

**WYNANTSKILL UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Special Meeting of the Board of Education**  
**May 7, 2020 @ 7:00 PM**  
**Join Zoom Meeting**  
<https://siena.zoom.us/j/99884718519>  
**Meeting ID: 998 8471 8519**  
**Dial by your location**  
**+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)**  
**Minutes**

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

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Mr. Lanese.

1.1 Record of Attendance

Mrs. Castle	Present
Mr. Hirokawa	Present @ 7:21 pm
Mr. Lanese	Present
Mrs. Mack	Present @ 7:20 pm
Mr. Strang	Present

1.2 Review of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Mr. Lanese reviewed the agenda.

**2.0 Reports to the Board of Education**

2.1 District / Superintendent Program Report

Dr. Reardon reported the following to the Board of Education:

Budget Time-Line: The Regular Board of Education meetings for May has been changed from May 7, 2020 to May 21, 2020. The Budget Hearing Date has been set for June 2, 2020 @ 7 pm via Zoom. Absentee ballots are due by June 9, 2020 @ 5 pm. All ballots must be sent through the mail. Thank you to Board Clerk, Sharon Hillis for organizing the mailing, postage, and ballots. We will be adopting our budget on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Graduation Committee: 10 families have joined our District Graduation Committee. We will be doing graduation out on the baseball / soccer field with immediate family members, date to be announced. Some of the ideas the District is planning for our graduates are graduate parade, lawn signs and class t shirts.

Aspire Class: We are very excited to announce our 6:2 class, we currently have 4 students enrolled.

Classroom Pack up: Arrangements are being made for staff to pack up their classrooms and time for students to pick up their belongs and drop off any borrow technology.

Discussion:

Mr. Strang had asked if the Board of Education and staff will be able to attend graduation.

Dr. Reardon replied that the goal is to have to the BOE and staff as long as there is room for appropriate social distancing.

Mr. Lanese had asked if we needed to hire election staff. There was concern for Board Clerk Mrs. Hillis being able to legally count the ballots, to which Dr. Reardon replied that the District would be using internal staff this year for the process.

Dr. Reardon clarified the law on counting ballots.

2.2 Board of Education Reports & Updates

- a) Dr. Cruz Questar III: Dr. Cruz, Superintendent at Questar III along with Mr. Sherman, Communications Department Director at Questar III and Mr.

Hadjoannou, Deputy Superintendent at Questar III reviewed the steps to conduct a Superintendent search using the resources available from Questar III.

Dr. Cruz started the presentation with reviewing what a Superintendent looks like, reviewing data gathered by Questar III. Dr. Cruz and Mr. Sherman provided a demonstration of what an online survey could look like if the Board of Education decided they wanted the input of the community. Dr. Cruz spoke on the brochure and the timeline requested by the Board of Education.

Mr. Sherman spoke on the second phase of the search process. Advertising, marketing videos, and how to announce your search along with how Questar III will collect your applications. Mr. Hadjoannou reviewed the process of developing a rubric and reviewing each resume received.

Dr. Cruz and Mr. Sherman reviewed the background search that is conditioned, including newspapers, social media and google.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Strang: Had questions on formal background check conducted.

Dr. Cruz and Mr. Hadjoannou described what Questar III offers in means of background checks.

Mr. Lanesey: Wanted to know what the average time frame is for a search. Dr. Cruz stated it could take three to six months depending on Board preference.

Mr. Lanesey: Had questions on the timing of the hiring of a Superintendent. Dr. Cruz stated that a Superintendent could be hired for the start of the school year. The Superintendent contract is one thing that could hold up the hiring process. Mr. Sherman stated that Questar III recommends keeping the posting open for 30 days.

Mr. Strang: Inquired whether the timing of the search would result in a second cycle of candidates.

Questar III provided various scenarios regarding why a candidate would be looking to join a District the size of Wynantskill.

Mr. Lanesey asked on other district openings at this time. Dr. Cruz said there are no other local Superintend searchers.

Mr. Lanesey asked the Board of Education if there were any more questions. There were no questions asked from the Board of Education.

**3.0 Informational**

- 3.1 Regular BOE meeting May 21, 2020 @ 7 pm
- 3.2 Budget Hearing June 2, 2020 @ 7 pm
- 3.3 Budget Vote June 9, 2020 Absentee Ballots due by 5 pm
- 3.4 Regular BOE Meeting June 11, 2020 @ 7 pm
- 3.5 Opportunity for the Public to be Heard  
There was nobody wishing to speak.

**4.0 Request for Executive Session**

Mr. Strang 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 8:01 p.m.

Mr. Hirokawa seconded the motion.  
Motion carried 5/0.

## **5.0 Return to Open Session**

Mr. Hirokawa made a motion to return to open session at 8:49 p.m.  
Mr. Strang seconded the motion.  
Motion carried 5/0.

## **6.0 Adjournment**

Mrs. Mack made a motion to adjourn at 8:49 p.m.  
Mr. Hirokawa seconded the motion.  
Motion carried 5/0.

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.