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**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 4, 2023
6 PM - NEW YORK MILLS UFSD LIBRARY**

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|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristin Hubley |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kimberly Gyore |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jacqueline Edwards |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Fiore |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Jordan |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve King |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Mahardy, Jr. |

| Agenda Item | Who | Information Distributed | Action | Notes |
|---|-----------|-------------------------|-------------|---|
| 1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER | | | | |
| 1.1 Pledge to the Flag | K. Gyore | | Procedural | |
| 1.2 Reading of the New York Mills UFSD Mission Statement. | S. King | | Procedural | <i>Through combined efforts of students, staff, parents and community members, our mission is to foster the confidence, knowledge, cognition, and character necessary to instill a strong work ethic, to create an environment of tolerance and respect, and to ignite an attitude of inquiry and enthusiasm for learning that will enable students to become productive, responsible citizens.</i> |
| 1.3 Acceptance of Agenda | K. Hubley | Yes | Action | 1 st J. Edwards 2 nd R. Mahardy / Yes <u>7</u> No <u>0</u> Abstain <u> </u> |
| 2. PRESENTATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS | | | | |
| 2.1 President's Message | K. Hubley | | Information | |
| <p>Our April 25th meeting the only agenda item on that meeting will be the BOCES budget and BOCES board member vote, so that will be a quick meeting. The public budget presentation will be May 2 at 5:30pm and the May board meeting will follow at 6pm. April 17th, Board Candidate packets are due if you are running for the board. If anyone is planning on running, if we can get those in earlier including biography it would be appreciated. Work is being done to get the Newsletter completed and getting all of these ready to go. The vote is May 16, from 12 noon until 8pm. There are three board seats open for the election but Mrs. Hubley added that she did not want us to lose sight that it is also a budget vote night. Our administration, our business official, our finance</p> | | | | |

committee have all worked very hard on the balanced budget that was presented to the community and she again wanted to stress that this budget does not include anything at this time having to do with Beekman Gym. Our architects and our facilities committee are working on fact-finding all options and will be reaching out to the community at a later date. She reminded board members that the OHM BOCES Annual meeting is tomorrow evening, registration starts at 5pm. On March 24, Mrs. Jordan, Mr. Mahardy and she had the bandwidth in their schedules to attend the School Safety, Security and Mental Health Conference that was sponsored by the Four-County School Boards Association of the Finger Lakes Region. Mrs. Hubley felt it was the best conference she has attended in a long time. Information will be shared at our Safety and Facilities meetings and she is sure it will be discussed at our board discussion later as well. Mrs. Hubley thanked everyone who was at the meeting this evening and those that contribute to our school community while there are different paths that brought us here, we all have the same goals; to give our students the best educational opportunity and experiences possible to carry them on to graduation.

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| 2.2 BOCES Representative Report | G. Porcelli | | Information | None |
| 2.3 Committee Reports | | | Information | |

Policy Committee: Jacqueline Edwards/Chair, Kimberly Gyore (4/17,5/22,6/26) – *Policy report – submitted in our packets and they would like a policy to utilize the one reading for any perfunctory task for things that are actually required by law whereas you can actually do very little modification or addendums to. Where they are “as written” just so we could expedite the process and get us into compliance.*

Facilities Committee: Michelle Jordan/Chair, Jacqueline Edwards (4/17,5/22,6/26) – *We will be meeting next month. We will be working on the Building Conditions Survey that will be coming up in May/June. There will be a fact finding to determine what our next project will be. Once that is complete then the facilities committee will come to the board with the options for the next project. In addition, to go back, the architects will be working on some fact gathering on what is needed in Beekman and also what the options are and that is going to take some time as we want to present the facts to the community in one forum with all the information that we have. At this point we will be putting Beekman on hold while the architects do their due-diligence. We are going to focus right now on the Building Condition Survey.*

Communications Committee: Robert Mahardy/Chair, Michelle Jordan (4/25,5/9,6/13) – *Last meeting postponed due to the snow day. We will be meeting on the 25th for website survey stuff.*

Safety Committee: Steve King/Chair, Rob Mahardy (4/17) – *We will be meeting a week from Monday on the 17th. We have invited an extra board member who has attended the seminar and also, we are still looking at how we are going to secure the building after hours and still provide the access to the groups after hours.*

Transportation Committee: Steve King/Chair, Jonathan Fiore (5/9, 6/13*If needed) – *We currently have no plans to meet.*

Finance: Jonathan Fiore/Chair, Kimberly Gyore, Jacqueline Edwards (4/25,5/2,6/6) - *We have done the heavy lifting, budgets out.*

SBI: Steve King (SBI Alternate: Kristin Hubley) – *He gave a reminder to go to any trainings that are available. We went to the Herkimer Showcase, and it was great to see the kids who are enthusiastic about their programs.*

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| 3. CONSENT AGENDA | | | | |
| 3.1 Approval of 3.2 through 3.4 | | Yes | Action | 1 st J. Edwards 2 nd S. King / Yes _7__ No_0__ Abstain ___ |
| 3.2 Business Office Reports | | Yes | | |
| 3.3 CSE Report | | Yes | | |
| 3.4 Approval of the Previous Minutes | 3.7.2023 | Yes | | |
| | 3.21.2023 | | | |
| 4. OLD BUSINESS | | | | |
| 4.1 Capital Update | M. LaGase | | | |
| <p><i>Mrs. LaGase stated that Mrs. Jordan highlighted most of the updated items in her Facilities report. She wanted to reiterate and make sure the community is fully aware that Beekman is not part of this budget and the vote approval of this budget. Before we get to that we want to make sure we do our due-diligence in both the process of fact finding and also being able to thoroughly communicate that to the community in a variety of ways and make sure the whole community has access to all the information, and what the options are moving forward with any formal decision making on that. I didn't want some of the discussion that we have had preliminarily to confuse any of the voters thinking that they were unclear as to what they are voting on. She didn't want them to be in that position where there is uneasiness about Beekman. Our budget has nothing to do with Beekman.</i></p> | | | | |
| 5. NEW BUSINESS | | | | |
| 5.1 Personnel Report | | Yes | Action | 1 st M. Jordan 2 nd S. King / Yes _7__ No_0__ Abstain ___ |
| 5.2 SEQR Resolution – Teitsch-Kent-Fay Architects, P.C. | | Yes | Action | 1 st J. Edwards 2 nd M.Jordan/ Yes _7__ No_0__ Abstain ___ |
| <p><i>Dan Fay of TKF Architects spoke about State Environmental Assessment Quality Review and that the district designated this year's capital outlay to replace the front doors. The replacement will be in such a way that they are modular and anything that is done now will not be affected by anything that is done in the future. They will do them with a new series of store-front and new entrance doors themselves that would also have to coordinate with the safety committee about the access controls that go with them. That was the scope of the project this year. In order to go forward the BOE has to determine any environmental impact that would be incurred with this project. To do so, the BOE will need to appoint themselves lead agency. The BOE approved the resolution.</i></p> | | | | |

Mr. Fay also spoke about Smith Site Contracting regarding the fencing for the Bus Garage, asking to have a “kick-off” meeting to schedule delivery of materials and what any potential interruption will look like for this project. This is exciting and things are finally working themselves out for this project.

5.3 Policy 2401 Organization Policy Development (1st Read)

Information

Ms. Edwards said we do not require action on this, but asked that Mrs. LaGase speak to this and the policy review schedule. This will make the updating and addition of new policies an easier addition/approval. Our current policy as it stands requires two reads before the BOE can adopt those policies. For those that we don’t really have any input in, just legal regulatory requirements we want the BOE to have the option to forego a second read. This would give the BOE the authority to forego a second read. At one point we were on track, but as with everything else, COVID did some damage with the maintenance of that, and we are trying to get back on track. At this point there were a couple of policies were sent to me post agenda on being approved that she would like to review at the next meeting.

5.4 Resolution – Cooperative Purchasing 2023-2024

Yes

Action

1st J. Fiore 2nd J. Edwards/ Yes __7__ No_0__ Abstain __

6. K-12 REPORTS

6.1 Executive Principal K-12

M. Facci

Information

This past weekend the Drama Club had a successful production again. Well attended every evening. Mr. Davis and the Varsity Baseball team participated in the NY Mills Community Clean-Up Day, they started at the little league field and worked their way up Main Street to help clean up the village. When we return from the April break the 7th and 8th Grade students will be participating in the NY State English Language Arts Exams. They will be computer based and the students have had practice in doing so using the sytem in class. Mr. Vollmer our art teacher will be taking the Clay Club to the Annual Feats of Clay competition which will be held at Onondaga Community College. This is a new program that he started and the students have been practicing throwing on the pottery wheel. It’s again, very well attended. We have about 45 days of school left. April 20th is the National Junior Honor Society Induction, 7pm. April 26th will be the National Honor Society Induction at 7pm. Those will both be held in the auditorium. The quarter ends on April 21st. Mr. Mahardy inquired if there were any concerns regarding the computer testing; Mrs. Facci responded.

6.2 Interim Principal K-12

D. DiSpirito

Information

Mrs. DiSpirito first spoke about the recess changes. She spoke about how they divided this up into three 20-minute groups, one in the gym, one on the playground and the third in the cafeteria. She said it took a week to adjust and it has been very positive. There is plenty of time go get through the lunch line and eat, plenty of time to play and plenty for them to do thank you to PTSO. We have great activities for them. This has been a great positive change for that hour in the day. She thanks the staff for their flexibility. They have been on board and they are smiling every day and they seem to be happy and the kids are incredible. She has been in every single classroom twice, she has observed 15 teachers. She has participated in 5th and 6th grade recess and she has also been on the busses, and all things look good. The kids know who she is and they are welcoming to the staff and they don’t seem to be bothered by the changes. We too, are working on the NY State Assessments. Test prep that will be occurring after break, our computer-based testing will be the Monday and Tuesday the 24th and 25th (just 5th and 6th); our 3rd and 4th graders will be taking the traditional paper-based testing. We have been talking a lot about curriculum and

curriculum updating for math and ELA. PARP has begun and we decided they are going to dump buckets of water over my head as a reward. This is the challenge as they are working with Water Safari. Water Safari is giving them free tickets if they read at least 6 hours during the month of April. Ms. Edwards inquired about vertical alignment with regards to curriculum, Mrs. DiSpirito responded.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

7.1 Enrollment Update

M. LaGase

Yes

Information

Updated Enrollment was included in Agenda Packet. Mrs. LaGase offered to provide a ledger sized version to the BOE.

7.2 Superintendent's Update

M. LaGase

Yes

Information

Mrs. LaGase spoke about the Safety Excellence Award we have received from Utica National Insurance. Additionally, she spoke about the hard work and dedication of the district and the community in working in concert with the district. She spoke about coming in mid-year is not always easy because things have already been scheduled but we have been speaking about how next year will look like in terms of trying to bring back some of the things that were taken out because of COVID. She has spoken to Mrs. DiSpirito about things like Kids of Character and she has asked to look at re-establishing that and how expanding the agenda to include some attendance awards and asked her to charge the music teacher at the elementary level to come up with a school spirit song at the elementary level. She wants them to learn the fundamentals of school pride. She has charged some of the advisors with re-establishing some formal banquets and she has also met with the Athletic Boosters and PTSO and the Drama Club Advisor, I would like a Fine Arts Banquet. She met with them to help support meal tickets for our students who are participants in the groups. The organizations have been very open and extended support. I've also asked them to help support with plaques and other awards beyond certificates to help with some of our other distinguished awards here in our community. She will work with Lisa on how we can do that in concert with the organizations. We have had a lot of discussions. Some of this has been scheduled and we cannot make modifications this late in the year. Mrs. Facci and she have had lots of conversations about the senior activities and how she would like to see some of that supported. Mrs. Facci has already met with the seniors talking about ideas for the senior picnic. She wants to make sure the kids are safe, discussing senior skip day and she would like to do a fun activity, some type of a ceremony for the kids here trying to discourage them from taking off and being unsupervised. Mrs. Facci is starting some of those conversations and we are just looking to bring back some of the traditions and some of the things she feels that higher levels of involvement for things that were pushed aside because we could not bring large groups in. We are working on that, hopefully next year we can have a full complement for the school year. Mrs. LaGase said she met with Monja Mitchell about the cups design for the fence. She met with her and she will provide the specifics and she needs to know if the BOE is supportive of that moving forward due to it being an expensive cost. She doesn't want to make that commitment financially if there are concerns about that. The design would be up at the top on the fence, reflective of our school and our logo. She does have samples of the little cups that actually go in the fence. They are true school colors. Its obviously a BOE decision but they are interested in this to help showcase the school from the top of the campus. The BOE asked several questions, and Mrs. LaGase responded.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

8.1 From the Floor -

District Clerk

Information

Mrs. Candace Montrose Albright and Mrs. Jean Marley addressed the BOE.

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.

8.2 Board Discussion

S. King – *Gave kudos to the Drama Club and Mrs. Lovecchio for her work and the kids and other community members who assisted in the performance.*

R. Mahardy – *Seconded Mr. Kings words, but stated that this was the most fun performance he has seen with this group of kids have doing a production. He also spoke about the safety workshop and how eye opening it was. He stated that they broke down the Parkland Shooting, and what we do right but what we can do better. In the afternoon, he went to something about threat assessment teams, and being 10 steps before and what we can do better in that aspect. How to help our kids that need help, our families, staff and communities. Looking at all of that. Physical things we can do that would make things safer. Finding the balance and how to do it safely.*

J. Edwards – *Nothing at this time.*

K. Gyore – *The musical was great, and she is sad it's at the end of the year (her youngest is graduating).*

M. Jordan – *Kudos to the kids again. She also added about the safety workshop and how eye opening it was. It wasn't about the negatives, but learning what can be done. She said that she had much to talk about with Mrs. LaGase when she returned. She took the transportation bus safety and active shooter bus safety, and talked about giving the tools to transportation to keep them safe. Also keeping unsafe people off the bus. It's definitely something about safety when we talk about in the building but she had not thought about the bus. It was eye opening. Mrs. Hubley and I also went to the safety after school. That was ok and brought to light a lot of things that Mr. Mahardy eluded to. Going to events safely.*

J. Fiore – *He thought that it was wonderful about PARP and that Water Safari is giving tickets to the kids, the prices have been going up and it's awesome, giving credit.*

K. Hubley – *Spoke about the safety workshop as well, she spoke about the communications section she attended. She said it turned out to be about an APP, and we should look into this, as it is a robust APP. This APP that was describing was talked about by another superintendent from another school and was actually showing how it worked without setting off alarms. The two executives with that APP were from Parkland and at one point in the morning session, they were putting up the names of the individuals who were killed and they said they knew the parents. It meant more to her because they knew people affected by it. Things that occurred during that situation that should not have occurred if something like that had been available to them. The play was great and she was glad she went after that session, it helped her de-escalate. She thanked the administrators and when she speaks with Mrs. LaGase, she brings up things that she wants to bring back things that were done pre-covid. We just did the sports recognition, the kids that sit in the seat and if they were at a banquet and it's a big recognition. Another big thing that she just did is the programs, and the quality of them, and what's involved in making it a keepsake. Those are the little things that are going to bring back the sense of community.*

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION *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;*

BOE

Time 7:24pm

Discussion/Action

1st J. Fiore 2nd M. Jordan / Yes _7__ No _0__ Abstain __

9.1 Return to General Session

BOE

Time 8:05pm

Action

1st M. Jordan 2nd J. Fiore / Yes _7__ No _0__ Abstain __

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|--|-----|-------------|--------|--|
| 9.2 Vote on Executive Session Item | BOE | Time 8:05pm | Action | 1 st M. Jordan2 nd J. Fiore/ Yes _7__ No_0__ Abstain ___ |
| 10. ADJOURNMENT | | | | |
| 10.1 Adjournment | | Time 8:07 | Action | 1 st J. Fiore2 nd K. Gyore/ Yes _7__ No_0__ Abstain ___ |
| <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> <p>a. matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed;</p> <p>b. any matter which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer;</p> <p>c. information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed;</p> <p>d. discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation;</p> <p>e. collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>g. the preparation, grading or administration of examinations; and</p> <p>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> <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> | | | | |
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