SWEET HOME CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023

MINUTES

A meeting of the Sweet Home Board of Education was held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 in the Norman Vergils Community Center. President of the Board, Mrs. Jasen, called the meeting to order at 6:28 pm.

Mrs. Jasen led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENT: Amy Battaglia, Peter Bellanti, Joshua Feldmann (via Google meet from Pittsburgh – arrived at 6:33 pm), Marianne Jasen, Scott M. Johnson, Brian Laible, Kailey McDonald

ABSENT: Musab Abrar (student ex-officio)

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the Board of Education accepted the roll as called.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				

Also present: Michael V. Ginestre, Donald G. Feldmann, JoAnn Balazs, Toyia Wilson

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the meeting was adjourned to executive session for matters related to the employment history of a particular individual and ongoing collective bargaining negotiations at 6:30 pm.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered to come out of executive session at 7:19 pm.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLVED: That, the agenda set forth for the regular Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, April 18, 2023 is hereby adopted in its entirety.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLVED: That, the reading of the minutes of the voting meetings held Tuesday, March 21, 2023 and Friday, March 31, 2023 be waived and are hereby adopted in their entirety.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

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COMMUNICATIONS

1. Harris Beach Legal Alerts
2. Letter from Dave Lowrey to Mrs. Jasen
3. BOCES Annual Meeting Information.

OPEN SESSION: Agenda Topics – Policy 1512

Called

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Glendale Elementary Presentation
Glendale Elementary staff and students gave a presentation to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, April 11, 2023.

B. 2022/23 Budget Update
Donald Feldmann, Director of Finance and Plant Services, gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, April 11, 2023.

C. Superintendent Update
Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, April 11, 2023.

D. 2022/23 Budget Update
Donald Feldmann, Director of Finance and Plant Services, gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, April 11, 2023.

E. Superintendent Update
Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the voting meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Budget Adoption 2023 – 2024 – Policy 5130

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education approve and adopt for the 2023 - 2024 school year a school budget with the total expenditure of **$96,886,588** with a breakdown as follows:

FUNCTION	**BUDGETED 2023-24**
Board of Education	$48,880
Central Administration	$290,553
Finance Services	$572,759
Legal Services	$269,970
Human Resources	$500,478
Records Management	$3,000
Education/Community Services	$8,900
Operations & Maintenance	$5,498,643
Central Printing & Mailing	$216,610
Central Data Processing	$614,708
Special Items	$795,417
Curriculum Development & Supervision	$336,423

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NEW BUSINESS-continued…

A. Budget Adoption 2023 – 2024 – Policy 5130

School Supervision	$1,766,892
Research, Planning & Eval	$423,251
In-Service Training	$211,300
Teaching –Regular Schools	$32,912,725
Special Education	$9,945,489
Occupational Education	$1,025,848
Teaching Special Schools	$202,820
Instructional Media	$1,587,736
Pupil Services	$2,902,187
Co-Curricular Services	$146,002
Interscholastic Athletics	$659,090
Transportation	$6,958,087
Community Service	$47,500
Employee Benefits	$21,004,069
Debt Service	$7,677,252
Interfund Transfers	$260,000
TOTAL BUDGET	**$96,886,588**

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education adopts the property Tax Report Card.

The following will be the order in which items should appear on the voting machines for the purpose of voting on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm at the Vergils Community Center at Sweet Home High School:

I. 2023-2024 Budget $96,886,588

II. Proposition #2 Election of one (1) school board member for a five (5) year term July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2028.

and be it further…

B. Special Education

1. Class placements for 2022-2023 – Policy 7613

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-142, the Individuals with Disabilities Act, and Chapter 853, Laws of 1976 (New York State Education Act), requires Board of Education approval for all placements of students with disabilities, and

WHEREAS, the District Committee on Special Education has reviewed all placements, and

WHEREAS, all parents have approved said special education class placements, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That, the 2022-2023 placements for students with disabilities be approved as recommended in a memorandum to Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, dated March 31, 2023.

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NEW BUSINESS-continued…

B. Special Education

2. Preschool class placements for 2022-2023 – Policy 7614

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-142, the Individuals with Disabilities Act, as amended by P.L. 99-457, New York State Compliance, Chapter 243 of the Laws of 1989, requires Board of Education approval for all placements of preschool students with disabilities, and

WHEREAS, the District Committee on Preschool Special Education has reviewed all placements, and

WHEREAS, all parents have approved said special education placements, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That, the 2022-2023 placements for preschool students with disabilities be approved as recommended in a memorandum to Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, dated March 31, 2023.

and be it further…

C. Monthly Financial Reports – Policy 2140

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accept the Investment Schedule, the Treasurer's Report, the Budget Appropriation Status Report, the Revenue Budget Status report, the Budget Transfer Report, and the Extra-Curricular Account Report as provided.

and be it further…

D. Bids – Policy 5410

1. Commercial Printing School Calendar

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education award the commercial printing school calendar bid #2023-24-13 to **Zenger Group** in the amount of **$9,613.00.**

2. Commercial Printing "Your Schools"/Community Education

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education award the commercial printing "Your Schools"/Community Education bid #2023-24-15 to **Orffeo Printing & Imaging Inc.** for a total bid of **$31,476.00**.

3. Commercial Printing Envelopes and Forms, Specialty Paper & Other

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, award the commercial printing envelopes and forms bid #2023-24-14 to the following vendors at the unit price offered per item specified for a total bid of **$8,481.43**.

Orffeo Printing & Publishing	$7,895.00
RMF Printing	$129.43
Zenger Group	$457.00
Total	**$8,481.43**

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NEW BUSINESS-continued…

D. Bids – Policy 5410

4. Arts & Crafts Supplies Bid

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, award the Arts and Crafts Supplies bid #2023-24-5 to the following vendors at the unit price offered per item specified for a total bid of **$13,074.27**.

Blick	$6,403.41
Cascade	$2,146.42
Discount School Supply	$301.66
Lakshore Materials	$666.57
Pyramid School Products	$1,891.67
Quill	$1,664.54
Total	**$13,074.27**

5. Athletic Uniforms

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, award the Athletic Uniform bid #2023-24-18 to following vendors at the unit price offered per item specified for a total bid of **$16,797.50**.

AdPro Sports	$7,220.00
BSN Sports, LLC	$8,513.00
Riddell	$1,064.50
Total	**$16,797.50**

and be it further…

E. Annual District Vote – Policy 1611

1. Chief Election Inspector

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education appoint, Karen Galli, qualified voter in the district, to act as **Chief Election Inspector** at said school district's Annual Vote to be held at Sweet Home High School, Norman Vergils Community Center, 1901 Sweet Home Road, in the Town of Amherst, on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 from 7 am to 9 pm and to perform such duties and to take such action as prescribed by law.

2. Inspectors of Election

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education appoint the following, each being a qualified voter in the district, to act as **Inspectors of Election** at said district Annual Vote per attached memo and to perform such duties and to take such action as prescribed by the Education Law:

- Lorraine Beaudet
- Dolly Krose
- Ida Pause
- Elaine Wagner
- Lyn Custodi
- John Montanari
- Linda Stuck
-

and be it further…

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NEW BUSINESS-continued...

F. Erie 1 BOCES

1. Erie 1 BOCES Budget

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Sweet Home Central School District Board of Education hereby adopts the BOCES administrative budget for 2023-24, as presented.

Administrative Services $3,865,941

2. BOCES Board Members

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education of the Sweet Home Central School District cast one vote for each open seat (two (2) open seats total) for the election of the following individuals to the BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES effective July 1, 2023.

Nominees: John Sherman, Janet MacGregor Plarr

and be it further...

G. Revised Policy – Policy 1410 – Second Reading

Board of Education By-Law #1410 states that "Board of Education policy and rules and by-laws shall be adopted, amended and/or suspended...only when the addition, amendments or suspension is first introduced in writing and is subsequently moved and seconded at a public meeting at least 27 calendar days prior to the time when such adoption, amendment and/or suspension may be voted upon."

At the regular Board of Education meeting held on March 21, 2023 the Superintendent of Schools recommends the Board of Education accept the first reading of the following revised policies.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following revised policies as provided in the April 18, 2023 presentation.

a.	**6121 – Sexual Harassment in the Workplace**
b.	**6140 – Employee Medical Examinations**
c.	**6214 – Probation & Tenure**

and be it further...

H. Revised Policy – Policy 1410 – First Reading

Board of Education By-Law #1410 states that "Board of Education policy and rules and by-laws shall be adopted, amended and/or suspended...only when the addition, amendments or suspension is first introduced in writing and is subsequently moved and seconded at a public meeting at least 27 calendar days prior to the time when such adoption, amendment and/or suspension may be voted upon."

At the regular Board of Education meeting held on April 18, 2023 the Superintendent of Schools recommends the Board of Education accept the first reading of the following revised policies.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following revised policies as provided in the April 18, 2023 presentation.

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NEW BUSINESS-continued…

H. Revised Policy – Policy 1410 – First Reading

a.	**6570 – Determination of Employment Status: Employee or Independent Contractor**
b.	**7270 – Rights of Non-Custodial Parents**
c.	**7350 – Corporal Punishment/Emergency Interventions**
d.	**7522 – Concussion Management**
e.	**7530 – Child Abuse and Maltreatment**
f.	**7545 – Student Gender Identity**
g.	**7618 – Use of Time Out Rooms**

and be it further…

I. Athletic Team Merger

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, authorizes the continuation of the following merged Athletic Teams for the 2023-24 school year.

- Boys Ice Hockey – Depew School District
- Girls Ice Hockey – Clarence School District & Amherst School District

and be it further…

J. Budget Transfer - Policy 5140

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and consistent with Board of Education policy, the Board of Education approves the attached budget transfer in the amount of $1,300,000.00 to budget code A5540.400.09.0000 for contracted transportation expenses.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

M. Abrar: Student Gov't hosted an art contest for a new Panther Pit design. Hunter Tryloff won and will receive a $100 gift card and his design would be on a banner. Student Gov't is also working on Earth Day celebrations. Hoping to have a community service field trip as one part. Planning is also beginning on an end of the year event, may be similar to a past event. Also hoping to bring back the Prize Wheel in the main foyer as well as bringing back peer tutoring prior to exams.

P. Bellanti: Joined the Baseball team on their Myrtle Beach trip. Supported the MS Chicken Dinner fundraiser. Attended several athletic events.

S. Johnson: Attended an event in Springville promoting healthy food. Met with Patrick Longo of NYSSBA and volunteered to be an ambassador for them assisting with handing out awards. Attended the Safe Schools event at Buff State, the Policy Committee meeting and the Safety Committee meeting. The Alumni Committee is beginning to review scholarships and seeking a replacement for Lisa LaBrake who is stepping down. Attended the HS PTSA meeting which featured presentations on SHEF and NWACC. The STARS breakfast will be on May 16. PTSA is getting ready to work on scholarship awards. Attended the DEI Committee meeting.

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INFORMATIONAL ITEMS-continued…

K. McDonald: Attended the Creekwoods Park family fest – kudos to the organizers – APD, NWACC and SH. Well attended and lots of fun. Also attended the HH meat raffle. DEI committee had an end of the year celebration of all that's been accomplished, discussed direction for continuing the work. Will present to the BOE in June.

B. Laible: WR leadership day was very nice, each classroom had a different theme based on the 7 habits and students developed the presentations. Overall theme was global, with passports handed out and stickers to collect from each room. Also attended the Policy Committee meeting. Attended the WR PTO meeting – working on the Community Garden which was started last year. Big discussion about perhaps having a District wide Multicultural event, might be helpful to consolidate for presenters, vendors, bringing entire community together. DEI teaching & learning subcommittee met – focus was on pillar – whole child – talked about fun – perhaps Friday Night Lights events.

A. Battaglia: Reminder about the MS PTSA chicken dinner sale on 4/12. Also attended the Creekwoods Park event. Attended sporting events – the coyotes are working. Some asked why the concession stand was not open.

M. Jasen: Congratulations to Buffalo Public Schools for winning a NSBA Magna Award for their Our Story Project which is an after school hours program. April 15 is the Creekwood Family Fest event. Attended the NWACC meeting, and the Heritage Heights music extravaganza. Don and I spoke with the Amherst Bee regarding school lunches. HH is also having a meat raffle from 6-9 pm on April 15 at St. Leo's. Tony Day also came to the HH PTA meeting to speak about what SHEF does. Kudos to Heidi Lefevre for her work on the Creekwoods Park fest. Attended the District Safety committee meeting – all lockdown drills have been completed for the year. Gaggle has been a valuable tool. Contratulations to Dr. Ginestre for finishing his doctorate in Educational Administration & Policy.

OPEN SESSION

Called

PERSONNEL

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered for consent agenda on personnel items I and II.

I. Teaching and Administrative

A. Regular

2. Appointments

c. Encumbered

RESOLVED: That, the *encumbered appointment,* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Lauren Gelz		

d. Mentoring

RESOLVED: That, the *mentoring appointment,* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Morgan Chase		

g. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence,* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Matthew Capriotto	Michelle Christensen	Angela Commisso
Julie Ceccato	Thaddeus Geraci	Alessandra Ahmad

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PERSONNEL-continued...

I. Teaching and Administrative

A. Regular

2. Appointments

h. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave,* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Matthew Capriotto	Kelsey Edmonds	Michelle Christensen

j. Co-Curricular Activities

j. Co-Curricular Activities, Elementary, 2022-2023 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *co-curricular activities, elementary,* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Matthew Grosso	Matthew Grosso	Jackie Wzientek (chg.)
Jackie Wzientek (chg.)		

B. Substitutes

2. Appointment

a. Long Term Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *long term substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Alex Gauld	Kelsey Kendzia	Cameron Swantek
Shane Rifanburg		

b. Substitute teachers for 2022-2023 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

c. Student Teachers for Spring 2023

RESOLVED: That, the *student teachers* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

C. Interscholastic Activities

1. Interscholastic Activities, Spring, 2022-23

RESOLVED: That, the *Interscholastic Activities appointments, Spring* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Don Lilly	Kyle Horvatis	

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PERSONNEL-continued...

II. Service

A. Regular

1. Discontinuance

a. Retirement

RESOLVED: That, the *retirement* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Naomi Jobson	Lawrence Zarambo	Kathleen Mylott
Kathleen Phillips	Gerilyn Styn	

b. Resignation

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Charlene Penson	David Drews Jr.	Sherri Floyd

c. Termination

RESOLVED: That, the *termination* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Joseph Howard	Gerald Sotka	

2. Appointment

a. Regular

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

John Burckhalter	Alyssa Schmitt	Jadyn Wright
Josue Ocasio Matos	Dean Gavin Jr.	Timothy Ngobi

f. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Lori Joy	David Skalski	Kelsey Kendzia
Kelsey Edmonds	Paul Marko	

g. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Diane Metz	Amy Reinhart	Kelsey Edmonds
Stephanie Drabinski		

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PERSONNEL-continued...

II. Service
B. Substitutes
2. Appointment
b. Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *substitutes* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 708 dated April 18, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 pm.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

Sherry A. McNamara
Secretary, Board of Education
District Clerk
Sweet Home Central School District

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