

Board of Education

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
May 18th, 2023, @ 7:00 PM
Gardner-Dickinson School Library Media Center
Draft Minutes

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

1.1 Call to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Mr. Lanesey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

1.2 Record of Attendance

Mrs. Mack	Absent
Mr. Lanesey	Present
Mr. Strang	Present @ 7:45 pm
Mrs. Castle	Present
Mrs. Hurbanek	Present

1.3 Review of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Dr. Yodis mentions we have an exciting agenda today, including contracts and introducing Ms. Toomey.

1.4 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a. Regular BOE Meeting April 20th, 2023
- b. QUESTAR III Budget Vote, April 25, 2023
- c. Budget Hearing, May 4, 2023

Mrs. Castle made a motion to approve the minutes.

Mrs. Hurbanek seconded the motion.

Motion Carries 3/0.

1.5 Acceptance of Financial Reports

- a. Internal Claims Auditor's Report April 2023
- b. Monthly Treasurer's Report with Budget Transfers
- c. Quarterly Revenue Status Report, 3/31/2023

Mrs. Hurbanek made a motion to accept the financial reports.

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion Carries 3/0.

1.6 Visitors and Communications

- a. Communications to the Board of Education
- b. Ed Anker and Eric Robert - Capital Project Update

Ed Anker and Eric Robert joined the meeting to discuss the current progress of the capital project.

- They are currently finalizing documents to send to NYSED.
- Since we are able to choose the contractors through the co-op process we will not need to use the lowest bidder.
- NYSED now offers rebates for things that increase air quality to encourage districts to implement these measures. Because of these rebates, it is possible that the district may end up with extra money in the capital project fund to make upgrades elsewhere.
- Next update will be before the start of the 2023-24 school year.

c. Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

Nobody at this time.

2.0 **Reports to the Board of Education**

2.1 Board of Education Reports & Updates

- Policy committee began work again, policies are being discussed and presented at the next meeting.

2.2 District/Superintendent Program Report

Dr. Yodis spoke about a variety of topics for her District/Superintendent Report.

- A big thank you to the overwhelmingly positive support for the school budget, which includes a full-time school resource officer.
- We will present Shannon Toomey as principal for approval to the board tonight. A big thanks to the committee and Sue Stoya, Kate Hamilton, Jamie O'Brien, John Lantz, Kaelyn Madelone and John Penman for the help in the principal search, amongst others.
- Three candidates are finalists for the open Spanish teacher position for next year and will be finalized soon.
- WTA contract is up for approval today. Thank you to the WTA negotiations committee for their work on this, as well as Mrs. Angrisano.
- Teacher Aide contract is also up for approval tonight. Dr. Yodis appreciates their hard work and feedback in negotiations.
- High School Senior walkthrough for graduating alumni will take place on June 12th.
- Spring pictures was a huge success a couple of weeks ago. Thanks to Kyle Barber for all the hard work getting iSmile Studios here.
- A shoutout to Rocco Mazzarello for all the amazing work out front weeding and putting new mulch down out front.
- A great big shoutout to Mrs. Van Maastricht for putting on a fantastic concert last week that played like a musical.
- Big thanks to Coach Parker and Rocco for the undefeated softball season to date and tough win tonight.

2.3 Principal's Report

2.4 Building, Grounds & Transportation

2.5 PTA/SEPTA Update

- Officer nomination forms went out and officers will be voted on at the next meeting on 5/25.
- Playground event went well on 5/16, thank you to everyone who helped set up and kids had a blast.
- Ready tech go event was rescheduled to 6/1 via zoom.
- Thank you to the PTA for covering all field trip costs, helping with the Eric Litwin visit and even paid for one of his books to be in every classroom!

3.0 Appointments and Authorizations

Consent agenda 3.1 - 3.7

- 3.1 Approve CSE/CPSE Recommendations as per attached.
- 3.2 Approve MOU between Wynantskill UFSD and WTA regarding CSE Chairperson
- 3.3 Approve Lauren Curran and Katie Sheehan as Running Club Coach at a rate of \$30/hr not to exceed 5 hours.
- 3.4 Declare the following as surplus:

School Bus 70 - 49,504 miles - some mechanical issues

- 3.5 Accept the resignation of Brenda Alderman as CSE Secretary effective May 26th, 2023
- 3.6 Appoint Robert Zieske as a bus driver at a rate of \$19.57/hr.
- 3.7 Appoint Sal Sceechitano as a bus driver trainee at a rate of \$18.54/hr

Mrs. Castle made a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Mrs. Hurbanek seconded the motion.

Motion Carries 3/0.

- Dr. Yodis mentions that GD is sad to see Brenda go, however, she got an amazing job offer for a full-year position.
- The Transportation department looks in good shape as we have 2 substitute drivers now.

3.8 WHEREAS, pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 466-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 volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers residing within the school district and who have served a minimum of 2 years; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on this matter on April 20th, 2023; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby adopts the Property

Tax Exemption for eligible volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers, permitting residential property exemptions of 10% for eligible volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers residing within the School District and who have served a minimum of 2 years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 466-a, the Board of Education shall provide a lifetime property tax exemption of 10% on the primary residence of eligible volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers with twenty (20) years of service within the school district and who maintain their primary residence within the same school district; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education shall provide a property tax exemption of 10% to eligible un-remarried spouses of deceased eligible volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers, subject to the requirements of Real Property Tax Law Section 466-a; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education shall provide a property tax exemption of 10% to eligible un-remarried spouses of deceased eligible volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers who died in the line of duty, subject to the requirements of Real Property Tax Law Section 466-a; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this local law shall be effective immediately, available to eligible volunteer firefighter and ambulance workers for the 2024-2025 school year and shall continue until rescinded or amended by resolution of the Board of Education.

Mrs. Castle made a motion to approve item 3.8

Mrs. Hurbanek seconded the motion.

Motions 3/0.

3.9 Approve the agreement between the Wynantskill UFSD teacher aides and the Chief Executive Officer of the Wynantskill UFSD.

Mrs. Hurbanek made a motion to approve item 3.9

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion Carries 3/0.

3.10 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the memorandum of agreement by and between the Wynantskill Union Free School District and the Wynantskill Teachers' Association for a successor collective bargaining agreement covering the period of time commencing July 1, 2023 and ending

June 30, 2026, and authorizes payment thereunder

Mrs. Hurbanek made a motion to approve item 3.10

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion Carries 3/0.

3.11 RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Shannon Toomey as the PreK-8 Principal for a four-year probationary term effective July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2027, subject to the requirements of Education Law 3012-d, in the tenure area of PreK-8 Principal, and authorizes the terms and conditions of Ms. Toomey as it relates to her employment as PreK-8 principal, including any payment thereunder.

Mrs. Castle made a motion to approve item 3.11

Mrs. Hurbanek seconded the motion.

Motion Carries 3/0.

- Dr. Yodis says it's her pleasure to present Shannon Toomey to the board, who brings a lot of experience and recommendations to our school district.

3.12 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the results of the May 16, 2023 district voting as follows:

PROPOSITION #1 - Passed-135 YES / 25 NO

PROPOSITION #1 the 2023-2024 Budget as recommended by the Administration as follows: Shall the Board of Education of the Wynantskill Union Free School District, Rensselaer County, New York be authorized to expend the total amount of \$10,546,565 during the school year 2023-2024 and to levy the necessary tax therefore.

PROPOSITION #2 - Passed-132 YES / 29 NO

PROPOSITION #2, the 2023-24 Bus Proposal as recommended by the Administration as follows: Shall the Board of Education of the Wynantskill Union Free School District, Rensselaer County, New York be authorized to (1) acquire one SCHOOL BUS, at a maximum aggregate cost of \$146,000.00 (2) expend such sum, or so much thereof as shall be necessary; and (3) shall be paid from the current appropriation.

BOARD OF EDUCATION-Reelected

Eric Strang 148 Votes

Nichole Hurbanek 143 Votes

Mrs. Castle made a motion to approve item 3.12

Mrs. Hurbanek seconded the motion.

Motion Carries 3/0.

3.13 Accept the resignation of Joyce Lanese as a full-time aide retroactive 4/18/23.

3.14 Appoint Joyce Lanese as a part-time recess aide retroactive 4/18/23.

Mrs. Hurbanek made a motion to table items 3.13 and 3.14.

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion carries 3/0.

3.15 Approve INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT between Wynantskill UFSD and Rensselaer County Sheriffs for SRO (3 years).

Mrs. Hurbanek made a motion to approve item 3.15

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion Carries 3/0.

- Dr. Yodis is thrilled that this agreement was able to come together. It must go to the Sheriff's department for approval and posting. If a current sheriff is interested, they would get first choice at the position. If not, we would be involved in the process of choosing a new officer to be hired for this position. There should be plenty of time to get this in place by September. Hours would be 8am-2:30pm with the option of being here for events, sporting games, etc.

4.0 Informational

4.1 Regular BOE Meeting June 15th, 2023 @ 7 pm

4.2 Opportunity for the Public to be Heard.

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. x 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)).

Mrs. Hurbanek made a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of subject 6 at 7:40 pm
Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.
Motion carries 3/0.

6.0 Return to Open Session

Mrs. Hurbanek made a motion to return to open session at 8:55 pm.
Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.
Motion carries 4/0.

7.0 Adjournment

Mrs. Castle made a motion to adjourn at 8:56 pm
Mrs. Hurbanek seconded the motion.
Motion carries 4/0.

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 potential; empower all to achieve personal excellence; and encourage a lifelong love of learning.