

Monthly School Board Meeting (Tuesday, February 9, 2021)**Members present**

Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

1. OPENING

Procedural: A. Call to order at 6:00 PM

Ed Corona not present for opening of executive session.

Action, Procedural: B. Executive Session

The Board of Education approves entering into executive session for matters of litigation and personnel.

Motion by Michelle Gordon, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Ed Corona

Action, Procedural: C. Reconvene to public

The Board of Education approves to reconvene to public at 6:52 PM

Motion by Vincent Lentini, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Information, Procedural: D. Budget Committee presentation/meeting began at 6:47

Thomas McDaid, Assistant Superintendent for Business, and Sam Carder, Director of Facilities, gave a PowerPoint presentation covering the administrative component of the budget, including the facilities budget. After the presentation, there was a question-and-answer period.

Board President Megan Ryan thanked Mr. McDaid and Mr. Carder for their presentation.

Ms. Ryan welcomed everyone to the monthly board meeting, and expressed her gratitude on behalf of the Board of Education, for the effort put forth by administrators, faculty, staff, students and parents as the year anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic approaches.

She noted that the board has been getting daily updates from Dr. Seniuk and the district is doing a great job in keeping the schools open. She said she hopes that one day soon, this will be in the past. Ms. Ryan also thanked the custodial staff for their hard work in removing the snow during the series of storms, especially on Super Bowl Sunday. She wished everyone an enjoyable time off during the winter break.

Action, Procedural: F. Pledge

Ms. Ryan led in the pledge.

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Information, Procedural: A. Superintendent's comments

Dr. Seniuk spoke about the following topics:

Chromebook distribution completed,

Backpacks will lighten up now with books being left in school,

Crossing guard at camp ave shout out,

Custodial and security team shout out at OMR,

Snow days moving forward will most likely pivot to remote instruction,

Shout out to custodial and maintenance crew for snow removal.

3. ROUTINE APPROVALS

Action, Minutes, Procedural: A. Approval of Minutes - January 12, 2021

The Board of Education approves Items A- C as a consent agenda.
Approval of minutes - January 12, 2021

Motion by Vincent Lentini, second by Michelle Gordon.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella
Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

Action, Information: B. Approval of Warrants, Wires, Budget Transfers
The Board of Education approves Items A- C as a consent agenda.
Approval of Warrants, Wires, Budget Transfers

Motion by Vincent Lentini, second by Michelle Gordon.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella
Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

Action, Information: C. Approval of Treasurer's Report
The Board of Education approves Items A- C as a consent agenda.
Approval of Treasurer's Report

Motion by Vincent Lentini, second by Michelle Gordon.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella
Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

4. PUBLIC COMMENT VIA EMAIL

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the following: WHEREAS, the State of New York, along with the entire nation and world, is in the midst of the COVID-19 (AKA the novel coronavirus) pandemic, a public health emergency unprecedented in modern times; WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor Cuomo issued Executive Order 202.4 which suspended the requirements of the Open Meetings Law concerning board of education meetings; and WHEREAS, as permitted by Executive Order 202.1, the Board of Education's meeting tonight will be conducted via www.youtube.com with no public participation. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby suspends all policies pertaining to the format for this meeting, including Policy 1120 which provides for public participation and comment at Board of Education meetings.

Discussion, Information, Procedural: B. Public Comments via email
Dr. Seniuk read the two questions :

Laura Hulsaver said that during her son's close-contact quarantine, he missed a few days of instruction and asked why the district is not allowing students to remote in to their classrooms. She complimented Mr. Monaco for his constant student support.

Dr. Seniuk explained that the district has put in place quarantine tutoring services for students who are individually quarantining when their classmates are in school. The principals also provide coverage for the classroom teacher so that they may interact with the child who is home quarantining and give any additional support that they may need. She stated that North Merrick has not moved to cameras in the classroom, and nor has any of the component elementary districts. She said the tutoring and virtual meetings between teachers and students have been implemented to help students with missed instruction.

Manuel Gomes commented on the incident that occurred at Camp Avenue School involving the crossing guard. He said the crossing guard's bravery and commitment to the safety of the students should be acknowledged.

Dr. Seniuk said she mentioned the incident in her opening statement and is very thankful for the heroism of all of the crossing guards, who sometimes put themselves at peril to protect students and parents.

Ms. Ryan added that the board was immediately made aware of the incident and that Dr. Seniuk reached out to the crossing guard and, from her understanding, the crossing guard is still out on leave. Ms. Ryan said that when the crossing guard is back, she will be honored appropriately. She said her bravery did not go unnoticed, and it was always the intent of the board and Dr. Seniuk to acknowledge that at tonight's board meeting.

5. BUSINESS

Action: A. The Board of Education awards the contract for Claims Auditor Services to Nawrocki Smith, LLP for an amount not to exceed \$12,675, in accordance with the RFP effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 with an annual option for the Board to renew the agreement up to four additional school years.

Approved Items A - G as a consent agenda.

The Board of Education awards the contract for Claims Auditor Services to Nawrocki Smith, LLP for an amount not to exceed \$12,675, in accordance with the RFP effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 with an annual option for the Board to renew the agreement up to four additional school years.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

Action: B. The Board of Education awards the contract for External Accounting Services to Cullen & Danowski, LLP for an amount not to exceed \$18,850, in accordance with the RFP effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 with an annual option for the Board to renew the agreement up to four additional school years.

Approved Items A - G as a consent agenda.

The Board of Education awards the contract for External Accounting Services to Cullen & Danowski, LLP for an amount not to exceed \$18,850, in accordance with the RFP effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 with an annual option for the Board to renew the agreement up to four additional school years.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

Action: C. The Board of Education awards the contract for External Auditor Services to R.S. Abrams & Co. for an amount not to exceed \$29,100, in accordance with the RFP effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 with an annual option for the Board to renew the agreement up to four additional school years.

Approved Items A - G as a consent agenda.

The Board of Education awards the contract for External Auditor Services to R.S. Abrams & Co. for an amount not to exceed \$29,100, in accordance with the RFP effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 with an annual option for the Board to renew the agreement up to four additional school years.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

Action, Procedural: D. The Board of Education approves the 2021/2022 school calendar, as detailed in the mailing.

Approved Items A - G as a consent agenda.

The Board of Education approves the 2021/2022 school calendar, as detailed in the mailing.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

Action: E. The Board of Education approves the following 2020/21 budget transfers: Account to: A 2250.401.04 Contractual Services Therapy - \$285,000 Account From: A9060.801.04 Health Insurance - \$285,000 for additional related special education services.

Account to: A 2250.401.04 Contractual Services Therapy - \$15,000 Account from: A2850.150.04 Theater Arts - \$15,000 for additional related special education services

Approved Items A - G as a consent agenda.

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Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

Action, Procedural: F. The Board of Education approves the disposal of obsolete equipment that is no longer operational. Items include: 20090594 Smart projector; 20090589 Smart projector; 20090593 Smart board; 20090588 Smart board; 20090657 Smart board; 20090651 Smart board; 20090652 Smart projector; 20090658 Smart projector; 1672 Smart board; 20140105 Floor buffer and UPS Battery Backup.

Approved Items A - G as a consent agenda.

The Board of Education approves the disposal of obsolete equipment that is no longer operational. Items include: 20090594 Smart projector; 20090589 Smart projector; 20090593 Smart board; 20090588 Smart board; 20090657 Smart board; 20090651 Smart board; 20090652 Smart projector; 20090658 Smart projector; 1672 Smart board; 20140105 Floor buffer and UPS Battery Backup.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

Action, Procedural: G. The Board of Education accepts the donation of \$1,000 from the Old Mill Road 6th Grade Committee to be used as a deposit for the 6th grade trip to the Coleman Country Day Camp on June 16, 2021.

Approved Items A - G as a consent agenda.

The Board of Education accepts the donation of \$1,000 from the Old Mill Road 6th Grade Committee to be used as a deposit for the 6th grade trip to the Coleman Country Day Camp on June 16, 2021.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

6. PERSONNEL ACTIONS REPORT

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the Personnel Actions Report, as detailed in the mailing.

The Board of Education approves the Personnel Actions Report, as detailed in the mailing.

Motion by Michelle Gordon, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

7. SPECIAL SERVICES

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the nine (9) Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

Approved Items A - B as a consent agenda

The Board of Education approves the nine (9) Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

Action: B. The Board of Education approves the two (2) Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Preschool Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

Approved Items A - B as a consent agenda

The Board of Education approves the two (2) Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Preschool Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley

8. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Procedural: A. High School

Board trustee Ed Corona stated that the high school board honored the Regeneron Science Talent Search semifinalists and a New York State Music Association Eastern Division winner. He said the board also appointed Scott Bersin as the new assistant superintendent. He added that BMCHD has added basketball and wrestling to the ongoing winter sports of track, rifle and swimming. He noted that the high school athletes are being tested for COVID-19, and last week, 390 student athletes were tested, of which only two were positive.

Procedural: B. PTA District Council

Mr. Corona spoke about the many activities happening throughout the district, including the Brent Daniels virtual music presentation, Science Fair packets mailed out on Friday, the Swirls World fundraiser, the Founder's Day celebration, PARP projects, and the SEPTA read-aloud and snack event. He said kindergarten and grade 6 graduation pictures have been taken, and the PTA committee is working on the group photo for the yearbook.

Procedural: C. Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Carder thanked the custodial staff for the amazing job they did on snow removal and repairs and noted they keep the buildings clean and react to any positive cases of COVID-19 to ensure the buildings stay open for learning.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

Information, Procedural: A. Communication received

Dr. Seniuk stated district received three communication, two from Richard Smith, library president. John Weber requesting to be advocate for North Merrick School

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion, Information, Procedural: A. Items for discussion

11. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion, Information, Procedural: A. Items for discussion

12. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS (BOE only)

Procedural: A. Investments; Workers' Compensation Filed; Appropriation Status Report; Revenue Status Report; Trial Balance; Cash Flow

Information: B. Absences of Five Consecutive Days

Information: C. Building & Grounds Reports

Information, Procedural: D. Enrollment; health office report; student/adult accidents

13. ADJOURNMENT

Action: A. Adjournment

Adjournment 7:46 PM

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Ed Corona.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Not Present at Vote: Robert Crowley