

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL  
Sauquoit, NY 13456

Date of Meeting: Thursday, September 28, 2017

Kind of Meeting: Regular

Presiding Officer: Anthony Nicotera

Members Present: Anthony Nicotera, Jim Dever, Mark Evans, Todd Nelson and Steven Shrey

Members Absent: Dawn Miller and Christine Weber Mangini

Administrators Present: Ronald Wheelock, Superintendent of Schools  
Charles Cowen, Business Administrator

Others Present: Members of the Community/Staff

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Mr. Nicotera.

**Pledge of Allegiance** - The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Presentations** - **The Bonadio Group (Review of 2016-2017 Audit)** - Gregg Evans, The Bonadio Group, presented the 2016-17 audit to the Board. He distributed the draft financial packet and reviewed the information contained therein. He stated Mr. Cowen did a great job and gave the district an A+ on the audit.

**Public to Be Heard** - Mr. Nicotera asked if anyone wished to address the Board and one person did so.

**Fred Orsino** was present to revisit the junior varsity softball program. He said they still have the numbers for this program. Doug Jones, Athletic Director, was present to discuss reinstating the wrestling program. After some discussion, the junior varsity softball and wrestling programs will be placed on the next Board agenda for action.

**Students to Be Heard** - Mr. Nicotera asked if any students wished to address the Board and none did so. No students were present.

**Board of Education Sub-Committee Reports** - **Facilities and Transportation** -Mr. Wheelock stated a meeting was held on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 to discuss phase III of the capital project. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 26, 2017 with the awarding of bids on Tuesday, November 14, 2017. In order to accept the bids, a special Board meeting will have to be scheduled in November.

**Old Business - School Tax Exemptions for Veterans** - Mr. Cowen distributed information to the Board on the criteria for veterans to receive a school tax exemption should the Board decide to do this. Should the Board adopt the veteran's exemption, the reductions realized by eligible veterans would essentially be absorbed by taxpayers throughout the district.

**Resolution No. 14** made by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Nelson,

- to appoint Steven Szatko to the position of Interim Elementary School Principal effective October 2, 2017 to October 13, 2017.
- to appoint Wendy Stillman to the position of Interim District Treasurer effective October 2, 2017 until the position is filled permanently.
- to appoint Sarah Spiwak as a per diem substitute teacher effective September 29, 2017.
- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sauquoit Valley Central School District, pursuant to all applicable Civil Service rules and regulations, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Brian Callahan to the position of substitute bus driver effective September 29, 2017.
- approval for the Board of Cooperative Educational Services election.

WHEREAS, the election of Cooperative Board member is to occur by resolution; and

WHEREAS, notification was received on August 30, 2017 of the candidate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education casts its vote(s) in the election of members of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Sole Supervisory District of Oneida, Herkimer and Madison Counties, for the person or persons indicated as follows:

- To fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mrs. Shirley Burtch, Oriskany, NY (Oriskany Central School District), please cast one vote for the continuation of a three-year term as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Sole Supervisory District of Oneida, Herkimer and Madison Counties:

Ms. Michelle Anderson  
143 Elm Street  
Oriskany, NY 13424

- that the minutes of the September 12, 2017 meeting be approved.
- that the Treasurer's Reports of Balances be approved as presented.
- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills approved by the claims auditor.
- that the Board of Education upon completion of its review of the IEP in accordance with Section 200.4(d)(2) of the Regulations of the Commissioner agrees to arrange for appropriate special education programs and services for students numbered 103003, 1401001 and 1400327 as recommended by the Committee on Special

**Resolution No. 14 (cont'd)**

Education and agrees to arrange for appropriate special education programs and services for students numbered 1400977 and 1400945 as recommended by the Committee on Pre-School Special Education.

Carried: Ayes 5.

**Resolution No. 15** made by Mr. Dever, seconded by Mr. Nelson, that the Board of Education approve Change Order #GC-004 in the amount of \$28,370.48. Amount to be added to the contract with Putrelo Building Enterprises for Project #0002-015. Carried: Ayes 5.

**Miscellaneous Topics** - **Mr. Wheelock** stated Mr. Cowen has been a great edition to the district, a very trusted resource and a true pleasure to work with. He will be missed and all that he has done for the district is appreciated. **Mr. Cowen** said it has been an absolute pleasure to work at Sauquoit Valley Central School. **Mr. Nelson** said those are some big shoes to fill and **Mr. Nicotera** stated Mr. Cowen treated everybody with respect and professionalism. **Mr. Nelson** asked the status of Mr. Cowen's position. Mr. Wheelock said interviews are being held on Monday, October 2 and Tuesday, October 3, 2017. He will provide any Board members sitting in on the interviews with copies of the candidate's resumes.

**Public to Be Heard** - Mr. Nicotera asked if anyone wished to address the Board and no one did so.

**Resolution No. 16** made by Mr. Shrey, seconded by Mr. Nelson, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m. Carried: Ayes 5.

Respectfully submitted,

*Laurie M. Kloster*

Laurie M. Kloster  
Clerk, Board of Education