

WYNANTSKILL UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
November 18, 2021 @ 7:00 PM
Gardner Dickinson Conference Room
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87082600652?pwd=OnZXTW84eWpUei9OZFZ4MEJ5T3d2Zz09>
Meeting ID: 870 8260 0652
Passcode: 717964

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 7:21 PM by Mr. Lanesey.

1.1 Record of Attendance

Mrs. Castle	Present
Mr. Hirokawa	Present
Mr. Lanesey	Present
Mr. Mack	Present
Mr. Strang	Present

1.2 Review of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Dr. Yodis reviewed the agenda.

1.3 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

a. October 21, 2021

Mrs. Castle made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2021 Board of Education meeting. Mr. Strang seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

1.4 Acceptance of Financial Reports

- a. Internal Claims Auditor's Report (October 2021)
- b. Monthly Treasurer's Report with Budget Transfers
- c. Quarterly Revenue Report
- d. School Tax Report 2021-2022

Mrs. Mack made a motion to approve the financial reports. Mrs. Castle approved the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

1.5 Visitors and Communication

- a. Communications to the Board of Education
 - i. Phone call from the North Greenbush zoning office requesting submittal of any comment on the Grand at Creekside Proposal by 11/22/2021.

The board had a brief discussion regarding enrollment trends in light of the recent

development and proposed development that could affect the District. Being the units are 1-2 bedrooms we don't anticipate that the project would yield more students than we can accommodate.

ii. Letter from Utica National Insurance Company containing this year's School Safety Excellence Award.

iii. Transportation Study Report will be presented by Chris Andrew from TAS.

Chris Andrews from TAS gave thanks to Mike Goyer and Dr. Yodis for their assistance in gathering information for the report. He highlighted some key points:

- Using GPS for Efficiency
- The ABC's of Driver Recruitment
- Attendance Incentive Plan

Mr. Andrews noted that it is unusual to be transporting students to 8 different high schools and that the integrated runs with North Greenbush may create additional strain on the department. It may be worth looking at the cost-benefit of those areas in the future. Michael Goyer, District Transportation Consultant, noted that the overall outlook is much better than it was at the close of the last school year.

b. Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

There were no requests from the public to be heard. Mrs. Mack shared the following Facebook post regarding district employee Kathy Fazioli:

Posted by Wayne Wehnau:

So, this morning wasn't a good morning. However, Wynantskill UFSD has one amazing employee. When Mrs. Fazioli saw us walking through the door late, found out the situation, she was all over it. She's always had our children's back. All last spring she had Megs back and she did this morning too, and she gave me a great sense of comfort to be able to drop her off and know that Mrs. Fazioli was already putting gears into motion to make sure she would be ok and that her day would be ok. Our educators and caregivers are not just in the classrooms. Sometimes they are that first face that you see every day, and know every kid by name, every sibling, and all the parents. My hero this morning.

Ms. Fazioli was recognized for service to the GD community.

2.0 Reports to the Board of Education

2.1 Board of Education Reports & Updates

Mr. Strang noted a change in legislation regarding the need to disclose the location of board members who are attending meetings remotely.

2.2 District / Superintendent Program Report

Dr. Yodis gave an update on recent positive COVID cases within the district and resulting quarantines. Rensselaer County is going to pilot a program where only the seatmate of a positive case will be required to quarantine, so that should cut down on the number of students required to quarantine moving forward. The Point of Care COVID testing machine has arrived and will be available in the near future for screening. QUESTAR is providing a nurse beginning 12/1 to help with the screening of unvaccinated staff and students.

Basketball practice began this week. Mr. Disotto is working on a way to live stream the games as our gym can not support spectators.

The Building Condition Survey is underway under the direction of Ed Anker of Phinney Design Group. The survey is scheduled to be completed in December.

2.3 Principal's Report

Over the past two months, Gardner-Dickinson has had two school-wide events that have brought our school community together in wonderful ways. We had our first annual Pumpkin Run on October 29th. This event was fun for the students and staff alike. It was a beautiful fall day and to see the students running races, smiling and laughing along with enjoying delicious treats of popcorn and cider donuts gave us all a sense of normalcy.

The second event was our Veteran's Day Parade which was last Wednesday. Once again it was a warm and sunny day. About 25 Veterans and their family members participated. Each class lined the front circle. They cheered and clapped while the cars drove slowly past. The Veterans were presented with posters, cards, and flowers. The students and staff agreed this was a wonderful way to honor our service members.

The Builder's Club, under the direction of our Art Teacher, Jeanine Mitchell, hosted a Thanksgiving Food Drive. Many non-perishable items came in over the past week. The middle school members of Builder's Club are doing a terrific job.

2.4 PTA / SEPTA Update

No update was provided from the PTA. SEPTA recently held a parent chat session.

3.0 Appointments and Authorizations

Consent agenda 3.1 – 3.13

- 3.1 Approve CSE/CPSE Recommendations as per attached.
- 3.2 Accept the resignation of Bethany Mueller from the position of School Psychologist effective November 15, 2021.
- 3.3 Accept the resignation of Michelle Nicklas from the position of Special Education Teacher, for the purpose of retirement effective December 8, 2021.
- 3.4 Accept the resignation of Alicia Travis from the position of Teacher's Aide effective December 10, 2021.

- 3.5 Accept the resignation of Michael Ducatte (Bornt) from the position of full-time Custodial Worker effective December 24, 2021.
- 3.6 Appoint Gary Nicoll as a full-time Bus Driver at a rate of \$20.00/hr. for the 2021-2022 school year. (Salary Correction from 10/21/21 appointment)
- 3.7 Appoint Patricia Martino volunteer recess support staff for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 3.8 Appoint Dominic Martino volunteer recess support staff for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 3.9 **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the settlement of the pending due process hearing request involving Student No. 10132, based on the terms set forth in the proposed Stipulation of Settlement reviewed in Executive Session and hereby authorizes the Superintendent to execute said Stipulation of Settlement.
- 3.10 Appoint Basketball Coaches for the 2021-2022 School Year as per WTA contract:

Girls' Modified
Courtney Townsend
Erica Cawthon

Boys' Modified
Jeff Muller
Ben Pitan

- 3.11 Appoint Substitutes for the 2021-2022 school year.

Non- Certified Building Substitute at a rate of \$92/day Substitute Teachers Aide/Non-Certified Teacher, Clerical, Recess, and Kitchen
Debbie Baker
Erin Mahar
Tina Rysio
Delaney Burton- Pending Fingerprint Clearance

Certified Teacher Substitute at a rate of \$102/day.

Terrie Goodspeed

3.12 Approve the disposal of :

Epson Projector-Model H449A, District Tag F00478
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Oki Printer- Model C332, District Tag F00673
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ScanTron Testing Machine, District Tag A00222

3.13 Policy Update- Second Reading

8131 Pandemic Planning

Mr. Strang made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items 3.1-3.13. Motion carried 5/0.

Dr. Yodis noted that Bethany Mueller had moved on to a new position elsewhere. She offered appreciation to Michelle Nicklas for 16 years of service to students at Gardner-Dickinson. She wished Alica Travis well in her new teaching position. Michael Ducatte was congratulated on completing his degree program and wished the best in his new position. We are pleased to have Patrician and Dominic Martino volunteering during recess. They provide engaging, structured options to students who are reluctant to participate during recess. Mr. Lanese suggested contacting the local recycling service for disposal of the obsolete and damaged equipment.

4.0 Informational

4.1 Regular BOE Meeting December 16, 2021, @ 7 PM.

4.2 Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

Mrs. Mack made a motion to adjourn into an executive session @ 8:40 PM. Mr. Hirokawa seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

5.0 Request for Executive Session

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

Mr. Strang made the motion to return to open session at 9:02 pm.

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5/0

7.0 Adjournment

Mrs. Castle made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 pm.

Mr. Strang seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5/0

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Hallock

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.