

WYNANTSKILL UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
December 17, 2020 @ 7:00 PM
Gardner-Dickinson School Conference Room
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99614414226?pwd=V1lmYldHVfJLNWY3U0d3eXNmcGQvUT09>

Meeting ID: 996 1441 4226 Passcode: 791207

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Meeting Minutes Draft

1.0 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mrs. Mack.

1.1 Record of Attendance

Mrs. Castle	Present
Mr. Hirokawa	Present
Mr. Lanese	Present
Mrs. Mack	Present
Mr. Strang	Absent

* Although Mrs. Castle & Mr. Lanese were not in attendance for the entire ZOOM meeting, the Board was able to maintain quorum throughout the meeting.

1.2 Review of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Dr. Yodis reviewed the agenda.

1.3 Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

a. November 11, 2020@7:03 PM

Mrs. Castle made a motion to approve the November 11, 2020, regular meeting minutes. Mr. Hirokawa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3/0.

Mrs. Castle, Mr. Hirokawa, Mrs. Mack present.

Mr. Lanese, Mr. Strang absent.

1.4 Acceptance of Financial Reports

- a. Internal Claims Auditor's Report
- b. Monthly Treasurer's Report with Budget Transfers (November)

Mr. Hirokawa made a motion to approve the District Treasurer's Financial Reports.

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3/0.

Motion carried: Castle, Hirokawa, Mack

Castle, Hirokawa, Mack present.

Mrs. Castle, Mr. Hirokawa, Mrs. Mack present.

Mr. Lanese, Mr. Strang absent.

1.5 Visitors and Communication

- a. Communications to the Board of Education
There were no communications to the Board of Education.
- b. Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

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.

No one wished to speak.

2.0 Reports to the Board of Education

2.1 Board of Education Reports & Updates
There were no reports/updates.

2.2 District/Superintendent Report
Dr. Yodis reported the following to the Board of Education:

December 17, 2020, was our first snow day per the areawide Snow Emergency. Thanks to the building and grounds crew for their snow removal efforts. Thanks to the transportation department for work trying to get buses out & helping assess road safety. Current road clearing/clean-up status indicates a need for a second snow day on 12/18/20.

Welcome, Heidi Hallock, Superintendent's Secretary, and Board Clerk.

Wynantskill had its 2nd Positive COVID19 case. We were notified on the 10th that one of our Middle School Students tested positive for COVID. That student had not been in the building since December 4th. As a result, the Rensselaer County Department of Health quarantined the entire class of 20 students, 2 classroom teachers, and one teacher aide. Since we have block scheduling and each core content area is taught every other day, we were spared quarantining the other subject area teachers.

To this date, all quarantine students and staff are feeling well and have worked remotely from their homes. This is working out great and they are commended for their efforts and their ability to provide uninterrupted teaching and learning during such a difficult time.

Seeing that this was only our second positive case, Dr. Yodis is very proud of our community for adhering to the safety guidelines and keeping our children safe.

Wynantskill is getting ready to provide rapid COVID testing as per the Governor's directive should our district fall into a yellow zone. A COVID-19 Testing Consent Form, created from NYS, was sent home this week. Should we enter a Yellow or Orange zone, we would have to randomly test 20% of students and staff monthly. If we were ever declared a red zone it would be 30% of our students and staff tested. Only students who have parent consent will be tested. Nothing happens to students who don't get tested, they do not have to go remote. That has been a common question from families.

Questar III is still working on getting approval - to become a (LSL)Limited Service Laboratory and the 23 component districts under Questar III would use their license to test within each district. Once we have a LSL licence through Questar, we would request the rapid tests from NYS at no cost to our district.

Safety Drill- Second Lockdown Drill with North Greenbush Police Department was successfully completed this month.

We extend a big thank you to Anthony Vescio for taking on and performing all of the building technology updates that had previously been contracted with a company from out of state. COVID-19 restrictions prevented the company from traveling to Wynantskill to perform the service. Our wifi was spotty, creating difficulty for our teachers and students to remain on their devices. Anthony stepped up to complete the project all by himself. He learned how to install everything with their guidance over the phone and through video modeling. Dr. Yodis expressed

gratitude for the sacrifice and dedication he has shown the district during these difficult times.

Dr. Yodis expressed gratitude to Sue Stoya for serving as Interim Principal since the start of the school year. She was able to complete the first round of necessary staff and teacher observations.

Welcome, Suzann Cornell, new Building Principal. In only three short weeks Suzann has done a terrific job acclimating herself to the students, faculty, staff, and families. She has jumped in and has been a tremendous help in all situations. She is a wonderful fit for our community and we look forward to working with her on many new initiatives.

2.3 Principal Program Report

Principal Cornell reported the following to the Board of Education:

Principal Cornell expressed gratitude for the warm welcome she has experienced during her first three weeks in the District. In addition to forming relationships with staff and students, she was able to facilitate a professional development day with the Elementary Team. Staff development consultant from QUESTAR, Heidi Bromley, met with the majority of the Primary Team for mathematics professional development. Individual grade level professional development is planned for January. It will focus on mathematics curriculum & instruction, and best practices.

2.4 PTA/SEPTA Update

Mrs. Mack provided the SEPTA report. Dr. Yodis gave a summary of PTA activities, and expressed gratitude for their continued generosity and support.

SEPTA held a COVID friendly meet-up at the playground before Thanksgiving for the distribution of sensory bags created through a partnership with an area Girl Scout for her senior service project. Brigid Mack created the sensory bags for special needs students at Wynantskill for her Gold Award project. Laminated handwashing instructional strips and flip cards were also provided to students. Mrs. Keane also received materials for students at St. Judes. Parent chats will most likely resume in January.

PTA purchased 10 personalized golf umbrellas for staff/student use during inclement weather.

Monthly school spirit activities are occurring in person and virtually in conjunction with the PTA. Virtual field trips, milk and cookies, hot cocoa, and gingerbread houses have been supported during the month of December.

PTA has generously provided support to families in need.

3.0 **Appointments and Authorizations**

Consent agenda 3.1 – 3.3

Dr. Yodis presented the draft Budget Calendar.

- 3.1 Approve CSE/CPSE/Section 504 Recommendations as per attached
- 3.2 Acceptance of the Corrective Action Plan for Audited Financial Statements ending June 30, 2020
- 3.3 Approve Budget Calendar

Mr. Hirokawa made the motion to approve the consent agenda item numbers 3.1.-3.3.

Mr. Lanese seconded the motion.

Motion carried:3/0

Mr. Lanesey, Mrs. Mack, Mr. Hirokawa present

4.0 Informational

4.1 Regular BOE Meeting January 21, 2021 @ 7 pm

4.2 Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

Sue Stoya, CASDA consultant, thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to work with the Staff and Students.

The Board of Education expressed their appreciation of her service and leadership through the transition of school administration, and COVID-19 crisis.

5.0 Request for Executive Session

No request for Executive Session was made

Recommended Action: That the Board of Education adjourns into Executive Session, if needed, for the purpose of discussing one or more of the following subjects:

1. _____ Matters that will imperil the public safety if disclosed.
2. _____ Any matter that may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer.
3. _____ Information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed.
4. _____ Discussion involving proposed, pending, or current litigation.
5. _____ Collective negotiations pursuant to article 14 of the Civil Service Law.
6. _____ 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.
7. _____ The preparation, grading, or administration of exams.
8. _____ The proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition, sale, or exchange of securities, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value of these things (Pub. Off. Law § 105(a-h)).

6.0 Return to Open Session

N/A

7.0 Adjournment

Mr. Hirokawa made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Mr. Lanesey seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4/0

Mrs. Castle, Mr. Hirokawa, Mr. Lanesey, Mrs. Mack present

Mr. Strang absent