

**SWEET HOME CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021**

**APPROVED
by
BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOVEMBER 16, 2021**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Sweet Home Board of Education was held on Tuesday, October 19, 2021 in the Norman Vergils Community Room. President of the Board, Mrs. Jasen, called the meeting to order at 6:32 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, Roman Haen (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, 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 6:33 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 7:04 pm.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

OATH OF OFFICE

Roman Haen, student ex-officio, was sworn in at the study session on Tuesday, October 12, 2021.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Ms. McDonald, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLVED: That, the agenda set forth for the regular Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, October 19, 2021 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 Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, September 21, 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				

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Phillips Lytle Legal Alert.
2. Area 1 Director Election Update.
3. Mr. Johnson shared his notes from the NYSSBA Annual Business meeting.

OPEN SESSION: Agenda Topics – Policy 1512

Christine Steward, Troop 444: Troop and Pack 444 have been part of the Maplemere community since the school was built. Fifty-five Eagle scouts have gone through the program and the newest one is in attendance here tonight. There was a glitch with the charter organization through the National PTA and now we are asking the Board to be our sponsor. We have a boy only troop with 15 members, and they earn their Eagle patches. Would specifically like to thank Mr. Don Feldmann for opening doors for us to have our meetings, Mr. Cory Morrow for going above and beyond and donating his time to assist with Eagle Scout certification requirements, and Mr. Day who was incredibly helpful throughout this Covid pandemic period.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**A. Town of Amherst PIF/NWCC Update**

Representatives from the Town of Amherst and the Amherst IDA, gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, October 12, 2021.

B. District Audit, 2020-2021

John Schiavone, auditor from Lumsden and McCormick was in attendance at the study session on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 to present to the Board of Education findings from the audit report performed on the general account as well as student accounts for school year 2020-2021.

C. NYSSBA Proposed Bylaw Amendments & Resolutions

The Board of Education held a discussion regarding the NYSSBA proposed Amendments & Resolutions at the study session on Tuesday, October 12, 2021.

D. Superintendent Update

Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 and at the voting meeting on Tuesday, October 19, 2021.

E. Board Goal, Self Study & Presentation Calendar Discussion

Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, facilitated a discussion with the Board of Education members at the voting meeting on Tuesday, October 19, 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, E, F, G, H, and I.

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 October 4, 2021.

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 student 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 October 4, 2021.

and be it further...

B. District Audit Report, 2020-2021

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve and accept the Sweet Home Central School District of Amherst and Tonawanda **"FINANCIAL STATEMENTS" for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and the Extra classroom Activity Funds report dated June 30, 2021** and be it further

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit, as required, an approved copy of the Sweet Home Central School District of Amherst and Tonawanda **"FINANCIAL STATEMENTS" for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and the Extra Classroom Activity Funds report dated June 30, 2021 to the State Education Department,** and be it further

RESOLVED: That, the Director of Finance and Plant Services be authorized to publish these **"FINANCIAL STATEMENTS"** in a newspaper(s) that has general circulation in the school district.

and be it further...

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**C. Monthly Financial Reports – Policy 2140**

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accept the Extra Classroom Account Report as provided.

and be it further...

D. Capital Outlay Bid

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education award the Capital Outlay Project 2020-21 Door Replacement Bid to **Rodriguez Construction** for a total bid of **\$68,600.00**.

and be it further...

E. Service Employee Hourly Rates

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes an increase in the rate of pay to \$13.20 per hour for all staff currently working at rates below \$13.20 per hour, effective October 31, 2021 in advance of the January 1, 2022 minimum wage increase.

and be it further...

F. Charter Agreements

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the Annual Unit Charter Agreements with the following organizations:

- Greater Niagara Frontier Council, Cub Scout Pack No. 444
- Greater Niagara Frontier Council, Boy Scout Troup No. 444

and be it further...

G. Designations

The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following designations, effective November 1, 2021.

Signatures on checks for:**1. General Fund**

Nicole Kuss

2. Extracurricular Activity Fund

Donald G. Feldmann,
Nicole Kuss

and be it further...

H. Agreement with the Town of Amherst for the NWACC

RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools be and hereby is authorized to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Town of Amherst regarding the operation and use of the planned Northwest Amherst Community, such Agreement to be in form as presented to the Board of Education, with such changes as the Superintendent, with the advice of counsel for the District, may determine to be in the best interests of the District

and be it further...

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**I. Pilot Application Agreement**

RESOLVED, that upon or after the execution of the Intergovernmental Agreement regarding the Northwest Amherst Community Center, the Superintendent of Schools be and hereby is authorized to enter into an Amherst Central Park Infrastructure Fund and PILOT Application Agreement with the Town of Amherst and the Amherst Industrial Developmental Agency in form as presented to the Board of Education, with such changes as the Superintendent of Schools, with the advice of counsel for the District, may determine to be in the best interests of the District.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

R. Haen: Student government big goals for this year include having a winter dance and big end of the year events that comply with Covid rules, improving lunches and bringing back vending machines. Will be taking a poll of students to determine who would be interested in attending a Winter Dance with Covid restrictions. Would like to present the results to the Board.

P. Bellanti: Attended the GL PTA meeting – they are holding every other one right after school with teachers providing child care. Chicken dinner sales were good, hosting a trunk or treat event on Oct. 22. Coming events include virtual bingo. Homecoming was a great day, the kids enjoyed it. SH teams are doing well – attended several games. Also students would like to accentuate the Panther Pit (student section) by having the bleachers be a different color or having a mural behind them. Enjoyed my first retreat, it was informational and I enjoyed getting to know everyone better.

B. Laible: Attended the WR PTO meeting, disappointed the Harvest Dance was cancelled due to bad weather but it may be rescheduled. Attended the Audit Committee meeting, important work. Lumsden & McCormick due a nice job. Nice to be able to watch sporting events virtually. Watched our football team beat St. Joe's.

K. McDonald: Missed Community Day. Attended ECASB legislative team meeting with Josh but missed the ENL graduation held at the same time. First meeting of the season – set short and long term goals including infrastructure for districts to enable more contact with legislators and a bill tracker so districts know when it's time to send messages to their representatives. Legislative breakfast coming soon. Attended the HS PTSA meeting. They are grateful to Don for moving the basket raffle to Community Day since the craft fair was cancelled. Will be having a gift card raffle at the December 3 Meat raffle at St. Leo's. Also hosting a wreath & poinsettia sale with a pickup date of December 1. Have money to provide 3 scholarships this year. Homecoming week seemed to turn around morale in the HS. Even homework is getting done more. Lovely time at the Board retreat, appreciated the NYSSBA presentation. Everyone should rank the legislative priorities for short and long term goals in the survey that will be sent out.

S. Johnson: Attended the Audit Committee meeting and MM PTA meeting. Spoke with Barry Entwistle regarding the upcoming retreat and referred him to Marianne as the new Board president. Attended the NYSSBA delegate orientation for the NYSSBA business meeting. Today was a follow up meeting to see if there'd be changes to any resolutions and there were none. Attended the ECASB annual dinner. Also at today's GL PTA meeting. Also attended the HS PTSA meeting. Mike joined by Zoom and that was appreciated. Retreat went well. Attended my first District Safety Committee meeting today, sat back and listened. JoAnn suggested a threat assessment training. Sent my summary of the NYSSBA annual business meeting, their votes exactly mirrored the way SH voted.

M. Jasen: Congrats to Scott on the awards you were given at the Annual dinner. Can you tell us what they were.

S. Johnson: The Lori Sabo and Laura Burns awards for advocacy as well as a shining star award.

M. Ginestre: Also attended the Annual dinner and many people commented on how Scott's advocacy is a great benefit to all WNY students.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS-continued...

A. Battaglia: Attended multiple days of spirit week culminating in Community day. SH teams doing well – attended several contests. Missed the MS PTSA meeting. Attended the anxiety workshop provided by the FSC – recommend for all – more dates coming up. Focus is on the science behind anxiety and how parents can best help kids through it. FSC hoping to set one up for students also so all are using the same language. Assisted the JV lax team at the concession stand – Marissa is trying to bring back the GAA. Girls Volleyball swept their tournament in North Tonawanda. Undefeated season thus far with one regular season game tomorrow before playoffs. Retreat was so informative, felt more at ease with our charges afterward.

J. Feldmann: Attended the legislative meeting and the MM PTA meeting. SHEF also met – going strong, serving dozens of families. Received the Legislative priority survey from ECASB, responses are due by Nov. 16.

M. Jasen: Attended the ENL graduation – 54 proud families and a job well done by the teachers. Worked homecoming with Don in the concession stand selling hot dogs. Very well attended. Buffalo Police Athletic League gave out free helmets to students and adults. Is everyone on board to support a family at Thanksgiving? (Yes from all). Thanked Barry Entwistle for facilitating our BOE retreat. Asked Mike to follow up on the brochure for the public. Attended the HH PTA meeting, trying to work out how to facilitate fundraisers. Took a tour with Shawn Wright of Young & Wright to see how they do the Building Condition Survey. Even ended up on HS roof! It is the same process for all our schools, and much more thorough than the 30 pt checklist required by NYS.

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****1. Discontinuance****b. Resignation**

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Amber Leistner	Catherine LeSage	
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2. Appointments**b. Regular**

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Alyssa Braun	Gina Nuchereneno	
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d. Mentoring**(2). Teaching**

RESOLVED: That, the *appointment (mentoring/teaching)*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Ashleigh Emery	Cory Morrow (change)	
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PERSONNEL-continued...**I. Teaching and Administrative****A. Regular****2. Appointments****e. Continuing Activities****Building Improvement Team, High School, 2021-2022 school year**

RESOLVED: That, the *Building Improvement Team, High School*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Alicia Fiebelkorn	Scott Harriger	Pamela Hornung
Rich Lowe	Jim Marone	Scott Murray
Shari Seefeldt	Melissa Skurzewski	Brianna VanHarrison
Debbie Spence	Barb Baer	Angela Himes

Building Improvement Team, Middle School, 2021-2022 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *Building Improvement Team, Middle School*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Christi Ash	Sarah Petrie	Dawn Kauderer-Kromer
Sarah Brach	Cheryl Palmer	Neal McLoughlin
Trish Reich	Morris Fried	Lacie Cristofanelli
Jenine Nowakowski	Anne Biesinger	

Building Improvement Team, Glendale, 2021-2022 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *Building Improvement Team, Glendale*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Jessica Wilkinson	Jill Hopcia	Derek Dunstan
Kim Marianos	Kelly Gravel	Amanda Woodward
Leigh Ann Hildreth	Molly DiPirro	Sarah Heslin
Gilda Bonnevie		

Building Improvement Team, Heritage Heights, 2021-2022 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *Building Improvement Team, Heritage Heights*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Mary Rao	Jill Grugnale	Jennifer Battel
Frank LiCausi	Tracy Langlotz	Chelsea Brodka
Jackie Mahoney	Morgan Chase	Kim Gugino
Brandi Hedrich		

PERSONNEL-continued...**I. Teaching and Administrative****A. Regular****2. Appointments****e. Continuing Activities****Building Improvement Team, Maplemere, 2021-2022 school year**

RESOLVED: That, the *Building Improvement Team, Maplemere*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Melissa Campbell	Kendra Herbold	Kathryn Campanaro
Karen Meltser	Maureen Kieffer	Katelyn DiRosa
Cindy Hiwiller	Julie Roberto	Bonnie Lorentz
Karen Barrett		

Building Improvement Team, Willow Ridge, 2021-2022 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *Building Improvement Team, Willow Ridge*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Elif Erman	Michelle Zimmer	Karen Johel
Melissa Erikson	Mia Banks	Ray Wawrzyniak
Lauren Hiller	Jamie Riddoch	Cassie Irwin

Lighthouse Advisor, 2021-2022 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *Lighthouse Advisor*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Ashlee Lipka	Chris Ramsperger	Danielle Papero
Kelly Gravel	Maggi McDonald	Margaret Kruchten
Jessica Andriatch	Sarah Nowak	Emily Balisteri
Hannah Criscione	Karen Johel	Elif Erman

g. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Danielle Kawa		
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h. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Melinda DiBernardo		
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PERSONNEL-continued...**I. Teaching and Administrative****A. Regular****2. Appointments****i. Salary Adjustments**

See Salary Adjustments- In-service Credits Memo dated October 19, 2021

See Salary Adjustments- Graduate Credits Memo dated October 19, 2021

j. Co-Curricular Activities**j. Co-Curricular Activities, High School, 2021-2022 school year**

RESOLVED: That, the *co-curricular activities, high school*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Lisa LaBrake	James Marone	Rebecca Mansell
Rich Lowe	Dan Murphy	Debra Spence
James Martino	Lisa Feyes	Debra Spence
Joseph Doherty	Tim Cardinal	Deborah Zehler
Kristina Pinkowski	Scott Harriger	Ed Hawkins
Barb Baer	Scott Aquilino	Brian Turner
Cory Morrow	Jon Campolo	Pam Hornung
Heather Paolucci	Hannah Schultz	

j. Co-Curricular Activities, Middle School, 2021-2022 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *co-curricular activities, middle school*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Jennifer Bennett	Kevin Schleicher	Neal McLoughlin
Lari MacPeck	Lisa Cheskin-Brzezczkowski	Pam Daigler
Gavin Petrie	Joe Quader	Paul Strefeler
Jackie Turner	Paul Strefeler	Chris Monaco
Paul Strefeler	Kathy Neelon	Pam Daigler
Paula Adams	Katie Conway	Tom Smith

j. Co-Curricular Activities, District, 2021-2022 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *co-curricular activities, district*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Cory Morrow		
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k. Building Chairperson, CSE

RESOLVED: That, the *Building Chairperson, CSE*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Zoe Gionis	Katelyn DiRosa	Lacie Cristofanelli
Elizabeth Sigurdson	Nicole Scott	

PERSONNEL-continued...**I. Teaching and Administrative****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. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Cheryl Nowakowski	Lori DePoint	
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b. Per Diem

RESOLVED: That, the *per diem substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

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

RESOLVED: That, the *retirement* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 682 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Patricia Skalski	Diane Denesha	
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b. Resignation

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Jaclynn Carpenter	Elizabeth Stanislawski	Sarah Turnbull
Tom Buckley	Alexis Smith	Marisa LaFalce
Brooke Horning	Suzanne Titanic	Karen Mitsopoulos

2. Appointment**a. Regular**

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Karen Mitsopoulos	Christine Baker-Jeffrey	Jody Mellerski
Lisa Maurin	Jeanette Miller	Katherine Lucia

e. Transfer

RESOLVED: That, the *transfer* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 2021** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Sarah Ankerberg	Brenda Carrasquillo	
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PERSONNEL-continued...

II. Service
B. Substitutes
 2. Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *substitutes* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 683 dated October 19, 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				

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Mrs. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 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