

**Board of Education Meeting
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, November 3, 2021
High School Library
Immediately following the Public Hearing**

PRESENT: Matthew Dreher
Wayne Evans, Jr
Jason Fernau
Melissa Glastetter
Dorothy Sellers
Katie Whittemore
Timothy Turbiak

STAFF PRESENT: Kenneth Slentz, Superintendent of Schools
Brian Sirianni, Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER

Jason Fernau called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

RECOGNITION

Mr. Slentz recognized the Transportation Department's hard work. He recognized the work of the substitutes and the teamwork of the Department to provide needed resources.

Mr. Fernau stated everyone on the Board and the administration was frustrated by the burden being put on parents and caregivers. He stated the current problems were the same across the State and the Nation. He stated the District was doing its best to have students in school and to fairly distribute burden to parents and caregivers. He stated everyone was encouraged and free to express frustration but asked everyone be cognizant that everyone is doing the best they can.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Shannon Richute voiced her concerns on children's education. She voiced her concerns on seating spacing and masking mandates in the classrooms and buses. She voiced concern regarding students being ushered through the school on leashes. She questioned what the District would do for the children's education that opted out of the upcoming vaccine.

Kristofer DuBuque stated he was the leader of the Saratoga County Chapter of NY Informed. He stated his chapter had 200 people. He stated that he wanted to work with the District to promote best practices. He explained what the organization did and how it operates. He shared his experience at another school's board meeting. He asked for a Board / Parent Committee and how long it would take to get something started.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT

Student Council stated the second Spirt Week had been successful. They stated the group had made a lot of money and that it would be used to help the community throughout the holidays.

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Student Council stated they were in the midst of a food drive that would end November 17th. They announced the collected food would be given to the church food pantry and that members of Student Council would help with distribution.

Student Council stated on December 9th there would be a Holiday Trivia night held in the library.

Student Council stated they had scheduled a used toy drive in the month of December. They stated the collected toys would be donated to people in the community. There will be a “shopping day” for individuals to pick as many gifts as they need. They shared collection and shopping dates.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Matthew Dreher, seconded by Timothy Turbiak that the Board of Education approve the minutes for the October 6, 2021 and the October 20, 2021 Regular Board Meeting

Ayes all

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Slentz gave a special education update. He gave background on the changes to the program during recent years. He discussed the numerous changes and legal responsibilities.

Ms. Nancy Lashway and her team discussed special education. She shared the components of special education and explained each of the components. Multi-tiered System of Support, MTSS was highlighted and the decisions and delivery were explained.

Ms. Lashway shared statistical information on students with disabilities spanning all schools and students in the District. She discussed the classifications of students and shared examples of the impacts on learning.

Ms. Lashway discussed the Continuum of Services, the services mandated by NYS. She described each of the services and gave examples of student needs.

Julie Umar discussed other services provided by the District. Ms. Umar explained the continuum available in the elementary schools. She shared statistical information on each of the elementary schools in the District. She described the types of classrooms available in the District. She shared the proposals for next year. She explained the benefits to the students and staff.

Dr. Gianleo Duca discussed the continuum in the Middle School. He explained the benefit to the students and parents in regards to his participation as the Principal and the Special Education Supervisor for grades 6-12.

Dr. Duca provided information on each type of class available to students. He discussed current changes through 2022-2023. He discussed the current program and the proposals for the next two years. He described recent changes and the proposed changes of support, and the expected outcomes and benefits of the proposals.

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Ms. Lashway discussed the District's current challenges. She discussed the challenges the pandemic has produced. She stated this issue pertains to other Districts and the outside services being utilized by Districts. She discussed behavior communications and the learning loss and learning gap that has been created by the pandemic.

Ms. Lashway explained that parents have had an opportunity to see their students' needs due to the observation opportunities created by virtual learning. She stated the number of parental referrals have increased.

Ms. Umar discussed the current challenges for the elementary schools.

Ms. Lashway shared the current initiatives. She stated that everyone supports the Special Education program. All staff and support staff, outside vendors and the community all play a part.

Ms. Lashway explained the process when a student leaves for college.

Ms. Whittemore thanked the committee for the presentation and the hard important work being done.

Ms. Lashway explained transition process. She stated students staying with the District through age 21 typically will need lifelong support once leaving the District. She explained adult services are not provided until a child reaches age 21.

Mr. Fernau stated in the future post-graduation will be explored.

Mr. Slentz stated Ms. Lashway is a transition expert. He stated she would be an important part of the post-graduation exploration.

Testing Update Quarantine Excluded Students

Mr. Slentz stated students ages 5 -11 have been approved for vaccinations. He stated the District has been in communication with Public Health regarding vaccine clinics. He stated Public Health had not yet received the vaccines.

Mr. Slentz stated many parents have communicated with the District in regards to when and where the clinics would be available. Mr. Slentz explained the difference between symptomatic and asymptomatic testing. He explained the test is a nasal swab, but not a deep nasal swab. He stated parental permission would be necessary. He stated the District was waiting for information and would continue to provide information as it became available.

Mr. Slentz discussed the challenges the nursing staff was facing. He stated there was not enough staff for the nurses to provide testing and vaccinations. He stated the District was looking for adaptations with their Federal funding. He stated the District had posted positions for LPNs to provide support. He explained the District would need a license from Public Health for each testing site. He explained currently only Malta Avenue had a license, adding the District was anticipating additional licenses.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Turbiak reported on the Audit and Finance Committee. He reported the Committee had been given their charter and purchasing policy for review and feedback. He stated the Committee had discussed the internal and external audit. He stated two areas of concern had come up in the internal audit concerning yearbook sales and a fundraising event held by the Class of 2020. He stated the concerns would be addressed at a future Audit Committee Meeting with a future action plan. He stated there was some concerns raised due to phishing scams. He stated a test had been performed exposing areas of weakness. He stated the concerns would be addressed with the Board.

Mr. Fernau stated concerns related to clubs and policies have come up before. He stated it was pretty common for Districts. He stated BSCSD has had very few occurrences over the years.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Slentz stated there had been limited correspondence. He stated most correspondence had been in regards to transportation. He explained the changes to busing.

Mr. Fernau stated the board had received questions regarding two specific vendors and the District's use of the vendors. He named the vendors and the described the District's relationship, or lack of relationship with both.

Mr. Fernau stated other correspondence received by the Board were related to aspects of Covid-19.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stuart Williams announced the High School would be having a Financial Aid night on Thursday in the Library at 6:30.

Mr. Williams announced the Middle School would be hosting the Annual Scottie's Closet on Saturday.

Mr. Williams announced the Emergency Release Day would be on November 10th. He stated schools would be let out 15 minutes early as part of the safety plan.

Mr. Williams reminded everyone schools would be closed to observe Veterans' Day on Thursday.

Mr. Williams announced the Malta Food Festival would be held on December 8th. He stated the money supports the Ballston Spa Partnership for Innovation in Education Fund.

Mr. Williams announced there were several opportunities for employment within the District. He stated there were positions for drivers, LPNs, teaching assistants and teachers' aids. He encouraged everyone to spread the word.

Ms. Whittemore reminded everyone the Education Foundation's On-Line Auction would be starting next weekend. She gave instructions on how people could participate.

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Mr. Fernau congratulated the senior class for their flexibility in changing their fundraiser. He stated the board had participated in the event. He stated the class had done a great job.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #256 - Field Trip – 8th Grade

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, to grant permission for the 8th Grade students to travel to Boston, MA, May 19-20, 2022, be and is hereby granted.

Motion by Wayne Evans, Jr, seconded by Matthew Dreher that the Board of Education to approve Resolution #256 – Field Trip – 8th Grade

Ayes all

Resolution #257 - Agreement – Professional Services

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, hereby approves the agreement between Chelsea Place Psychological and the District to provide comprehensive psychiatric re-evaluation services, for the 2021-2022 school year, be and is hereby approved.

Motion by Wayne Evans, Jr, seconded by Matthew Dreher that the Board of Education to approve Resolution #257 – Agreement - Professional Services

Ayes all

Resolution #258 - Establish Award

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the following awards are hereby accepted and approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Linda Murphy Memorial Scholarship	Presented to a graduate who will be continuing their education at a college or trade school and demonstrates dedication to the community of Ballston Spa	Amount Varies one recipient

Discussion

Jason Fernau thanked the individuals responsible for the award. He stated it was appreciated.

Motion by Wayne Evans, Jr, seconded by Matthew Dreher that the Board of Education to approve Resolution #258 – Establish Award

Ayes all

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Resolution #259 - Resignation – Board of Education

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the resignation of Melissa Glastetter, effective November 4, 2021, be and is hereby approved.

Motion by Wayne Evans, Jr, seconded by Matthew Dreher that the Board of Education to approve Resolution #259 – Resignation – Board of Education

Discussion

Mr. Slentz stated it was sad to see Melissa leave the Board, but stated everyone was happy she would be moving down the hall in regards to a subsequent resolution.

Ayes all

Resolution #260 - Placement of Students with Disabilities

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the said Board arrange placement of the following students as recommended by the District Committee on Special Education, effective November 3, 2021 be and are hereby approved:

Student #25043	Student #278350	Student #277806
Student #278733	Student #275970	Student #275402
Student #278764	Student #278765	Student #275810
Student #278902	Student #278314	Student #24940
Student #277734	Student #277616	Student #277750
Student #275837	Student #276647	Student #278896
Student #278049	Student #278423	Student #278711
Student #273994	Student #278973	Student #275523
Student #271908	Student #278965	Student #277050
Student #278853	Student #278650	Student #276798
Student #274806	Student #276576	Student #276575
Student #21014	Student #278703	

Motion by Wayne Evans, Jr, seconded by Matthew Dreher that the Board of Education to approve Resolution #260 – Placement of Students with Disabilities

Ayes all

Resolution #261 - Placement of Preschool Students with Disabilities

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the said Board arrange placement of the following students as recommended by the District Committee on Preschool Special Education, effective November 3, 2021 be and are hereby approved:

Student #278822	Student #278624	Student #278772
Student #277761	Student #278498	Student #278699
Student #278658		

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Motion by Wayne Evans, Jr, seconded by Matthew Dreher that the Board of Education to approve Resolution #261 – Placement of Preschool Students with Disabilities

Ayes all

Resolutions #262 - #277 are recognized as a consent agenda for the purpose of Board of Education action.

Resolution #262 - Creation of Civil Service Position/Title

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District hereby creates one (1) Community Services and Public Relations position effective October 28, 2021, be and is hereby approved.

Resolution #263 - Memorandum of Agreement- CSEA

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the Memorandum of Agreement between the Ballston Spa Central School District and the Civil Service Employees Association, Inc., Local 1000, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Saratoga County Educational Local 864, dated October 28, 2021, be and is hereby approved.

Resolution #264 - Amendment - Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following resignation for the purpose of retirement previously approved on June 2, 2021 in Resolution #576 of the employee(s) listed below, be amended with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Brian Merchant	Coordinator of Technology Support	1/29/2022

Resolution #265 - Resignation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of the employee(s) listed below, with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Alisa DeVoe	School Aide	10/21/21
Taylor Getwright	Teaching Assistant	11/05/21
Amanda Pezzulo	Registered Nurse	11/23/21
Stacey Rorick	School Aide	11/12/21
Elicia Spagnola	Teaching Assistant	10/29/21
Walter Wintsch	Driver In Training	10/20/21

Resolution #266 - Amendment – Support Services

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, November 3, 2021

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) previously appointed on October 20, 2021 in Resolution #250 be amended to the probationary position(s) indicated below, with rate and effective dates shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Max.Hrs./Wk.</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Brenna Wilday	Special Education Aide	32.5	\$17.96/hr.	10/25/21-10/24/22

Resolution #267 - Tenure Appointment

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be awarded tenure, be and is hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tenure Area</u>	<u>Commencement Date</u>
Jennifer Fauci	Special Education	10/26/21
Heather Thomas	School Media Specialist	11/8/21

Resolution #268 - Permanent Appointment

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be granted permanent appointment to the position(s) indicated below with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Shane DeVoe	Cleaner	11/20/21
Debra Famularo	Bus Attendant	11/06/21
Margaret Giller	Chief Information Officer	11/16/21
Jennifer Martin	Bus Attendant	11/06/21

Resolution #269 - Approval – Individual Employment Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the individual employment agreement(s) for the following person(s), be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Margaret Giller	Chief Information Officer	11/16/21-6/30/24

Resolution #270 - Appointment – Summer School Instructional

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be granted appointment to the position(s) indicated below pending sufficient enrollment to conduct courses, with salary and effective dates shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Jolene Hansen	Teacher	\$42.36/hr.	8/2/21-8/13/21

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Resolution #271 - Appointment Instructional

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the probationary position(s) indicated below, with salary and effective dates shown contingent upon meeting all of the requirements of Education Law Sections 3012, 3012-c or 3012-d, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tenure Area</u>	<u>Certification Status</u>	<u>Salary/Step</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Megan Scaccia	Speech Pathologist	NYS Initial, Speech and Language Disabilities	\$50,593/yr. Step 3+56 (pro-rated)	12/09/21-12/08/25
Beth Sheridan	Teaching Assistant	NYS Teaching Assistant, Level 1	\$22,919/yr. Step 2 (pro-rated)	11/04/21-11/03/25

Resolution #272 - Appointment Instructional

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the probationary position(s) indicated below, with salary and effective dates shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Certification Status</u>	<u>Salary/Step</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Donna Giffune	Registered Nurse	NYS Registered Professional Nurse	\$32.56/hr. Step 4	11/15/21- 11/14/22

Resolution #273 - Appointment – Support Services

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be granted appointment to the probationary position(s) indicated below, with hours, rate and effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Max. Hrs./</u>		<u>Rate</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
		<u>Wk.</u>			
Melissa Glastetter	Community Services and Public Relations Assistant	37.5		\$21.06/hr.	11/29/21-11/28/22
Farhana Khan	School Aide	20		\$15.59/hr.	11/04/21-11/03/22
Darlene Palmateer	Special Education Aide	32.5		\$17.96/hr.	11/08/21-11/07/22
Erica St. John	School Aide	20		\$15.59/hr.	11/04/21-11/03/22

Resolution #274 - Appointment – Tutor

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the Tutor position for the 2021-2022 school year, with rate shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Lynn Fitzgerald	NYS Permanent, Pre K-6	\$40.72/hr.

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Jennifer Lewis	NYS Permanent, Pre K-6, Special Education	\$40.72/hr.
Ellen Predmore	NYS Permanent, Chemistry 7-12, Health Biology and General Science 7-12,	\$40.72/hr.
Erika Richards	NYS Permanent, Pre K-6	\$40.72/hr.
Linda Sheeran	NYS Permanent, Pre K-6, French 7-12	\$40.72/hr.

Resolution #275 - Increase in Hours – Support Services

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be granted an increase in hours to the position(s) indicated below with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Max Hrs./Wk.</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Carla Armer	Clerical Substitute	40	11/4/21

Resolution #276 - Appointment – Extra Duties

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the position(s) indicated below for the 2021-2022 school year, with rate shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title, Location</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Erika Grevelding	Teacher Mentor, MT	Per BSTA contract
Anita Stevens	McKinney-Vento Mentor, MS	\$1,500/yr.(pro-rated)

Resolution #277 - Appointment Interscholastic Sports Coaches

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the coaching position(s) indicated below for the 2021-2022 school year, with stipend shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Caitlin Aldridge	Assistant Varsity Boys Swim and Dive	\$4,775
Joseph McClements	Assistant Varsity Indoor Track	\$4,775
Christopher Perrone	Modified Softball	\$3,714

MOTION BY Matthew Dreher, seconded by Wayne Evans, Jr. that the Board of Education to approve Resolutions #262 - 277

Melissa Glastetter abstained

All others Aye

Policy #1230 review on the policy regarding the replacement of resigning Board Members.

Mr. Slentz reminded everyone of the process when there was a Board resignation. He stated the board had two choices. The Board could appoint an individual or hold a special election. Mr. Slentz explained the choices and stated timelines usually dictate between choices one and two. He

**Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, November 3, 2021**

stated in rare cases the District superintendent, on behalf for the commissioner could step in and require a special election if the Board chose not to act.

Mr. Slentz stated that upon the last resignation, the Board appointed an individual with previous experience that was not choosing to run for a subsequent seat. He stated there were many opportunities with the appointment option.

Mr. Fernau stated he would help to facilitate the Board through the process. He asked that anyone with questions reach out.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jason Gurtler congratulated Melissa Glastetter and thanked her for her service. Mr. Gurtler voiced questions regarding the COVID testing. He had questions regarding PCR tests as they are being discontinued after December 31st. He asked which tests would be provided. He voiced questions and concerns regarding both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals being tested and he stated both groups are currently getting and transmitting COVID.

Mr. DuBuque asked if any data was being collected on the impact of masks for the mental, emotional, and behavioral health of the children in the BSCSD for both general and special education students. He voiced some testing concerns regarding the shortage of test linked with required testing and the discrimination of individuals required to test.

BSATA, BSTA, CSEA, and PTA

None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Melissa Glastetter, seconded by Wayne Evans, Jr. that the Board of Education adjourn at 8:51 p.m.

Ayes all

Respectfully submitted,



Brian Sirianni
Clerk of the Board