

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Clinton Central School District, Oneida County, New York, held on September 26, 2023.

Present:

(Board)

(Administration)

Ms. Melinda Leising, President
Ms. Erica Shaw, Vice-president
Dr. Lyndsey Bauer
Mr. Sam Catterson
Ms. Rachael Clark
Mr. Patrick LaVeck
Ms. Lisa Magnarelli

Mr. Christopher Clancy, Superintendent
Mr. Joseph Barretta, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mrs. Michelle Gabree-Huba, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Technology
Dr. Matthew Lee, High School Principal
Mr. Edward Waskiewicz, Elementary Principal
Mrs. Elizabeth Dougherty, Director of Pupil Personnel Services

Ms. 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

Several new staff members were introduced to Board members by their respective building principals or supervisors followed by time for informal conversation.

5. AUDIT REPORT

Ms. Nicole Chubbuck of D’Arcangelo and Co., summarized findings of the 2022-2023 external 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-96 regarding software subscriptions, 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 considered to be a low-risk auditee. This is the third year that a single audit was performed. The extra-classroom audit revealed a lack of accounting controls over cash receipts which is an inherent finding in all Districts. Reserves are strong, and unassigned fund balance is compliant at 4%.

Ms. Chubbuck thanked Mr. Barretta and the Business Office staff for being well prepared and easy to work with. The next step, after Board acceptance, will be to send the report to other agencies to establish the District's credit rating.

6. INFORMATION-REPORTS-PROPOSAL/SUPERINTENDENT & STAFF

A. Superintendent's Report

Board Member Recognition

Mr. Clancy, Superintendent, recognized the work performed by Board members, and showed appreciation by presenting individual members with Certificates of Appreciation, and new Clinton Comets T-shirts.

Board Docs

Mr. Clancy introduced Board members to a tool which the District is interested in purchasing that will allow for easier, smoother communication of Board meeting materials. He will obtain quotes and present more information for the October meeting.

Renaming Update

Mr. Clancy added a few items to the timeline observed for the Renaming process. One thousand sixty- three students, faculty, staff and community members participated in an advisory poll with the following results:

Comets – 52.8%

Coyotes – 29.1%

Wildcats – 18.2%

The new name was cleverly announced at the Homecoming Pep Rally held on September 22 with all students and staff members in attendance. Mr. Clancy then played a short video taken at the moment when the announcement was made to a cheering crowd.

Staffing Update

Mr. Clancy displayed names of new staff members who are on this agenda for approval. He also explained the need for the District to hire a dedicated Technical Supervisor. This will be a civil service position rather than a shared OHM BOCES position. Our current BOCES Technology staff would answer to this supervisor.

Athletics Update

Unfortunately, the 8 man football team proved to be unsustainable. Other options will be considered for next year. This situation brought to light the need to review general athletic philosophy, processes and procedures. Results will be reported to the Board at a later meeting.

District Goals

Mr. Clancy reported that, resulting from the workshop held in August, four overarching topics emerged: Culture, Coordination, Communication, and Consistency which translate into the four goals to be adopted at tonight's meeting. He shared a suggested timeline for the development and presentation of District, Building and Department Goals and Updates for the coming year.

Superintendent's Conference Day

Mrs. Michelle Gabree-Huba, Assistant Superintendent reported that much was accomplished at the September 25 Conference Day. The day began with a productive discussion regarding student mental health, involving outside experts. Much of the days offerings were driven by the newly adopted goals. Presentations on academic learning tools, grading practices, and personalized professional learning

opportunities targeting specific grade levels were available. Thank you to the TEPS Committee for their input.

Administrators Reports

Mr. Eddie Waskiewicz, Elementary Principal, displayed photos of energetic and enthusiastic students arriving on opening day, welcomed by staff members. Morning announcements are now livestreamed into classrooms in an attempt to better connect with students. A C-town, Jr. in collaboration with high school students, is under consideration.

Dot Day, based on the book by Peter Reynolds, was celebrated with an outdoor story walk and numerous classroom activities. A harvest of the month item is introduced in the ES cafeteria, encouraging students and along with their parents to try new things. Student artists from all three buildings under the supervision of art teacher Lynn Hall spent over 100 hours painting STEAM Hall of Fame murals along elementary school hallways featuring famous characters throughout history.

Teachers participated in a presentation on the administration of Star assessments which will subsequently be analyzed and shared with parents on conference day.

In Middle School Principal Dr. Carney's absence, High School Principal Dr. Matthew Lee reported that interest in the Mindfulness Adventure Club is growing thanks to Mr. Sirianni's creative recruiting. E-sports Club members are required to complete one climb, and are signing up for more. Teacher Mary Anne Murray presented students with a 6th grade engineering challenge of creating a nametag with at least one moving part. The Middle School Leo's Club Welcome Back Dance occurs on Friday.

Dr Lee then showed a photo of the high school wall and stairway where the new name change is now displayed. At the high school faculty meeting, retiring PE teacher Darcey Cross was honored with the customary celebration. She had the opportunity to say good-bye to students on Monday and Tuesday.

C-town live is up and running with new equipment installed, with professional development on its use provided by Mr. Daughtry, all funded by the CCSD Foundation. Grade 10 and 11 students have been learning in small groups how to navigate the digital PSAT test, overcoming multiple glitches.

The Homecoming Club Fair gave 9th and 10th graders an opportunity to learn about, and sign up for extra-curricular activities. Homecoming events included the pep rally and bonfire on Friday, athletic events, and a high school dance on Saturday evening.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

No one wished to speak.

8. STANDING RESOLUTIONS (CONSENT AGENDA)

A motion was made by Ms. Magnarelli, seconded by Ms. Clark and carried (7, 0) to combine items 8A through I.

A motion was made by Ms. Magnarelli, seconded by Dr. Bauer and carried (7, 0) to approve items 8A through I

- A. Agenda and Any Additions to the Agenda for September 26, 2023
- B. Minutes from the Special Meeting held on August 31, 2023
- C. Summary Treasurer’s Report for August 2023
- D. Treasurer’s Report for August 2023
- E. Executive Summary for August 2023
- F. Revenues/expenditures by Month
- G. Extra-classroom Treasurer’s Report for August 2023
- H. Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) and Committee on Special Education (CSE) Report:

Program Review	0
Annual Review	0
Reevaluation (Triennial)	0
Administrative Transfer	0
Preschool	0
New Referral	1
504 Review	1
504 Referral	2
Amendment w/o Meeting Held	1

- I. Updated List of Substitute and Supervisory Personnel

9. COMMTTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

A. Committee Reports

- 1. Policy
Dr. Bauer reported that a first read for policy #4321 is included on this agenda, with the required update regarding age limits on special education services, as well as other small wording adjustments.
- 2. Finance
Ms. Magnarelli reported that the committee reviewed the audit as presented earlier in the meeting.

B. Liaisons

- 1. PTA
Ms. Clark reported that the PTA now has 66 members and over \$46,000 to spend. Events in the works include a movie night, a Utica Comets discounted ticket event, and the annual staff appreciation lunch which is the organization’s biggest expense.
- 2. SBI
Mr. Barretta reported that he had attended an SBI event where NYSSBA, National Grid, and NYS Bus Sales gave presentations regarding the status of the electric bus requirement.

Previously, a road map had been distributed to guide Districts toward purchasing. A current fleet assessment and infrastructure analysis is needed, with a progress report due to NYS in August. National Grid is available to provide consulting services, with some reimbursement available. There is much still to learn.

3. CCSD Foundation

Mr. Clancy reported that the Foundation raised \$14,000 at the annual golf tournament. They will have a table at the November Shoppers Stroll to increase visibility, and the Annual Fund mailing will be starting soon. A summary of the Brick Garden Ceremony, where 26 new bricks were dedicated, and 32 bricks replaced due to wear, was presented.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Policy

- 1. BE IT RESOLVED that draft policy #4321, Programs for Students with Disabilities under the IDEA and New York’s Education Law Article 89, be adopted.

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

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

B. Curriculum

BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the creation of a one year unpaid pilot club listed below, as described in the attached proposals, be approved.

- 1. New Young Entrepreneurs Club
- 2. Pancakes and Poetry

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

- C. BE IT RESOLVED that the draft audit distributed as a final document prepared by D’Arcangelo & Co., LLP for the 2022-2023 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. Magnarelli, seconded by Dr. Bauer, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

D. **RESOLUTION: RATIFYING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Clinton Central School District (“District”) and the Civil Service Employees Association, INC., Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Oneida County Educational Local 869, Clinton Central School District Unit #7758-00 (“Association”) have reached a tentative agreement concerning a successor collective bargaining agreement covering the term of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board hereby ratifies the terms of said tentative agreement and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute the Agreement on behalf of the District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Board hereby approves the appropriation of any additional funds necessary to implement the terms of said agreement.

11. OTHER

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

A. **RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, newly enacted regulation 8 NYCRR 123.2 prohibits the use of Indigenous names, mascots, and logos by New York State public schools and requires Boards of Education to commit to eliminating the use of all Indigenous names, logos, and mascots via resolution by the end of the 2022-23 school year; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with 8 NYCRR 123.2 the Clinton Central School District has eliminated the use of the team name, “Warriors”, and any corresponding residual logos and/or imagery tied to indigenous peoples. The District has further engaged the community and stakeholders to select a new District name, logo and mascot; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Clinton Central School District as follows:

- a. The Board of Education has considered the input from the community and stakeholders and approves “Comets” to be used as the new District name and directs the Superintendent and or his designees to take steps to approve all logos and/ or mascots associated with the District name.

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

- B. **BE IT RESOLVED** that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the District Goals for the 2023-2024 school year, be approved.

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

- C. **BE IT RESOLVED** that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the operation of a combined Girl Ice Hockey Team in partnership with other Section III school districts as determined by the Superintendent, for the 2023-2024 school year pending receipt of a fully executed combining agreement and a current certificate of insurance from each participating school.

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

D. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF VAPING LITIGATION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Clinton Central School District (the “District”) previously authorized the District Superintendent to take all steps necessary to join a nation-wide lawsuit by school districts against Juul Labs, Inc. the largest seller of e-cigarettes in the

United States and Altria Group, Inc. formerly known as Phillip Morris Companies, Inc. (the “Lawsuit”); and

WHEREAS, in or about January 2023, counsel for Juul Labs, Inc. and counsel for the plaintiff school districts reached an agreement in principle to resolve all claims against Juul Labs, Inc., as well as its corporate representatives (the “JUUL Settlement”); and

WHEREAS, the JUUL Settlement did not include the resolution or dismissal of any claims as against defendant Altria Group, Inc. formerly known as Phillip Morris Companies, Inc. (the “Altria Claims”); and

WHEREAS, following extensive negotiations, counsel for Altria Group, Inc. and counsel for the plaintiff school districts have reached an agreement in principle to resolve the Altria Claims (the “Altria Settlement”); and

WHEREAS, the Altria Settlement provides, in relevant part, that in exchange for a full release of claims against Altria Group, Inc., the District will receive monetary remuneration in the amount of \$6,527.00 (the “Settlement Amount”) to be paid promptly upon the execution of all necessary settlement documentation and obtaining of all necessary court approvals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Clinton Central School District hereby ratifies the Altria Settlement, a copy of which is incorporated into the minutes of this meeting, and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to take any further actions necessary to effect the settlement authorized herein.

12. PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Ms. Magnarelli, seconded by Ms. Clark, and carried (7, 0) to combine items 12A through 12J.

A motion was made by Mr. LaVeck, seconded by Ms. Shaw, and carried (7, 0) to combine items 12A through 12J.

- A. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the unpaid family care leave for Rachel Brenon, social worker, beginning on or about January 22, 2024 through June 30, 2024, in accordance with the current CTA agreement, be approved.
- B. BE IT ESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Jessica Pinto to the position of long-term substitute social worker, pending certification, in the social work tenure area, to be compensated at step 1MA in accordance with the current CTA agreement, beginning on October 10, 2023 through June 30, 2024, be approved.
- C. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the resignation of Julia Darraji from the full time civil service position of aide, effective September 8, 2023, be accepted.
- D. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Christine Cook to the full time civil service position of aide, to be compensated at an annual salary of \$18,389, in accordance with the current CSEA agreement, beginning September 18, 2023, with a probationary period of 8 to 26 weeks, be approved.

- E. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Carrie Jackson to the part time civil service position of monitor, to be compensated at Step 1, in accordance with the current CSEA agreement, beginning September 27, 2023, with a probationary period of 8 to 26 weeks be approved.
- F. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Debra Lopata to the part time civil service position of monitor, to be compensated at Step 1, in accordance with the current CSEA agreement, beginning September 18, 2023, with a probationary period of 8 to 26 weeks, be approved.
- G. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Gisela Bronga to the part time civil service position of monitor, to be compensated at Step 1, in accordance with the current CSEA agreement, beginning September 18, 2023, with a probationary period of 8 to 26 weeks, be approved.
- H. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of James Duffy to the full time civil service position of cleaner, to be compensated at Step 1, in accordance with the current CSEA agreement, beginning September 27, 2023, with a probationary period of 8 to 26 weeks, be approved.
- I. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following co-curricular appointment for the 2023-2024 school year, to be compensated in accordance with Article 15 of the CTA contract, be approved:

Matthew Bashant	High School Science Fair Coordinator
Michael Pavone	High School Community Service Club

- J. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following coaching appointments for the 2023-2024 school year, pending team formation, to be compensated in accordance with Article 14 of the CTA contract or other agreements/understandings between the District and CTA, be approved.

Alexandra	Jones	Girls	Varsity Volleyball Head Coach
Michael	Hayduk, Jr.	Boys	Varsity Basketball Head Coach
Michael	Hayduk, Sr.	Boys	Varsity Basketball Volunteer
Brian	Campbell	Boys	JV Basketball Head Coach
Steven	Campbell	Boys	JV Basketball Volunteer
Elaine	Hogan	Girls	Varsity Basketball Head Coach
Angelo	Gaetano	Girls	JV Basketball Coach
Norm	Deep	Co-ed	Varsity Indoor Track Head Coach
Kevin	Jones	Co-ed	Varsity Indoor Track Assistant Coach
Austen	Johnson	Co-ed	Varsity Indoor Track Assistant Coach
Robert	Kopek	Girls	Varsity Ice Hockey Head Coach
Kelsey	Dowdall	Girls	Varsity Ice Hockey Assistant Coach
Catherine	Rood	Girls	Varsity Ice Hockey Volunteer
Elana	Calicchia	Girls	Varsity Ice Hockey Volunteer
Jon	Davignon	Boys	Varsity Ice Hockey Head Coach
Stacy	Davignon	Boys	Varsity Ice Hockey Assistant Coach

Jake	Bialek	Boys	Varsity Ice Hockey Volunteer
Sharon	White	Coed	Varsity Bowling Coach
Kristen	Willson	Coed	Varsity Indoor Track Volunteer

13. QUESTIONS BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ms. Leising reminded Mr. Clancy and Board members of the need to discuss the Superintendent's Goals. Agendas for Committee Meetings will now be posted on the website in advance of the meetings. Mr. Catterson agreed to act as the NYSSBA voting delegate for CCS.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Magnarelli, seconded by Mr. Catterson, and carried (7, 0) to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation, and the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person(s) or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. The time was 7:54pm.

A motion was made by Ms. Magnarelli, seconded by Mr. Catterson, and carried (7, 0) to return to regular session. The time was 8:33pm.

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Dr. Bauer, and carried (7, 0) to adjourn the meeting. The time was 8:33pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Julia A. Scranton
District Clerk