

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Clinton Central School District, Oneida County, New York, held on September 27, 2022.

Present:

(Board)

(Administration)

Ms. Melinda Leising, President
Dr. Luke Perry Vice-president
Dr. Lyndsey Bauer
Mr. Sam Catterson
Mr. Kevin Magdon
Ms. Lisa Magnarelli
Ms. Erica Shaw

Mr. David Langone, Interim Superintendent
Mrs. Debora Van Slyke, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Ms. Erin Eagan, Director of Pupil Personnel
Dr. Matthew Lee, High School Principal
Ms. Ellen Leuthauser, Elementary Principal
Dr. Matthew Lee, High School Principal

Julia A. Scranton, District Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Leising called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. READING OF THE MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Leising read the mission statement.

4. WELCOME NEW STAFF

A. Building principals introduced new staff members to the Board of Education, after which time was allotted for casual conversation.

5. AUDIT REPORT

Ms. Trisha Lucas and Nicole Chubbuck of D’Arcangelo and Co., summarized findings of the 2021-2022 financial audit which had been reviewed and agreed upon by both D’Arcangelo management and the CCS Audit Committee. She was happy to report that the district received an unmodified clean opinion with no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses, and no material instances of non-compliance, which the District is accustomed to receiving. Changes in requirements were highlighted, including GASB-87, which was adopted into financial statements. Again this year, a single audit was required due to Federal Stimulus money received and spent, for which the District is well positioned. Reserves are strong, and unassigned fund balance is compliant at 4%.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. SRO Contract
- B. Safety Plan

Both the School Resource Officer Agreement and the District-wide safety plan had been posted on the school website for the required 30 days for public viewing. No questions were asked or comments made.

7. INFORMATION-REPORTS-PROPOSAL/SUPERINTENDENT & STAFF

A. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Langone presented Ms. Leising with a certificate for educational trainings she had completed regarding Board governance, serving as an example of a true life-long learner.

Administrators Reports

Ms. Ellen Leuthauser, elementary principal, began by presenting the Positivity Project calendar of events. Students in Ms. Smith class have been developing teamwork skills with a Cup Challenge project, while Ms. Tomaino's students work independently on Envision math skills, stopping for GoNoodle Brain Breaks. Third graders learn physics through push and pull exercises, and Mrs. Landry's class is becoming accustomed to stations. An enjoyable open house was held on September 22 finally allowing families to visit in-person.

Dr. Matthew Lee, high school principal, reported on middle school events in Dr. Carney's absence. A successful open house was held in a new format. Thank you to the Clinton Cider mill for supplying refreshments. The middle school musical, Annie, Jr., will be performed in mid-November. Students enjoyed ice-breaker activities during their first housing events, helping students acclimate to the new school year. Upcoming events include a trip to Delta Lake and a Leo's Club dance. NYS assessment data is forthcoming.

Middle school guidance Counselor Danielle Tesak has begun implementation of the Naviance program help students reflect on their strengths, personality, learning styles and interests as it pertains to career and college planning. A student assembly offered information to students about athletics, clubs, houses, rules and suggestions for success with an emphasis on kindness.

Dr. Lee continued to report on the high school opening, spirit week and homecoming events. A weekly newsletter is posted on the CCS website's high school page, and circulated via ParentSquare with important information and updates. Students were introduced to and allowed to join extra-curricular offering at the club fair.

Dr. Lee recognized our stellar IT staff, Jordan Ezman and Adam Wezalis for all that they do for students and staff. Congratulations to National Merit Commended student Isla McCullough.

Capital Project

Mr. Langone reported that a Facilities Meeting was held earlier that day, attended by three Board members. He mentioned that there has been an uptick in COVID cases and that a communication form the head nurse is forthcoming. The Capital Project will cost between \$18.2 and \$18.5 million, but thanks to sound, visionary planning by the District, as indicated by the auditor's report, will have no tax impact. Ms. Shaw continued that the list of building level items has been refined and that state and Board approval will be required. The architects will provide promotional materials to help inform residents. The project will include improvements to libraries, athletic fields, the playground, lighting, the elementary cafeteria, the parking lot near the pool with the addition of a basketball court. Mr. Catterson added that the entire community will benefit from these improvements.

Update on Gender Neutral Facilities

Ms. Lindsay Plantholdt, Esq., presented an overview of the new laws regarding Gender Neutral accommodations, and resulting school district legal obligations. She cited statistics on the disproportionate number of students in the LGBTQ population suffering with mental health issues due to bullying and non-acceptance. The laws are tied in to DASA which has existed for many years, are included in the Commissioners Regulations, and are enforced by the Division of Human Rights, and Title IX at the Federal level.

Mr. Langone added that, in order to comply, we will continue to evaluate facilities modifying bathrooms and locker rooms to provide additional privacy for all students.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Several members of the community expressed gratitude to the Board, administrators and staff for supporting LGBTQ students and for the effort made on their behalf, many sharing personal experiences had by their own children. Some expressed concern about the misinformation and vocabulary, such as “indoctrination” and “predator”, appearing locally on social media.

Ms. Leising added that over 30 letters had been received by the Board in support of inclusion as well.

Parent Ryan D’Amico asked that district policy regarding homeschool student’s use of library and other facilities be reviewed.

9. STANDING RESOLUTIONS (CONSENT AGENDA)

A motion was made by Mr. Magdon, seconded by Dr. Bauer, and carried (7, 0) to combine items 9A through 9P.

A motion was made by Dr. Perry, seconded by Ms. Magnarelli, and carried (7, 0) to approve items 9A through 9P.

- A. Agenda and Any Additions to the Agenda for September 27, 2022
- B. Minutes from the Special Meeting held on August 8, 2022
- C. Minutes from the Special Meeting held on August 9, 2022
- D. Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on August 16, 2022
- E. Minutes from the Special Meeting held on August 17, 2022
- F. Minutes from the Special Meeting held on August 29, 2022
- G. Minutes from the Special Meeting held on August 30, 2022
- H. Minutes from the Special Meeting held on September 13, 2022
- I. Internal Claims Auditor Report

- J. Summary Treasurer’s Report for August 2022
- K. Treasurer’s Report for August 2022
- L. Executive Summary for August 2022
- M. Revenues/expenditures by Month
- N. Extra-classroom Treasurer’s Report for July 2022
- O. Extra-classroom Treasurer’s Report for August 2022
- P. Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) and Committee on Special Education (CSE) Report:

Initial Review	1
Program Review	5
Annual Review	0
Reevaluation (Triennial)	0
Administrative Transfer	9
Preschool	5
504 Review	1
504 Referral	4
Amendment w/o Meeting Held	6
Manifestation Determination	1

10. COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

A. Committee Reports

1. Policy

Dr. Perry reported that the committee and focused on two topics: new required updates to the Code of Conduct and Policy 5152, which is on the agenda tonight for a first reading, to resolve and ambiguity in language.

2. Finance

Mr. Magdon reported that the committee completed a thorough review of the independent audit as it was presented earlier at this meeting.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Policy

- 1. BE IT RESOLVED that draft policy #5152, Admission of Non-resident Students, be adopted.

NOTE: This is a first reading. No action necessary.

A motion was made by Dr. Perry, seconded by Dr. Bauer, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- B. BE IT RESOLVED that the draft audit distributed as a final document prepared by D’Arcangelo & Co., LLP for the 2021-2022 school year as required by section 170.2 subsection of the Commissioner’s Regulations be accepted and made part of this school district’s records.

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Magdon, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- C. RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF KIRKLAND FOR PROVISION OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER SERVICES

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Clinton Central School District (the “District”), held on September 27, 2022.

WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the New York State General Municipal Law provides the authority for the District and the Town of Kirkland (the “Town”) by and through its Town of Kirkland Police Department (the “Police Department”) to enter into agreements for the performance between themselves, or one for the other, of their respective functions, powers and duties on a cooperative contract basis; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the District has determined that an effective and efficient method to protect the safety of District students, staff and property is an (“SRO”); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has had the opportunity to review the proposed agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education of the Clinton Central School District resolves as follows:

1. The Board of Education hereby approves the intermunicipal agreement between the District and Town for School Resource Officer services.
2. The Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute the intermunicipal agreement in the form approved by legal counsel.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A motion was made by Dr. Bauer, seconded by Mr. Catterson, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- D. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools. The agreement between the Clinton Central Schools and Building Blocks Learning Center, LLC, beginning September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023, be approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Dr. Peery, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- E. BE IT RESOLVED, that the following tax bill revisions be approved:

Resident, tax map #337.018-5-16, a star adjustment of \$681.32.

A motion was made by Dr. Perry, seconded by Ms. Shaw and carried (7, 0) to table item 11F until after executive session.

F. WHEREAS, the Board of Education has reviewed the agreement to settle litigation regarding a student with a disability and desires to authorize the same.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT

1. The agreement with the parents of a student with a disability is approved.

The District's interim superintendent of schools is authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the District.

12. OTHER

A motion was made by Dr. Bauer, seconded by Dr. Perry, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- A. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the 2022-2023 School Comprehensive Improvement Plan required to be submitted to the NYS Department of Education, as related to the Targeted School for Improvement process for the Middle School, be approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Magdon, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- B. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the 2022-2023 District Comprehensive Improvement Plan required to be submitted to the NYS Department of Education, as related to the Targeted School for Improvement process for the Middle School, be approved.

A motion was made by Dr. Perry, seconded by Dr. Bauer, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- C. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the 2022-2025 Professional Learning Plan be approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Magdon, seconded by Ms. Shaw, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- D. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the 2022-2023 School Safety Plan, be approved.

A motion was made by Dr. Perry, seconded by Ms. Shaw, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- E. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the District Goals for the 2022-2023 school year, be approved.

Mr. Langone thanked administrators, staff and all who contributed to the development of the plans, and the administrators for helping to develop the District Goals.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Dr. Stephen Grimm thanked the Board for supporting community events such as the Edward Felt Memorial and Brick Garden Dedications, as well as for their support of an all-inclusive student community. The five plans adopted at this meeting are evidence of the fundamental bedrock laid through hard, outstanding work that benefits kids and the community..

14. PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Ms. Magnarelli, seconded by Ms. Shaw, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- A. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the updated List of Substitute and Supervisory Personnel for the 2022-2023 school year, pending fingerprint clearance, be approved.

A motion was made by Dr. Bauer, seconded by Dr. Perry, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- B. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Alison Eisenhut to the three year probationary tenure track position of special education teacher, to be compensated at Step 10MA, in accordance with the current CTA agreement, effective October 3, 2022 through August 31, 2025, except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Education Law § 3014, in order to be granted tenure, the appointee must receive composite of overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Education Law §3012-c or § 3012-d of either effective or highly effective in at least two of the three preceding years, and if the appointee receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time, be approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Magnarelli, seconded by Ms. Shaw, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- C. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the resignation of Sarah Lomanto, Teacher Assistant for the Clinton Central School effective August 31, 2022, be approved.

A motion was made by Dr. Bauer, seconded by Ms. Catterson, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- D. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Alicia Castle to the four year probationary tenure track position of teacher assistant to be compensated at Step (.45)5BA, in accordance with the current CTA agreement, effective September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2026, except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Education Law § 3014, in order to be granted tenure, the appointee must receive composite of overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Education Law §3012-c or § 3012-d of either effective or highly effective in at least two of the three preceding years, and if the appointee receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time, be approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Magnarelli, seconded by Dr. Perry and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- E. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, The appointment of Megan Cool to the full time probationary civil service position of aide, to be compensated at Step 1 in accordance with the current CSEA agreement, with a probationary period of 8 to 26 weeks, effective September 28, 2022, be approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Magdon, seconded by Mr. Catterson, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- F. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Emily Burns to the full time probationary civil service position of aide, to be compensated at Step 1 in accordance with the current CSEA agreement, with a probationary period of 8 to 26 weeks, effective September 28, 2022, be approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Magnarelli, seconded by Ms. Shaw and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- G. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Denise Wolanin to the full time probationary civil service position of aide, to be compensated at Step 2 in accordance with the current CSEA agreement, with a probationary appointment of 8 to 26 weeks, effective September 28, 2022, be approved.

A motion was made by Dr. Perry seconded by Dr. Bauer, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- H. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Brandi Turzyn to the position of long-term substitute school nurse, at step 3 in accordance with the current CTA agreement beginning October 3, 2022 until the permanent employee returns, be approved.

A motion was made by Dr. Perry, seconded by Ms. Magnarelli, and carried (6, 0, 1) with Mr. Catterson abstaining, to approve the following resolution:

- I. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of schools, the appointment of Meghan Catterson as an uncertified substitute teacher, pending fingerprint clearance, be approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Magnarelli, seconded by Dr. Bauer, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- J. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Extension and Amendment to the Assistant Superintendent for Business' Employment Agreement dated February 28, 2017, and authorizes the Board President to execute the necessary Agreement pertaining to said Extension and Amendment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District Clerk is hereby directed to maintain a copy of the Agreement in a supplemental file to the minutes of this Board meeting and to maintain the signed original of the Agreement with Mr. Barretta's personnel file.

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Dr. Bauer, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

K. RESOLUTION APPROVING APPOINTMENT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS and EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Clinton Central School District Board of Education has conducted a thorough search process to select a new Superintendent of Schools (“Superintendent”); and

WHEREAS, after careful consideration and consultation, the Board has determined that Christopher M. Clancy possesses the necessary qualifications and experience to serve as the District's Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clancy agreed to accept the Board's offer of appointment for a three year term to serve as the Superintendent, commencing on November 14, 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby appoints Mr. Clancy as the Superintendent of the Clinton Central School District for an initial term of three (3) years, commencing November 14, 2022 through November 13, 2025 and hereby approves a written contract of employment containing all of the relevant and applicable benefits, terms and conditions of employment for the Superintendent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board, or the Vice President in her absence, to execute said Agreement on behalf of the District and to file same with the District Clerk.

Mr. Catterson expressed gratitude for all who participated in the process, which he considered to be fair and well organized. Ms. Shaw expressed similar sentiments and added that Mr. Langone will stay on to help with the transition. Ms. Leising said that there will likely be an informal meet and greet scheduled in the near future.

15. QUESTIONS BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board members thought that a retreat could be held as the transition process takes place. Ms. Leising reminded Board members that NYSSBA delegate applications are coming due.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Magdon, seconded by Ms. Shaw to go into executive session to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law proposed, pending or current litigation; and the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property. The time was 7:16pm.

Dr. Bauer left the meeting prior to executive session.

A motion was made by Ms. Magnarelli, seconded by Mr. Catterson, and carried (6, 0) to return to regular session. The time was 7:45pm.

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Catterson, and carried (6, 0) to approve the following resolution.

11F. **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has reviewed the agreement to settle litigation regarding a student with a disability and desires to authorize the same.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT

1. The agreement with the parents of a student with a disability is approved.

The District's interim superintendent of schools is authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the District.

A motion was made by Dr. Perry, seconded by Ms. Magnarelli, and carried (6, 0) to adjourn the meeting. The time was 7:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julia A. Scranton".

Julia A. Scranton
District Clerk