

**SWEET HOME CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024**

MINUTES

A meeting of the Sweet Home Board of Education was held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at the Norman Vergils Community Center. President of the Board, Mrs. Battaglia, called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

Mrs. Battaglia led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENT: Danyelle Anthon, Amy Battaglia, Peter Bellanti (arrived at 7:30 pm), Marianne Jasen, Scott M. Johnson, Brian Laible, Dirk Rabenold

ABSENT:

Upon motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Laible, the Board of Education accepted the roll as called.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				

Also present: Michael V. Ginestre, Donald G. Feldmann, Toyia Wilson

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Jasen, the meeting was adjourned to executive session at 6:09 pm for legal matters.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				

Upon motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Jasen, the following resolution was offered to come out of executive session at 7:05 pm.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Jasen, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLVED: That, the agenda set forth for the regular Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, October 15, 2024 is hereby adopted in its entirety.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Jasen, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLVED: That, the reading of the minutes of the Board of Education meetings held Tuesday, September 10, 2024 and Tuesday, September 17, 2024 be waived and are hereby adopted in their entirety.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				

COMMUNICATIONS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- A. District Audit, 2023-2024**
Seth Hennard from Lumsden and McCormick was in attendance at the study session on Tuesday, October 8, 2024 and presented to the Board of Education findings from the audit report performed on the general account as well as student accounts for school year 2023-2024.
- B. NYSSBA Proposed Bylaw Amendments & Resolutions**
The Board of Education conducted a discussion regarding the NYSSBA proposed Amendments & Resolutions at the study session on Tuesday, October 8, 2024.
- C. Superintendent Update**
Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, October 8, 2024.
- D. Superintendent Update**
Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the voting meeting on Tuesday, October 15, 2024.

OPEN SESSION: Agenda Topics – Policy 1510

Called

NEW BUSINESS

Upon motion made by Mr. Bellanti, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered for consent agenda on items A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H.

- A. Special Education**
 - 1. Class placements for 2024 – 2025 – Policy 7613**
WHEREAS, Public Law 94-142, the Individuals with Disabilities Act, and Chapter 853, Laws of 1976 (New York State Education Act), requires Board of Education approval for all placements of students with disabilities, and

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**A. Special Education****1. Class placements for 2024 – 2025 – Policy 7613**

Whereas, the District Committee on Special Education has reviewed all placements, and

Whereas, all parents have approved said special education class placements, now therefore be it

Resolved: That, the 2024-2025 placements for students with disabilities be approved as recommended in a memorandum to Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, dated September 30, 2024.

2. Preschool class placements for 2024-2025 – Policy 7614

Whereas, Public Law 94-142, the Individuals with Disabilities Act, as amended by P.L. 99-457, New York State Compliance, Chapter 243 of the Laws of 1989, requires Board of Education approval for all placements of preschool student with disabilities, and

Whereas, the District Committee on Preschool Special Education has reviewed all placements, and

Whereas, all parents have approved said preschool special education placements, now therefore be it

Resolved: That, the 2024-2025 placements for preschool students with disabilities be approved as recommended in a memorandum to Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, dated September 30, 2024.

and be it further...

B. District Audit Report, 2023-2024

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve and accept the Sweet Home Central School District of Amherst and Tonawanda **"FINANCIAL STATEMENTS" for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 and the Extra classroom Activity Funds report dated June 30, 2024**, and be it further

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit, as required, an approved copy of the Sweet Home Central School District of Amherst and Tonawanda **"FINANCIAL STATEMENTS" for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 and the Extra Classroom Activity Funds report dated June 30, 2024 to the State Education Department**, and be it further

RESOLVED: That, the Director of Finance and Plant Services be authorized to publish these **"FINANCIAL STATEMENTS"** in a newspaper(s) that has general circulation in the school district.

and be it further...

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**C. Monthly Financial Reports – Policy 2140**

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accept the Investment Schedule, the Treasurer's Report, the Budget Appropriation Status Report, the Revenue Budget Status report, Budget Transfer Report, and the Extra Classroom Account Report as provided.

and be it further...

D. Overnight Field Trip Request – Policy 8460

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following Overnight Field Trip Requests:

- NYSSMA Festival, Fredonia, NY, Nov. 2024 (Leader – Cory Morrow)

and be it further...

E. Request for Proposal – Willow Ridge Soil Testing

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and Young & Wright Architectural, award the Willow Ridge Geotechnical Investigation contract to **Kenney Geotechnical Engineering Services** in the amount of **\$6,700.00**.

and be it further...

F. Extracurricular Activity Account – Policy 7410

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that the following extracurricular activities accounts be opened.

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to take the appropriate action regarding the following extracurricular activities accounts.

- ACCOUNT TO BE OPENED: HS Track & Field

and be it further...

G. Dispose of Obsolete Property – Policy 5250

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, authorize the district to participate in competitive bidding procedures for the disposal of obsolete property.

and be it further...

H. Mediation

RESOLVED THAT, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with its legal counsel, Lippes Mathias, LLP, the Board authorizes the District, via its attorneys, to participate in mediation in the matters with the following index numbers in New York State Supreme Court:

-811174/2021

-810987/2021

-810728/2021

NEW BUSINESS-continued...

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

M. Subaita: September was eventful at the HS, powder puff game, homecoming, student gov't election. The pep rally generated rumors and had some students and staff concerned about safety. More communication would be welcomed. Student government had first meeting, discussed expectations. Want to plan an after school fright fest. Discussed goals for the year. We are reaching out to student services to get additional support for students struggling with college applications. Want to push for more religious holidays off, especially EID.

M. Ginestre: Mr. Feldmann, Dr. Wilson and I were all in attendance for the entire pep rally. The rumors were untrue and all information that we were able to give out we did, to families and staff.

M. Jansen: Attended the MM PTA meeting. Mr. Ryan has a new student transition plan – it could be a model for all the schools. The student lighthouse team spoke about wanting to reach out to families to explain Leader in Me – perhaps doing a monthly newsletter or creating monthly challenges students can do at home to get parents involved. Met with Mr. Ryan – he is using every available space in the building.

S. Johnson: All items attended posted with our packet. The ECASB legislative team is working on the upcoming legislative breakfast. The Capital conference will have a virtual and an in- person component. The ENL graduation featured about 50 students. Attended the WR PTO meeting, and the SHEF meeting – talked about a ticketing system for the faculty/staff basketball game. All NYSSBA recommended resolutions passed in addition to one not recommended about setting bail for school threats. NYSSBA publishes a report with their agenda based on how the resolutions were voted upon.

T. Wilson: Mr. Ryan is piloting pieces of his new student program.

B. Lable: Attended the MS PTSA meeting – discussed STEM learning, 3 activity nights including a new event – a book swap and perhaps incorporating a poetry slam. Please to hear the Leader in Me program is growing there. WR had a fun run – provided t-shirts for faculty. Raised more than expected. Attended the Audit Committee meeting.

D. Rabenold: Items posted with our packet. Does the ECASB legislative team follow up on the resolutions? Attended part of the HH PTA meeting, also having a fun run as a major fundraiser. Principal spoke about a survey going out to families and their desire to become a lighthouse schools.

D. Anthon: Didn't get to the GL PTA meeting as it was during the study session. They have a pumpkin run in addition to other events coming up. Did attend the open house. Mrs. DeLaPlante gave me a tour and filled me in on things including their program for new students. Attended a mental health webinar where Anne Nowak was a panelist. Busy getting my costume ready for the GL trunk or treat.

P. Bellanti: Lots of senior events, volleyball senior game tonight, powder puff.

A. Battaglia: Attended the HS PTSA meeting via zoom. Ready for the Craft Fair, 96 current members. Bricks are filling up nicely, they are pleased with how it looks. Also attended senior things and varsity cheer took third today in their competition.

OPEN SESSION - Policy 1510

Called

PERSONNEL

Upon motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Jasen, the following resolution was offered for consent agenda on personnel items I and II.

I. Teaching and Administrative

A. Regular

2. Appointments

a. Tenure

RESOLVED: That, the *tenure appointment*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Kimberly Harrison		
-------------------	--	--

b. Regular

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Sarah Wright (<i>chg.</i>)		
------------------------------	--	--

e. Continuing Activities

Building Leadership Team, Glendale, 2024-2025

RESOLVED: That, *Building Improvement Team, Glendale*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Jennie Alessi	Joelle Vandewater	Amy Canetti
Phyllis Kacalski	Ryan Mislin	Joelle Loughrey
Chandra Kling	Leigh Ann Hildreth	Molly DiPirro
Ashley Kingston	Lauren Webber	

Building Leadership Team, Heritage Heights, 2024-2025

RESOLVED: That, *Building Improvement Team, Heritage Heights*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Margaret McDonald	Jill Grugnale	Jennifer Battel
Lindsey Perry	Tracy Langlotz	Chelsea Buttino
Jackie Mahoney	Heather Reichmuth	Kim Gugino
Patti Merrifield	Sheryl Burke	

PERSONNEL-continued...

- I. **Teaching and Administrative**
 A. **Regular**
 2. **Appointments**
 e. **Continuing Activities**

Building Leadership Team, Maplemere, 2024-2025

RESOLVED: That, *Building Improvement Team, Maplemere*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Julie Taboni	Sharrie Scully	Sarah Nowak
Carrie Bonghi	Robert Lynch	Rachel Campbell
Jessica Andriatch	Julie Roberto	Bonnie Lorentz
Karen Barrett	Susan Wattle	

Building Leadership Team, Willow Ridge, 2024-2025

RESOLVED: That, *Building Improvement Team, Willow Ridge*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Brooke Starke	Lauren Hiller	Brooke Bainbridge
Mariya Barnum	Michelle Iwankow	Mark Ramsay
Kiele Barbalate	Marisa Adams	Jamie Riddoch
Kristen Puff	Beverly McKim	

Building Leadership Team, Middle School, 2024-2025

RESOLVED: That, *Building Improvement Team, Middle School*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

David Etkin	Jennifer Bennett	Jennifer Heidinger
Kelly Corcoran	Nikki Hattersley	Jenine Nowakowski
Morris Fried	Patricia Reich	Cheryl Palmer
Dawn Kauderer-Kromer	Patti Wilemski	Karen Mitsopoulos

Building Leadership Team, High School, 2024-2025

RESOLVED: That, *Building Improvement Team, High School*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Lona LaChiusa	Mary Beth Bruce	Melissa Skurzewski
Mark Ricupito	Debra Spence	Almaris Miranda
Melissa Minorczyk	Kristen Piurek	Scott Harriger
Jeremy Murphy	Sheila Connors	Cassandra Solis
Lorraine Beaudet		

PERSONNEL-continued...

I. Teaching and Administrative

A. Regular

2. Appointments

e. Continuing Activities

Lighthouse Advisor, 2024-2025

RESOLVED: That, *Lighthouse Advisor*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Kelly Gravel	Danielle Papero	Kailee Humbert
Emma Mulcahy	Jessica Andriatch	Sarah Nowak
Elif Erman	Hannah Criscione	Karen Johel
Emily Balisteri	Ashlee Lipka	Lari MacPeek
Ajani Wall	Hailey Hoffman	Christine Utzig
Mary Beth Bruce		

g. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Rebecca Mansell	Diana Calandra	Melinda DiBernardo
Patricia Reich		

h. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Alyssa Braun	Jessica Sears	
--------------	---------------	--

i. Salary Adjustments

See Salary Adjustments- In-service Credits Memo dated October 15, 2024
 See Salary Adjustments - Graduate Hours Memo dated October 7, 2024

j. Co-Curricular Activities

j. Co-Curricular Activities, Elementary, 2024-2025 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *co-curricular activities, district*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Jessica Wheaton	Melissa Udy	Deborah Zehler
Kelly Gravel		

PERSONNEL-continued...

I. Teaching and Administrative

A. Regular

2. Appointments

j. Co-Curricular Activities

j. Co-Curricular Activities, Middle School, 2024-2025 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *co-curricular activities, high school*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Jennifer Bennett	Christina Ramsperger	Neal McLoughlin
Lari MacPeek	Jeremy Traverse	Lindsay Crimmins
Lisa Cheskin-Brzeczowski	Jason Scheer	Gavin Petrie
Nikki Hattersley	Joseph Quader	Thomas Smith
Gavin Petrie	Christopher Monaco	Michelle Dorobiala
Christopher Monaco	Michelle Dorobiala	Christopher Monaco
Jocelyn Canaday	Thomas Smith	Sarah Petrie
Jacqueline Stablewski	Sarah Petrie	Ryan Kaminski
Jacqueline Stablewski	Gavin Petrie	

j. Co-Curricular Activities, High School, 2024-2025 school year

Ashley Shutt	Rachel Carbrey	Scott Aquilino
Brian Turner	Lisa Feyes	Scot Harriger
Kristina Pinkowski	Heidi Mussachio	Scott Szabo
Heidi Mussachio	Scott Szabo	Debra Spence
Cory Morrow	Kimberly Harrison	Robert Cooke
Cory Morrow	Lori Depoint	Robert Cooke
Cory Morrow	Anna Stang	Dean Bavisotto
Jon Campolo	Jane Woloss	Carolyn Freeman
Deborah Zehler	Scott Harriger	James Marone
Rebecca Mansell	Jane Woloss	Melissa Minorczyk
Scott Aquilino		

j. Co-Curricular Activities, District, 2024-2025 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *co-curricular activities, district*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Stephen Budnack	Stephen Budnack	Jacqueline Wzientek
Jacqueline Wzientek	Cory Morrow	Nicole Kuss

PERSONNEL-continued...

I. Teaching and Administrative

A. Regular

2. Appointments

k. Building Chairperson

k. Building Chairperson, CSE, 2024-2025 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *Building Chairperson, CSE*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Lauren Hearn	Katelyn DiRosa	Samantha Kio
Lacie Cristofanelli	Elizabeth Sigurdson	

k. Building Chairperson, SST, 2024-2025 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *Building Chairperson, SST*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Lauren Hearn	Katelyn DiRosa	Samantha Kio
Lacie Cristofanelli	Elizabeth Sigurdson	

B. Substitutes

2. Appointments

a. Long Term Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *long term substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Christina L'Hommedieu	Florentina Berns	
-----------------------	------------------	--

b. Substitute teachers for 2024-2025 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

c. Student teachers for 2024-2025 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *student teachers* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools

PERSONNEL-continued...

I. Teaching and Administrative

C. Interscholastic Activities

1. Interscholastic Activities, High School, (FALL) 2024-2025

RESOLVED: That, the *interscholastic activities appointments, High School, Fall* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Thaddeus Geraci	Jake Kieffer	
-----------------	--------------	--

II. Service

A. Regular

1. Discontinuance

b. Resignation

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Teisha Mcelfresh	Sarah Jackson	Jason Sandekian
Tristan Koch	Sarah Bello	Theresa Moore
Ivan Carmichael	Anh Nguyen	

c. Termination

RESOLVED: That, the *termination* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Scott Hagle	Kimberly Amoia	
-------------	----------------	--

e. Abolition of Positions

RESOLVED: That, the *abolition of positions* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

- o As a result of lunches moving back into the elementary school cafeterias, some Food Service Helper positions at the elementary schools have been eliminated and re-purposed as Cafeteria Monitors. See HR memo dated September 19, 2024.

2. Appointments

a. Regular

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Anh Nguyen	Maria Erdt	Shweta Jain
Adele Eagan	Cassie Bone	Saydie Baldwin
June D'Orazio	Rachel Sullivan	Kyle Cliff
Diana Raymond	Theresa Benoit	

PERSONNEL-continued...

II. Service

A. Regular

2. Appointment

c. Permanent Civil Service

RESOLVED: That, the *permanent civil service* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Lorraine Beaudet		
------------------	--	--

e. Transfer

RESOLVED: That, the *transfer* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Linda Pollino	Carol Montanari	
---------------	-----------------	--

f. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Blythe Kaczmarczyk	Lisa Maurin	
--------------------	-------------	--

g. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 730 dated October 15, 2024** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Mariana Garcia Parearroyo	Marilena Zarcone	Mary Demmick (<i>chg</i>)
Douglas Zavodny		

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1 (Bellanti left early)
Carried	X				

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Jasen, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				

Sherry A. McNamara
Secretary, Board of Education
District Clerk
Sweet Home Central School District