

REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MAY 12, 2020

VIDEO/WEB CONFERENCING
DISTRICT WEBSITE LINK

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Allen, James Reilly, Mark Williams, Brian Parent, Stephanie Karis

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy Jenny, Kristy McGrath, Gary Winghart, Lou D'Ambro, Kevin Roberts, Kelly Runniger, Catherine Chandler, Nicole Brockway, Kathleen Nebush

Meeting called to order by Mary Lou Allen, Board President, at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

Kathleen Nebush, Guidance Counselor, discussed updated District Wide Guidance Plan. A guidance counsel of district employees was formed last year. This counsel created a district guidance plan which is on our school's website. All students in K-12 will need access to a school counselor. All students in grades 6-12 will have an individual meeting with counselor to come up with a career plan to be reviewed annually.

Kristy McGrath, JSHS Principal, read letter to the Superintendent and Board of Education recommending, without reservation, Nicole Brockway for tenure in 7-12 Social Studies.

Motion by Mark Williams, second by James Reilly:

“RESOLVED, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3012(2) of the Education Law and Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that Nicole Brockway be appointed on tenure to the position of teacher in the Social Studies tenure area, who holds a valid New York State Certificate permitting her to teach subjects in the aforesaid tenure area, the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District does hereby make this appointment effective September 1, 2020.” Unanimous vote

Mrs. McGrath then read letter to the Superintendent and Board of Education recommending, without reservation, Kathleen Nebush for tenure as School Counselor.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by James Reilly:

“RESOLVED, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3012(2) of the Education Law and Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that Kathleen Nebush, who holds a valid School Counselor permanent New York State Certificate, be appointed

on tenure as School Counselor, the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District does hereby make this appointment effective September 1, 2020.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by James Reilly, second by Mark Williams:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve minutes from meetings held April 14 and April 28, 2020; approve agenda dated May 12, 2020 with the following addition: 6.4 State Environmental Quality Review.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by James Reilly, second by Mark Williams:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve warrants for payment; accept Treasurer’s Report and Budget Status Report for period ended March 31, 2020; accept Revenue Budget Status Report, accept Appropriation Status Report and approve budget transfers.”

Unanimous vote

Elementary Report given by Gary Winghart included the following items:

- Shift from “traditional” classroom learning to online/remote learning has been very difficult for everyone. Our teachers, students and parents have done a phenomenal job of working together to provide learning opportunities for our students. 86% of our elementary students are actively enrolled in online courses. Challenging time for all!
- Currently working on plans to celebrate our sixth graders as we do each year. It will look different due to the current circumstances, but it is important to recognize and celebrate them for their achievements.

Kristy McGrath gave her JSBS Principal’s report which included the following:

- Faculty Meeting with teachers will take place May 13th.
- All Grade 3-8 state exams canceled for the year. June and August Regents canceled.
- District Grading plan is to eliminate Marking Period 3. Marking Period 4 will be a combination of marking periods 3 and 4.
- Decision on whether summer school will be possible will be made by Gov. Cuomo by the end of May.
- Delivery of Senior gift baskets took place May 7th. Each senior received a basket of goodies provided by teachers and staff as well as a Remsen Senior sign for their front yard.
- On April 21st, US News and World Report issued their 2020 Best High School Report. Remsen ranked 5 out of 26 schools!

Mark Williams reported that the Alumni Banquet has been cancelled for this year.

Brian Parent asked how students would be able to retrieve any items left in school.

Facilities Report given by Kevin Roberts included the following:

- Smart Bond Project – still waiting for card reader at HS kitchen door due to electrical problem
- Capital Improvement Project – most of punch list items completed. Still some HVAC issue which Schmalz and Trane are aware of.

- Looking at Phase II of current project. Facilities Committee looking at options including HS stage and underground fuel storage tank
- High School Weight Room renovation project underway. Priore Construction completed demo work; have walls in good shape; started painting and have poured moisture barrier on floor.
- BR Johnson ordered replacement exterior doors at the high school due to delamination issues.
- Buildings disinfected and shut down. Custodial and maintenance staff working on limited rotational basis.

Transportation Report from Adam DeGrace included:

- Bus Inspections completed with no problems. Next date at beginning of June.
- Bus Fleet Updates – have only used small buses for delivery of food and instructional packets
- Bus Driver News – drivers remained flexible throughout current situation. Driver physicals recently conducted. All did well.

Mrs. McGrath discussed our Regional Program for Excellence students who were unable to attend this evening’s meeting. Sydney Boucher and Thomas Natalini both studied Biology – Sydney at Utica College and Thomas at MVHS. Kristin Waterbury studied Elementary Education at GWF Elementary School in Stittville. All had great experiences.

Motion by James Reilly, second by Mark Williams:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meetings held on April 22, April 23, April 27, April 28, April 29, May 1, May 4, May 5 and May 7, 2020.”
Unanimous vote

Motion by James Reilly, second by Mark Williams:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the corrective action plan for the Extra-Classroom Activity Fund for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019.”
Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by James Reilly:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept \$500.00 from the Boonville Elks Lodge which donation is to be used towards the purchase of student agenda planners for the 2020-2021 school year.”
Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by James Reilly:

“**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District (the “Board”) has considered the effect upon the environment of proposed capital work, including but not limited to the following:

Corridor and locker room renovations at the Jr./Sr. High School

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the scope of the project and has further received and considered the advice of its architects with respect to the potential for environmental impacts resulting from the proposed action; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the Proposed Action with respect to the Type II criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617.5(c), now, therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education as follows:

1. The Proposed Action does not exceed thresholds established under 6 NYCRR Part 617, State Environmental Quality Review Act, (SEQRA).
2. The Board hereby determines the Proposed Action as a Type II action in accordance with the SEQRA regulations.
3. No further review of the Proposed Action is required under SEQRA.
4. This resolution shall be effective immediately.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept final notification of retirement of Bonnie Grogan, effective October 30, 2020, with thanks for her 29 years of service to the district.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by James Reilly, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept final notification of retirement of Elizabeth Synakowski, effective October 30, 2020, with thanks for her 19 years of service to the district.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept notice of retirement of Janice DiNitto, effective June 30, 2020, with thanks for her 16 years of service to the district.”

Unanimous vote

There will be a **Virtual Budget Hearing – May 26, 2020 – 6:00 PM**. Questions may be submitted to Mr. Jenny prior to the hearing.

Board Forum

- Thank you to the staff for all their dedication to students.
- Thank you to Mr. Jenny for nominating all teachers for the Genesis Group recognition.
- Senior Signs – very positive feedback
- Hats off to all administrators – appreciative of the weekly phone calls to everyone
- Thank you to all parents and grandparents and caregivers for working with students. Their resiliency and perseverance during this pandemic is appreciated.
- Internet service at the Remsen Fire House should anyone need it.

Motion by Mark Williams, second by James Reilly to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.