

REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2023

"All Remsen students will Soar to Success"

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Allen, Brian Parent, Patrick Nolan, Jeannie Scouten, Stephanie Karis (Arrived at 6:03)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Grace Hajdasz (Student Representative) Timothy Jenny, John McKeown, Sanya Pelrah, Gary Winghart, Olivia Woolheater, Kevin Roberts, Adam DeGrace, Kelly Runninger, Jessica Jones, Steve Boucher, Dr. Patricia Kilburn

Mr. John McKeown and Mr. Timothy Jenny presented the Budget Workshop from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

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

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

OHM BOCES District Superintendent Presentation given by Dr. Patricia Kilburn and Steve Boucher to highlight all that BOCES has to offer for students and shared services.

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 Brian Parent, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved the minutes from the meeting held on December 13, 2022; 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.”

Unanimous Vote

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

- **Upcoming Events:** January 3rd – March 10th Kindergarten and Pre – K registration is open. January 16th – Martin Luther King Junior Day. January 17th – 20th Spirit Week. February 14th – Valentine’s Day.
- **Winter Spirit Week:** Tuesday Jan 17th: Dress like a Teacher, Wednesday Jan 18th: Wild West Wednesday, Thursday Jan 19th: Color Day, Friday January 20th: Pajama Day.
- **Student Celebrations:** Soaring Students of the Month: Every month students are selected from each class by their classroom teacher to be Soaring Students of the Month. Evening of Excellence: On Tuesday December 20th, we celebrated students at the Evening of Excellence. Throughout the evening 90 awards were presented to the students which included Good Citizenship, Soaring to Success, Honor Roll, High Honor Roll, and Alumni Association.
- **Holiday Celebration:** On the final day of school before the break, students enjoyed visits from Santa and warm hot cocoa.
- **Around the School:** Visits with Napoleon: Napoleon the Therapy Dog and his handler, Lynn Clark have been visiting the elementary on Thursdays. During this time Napoleon visits classrooms, reads and works on writing with students, and spends time with students just being a friend. Young Rams Update: The extended day school programs are still providing opportunities for students both before and after school. During the mornings between 12 and 25 students attend before school. During this time, students have the opportunity to finish homework, morning activities, spend time with friends, and enjoy breakfast. After school the program consists of 50 to 75 students that attend regularly. Students have the opportunity to complete homework, enjoy an afterschool snack, spend time engaging in physical activities, and participate in learning activities.

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

- **Team Workshop and Instructional Focus:** Collaborative data sessions are underway. The Tech Time and Teacher Tips took place last month, this is where staff share strategies and tools with other colleagues. In addition, the Instructional Committee met on January 4th. The committee is in the planning phase of teacher-led professional development session that focuses on highly effective instructional practices that align with the work of the Leadership and Learning Council.
- **Culture and Climate:** The month of December was busy. The Drama Club production of *A Christmas Carol*, the Band and Chorus concert, and the Honor Roll Celebration all took place in December. Throughout this month there was a great amount of holiday-themed activities which included, the door decorating contest,

holiday spirit week, selfies with Santa, and an Amazon gift card raffle. The Culture and Climate Committee decided to have Napoleon the therapy dog visit students on January 3rd to brighten the students' day their first day back from Christmas Break.

- **Clubs and Activities:** 12th grade: The Classes of 2023 and 2024 donated their leftover pies from the Sysco Pie fundraiser to Remsen's VWF. The senior class will be selling Utica Coffee from January 17th to the 31st and funds will be used towards their senior class trip. 11th grade: The students worked together and planned this year's Snow Ball dance which took place on January 7th. The theme was Polar Express. 10th grade: Class officers have been selected. Agriculture Department Update: The Agriculture Department was awarded \$20,000 to the virtual welder project. This will be used to purchase an industry-level virtual welder (Lincoln VTRX Transport), 3 Miller Virtual Welders, and supplemental materials from RealityWorks. Rayne Ives was also awarded \$3,100 in scholarships to attend CASE Curriculum training for Plant Science and Food Science and \$1,700 in a NY Agriculture Education Incentive Grant. FFA: FFA won the Plastic Film Collection challenge for the 4th time. FFA students will be preparing for the upcoming Leadership Development Event contests on February 4th at Mt. Markham. International Club: The International Club is planning a French Night at the Syracuse Crunch hockey game on January 13th. Students will be able to see a team from Quebec play, there will be French trivia, and a chance to take pictures with the French-speaking players. Mock Trial: Meetings are beginning take place in order to prepare for the March competitions. Yearbook: The Yearbook club has made significant progress with their drafts and the club is excited to continue their work.
- **Student Council Representative: Grace Hajdasz:** The Snowball dance on January, 7th was a success. There was corn hole and a DJ available for students. For Spirit week, the different grades are going to compete against each other. In February, students can participate in a Snowflake Search. The class with the highest amount of snowflakes will earn Remsen cup points.

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

- **Important Dates:** January 3rd – Modified Basketball begins. January 13th-14th – Varsity Basketball (Coaches vs. Cancer Shootout) January 14th – JV/Varsity Volleyball (Frankfort-Schuyler Tournament) January 26th – CSC Championships (Indoor Track & Field)
- **Winter Sports:** Current team rosters – Boys' Modified Basketball (18: 2 teams) Girls' Modified Basketball (10)
- **Boys Modified Basketball:** Shannon Meeker will be the Boy's Modified Coach for the 2023 season. Shannon will be working hand and hand with Katey Secor who is contributing as an unpaid assistant coach.
- **JV/Varsity Volleyball Fundraiser:** JV/Varsity Volleyball will be sponsoring a fundraiser during their game against Owen D. Young to help support the Anita's Steven Swan Humane Society by asking all participants and spectators to donate dog food, cat food, blankets, comforters, dog beds, cat litter, general supplies and monetary donations via cash or check will also be accepted.

- **Varsity Boys' Basketball:** The Boys' Varsity Basketball will be participating in the Coaches vs. Cancer event on the weekend of January 13th & 14th in the Adirondacks.

Facilities Report given by Kevin Roberts included the following items:

- **2023 Capital Outlay Project:** The contract has been awarded to R.E Alexander Construction of Marcy, NY. The work is planned to take place in February. The timeline is to be determined but a majority of the work is going to take place throughout the February break.
- **Next Capital Improvement Project:** There has been preliminary discussions on the scope of work for the next major Capital Improvement Project. Work is going to be prioritized based on the results of the recent Building Condition Survey and our own lists. King & King is working on updating the list of possible work, which the Facilities Team discussed at the December meeting.
- **2023-2024 Budget:** Currently working on the equipment budget items. The goal is to replace the key equipment before it causes lengthy downtime and expensive repairs. We have developed a replacement plan for the more expensive pieces of equipment to help with the budget planning process in the future.
- **Day to Day Operations:** Grounds: The grounds employees are currently trying to work through the heavy snow removal which has been thawing and creating mud. Building Maintenance: There is a full crew of cleaners at the High School. It is a busy time of the year due to sporting events and after-school activities in both of the buildings.

Transportation report given by Adam DeGrace included the following items:

- **Bus Inspections:** There has been no inspections this month.
- **Bus Fleet Updates:** The buses are in good condition. We were able to get caught up on maintenance during the Christmas break.
- **Bus Driver News:** All drivers are current on their qualifications.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an overnight trip for the Boys' Varsity Basketball in Schroon Lake on January 13, 2023 and January 14, 2023.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meetings held on December 8th, 9th, 12th, 15th, 19th 2022, and January 3rd 2023. Please be reminded that discussion of a specific IEP should be referred to Executive Session.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the Notice of Intent to Retire of Jodi Richard effective June 30, 2023.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the request of Thomas Willis for medical leave of absence beginning January 23, 2023 through March 31, 2023.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Shannon Meeker as the Boys’ Modified Basketball Coach for the 2023 season.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Carina Mettelman effective February 2, 2023.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Kylie Vienneau to the position of Substitute Teacher.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Brian Parent:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint retired school bus driver, Dennis Quackenbush to the position of Substitute Bus Driver.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Katey Secor as an unpaid assistant coach for the Boys’ Modified Basketball for the 2023 season.”

Unanimous vote

Information and Correspondence given to the Board included the following:

Mr. Jenny discussed an upcoming summit at BOCES titled, “The State of our Children’s Health.” The date will be announced as soon as it is known.

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:

Brian Parent: Mr. Parent complemented how well the Christmas concert went in December.

Mary Lou Allen: Mrs. Allen commented on how busy it has been at the High School and Elementary the past month due to all of the fun activities that are provided for the students. Mrs. Allen thanked Gary Winghart and Sanya Pelrah for all that they do for the students.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan to enter executive session at 7:05 p.m.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan to return to regular session at 8:14 p.m.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten to adjourn regular session at 8:14 p.m.