

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE SPENCERPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: February 9, 2021
Spencerport, New York

Members Present: Mr. Bracken, Ms. Czarnecki, Mr. Gibbardo, Mr. Hutton, Mr. Kincaid,
Mr. Miceli, Ms. Stone

Absent:

Others Present: Ms. Clapper, Dr. Kissel, Ms. Lissow, Mr. Wood, Mr. Zinkiewich

The Study Session of the Board of Education of the Spencerport Central School District was called to order at 6:03 p.m. E.D.S.T. by the President, Mr. Hutton, in a Zoom meeting from everyone's respective homes due to an executive order from Governor Andrew Cuomo.

1. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

The Board of Education members and the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Ms. Stone and seconded by Mr. Bracken that the Board of Education approve the Business Session Agenda, amended to include an Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular person.

Vote of the Board: 6

Yes: 6
No: 0

3. CONSENT AGENDA

3.1 Old Business

3.11 Approval of the Board of Education meeting minutes held on January 19, 2021

3.2 New Business

3.21 Approval of Personnel Actions as Recommended by the Superintendent of Schools

A. Certificated Personnel

1. RESIGNATION

- a. Rob Pursel, Boys JV Basketball Coach, resigning effective February 2, 2021.
Reason: personal

2. APPOINTMENT

- a. Ellen Judd, New Hire Mentor for Canal View Elementary School, effective January 7, 2021 to March 1, 2021. Stipend is \$1,000 prorated to \$190.

3. LEAVES OF ABSENCE

- a. Ashley Wixson, Teaching Assistant assigned to Munn Elementary School, requesting an unpaid leave of absence on January 25, 2021 (afternoon only).
- b. Kelly Crosby, Special Education Teacher to Spencerport Central School District, requesting an unpaid leave of absence on February 26, 2021.
- c. Jill Jacobs, Art Teacher assigned to Bernabi Elementary School, requesting an unpaid leave of absence on February 3, 2021 (morning only), February 24, 2021 (morning only) and March 17, 2021 (morning only).
- d. Jennifer Ophardt, Special Education Teacher assigned to Bernabi Elementary School, requesting a family and medical leave of absence from February 3, 2021 to February 12, 2021.
- e. Melissa Morales, Speech and Hearing Handicapped Teacher assigned to Taylor Elementary School, requesting an intermittent unpaid leave of absence from February 1, 2021 to February 22, 2021.
- f. Amanda Sawall, School Media Specialist assigned to Cosgrove Middle School, requesting a family and medical leave of absence from February 1, 2021 to May 7, 2021.

4. SUBSTITUTE APPOINTMENT

- a. Vicki Beighley Pack, long-term per diem substitute teacher in the School Media Specialist tenure area assigned to Cosgrove Middle School, effective February 4, 2021 to May 7, 2021, pending New York State certification. Salary is \$200 per day. Ms. Beighley Peck is substituting for Ms. Sawall.

5. EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND INTER-SCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

a. Additional Fall/Winter Coaching Recommendations

<u>Coach</u>		<u>Sport</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Stipend Level</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Giordano	Dante	Basketball - Boys	Modified B-2	F	\$ 2,838
Lipani	Ricky	Basketball - Boys	Program Assistant	F	\$ 3,548
Somers	Ashley	Basketball - Boys	Modified A	J	\$ 3,481
Demlein	Michael	Basketball - Boys	Modified B-1	E	\$ 2,729
Wilkins	Kelly	Basketball - Girls	Modified A	K (OL-5)	\$ 4,733
Leone	Emily	Basketball - Girls	Modified B	H	\$ 3,013
Snedden	Morgan	Cheerleading	Modified A	E	\$ 2,460
DeSimone	Scott	Wrestling	Modified B	K (OL-19)	\$ 5,922
Nentarz	Matt	Wrestling	Program Assistant	K (OL-3)	\$ 5,050
Cesarano	Robert	Football	Junior Varsity	K	\$ 4,317
Cappotelli	Adam	Football	Junior Varsity	K (OL-3)	\$ 4,557
Binn	Eric	Football	Junior Varsity	G	\$ 3,655
Osher	Zachary	Football	Junior Varsity	J	\$ 4,017

<u>Volunteer Coaches</u>		
LaFranca	Mike	Basketball - Girls
Baxter	Alex	Wrestling
Kinnear	Kevin	Wrestling
Lorenzo	Conner	Wrestling
Gruttadauria	Todd	Ice Hockey
Lane	Dan	Basketball - Girls

6. AMENDMENTS

- a. Jessica Schultz, Remedial Reading Teacher assigned to Munn Elementary School, requesting an extension of her previously approved intermittent family and medical leave of absence (January 7, 2021 to January 21, 2021) to January 26, 2021.
- b. Christine Hasselberg, Mathematics Teacher assigned to Cosgrove Middle School, requesting an extension of her previously approved intermittent unpaid leave of absence (January 15, 2021 to January 29, 2021) to March 26, 2021.
- c. Sara Snarr, intermittent long-term per diem substitute teacher in the Mathematics tenure area assigned to Cosgrove Middle School, with an

extension of her previously approved appointment (September 10, 2020 to January 29, 2021) to March 26, 2021. Salary is \$200 per day. Ms. Snarr is substituting for Ms. Hasselberg.

- d. Sara Moyer, Foreign Language Teacher assigned to Spencerport High School, requesting an extension of her previously approved intermittent unpaid leave of absence (January 15, 2021 to January 29, 2021) to March 26, 2021.
- e. Elizabeth Wade, School Psychologist assigned to Spencerport High School, requesting an extension of her previously approved intermittent unpaid leave of absence (January 11, 2021 to January 28, 2021) to March 25, 2021.
- f. Katie Wyant, Science Teacher assigned to Spencerport High School, requesting an extension of her previously approved intermittent unpaid leave of absence (January 4, 2021 to January 28, 2021) to March 25, 2021.
- g. Allison Grose, intermittent long-term per diem substitute teacher in the Science tenure area assigned to Spencerport High School, with an extension of her previously approved appointment (September 10, 2020 to January 28, 2021) to March 25, 2021. Salary is \$187.50 per day. Ms. Grose is substituting for Ms. Wyant.
- h. Zachary Osher, appointed Boys Basketball JV Coach for the 2020-21 season. This was previously approved as Boys Basketball Program Assistant. The stipend remains at \$4,489.

B. Classified Personnel

1. RESIGNATIONS

- a. Jeffery LoPresti, Cleaner assigned to Spencerport High School, resigning effective January 16, 2021. Reason: deceased
- b. Brandy Orbaker, Bus Driver assigned to the Transportation Department, resigning effective January 26, 2021. Reason: to accept the Head Bus Driver position
- c. Bonnie Rawlings, Bus Driver assigned to the Transportation Department, resigning effective January 31, 2021. Reason: retirement
- d. Joyce Snell, Teacher Aide assigned to Cosgrove Middle School, resigning effective February 19, 2021. Reason: other employment

2. TERMINATION

- a. Sebastian Caldarelli, Cleaner assigned to Spencerport High School, with services terminated effective January 27, 2021.

3. APPOINTMENTS

- a. Brandy Orbaker, Head Bus Driver assigned to the Transportation Department, effective January 27, 2021. Salary is \$44,000 per year, prorated to \$18,712.64. Ms. Orbaker is replacing Mr. Yockel.
- b. Samantha Coughlin, Teacher Aide assigned to Cosgrove Middle School, effective February 4, 2021. Salary is \$12.50 per hour. Ms. Coughlin is replacing Ms. Woolaver.

4. LEAVES OF ABSENCE

- a. Rosalia Palotto, Food Service Helper assigned to Cosgrove Middle School, requesting an intermittent unpaid leave of absence from January 26, 2021 to March 24, 2021.
- b. Abigail Wandel, Teacher Aide assigned to Bernabi Elementary School, requesting an unpaid leave of absence on January 19, 2021.
- c. Kerstyn Smith, Teacher Aide assigned to District Office, requesting an unpaid leave of absence on January 13, 2021.
- d. Shelly Rosario, Lunch Monitor assigned to Munn Elementary School, requesting an unpaid leave of absence on February 5, 2021.
- e. Bonnie Rawlings, Bus Driver assigned to the Transportation Department, requesting an unpaid leave of absence on January 5, 2021, January 6, 2021, January 12, 2021 and January 14, 2021 to January 29, 2021.

5. SUBSTITUTE APPOINTMENTS

- a. Taylor Rettig, Teacher Aide PTOC effective February 1, 2021. Salary is \$12.50 per hour.
- b. Kaitlyn O'Mealia, Teacher Aide PTOC, effective January 28, 2021. Salary is \$12.50 per hour.

6. AMENDMENTS

- a. Rosalia Palotto, Food Service Helper assigned to Cosgrove Middle School, requesting an extension of her previously approved unpaid leave of absence (January 14, 2021 to January 19, 2021) to January 22, 2021.
- b. Meghan Mack, Teacher Aide assigned to Canal View Elementary School, requesting an extension of her previously approved intermittent unpaid leave of absence (January 5, 2021 to January 29, 2021) to March 26, 2021.

- c. Lynne Weiss, Food Service Helper assigned to Munn Elementary School, requesting an extension of her previously approved intermittent unpaid leave of absence (January 8, 2021 to January 29, 2021) to March 26, 2021.
- d. Amanda Warrington, Bus Driver assigned to the Transportation Department, requesting an extension of her previously approved unpaid leave of absence (December 16, 2020 to January 31, 2021) to March 26, 2021.
- e. Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi, Physical Therapist assigned to Canal View Elementary School and Cosgrove Middle School, requesting an extension of her previously approved unpaid leave of absence (January 4, 2021 to January 29, 2021) to include February 4, 2021 to March 26, 2021.

3.22 Therapy Dog Approval

Sean McCabe, Principal of the High School has recommended “Ellie,” a Goldendoodle, to begin performing therapy services at the High School. Ellie belongs to Jen Davin, a Social Worker at the High School. They will work together as a dog/handler team for the provision of animal interventions in alignment with Board Policy 8361.

3.23 Nomination of Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES BOE Representative

Resolved: Mr. Michael J. May, residing at 38 Glenville Drive, Rochester, New York 14606 in the Spencerport Central School District, is hereby nominated as a candidate on the Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Board for a three-year term of office to begin July 1, 2021 and end on June 30, 2024

A motion was made by Mr. Bracken and seconded by Mr. Kincaid to approve the Consent Agenda.

Vote of the Board: 6

Yes: 6

No: 0

4. BOARD OF EDUCATION

4.1 President’s Report and Communication

Mr. Hutton attended the MCSBA Executive session where they had great conversations regarding fully re-opening schools.

Ms. Czarnecki entered the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

Mr. Hutton shared that the Board is looking into allowing privilege of the floor. We have limited space due to COVID restrictions. When meetings can be open to the public, we may institute a plan where a community member would make a request ahead of the meeting to attend. Space will be limited.

4.2 Board of Education Members' Reports

Mr. Kincaid attended the first budget focus group meeting. It was great to see returning and new community members participating. The budget will be a challenging task. He also attended the re-opening task force meeting. Mr. Kincaid gave a shout out to Mrs. Pincelli, the Principal of Taylor Elementary and parents. He attended their PTO meeting via zoom and they are doing an incredible job supporting students and staff. Mr. Gibbardo attended the Rotary meeting and they are in the process of assembling bags for the homeless. They held a silent auction to raise funds. Ms. Stone again gave a shout out to the music program and Ms. Cypher for producing and posting music videos of our students. Mr. Bracken attended the Wellness committee meeting. They are in the process of collecting recipes for a district cookbook. He also attended the MCSBA Executive committee meeting. He warned of misinformation in the public regarding the opening of schools fully with full protocols. Dr. Kissel shared that the MCSBA has been helping districts greatly with the day-to-day changes due to COVID.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kissel provided an update on the return of student's full time. A letter was recently sent to parents to outline our efforts. The staff was asked to fill out a survey regarding vaccinations. The current guidelines for masking and social distancing has not changed. The County will provide an extra opportunity for 20 bus drivers to be vaccinated. The positivity rate has recently dropped in our area and we need to continue to worry about the health and safety of everyone before a full return to school.

5.1 Pre-K Pilot Update

Ms. Paolini, the Director of Curriculum introduced the teachers on special assignment Ms. Caroline Bodensteiner and Mr. Tom Burger as well as teacher Ms. Dana Campbell. She thanked the Board and building principals for all their support of the pre-k program. Ms. Bodensteiner shared that the pilot is a two-year program and they are preparing for the 21-22 school year. A lot of research was done to develop the program and they hope to make a recommendation for a formal adoption. Ms. Paolini shared information regarding a New York State grant that is awarded based on need and Spencerport is currently in the least needy category. Mr. Burger explained the philosophy of the program. Students are provided a sound foundation to make the transition from home to school. The focus is on the whole child and the development of academic skills.

A timeline was presented on the formation of the pre-K class and details of the make-up of the class was discussed. There is currently a morning and afternoon class, spaced across two classrooms. Students are making significant progress and are so happy to be in school. Ms. Campbell has done a great job from adjusting curriculum to maintaining COVID protocols. A video made by Mr. Rich Colosi was presented showing the great work being done in the classroom. Ms. Paolini shared that mid-year data has been reviewed and students are showing significant growth for items such as number recognition, 1:1 correspondence, letter and sound recognition. Mr. Burger shared the timeline for application for the 21-22 school year. A lottery will be offered if space is still available after Munn families apply. Ms. Paolini shared that future considerations will be looked at, such as staffing, room utilization, transportation, etc. The team will make a recommendation to the Board of Education in December of 2021 on continuing or

expanding the Pre-K program if the metrics continue to show that the program is effective. Mr. Hutton thanked the team and Ms. Campbell for all their hard work. Ms. Czarnecki shared her appreciation to the team as well. The program has exceeded our expectations and it is truly exciting.

5.2 Technology Update and Data Security Regulations

Mr. Allen introduced Mr. Van Horn, Network Administrator and Mr. Pickett, Senior Network Technician. Mr. Pickett spoke regarding data security. The district utilizes Impero, a classroom management software. Suspicious activity by students generates an email to staff and administrators. Mr. Allen shared that the district is currently working through the changes of Ed Law 2D. We need to accomplish this over the next two years. The parent's bill of rights is on our website and we are working through reviewing the data security policies. He shared that our work on restricting third party contractors has been impacted due to COVID, as free software has seen an increase in usage for instructional purposes. Mr. Pickett shared that districts have partnered together with BOCES 2 to document changes following the cyber security framework of NIST SP 800-53. This is a set of documents that describe computer security policies, procedures and guidelines. The district has also partnered with Grey Castle Risk Assessments to focus on our people, processes and technology for potential exposure. The department is working to increase security in our network. Mr. Allen also shared that the department has distributed 900 laptops to students. The help desk continues to deal with many calls for help and their first priority is to continue instruction for students. They continue to work hard to keep our students and staff safe.

5.3 Potential Solar Project PILOT Agreement in the Town of Ogden

Mr. Wood shared that Delaware River is installing a 7-megawatt solar farm on Washington Street. He reminded the board this project is currently exempt. However, the district contacted Delaware River about the possibility of entering into a PILOT, which they were receptive to, and agreed in concept to a proposed PILOT that would pay \$500 per megawatt for a total of \$3,500 per year for a fifteen-year period. Without it, the district would be receive nothing. The Board gave their approval to pursue the PILOT agreement.

5.4 2000 Series Policy Review

Mr. Saltzberg provided the 2000 policy series to the Board. This series includes six board related policies. Questions were made for suggested Policy 2110 Orienting and Training New Board Members. Changes were reviewed and the Board members were supportive of the suggested changes. Any approved changes will be subject to review by Erie 1 BOCES. Policy 2210, Committees of the Board was reviewed. It was determined that two committees, Visitation and Audit are required and the balance are not. Changes were approved. Policy 2310, Membership in Organizations was suggested for deletion, as mandated joining of an organization is not necessary. Mr. Hutton suggested deleting it and the Board agreed. Policy 2320, Attendance by Board Members at a Conference was reviewed. Mr. Saltzberg suggested changing the term to "district" clerk and asked the Board whether it was necessary to require a resolution to attend a conference. Board members gave a thumbs up to authorize keeping the policy the same. Policy 2330, Compensation and Expenses was not suggested to be changed and the Board gave a thumbs up. Policy 2340, Board Self Evaluation included a recommendation to include a timeframe to

complete this. It was agreed by the Board to not include a timeline. Mr. Saltzberg shared that the next round of policies will be larger. Mr. Hutton suggested that the Board be given more time to review them. Mr. Saltzberg suggested that the Board members work in pairs to look at fewer policies. The 4000 series will be reviewed next.

5.5 Budget Update

Mr. Wood provided an update for proposed revenues. Revenues are separated into five categories; local sources, state aid, federal aid, other and property taxes. Total estimated revenue equaled about \$84.5 million, not included the use of appropriated fund balance or reserves.

For local resources, two downward adjustments were made based the PILOT schedule and interest income. No changes were made to sales tax and BOCES prior year refund. These estimates are being made assuming that return to a “normal” school year. If not, they will need to be adjusted.

State aid is a large portion of funding and current estimates are based on the Governor’s budget. The state budget isn’t final until the legislature approves it. The Governor built the budget using \$6 billion of unapproved federal funding. State aid may be cut depending if that funding is not approved. Changes for subcategories of State Aid include; Foundation aid is flat; the consolidation of eleven expense driven aids now called Services Aid; and Supplanting State Aid with CCRSA federal stimulus funds. In addition, the state budget included STAR amounts which has never been done before. Mr. Wood shared that he does not know what the implication of this will be. Mr. Wood then explained the adjustments made to the Governor’s projections; a reduction in foundation aid to \$21,238,863 due to what is called a local deduct; as well as reductions in transportation aid and BOCES aid due to lowering the spending amounts; an increase to Building Aid based on projections from our financial advisor; and increases to excess cost aid based on current enrollment. Instructional Material Aid is decreasing due to lower enrollment. Urban Suburban aid is difficult to gauge but is estimated at \$740,000 compared to \$467,000 last year.

Based on the tax cap calculation, the maximum allowable levy limit is projected to about \$40.5M, a 3.39% increase. He reviewed the tax cap formula as well as a four year projection using Forecast 5 with certain assumptions for different growth factors. There are many variables making it difficult to project. Property assessments were reviewed in order to provide an estimated true value tax rate. The true value tax rate (per \$1,000) is estimated to decrease. However, Mr. Wood warned that the equalization rates in each Town, specifically Ogden and Parma, currently at 93%, means the tax rate for these towns may be considerably higher. Using the base budget value discussed in December, and with the current revenue estimate, leaves a gap of \$3,439,660. This is without the use of fund balance and reserves. This is a more difficult budget year than in the past and there are still many variables to consider.

6. MEETING EVALUATION

Mr. Hutton enjoyed the pre-k presentation this evening.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Ms. Stone and was seconded by Mr. Bracken at 8:04 p.m. to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person.

Vote of the Board: 7

Yes: 7

No: 0

Mr. Hutton moved the Board out of Executive Session and returned to the Study Session at 8:10 p.m.

A motion was made by Ms. Stone and seconded by Mr. Miceli that the Board approves a written agreement between the Interim Superintendent of Schools and an employee of the District executed by the employee on February 5, 2021.

Vote of the Board: 7

Yes: 7

No: 0

8. **ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Mr. Bracken and seconded by Ms. Czarnecki to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Vote of the Board: 7

Yes: 7

No: 0

As there was no further business, Mr. Hutton declared the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.



District Clerk



Board President