



REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TUESDAY DECEMBER 10, 2024
"All Remsen students will Soar to Success"

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Allen, Tara Kennerknecht, Jeannie Scouten,
Stephanie Karis

MEMBERS ABSENT: Patrick Nolan

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy Jenny, John McKeown, Abigail Roberts, Kevin Roberts,
Jody Lamphere, Sanya Pelrah, Kevin Roberts, Kelly Runninger,
Kurt Crossett, Caryn Johnson, Joe Bessmer

Meeting called to Order by Mary Lou Allen, Board President at 6:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present

Mrs. Allen read the following statement: Public Participation- We are about to convene into the 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 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. As a reminder, discussion or comment about personnel matter, any district employee or any particular student is prohibited. Those concerns should be brought directly to the Superintendent.

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 or to the Superintendent, Mr. Timothy Jenny at any time.

No public participation this evening.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Tara Kennerknecht:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the minutes from meeting held on November 12, 2024, approve the agenda dated December 10, 2024; and be it further resolved that the Board of Education approve warrants for payment; accept Treasurer's Report, Revenue Status Report, Appropriation Status Report, and approve budget transfers."

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Elementary Principal's report given by Jody Lamphere included the following items:

- Upcoming events for the remainder of December
- Pre-k through 4th Grade Holiday Concert December 11th
- Picture Retake Day December 12th
- Soaring Students Celebration December 13th
- K-2 to Stanley Theatre to see The Polar Express which was at no cost of the school or students other than the transportation
- 5th through 12th Grade Band/Chorus Concert December 18th
- Holiday Spirit week December 16th-20th
- Staff meeting was held last week, where the staff got to play some fun team building holiday games and discussed Lockdown Drills
- Mr. Winghart presented technology opportunities for use in the classroom including drones and Legos.
- Parent-teacher Conferences were held Nov 18th and 19th, all parents were met in person or on the phone. Conferences went well and parents seemed to appreciate the time spent with their child's teacher
- Evening of Excellence was held November 19th, many students received awards and there was an outstanding attendance for the evening. Mrs. Lamphere stated she "enjoyed seeing the smiling faces of our students and proud parents as they walked up to receive their awards".
- Outstanding Educator Night was held at the Harts Hill Inn, we had Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Carpenter that were presented with awards. Mrs. Lamphere stated "Mrs. Allen's speech was by far the best! Both of these ladies are assets to our school and we are lucky to have them."
- Our third and fourth graders were able to attend a Symphony Orchestra November 26th at Clinton High School.
- Community Committee met December 2nd and planned the Holiday Spirit Week, a Holiday Luncheon for the staff and a One Book, One School event.

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

- Team Workshop was a holiday-themed team-building activity that allowed for staff to come together and connect.
- November 15th Mrs. Dineen took a group of seniors to the MVCC Open House to help better understand the opportunities MVCC has to offer and get ready for graduation.
- November 22-23rd Trent Jenny and Ellie Secor participated in the Senior High Area All-State. They earned this distinction by performing at a high level on their NYSSMA solos.
- November 26th the High School hosted their 4th Annual Thanksgiving Breakfast and Day of Gratitude.
- December 4th was the first marking period for honor roll celebrations.
- December 6th several seniors attended the School and Business Alliance (SABA) breakfast at OHM BOCES.
- The Culture and Climate Committee is collaborating and working to finalize the holiday traditions so that students can have a little extra fun before the winter break.

- The students are planning this year's Snowball which will be January 11th.
- Diversity Club will be attending their second Elevating Student Voices meeting at BOCES December 12th. 7th grade students are planning their culminating project.
- Drama Club will be beginning their rehearsals for the spring production of Fiddler on the Roof.
- The International Club brought 31 students to the Syracuse Crunch French Night hockey game November 15th. At their next meeting foreign exchange student, Marie Durdisova will share some of her culture, food and traditions.
- Mathletics placed third place in their November competition.
- There will be a 2025 Mock Trial being released the second week in December, once released the teams will meet to select roles.
- For the second quarter community service project the National Honor Society collected donations for Anita's Stevens Swan Humane Society.
- The Student Council was pleased that they topped their goal of 15 units of blood collected at the Blood Drive November 12th. The annual food drive was completed December 6th and are now planning an ornament decorating station for the students.

Athletic Directors Report given by Dale Denning. Dale Denning was absent due to home basketball game. Please refer to the packet.

Facilities Report given by Joe Bessmer include the following:

- The high school chairs have all be exchanged from old to new, currently still working on exchanging all elementary chairs and are over half way done with the exchange.
- The high school maintenance team have put in new shelving in the storage areas with new outlets for the cleaning machines so they are able to properly put away equipment.
- All bus garage door openers have been serviced with new belts and parts.
- Grounds cleared out the retention pond by the bus garage as well as servicing the equipment to prepare for the winter season.
- There has been meetings with four contractors at a pre bid meeting for the Capital Outlay Project for the new stage flooring at the Jr/Sr High School stage and all four contractors seemed very interested in the project.

Transportation Report given by Kurt Crossett included the following:

- Michael Scott gave his notice of resignation.
- There is still three bus driver positions open
- Next week starting December 16th there are 11 different trips scheduled. Ranging from taking elementary students to the high school all the way to Hamilton College.

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meetings held on November 25 and 26, 2024; December 3, 4, and 5, 2024.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Tara Kennerknecht:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the 2024-2025 Tax Collector’s report as submitted, and approve the return of unpaid taxes to Oneida County and Herkimer County.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

WHEREAS, the District seeks to purchase bus lift equipment; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.Y. General Municipal Law §104(2), the District is permitted to purchase products from the federal General Service Administration (the “GSA”) supply schedule 84, so long as the Board determines that the purchase will result in cost savings after consideration of all relevant factors; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the proposal from Vehicle Service Group dated October 18, 2024; and

WHEREAS, upon review of information compiled by the School District’s Administration and Architect, and all relevant factors, including but not limited to price, efficiency, maintenance costs, and operation costs, the Board has determined that the purchase of the Vehicle Service Group bus lift equipment through the GSA will result in cost savings for the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to purchase the Vehicle Service Group Bus lift equipment through the GSA; NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved as follows:

Section 1. The Board hereby determines that the purchase of the Vehicle Service Group bus lift equipment through the GSA will result in a cost savings for the District, and authorizes such purchase.

Section 2. The officers, employees and agents of the District are hereby authorized and directed for and in the name and on behalf of the District to do all acts and things required to procure the Vehicle Service Group Bus lift equipment through the GSA.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

First read of the following policy updates and revisions:

7601, 7068, 8300, 8401, 8500, 8501, 8502, 8503, 8504, 8505, 8506, 8600

For Information only: Regulations 7068.1, 8400.1, 8503.1, 8506.1, 8600.2

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Tara Kennerknecht:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare the following items as surplus and approve disposal of the same:

2 - Saber cutter walk behind floor scrubber

1 - Chariot 2 ride on floor scrubber

1 - Advance Matador 17-inch floor scrubber

XLS 8ft 10' fisher plow

York rake 3-point hitch broom

Husqvarna ST 330p snow blower

Buhler Farm King 3-point hitch 840 snow blower

2007 Chevy suburban.”

Discussion: Tara asked what we did to dispose of the above items. Mr. Jenny stated some items go to recycling and other things such as the suburban and fisher plow they will try to sell using a site like auction international.

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education Award General Construction Contract to the low bidder, Richard E. Alexander Co., Inc., of Marcy, NY in the following amount: Base Bid: \$90,240.00; Alternates GC-01 and GC-02: None Taken; Total Bid - \$90,240.00.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the final retirement notice of Mary Jane Keener, effective July 1, 2025.”

Discussion: Mr. Jenny stated he “would like to thank Ms. Kenner for all she has done for our students and she will very much be missed.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Stephanie Karis:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint current substitute teacher Sarah Helmer of Remsen, NY as a long-term substitute agriculture teacher effective January 13, 2025 at the daily substitute rate of \$150 per day.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education grant the request of Sandra Pineiro, for one full unpaid leave day on November 8, 2024.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Tara Kennerknecht:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the enclosed hourly rate wage adjustments, effective December 31, 2024, due to the New York State Minimum Wage Increase.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Tara Kennerknecht:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Michael Scott, effective December 3, 2024.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the final retirement notice of Scott Jones, effective July 1, 2025.”

Discussion: Mr. Jenny stated “Mr. Jones is another one that will be greatly missed, and would like to thank him for all he has done for our students and athletes. Mr. Jenny also stated that he hopes he will consider continuing to coach.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Stephanie Karis”

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Brooke Smith of Barneveld, NY as a substitute teacher effective December 11, 2024 at the daily substitute rate of \$110 per day.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Madelyn McCormack of Remsen, NY as a substitute teacher effective December 11, 2024 at the daily substitute rate of \$110 per day, pending fingerprint clearance.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Tara Kennerknecht:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Jeffrey Morris as the 7th grade boys’ modified basketball coach for the 2024-2025 year.”

Discussion: Mr. Jenny stated it is outstanding he took this position, Mr. Morris coached for 10+ years at another district and he has built a great relationship with the 7th graders.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Tara Kennerknecht:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Caryn Johnson as the 8th grade boys’ modified basketball coach for the 2024-2025 year.”

Discussion: Mr. Jenny stated “We appreciate you coming Caryn, she also has coached a community boys’ basketball team and built a good relationship with them.”

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Information & Correspondence

Pre-K through 4 Holiday Concert December 11th and grades 5 through 12 Holiday Concert December 18th. Joe Bessmer will have 2 people out to help direct parking along with handicap parking available out front on December 11th.

Soaring to Success- Board of Education Roundtable Remarks:

- Tara Kennerknecht- Great work by everyone, all students and staff are happy and keep up the good work.
- Jeannie Scouten- Loves the Spirit Week coming up and that the kids really seem to also love it. She stated that she has noticed there is always a lot going on at the High school and that is great. She is so excited for Fiddler on the Roof, it is one of her favorites. Also gave lots of credit to Kurt Crossett for how well he has been handling being understaffed with the bus drivers and wishes him good luck.
- Stephanie Karis- Seconds what Tara stated about everyone's great job and how happy everyone is. Congratulated Trent Jenny and Ellie Secor for the All County Achievement and also thanked Kurt for all he has done to keep all the students safe during their transportation.
- Mrs. Allen- She sees great things happening in the elementary, when she comes in she always sees the kids happy and smiling.
- Tim Jenny- First of all congrats to Mrs. Allen for the outstanding Genesis speech she gave, she had everyone laughing, it was great to see that Lauren Carpenters family was able to make it up to see her get her award. Welcome Abigail Roberts as the District clerk and Secretary to the Superintendent. Welcome back to John McKeown and Merry Christmas to everyone. Here's to a great 2025 ahead!

Motion to go into Executive Session at 6:32 pm by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Stephanie Karis for:

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.

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion out of executive session by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten at 7:04 pm.

Vote: 4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Stephanie Karis to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm.

Vote: 4 yes 0 no