

REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
APRIL 4, 2023

"All Remsen students will Soar to Success"

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Allen, Brian Parent, Patrick Nolan,
(Stephanie Karis arrived at 6:07 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeannie Scouten

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy Jenny, John McKeown, Sanya Pelrah, Gary
Winghart, Olivia Woolheater, Kevin Roberts, Adam
DeGrace, Kelly Runninger, Dale Dening, Julia
Dening, Robin McCormack, Carleen Taylor

Mr. John McKeown and Mr. Timothy Jenny presented the Budget Summary Workshop from
6:00 p.m. to 6:20 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Mary Lou Allen, Board President, at 6:22 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

Mrs. Allen read the following statement: Public Participation - 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 District Clerk, Ms. Olivia Woolheater or to the Superintendent, Mr. Timothy Jenny at any time.

No public participation this evening

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Brian Parent:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved the minutes from the meeting held on March 20, 2023; and it be further resolved that the Board of Education approve Warrants for Payment; Treasurer's Report; accept Revenue Status Report; and Appropriation Status Report."

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

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

- **Upcoming Events:** April 7th-14th: Spring break. April 22nd: Spring Clean Up Day. April 28th: Arbor Day Ceremony. May 8th – 12th: Spring School Spirit Week
- **Trimester 2 Evening of Excellence:** On March 28th, over 80 students received awards for all of their outstanding academics, behavior, and overall performance throughout the second trimester. The students were recognized for Honor Roll, High Honor Roll, Good Citizenship, Soaring to Success, and six students received Alumni Association Awards for Trimester 2
- **Around the School: Pete the Cat:** Many classes in the primary wing have been gearing up for Pete's Big Hollywood Adventure which took place on March 31st. Many of the classes have been working on crafts and small projects to get students excited about the show. **Positivity Project:** The Positivity Project has been going well in the elementary. We have covered 23 character strengths including several elements of the other people mindset. During the week of March 27th, we covered the character strength humor. **Peep Themed Projects:** After finishing up the Peep themed projects, Mrs. Davis will be introducing STEM activities that align with character strengths.
- **Helmets for Kindergarten Students:** As Spring is approaching, we are getting excited about outdoor activities including bicycle riding. Each year the Boonville Elks donate bicycle helmets to each of our Kindergarten students.

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

- **Team Workshop and Instructional Focus:** Based on feedback received from staff, the staff appreciated the various Superintendent's Day offerings on March 17th. Many of the staff joined sessions at OHM BOCES to learn new educational practices.
- **Culture and Climate:** Senior Switch Day happened on March 15th. This was a great way for students to get a better understanding and experience in many of the different facets that make Remsen work each day. This was also a great way for staff to spend individualized time with the seniors. During lunch periods on March 15th and March 16th, students were encouraged to write a thank you note including a shamrock indicating why they felt luck for a staff member.
- **Clubs and Activities:** **12th grade:** The senior class will hold a take-out spaghetti dinner on April 22nd from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. at the Remsen VFW. The Krispy Kreme fundraiser will run from April 17th – 27th. **CTE Coordinator:** Mrs. Ives is in the process of renewing the Human Development Program which will be a great opportunity for students. **Diversity Club:** Members are planning to meet after school on April 6th to post positive statements on student bathroom mirrors as encouragement for students when they return from April break. **Drama Club:** Drama Club members will be treated to dinner and a show on May 4th as a reward for their hard work in the play and musical. **FFA:** Students will participate in the Ag Mechanics and Meat contests at SUNY Cobleskill on April 21st. **International Club:** The club hosted a cooking class afterschool on March 28th with a BOCES dietician where they learned to make churros. High school members of the club attended a day trip to NYC on March 31st. The members were able to visit various sites and enjoy French and Spanish culture. **Mock Trial:** The March 27th competition was very

close and Remsen only lost by one point and they won their last competition on March 29th. Music Department: Junior High All County was held on March 17th and 18th. Three students were selected to participate. National Honor Society: There was 13 new members were inducted into the National Honor Society which will be a total of 28 members.

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

- **Important Dates:** April 3rd: Modified Spring Sports begin. April 5th: CSC Athletic Director Meeting.
- **Spring Sports:** Unfortunately, Modified Baseball was cancelled this year due to low interested players. Modified Softball and Track and Field began their season on Monday, April 3rd. The varsity Golf Team has been traveling to Accelerate Sports Complex/SPI Fitness to engage in their shot simulator which is a state of the art training tool used by many professionals and instructors. As of March 30th, the teams have been unable to practice outside due to the weather conditions still present at the campus.

Facilities Report given by Kevin Roberts included the following items:

- **2023 Capital Outlay Project:** New Elementary lockers. The contract has been awarded to R.E Alexander Construction of Marcy, NY. Demolition work of existing lockers and related framing is planned to start April 7th or 10th. New lockers are expected to ship April 12th, hopefully they will be installed before the students return from April break.
- **Next Capital Improvement Project:** The scope of work has been determined. The district is working on financial piece. I will advise as necessary.
- **Lead in the Drinking Water Testing:** The NYSDOH has lowered the threshold for lead in the applicable water outlets from 15ppm to 5ppm. This new round of testing must be completed between 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2025. The testing must be conducted on a triannual basis after the test is completed.
- **Heating Oil Usage/Room Temperature Setbacks:** The policy that was implemented at the start of the heating season to set room temperatures at the 68-degree level seems to be saving a considerable amount of fuel.
- **Department Updates:** The upcoming spring season is quite busy with spring cleanup and sports. Unfortunately, one of the grounds workers hurt his shoulder on the job so we had to bring down a retiree to help with the spring work.

Transportation report given by Adam DeGrace included the following items:

- **Bus Inspections:** There are no bus inspections this month. Inspections will take place within the next two weeks.
- **Bus Fleet Updates:** The buses are in good condition. The new buses and the suburban came in. All three of these vehicles are on the road and have had radios installed. The two buses are in service and the suburban is awaiting a D.O.T inspection.
- **Bus Driver News:** All drivers are current on their qualifications. One of our bus drivers, Tom has returned to work. The new trainee is doing great. He has been on the road driving and will schedule his road test soon. I, (Adam DeGrace) have applied to the DMV for my Certified Examiner License and now awaiting to be given an exam date.

Mr. Rainer Beers has completed his Federal Examiner Training. After Board Meetings, I (Adam DeGrace) have been buying the bus driver staff lunch and discussion the Board Meeting together.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopt the following polices:

7001	7003	7005	7007
7002	7004	7006	

Superintendent’s Regulations for information only:

7002.1	7003.2	7005.1	7102.1	7102.3
7003.1	7004.1	7006.1	7102.2	

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meeting held on March 24th 2023. Please be reminded that discussion of a specific IEP should be referred to Executive Session.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District hereby approves the amended and restated Municipal Cooperative Agreement to Provide Health Benefits, effective July 1, 2023, among the Member Districts of the Herkimer County Schools Health Insurance Consortium, and authorizes the Board President to execute the agreement on behalf of the Remsen Central School District.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Memorandum of Agreement for Basketball and Volleyball coaching stipends.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopt the budget for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$14,315,125.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve Temporary Use Agreement allowing Remsen Central School District to use County of Oneida Optical Scan Voting Systems,

privacy booths, as well as other ancillary equipment, supplies and services related thereto for school election May 16, 2023 in the amount of \$850.00.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Stephanie Finn to the position of Substitute Teacher at the daily rate of \$140.00.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Lexis Beal to the position of Substitute Teacher at the daily rate of \$140.00.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Emma Shoemaker to the position of Substitute Teacher at the daily rate of \$100.00.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Adam Thomas to the position of Substitute Teacher at the daily rate of \$100.00.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Anna Roberts as the Modified Track Coach for the 2023 spring season, pending fingerprint clearance.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby appoints Robin McCormack, who holds a valid New York State Certificate permitting her to serve as teaching assistant, to tenure in the tenure area of Teacher Assistant, effective September 1, 2023.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby appoints John McKeown, who holds a valid New York State Certificate permitting him to serve as school business administrator, to tenure in the tenure area of School Business Administrator, effective July 1, 2023.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Information and Correspondence given to the Board included the following:

- Reminder: Board of Education Meeting, April 25, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- OHM BOCES Summit: The State of our Children's Health: Thursday, April 20, 2023
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Soaring to Success – Board of Education Roundtable Remarks

Board members reflected on and shared their thoughts about activities and events that occurred over the past month:

Mrs. Mary Lou Allen: Mrs. Allen congratulated Mr. John McKeown and Mrs. Robin McCormack for earning tenure. She also mentioned how great it was to see all of the students engaging in athletic activities. She commented on how great the Track Spaghetti Dinner was and how all of the athletes were very kind and respectful. Mrs. Allen said thank you to Mr. Anthony Dangler and Carlleen Taylor for celebrating with the Drama Club students by taking them to a musical and treating them to dinner. Mrs. Allen also said thank you to Andrea Kaczor for organizing a scholarship in Walt Kaczor's memory. The scholarship was a fully funded trip to a summer DEC camp. All students that wrote essays and applied were chosen for the scholarship because all of their essays were amazing.

Br. Brian Parent: Mr. Parent gave thanks to everyone who makes the afterschool program available to students. Mr. Parent also mentioned how he appreciates all of the activities available for students, which included a volleyball camp and STEAM.

Mr. Timothy Jenny: Mr. Jenny thanked Kevin for his perseverance and gave high fives to the custodial team. Mr. Jenny also showed appreciation towards Mrs. Allen. He mentioned that being the Board President is a difficult position and that she does a great job. Mrs. Allen goes above and beyond and attends meetings. Mr. Jenny also congratulated the 7th and 8th grade students who participated in the science fair at Utica University. Remsen took first place in all three science categories. The students did a great job. Mr. Jenny also complimented Mr. Glass and Mr. O'Bryan for their hard work and dedication to the students.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan to enter executive session at 7:09 p.m.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Brian Parent to return to regular session at 7:45 p.m.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan to adjourn regular session at 7:46 p.m.

