

**SWEET HOME CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Sweet Home Board of Education was held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023 in the Norman Vergils Community Room. President of the Board, Mrs. Jasen, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

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

PRESENT: Amy Battaglia, Peter Bellanti, Joshua Feldmann (via Google meet from Pittsburgh), Marianne Jasen, Scott M. Johnson, Brian Laible, Kailey McDonald, Musab Abrar (student ex-officio)

ABSENT:

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	7	No	0	Absent	0
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 at 6:31 pm.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered to come out of executive session at 6.37 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, February 14, 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 minutes of the Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, January 17, 2023 are hereby adopted in their entirety.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Call for Nominations Letter from Erie 1 BOCES.
- 2. Letter from John Sherman.
- 3. Letter from Janet MacGregor Plarr.

OPEN SESSION – Agenda Topics - Policy 1510

Called

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- A. Willow Ridge Elementary Presentation**
The Willow Ridge Elementary team presented to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, February 7, 2023.
- B. Superintendent update**
Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, February 7, 2023.
- C. Electric Bus Update**
Representatives from Wendel & Associates gave an update to the Board of Education at the voting meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2023.
- D. Building Use Update**
Members of the Building Use Committee gave a presentation to the Board of Education at the voting meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2023.
- E. Superintendent update**
Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the voting meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- A. 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 Mr. Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, dated February 1, 2023.
 - 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

NEW BUSINESS-continued...

A. Special Education

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

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

WHEREAS, all parents have approved said preschool 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 Mr. Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, dated February 1, 2023.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X	Abstain	1 (Bellanti)		

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered for consent agenda on items B, C, D, E, F, and G.

B. 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...

C. 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 January 17, 2023 the Superintendent of Schools recommended 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 February 14, 2023 presentation.

a.	8110 – Curriculum Development, Resources & Evaluation
b.	8250 – Evaluation of the Instructional Program (recommend to delete)
c.	8320 – Selection of Library & Multimedia Materials
d.	8330 – Objection to Instructional Materials
e.	8331 – Controversial Issues (recommend to delete)
f.	8340 – Instructional Materials

and be it further...

NEW BUSINESS-continued...

D. 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 February 14, 2023 the Superintendent of Schools recommended 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 February 14, 2023 presentation.

a.	5681 – School Safety Plans
b.	5683 – Fire & Emergency Drills, Bomb Threats, & Bus Emergency Drills
c.	5684 – Use of Surveillance Cameras in the District and on School Buses
d.	5750 – School Bus Safety Program
e.	5751 – Idling School Buses on School Grounds
f.	5760 – Qualifications of Bus Drivers

and be it further...

E. Acceptance of Donation

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accept the donation of seven Barnes & Noble gift cards to Maplemere Elementary School valued at \$350 (\$50 each) from Bill Witnauer.

and be it further...

F Overnight Field Trip Request – Policy 8460

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following Overnight Field Trip Requests:

- Myrtle Beach, SC, April 3-9, 2023 (Leader – Jon Campolo)
- Hungen, Germany, July 2023 (Leader – Dan Murphy)

and be it further...

G. Appointments

The Superintendent of Schools recommends the amended appointments of the following individuals for the 2022-23 school year as presented in the attached memo.

- Falon Capenhurst, Deputy District Clerk

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

M. Abrar: Sweetheart spirit week and pep rally last week were a success. The Dance saw over 400 students attend. Student gov't will be at MM the end of this week to present interactive activities celebrating Black History Month – working closely with Mr. Ryan on this. Meeting with Mrs. Sajdak after break – 2 main goals of meeting are: bringing back recycling bins and giving some positive feedback about certain newer lunches. Mrs. Mansell is holding tryouts for performances for March 2nd's multicultural night. Student gov't will be helping out at HH on March 9. District Music Festival was fun, different in the gym but nice to have all the groups together. Pops concert this week.

B. Laible: Attended the Policy Committee Meeting, mostly updating language, nothing material. Attended WR PTO meeting – multicultural night coming up. Might it make sense to have a district wide multicultural event? Attended the audit committee meeting with the internal auditors, recommendations were on minor things. No findings in the extra curricular accounts. The Music Fest was well attended. Attended the DEI Teaching & Learning Sub-committee meeting, focusing on building objectives. Divided into 2 subgroups, MS/HS and Elementary. What qualities are we looking for and what are the implementation pieces. Elems focusing on Leader in Me program. Much enthusiasm among committee members.

K. McDonald: Attended the Legislative Breakfast, Scott did a phenomenal job presenting. Legislators had to leave in the middle. Attended the DEI diverse schools meeting, taking close look at MS/HS curriculum and tracing tracks to graduation, who has access to those tracks, who thinks they have access to those tracks. Attended the Music Fest. Attended the HS PTSA meeting. Love that student government is working across the district.

J. Feldmann: Attended the Legislative Breakfast.

P. Bellanti: Attended the ECASB Delegate Assembly meeting. Approved next year's budget & calendar. Awards committee is seeking a chair, deadline is 3/6. New award proposed for first year BOE member. Met with Karen D. – GL is having an AHA challenge, and spirit week is coming for day 100 and world kindness day. Leadership day – hoping it will lead to lighthouse review.

S. Johnson: Attended the NHS induction. Attended the Legislative team meeting advocacy training, advised to submit support or opposition letters for bills. Policy Committee met. Marianne & I visited pre-K in M. McDonald and M. Campbell's rooms. Helps remind you why you are on a school board. Kids wanted to read to us. Audit committee met today. Got a copy of the state audit in the mail. District Safety team met today. Forwarded an email re: school safety meeting. Also talked to Mr. Perry re: 21st century learning. Kids were hugging him in the cafeteria, asking to see photos of his baby. Attended the virtual HS PTSA meeting, doing a Delta Sonic fundraiser and basket raffle at the craft fair. Friday was the virtual NYSSBA Capital conference. Many local schools representatives will be attending the NYSSBA Lobby Day.

A. Battaglia: Have an opportunity to do Leader in Me training at work tomorrow, want to see how they bring the program to Higher Ed. Much conversation there around AI and homework.

M. Jasen: Pre-K class, so much energy. Everything is done with a purpose. Attended NHS inductions, parents so proud. Attended Music Fest and all the kids played together at the end. Meeting on Feb 13 with State Comptroller's office auditor. Meeting of NWACC leadership, working on a mission statement. Met with Mr. Perry. HH PTA current goal is to increase parent involvement and communication with families. The skating party was a success. PTA is thinking ahead to teacher appreciation day. HH is focusing on habit #4, think Win-Win.

M. Ginestre: Found out today UB was awarded a \$20m grant from the National Science Foundation to help students with language and speech development issues using AI. Katie did a letter of support for them almost a year ago and we are one of the partners in the grant.

OPEN SESSION - Policy 1510

Called

PERSONNEL

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

I. Teaching and Administrative

A. Regular

1. Discontinuance

a. Retirement

RESOLVED: That, the *retirement* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Angela Mackowiak	Tammy Covell	Jeffrey Brown
Scott Wolf		

2. Appointment

e. Continuing Activities

PLC, Middle School, 2022-2023

RESOLVED: That, *PLC, Middle School*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Hailey Hoffman		
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g. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Michelle Leemer	Cheryl Palmer	Margaret Kruchten
Sandy Piatek (cancel)		

h. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Michelle Christensen	Krista Stephan	
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i. Salary Adjustments

See Salary Adjustments- In-service Credits Memo dated February 1, 2023
See Salary Adjustments- Graduate Credits Memo dated February 8, 2023

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. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Debbie Zehler		
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PERSONNEL-continued...

I. Teaching and Administrative

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. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Lee Gugino	Taylor DiNieri	
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b. Substitute teachers for 2022-2023 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 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. 706 dated February 14, 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				

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

I. Teaching and Administrative

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. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Jon Campolo	Brad Neupert	Kevin Schleicher
Cory Mitchum	Matt Culp	Andrew Murak
Jane Truesdell	Jessica Hart	Keegan Woloss
Kendra Ciezki	Crystal Carlson	Richard Cicero
Patricia Miranda	Brian Koziol	David Radlich
Christine Kasper	Paul Strefeler	Tommaris Bell
Morris Fried	Christopher Monaco	Philip Adams
Dylan Gronowski	Dean Harris	Alex Gauld

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X	Abstain	1 (McDonald)		

PERSONNEL-continued...

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

II. Service

A. Regular

1. Discontinuance

a. Retirement

RESOLVED: That, the *retirement* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Jane Gerwitz		
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b. Resignation

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

India Varner	Wendy Durkin	Jason Sandekian
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c. Termination

RESOLVED: That, the *termination* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Jessica Burnett		
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2. Appointment

a. Regular

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Melissa Lazarony	Nagham ArRawi	Michael Moore
Jacquallynn Helf-Quinn	Malik Fuller	Jason Sandekian

e. Transfer

RESOLVED: That, the *transfer* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Lisa Maurin		
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f. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Stephanie Drabinski	Peter Korte	Diane Metz
Kathryn Martinez	Cassandra Kelly	Amy Yung
Linda Amodeo	Elaina Davis-Givens	Taylor DiNieri

PERSONNEL-continued...

II. Service

A. Regular

2. Appointment

g. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Karen Barrett	Peter Korte	Amy Reinhart
Cassandra Kelly		

h. Salary Adjustment/Confidential Employee Agreements

RESOLVED: That, the *salary adjustment & confidential employee agreements* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Ariel Carlino	Brittany Winiarski	
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B. Substitutes

2. Appointment

b. Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *substitutes* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 2023** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

c. Nursing Students for Spring 2023

RESOLVED: That, *nursing students* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 706 dated February 14, 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 8:28 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