

Minutes for April 15, 2020 School Board Meeting Holdingford Public School

Chair Christensen called the regular meeting of the school Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:00 PM. Due to the Corvid19 Pandemic this meeting was held electronically through Zoom and was live streamed on Holdingford Public School Facebook Page.

Pledge was recited.

Members present: Evelyn Martini, Elissa Ebnet, Ben Christensen, Lori Opatz, Robb Knettel, Pat Meier and Ed Feia. Member absent: None.

Also attending was Superintendent Chris Swenson, Business Manager Beth Heinze, Secondary Principal Angela Safran, Elementary Principal Jim Stang, Luke Selken with ICS and Mike Kosik from The Star Post (formerly Albany Enterprise).

Motion by Ebnet, second by Knettel, to approve the amended agenda. Added item 6.8. Board meetings converted to teleconference/virtual format. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Martini, second by Feia, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: approval of the minutes from the March 15, 2020 Emergency School Board meeting and the March 18, 2020 Regular School Board meeting; approval of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$1,116,483.12 computer checks 84095-84285; approval of the electronic transfer for March \$2,667,912.69; the Treasurer's Report balance per books \$10,755,565.45 for month of March; approval of Policy 611 Home Schooling, Policy 618 Assessment of Student Achievement, Policy 623 Mandatory Summer School Instruction, and Policy 703 Annual Audit.

On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

Reports

Mr. Selken updated the Board on the construction project. He reported that on the Elementary classroom addition the brick is starting to go up and the electrical is being roughed in. On the High School addition, the roof is being finished, they are removing the cobble stone brick and the glass will be going up soon. Mr. Selken reviewed change order #006 which included modifying column connections in the commons, soil corrections, concession stand equipment revision, replacing 590 student lockers in high school, and adjusting boiler piping for future expansion.

Mr. Swenson reported on week 3 of distance learning, a survey to collect information on distance learning will be sent out to families soon and then again in a few weeks and 500+ meals are being sent out each day. He applauded the entire staff for their efforts and determination to accommodate the distance learning. Mr. Swenson talked about spring events Prom, Scholarship Awards Program, Grand Parents Day and Graduation. He informed the Board that many options are being considered and he welcomes suggestions for meaningful ways to replace the traditional events.

Secondary Principal Ms. Safran and Elementary Principal Mr. Stang created and shared with the Board a Distance Learning Highlight Slide Show. Teachers and support staff sent in videos and photos of what has been happening in distance learning. Both Principals are very proud of their entire staffs. Ms. Safran explained that her staff has been amazing with all the changes, adaptations, and modifications to make curriculum work for distance learning. Mr. Stang reiterated that the entire staff is going above and beyond to help families with education, emotions, technology, childcare, medical needs, food and whatever else comes along. He thanked Bus Drivers, Food Service staff, Nurses, Tech Team, all the Directors and the very supportive School Board!

BSED Report Ms. Martini reported there has been two meetings since the last board meeting. March meeting was a review of the bylaws, discussion on the setting four expansion and the hiring of an additional para. The April meeting consisted of discussion on the setting four expansion lease with Sartell/St. Stephen School District, and the hiring needs to get students in the program from the waiting list. Mr. Swenson asked Ms. Heinze to comment on the cost to our district. She explained the lease cost goes on the levy, the SPED dollars are reimbursed at about 60% and the district is responsible for the rest. Ms. Heinze informed the board that BSED does have a fund balance that can absorb some of the extra expansion expenses for a while. Mr. Swenson informed the Board that with the additional space they are also adding an early intervention position and school psychologist.

Business Manager Ms. Heinze reported there is some concern with receiving the property tax installment if district residents are unable to pay their taxes, the rest of the funding is supposed to be received as normal. She is finalizing this year's budget and will have the revisions for approval at the May meeting and then she will have the following years preliminary budget ready for approval in June.

Business

Motion by Feia, second by Christensen, to approve Building Project Change Order #006 as Mr. Selken presented earlier in his building report. The total amount is \$185,124.00. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Martini, second by Knettel, to approve The Application for Special Education Funds Statement of Assurances. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Meier, second by Feia, to approve The Elementary Targeted Services Summer School Program & Budget. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

The meeting continued with the first reading of Policy 713 Student Activity Accounting; Policy 720 Vending Machines; Policy 721 Uniform Grant Guidance; and Policy 802 Obsolete Equipment. Mr. Swenson and Ms. Heinze summarized the revisions.

Motion by Feia, second by Opatz, to approve all future board meetings being converted to teleconference/virtual format until further notice. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

Personnel

Motion by Meier, second by Feia, for authorization to hire Gregory Muellner for the Head Custodian position on Grade VIII of Custodial Agreement effective 3/24/2020. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Opatz, second by Knettel, to approve FMLA Leave for Tara Wolford from approximately 10/8/2020 to 12/7/2020. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Ebnet, second by Martini, for authorization to hire Angela Lichy for the Long Term Substitute PreK-6 SPED position for the 2020-2021 school year. Hire at BS30 Step 8. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Work Session May 6, 2020 @ 6:00 PM

POC meeting May 13, 2020 @ 8:00 AM

Regular Board meeting May 20, 2020 @ 6:00 PM

The agenda was completed at 6:50 PM with a motion to adjourn by Feia, second by Opatz. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by
Evelyn Martini, Clerk