



Minutes of the Board of Education

March 22, 2021

Members Present: Chris Foster
Samantha Hicks
Doug Kelley
Meghan McGarry
Ann Morone
Peter Schaefer
Jessica Zweig

Others Present: Danielle LaPier, Student Member
Superintendent of Schools: Dr. James R. Franchini
Assistant Superintendent: Matt Hladun
Assistant Superintendent for Business: Michael Ouimet
Director of Personnel Development: Kimberly Nugent
Director of Special Education: Dr. Camille Harrelson
Athletic Director: Mark Bubniak
Athletic Trainer: Rachel Brown
Co-Directors of Nurse: Rebecca Everett RN, Valene Miller RN
Teachers: Michael Blostein, Sarah Christy

- I. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Superintendent's Report
 - News and Updates
 - Celebrations of Success
 - Music Presentation
- III. Public Comment - Community members seeking to provide questions or comments to the Board of Education should email them to the District Clerk. Comments and questions that are received before the conclusion of the Board of Education meeting on Monday, March 22nd will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- IV. Consent agenda - move to approve the consent agenda as listed A-D
Although Board action is required, it is generally unnecessary to hold discussion on these items. With the consent of all members, they are therefore grouped and approval is given in one motion. In the event a Board member wants to discuss any item, it is moved to an appropriate place on the agenda.
 - A. Approve to accept Board of Education minutes of March 8, 2021.
 - B. Financial Recommendations
 1. Approve to accept the contract with Greenbush Child Caring for providing before and after school care services, as per the attached.
 2. Approve the Special Education Services agreement with Berlin Central School District for one student attending the Averill Park Central School District for the 2020-21 school year, as per the attached.

C. Routine Personnel Action

The Board will take action on routine resignations, appointments, leaves and terminations.

Instructional Appointment: Temporary

Name	Assignment/FTE	Effective Dates	Salary
Ainsley, Cynthia	Teacher Assistant-Afterschool (2 Sessions per week 2:30pm-5:00pm)	03/15/2021-06/16/2021	APTA Collective Bargaining Agreement Professional Hourly Rate
Mallory, Jennifer	Teacher Assistant-Afterschool (2 Sessions per week 2:30pm-5:00pm)	03/15/2021-06/16/2021	APTA Collective Bargaining Agreement Professional Hourly Rate

Non-Instructional Appointment: Probationary

Name	Position	Location/Assignment	Effective Dates	Salary
Ashdown, Daniel Richard	Custodial Worker (7.5 hours)	Poestenkill Elementary	03/22/2021	CSEA Bargaining Agreement Step 3

Non-Instructional Appointment: Provisional

Name	Position	Location/Assignment	Effective Date	Salary
Weaver, Deborah	Human Resources Specialist	District Office	03/25/2021	\$53,000 (prorated)

Non-Instructional: Unpaid Leave of Absence

Name	Position	Effective Dates
Sliwinski, Jodi	Teacher Aide	03/17/2021-04/15/2021

Instructional: Resignation

Name	Position	Effective Dates
Welliver, Kristine	Teacher	03/17/2021

Non-Instructional: Resignation for Retirement Purposes

Name	Position	Effective Date
Rizzo, Faith	Bus Attendant/School Monitor	03/18/2021

Non-Instructional: Resignation

Name	Position	Effective Date
Jacobs, Meagan	Teacher Aide	03/26/2021
Wedge, Ruth	Bus Driver	03/09/2021

D. Special Education Recommendations

Move that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the actions of the CSE, CPSE and 504 committees and Agreed upon Amendments.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED

On a motion by Mrs. McGarry, seconded by Mrs. Morone, to approve consent agenda items A-D.

YES: 7

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED

- V. IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Faith Rizzo effective March 18, 2021 is hereby accepted and the Memorandum of Agreement between the School District and CSEA regarding Ms. Rizzo is hereby approved.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN APCSD & FAITH RIZZO APPROVED

On a motion by Mrs. McGarry, seconded by Mrs. Morone, it is hereby resolved that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, the resignation of Faith Rizzo for the purpose of retirement effective March 18, 2021 is hereby accepted the Agreement between Ms. Rizzo and the School District is hereby approved.

YES: 7

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED

VI. RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Averill Park Central School District ("District") maintains as fleet of school buses for student transportation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the District's bus fleet travels nearly one million miles a year; and

WHEREAS, the average useful life of fleet buses, due to terrain traveled and Northeast weather conditions, is about 10 years with each bus in the Fleet logging approximately 90,000-130,000 miles over that time; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is committed to a regular and systematic fleet replacement plan which requires an annual bus purchase vote for bus replacement and is an essential component of maintaining student safety and minimizing fleet repair and maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education also desires to maintain healthy, safe and reliable facilities and grounds; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education acknowledges that to do so requires efficient, effective and operable equipment to maintain the District's facilities and grounds;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Averill Park Central School District, Rensselaer County, New York that a proposition be put forth to address the District's bus and equipment requirements as follows: Section 1. The proposition set forth below is hereby authorized to be submitted for the approval of the qualified voters at the annual budget vote and election to be conducted by voting machine on the 18th day of May, 2021, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, in the High School Auxiliary Gym, in said School District. Section 2. The School District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to include as a part of the notice of the annual budget vote and election the following regarding said proposition:

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that at said annual budget vote and election the following proposition will be submitted: School Bus & Equipment Purchase Shall the Board of Education of the Averill Park Central School District, be authorized (a) to purchase nine (9) school buses at a cost not to exceed \$780,763, and one (1), rack/plow truck at a cost not to exceed \$53,711; (b) expend such sums for such purposes; (c) levy the tax necessary therefore, to be levied and collected in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid and trade-in or resale value

of existing equipment received; and (d) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, to issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$834,474, and to levy a tax to pay the interest on such obligations when due?

On a motion by Mrs. McGarry, seconded by Mr. Kelley, to approve resolution to approve ("District") maintains as fleet of school buses for student transportation purposes.

YES: 7

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED

VII. RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Averill Park Central School District ("Board") is considering to undertake a project involving repairs, upgrades, and renovations to its existing facilities at the Algonquin Middle School addressing building-wide electrical system improvements, more specifically involving repairs and upgrades to the fire alarm system and any related work ("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; 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 repairs, upgrades, and renovations to existing facilities at the Algonquin Middle School addressing building-wide electrical system improvements, more specifically repairs and upgrades to the fire alarm system and any related work ("the Proposed Action" or "Project").
2. The proposed project represents 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).
3. The proposed action will in no case have a significant adverse impact based 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.
4. 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.

RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to any involved or interested agencies.

On a motion by Mrs. McGarry, seconded by Mrs. Hicks, to approve resolution to approve to undertake a project involving repairs, upgrades, and renovations to its existing facilities at the Algonquin Middle School addressing building-wide electrical system improvements, more specifically involving repairs and upgrades to the fire alarm system and any related work ("the Project").

YES: 7

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED

VIII. RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has been involved in a process of reviewing and adopting Board Policies while working with the Policy Service of New York State School Boards Association since February 26, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, such proposed policies from NYSSBA often have both proposed Policies and proposed implementing Regulations for the proposed Policy; and,

WHEREAS, prior to this resolution the Board was acting to approve both Policies and Regulations; and,

WHEREAS, the Board, upon further reflection, now understands that, consistent with Policy 2410 adopted by the Board on January 13, 2020, it should only be acting on policies and not on regulations, which are the province of the Superintendent of Schools; and,

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to clarify any confusion in this area.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT any prior actions of the Board approving Regulations associated with policies are hereby rescinded as Regulations are the province of the Superintendent to promulgate and implement. The Board's approval of any prior policies remain valid and any future action will be on policies only.

On a motion by Mrs. McGarry, seconded by Mrs. Hicks, a process of reviewing and adopting Board Policies while working with the Policy Service of New York State School Boards Association since February 26, 2021.

YES: 7

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED

IX. Approve to accept the merger between the Troy City School District, Averill Park Central School District and Brunswick Central School District to form a girls swimming and diving team, varsity/junior varsity levels, and authorization for the Superintendent of Schools to execute the cooperative Agreement.

On a motion by Mrs. McGarry, seconded by Mr. Foster approve to accept the merger between the Troy City School District, Averill Park Central School District and Brunswick Central School District to form a girls swimming and diving team, varsity/junior varsity levels, and authorization for the Superintendent of Schools to execute the cooperative Agreement.

YES: 7

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED

X. Approve the School District Calendar for the 2021-2022 school year.

On a motion by Mrs. McGarry, seconded by Dr. Schaefer approve to accept the School District Calendar for 2021-2022 school year.

YES: 7

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED

XI. Discussion – Spring Sports

XII. Resolution to approve Higher Risk Sports

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2021, the Governor and the New York State Health Department authorized schools to operate certain Higher Risk Sports effective February 1, 2021 as may be permitted and authorized by local county health departments; and,

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health subsequently issued updated guidelines for the operation of Sports and Recreation related to Higher Risk Sports; and,

WHEREAS, NYSPHSAA and Section 2 have issued revised guidelines for Return to Interscholastic Athletics for the 2020-21 season: and,

WHEREAS, on January 28, 2021 Rensselaer County Executive Steven F. McLaughlin and Public Health Director Mary Fran Wachunas approved schools within Rensselaer County to operate Higher Risk Sports should schools wish to participate in one or more Higher Risk Sports; and,

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has shared with the Board the plan to provide Higher Risk Sports in accordance with all applicable New York State Department of Health, Rensselaer County Department of Health, and any applicable league health and safety requirements which will be implemented during all practices and games.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Averill Park Central School District hereby approves the following:

1. Implement the following interscholastic sports for the 2021 Spring season:
 - Participate in athletic competitions in the following sports/levels:
 - Boys Lacrosse (M/JV/V)
 - Skill development sessions and intra-squad only scrimmages in the following sports/levels:
 - Unified Basketball (JV)
 - Practices, skill development sessions and/or non-contact training/workouts will begin on May 2, 2021 or as soon thereafter as practicable.
 -

On a motion by Mrs. Morone, seconded by Dr. Schaefer approve to accept Higher Risk Sports.

YES: 7

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED

2. Each parent/guardian must sign a district/school developed COVID-19 informed consent for participation form that is issued by the District.
3. The Board delegates to and authorizes the Superintendent to take any action he deems necessary and appropriate to ensure that such sports are implemented in a safe manner consistent with all guidelines (NYS, County, and Section). This includes the authority to temporarily suspend District participation in any of the above sports if the Superintendent deems such action necessary.

XIII. Budget Presentation: The Plan for 2021-2022

XIV. Board Member Reports

XV. Adjourn Meeting

On a motion by Mrs. McGarry, seconded by Mr. Kelley, to adjourn meeting at 9:07p.m.

YES: 7

NO: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Linda Fitzpatrick

Linda Fitzpatrick, District Clerk

Board Approved: 04/12/2021