

REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MARCH 8, 2022

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Allen, Stephanie Karis, Brian Parent, Patrick Nolan, Jeannie Scouten

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy Jenny, John McKeown, Gary Winghart, Sanya Pelrah, Catherine Chandler, Olivia Woolheater, Dale Denning, Kevin Roberts, Adam DeGrace, Kelly Runniger, Abby Barton, Sam Nichols, Paige Loveric,

Meeting called to order by Board President, Mary Lou Allen, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

Mrs. Allen read the following statement:

We are about to convene into the public comment period of our meeting. Any district resident wishing to speak during public session is required to sign in, stating your full name, address, contact information and the topic that you wish to discuss. If you have not signed in and you wish to speak, the District Clerk will bring the sign-in sheet over to you at this time.

We will insist that all speakers and members of the audience maintain civility and respect. The board will now entertain public comments for up to a maximum of 30 minutes. Each individual speaker will be allotted three minutes. Please be reminded that written comments or concerns to be shared with the Board may also be submitted or emailed to the district clerk, Mrs. Catherine Chandler or to the Superintendent, Mr. Timothy Jenny at any time.

No public participation.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve minutes from meeting held on February 8, 2022 and approve agenda dated March 8, 2022.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOVLED, that the Board of Education approve warrants for payment; accept Treasurer’s Report, Budget Status Report, Revenue Status Report, Appropriation Status Report and approve budget transfers.”

Unanimous vote

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

- Valentines for Our Healthcare Heroes – Our Valentines/100th day of school project involved students creating valentines to be delivered to local healthcare facilities.
- Reading in Remsen Week – March 7 – March 11
- In March elementary students will be creating posters to be delivered to our first responders. Posters are intended to show our appreciation for our local law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics and other first responders.
- Computer Based Testing Preparation – Students in grades 3-6 have been practicing the online computer based testing platform which allows them to become familiar with testing format and tools that will be available during testing.
- Promethean Board Excitement – Students and staff returned to classrooms following February break to new classroom technology.

High School Principal's Report given by Sanya Pelrah included the following:

- Team Workshop – March 7- Collaborative time for staff to engage in collegial discussions and in relation to our book study. Positive notes continue to be sent to students.
- Instructional Focus – High School Instructional Committee making recommendations to the Leadership and Learning Committee regarding curriculum mapping and assessing instructional needs.
- Culture and Climate – Each student received valentine from a teacher. Students can contribute music requests and this music will be played during passing time. Will be meeting on March 8th to continue planning ways to positively impact student experience at the high school.
- Clubs and Activities – International Club working on infographics for National Foreign Language week and positive sayings in Gaelic to hang up for St. Patrick's Day.
- Diversity Group researching data on women in history that have contributed to the medical and health field. This info will be used to create morning announcements.
- Senior Class planning class trip and prom. Ski Club season finishing March 11. Drama Club presented The Comedy of Terrible Errors on March 4 and 5.
- M3Math Modeling Challenge – 5 students participated on February 28 in this challenge from 6 a.m. through 8 pm. Students were given an open ended questions for which they had to work together to create a solution.

Athletic Director's Report given by Dale Denning included the following:

- Basketball, Cheerleading and Indoor Track Seniors honored on February 10th.
- Winter Scholar Athlete Teams – 3 of our 4 competing varsity teams this winter earned the NYS Scholar Athlete Team award through the NYSPHSAA for 2021-2022.
- Spring sports coach vacancies available for modified softball, modified baseball, varsity baseball and girls' varsity track & field.

Facilities Report given by Kevin Roberts included the following:

- Capital Improvement Project – Phase IIB – Scope of work high school stage curtains and rigging. R. Alexander Construction of Marcy was low bidder. Tentatively scheduled to start over April break.
- 2021 Capital Outlay Project – renovation of JSBS boys’ old locker room into storage room and SED Approved vault. Construction began February 22nd.
- NYSED Building Condition Surveys required by SED for 2022.
- Facilities Committee Meeting held February 9th. Potential scope for the next capital project is replacement of elementary intermediate wing student lockers.
- Day to Day Operations – JSBS Kitchen area repair work completed during February break included cleaning, patching, priming and painting of wall in the dishwashing area and repair of walk-in cooler floor.

Transportation Report given by Adam DeGrace included the following:

- No bus inspections this month
- Bus Fleet Updates –minor issues getting parts for repairs
- Bus Driver News – Drivers current on all qualifications. Two hour refresher for all drivers scheduled for March 18th. Adam has completed class training for school bus driving instructor. Adam scheduled to attend 19A examiner course in July.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve changes to policies #5060-District Transportation Policy; #5063-School Band Bus; #5064-Bus Citizenship Award; #5600-Transportation; and #5600-Student Transportation.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meetings held on February 11, February 16 and February 18, 2022.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopt BOCES 185 day school calendar as Remsen CSD School Calendar for 2022-2023.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. The following notice shall be added to the notice of annual meeting and election: AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that the following proposition will be submitted for voter approval at such time:

PROPOSITION # 1

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO UNDERTAKE THE ACQUISITION OF TWO (2) 66-PASSENGER SCHOOL BUSES, AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST OF

\$126,509 EACH, ALL AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM AGGREGATE COST OF \$253,018, LESS TRADE-IN VALUE, IF ANY, AND THAT SUCH COSTS, OR SO MUCH THEREOF AS MAY BE NECESSARY, SHALL BE RAISED BY THE LEVY OF A TAX TO BE COLLECTED IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS; AND, IN ANTICIPATION OF SUCH TAX, DEBT OBLIGATIONS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS MAY BE NECESSARY NOT TO EXCEED \$253,018 SHALL BE ISSUED, OR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY ENTER INTO AN INSTALLMENT PURCHASE CONTRACT IF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION DETERMINES THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE IN THAT METHOD.

2. At such meeting taxes to be levied by installments will be proposed for authorized indebtedness providing for payment of the acquisition of school buses at an estimated aggregate maximum cost of not to exceed \$253,018. Such taxes shall be levied upon all the taxable property of the District, shall be levied in annual installments and shall be of such amounts and levied in such years as may be determined by the Board of Education.

3. The District Clerk or the Clerk's designee is hereby directed to add the above to the notice of the annual meeting of the School District.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.
Duly put to a vote as follows: Vote - 5AYES; 0-NAYS

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Dalila Hasanagic of Utica, NY as long term substitute for grade 3.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education grant request of Jennifer Provost for an unpaid leave of absence for the period March 7 – March 11 and March 14, 2022. Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Riley Stevens of Remsen, NY as certified substitute teacher.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Jillian Ringwald-Dale of West Leyden, NY as substitute school nurse.” Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Alyssa Clayton of Rome, NY as certified substitute teacher.” Unanimous vote

Information given to the Board included the following:

BOCES Annual Meeting – April 6, 2022

Special Meeting – April 26, 2022 – 6 PM - Elementary School Library

Appreciation Baskets from Abundant Life

Board Forum - Mrs. Allen stated that it takes a village to raise a child and it takes an entire community to have a successful school district. Evidence of that was in the installation of the promethean boards over February break. Mr. Jenny also thanked all who helped install the promethean boards. A tremendous thank you to Dave Buhite, Kevin Roberts, and to the volunteers that generously gave of their time on weekends and evenings: Dean MacLachlan, Tim Jenny, Gary Winghart, John McKeown, and Adrian Piaschyk. Thank you also to Keith Mottley, Adam DeGrace, Rainer Beers, Brad Tyson, and Craig Gallant.

Mask updates – New guidance has been received from the NYS Department of Health. Masks are now optional at school and on the school bus. Students and staff are welcome to continue to wear a mask if they choose to do so. Harassment towards those choosing to wear masks or towards those choosing not to wear masks will not be tolerated. Local County Health Departments may implement universal masking when the county COVID-19 community burden is high per the new CSD Community Burden Framework.

Elementary Drama Club performed a play for first time. A talented group of 4th, 5th and 6th graders presented the play “Storyville” by Lorraine Thompson. The play consisted of a series of familiar, fun and entertaining tales all woven together into an enjoyable story.

On March 4th and March 5th, the Remsen Drama Club performed “The Comedy of Terrible Errors.” “The Comedy of Errors” is Shakespeare's shortest work about two sets of identical twins who were accidentally separated at birth. The “Comedy of Terrible Errors” transforms this play into one big, hilarious nightmare.

High five and thank you to our school nurse, Eilleen Hamlin. Mrs. Hamlin has been covering both buildings when there is no substitute in the elementary school.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannine Scouten to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.