

REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

VIA VIDEO/WEB CONFERENCING - DISTRICT WEBSITE LINK

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Allen, Brian Parent, Mark Williams, Stephanie Karis, Patrick Nolan

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy Jenny, Daniel O'Bryan, John McKeown, Catherine Chandler, Kevin Roberts, Adam DeGrace, Dale Denning, Kelly Runniger

Budget work session from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Mary Lou Allen, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag recited by all present.

There was no public participation.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Mark Williams:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve minutes from meetings held on January 12 and February 3, 2021 and approve agenda dated February 9, 2020.”
Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, 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 December 30, 2020; accept Revenue Status and Appropriation Status Reports and approve budget transfers.”
Unanimous vote

Elementary Principal’s Report given to the Board of Education included the following:

- Upcoming events to celebrate – 100th day of school on February 23rd and Read Across America week – March 2nd
- Thank you to our screening crews. Our screening crews in each building and on the buses are there every day with smiles on their faces as the ice builds up on their eyebrows and they can’t feel their toes! Our students could not come to school every day without these folks greeting students each morning and taking their temperatures.
- STEAM in class – Mrs. Lisa Davis has been busy working with classroom teachers to provide a variety of STEAM activities in the classroom. Students have been working on various projects in order to solve problems and learn about a variety of topics.

- S'more Challenge – Second grade students, with Mrs. Secor and Mrs. Gleasman, participated in the S'more challenge. Their objective was to use given materials to design container that would protect their S'more from the elements. Students learned about design, purpose of a roof, types of materials that would absorb liquid, and the importance of building a container that is waterproof and much more.
- Wampum Belts – As part of a unit where students learned about Native American culture and history, fourth grade students learned about Wampum belts and their significance. After learning about the symbolism of the belt including how and why designs were chosen and also about the importance of the colors that were used in the belts, students designed their own belt.
- Parachute Challenge – Students in Mrs. Piaschyk's and Mrs. Runniger's classes participated in the Parachute Challenge. Students learned about the Space X Dragon's return from the space station. The task was to design their own capsule, with provided materials, that would drop and land safely within a targeted area.
- Elementary STEAM Club – We are working on getting our elementary STEAM club started up. Mrs. Piaschyk will be club advisor. The club will provide additional opportunities for students to engage in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics that require problem solving, collaboration and creativity.

Facilities Report given by Kevin Roberts included the following items:

- Capital Improvement Project – Phase II – Approval and building permits from SED have been received. Pre-bid meeting scheduled for February 19th and bid opening scheduled for March 2nd. King & King has indicated that estimated costs have increased since initial talks. Some of the work will hinge on the exact end cost of the HS underground fuel storage tank installation. District wants a fiberglass reinforced plastic tank. Money has been set aside for potential contaminated soil, which if we do not use, those funds could be used for other projects such as stage work.
- 2021 Capital Outlay Project – SED approval has been received; however this is delayed due to financial concerns. Scope of project could include renovation of the old boys' locker room into a district records storage room and renovations to the basement floor back hallway.
- Previous Capital Outlay Project - Special Lite has replaced 6 of the 9 exterior doors that had warranty issues at the high school. Remaining 3 doors to be replaced in spring.
- Maintenance/Custodial/Grounds – We had a water main issue on February 1st with the supply valve for the HS water line breaking causing us to shut down the water to all buildings for repair. Schools closed at 11:30 a.m. Village of Remsen and Schallenberg Construction were notified, problem located, and repairs were made. Cost to district as school district owns the line from the village service valve on Main Street.

Transportation Report given by Adam DeGrace included the following:

- Bus Inspections done on buses 96, 93, 99 and 11. Bus 93 failed inspection. Next set of inspections scheduled for February 26th.
- Bus 93 was removed from service in December for repairs. Bus in rough shape with damage from road salt. In re-evaluating the bus fleet, this bus will be traded in and bus 88 will be kept in service for another year.
- Bus Driver News – one driver out for medical leave

High School Principal's Report given by Dan O'Bryan included the following items:

- For student academic accomplishments and to share recognition with family members and the community, we are creating a slideshow to be posted on the school webpage and social media. Students engaged with in-person learning were photographed receiving their awards in their social studies classes. Students engaged in remote learning were announced and celebrated in class through Zoom meetings and will be allowed to submit photos taken with their awards after they were delivered home with learning materials.
- Student Council's Snowflake Scavenger Hunt. Paper snowflakes are being placed throughout the building by council members, and when found by students, they are hung in the front lobby. Class that finds the most will win Rams Tickets as a prize.
- Student incentive Rams Ticket drawing will be conducted during the last week of February to allow any students participating in 100% remote learning an opportunity to send in earned tickets to use toward a prize. Prizes this marking period include Amazon gift card, Stewart's Shop gift card, Luigi's Pizza gift certificate and passes to Enchanted Forest Water Safari.
- Remsen Middle School Science Fair is set to go virtual. Students have been working on project and in the next few weeks will be recording a presentation of their work. These recordings will be available for community members to access to learn about students' research efforts. Professionals from the scientific community will be brought in to share their experiences with students and serve as guest judges through a virtual platform. Our students would then be eligible to compete at the Utica College Regional Science Fair which is also completely virtual this year.
- John Glass working with five students on a Math Engineering Challenge.
- District continues to work on logistical efforts to gradually transition our middle school students from hybrid instruction to in-person learning 5 days per week.

Dale Dening gave his Athletic Director's Report which included the following:

- Senior Athletes in the News – Jade Dening who will be attending Utica College and Madelyn McCormack who will be attending SUNY Cortland.
- NYS has given us the go-ahead for winter sports with approval from Oneida County DOH. Remsen CSD Return to Athletics plan has been submitted. Sports offered Varsity Basketball, Volleyball and Sideline Cheer. No JV Programs.
- Modified sports will be an intramural program for just this year.
- Scheduling pods for different sports
- All coaches to be tested prior to the start of practices
- Fitness room update – equipment ready to be shipped. A date for set up and installation needs to be scheduled.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meetings held on January 11, January 20, January 21, January 25, January 26 and February 1, 2021.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Mark Williams:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education refund John Roberts of 9989 East Steuben Road, Remsen, NY the amount of \$602.81 for overpayment of school taxes due to assessment error.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve Application for Corrected Tax Roll of Christmas & Associates of Camden, NY to delete parcel 105.000-1-4.17 as this parcel was duplicate and included with tax map #104.000-1-4.1.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve requested medical leave of absence for Jennifer Siegfried from January 18 through March 4, 2021.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Mark Williams:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept resignation of Jennifer Siegfried effective March 5, 2021.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve request of Emily Laurey for three unpaid leave days (February 22, 23 and 24, 2021).” Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept notice of retirement of Lucinda Roberts effective August 20, 2021.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve requested medical leave of absence for Carole Blystone effective January 4, 2021.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept final notice of retirement of Debbie Roscup effective June 30, 2021.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Mark Williams:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve medical leave of Nina Griswold from January 27 – February 12, 2021.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Stephen Smyth of Stittville, NY as substitute teacher.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Amy Sears of Boonville, NY as long term substitute for grade 3 for the period January 18 – June 25, 2021.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Molly Barton of Remsen, NY as substitute teacher, pending fingerprint clearance.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Patrick Nolan, second by Mark Williams:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve request of Jamie Dening to take unpaid leave of absence from March 22 through March 24, 2021.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Chloe Williams of Barneveld, NY as substitute teacher, pending fingerprint clearance.” Unanimous vote

Information & Correspondence – Mrs. Allen announced she had received SBI nomination forms for Distinguished Service Awards. BOCES Annual Meeting will be held April 14, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. via zoom. Please let Mrs. Chandler know if you are interested in attending by March 5th.

Board Forum

- Mark Williams thanked Lucinda Roberts for all that she has done for our district.
- Brian Parent thanked administration and athletic director for preparing the Return to Athletics Plan. Thank you to Kevin Roberts and everyone involved in repairing the water main break. Mr. Parent wishes those on medical leave a speedy recovery. Brian thanked those responsible for picking up village walkers during cold days of winter.
- Stephanie Karis thanks to our morning staff for being outside every day with smiles on their faces and for quickly getting students into the building.
- Mary Lou Allen thanked Adam DeGrace and Kevin Roberts for doing a remarkable job for the district.
- Mr. Jenny stated that the Return to Athletics Plan had been submitted. The DOH is going over them one at a time. We are currently waiting for approval. Mr. Dening will be coordinating practices, meeting with coaches, meeting with student athletes and their coaches, as well as administering the Return to Athletics Plan when approved.

Thank you the Remsen Village Mayor, Marty Flint, village workers, Schallenberg Construction for all their assistance in fixing the water main break.

Thank you to Kyrill Verenich, our BOCES Technology Specialist, who stayed past his work day to oversee the repairs Spectrum needed to do to bring internet back to district.

Thank you to all our snow removal staff and Kevin Roberts for coordinating same as well as the Town of Remsen for sanding and plowing our driveways.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Mark Williams to go into Executive Session at 7:45p.m. for discussion of non-tenured teachers and teaching assistants.

	Matters that will imperil the public safety if disclosed
	Any matter that may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer
	Information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed.
	Proposed, pending, or current litigation
	Collective negotiations pertaining to the _____ Union pursuant to article 14 of the Civil Service Law
X	The medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.
	The preparation, grading, or administration of exams
	The proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition, sale, or exchange of securities, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value of these things.
	Discussing student records made confidential by federal law (FERPA or IDEA)
	Hearing an appeal of a student suspension
	Hearing an appeal of an employee grievance
	Seeking legal advice from our attorney, which is made privileged by law

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis to return to Regular Session at 8:16 p.m.

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Stephanie Karis to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m.