority of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class is taking an instrument.
- f. Principal chats are the first Monday of the month in the Library at 6 pm.
- g. Veterans Day Assembly will take place on November 10<sup>th</sup>. More details coming soon.
- h. Thank you to our fall sport coaches: Dan DiSotto, Kate Cronin, Sam Davis, and Sam Swart they did an amazing job and the kids had a great time.

### 2.4 PTO Update

Sue Czubek presented the PTO report to the Board of Education.

## 3.0 Appointments and Authorizations

Consent agenda 3.1 to 3.14

- 3.1 Accept the resignation of Patricia Gray as Board of Education member effective 10/7/2016.
- 3.2 Approve CSE/CPSE Recommendations as per attached.
- 3.3 Approve Keith Akots for Extra-Curricular appointments (Chaperone & Softball Coach) for 2016-2017 school year as per WTA contract.
- 3.4 Approve Sam Davis for Extra-Curricular appointments (Boys & Girls Basketball and Baseball Coach) for 2016-2017 school year as per WTA contract.
- 3.5 Approve Amanda Rich for Extra-Curricular appointments (Boys & Girls Basketball and Softball Coach) for 2016-2017 school year as per WTA contract.
- 3.6 Approve Dan DiSotto for Extra-Curricular appointments (Baseball Coach) for 2016-2017 school year as per WTA contract.
- 3.7 Accept the resignation of Samantha Swart for Extra-Curricular appointment (Odyssey of the Mind Coach) effective 09/29/2016.
- 3.8 Approve Gina Mahoney for Extra-Curricular appointment (Odyssey of the Mind Coach) for 2016-2017 school year as per WTA contract.
- 3.9 Approve Mary Ellen Angrisano for temporary paid medical leave of absence as a Treasurer/Account Clerk effective 10/17/2016 (up to six weeks) until cleared medically to return to

work.

- 3.10 Approve Thomas Cupp for temporary paid medical leave of absence as a Custodian effective 9/27/2016 (up to six weeks) until cleared medically to return to work.
- 3.11 Approval of Substitutes

<b>Uncertified Substitute Teacher \$70 Day</b> Miguel A. Pereira	<b>Substitute Teacher Aide \$70 Day</b> Jennifer Collins Lynne Denny	<b>Certified Substitute Teacher \$90 Day</b> Lynne Denny
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- 3.12 Appoint Thomas Reardon as Chief Emergency Officer (no stipend) for the 2016-2017 school year.
- 3.13 Accept a \$2, 500 grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.
- 3.14 Approve the 2016-2017 Wynantskill Union Free School District Academic Intervention Services (AIS) Guidelines.

Mrs. Mack made a motion to approve the consent agenda item numbers 3.1 to 3.14.  
 Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.  
 Motion carried 3/0.

Discussion: Dr. Reardon clarified that 3.12 and 3.14 are mandated by New York State.  
 Mr. Newmark and Mrs. Wallace wrote the Dollar General grant, great job.

- 3.15 WHEREAS, pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a, the Board of Education of the Wynantskill Union Free School District desires to offer a school tax exemption on the primary residence of eligible veterans residing within the school district; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on this matter on September 15, 2016 at the Gardner-Dickinson School; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing was advertised in Troy Record; and

WHEREAS, all parties in attendance were permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf or in opposition to the adoption of the proposed local law offering a school tax exemption on the primary residence of eligible veterans residing within the school district.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a, the Board of Education hereby adopts the Alternative Veterans Exemption, permitting exemptions of 15 percent, an additional 10 percent, and 50 percent of the veteran’s disability rating as determined by the Veterans Administration or Department of Defense, for wartime veterans, combat veterans and veterans who sustained a service-related disability, respectively, pursuant to the following maximum exemption amounts

Exemption Qualification	Statutory Exemption Limits
Wartime	9,000
Combat	6,000
Disability	30,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this local law shall be effective immediately, available to eligible veterans for the upcoming school tax year and shall continue until rescinded or amended by resolution of the Board of Education.

Mrs. Castle made a motion to approve the Alternative Veterans Exemption.  
 Mrs. Mack seconded the motion.  
 Motion carried 3/0.

### 3.16 First Readings

- a) Sexual Harassment Policy # 0110
- b) Sexual Harassment Regulation # 0110-R
- c) Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy # 0115
- d) Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention Regulation # 0115-R
- e) Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention Exhibit # 0115-E.1
- f) Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention Exhibit #0115-E.2
- g) Board Operational Goals Policy # 2000
- h) School Board Legal Status Policy # 2100
- i) School Board Powers and Duties Exhibit Policy # 2110-E
- j) School Board Access to Information and Reports Policy # 2110.1
- k) Board Member Authority Policy # 2111
- l) Board member School Visits Policy # 2111.1
- m) School Board Elections Policy # 2120
- n) Candidates and Campaigning Policy # 2120.1
- o) Voting Procedures Policy # 2120.2
- p) Board Member Qualifications Policy # 2121
- q) Filling board Vacancies Policy # 2150
- r) School District Officer and Employee Code of Ethics Policy # 2160
- s) Board Organizational Meeting Policy # 2210
- t) Board Officers Policy # 2220
- u) Appointed Board Officials Policy # 2230
- v) Citizens Advisory Committees Policy # 2260
- w) School Attorney Policy # 2270
- x) Regular Meetings Policy # 2310
- y) Special Meetings Policy # 2320
- z) Executive Sessions Policy # 2330
- aa) Notice of Meetings Policy # 2340
- bb) Agenda Preparation and Dissemination Policy # 2342
- cc) Board Meeting Procedures Policy # 2350
- dd) Quorum Policy # 2351
- ee) Rules of Order Policy # 2352
- ff) Minutes Policy # 2360
- gg) Broadcasting and Taping of Board Meetings Policy # 2382
- hh) Board Hearings Policy #2390
- ii) Policy Development, Adoption, Implementation and Review Policy # 2410
- jj) Administration in Policy Absence Policy # 2440
- kk) New Board Member Orientation Policy # 2510
- ll) Board Member Training Policy # 2520
- mm) School Board Conferences Conventions, Workshops Policy # 2521
- nn) Board-Staff Communications Policy # 2700

#### Discussion:

Dr. Reardon gave thanks to all of the hard work the policy committee has given and reported that they are ahead of schedule.

Mrs. Castle added it has been a great group to work with and spoke on her experiences with the committee.

Mrs. Mack had questions on policy # 2111.1 School member visits, paragraph two. (Reference to assistant superintendent) Policy # 2320 special meetings question on that request needed to be made to the President.

Mrs. Mack asked Dr. Reardon about the Sexual Harassment policy and regulations. The policy states that training will be provided at the student's level. Mrs. Mack would like to know how it is provided and when it will be provided again. Dr. Reardon and Mrs. Yodis provided the information on training and how it will be covered by grade level.

**4.0 Old Business**

**5.0 New Business**

**a. Legislative Liaison for NYSSBA, CAPSBA**

Discussion: Dr. Reardon clarified the Legislative Liaison for NYSSBA, CAPSBA position that is now open due to a Board member resignation. The Board of Education has decided to fill the open position when the two new Board of Education seats were filled.

**6.0 Informational**

6.1 Regular BOE Meeting November 17, 2016 @ 7 pm

6.2 Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

Mrs. Czubek asked questions on the Capital Project funding and parts of the project that were planned and now not happening (fitness trail & tennis courts). Dr. Reardon clarified.

Ms. Rokjer asked when the announcement of the new appointed Board of Education members would be.

Dr. Reardon asked the Board of Education if they would like to select dates now.

The Board of Education would select a date for interviews..

Female in the audience asked if it was public knowledge who applied. Dr. Reardon clarified why the names would not be released.

Mrs. Lettieri asked Dr. Reardon if he would be part of the interviews. Dr. Reardon replied yes.

Mr. Yager had questions on the voting process of the newly elected seats. Dr. Reardon clarified.

Dr. Reardon clarified there are 2 seats available. All seats are up for election on May 16, 2017.

The Board of Education chose Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> for a special meeting, executive session anticipated. Interviews will begin at 6:30 with the Board of Education arriving at 6:15 pm.

**7.0 Request for Executive Session**

Mrs. Mack made a motion to enter into executive session for the purposes of discussing the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation at 8:02 p.m.

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3/0.

**8.0 Return to Open Session**

Mrs. Castle made a motion to return to open session at 9:29 p.m.

Mrs. Mack seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3/0.

**9.0 Adjournment**

Mrs. Mack made a motion to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

Mr. Lanese seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3/0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Hillis  
Clerk of the Board

The mission of our community based school is to create a safe, compassionate, progressive learning environment that recognizes individual needs and encourages all students to strive for personal and educational excellence. As a small, suburban school district, rich with pride, we believe that by working together we can: create a dynamic program based on character, tolerance and diversity; provide opportunities for all to reach their fullest potential; empower all to achieve personal excellence and encourage a life-long love of learning.