

SENECA FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

A Special Board of Education Meeting was held on September 3, 2020. The meeting was virtual.
www.senecafallscsd.org

BOE Members present

Mrs. Deborah Corsner, Mr. Jeffrey Hartwell, Mrs. Linda Jones, Mrs. Cara Lajewski, Mr. Michael Mirras, Mrs. Joell Murney-Karsten, Mr. Joseph McNamara, Mr. William Reigel and Mrs. Heather Zellers

BOE Members absent -None

Others Present

Mr. Jeramy Clingerman, Mr. James Bruni, Mrs. Gretchen McDonald, Mrs. Deena Swenson and Mrs. Amylyn Marley

Mrs. Lajewski called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Mrs. Lajewski asked that everyone stand for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Agenda:

Mrs. Lajewski asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the addendums as listed.

Under B. Appointments

Add 2. Annual Appointment(s)

Position	Employee	Stipend
Rally Coordinator	Amanda Lowden Fleig	Pd. By Excellus

Civil Service Appointment(s)

Scott Grove-Building Maintenance Mechanic

Transportation Request

Student	Transport Request
	FL Christian School, 2291 Route 89, Seneca Falls
	FL Christian School, 2291 Route 89, Seneca Falls

Mrs. Murney-Karsten made the motion, seconded by Mr. McNamara

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
Mrs. Linda Jones	X		
Mr. Michael Mirras	X		
Mrs. Joell Murney-Karsten	X		
Mrs. Deborah Corsner	X		
Mrs. Heather Zellers	X		
Mrs. Cara Lajewski	X		
Mr. William Reigel	X		
Mr. Jeffrey Hartwell	X		
Mr. Joseph McNamara	X		
Yes	9	No 0	Abstain: 0 Motion carried

Public Comments

Mrs. Lajewski read the following guidelines regarding public comment.

Speakers are limited to 5 minutes; Speaker will address the Board of Education as a whole; The Board of Education will not hear public comment that involves a complaint against an individual staff member, a personnel action, a student disciplinary matter, a complaint about an individual student, or pending litigation. Please be respectful and courteous; disruptive and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated

Mrs. Gretchen McDonald was recognized by Mrs. Lajewski.

Mrs. McDonald stated that she was not going to weigh in regarding the opening of school but after 30 years of teaching, she felt the need to. She understands that times are difficult right now, but felt it was her duty after some reflection to speak out. Mrs. McDonald has been a music teacher; has raised two musicians. Friends and students have been decimated. Schools have been stretched to the limits to meet compliance of state regulations and she fully supports that. Mrs. McDonald does not support that fact that music

teachers were not consulted regarding the elimination of some courses. Music is a way to help students with depression during COVID. Many student participate in music.

As president of the local community band, Mrs. McDonald understands the health risks during this time. She herself has had to submit a plan to Seneca County for the Community Band. Mrs. McDonald wanted to know the reasons why music was left out. She feels there must be other ways to make music available to the students.

Mrs. McDonald reported that Waterloo Central School District is maintaining their music program. The Waterloo administrators worked really hard to make this happen. Can Seneca Falls say the same?

Mrs. Deena Swenson was recognizes by Mrs. Lajewski.

Mrs. Swenson was present to speak on behalf of a few Mynderse Academy Alumni who were upset that some of the music program was being cut. Mrs. Swenson read two letters, one from Benjamin McDonald and one from Hannah McDonald, both of whom participated in the music programs while in high school. Mrs. Swenson also spoke on behalf of her daughter.

Mrs. Amylyn Marley was recognizes by Mrs. Lajewski.

Mrs. Marley has worked for the district for 20 years and has two daughters who attend Mynderse Academy. Mrs. Marley's oldest daughter is going to go to college to become a music therapist.

Mrs. Marley read a letter from former student Grace Doebler.

Mrs. Marley stated that she was willing to go the extra mile with anything she could do. She offered to volunteer after school or clean. Mrs. Marley also said she would like to have a seat at the table for the conversation if a committee is formed to put music back on the table for students.

There were no committee reports.

Information

Superintendent Report

Mr. Clingerman wanted to address the fountain dedication first. Mr. Clingerman had the opportunity to attend the fountain dedication for the celebration of the 100th year anniversary of Women's Right to Vote. Mr. Clingerman wanted to recognize Mrs. Murney-Karsten for all her work that she did that went in to the project. Mr. Clingerman said that if anyone has the chance to go see the fountain at sunrise or sunset, he encouraged them. Mr. Clingerman also reported that ten Mynderse Academy students were offered the chance to kayak in the water while the ceremony was taking place. He thanked them for participating. Mr. Clingerman asked Mrs. Murney-Karsten if there was anything she would like to add regarding the celebration.

Mrs. Murney-Karsten said she was limited to the number of people she was allowed to invite to participate. The event was limited to 50 people. Mrs. Murney-Karsten apologized for that but wanted the Board to know that she were held exactly to 50 people participating. Mrs. Murney-Karsten included the students and Mr. Clingerman. Mrs. Murney-Karsten reported that the fountain would only be up for the next 6 days. The fountain is illuminated at night from 8:26 pm until 10:00 pm in the colors of purple, gold and white. Mrs. Murney-Karsten said that many local people stepped up to make this event a success and they will be recognized in the coming few weeks.

Mr. Clingerman continued with his report by recognizing the donations made by the Seneca County United Way and BonaDent. The donations will provide the district with the resources to purchase PPE (personal protective equipment), cleaning and disinfectants supplies, and other important materials to support our students and staff. Mr. Clingerman stated that we are fortunate to be in such a supportive community.

Mr. Clingerman reported that the Superintendent Conference days were held on Sept 1 and 2. It was great to have everyone back. Mr. Clingerman stated that he could not be prouder of the work the faculty has done to meet the needs of the students. Mr. Clingerman said they were all looking forward to welcoming the students back to school on Tuesday whether in person or virtually.

Regarding music, Mr. Clingerman said he had three parents email him with concerns about not offering 3 credit bearing classes at Mynderse Academy. Those classes being vocal jazz, the chamber singers and jazz band as well as one jazz band course in the Middle School. All four classes are held after school, or at least have been in most recent years. Mr. Clingerman stated that the district had been planning to offer the course all along, but he really wanted to get school started and see how things went with courses during the school day; work out some of the kinks. There are a number of regulations that have been put in place

regarding music, specifically health and safety protocols. Bussing is an issue. Mr. Clingerman stated that bussing would need to be worked through. Having a school bus available at that 3:15 pm timeframe is a challenge. Mr. Clingerman stated that he wants to work through a few things and be able to put those courses back in place for our students and for our staff. It would be a great opportunity for staff as well to work with students and something they truly enjoy. Mr. Clingerman did agree that communication could have been much better in regards to those courses. Mr. Clingerman bears that he did not communicate well. Mr. Clingerman did meet with the Mynderse Academy Principal, Assistant Principal, and Anna (Mrs. Luisi-Ellis) and Laura (Mrs. Fitzgerald) today to discuss a plan and they are shooting for September 21 to get started. That date was a recommendation by one of the faculty members. There was a number of things that came up during the conversation regarding how the school day programming was going to work as well ideas they are processing to make it most effective. There were also a couple of items that came up that Mr. Clingerman had to reach out to the health department on. Mr. Clingerman is waiting to hear back from the health department. Their response will make a difference on how the district will do things-not to prevent things from happening but how the district goes about doing them. Mr. Clingerman will communicate back with the faculty when he hears from the Health Department. Mr. Clingerman stated that he is looking for time to be better prepared with those programs based on all the changes that have taken place.

Mr. Clingerman sent out a message to families regarding the ParentSquare App. ParentSquare is what the district will be using to monitor health screenings prior to students and employees coming to work in order to comply with the New York State Department of Health, SED, and CDC guidelines for the opening of school. All staff and students are required to complete a daily health screening using ParentSquare.

BOE President Report

Mrs. Lajewski thanked all the Board members for convening on short notice to get the meeting put together in order to take care of the business they needed to take care of.

Mrs. Lajewski said she was lucky enough to get into the school buildings with the entire faculty on their opening day alongside Mr. Clingerman. She said it was great to see everyone's faces in person-with masks on.

Mrs. Lajewski reminded the Board that she sent an e-mail about their self-evaluation. Mrs. Lajewski asked the Board to let her know if they had any questions or issues accessing it.

Mrs. Lajewski said she heard from two members that want to attend the NYSSBA conference. Mrs. Lajewski asked if there was any other members that wanted to attend the conference. There was no one else.

BOE Member Comments

Mrs. Murney-Karsten asked for a brief update on how construction looked prior to the opening of school and how the COVID regulations were going.

Mr. Clingerman reported that construction was going well. He reported the following:

- the casework in the science-wing was expected to be in Tuesday;
- the science-wing workstations are all in;
- the science-wing will be accessible by students when school opens;
- the contractors will continue to work at night;
- the covering on the gym floor will be rolled out to protect the floor;
- the materials for the walls still needs to be completed. The contractors will be working on that at night;
- the Middle School bathroom needs to be finished. Tile needs to be laid and the contractors will do that during the day.
- paving was completed at Cady Stanton School.

Mr. Clingerman stated that putting safety protocols in place and how they are going to be implemented is going well. The donations mentioned earlier are helpful. Not that the district is out of those items or that there is an immediate need for them but the district is certainly grateful for the items. Some of the items are difficult to come by. For the United Way and BonaDent to come through with those items, the District is grateful. Part of the donations included thermometers. Mr. Clingerman included in his message to parents that if they needed thermometer for their daily health screening, to call the district office.

Mrs. Murney-Karsten asked that just the Middle School bathroom is the only thing not available for the start of school. Mr. Clingerman said a Middle School and a Cady Stanton bathroom, but there are plenty of bathrooms available for the students. There is no issue of bathroom shortages.

There were no other Board member comments.

Consent Agenda

Appointments

Annual Appointment(s)

Be it resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education does hereby make the following appointment for the 2020-2021 school year

Position	Employee	Stipend
Rally Coordinator	Amanda Lowden Fleig	Paid by Excellus

Civil Service Appointment(s)

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following civil service position(s) *(All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared)*

Name: Brandy Bojczuk-Cross

Civil Service Position: School Monitor

Effective Date: 09/08/2020

Probationary period: 09/08/2020-09/07/2021

Hourly Rate: \$11.80

Hours per day: 2.75

Name: Robert Wood

Civil Service Position: School Bus Driver

Effective Date: 09/04/2020

Probationary period: 09/04/2020-09/03/2021

Hourly Rate: \$26.01

Hours per day: 5

Name: Harry Morgan

Civil Service Position: Cleaner

Effective Date: 09/04/2020

Probationary period: 09/04/2020-09/03/2021

Hourly Rate: \$13.04

Hours per day: 8

Name: Mary Porretta

Civil Service Position: Teacher Aide

Effective Date: 09/01/2020

Probationary period: 09/01/2020-08/31/2021

Hourly Rate: \$11.80

Hours per day: 6

Name: Scott Grove

Civil Service Position: Building Maintenance Mechanic

Effective Date: 09/04/2020

Probationary period: 09/04/2020-09/03/2021

Hourly Rate: \$20.22

Hours per day: 8

Substitute Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following substitute position(s) *(All appointments are conditional until paperwork is completed and fingerprints are cleared)*

2020-2021 Substitute Teachers

Name: Anthony Noone

Position: Level III Substitute Teacher (Gr. 5)

Certification: Special Education Gr. 1-6

Effective: 09/01/2020 through ~~10/13/2020~~ 10/09/2020

School Bus Driver and Bus Monitor Bidding

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following 2020-2021 School Bus Driver and Bus Monitor positions as a result of bidding per the Seneca Falls Support Staff contract:

School Bus Driver	Hours per day	Days per week	Hours per day	Days per week
Linda Bush	5.75	2 days	7.0	3 days
Molly Norsen	6.5	5		
Shelley Dyson	6.25	5		
Robert Wood	5.75	5		
Mary True	6.0	5		
Peter Eisenberg	6.0	5		
Mary Ridley	6.0	5		
Aimee Bennett	6.0	5		
Jessica Foulkrod	5.75	5		
Kimberly Pupillo	6	5		
David Crolick	5.5	5	5	
Mabel Roffe	5.5	5		
Gerry Knox	6.0	5	5	
James Fairbanks	6.0	5		
James Marley	5.5	5		
Shawn Burns	5.25	5		
Frank Howard	5.25	5		
Judy Fairbanks	5.25	5		
Jeffrey DeLong	5.25	5		
Nancy Leto	5			

Bus Monitors	Hours per day	Days per week
Sonya Jesmer	5	5
Heather Stevens	5	5
Deanna Moneghan	4.75	5
Gail McMillian-Thompson	4.75	5
Rheana Abbott	4.75	5
Kathy Arsenault	4.75	5
Tracy Abbott	4.5	5

C. Food Service Workers Hours

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the change of hours for the following food service workers:

Position	2019-2020 Hours /day	2020-2021 Hours /day	Change n hours per week
Mary True	3	2	-5
Rheana Abbott	3.75	3.25	-2.5
Tracy Abbott	3.75	3.5	-1.25

Position	2019-2020 Hours /day	2020-2021 Hours /day	Change n hours per week
Kathy Arsenault	3.75	3.25	-2.5
Gail McMillian-Thompson	3.75	3.25	-2.5

Transportation Request

Student	Transport Request
	FL Christian School, 2291 Route 89, Seneca Falls
	FL Christian School, 2291 Route 89, Seneca Falls
	FL Christian School, 2291 Route 89, Seneca Falls

Mrs. Lajewski asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed.
Mr. McNamara made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Jones.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>		
Mrs. Linda Jones	X			
Mr. Michael Mirras	X			
Mrs. Joell Murney-Karsten	X			
Mrs. Deborah Corsner	X			
Mrs. Heather Zellers	X			
Mrs. Cara Lajewski	X			
Mr. William Reigel	X			
Mr. Jeffrey Hartwell	X			
Mr. Joseph McNamara	X			
Yes	9	No	0	Abstain: 0 Motion carried

Old Business

Correction

Mrs. Lajewski asked for a motion to correct the following appointment made on Aug. 12, 2020 to show the correct effective date:

Name: Nancy Leto

Civil Service Position: Temporary Transportation Supervisor

Effective Date: ~~09/01/2020~~ **08/24/2020**

Hourly Rate: \$29.04

Hours per day: 3

Name: Emily Porretta

Position: Level III Substitute Teacher (Gr. 5)

Certification: Childhood Ed. Gr. 1-6 (Pending)

Effective: ~~09/01/2020~~ **08/21/2020** through 12/22/2020

Mrs. Jones made the motion, seconded by Mr. Reigel

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>		
Mrs. Linda Jones	X			
Mr. Michael Mirras	X			
Mrs. Joell Murney-Karsten	X			
Mrs. Deborah Corsner	X			
Mrs. Heather Zellers	X			
Mrs. Cara Lajewski	X			
Mr. William Reigel	X			
Mr. Jeffrey Hartwell	X			
Mr. Joseph McNamara	X			
Yes	9	No	0	Abstain: 0 Motion carried

Mrs. Lajewski asked for a motion to correct the following resignation that was accepted on Aug. 12, 2020 to show the correct civil service position the employee resigned from:

Name: Richard Parish

Position: ~~Teacher Aide~~ **School Monitor**

Effective: Aug. 20, 2020

Mrs. Jones made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hartwell

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>		
Mrs. Linda Jones	X			
Mr. Michael Mirras	X			
Mrs. Joell Murney-Karsten	X			
Mrs. Deborah Corsner	X			
Mrs. Heather Zellers	X			
Mrs. Cara Lajewski	X			
Mr. William Reigel	X			
Mr. Jeffrey Hartwell	X			
Mr. Joseph McNamara	X			
Yes	9	No	0	Abstain: 0 Motion carried

New Business

Memorandum of Agreements

Mrs. Lajewski asked for a motion to Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following Memorandum of Agreements:

SFAA MOA-Childrearing Leave

Supervisor MOA-Transportation Director

SFEA MOA-Teacher Childcare

SFEA MOA-Teachers Substituting

Mrs. Jones made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hartwell.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>		
Mrs. Linda Jones	X			
Mr. Michael Mirras	X			
Mrs. Joell Murney-Karsten	X			
Mrs. Deborah Corsner	X			
Mrs. Heather Zellers	X			
Mrs. Cara Lajewski	X			
Mr. William Reigel	X			
Mr. Jeffrey Hartwell	X			
Mr. Joseph McNamara	X			
Yes	9	No	0	Abstain: 0 Motion carried

Adjourn

Mrs. Lajewski asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:01 pm.

Mr. Mirras made the motion, seconded by Mr. Reigel.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>		
Mrs. Linda Jones	X			
Mr. Michael Mirras	X			
Mrs. Joell Murney-Karsten	X			
Mrs. Deborah Corsner	X			
Mrs. Heather Zellers	X			
Mrs. Cara Lajewski	X			
Mr. William Reigel	X			
Mr. Jeffrey Hartwell	X			
Mr. Joseph McNamara	X			
Yes	9	No	0	Abstain: 0 Motion carried

Monica Kuney, District Clerk