

## **HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – SEPTEMBER 6, 2023**

President Clark opened the meeting at 5:26 PM (immediately following the Audit Committee Meeting) and led the Board/Public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT via ZOOM:** Christopher Clark, Joseph Liberto, Meghann Khork, James Marino, Kerry Davis

**ABSENT:** Dr. Uzma Mehr, Brian May

BY: DAVIS/MARINO

**RESOLVED:** that the following item be added to the agenda as Personnel item p.:

Resolved that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approve the following student teacher:

Erica Flint from Alfred University to be placed with Jamie Williams for the 2023 Fall Semester – September 7, 2023 – December 8, 2023

CARRIED – 5 AYES – ALL

BY: DAVIS/MARINO

**RESOLVED:** that, the agenda be approved as presented with the amendment above added.

CARRIED – 5 AYES – ALL

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

#### **Capital Project – Competition Gym - Superintendent Palotti:**

Superintendent Palotti reviewed the information provided at the last Board Meeting on August 23, 2023 regarding the building of a competition gym in the footprint of the current “A” gym. Two options were reviewed, together with the financial ramifications of each:

- Building just a larger competition gym that will accommodate more spectators. This option with available aide would not result in a tax increase
- Building a larger competition gym together with a second floor “walking track”. This option with available aide would not result in a tax increase, however, due to adding the second floor that did not exist previously and therefore would not be eligible for aide, it would require the use of more of the available reserves to achieve that goal.
- He explained that a decision to move forward with a public vote in December was not required at this meeting, but due to timeline requirements, a decision would need to be made in the near future

The Board opening discussed the pro and cons of each option eventually all agreeing that they would like to proceed with presenting the option that includes the “walking track” to the public for vote in December. More will follow at future meetings.

#### **U of R Special Education Audit Report – Lynne Erder and Robert McKeveny:**

Lynne Erder and Robert McKeveny (U of R – Warner School) presented the Board with the results of the recent Special Education Audit. Together with their findings, they also presented their recommendations for making the Special Education Department more inclusive part of the overall education plan moving forward.

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### REPORTS:

#### CELEBRATING SUCCESS:

**Dr. Charles Infurna, North Hornell Principal** shared:

- Open House was very well attended, had great conversations with parents.
- The 3PK Open House was held on August 30<sup>th</sup>, out of a possible 53 families, 47 attended with children.
- A big “thank you” to the maintenance staff, the building is spotless and ready!
- Very excited to get the year started!

**Dr. Julie Smith, Intermediate School Principal** shared:

- Thank you to the Intermediate main office staff. We were down a secretary most of the summer, so Tonya Cornish and Caroline Booth worked super hard the last couple weeks of summer to make sure we were ready for school to start!
- Thank you to the building and grounds crews. The Intermediate School looks terrific!
- We had about 300 students and their families in and around the building for Open House this year. Our special areas and related services decided to get out of their rooms and highlight some pieces of their curriculum. We had a large tent outside and families were very appreciative of the event.
- We’ve had two days of intense professional learning. We are tired, but this is a good tired. We are ready for an amazing school year!

**Morgan Allison, High School Principal** shared:

- We held a 7<sup>th</sup> Grade had their “Signing” Orientation last night – the students had their picture taken and received a tee shirt. It was attended by 94 families; some of those who could not attend came in today instead. It was very well received. Thank you to Kate Wall for organizing it!
- The custodial staff has done an amazing job getting the building ready!
- The teachers have been working hard over the summer and they had a great day today...we are ready for a great year!

**Shannon Davis, Director of Buildings and Grounds** shared:

- The crew has been extremely busy over the summer keeping up with 60 acres of lawn and covering every inch of the buildings preparing them for the start of school.
- Big shout out to the cleaning staff, they had to take care of 28 classrooms since August 15<sup>th</sup> because they could not get into them until summer school was over.
- The CPU was changed out at the High School – now everything can be cooled consistently.
- The new slide for the Intermediate School is on order and should be in soon (Julie was very excited to hear this news!)
- The Steamer season went very well;
- The field lining robot (the staff has named “Carl” is incredible. It can line a soccer field in 20 minutes, a feat that previously took two works three hours to complete. We are still working with a learning curve, but it is very impressive!
- We have made the transition to the fall sports season, thank you to the crew that makes this happen!

### SUPERINTENDENT ’S REPORT:

- Reiterated that we have been preparing all summer with some great days of professional development and we are ready and looking forward to the students returning!

### ROUTINE ITEMS

BY: DAVIS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti to approves/accepts the following Consent Agenda items:

- The Board has no objections to the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and approves the authorization of funds to implement the special education

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programs and services consistent with such recommendations for the meeting of August 23, 2023, and the CPSE meetings of August 15 and 23, 2023 and the 504 meeting of August 23, 2023.

CARRIED – 5 AYES – ALL

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

BY: DAVIS/KHORK

**RESOLVED:** that, agenda items VI. E. 1. a. through VI. E. 3. p. be grouped together for one action.

CARRIED – 5 AYES – ALL

BY: MEHR/DAVIS

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board:

**POLICY/PROCEDURE**

- approves the list of non-resident students for the 2023/24 school year;
- accepts the Independent Audit Report as presented in the Audit Committee Meeting;

**FINANCE**

- approves the Professional Service Agreement with RMSC Cummings Nature Center for Forest School development for the 2023/24 school year;
- awards the following 2023 24 Capital Outlay Bids to the lowest responsible bidder:
  - General Trades/Site Contract - DiFiore Construction - \$1,073,000
  - Contract Electrical Contract - Schuler-Haas Electric Corp - \$ 431,800
  - Baseball Lighting - Musco Lighting - \$ 442,512
  - Tennis Court Lighting - Musco Lighting - \$ 208,061
- approves the MOU with HPA regarding aides subbing for teachers;
- approves the MOA with HESSA to establish the position of Head Bus Driver;
- approves the MOA with HPDG to establish the position of CPSE Chairperson;

**PERSONNEL:**

- approves the following change in hours:
  - Theresa Persichilli LPN from 7.25 / day to 7.75 / day
- approves the following for the 2023/24 school year (to be paid according to the applicable contract):
  - Instructional staff approved to work as tutors.
  - Teacher Aides approved to sub for teachers when needed; Furthermore, the Board ~~approve the MOA with HPA for Aides covering for Teachers~~ removed due to a repeat of approval of MOA earlier in meeting.
- accepts the resignation of Fay Parada as Teacher Aide effective September 5, 2023;
- approves the following probationary appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Hrs</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
Kari Coots	LPN	10 mo	7.75	HPA	September 5, 2023
Kaitlin Stephens	Teacher Aide	10 mo	7.00	HPA	September 5, 2023
Taylor Richardson	Teacher Aide	10 mo	7.00	HPA	September 5, 2023
Stephanie Spike	Teacher Aide	10 mo	7.00	HPA	September 5, 2023
Bethani Ormsby	Teacher Aide	10 mo	7.00	HPA	September 5, 2023

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Katherine Wood	Cafe. Monitor	10 mo	2.50	HESSA	September 5, 2023
Amanda Stewart	Cafe. Monitor	10 mo	2.50	HESSA	September 5, 2023
Hayley Eldridge	Cafe. Monitor	10 mo	2.50	HESSA	September 5, 2023
Fay Parada	Cafe. Monitor	10 mo	2.50	HESSA	September 5, 2023
Cindy Miller	Cafe. Monitor	10 mo	2.50	HESSA	September 5, 2023
Courtney Manning	Cafe. Monitor	10 mo	2.50	HESSA	September 5, 2023
*Morgan McCormick	Cafe. Monitor	10 mo	2.50	HESSA	September 5, 2023

\* if fingerprints have cleared

- approves the abolishment of one (1) FTE Head Building Mechanic Position effective September 1, 2023;
- approves the appointment of Mitchell Weaver as Cleaner effective September 1, 2023;
- approves the appointment of Cathy Stiles as Head Bus Driver effective September 7, 2023;
- approves the following Regular Assigned Substitutes at the rate of \$175 per day (unless otherwise noted), 10 months, for the 2023/24 school year effective September 1, 2023:
  - Katrina Hurd - NH (\$200)
  - Sophia Ormsby - NH
  - Billy Doell - NH
  - Deborah Kenney - INT (\$200)
  - Robert Scherzer - INT
  - David Browne - INT
  - James Dagon - HS (\$200)
  - Susan Greenthal - HS (\$200/day)
  - Daniel Congdon - HS
- approves the following additional advisor appointments for the 2023/24 school year with the stipend as specified in the HEA Contract:
  - John Cardamone - Marching Band Advisor (1 of 2)
  - Gary Kelleher - Student Government
  - Jodi Amann - Class of 2029
- approves the following additional Department Chair appointments for the 2023/24 school year with the stipend as specified in the HEA Contract:
  - Lisa Dunning - Math Department
- approves the request for an unpaid leave of absence for Megan Bonaquisti from her position as Math Teacher beginning on September 28, 2023 through November 5, 2023;
- approves the request for an unpaid leave of absence for Carli Cavanaugh from her position as School Counselor beginning on September 5, 2023 through November 1, 2023;
- accepts the resignation of Stacey Illi as Special Education Teacher effective August 29, 2023.
- approves the change of tenure area of Marnie Baker from Special Education to Elementary Education new four year probationary period effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027.
- approve the following changes to the substitute roster and other assignments, **pending successful fingerprint clearance through the New York State Education Department and approval through DMV and or Civil Service if applicable:**
  - Substitute Additions:**
    - Noah Sleight - Teacher Aide, Typist
    - Dale Vance – Certified Teacher (approved to work at a daily rate of \$250 for Math Teacher’s leave)

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Lauryn Smith - School Psychologist (approved to sub as School Counselor for extended leave at the rate of \$225 per day)

CARRIED – 5 AYES - ALL

**Discussion:**

**Informational:**

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 in the High School Library at 5:15 PM.

BY: DAVIS/KHORK

**RESOLVED:** that, at 6:40 PM the Board move to Executive Session to discuss a particular personnel matter.  
CARRIED – 5 AYES – ALL

BY: DAVIS/KHORK

**RESOLVED:** that, at 6:52 PM the Board return to Regular Session and the meeting be adjourned.  
CARRIED – 5 AYES - ALL

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Eaton, District Clerk