

PLATTSBURGH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Plattsburgh, New York

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Board of Education Regular Meeting
March 11, 2021 – 6:00 p.m. – Virtual
to participate go to: <https://bit.ly/3qwWldp> or
phone 1-408-418-9388 (note: this is a toll call)

ROLL

Board of Education

Leisa Boise (President) – present
Amelia Goerlitz – excused
Robert Hall, Jr. – present
Thomas Lacey – present
Ronald Marino – present
Clayton Morris – present
Roderick Sherman – present
Fred Wachtmeister – present

Others

Jay C. Lebrun (Superintendent of Schools) – present
Carrie Harvey-Zales –(Ass’t. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction) – present
Glenn Hurlock - (Director of Special Education) - excused
Dawn Stetz (District Clerk - Host) – present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mrs. Leisa Boise led the pledge of allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER/EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 6:02 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Wachtmeister to call the meeting to order and enter into Executive Session to discuss matters as provided for inboard Policy 2330; the employment history of particular personnel and collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law, specifically the Plattsburgh Teachers’ Association. **Motion Carried: 7-0**

RECONVENE: At 7:32, it was moved by Mr. Marino, seconded by Mr. Hall to reconvene to Regular Session. **Motion Carried: 7-0**

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no public comments.

It was moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Morris to approve the following consent agenda items:

Minutes

Recommend the Board of Education approve the minutes for the meeting held on February 11, 2021.

Adoption of the Agenda

Recommend the Board of Education adopt the agenda for the meeting being held today.

CSE, CPSE and 504 Plan Recommendations

Recommend the Board of Education approve the Committee on Preschool Special Education, Committee on Special Education and Committee on 504 Plan recommendations as presented in *Appendix I*.

Personnel

Probationary/Miscellaneous Appointments

Recommend the Board of Education appoint the following probationary/Miscellaneous appointments:

EMPLOYEE	POSITION/TENU RE AREA	GRADES/ DEPT.	EFFECTIVE DATE	PAY RATE	COMMENTS
Andrew McGill/Erin McGill	Yearbook Advisors	Glasgow & Oak	2020-2021 School Year	Stipend of \$1,000 each, per building	

Jessica Monz (Alexander)	Food Service Helper	Momot	March 12, 2021	\$13.98/hour	52-week probationary appointment.
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Coaches

Recommend the Board appoint the following coaches (to replace appointments approved at the September 10, 2020 appointments for Football, Volleyball and Cheerleading) for the 2020-2021 school year at a stipend to be determined based on length of season: *Tentative figures pending new contract and pro-rated for actual length of season.*

SPORT	POSITION	RECOMMENDATION	STIPEND
Football	Varsity Head Coach	Michael Bordeau	\$5,740
	Varsity Ass't. Coach	Michael Deloria	\$3,983
	Varsity Ass't. Coach	Neil Bowlen	\$3,983
	Varsity Volunteer Coaches	John DeAngelo/Chris Rowell	N/A
	JV Head Coach	Justin Hart	\$4,451
	JV Ass't. Coach	Bill Chapman	\$3,163
	JV Ass't. Coach	Joseph Mazzella	\$3,163
	Modified Co-Coach	Brett Carpenter	\$2,694
	Modified Co-Coach	TBD	\$2,694
	Modified Volunteer Coaches	Vearneant Harrison/Dominick Brodeau	N/A
Volleyball	Varsity Head Coach	Cynthia McMahon	\$4,920
	JV Head Coach	Jenny Walker	\$3,338
	Modified Head Coach	Elizabeth Cutaiair	\$2,694
	Modified Volunteer Coach	Molly Channell	N/A
Cheerleading	Varsity Football	Michelle Rugar	\$2,694
Boys' Basketball	Modified A Head Coach	Michael Bordeau	\$3,104
Girls' Basketball	Modified A Head Coach	Cynthia McMahon	\$3,104
Boys' Varsity Hockey	Volunteer Coaches	Jack Tolosky (Pending Fingerprinting Clearance) Robin Weeden	N/A N/A
Girls' Varsity Hockey	Volunteer Coaches	Emily Raville (Branon), (Pending Fingerprinting Clearance) Matt Rogers (Pending Fingerprinting Clearance)	N/A N/A

Substitute/Temporary On Call (TOC) Appointments - Recommend the Board of Education approve the appointments and rates of pay as presented.

Name	Certification	Rate	Position (Subs)	Fingerprint Status
Victoria Aguilar	N/A	\$13.00/hour	Student Aide/Teacher Aide	Cleared
Jessica Alexander	N/A	\$14.20/hour	Food Service Helper	Cleared
Jiranan Chatayan-Quesnel	Non-Certified	\$103/day \$88/day \$17.90/hour	Teacher Teaching Assistant Tutor	Cleared
Frantzy Noze	Non-Certified	\$103/day \$88/day \$17.90/hour	Teacher Teaching Assistant Tutor	PENDING
Felicia Terry	N/A	\$13.00/hour	School Monitor	Cleared

Retirements/Resignations

Recommend the Board of Education accept Denice Marshall’s letter of retirement as Teaching Assistant for Oak Street Elementary, effective April 1, 2021.

Recommend the Board of Education accept Stephanie Badger’s letter of resignation as Food Service Helper for Momot Elementary, effective January 15, 2021.

Recommend the Board of Education accept Catherine Cole’s letter of resignation as Occupational Therapist for Momot Elementary, effective March 8, 2021.

Recommend the Board of Education accept Lori Schudde’s letter of retirement as Typist for Plattsburgh High School, effective April 30, 2021.

Business

Reports for Board of Education Information

The following are presented for Board of Education information:

- 1) Middle School Extraclassroom Activity Reports (January 2021)
- 2) High School Extraclassroom Activity Fund Reports (January 2021)
- 3) Summary of Budget Transfers for the month ending January 2021 under \$25,000
- 4) Summary of Monthly Wire Transfers (January 31, 2021)
- 5) Food Service Profit & Loss Statements (January 2021)
- 6) Budget Status Reports (January 31, 2021)
- 7) Revenue Status Report (January 31, 2021)

Treasurer’s Report

Recommend the Board of Education accept the January 31, 2021 Treasurer’s Report as presented in *Appendix II*.

Board of Education Committees

Recommend the Board of Education approve the 2020-2021 Board Committee Membership.

Motion Carried: 7-0

Correspondence

Old Business (► Indicates item to be discussed.)

Board Policies – 2nd Readings

BP #1235 – Civility and decorum

It was moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Sherman to recommend the Board of Education receive a 2nd reading and adopt Board Policy #1235 – Civility and decorum. This is a new policy to ensure professional conduct amongst employees. *First reading was reviewed at the February 11, 2021 Board meeting.*

Motion Carried: 7-0

BP #9645 – Disclosure of Wrongful Conduct

It was moved by Mr. Wachtmeister, seconded by Mr. Hall to recommend the Board of Education receive a 2nd reading and adopt Board Policy #9645 – Disclosure of Wrongful Conduct. This is a new policy to ensure professional conduct amongst employees. *First reading was reviewed at the February 11, 2021 Board meeting.*

Motion Carried: 7-0

New Business

Business

District Trash & Recyclable

It was moved by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Hall to recommend the Board approve Casella Waste Systems to provide the District’s Trash & Recyclable Materials collection for 2021-2022 at the annual rate of \$55,968. **Motion Carried: 7-0**

DONATION – Fesette Realty

It was moved by Mr. Marino, seconded by Mr. Sherman to recommend the Board of Education approve a donation from Fesette Realty, in the amount of \$500, to help fund the Special Education programs in the City of Plattsburgh’s elementary schools.

Motion Carried: 7-0

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA)

It was moved by Mr. Marino, seconded by Mr. Hall to recommend the Board of Education approve a MOA with the Plattsburgh Teachers' Association regarding retirement notification incentives. **Motion Carried: 7-0**

BP #0101 - GENDER NEUTRAL SINGLE-OCCUPANCY BATHROOMS

Recommend the Board of Education review a 1st reading of BP #0101 – Gender Neutral Single-Occupancy Bathrooms. This new policy will ensure the District stays within compliance per State law. *No action is required.*

SEQRA RESOLUTION – It was moved by Mr. Sherman, seconded by Mr. Marino to recommend the Board of Education approve the following SEQRA for an Emergency Capital Project as follows:

SEQRA RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Plattsburgh City School District (“Board”) has proposed to undertake, on an emergency basis, a project consisting of the remediation and repair of its damaged and defective fire alarm system at the School District’s High School located at 1 Clifford Drive in Plattsburgh, New York (“the Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to fully comply with its obligations under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) and the regulations thereunder with respect to the proposed action, in its capacity as Lead Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Board has carefully considered the nature and scope of the proposed action; and

WHEREAS, upon review of the foregoing, the Board makes the following determinations:

1. The proposed action involves the remediation and repair of the School District’s fire alarm system in the School District’s High School.
2. The damaged condition of the fire alarm system exposes the School District’s High School to damage and interferes with the School District’s operations, and immediate repair of the fire alarm system is required to preserve the property of the School District and to assure the health and safety of students, staff and the community in the building.
3. The repair is immediately necessary for the protection and preservation of life, health, and/or property, is directly related to the emergency presented, and is to be performed to cause the least change or disturbance practicable under the circumstances.
4. The proposed project represents an emergency action within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(33); and/or maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing facility or structure within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(1); and/or alternatively the replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility in kind within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(2).
5. The proposed action will in no case have a significant adverse impact on the environment based on the criteria contained in 6 NYCRR § 617.7(c), and is not otherwise a Type I action as defined by 6 NYCRR § 617.4.
6. The proposed action is a Type II action within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617.5 and is therefore not subject to review under SEQRA and the regulations thereunder.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board finds and concludes that the proposed action is a Type II action within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617.5 and therefore is not subject to review under SEQRA and the regulations thereunder. **Motion Carried: 7-0**

EMERGENCY CAPITAL PROJECT RESOLUTION – It was moved by Mr. Wachtmeister, seconded by Mr. Sherman to recommend the Board of Education approve the following resolution for an Emergency Capital Project as follows:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE PLATTSBURGH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the Plattsburgh City School District (the “School District”) unexpectedly has discovered that its fire alarm system in its High School building is defective, is functioning improperly and is unable to be effectively maintained;

WHEREAS, as a result of this unforeseen event, the School District runs the risk of the fire alarm system malfunctioning and causing harm to individuals and damage to the School District’s property unless the School District replaces and remediates the fire alarm system, including the fire alarm control panel and associated equipment, immediately; and

WHEREAS, without immediate replacement and remediation of the fire alarm system, the malfunctioning of the School District’s fire alarm system will interfere with the School District’s operations; and

WHEREAS, immediate replacement and remediation of the fire alarm system, including the fire alarm control panel and associated equipment, is required to preserve the property of the School District and to assure the health and safety of students, staff and the community in the High School building.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Board of Education determines that the current condition of the fire alarm system at the School District’s High School building is a condition that affects the health and safety of students, staff and the community using the School District’s facilities, and that the replacement and remediation of the fire alarm system, including the fire alarm control panel and associated equipment, requires emergency, immediate action to preserve the School District’s property. The Board of Education hereby further determines that the replacement and remediation of the fire alarm system, including the fire alarm control panel and associated equipment, is a non-recurring, ordinary contingent expense that is necessary to preserve the School District’s property and to assure the health and safety of students, staff and the community.

Section 2. The School District is hereby authorized to undertake the replacement and remediation of the fire alarm system, including the fire alarm control panel and associated equipment, and to expend from the General Fund an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for such purpose.

Section 3. The Superintendent of Schools is hereby authorized to file any necessary and proper paperwork with the State Education Department to proceed with the emergency replacement and remediation and to work with the School District’s architect, legal counsel, and other resources to immediately accomplish this action.

Section 4. Due to the emergency situation, a contract for the replacement and remediation of the fire alarm system, including the fire alarm control panel and associated equipment, must be awarded immediately. Therefore, the School District is authorized to forego using competitive bidding for the replacement and remediation.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Motion Carried: 7-0

**Concluding Reports and Remarks
Superintendent’s Reports/Remarks**

- School Calendar Discussion – Superintendent Lebrun shared the BOCES approved calendar for 2021-2022 and stated he will present the District’s 2021-2022 school calendar at the next board meeting.
- 2021-2022 School Budget – Update – Superintendent Lebrun reported the budget committee and business office staff continue to update drafts as they receive information. Most, notable update is the health consortium premiums are much lower, stating the initial budget included 5% estimate for an increase. Another positive impact on the budget is the stimulus funding package. Districts will know more in a few weeks when the State budget and BOCES budgets are complete.
- Reopening Discussion – The re-opening committees’ general consensus is to return to a fully in-person, full day, five days per week schooling and doing so after the April break. There is a difference of opinions about whether

- all students should return to school on April 12th or whether our elementary students should come back on that date and that secondary students should follow perhaps a week later. This is a decision the Board will have to make. Superintendent Lebrun plans to have a clear recommendation before the Board at their March 25th meeting. He has asked for the Board's feedback on the reopening.
- Winter sports season - Superintendent Lebrun feels it is going reasonably well in our district and stated that the Fall 2 Season is being organized.

Board Member Reports/Remarks

Mr. Marino commented that he participated in the last few re-opening meetings and was very impressed. He is in favor of re-opening schools, gradually as outlined (staggered opening).

Mr. Hall discussed football season and the logistics stating he would have a hard time supporting this. He was in favor of a staggered re-opening, but now as he thinks about it, he feels we should just start everyone at once.

Mr. Wachtmeister informed the Board that there is a March 17th Small City Schools virtual budget seminar and reviewed the agenda. He stated that after 35 years, Bob Biggerstaff is stepping down but will remain as council to the association. As for the re-opening Mr. Wachtmeister sees no reason why we can't start school April 12th for all students. It is important to get our students back to education to regain what has been lost. He referred to research showing kids do not spread the virus amongst themselves and now the vaccine is available to anyone working for the school district; encouraging educators to get the vaccine. Mr. Wachtmeister stated he is in support of the school budget and inquired about the health insurance and school resource officers.

Mr. Sherman reported he met with Billy Jones this week and asked him about the Governor pulling the STAR program and replacing it with COVID funds. Assemblyman Jones was quick to say that is no longer the case and the STAR funds have been put back in and the foundation aid has been increased. Mr. Sherman stated he has gone back and forth on the reopening plan. Since high-risk sports went well, he is all for re-opening schools, fully in-person, all at once. He also recognized Lori Schudde's retirement and the fantastic job she has always done for the District, giving a summary of her work history with the District.

Mr. Morris had questions about football stating 2 weeks is a very short season and that he would be against football games but supports practices/scrimmages and feels we should devote our time to spring sports, which was missed last year. After referring to the fact that scientists are saying students are not sharing the virus, our district has done a great job with our staff and now they can get vaccinated and parents still have the option to do remote, he is in support of all returning to school, fully in-person on April 12th, and is in support of the high school kids returning sooner. Mr. Morris did say we have to be patient with our students and teachers through this process.

Mr. Lacey is in favor of all returning to school, full in-person on the 12th of April. Mr. Lacey inquired about when the Board votes for a Vice President.

Mrs. Boise commented that Lori Schudde deserves recognition for her wonderful commitment she has given to all students and wished her well. She thanked re-opening committee for their time and effort and for putting students first. Mrs. Boise stated she was originally in support of a stagger return to school, but is now in favor of everyone going, in person, at once on April 12th and will support whatever the Superintendent recommends. She thanked the entire team at Plattsburgh City School District educating our students. Mrs. Boise thanked the Board for being there tonight stating it is wonderful to see everyone.

Public Comment: There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:26 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Marino, seconded by Mr. Sherman to reconvene to adjourn.

Motion Carried: 7-0

A full recording of this meeting is available at www.plattscsd.org

Respectfully,

Dawn Stetz, District Clerk