SWEET HOME CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2022

APPROVED
by
BOARD OF EDUCATION
JANUARY 17, 2023

MINUTES

A meeting of the Sweet Home Board of Education was held on Tuesday, December 20, 2022 in the Norman Vergils Community Room. President of the Board, Mrs. Jasen, called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

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

PRESENT: Amy Battaglia, Peter Bellanti, Joshua Feldmann, 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	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

Also present: Michael V. Ginestre, Donald G. Feldmann, JoAnn Balazs, Toyia Wilson (via Google Meet)

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 collective bargaining negotiations at 6:02 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 6:58 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, December 20, 2022 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 meeting held Tuesday, November 15, 2022 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				

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Ms. McDonald was asked questions about the SH reading curriculum.
2. Mr. Johnson received a thank you email from Russ Ward regarding the Purple Heart Plaque.

OPEN SESSION

Called

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Purple Heart Plaque Presentation
Russ Ward made a presentation to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, December 13, 2022.

B. High School Update
The High School Administrative Team gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, December 13, 2022.

C. Superintendent Update
Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, December 13, 2022.

D. Town of Amherst Update
Town of Amherst Supervisor Brian Kulpa made a presentation to the Board of Education at the voting meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2022.

E. Superintendent Update
Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the voting meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2022.

NEW BUSINESS
Upon motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bellanti, the following resolution was offered for consent agenda on items A, B, C, D, E, and F.

A. Special Education

1. Class placements for 2022-2023 – Policy 7613

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-142, the Individuals with Disability 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 December 5, 2022.

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

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-142, the Individuals with Disability 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 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 December 5, 2022.

and be it further…

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 – 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 December 20, 2022 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 December 20, 2022 presentation.

a.	**1510 – Regular Board Meetings and Rules**
b.	**1720 - Minutes**
c.	**5130 – Budget Adoption**
d.	**5150 – Contingency Budget (recommend to delete)**
e.	**5230 – Acceptance of Gifts, Grants, and Bequests to the District**
f.	**5570 – Financial Accountability**

and be it further…

D. High School Course Planning Guide – Policy 8110

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the Sweet Home High School Student Curriculum Handbook 2023-2024.

and be it further…

NEW BUSINESS-continued…

E. 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:

- Washington DC metro area, April 13-16, 2023 (Leader – Jim Marone)

and be it further…

F. Acceptance of Donation

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accept the donation of skating supplies for the students participating in the SABAH program valued at $2319.26 from Think Tech Solutions.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1 (Battaglia)
Carried	X				

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

M. Abrar: Student gov't committees are in full swing. Held a kindness campaign before Thanksgiving. Working on Winter Pep Rally, and there's interest in painting the Panther Pit. Want to have a bigger Earth Day celebration this year. Had World Cup spirit week. Holiday spirit week will be the week before break. Hoping to make recommendations for am music for the halls for holiday spirit week. Student safety sub-committee is working with Mrs. Balazs toward rebranding safety for the HS, to include mental health. Thank you for approving the pool table for the senior lounge. Focus on idea for Judicial Branch. Yearbook club is offering prizes for spirit week and hosting the daily elf hunt.

P. Bellanti: GL had their PTA meeting and a roller skating party. Congrats to all the ECIC, all state, and scholar athlete winners. Attended a basketball game where girls grades 4-6 played at halftime.

K. McDonald: Will be attending the rescheduled legislative breakfast in January.

J. Feldmann: Strong candidates for the fall round of SHEF mini-grants. SHEF faculty & staff basketball game has been rescheduled for January 6. Kudos to those involved in finding resources outside the budget for the Arabic speaking liaison.

B. Laible: MM/WR choruses had a joint concert. Policy committee met, biggest change was around board members attending remotely without the exact location being made public in extenuating circumstances. WR teachers are appreciative of smaller classes and resources, they feel it is making a big difference. Attended the teaching & learning subcommittee meeting, appreciate the format. Topic was what does the ideal SH graduate look like – two main characteristics came forth: global citizen and possessing real world skills. WR PTO is planning for multicultural night. Donation from the WR warm hearts club to community organizations – on our website. Ran into two transportation folks who were very appreciative of the new building. Helped to secure a $4k grant to SHEF from the Patrick P Lee Foundation. Organization also offers scholarships to students pursuing education or the mental health fields.

S. Johnson: Attended the ECASB speedboarding event. Policy Committee met, 30 policies to review over the course of this year. Attended the Safety Committee meeting, 2 students have been added. Talked about the mass notification systems which should be installed in all buildings by the end of summer. Will share a link to the NYSSBA state budget webinar with everyone.

A. Battaglia: Will be attending the building use committee meeting tomorrow.

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. Appointment

b. Resignation

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 704 dated December 20, 2022** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Amanda Marino	Vanessa O'Neil-White	

e. Continuing Activities

PLC, Elementary Bldgs. 2022-2023

RESOLVED: That, *PLC, Heritage Heights*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 704 dated December 20, 2022** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Kendra Ciezki		

g. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 704 dated December 20, 2022** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Rachel Carbrey	Keri Davis	Jacqueline Wzientek

h. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 704 dated December 20, 2022** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Ashley Bell	Patricia Reich	

j. Co-Curricular Activities

j. Co-Curricular Activities, High School, 2022-2023 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *co-curricular activities, high school,* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 704 dated December 20, 2022** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Jon Campolo		

B. Substitutes

2. Appointments

a. Long Term Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *long term substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 704 dated December 20, 2022** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Timothy Nixon		

PERSONNEL-continued...

I. Teaching and Administrative
B. Substitutes
2. Appointments
b. Per Diem Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *per diem substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 704 dated December 20, 2022** 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. 704 dated December 20, 2022** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

C. Interscholastic Activities
1. Interscholastic Activities, Winter, 2022-23

Jessica Andriatch	Brandon Cefalu	Cory Mitchum
Patrick Mix	Daniel Hammonds	Michael Licata Sr.
Luke Pappagallo	Jonathan Graves	Bailey Crouse
Phillip Adams	Tomarris Bell	

II. Service
A. Regular
1. Discontinuance
b. Resignation

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 704 dated December 20, 2022** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Martha McGee	Joy Harris	Wayne Hergert
Rita Costantino	George Eichelberger	Tyler Lee

2. Appointment
a. Regular

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 704 dated December 20, 2022** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Martha McGee	Rebecca Harmon	Ariel Carlino
Carlo Gonzalez	Carlo Gonzalez	Robert Lempenau
Stephen Fisher	Rochelle Drake	Khawla Qureshi

f. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 704 dated December 20, 2022** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Joseph D'Amato	Mary Demmick	Martha McGee
Beth Shaver	Heather Fitzgerald	

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. 704 dated December 20, 2022** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Joseph D'Amato	Christopher McCormick	Carol Montanari
Diane Metz	Yanna Shimanskaya	

B. Substitutes

2. Per Diem Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *per diem substitutes* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 704 dated December 20, 2022** 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				

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 collective bargaining negotiations and a student matter at 8:13 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 9:16 pm.

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 9:17 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