SWEET HOME CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

MINUTES

A meeting of the Sweet Home Board of Education was held on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 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 Louisiana), Marianne Jasen, Scott M. Johnson, Brian Laible, Kailey McDonald,

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, JoAnn, Balazs, Donald G. Feldmann

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 7:08 pm.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	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, September 14, 2021 is hereby adopted in its entirety.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	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 Board of Education voting meetings held Tuesday, August 17, 2021 and Thursday, August 19, 2021 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				

DRAFT

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Phillips Lytle Legal Alerts.
2. Harris Beach Legal Alerts.
3. Ms. McDonald spoke with a community member dissatisfied with the organization of the High School open house, specifically the date chosen, as it conflicted with a major Jewish holiday as well as functions at other schools within the district.

OPEN SESSION: Agenda Topics – Policy 1512

Jessica Stephens – 855 Edgewater Dr.: Speaking on behalf of someone unable to attend. Thanks for all the hard work. Would have liked to see building level meetings with parents, more support for the remote learning transition back to school, a remote teacher at each building to support quarantined students. Communication has not been consistent at each building. There are reports of Kindergarten students eating lunch on the floor. What are the backup plans for eating if 6 ft. of distance can't be maintained. Also there's a question about the rules for masking during recess. Personally, thank you, think we can come together to address these issues.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Recognition
The Board of Education recognized the Willow Ridge Lighthouse Design Team at the study session on Tuesday, September 14, 2021.

B. Superintendent Update
Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, September 14, 2021.

C. Superintendent Update
Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the voting meeting on Tuesday, September 21, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

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

A. Special Education

1. Class placements for 2021 – 2022 – 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 2021-2022 placements for students with disabilities be approved as recommended in a memorandum to Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, dated September 7, 2021.

DRAFT

NEW BUSINESS-continued…

A. Special Education

2. Preschool class placements for 2021 – 2022 – 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 preschool special education placements, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That, the 2021-2022 placements for preschool students with disabilities be approved as recommended in a memorandum to Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, dated September 7, 2021.

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 and the Budget Transfer Report as provided.

and be it further…

C. Dispose of Obsolete Property – Policy 5250

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, authorize the district to participate in competitive bidding procedures for the disposal of obsolete property.

and be it further…

D. Acceptance of Donation

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accept the donation of a Laminator and Microwave for use at Maplemere Elementary per the attached letter.

and be it further…

E. School Resource Officer Contract

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve the Contract with the Town of Amherst and the Amherst Police Department for School Resource Officer services for the 2021-22 school year as provided.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

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NEW BUSINESS-continued…
Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered:

F. Election of Area 1 Director of the New York State School Boards Association

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education of the Sweet Home Central School District cast one vote for New York State School Boards Association Area 1 Director nominee Linda Hoffman.

Nominees: Linda Hoffman, Erie 2 BOCES
Matthew Kennedy, North Tonawanda

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
K. McDonald: Setting up meetings with Mr. Perry. Attended the HH bonfire which was a huge success, many smiles, a book fair, food. Hoping to attend the Legislative breakfast in November.
B. Laible: Attended the virtual WR PTO meeting, developing fundraising ideas. Welcome back picnic was a nice event, held outside with a DJ. Attended the ECASB finance committee meeting. Continuing meetings with Mr. Polino, hiccups with traffic during arrival and dismissal are improving. Attended the WR specials open house virtually, teachers are also doing open houses individually and virtually. Doing a good job given the circumstances. Also watched several sporting events virtually – great option!
P. Bellanti: Attended the ECASB delegate assembly meeting. Oct 2 is the awards dinner, Oct 14 is the Speedboarding event. ECASB has a new program service manager. Glendale is holding their first PTA meeting. Having a virtual open house there, and Sept 29 is a BBQ fundraiser (dinners will be picked up at the Middle School). Walked the HS, kids excited to see one another. Attended many sporting events including football and volleyball. There were reports of unkempt grounds over the summer at the elementary buildings by groups that use the outdoor spaces. Grass was too tall and there were clumps after mowing. There's a boys volleyball tournament here coming up. Congrats to Boys Soccer, ranked 5th in the state, 1st in WNY and undefeated.
S. Johnson: Attended the Alumni committee meeting, working on scholarships for next year. Holding a gift card fundraiser soon. Watched the football game virtually. Also attended the HS PTSA meeting, working on their fundraisers, Oct 14 is the next meeting, Eva Basehart is the teacher rep. There are QR codes on lunch tables for contact tracing purposes.
A. Battaglia: Attended the virtual MS PTSA meeting, there was budget and event talk. Talked with parents about bussing. Saw a few volleyball games. Attended the HS open house which was held outside this year. More of a meet and greet style, had a nice night for it. Think it went well, spoke with all of my daughter's teachers. Girls volleyball had a tournament last weekend, made it to the finals and lost in a tough battle.
M. Jasen: Sat with Mr. Smorol. Excited about the upcoming bonfire. PTA is getting ready for school pictures. Stopped in at New Teacher orientation. Congrats to the Heart Award winners. Saw some of our teams in the Bee. Reminder to submit the self-study and items to discuss for our retreat. Also attended the HH picnic, a big family event. Impressive bonfire, and lots of pizza! NYSSBA Convention is going virtual this year. Bussing seems to be improving across the board this year.

OPEN SESSION - Policy 1512
Jessica Stephens – Edgewater Dr. – Was hesitant to go from remote to back in school but am very impressed with how things went. Kids are happy to be back. Was in school for the book fair this year volunteering and noticed many kids not properly masked. Might be worth having teachers review correct masking. Daughter said one student in her class doesn't wear her mask much of the time. Regarding the bus situation, many buses were so late some students might now choose to walk. Hope the District will consider requiring attendees at sporting events to be vaccinated.

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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

1. Discontinuance

b. Resignation

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation,* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Lydia Witherspoon	Rachel Ross	Jennifer Wilson

2. Appointments

a. Tenure

RESOLVED: That, the *tenure appointment,* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Karen Meltser	Kiele Barmasse	

b. Regular

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment,* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Sarah Fenner	Jessica Whitcomb	Christina Reid
Elaine Blenk		

c. Encumbered

RESOLVED: That, the *encumbered appointment,* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Shane Rifanburg	Alfred Dan Hammonds	

d. Mentoring

(2). Teaching

RESOLVED: That, the *appointment (mentoring/teaching),* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Molly DiPirro	Anuja Geary	Jill Hopcia
Michelle Sionko	Mallory Pisarek	Dana McWhite
Meghan McGowan	Paul Szymendera	Pam Hornung
Sarah English		

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PERSONNEL-continued…

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. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Adam Silverman	Olivia Harvey	Alexis Smith
Ryan Hayter		

b. Per Diem Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *per diem substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

C. Interscholastic Activities
1. Interscholastic Activities, High School, (FALL) 2021-2022

RESOLVED: That, the *interscholastic activities appointments, High School* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Victoria Rigler	Erik Wright	Amanda Glenn (chg)
Renee Lauer		

II. Service
A. Regular
1. Discontinuance
a. Retirement

RESOLVED: That, the *retirement* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Sue Webb		

b. Resignation

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Heather Misinec	Lindsey Spengler	Brandy Tomasello
Adam Silver	Yacinda Menendez-Marrero	Crystal Ortolano
Melissa Poirer	John Sandecki	Willard Applin
Roberta Duffy	Haley Freiheit	

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PERSONNEL-continued...

II. Service

A. Regular

2. Appointment

a. Regular

1. Supervisory

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment, supervisory* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Nicole Kuss		

2. Regular

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Nicole Brenda	Suzanne Malesky	Linda Pollino
Dylan Walker (chg)	Mike Piddisi	Anthony Abramo
Lee Ann Kelly	Crystal Ortolano	Mangay Senthilnathan
Cara Wolcott	Gul Turk	Sarah Turnbull
Megan Cloen	Christina Reid	Leah Pattie
Jeffrey Souter	Samuel Gonzales	Elizabeth Baldwin
Brittany Flament	Mallory Piwtorak	Brooke Horning
Kayla Miner	Monica Williams	Cynthia Kramer
Afreen Qaiser	Deepa Saini	Mary Ann Galla
Elizabeth Staniszewski	Sarah Ankarberg	John Montanari
Ashley Kingston	Dave Sciria	Heather Fitzgerald
George Mills	Margie Scott	Terri Ruh

f. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Desiree Mirabelli	Alexis Smith	Christina Reid
Laurie Crissy	Mauro Belluz	

g. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Yvonne Garrity	Hellen Nguyen	

B. Substitutes

2. Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *substitutes* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 681 dated September 21, 2021** 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				

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ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 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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