

SWEET HOME CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025

APPROVED
by
BOARD OF EDUCATION
APRIL 22, 2025

MINUTES

A meeting of the Sweet Home Board of Education was held on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at the Norman Vergils Community Center. President of the Board, Mrs. Battaglia, called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

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

PRESENT: Danyelle Anthon, Amy Battaglia, Peter Bellanti, Marianne Jasen (arrived @ 6:12 pm), Scott M. Johnson, Brian Laible, Dirk Rabenold, Mayesha Subaita (student ex-officio)

ABSENT:

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

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1 (Jasen)
Carried	X				

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

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Mr. Bellanti, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the meeting was adjourned to executive session at 6:04 pm for matters related to the employment history of a particular individual and contracts.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1 (Jasen)
Carried	X				

Upon motion made by Mr. Bellanti, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered to come out of executive session at 6:24 pm.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

RESOLVED: That, the agenda set forth for the regular Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, March 18, 2025 is hereby adopted in its entirety.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

RESOLVED: That, the minutes of the voting meeting held Tuesday, February 11, 2025 be waived and are hereby adopted in their entirety.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Letter from Linda LaScala
- 2. The Board received various emails from community members.
- 3. Email from Melissa McCarty
- 4. Mrs. Jasen noted that Board members have received emails from the community regarding bussing.
- 5. Mr. Rabenold heard from a parent who felt the HS/MS students riding the bus together was not being addressed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- A. Fall Scholar Athlete Recognition**
The Board of Education recognized fall scholar athletes at the study session on Tuesday, March 11, 2025.
- B. Superintendent Update**
Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, March 11, 2025.
- C. Fall Scholar Athlete Recognition**
The Board of Education recognized fall scholar athletes at the voting meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.
- D. Smart Schools Investment Plan – Public Hearing**
Donald Feldmann, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Plant Services, held a public hearing at the voting meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.
- E. 25/26 Budget Update**
Donald Feldmann, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Plant Services, gave an update to the Board of Education at the voting meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.
- F. Superintendent Update**
Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the voting meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.

OPEN SESSION: AGENDA TOPICS – Policy 1510

1. Cassiday Cappello – MM parent, working mom, privilege to be here. Hoping to be an advocate for those who cannot attend. Addressing changes to start/stop times. Am an advocate of public education. Where is consideration for safety of young students? Walking distance is not as crow flies. Creating perfect scenario for kids to get hit by cars, picked up by predators. They will be crossing streets without adult, it might be dark, is it well lit? Work in media, know how quickly things get out there, worry about how this looks for us. Work strange schedule, can't walk them to school. This is not realistic, young kids are not developmentally ready for this walk. It's 2025, see what is happening in the world. Beg you to reconsider this plan. Common sense should prevail.

2. Melissa Hockenberry – Thank you for letting us speak tonight. WR parent, within walking radius. Have 2 kids in preschool and will be greatly impacted. Understand fiscal responsibility but not at expense of our children. This will be a great liability for the district when a child is harmed, if not killed. Minutes expressed that people had chance to respond and if it's important to them they would, that is extremely privileged. I'm a single mom & have to work. Now I have to worry about safety of my kids, and pay for before school care. I'm a taxpayer like every other. After scrutinizing the budget I see the district has a responsibility to bus students to out of district schools but not to our kindergarteners and pre-schoolers?

3. Rebecca Rogers – WR parent. I have safety concerns, understand changes have to occur and you can't please everyone. Safety should be at top of the list. And how info was communicated, we were told walking radius was last resort – at pta meeting. Then we get an email a few weeks later – and then the vote was pushed thru during snow days. We are dealing with how to find someone to watch our kids. Heard we were getting advance notice – but questions remain unanswered. Just for Kids is 10k for 2 kids for the year. It's cheaper to go to St. Chris but Transportation form is due April 1. My kids are now not allowed off bus unless I'm standing there. But they can walk home? On website - FAQ pt. #5, walking radius is .25 miles. will increase after school runs. After school for MS and HS is more important than our little kids attending school?

4. Linda Huang -WR, parent of 2. Have great concerns about walking. It's not safe. Love SH. Love how district handled COVID. Recent decision didn't sit well. There was not enough communication. Received 2 Emails – Jan 15 & 17 and PTO meeting. No text, No paperwork sent home. Don't have time to watch news. No safety provisions in place. Asking pre-k kids to walk in Buffalo winters. Have started two petitions, one is for walking, one for start/stop times. Asking MS kids to get up before parents get up for work, how is fair that? Please reconsider.

5. Gina Keddle – WR parent – 2 sons. Lots of concerns, this seemed abrupt. It was mentioned as last resort at PTO meeting. Feel blindsided. There are safety concerns and the burden is on working parents. Sharing photos of local sidewalks after snow began to melt, lots of ice remaining. Husband in touch with Supt. And not getting clear definition of the why. Is it because of driver shortage, what are we doing with \$ to reallocate toward safety, sidewalks, crossing guards (Only at one of main entrances), for back of school. sidewalks to be plowed. And the time changes of 30 minutes. No answers, If not reconsidering, what are you doing to address the concerns. We are taxpayers like everyone else and this is being taken away from us.

6. Kim Perini – 1 child at MM, 2 at MS next year. Against all these recommendations. Question for elems, what time is early release? Please don't proceed, this was a rushed vote. Least restrictive environment for MS bus, don't put MS/HS kids on same bus. Accommodations will not be met if I drive. Bullying and bad influences for kids. Friend's daughter given vape and weed by HS student. Consider a re-vote, so many oppose.

OPEN SESSION: AGENDA TOPICS – Policy 1510

7. Jamie Mancine – GL parent – parents here spoke well tonight. I'd be remiss if I didn't stand here and urge you to reconsider. Some additional points – added stress on staff at elems. Love GL and SH. They are concerned for our kids walking. It's chãos at drop off time and this will make it worse. Not well thought out. if we can have a public fórum on cell phones, why not on this. Urge you to revote. Privilege to be here tonight. Have 3 kids with special needs so I can't always make it here.

8. Carin Silsby – MM/MS parent – Grateful for educational experiences at MM and MS where teachers and admin work together for benefit of kids. Both schools prioritize leadership development, essential skills for the future. Important that adults follow suit. BOE is the voice of the district, true leadership is not just making decisions but collaboration with stakeholders. Communication should be open and honest. Frustrating since teacher negotiations, lack of transparency & communication from BOE & Supt. Decisions are now made behind closed doors, concerns are not addressed openly. Those who raise concerns are silenced. We keep making the News but not for the right reasons. Tired of feeling unheard, every stakeholder deserves a voice. We need leadership that values transparency, fairness & collaboration, and a board that listens to and respects the community. Tonight I ask what kind of district do you want to be. We are here because we care and are asking for a seat at the table.

9. Jessica Stephens – parent of 2 SH students – Our music program is dismal. We have one Orchestra and one Band teacher for 4 elementary buildings. They meet once a week. At the middle school, it's once every 10 days. Daughter attended All County last week, most don't know what this is. She was the only elementary student that made it. There were buses of kids from other districts. Chorus teachers don't have a schedule that allows them to work with kids. Teachers are stretched thin with current level of funding. Athletics are funded as they should be, but we are long overdue to fund music properly. Plenty of PR for athletics, not so music.

10. Christine Steward – President of SH Music Parents Assoc. – Spoke with Admin, thank you for taking the time. Ask that you focus on funding the music program like other programs are funded. Especially at the elementary level. Student to teacher ratio is overwhelming. They spend a lot of time preparing for rehearsals. HS teachers also assist in this. If you want this to grow at the elementary level, the space needs to grow as well. Parents are not happy with the shift to the same hours at the elementary schools but it really helps the music program. Maybe we could look at grants – we could use 2.5 more positions.

11. Jonathan Makeley – resident – What will the consolidation of programs look like, hopefully there will be further communication to the public on this.

12. Jessica Gentner – MM teacher – MM has the highest student/faculty ratio, and is a very high performing school, including outside of SH. Why are we consolidating, we also have the highest number of Special Education and ENL students.

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, H, J, K, L, M, N, and O.

A. Rules for Use of Optical Scan Voting Machines

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting of the Board of Education of the Sweet Home Central School District the following rules were adopted:

Rules for use of Optical Scan Voting Machines and the Submission of Questions or Propositions to be Placed Thereon:

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**A. Rules for Use of Optical Scan Voting Machines**

1. The form of ballot and the voting procedure shall conform substantially with the operational requirements of the optical scan voting machines to be used by the District, and with any requirements prescribed by the Election Law of the State of New York for use of optical scan voting machines applicable to school districts.
2. The optical scan voting machines shall be those supplied by the Erie County Board of Elections, but if voting machines are not available from that source, voting machines may be obtained from some other source satisfactory to the Board of Education.
3. For each optical scan voting machine used, two (2) qualified voters of the District shall be appointed by the Board of Education to act as Election Inspectors.
4. The Board of Education shall pay all expenses necessary or incidental to the use or rental, as the case may be, of optical scan voting machines, including but not limited to the operation, calibration, maintenance and securing thereof and the training of the Election Inspectors in the use thereof.
5. Immediately before any optical scan voting machine is used at meetings, elections or votes, annual, special or however otherwise denominated or designated, the Election Inspectors shall examine and calibrate it and see that the machine is, in all respects, in proper condition for use. The Election Inspectors shall also ensure that the configuration of the voting area provides for voter privacy.
6. Each optical scan voting machine shall remain locked against voting, and the paper ballots cast through the optical scan voting machine shall be secured and retained, for the period of thirty days following the meeting, election or vote at which same has been used and as much longer as may be necessary or advisable because of existing or threatened contest over the result of the meeting, election or vote, except as otherwise provided by the Education Law of the State of New York.
7. Any proposition to be voted upon, when presented other than by the Board of Education, must be set forth in such manner as to conform to the requirements of the Education Law of the State of New York, and must be presented in a petition bearing the signatures of twenty-five (25) qualified voters, or 5% of the number of qualified voters voting in the previous annual vote - whichever is greater, of the School District (except where the number of signatures is specified in said Education Law in which case the provisions of the Education Law shall apply) and filed with the Board of Education not less than sixty (60) days before the meeting, election or vote, unless otherwise prescribed by law.
8. Any question or proposition to be presented by the Board of Education must be set forth in a resolution adopted at a meeting of the Board not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting, election or vote, except as to a question or proposition required by law to be stated in the published notice of the meeting, election or vote, in which event such resolution must be adopted at a meeting of the Board not less than fifty (50) days before the meeting, election or vote, except that the fifty (50) day time limitation shall not apply to a special meetings called under the provisions of Section 2007 subdivision 3, paragraph a. of the Education Law of the State of New York.

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**A. Rules for Use of Optical Scan Voting Machines**

9. In the event that any question or proposition to be voted upon is too lengthy to be placed upon the ballot to be used in conjunction with the optical scan voting machines, an abstract of such question or proposition shall be placed thereon in such form as may be prescribed by the Board of Education of the District, concisely stating the purpose and effect and setting forth and indicating generally and briefly the subject matter of the question or proposition. Wherever the question is excessively lengthy as above described, a sufficient number of copies thereof shall be available at the voting place in order that each voter may be furnished with a copy thereof before voting.
10. Except as may be otherwise required by law, the District Clerk shall have sole discretion in determining when optical scan voting machines shall be used. Paper ballots may be used if so determined by the District Clerk, including under circumstances where optical scan voting machines are unavailable or not operational, in which case the use of paper ballots shall be consistent with applicable legal requirements, as well as consistent with these Rules to the extent practicable as determined by the District Clerk.

and be it further...

B. Annual Public Hearing and District Vote – Policy 1610

RESOLVED: THAT NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING AND DISTRICT VOTE OF THE SWEET HOME CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AMHERST AND TONAWANDA, NEW YORK, BE GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting and election of the Sweet Home Central School District, Erie County, New York, will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 from 7:00 am (EDST) to 9:00 pm (EDST) in the High School Gymnasium, located at the south end of the high school for the purpose of electing two members of the Board of Education, voting on the budget of the District for the 2025-26 fiscal year, and voting on any other proposition(s) authorized by law and the rules of the Board to be voted on at such time.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that the election of members of the Board shall be held to fill two (2) at-large positions on the Board. The candidates receiving the highest vote totals shall be elected to a five-year term (commencing July 1, 2025 and ending on June 30, 2030.)

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that voting at the Annual Vote shall consist of the Board election, voting on the following propositions, and voting on any other propositions authorized by law and the rules of the Board to be voted on at such time:

PROPOSITION NO. 1 (2025-26 BUDGET)

RESOLVED, that the basic budget for the Sweet Home Central School District of Amherst and Tonawanda ("the District") for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, as presented by the Board of Education, is hereby approved and adopted, and the required funds therefor are hereby appropriated and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that applications for absentee ballots may be obtained from the Office of the School District Clerk, 1901 Sweet Home Road, Amherst, New York or on the District website at www.sweethomeschools.org. A list of persons to whom absentee ballots have been issued will be

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**B. Annual Public Hearing and District Vote – Policy 1610**

available in the Office of the School District Clerk on each of the five days prior to the election during regular office hours Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Completed applications for absentee ballots must be received by the School District Clerk's Office on or before May 12, 2025 if the absentee ballot is to be mailed to the voter for completion. Applications may be filed on or before May 19, 2025 if the absentee ballot is to be picked up by the voter at the District Clerk's Office. Completed absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk's Office by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the vote.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that military voters who are qualified voters of the School District may apply for a military ballot by requesting an application from the District Clerk or via the District website, www.sweethomeschools.org. For a military voter to be issued a military ballot, the District Clerk must have received a valid ballot application no later than 5:00 pm on April 24, 2025. In a request for a military ballot application or ballot, the military voter may indicate their preference for receiving the application or ballot by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that the petitions nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education must be filed with the Clerk of the District between the hours of 8:00 a.m. (EDST) and 4:00 p.m. (EDST) no later than Monday, April 21, 2025. Each petition shall be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District, or 2% of the number of qualified voters voting in the 2024 annual vote - whichever is greater, and shall state the name and residence of the candidate, and shall state the residence of each signer.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that optical scan voting machines will be used to record the votes on the Board election, the budget, and the other proposition(s) presented, pursuant to the District's Rules for the Use of Voting Machines and the Submission of Questions of Propositions to be Placed Thereon. Printed copies of the Rules are available at the Office of the District Clerk located at 1901 Sweet Home Road, Amherst, New York.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that copies of the Budget for the school year 2025 – 2026 will be available to any taxpayer of the District from May 6, 2025 until and including the date of the election, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, at any school of the district between the hours of 8:00 a.m. (EDST) and 3:30 p.m. (EDST).

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that the Board of Education meetings in May will be held on May 6, 2025 and May 13, 2025.

For publication during the weeks of: April 3, 2025, April 17, 2025, May 1, 2025, and May 15, 2025.

and be it further...

C. 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

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

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

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 March 3, 2025.

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 March 3, 2025.

and be it further...

D. 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, the Budget Transfer Report, and the Extra-Classroom Activity Report as provided.

and be it further...

E. 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...

F. Bids – Policy 5410**1. Commercial Printing Envelopes and Forms, Specialty Paper & Other**

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, award the commercial printing envelopes and forms bid #2025-26-14 to the following vendors at the unit price offered per item specified for a total bid of **\$12,911.00**.

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**F. Bids – Policy 5410****1. Commercial Printing Envelopes and Forms, Specialty Paper & Other**

Orffeo Printing & Imaging	\$11,877.00
The Copy Store	\$495.00
Zenger Group	\$539.00
Total	\$12,911.00

2. Commercial Printing School Calendar

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education award the commercial printing school calendar bid #2025-26-13 to **Orffeo Printing & Imaging** in the amount of **\$9,574.00**.

3. Commercial Printing – Sweet Home Source Magazine

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education award the commercial printing “Sweet Home Source Magazine bid #2025-26-15 to **Orffeo Printing & Imaging** for a total bid of **\$15,858.00**.

and be it further...

G. Request for Proposal – Athletic Trainer

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education award the Athletic Trainer Services RFP for the 2025-2026 school year to **Excelsior Orthopaedics** in the amount of **\$37.00/hr.** for an approximate total annual cost of \$59,200.00. This is the first year of a three year proposal.

and be it further...

H. Request for Proposal – Internal Auditor

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the District Audit Committee, the Board of Education award the Internal Auditor RFP for the 2025-2026 school year to **Tronconi, Segarra & Associates, LLP (TSA)** in the amount of **\$15,375.00**. This is the first year of a five year proposal.

and be it further...

I. Request for Proposal – External Auditor

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the District Audit Committee, the Board of Education award the Internal Auditor RFP for the 2025-2026 school year to **The Bonadio Group, LLC** in the amount of **\$29,000.00**. This is the first year of a five year proposal.

and be it further...

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**J. Collective Bargaining Agreement - SHASA**

RESOLVED: That, the Superintendent of Schools be and is hereby authorized to execute a four year agreement with the Sweet Home Administrators & Supervisors Association to be effective July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2029 and to provide for the payment of salaries and terms of conditions of employment as agreed upon in materials submitted to the Board of Education, and be it further

RESOLVED: That, such an agreement be in the form approved by the district's legal counsel and the Superintendent of Schools with wording necessary to carry out the agreements reached by negotiations.

and be it further...

K. Temporary Grant of Easement to the Town of Amherst

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve the grant of easement to the Town of Amherst for the purpose and at the location as presented.

and be it further...

L. Revised Policy – Policy 1410 – Second Reading

Board of Education By-Law #1410 states that "Board of Education policy and rules and by-laws shall be adopted, amended and/or suspended...only when the addition, amendments or suspension is first introduced in writing and is subsequently moved and seconded at a public meeting at least 27 calendar days prior to the time when such adoption, amendment and/or suspension may be voted upon."

At the regular Board of Education meeting held on February 11, 2025 the Superintendent of Schools recommends the Board of Education accept the first reading of the following revised policies.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following revised policies as provided in the February 11, 2025 presentation.

a.	5661 – Wellness
b.	5681 – School Safety Plans
c.	5863 – Fire & Emergency Drills, Bomb Threats, & Bus Emergency Drills
d.	6213 – Incidental Teaching
e.	7220 – Graduation Options/Early Graduation/Accelerated Programs
f.	7223 – Advanced Coursework

and be it further...

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**M. Revised Policy – Policy 1410 – First Reading**

Board of Education By-Law #1410 states that “Board of Education policy and rules and by-laws shall be adopted, amended and/or suspended...only when the addition, amendments or suspension is first introduced in writing and is subsequently moved and seconded at a public meeting at least 27 calendar days prior to the time when such adoption, amendment and/or suspension may be voted upon.”

At the regular Board of Education meeting held on March 18, 2025 the Superintendent of Schools recommended the Board of Education accept the first reading of the following revised policies.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following revised policies as provided in the March 18, 2025 presentation.

a.	3421 – Title IX and Sex Discrimination
b.	7554 – Equal Educational Opportunities
c.	7555 – Educational Services for Married/Pregnant Students – <i>recommend to delete</i>

and be it further...

N. Smart Schools Preliminary Investment Plan

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, will approve the Sweet Home Schools preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan as presented.

and be it further...

O. BOCES Contract

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Sweet Home Central School District hereby agrees to enter into the attached contract with the Erie 1 BOCES for a five-year period commencing on April 9, 2025 to authorize the Western New York Regional Information Center to furnish certain computer services to the District pursuant to Education Law 1950 (4) (JJ) for an amount not to exceed \$201,030.00 and authorizes 60 monthly payments to be made to Erie 1 BOCES in the amount not to exceed \$3,350.50 per month.

Be it further RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Sweet Home Central School District hereby authorizes the Board President or the District Clerk to execute the contract on behalf of the District.

and be it further...

P. Budget Transfer - Policy 5140

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and consistent with Board of Education policy, the Board of Education approves the attached budget transfers.

NEW BUSINESS-continued...

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

M. Subaita: Musical wrapped up, evaluated by Shea's, semifinalist for Kenny Award. Thanks to cast & crew. Movie night in Aud April 2, right after school. Thanks to Dr. Ginestre for letting us use the Aud, and Mrs. Bruce for popcorn & posters. This is a free event and students will only need a ride home. Student Gov't toured Central Kitchen, discussed composting, and a salad bar. Gambling awareness this month, led by Mr. Izydorczak. DEI committee had henna station in HS. NHS & Student Gov't will be volunteering at HH STEM night. March 21 celebrating Down's Syndrome day wearing mismatched socks. Wall in HS honoring top 10 seniors every quarter. Hoping it encourages younger students to do their best.

M. Jasen: Special Education dept. and related services do a wonderful job for our students. Musical was great. Attended the craft fair, good attendance & lots of vendors.

S. Johnson: Attended multicultural night at WR – congrats to all for a great job. Variety of foods from different countries. First responder training for electric buses last week. 3 buses have arrived. Training was very comprehensive about safety features, & emergency personnel had good input.

D. Feldmann: NYS mandate beginning 2027 bus purchases need to be Zero Emission Buses, complete fleet by 2035. One NYS budget proposal will allow for districts to ask for extensions if it passes.

B. Laible: Congrats to students & parents for WR multicultural night. Different foods, dancing. MS club & art show at Audubon library. My dad is retiring after 17 years at SH, prior to that almost 40 at GM. First time he won't be working. I'd like to recognize all our front line workers, drivers, monitors, they are sometimes the first and last ones that kids see during their school day. Heart & soul of the district.

D. Rabenold: Thank your dad for us. People are the most important piece of the puzzle at SH. Attended the HH PTA meeting, hosting a STEM night on 3/19, family night and other events coming up. Some conversations around safety and bussing. Happy to see participation at our meetings. Was out on St. Patrick's day, ran into a young person who completed driver training at another district. Works for his schedule as he is a bartender.

D. Anthon: GL has a McTeacher night 3/20. Shout out to all the students who participated in the SABA ice show today. Mostly volunteer organization, get your skates on, get the kids skates on and teach them a routine. Wonderful opportunity for our kids.

P. Bellanti: Attended the musical, it was wonderful. Attended WR & HS PTA meetings. WR multicultural night. HS had a basket raffle at the craft fair, gearing up to review scholarship applications. Open dialogue at WR regarding bussing, times etc. Attended a legislative meeting in Albany, talked about all the issues. Friday had a legislative breakfast at KenTon CTE center with area legislators and E1B leadership. Toured facility, kids spoke. SH's Nick Schmitt talked about the electrical program he is in and he has 2 job opportunities upon graduation.

OPEN SESSION – Policy 1510

1. Kim Perini – My kid went to private school for year and a half. We are catering to private schools over our kids. We should have more buses for public schools, and contract out for privates. The bus will be packed with HS kids. MS kids will have to get up 2 hours earlier.

2. Linda Huang – Has bldg. use committee considered neighborhood pickup. Williamsville is moving to this and they are door to door, and so is OP door to door. Why are we not considering that.

OPEN SESSION – Policy 1510 – continued...

3. Melissa Hockenberry – Reiterate need for re-vote. Reconsider communication method. Can only imagine how many parents will be blindsided. Not thought through. Disingenuous of BOE when reached out to, didn't get answers. Important to do public session to let parents speak out, will be all over news. would hate for it to be on national news. We will not stop. Would you let your 4-5 year old walk to school unattended, in winter, in dark in am. There are predators in district. Forcing parents to choose between food on table and safety of kids. Callously thrown back in our hands. Please consider a revote.

4. Emily Mielcarek – WR ENL teacher – as a strong advocate for multilingual students, I am discouraged by how it was sent out. Was it accessible to those families. are they considered in how we communicate this out. Since we pride ourselves on our DEI initiative, we need to consider them when these decisions made.

5. Christine Steward – here on behalf of HS musical, excited for the production. Kids were evaluated by Shea's today. It's an age appropriate and very funny show. Encourage you all to come out. Princess theme, Princess and the Pea. Wonderful night out

6. Cassiday Cappello – Are we considering bus stops as opposed to door to door. Why is this being considered. As a parent all I care about is are my kids safe. Why are we not taking kids' safety as seriously as new logo. Feel like common sense is lacking. The world, the sidewalks are not safe. Our voices represent a bunch of parents who couldn't be here tonight.

PERSONNEL

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

I. Teaching and Administrative**A. Regular****1. Discontinuance****b. Resignation**

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Rachel Carbrey		
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2. Appointments**e. Continuing Activities****Lighthouse Advisor, 2024-2025**

RESOLVED: That, *Lighthouse Advisor*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Ajani Wall	Hailey Hoffman (remove)	
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g. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Heidi Muck	Shannon Shepherd	Megan Hamm
Brittany Weber	Michelle Miller	Gina Nucherenno
Richard Lowe	Michael Morse	Danielle Kawa

PERSONNEL-continued...I. Teaching and AdministrativeA. Regular2. Appointmentsh. Reinstatement from leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Brittany Weber	Elizabeth Matisz	Kathleen May
Megan Hamm		

B. Substitutes2. Appointmenta. Long Term Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *long term substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Pamela Brennan	Christina L'Hommedieu	Haile Casto
Olivia Degregorio	Kianna Norman	Jackson Brookens-Coleman

b. Substitute teachers for 2024-2025 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** 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. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

C. Interscholastic Activities1. Interscholastic Activities, High School, (SPRING) 2024-2025

RESOLVED: That, the *interscholastic activities appointments, High School, Spring* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Tyler John	Kelly Corcoran	
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PERSONNEL-continued...**II. Service****A. Regular****1. Discontinuance****a. Retirement**

RESOLVED: That, the *retirement* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Michael Laible	Marjorie Kuss	Dane Truesdell
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b. Resignation

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Jennifer Trybuskiewicz	Cynthia McCormick	Tahmina Rahman
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c. Termination

RESOLVED: That, the *termination* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Thomas Buckley III	Rachel Sullivan-Downen	
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II. Service**A. Regular****2. Appointments****a. Regular**

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Cynthia McCormick	Rachel Ferguson	Paul Siemucha
Mark Kramer	Joseph Cheesman (chg)	Yvonne Bell
Krystle Kipp	Frank Butry	Jennifer Smardz

e. Transfer

RESOLVED: That, the *transfer* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Barbara Sweet	Adam Rehard	
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f. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Dorothy MacVittie	Haile Casto	Lisa Jones
Katherine Martinez	Sharon Tuzzolino	

PERSONNEL-continued...II. ServiceA. Regular2. Appointmentsg. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Carol Montanari	Katherine Meldrum	Jeffery Lawson
Lisa Jones		

h. Salary Adjustment/Confidential Employee Agreements

RESOLVED: That, the *salary adjustment & confidential employee agreements* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Falon Derion		
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B. Substitutes2. Per Diem Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *per diem substitutes* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 735 dated March 18, 2025** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Mr. Bellanti, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	7	No	0	Absent	0
Carried	X				



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