

REMSSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2020 – 7:00 PM

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, Gary Winghart, John McKeown, Daniel O’Bryan, Catherine Chandler, Kevin Roberts, Adam DeGrace, Kelly Runniger

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

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

No public participation.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve minutes from meetings held on September 8 and September 15, 2020, and approve agenda dated October 13, 2020.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve warrants for payment, accept Treasurer’s Report and Budget Status Report for period ended August 31, 2020; accept Revenue Status Report, Appropriation Status Report and approve October 2, 2020 budget transfers .” Unanimous vote

Elementary Principal’s Report given by Gary Winghart included the following:

- Start to the School Year – it has been great to have students and staff back in the building, to have the opportunity to interact with students and their families and to hear the excitement and learning taking place throughout the building. We are providing regular reminders to keep masks on and to maintain social distancing, but overall, it has been amazing to see how well students have adjusted to these requirements. They are excited to be back.
- Sensational Students Week took place September 28 – October 2
- Upcoming - October 16 – Picture Day for students

Mark Williams asked about awards ceremonies at the elementary school. The Alumni Association would like to give an award at each ceremony.

JSHS Principal's Report given by Dan O'Bryan which included the following:

- Spirit Week consisted of theme day (Cowboys vs Lumberjacks) and Remsen Pride (Orange & Black) day.
- SAT Exam at RCS held on September 23. PSATs scheduled for October 14th.
- Laura Boyd returned from maternity leave. Hunter Brown did a great job during her absence and will be able to fill in as substitute as needed.
- Rayne Ives conducted the Remsen Agriculture Program External Review on October 7th. The review is the next step in the process of gaining CTE certification for the Agriculture Program. With the extension of the program to include drone technology, students are not only highly engaged with instruction, they are preparing to use the skills they gain here at Remsen to lead the way in making new contributions to the field of agriculture by utilizing this technology.

Brian Parent asked about chromebooks. The chromebooks have been received and will be distributed the week of October 19th.

Facilities Report given by Kevin Roberts included the following:

- Phase 2 – Capital Improvement Project – Planning state for Phase II of the current project-Facilities committee's recommendations are replacement of JSHS 10,000 gallon underground fuel oil storage tank; improvements to JSHS stage sound system; work on elementary school storm water drainage; replacement of ceiling tile/grid in the intermediate wing corridor. Engineers have been on site doing preliminary work.
- 2021 Capital Outlay Project – We have received SED approval for this project. We are waiting to see if this is feasible given the current financial situation. This project includes renovation of old boys' locker room into a district records storage room and renovations to the basement floor back hallway.
- Special-Lite has replaced six of the eight exterior doors that had warranty issues at the JSHS.
- Maintenance and Custodial crews have been extremely busy with the COVID-19 situation. Building crews worked September 27th to do a "re-disinfection" of all buildings and buses which was done on September 25th – a double safeguard.
- Groundwork has been slower with no sports season so catch-up work is being done in buildings.

Transportation Report given by Adam DeGrace included the following:

- Inspections on buses 90, 91, 89 and 92 recently took place. All buses passed. No inspections scheduled in October.
- Bus Fleet Updates – routes are dialed in, ridership lower than expected. No changing of bus routes at this time until we are certain rider numbers will stay where they are or increase when the weather changes.
- Bus Driver News – all our drivers and records are up to date. Building and lounge area mandatory mask areas. No more than 3 people at a time in lounge area in order to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Remsen Central School District-wide School Safety Plan for 2020-2021.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meetings held on September 11, September 23, September 8 and September 29, 2020; and accept recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from meeting held on September 9, 2020.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District hereby ratifies and approves an agreement with the Holland Patent Central School District regarding cooperation in certain academic programs, and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute the agreement on behalf of the Remsen Central School District and to take necessary and appropriate actions to implement the agreement.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve agreement between Remsen Central School District and UMB Bank for the purpose of changing the name on the school’s VISA account.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Marissa Brown of Marcy, NY, as certified substitute teacher at the rate of \$100.00 per day.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Ammie Clark of Rome, NY, as certified substitute teacher at the rate of \$100.00 per day.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Maureen Pavlicko of New York Mills, NY, as certified substitute teacher at the rate of \$100.00 per day.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Patrick Nolan, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Christopher Richardson of New Hartford, NY, as certified substitute teacher at the rate of \$100.00 per day.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Denise DeStefanis of Utica, NY, as uncertified substitute teacher at the rate of \$90.00 per day.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Amy Williams of Remsen, NY, as uncertified substitute teacher at the rate of \$90.00 per day.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Rainer Beers of Blossvale, NY to the position of Automotive Mechanic at a rate of \$18.50 per hour, effective November 2, 2020.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Mark Williams, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint John Glass and Richard Gallo as Co-Mentors for Dana Percia for the 2020-2021 school year at a stipend of \$1,200 which will be split equally (\$600.00) between Mr. Glass and Mr. Gallo.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Patrick Nolan, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Rayne Ives as Varsity Volleyball Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2020-2021 school year.”

Unanimous vote

Mary Lou Allen stated how nice it is to see pictures of students on our district’s website and social media pages.

Stephanie Karis has received positive feedback about students returning to school.

Brian Parent stated that the second grade remote learning was handled efficiently. Thank you to the maintenance crew for the extra cleaning and disinfection of all buildings.

Tim Jenny stated that it has been difficult to find substitutes. We have interviewed and appointed more substitutes. All schools across New York State have a substitute shortage. Thank you to Mr. Winghart for filling in as Kindergarten teacher for the day when there was no substitute. Thumbs up to everyone involved in the Agriculture CTE Program.

Administrators, nurses, teaching and non-teaching staff are all working together as a team to keep our schools open.

Our teachers cannot be thanked enough.....The high school teachers are working with three subsets of students every day. The elementary teachers are teaching students in person; students who are 100% remote and students whose status is changed due to parental concerns and/or medical needs.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan to go into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. for the sole purpose of discussion of 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.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan to return to Regular Session at 8:43 p.m.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

