

REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2022

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Allen, Patrick Nolan, Jeannie Scouten,
Stephanie Karis (here at 6:10 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brian Parent

OTHERS PRESENT: Tim Jenny, Gary Winghart, Sanya Pelrah, John McKeown,
Catherine Chandler, Dale Denning, Kevin Roberts, Adam DeGrace,
Abby Barton, Kelly Runninger

Budget Work Session took place from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Discussion items included:

- Current school year challenges include uncertainty of COVID on program and operations.
- Cash flow implications of grant reimbursement process
- When will NYS complete and pass budget?
- Increases in contributions to both Employees Retirement System and Teachers Retirement System. Increase in health insurance costs. Salary increases for both instructional and non-instructional staff.
- Capital Outlay for 2022-2023
- Proposition on ballot for purchase of two large passenger school buses for approximate total of \$253,018 – 80.4% aid for district cost of \$49,592.00

Mrs. Mary Lou Allen, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

No public participation this evening.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve minutes from meeting held on December 14, 2021, approve agenda dated January 11, 2022 with the following addition:
7.6 – Appointment of Substitute Teacher.”

Vote – 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve warrants for payment; accept Treasurer’s Report and Budget Status Report for October and November, 2021; accept Revenue Status Report and Appropriation Status Report and approve budget transfers.”

Vote – 4 yes; 0 no

Gary Winghart, Elementary Principal, gave his report which included the following:

- Upcoming Events – Martin Luther King Day-January 17; Beginner Band Concert-February 2; 100th Day of School – February 11; Valentine’s Day – February 14; Presidents Day – February 21; and Winter Break – February 21-February 25

- Soaring Students of the Month – Each month two students from each grade level are nominated by their teachers for Soaring Student of the month. These students have demonstrated that they are working hard in school and *Soaring to Success*.
- Holiday Tour Around the World – Classes researched a country and their Christmas traditions. The classes then put together a display and a recorded presentation to share. These presentations were shared online for families to view.
- In the Classroom – Many elementary classes are participating in a bowling unit in their Physical Education classes. Students are very excited about this!
- Native America Project – 4th graders recently completed their Native American project. Students asked to use information learned in class and their own research to create a diorama or presentation to demonstrate what they have learned about Native Americans.
- Visit from Santa – Mr. Claus made a special visit to the elementary school on December 22nd. Students served hot cocoa during their recess on December 22nd as part of our holiday celebrations.

High School Principal, Sanya Pelrah, gave her report to the Board which included:

- Team Workshop – We continued our book study of *What Great Teachers Do Differently* Focusing on impacting and improving student behaviors by being respectful, professional, working as a team, and focusing on prevention. Mrs. Reilly presented information about library resources and databases that staff and students have access to.
- Instructional Focus – High School Instructional Committee met on December 14 and January 10. Focus was on identifying highly effective instructional strategies. These strategies will be shared with the Leadership and Learning Committee on January 13.
- Culture and Climate – Holly Days (holiday spirit week) and Door Decorating contests created a festive atmosphere prior to winter break. Holiday music played during passing time the days before break and students were given hot chocolate on December 21st. Culture and Climate Committee will be meeting the week of January 17th to continue planning ways to positively impact and improve the high school atmosphere and student experience. First marking period academic awards ceremonies held on December 20.
- Clubs and Activities – Fundraisers were held by 10th grade class and FFA. International Club is hosting an after school cooking class with OHM BOCES dietician on January 19 and February 9. Student Council distributed holiday cheer packets to all students and staff. Mathletics has virtual match on January 9th.

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

- Important Dates – January 3 – Boys & Girls modified basketball begins; January 8 – JV and Varsity Volleyball Tournament; January 28- Senior Night
- Fall Sports Scholar Athletes – Boys & Girls Varsity Soccer and Varsity Cross Country qualified for this honor.
- COVID 19 having a giant impact on our winter sports season. Volleyball and basketball programs on pause before Christmas break. 12 games canceled this season.
- Elementary Basketball (Grades 3-6) – Discussions have been initiated about the possibility of restarting our elementary basketball program again.

- Winter Season Protocols – At the start of the winter season, the number of spectators at each home contest will be limited. No concessions provided. JV/Varsity home games livestreamed whenever possible.

Facilities Report given by Kevin Roberts included the following:

- Capital Improvement Project – Phase IIB – Scope of work being put out to bid which includes replacement of high school stage curtains and ceiling replacement in the elementary intermediate wing hallway which includes emergency lighting upgrades. Bid opening was January 5, 2022. After bid opening, it appears replacement of stage curtains will be only item.
- 2021 Capital Outlay Project – Renovation of old high school boys’ locker room. Low bidder was R. Alexander Construction of Marcy, NY. Project kick-off meeting scheduled for January 5, 2022. Expected construction to begin over February break. Some work could be delayed as special order doors and door frames are running 16-18 weeks lead time.
- Previous Capital Outlays – 2 sets of double exterior doors in the HS gym have been replaced once (under warranty) due to exterior finish issues. Factory reps have been on site and agree they need to be replaced.
- NYSED Building Condition Surveys required by SED for 2022. Zoom meetings have been scheduled to discuss each of the three buildings. Walk through scheduled for Christmas break had to be postponed due to King + King personnel quarantines.
- Day to Day Operations – crews continue to be busy with disinfection process of buildings. Snow removal has been minimal but icing has made up for it and kept grounds workers busy.

Transportation Report given by Adam DeGrace included the following:

- Bus Inspections – No inspections in January. Next inspections in February
- Bus Fleet Updates - Our fleet in good shape. We are receiving quotes for replacement of Suburban.
- Bus Driver News – Drivers current on qualifications. We had a number of them out in December due to illness. We are pursuing new substitute drivers. Adam will be attending a web meeting with federal DOT to learning about new entry level driver training. Adam is also scheduled to finish SBDI training in February.

“Test to Stay” Plan Report given by Tim Jenny which has been approved by the Oneida County Health Department. Under this plan, students deemed a close contact at school will be able to remain in school provided that they are tested on a designated schedule to ensure that they remain healthy.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve Section 5000 –Support Operations board policies, as included in your packet.” Vote – 4 yes; 0 no

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 December 15, 2021, January 4, 2022, and

January 5, 2022 and accept recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from meetings held on January 6, 2022.”
Vote – 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Patrick Nolan, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education award General Construction Contract for the Capital Project Phase IIB to the low bidder, Richard E. Alexander Co., Inc., March, NY in the following amount: Base Bid: \$50,480.00; Total Bid-\$50,480.00.”

Vote – 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept Notice of Intent to Retire of Nancy Gleasman, effective June 30, 2022.”

Vote – 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept Notice of Intent to Retire of Kimberly A. Kershaw, effective June 30, 2022.”

Vote – 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept resignation of Alyssa Losowski, effective January 30, 2022.”

Vote – 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Hunter Brown of Whitesboro, NY as long term substitute for Laura Boyd, from approximately February 18 – May 16, 2022.”

Vote – 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Patrick Nolan, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Noah Thompson of Remsen, NY as substitute teacher.”

Vote – 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Christa Fransman of Remsen, NY as substitute teacher.”

Vote – 4 yes; 0 no

Information & Correspondence given to the Board for their information included the following:

- Letter from National Association of Agricultural Educators

Board Forum

- Thank you to all those who are working with COVID guidelines.
- Thank you to Katie Chandler as this is her last meeting as Secretary to the Superintendent. She will continue as District Clerk through June 30th.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan to go into Executive Session at 7:20 p.m for the purpose of discussion of Superintendent’s Mid -Year Informal Evaluation and for the 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 Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten to return to Regular Session at 8:07 p.m.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m.