

SWEET HOME CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026

APPROVED
BY
BOARD OF EDUCATION
June 16, 2026

MINUTES

A meeting of the Sweet Home Board of Education was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, in the Norman C. Vergils Community Center. President of the Board, Mr. Bellanti, called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Mr. Bellanti led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENT: Peter Bellanti, Scott M. Johnson, Dirk Rabenold, Brian Laible, Amy Battaglia, Danyelle Anthon

ABSENT: Marianne Jasen

Upon motion made by Mr. Laible, 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
Carried	X				

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Mr. Laible, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the meeting was adjourned to executive session at 6:05 pm for matters related to the employment history of multiple individuals.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				

Upon motion made by Mr. Laible, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered to come out of executive session at 6:38 pm. Action was not taken during the executive session.

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. Laible, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLVED: That, the agenda set forth for the regular Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, May 12, 2026 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. Laible, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLVED: That, the reading of the minutes the Board of Education meetings held Tuesday, April 21, 2026 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

1. School building invitations for their Leadership Days.
2. Invitation for Challenge to Change.
3. Thank you note for White Whiskers Senior Dog Sanctuary.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**A. Superintendent Update**

Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the study session on Tuesday, May 5, 2026.

B. Athlete Spotlight

Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, and the Board of Education, recognized exceptional athletes at the voting meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

C. Award-Winning Teachers

Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, and the Board of Education, recognized our award-winning teachers at the voting meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

D. Superintendent Update

Michael Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, gave an update to the Board of Education at the voting meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

OPEN SESSION: Agenda Topics – Policy 1510

None

NEW BUSINESS

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

A. Special Education**1. Class placements for 2025-2026 – 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 2025-2026 – 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 2025-2026 placements for students with disabilities be approved as recommended in a memorandum to Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, dated April 27, 2026.

2. Preschool class placements for 2025-2026 – 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 2025-2026 placements for preschool students with disabilities be approved as recommended in a memorandum to Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools, dated April 27, 2026.

and be it further...

B. 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-Curricular Account Report as provided.

and be it further...

C. Bids – Policy - 5410**1. Health Medical Supplies Bid**

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, award the Health Medical Supplies bid 2026-27-17 to the following vendors at the unit price offered per item specified for a total bid of **\$29,622.44.**

Agni	799.84
Henry Schein	11,079.33
Medco	7,712.17
Pyramid	862.94

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**C. Bids – Policy - 5410****1. Health Medical Supplies Bid**

Quill	957.12
School Health	3,604.59
School Nurse	3,924.89
UniPak	681.56
TOTAL:	\$29,622.44

2. Athletic and Physical Education Supplies Bid

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, award the Athletics and Physical Education Supplies bid #2026-27-8 to the following vendors at the unit price offered per item specified for a total bid of **\$95,325.47**.

ADA	216.00
BSN Sports	24,422.39
Lancaster Archery	5,932.13
Laux Sports	25,901.24
Longstreth Sporting Goods, LLC	1,216.02
MFAC	758.00
Pyramid School Products	9,415.16
Riddell	169.35
S&S Worldwide	3,357.56
School Health Corp	439.18
Sportsman	22,159.99
Varsity Spirit	1,338.45
TOTAL:	\$95,325.47

3. Art Teachers and General Classroom Supplies Bid

RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, award the Art Teacher and General Classroom Supplies bid #2026-27-7 to the following vendors at the unit price offered per item specified for a total bid of **\$27,113.56**

Blick	5,789.92
Cascade	1,655.74
Kurtz	1,814.40
National Arts	1,400.38
Pyramid	4,706.57
Quill	121.18
School Specialty	5,988.87
Staples	1,794.51
WB Mason	3,841.99
TOTAL:	\$27,113.56

and be it further...

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**D. Municipal Cooperation Agreement – RIC ONE Risk Operations Center**

WHEREAS, four (4) BOCES (Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES, Albany-Schoharie-Schenectady-Saratoga BOCES, Madison-Oneida BOCES and Broome-Tioga BOCES) have collaborated and entered into an Article 5 General Municipal Law intermunicipal arrangement for the purpose of improving vendor management and data security and privacy practices for school districts and/or BOCES statewide known as the RIC ONE Risk Operations Center (the "ROC");

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Sweet Home Central School District, through its affiliation with a locally based Regional Information Center, participates with the ROC and desires, for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, to authorize the ROC and its attorneys to negotiate Data Privacy Agreements and related exhibits (DPAs) with vendors and third-party contractors that include the requirements of, and compliance with, New York State Education Law Section 2-d and Part 121 Regulations (collectively, "Ed Law 2d") related to student personally identifiable information (PII) and certain Teacher and Principal APPR data;"

WHEREAS, the ROC also partners with NYSED, the Access4Learning Student Data Privacy Consortium (SDPC) and The Education Cooperative (TEC), to negotiate and approve Ed Law 2-d compliant DPAs;

WHEREAS, the DPAs are presented to school districts and/or BOCES for final execution and do not require the expenditure of funds beyond those budgeted;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Sweet Home Central School District Board of Education authorizes the use of DPAs negotiated by the RIC ROC and its attorneys, consistent with its needs and the needs of its students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sweet Home Central School District reserves to itself the right to make determinations regarding the use of such DPAs and the software and/or technology resources to which they relate and to consult with its own legal counsel to review any specific issues or concerns before executing any DPA.

and be it further...

E. Acceptance of Donation

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation of 2 (two) "Supply a Teacher" kits from Kids in Need Foundation, courtesy of Burger King Foundation, as Maplemere Elementary was chosen to receive these supply kits that include pencils, folders, paper, and other school supplies equaling a total value of \$500.

and be it further...

NEW BUSINESS-continued...**F. School District Calendars, 2026-2027 – Policy 8410****1. District Attendance Calendar**

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the 2026-2027 district attendance calendar as presented.

2. District Payroll Calendar

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the 2026-2027 district payroll calendar as presented.

3. District Holiday Calendar

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the 2026-2027 district holiday calendar as presented.

and be it further...

G. RESOLUTION APPROVING MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

May 12, 2026

WHEREAS, the Sweet Home Central School District ("District") and the Sweet Home Service Employees' Association ("Association") have engaged in discussions regarding the placement of Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy positions into the Association; and

WHEREAS, those discussions have resulted in a Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA") setting forth the agreed upon terms and conditions of employment for these positions; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the MOA and has determined that it is appropriate for these positions to be placed in the Association's bargaining unit as they best align with the community of positions presently represented by the Association;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the District and the Association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is authorized and directed to execute the MOA on behalf of the District and to take actions necessary to implement its terms.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

S. Mack- There isn't much as the school year comes to an end, but this Thursday, the 6th grade students who are part of the peer mentoring program will be coming to the high school for a shadowing day. They will see

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS-continued...

what it's like being a high school student, and then we'll all have lunch together. This is unfortunately the last time we will see them. Next week, Friday, the members of Student Government will be headed over to Maplemere for their leadership day, filling in as role models and mentors. It's a very exciting time for seniors as graduation is near. May 1st was decision day for seniors pursuing college, and they wore their gear showing off which college they'll be going to. Friday, Mr. Lu had an assembly to talk to the seniors about graduation requirements, tickets, and more. Prom tickets are now up for sale for people who are attending, and seniors are able to pick up their caps and gowns as well. Next week, we also have a spirit week dedicated to the seniors, which will be our last one for high school. Thank you.

S. Johnson – I attended the legislative breakfast along with Dr. Ginestre and Mr. Feldmann. A couple of weekends ago, we had Senator Gallivan and Assemblyman Conrad come and speak to us. I don't want to get into all the details because there's a report that I wrote up, which was shared across the area county, and they sent it to me, too. It was nice. Overall, I thought it was a good conversation. Both of them are very frustrated with the budget process and how it's going or not going. I know when we left there, the anticipation from them was slightly different; one of them thought it would be finished last week, and the other thought it would be finished this week. I got an email this afternoon from the New York State School Boards that said neither of those is going to happen. It looks like next week, right now. They passed their 11th budget extender, which is good through this Thursday. This is now the latest budget since 2010. I also attended the SHEF board meeting. We just talked about business. A lot of the stuff was pretty much wrapping up the school year. I represented the Board of Education at the Sweet Home Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame ceremony. It was a great ceremony and well attended. I thought we had three great gentlemen who were inducted: Michael Read from the class of 2014, Nicholas Del Nuovo from the class of 2003, and Dr. Paul Bookbinder from the class of 1978. I've got the pamphlet if anybody wants to read more about them, and I think it's available somewhere online, but I'm not sure. It went out in the Amherst Bee. I went to a legislative team meeting earlier that was the wrap-up for the year. The last one is also pushed out by NYSSBA. There's a bill out there to push back the zero-emission bus requirements by 5 years, Senate Bill 9667, and Assembly 10896. The bill is to push the purchase of only zero-emission buses starting in 2032, and to operate only zero-emission buses by 2040. It's passed the Senate Education Committee by a 14-to-nothing vote, and it's on the floor, and it's also waiting to be cleared out of some education. So whether it'll happen this session or not, I don't know, but they're trying.

A. Battaglia – Nothing to update.

D. Rabenold – Scott does a terrific job with reporting back on these meetings and spends a lot of time staying on top of the assembly and the senate and what's going on in Albany with all these various moving parts on education. So, I really just want to thank him for doing that. Do you think they will hold to this week or two from that meeting that they thought would be completed? Probably not, right? Do we know what's holding it up?

(Mr. Feldmann: I think the clean energy bill is one. I think auto insurance reform is another. I really don't think it has anything to do with education.) I had called Heritage Heights. I talked to the principal, a friend of mine there, Antonio Perry, and said, "What's going on with our PTA meeting?" It was postponed. I don't know that the reason was anything serious, but it was postponed a week. I spent some time talking to Antonio just about relationships between staff and administration, and we had quite an interesting conversation. It changed my view on some things that I think I'm going to bring forward, especially when we go into negotiations. That's all I have.

D. Anthon – I enjoyed celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week with all of our teachers this month. That's my Super Bowl every year. I get very excited about that week and being able to just really thank them for everything that they do. Our gratitude is bottomless in that regard. There are a lot of meetings, ceremonies, and end-of-year stuff coming up. We have our last cell phone meeting on the 26th of this month to kind of round out that initiative and see how the year went for everyone. If you're able to attend any of the leadership days across the district, I'd encourage anybody listening to do that because those are an absolute blast. Glendale has their fun run coming up on the 21st, so if you know anyone at Glendale, throw them a couple of

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS-continued...

bucks so they can meet their fundraising goal, and the kids will have a great time that day.

B. Laible – I attended the Willow Ridge chorus concert last week. They did a great job. Heritage Heights was there, also. Ms. Z was amazing. I like those concerts because they're songs I know, which is a lot different than when I grew up. Jackson 5 was one of them. They're just about the right amount of time, about 20 minutes or so. So it works out well. The kids did a great job. The other thing I wanted to mention is that the sports court has been officially approved by the assembly. (*Mr. Feldmann* – It is now in the hands of the dormitory authority to fund it, so we had to do another grant application with some narratives from both our architect team and our attorney, which we feel as though that will put us in a good place. Then they review that. They said about 30 to 90 days, so we will get a full thumbs up here hopefully shortly. Then they will fund us and give us the money anywhere from six months to a year out. I would think by this time next year that we will either have started or completed a sports court at Willow Ridge Elementary School. It's \$85,000.) It was spearheaded with the PTO. Kudos to them, and hopefully, they're almost over the finish line. (*Mr. Feldmann* – Yeah, it's been a process, and it's been learning as we've gone through because we've never done something like this before. Our architect team, the Willow Ridge PTO, has been great, and I think it'll be a fantastic addition to the building. I have to say it basically all started with a phone call right to Karen McMahon's office, and it just rolled from there. Mrs. Laible made the call.) I was told I had to bring this up eventually on the school board. She just took a chance, and it evolved into an \$85,000 grant for this. Kudos to her and the PTA. It's nice to see that Karen McMahon was able to help. The more local they are, the more impactful in many ways they can be.

P. Bellanti – I attended the Willow Ridge PTO meeting, and I was going to mention the grant, but Brian, that's fine. I know that Mr. Polino and the PE teachers are working on the design and what they actually want on it. The basketball nets and four-square pickleball were mentioned. They're having their elections at their next meeting on June 4th. They are currently in the planning stages of their fifth-grade moving up events, which include a ceremony, a field trip to Get Air, I believe a water balloon fight, and a foam party. Then they have gifts and goodie bags for the fifth graders. I've either lived in a meeting or on a softball field for the last month or so. Good luck to all of our spring teams. I believe this is the last week of the regular season, and the playoffs start next week. So good luck to all of our spring season teams.

OPEN SESSION – Policy 1510

None.

PERSONNEL

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

- I. **Teaching and Administrative**
 - A. **Regular**
 - 2. **Appointments**
 - a. **Regular**

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Chandra Jagielo	Lauren Granieri	Griffin Harrigan
Avery Andrews	Emma Asklar	

PERSONNEL-continued...I. Teaching and AdministrativeA. Regular2. Appointmentsc. Encumbered

RESOLVED: That, the *encumbered*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Madison Gonzalez		
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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. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Lori Roth	Sarah English	Sharrie Scully
Sandra Piatek		

h. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Tavis Baish		
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B. Substitutes2. Appointmentsa. Long Term

RESOLVED: That, the *long term substitutes*, in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Kaitlyn Burns		
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b. Substitute teachers for 2025-2026 school year

RESOLVED: That, the *substitutes* in the **TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

PERSONNEL-continued...II. ServiceA. Regular1. Discontinuanceb. Resignation

RESOLVED: That, the *resignation* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Amanda Reed	Denzel Taylor	Dominic Dallessandro
Karen Ford		

2. Appointmentsa. Regular

RESOLVED: That, the *regular appointment* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

David Mayo	Razan Desougi	Michele Lampka
Izabella Gonzalez	David Annas	

e. Transfer

RESOLVED: That, the *transfer* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Christine Lyle	Nagham ArRawi	Carrie Dyet
Andrew Herb		

f. Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: That, the *leave of absence* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Cassandra Solis	Sheri Glass (chg.)	Amanda Reed (chg.)
Cynthia Milazzo-Schwartz	Kristen Puff	Anthony Williams
Cynthia Nixon	Jaclyn Spencer	Mae Fisher

g. Reinstatement from Leave

RESOLVED: That, the *reinstatement from leave* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Kevin Schwab (chg.)	Kelly Hanes	Jaclyn Spencer
Mae Fisher		

PERSONNEL-continued...II. ServiceB. Substitutes2. Per Diem Substitutes

RESOLVED: That, the *per diem substitutes* in the **SERVICE SECTION OF THE PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 749 dated May 12, 2026** be approved as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

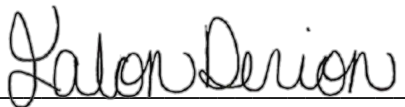
Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Mr. Laible, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

The vote on the foregoing resolution was as follows:

Yes	6	No	0	Absent	1
Carried	X				



Falon Derion
Secretary, Board of Education
District Clerk
Sweet Home Central School District