



**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
 FEBRUARY 1, 2022
 6 PM - NEW YORK MILLS UFSD LIBRARY**

- Jacqueline Edwards
- Kristin Hubley
- Michelle Jordan
- Scott Carman
- Steve King
- Alicia Albright
- Kimberly Gyore

Agenda Item	Who	Information Distributed	Action	Notes
1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER				
1.1 Pledge to the Flag	K. Hubley		Procedural	
1.2 Reading of the New York Mills UFSD Mission Statement.	S. Carman		Procedural	
1.3 Acceptance of Agenda	J. Edwards	Yes	Action	1 st S. King 2 nd A. Albright / Yes <u>7</u> No <u>0</u> Abstain <u> </u>
2. PRESENTATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS				
2.1 President's Message	J. Edwards		Information	
<i>Ms. Edwards stated that Dr. Shelmidine will be addressing the letter from Mayor Talarico. She reminded the BOE that the Superintendent's evaluation is due by this Friday to the Clerk; the President and Vice President will gather up the information review it, create the data and share it with the Board and then present it to Dr. Shelmidine. She recommended that the Board meet with Dr. Shelmidine as a group once she has written her response to the Board.</i>				
2.3 BOCES Representative Report	G. Porcelli		Information	None at this time
2.4 Committee Reports		Yes	Information	
Policy Committee – K. Gyore, S. Carman, A. Albright – The policy meeting had to be canceled, and will be rescheduled in the future.				

Survey/Communications Committee – K. Hubley, K. Gyore – *This committee has not met recently, but we have lost our PR Person abruptly, so Dr. Shelmidine is working with the Print Shop/Help Desk to continue on.*

Transportation Committee – S. Carman, A. Albright – *None at this time*

Health & Safety Committee – S. King, M. Jordan – *None at this time. Mr. King wants to meet with his committee about a new idea.*

Facilities Committee – M. Jordan, K. Hubley, J. Edwards, - *Met last week, we have successfully completed the exterior projects. The wonderful sign is up and the training is coming and we will have a good mix of individuals who will have that training. The capital outlay for 2021 comparative for the Nurses Office was in the BOE packet. If the BOE has any questions, please address them with her. The Energy Performance Contract, they will be scheduling the page turning session where we will be going through the whole contract to make sure it has everything it needs. It has not been approved yet, but we are hopeful that NY State will approve soon. The Emergency Bus Garage, the good news of the day is that came in \$25K under contract. – MJ*

Q & A: *Mr. King was concerned about the elementary and high school students being kept separate. He inquired if the water fountain outside the Nurses station would be staying for future musical performances, and that the bathrooms be accessible to the exterior hall as well (as they are now). Mrs. Jordan will be looking into those water fountains being turned into the bottle fill style and accessible bathroom door from the hallway with the Architects.*

SBI Committee – S. King – *There was a legislative forum via zoom and they met with the State Assembly people. Questions were asked and important answers shared. There is another one coming up on the 10th. They will meet with the State Senators, also planned a training coming up with Dr. Timbs. He recommends more people from the BOE check in and see what’s going on.*

3. CONSENT AGENDA				
3.1 Approval of 3.2/3.3 Consent Agenda	J. Edwards	Yes	Action	1 st A. Albright 2 nd K. Gyore / Yes <u> 7 </u> No <u> 0 </u> Abstain <u> </u>
3.2 Business Office Reports (Consent)		Yes		
3.3 CSE Reports (Consent)		Yes		
3.4 Approval of the Previous Minutes	1.4.2022	Yes	Action	1 st S. King 2 nd A. Albright / Yes <u> 7 </u> No <u> 0 </u> Abstain <u> </u>
4. OLD BUSINESS				
4.1 Capital Updates	J. Shelmidine	Yes	Information	

Smith is slated to finish landscaping in spring to clean things up and allow Dr. Shelmidine to knock down the old sign! EPC is all but final approved, there are two project managers that are approving all plans through the state. Brian will every once in a while send an email and is then reminded that our project manager will do this in the order it was brought to her. Mrs. Jordan asked Dr. Shelmidine to remind the board of what items were being addressed under the

EPC contract. The idea was that we would have some separation between the elementary and secondary (doors), better lighting and controls. Right now if the boiler were to go out in the middle of the night, we would not be aware until the morning. This would help our maintenance people be on top of this quicker and not run the risk of having to cancel school for this reason. The press box will be rededicated in the spring and the name plaque put back up so that it will say the Ben Ross Field again.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Personnel Report	J. Shelmidine	Yes	Action	1 st K. Gyore 2 nd S. Carman / Yes <u> 7 </u> No <u> 0 </u> Abstain <u> </u>
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5.2 Resolution/Minimum Wage	J. Shelmidine	Yes	Action	1 st M. Jordan 2 nd A. Albright / Yes <u> 7 </u> No <u> 0 </u> Abstain <u> </u>
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5.3 Resolution/Poll Workers	S. Scharf	Yes	Action	1 st S.King 2 nd K. Hubley / Yes <u> 7 </u> No <u> 0 </u> Abstain <u> </u>
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6. K-12 REPORTS

6.1 K-6 Report	B. Dodge		Information	
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PARP kickoff later this week, with an Olympic theme. Principals challenge is rumored to have him dying his hair red/white/blue. Science Fair is being worked on and we will put in a date. We will either limit the number of students in the gym, or utilize the large gym as we have in the past. They want to space out the projects. Ms. Edwards reminded the BOE that board members and Mr. Dodge that BOE members have offered to be judges in the past. Mr. King suggested that perhaps they could also use the hallways like they do for the craft fair. Mr. Dodge stated that they will now be doing our after school tutoring program that would begin this week. We are beginning our focus with some of the lag that has happened as a result of all the quarantines. This focuses on kids that have sometimes due to the quarantining missed up to 10 to 15 days, and we want to get those kids caught up.

6.2 7-12 Report	M. Facci		Information	
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Friday is the end of marking period 2, so report cards will go out on the 8th. Student Counsel will be having a semi-formal, we moved it from early February to March, we looking at March 5 right now. Tomorrow our 7-12 teachers will receive a training from the Center from Family Life and Recovery, regarding vaping. This Friday our students will have a DASA Assembly on responsible use of social media as our quarterly assembly.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

7.1 Enrollment Update	J. Shelmidine	Yes	Information	
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7.2 Superintendent's Update	J. Shelmidine	Yes	Information	BOCES Annual Meeting
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The state has fulfilled its promise in fully funding foundation aide. We don't have percentages yet, it appears that some of our expenses are not accurate, so we are waiting for the second run before we can actually count on what that percentage might be. BOCES annual meeting is April 6, Dr. Porcelli is up for re-

election. Dr. Kilburn was going to touch base with Dr. Porcelli and the other candidates to make sure they still wished to continue in their positions, but she (Dr. Shelmidine) has not heard one way or the other.

In August this BOE agreed that voting for the village, state and federal elections would no longer happen on our campus, which is in response to the whole thought that we have spent so much time putting things in place to keep people off our campus who do not have a legitimate purpose for being in school. We have done a lot with cameras, we have done a lot with patrolling, and then it seems as though one day out of the year we throw all of that aside and everybody and anybody can come on campus (and we certainly want everyone to exercise their right to vote), however; do we wish to do this at the expense of student safety.

Dr. Shelmidine noted that there was a letter sent in September to the Board of Elections Attorney, to both Commissioners and Mr. Talarico, our Mayor. Mayor Talarico has since reached out to Dr. Shelmidine this past week and sent individual letters to the Board asking them to reconsider. Mayor Talarico's general concern is that our elderly population might be confused about going to a new polling place. Dr. Shelmidine, after speaking with Mayor Talarico, agreed she would bring it back up to the Board of Education and voice his concern.

A discussion by the Board brought about the following points:

- People never seemed to mind the moves in the past, just simply, wherever they put voting it will have to be accessible to all.*
- Mayor Talarico mentioned stationing a police officer on the campus. Although generous, how will that one police officer be able to escort every non-custodial parent on and off the campus, every sex-offender, etc. and be certain that every single person that doesn't belong here isn't on the campus? It's just not possible unless you have 50 police officers and they have a list of all of the people of concern in the area. No one wants to deprive anyone the right to vote, but our charge is to keep the children of this campus safe.*
- There is consistent, congested parent pick-up and drop-off and having additional people driving in the same areas going to vote could be problematic. The voter's; however, should be notified well before. The point was made that this would be the issue of the county, not the school regarding that notification.*
- It was further mentioned that it was disheartening that Mayor Talarico was notified in September of this, and is just now concerning himself with this issue.*
- When we have an election that is our school election, all that is involved comes down on us. When someone such as the county rents the space, we get and must deal with the complaints because it appears as though it is ours to control rather than the county.*
- Additionally, it was pointed out that it is a very small portion, of our village, it is the New Hartford portion, and the decision was made and 5 months later he addresses it?*
- When this issue was first brought to our attention last August, Dr. Shelmidine had reviewed and researched this topic, only to find that several schools had pulled out of hosting elections on their property for this very reason. This was not a rash decision; and we had been fortunate that we have an*

exterior building and that no incidences have yet taken place. However; we do have kids that walk down for practices, and are on campus. She feels it is a good safety measure.

Dr. Shelmidine stated that she would reach out to Mayor Talarico and inform him of the BOE discussion/decision to stand behind our original decision not to host any elections other than school elections on our grounds.

Masking is currently still a hot button topic. The masks are still required while the appeal is under way. Everybody knows what the governor's stance is, but we do not know where the appeal will go. For right now numbers are going down, and with weather improving we are hoping that will improve the anxiety and masks in schools, that mandate is set to end on sunset, February 21. Putting all of those things together, she is uncertain of where we go, she does not know what recommendations or guidance documents will come from State Ed. The county at this point has said they are out of the COVID business. We do have a number of sneeze guards and we have other ways that we can mitigate some of the concerns if masks end up not being a requirement. She recognizes that there is a great deal of anxiety amongst our staff about this issue and about students not being masked. It will be a work in progress. Mrs. Marley and she will need to have a meeting on what will be in the best interest of everybody's safety.

8. COMMUNICATIONS				
8.1 From the Floor -	District Clerk		Information	Mrs. Hubley read the statement
Persons wishing to speak should first be recognized by the President, then identify themselves, any organization they may be representing at the meeting, and the agenda topic or other matter of public concern about our schools that they wish to discuss. Topics must be addressed one at a time with each individual's comments limited to three (3) minutes for a total of twelve (12) minutes designated for the public comment agenda item.				
<i>Mrs. Marley addressed the BOE speaking about some of the concerns coming out of the COVID situation.</i>				
8.2 Board Discussion	BOE		Discussion	<i>Mr. King touched on an article of concern from State Ed.</i>
9. EXECUTIVE SESSION ** (If Needed)	BOE	6:35pm	Procedural	1 st A. Albright 2 nd K. Gyore / Yes _7__ No_0__ Abstain ___
<i>Dr. Shelmidine was named Clerk Pro Tem by Ms. Edwards; the BOE went into executive session to discuss a personnel matter.</i>				
<i>Respectfully Submitted, Stefany Scharf/District Clerk</i>				
9.1 Return to General Session (time)	BOE	7:34pm	Procedural	1 st S.King 2 nd K. Hubley / Yes _7__ No_0__ Abstain ___
10. ADJOURNMENT				

10.1 Adjournment	J. Edwards	7:35pm	Procedural	1 st S.King 2 nd K. Hubley / Yes _7__ No_0__ Abstain __
<i>Respectfully Submitted, Joanne Shelmidine/Clerk Pro Tem</i>				
<p>**§105. Conduct of executive sessions.</p> <p>1. Upon a majority vote of its total membership, taken in an open meeting pursuant to a motion identifying the general area or areas of the subject or subjects to be considered, a public body may conduct an executive session for the below enumerated purposes only, provided, however, that no action by formal vote shall be taken to appropriate public moneys:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed; b. any matter which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer; c. information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed; d. discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation; e. collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law; f. 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; g. the preparation, grading or administration of examinations; and h. the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof. <p>2. Attendance at an executive session shall be permitted to any member of the public body and any other persons authorized by the public body.</p>				