

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

President Clark opened the meeting at 5:17 PM immediately following the Capital Project Community Forum and Audit Committee Meeting and led the Board/Public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Christopher Clark, Meghann Khork, James Marino, Dr. Uzma Mehr, Brian May

**ABSENT:** Joseph Liberto, Kerry Davis

BY: MEHR/KHORK

**RESOLVED:** that, the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED – 5 AYES – ALL

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

The Intermediate School Select Choir under the direction of Dawn Hooper and the High School Jazz and Show Choirs under the direction of Christopher vanLeeuwan performed holiday songs for the Board and public.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **Celebrating Success:**

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

We've had a busy couple of months with family and community engagement!

- Two Author Visits, John Schu and Ann Braden. Both very different and exciting in their own ways. John Schu was especially inspirational to our students and staff. A big thanks to Jordan Hahn and Jen Carretto for putting all the details together!
- Junior Achievement once again helped connect our students to Alstom volunteers for lessons on business and entrepreneurship.
- Monthly Family Swim Nights are a hit this year, thanks to Mrs. Bowie.
- We had our first big PTO family event in a few years. We had a Family Camp Out at NH and Intermediate. We had about 100 students attend, and all families were engaged and had a lot of fun. Thank you to our PTO leadership: Melissa McCumiskey, Katie Clark and Maureen Carroll.
- We had our Parent-Teacher Conferences the week before Thanksgiving. We had about an 85% participation rate, which is really awesome!
- Thank you to all of our general education paraprofessionals and for all of our teachers. We have needed a lot of flexibility over the past month or so with our substitute shortage! Everyone has been super helpful and understanding.

**Wendy Wachtel, High School Assistant Principal** shared:

- A shout out to all who participated in the Fall Drama Production: Fractured Fairy Tales
- Author visit: Ann Braden
- Career Development Center: Walker Metalsmiths and Hyland Timber Framing
- 325 students received an honor pass for the 1st marking period
- National Junior Honor Society Induction - 40 new members

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**Superintendent Palotti on behalf of Dr. Charles Infuna, North Hornell Principal** shared:

- PTO Camp Out was very well attended and enjoyed by all
- Parent Teacher Conferences also had a very good turn out
- As recipients of the PreK Expansion Grant, the state recently visited North Hornell for a recertification oversight review. They were very impressed with many of our programs such as Forest School and our Social and Emotional Learning and Counseling. They intend to share them with other schools across the state.

**Shannon Davis, Director of Facilities** shared:

- The new slide at the Intermediate School has been installed thanks to the help of the Hornell DPW.
- Working on finishing up the North Hornell dugouts with signage to give more of a “campus vibe”
- Work continues around the Bus Garage
- Have been working on the baseball stadium utilizing inside storage for much of the equipment that used to be outside. Also working on a nicer courtyard.

**Amy Feeley, Director of Pupil Personnel** shared:

- English Language Learner Family Orientation took place on 10/24/23 at the Family Resource Center.
- Pupil Personnel Family Support with Front Door Session from the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities took place on 11/11/23
- Special Education Parent Information session took place on 11/28/23. Another session will take place in the Spring of 2024.

**Ted Illi, Director of Secondary Curriculum** shared:

- Going to keep this short and sweet: “Happy Holidays!”

### ROUTINE ITEMS

BY: MEHR/KHORK

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

- approves the minutes from the meeting of October 23, 2023.
- accepts the Federal Budget Transfer Report of October 31, 2023.
- accepts the General Fund Budget Transfer Report of October 31, 2023.
- accepts the Revenue Report of October 31, 2023.
- accepts the Appropriations Report of October 31, 2023.
- accepts the Treasurer’s Report of October 31, 2023.
- accepts the Student Activities Report of October 31, 2023.
- accepts the Warrant Reports of October 31, 2023.
- has no objections to the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and approves the authorization of funds to implement the special education programs and services consistent with such recommendations for the meetings of October 25 and 26,

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2023 and November 3, 6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 17, 27, 29 and 30, 2023, the CPSE meetings of 8, 9, 14, 17 and 30, 2023. the 504 meetings of November 1, 3, 8, 15 and 21, 2023.

CARRIED – 5 AYES – ALL

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

BY: MEHR/MAY

**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/KHORK

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

#### **POLICY/PROCEDURE**

- approves the UPK Program Plan;
- accepts the Bus Stop Safety Report and associated recommendations from PTSI and their report dated November 16, 2023;
- authorizes Patrick Flaitz to dispose of the following Food Service Equipment:  
(2) Electrolux ovens – Asset Tags # 002553 and 002554
- authorizes Patrick Flaitz to dispose of the North Hornell Library Books on the list dated November 1, 2023;
- approves the Senior Class Trip Request for a trip to Lake George, NY on June 7 - 9, 2023;
- accepts the findings of the Internal Audit Report performed by Tompkins Seneca Tioga BOCES dated November 2023.

#### **FINANCE**

- approves the engagement letter with Hodgson Russ Attorneys for Social Media litigation;
- approves the 2024/25 Budget Calendar;
- approves the Bus Lease Bid award to the lowest responsible bidder as follows:  
Ontario Investment, Inc. - 5 years at beginning December 2023  
\$34,552.21/year for a total of \$172,761.05

#### **PERSONNEL:**

- accepts the resignation of Tammi Woodworth as Food Service Helper and Bus Attendant effective at the end of the day on November 13, 2023;
- approves the permanent appointment of Katherine Santelli as Senior Typist, 12 months, 37.5 / 35 hours per week, effective February 6, 2023;
- approves the probationary appointment of Caroline Booth as Senior Typist, 12 months, 37.5 / 35 hours per week, effective September 1, 2023 as per her individual contract approved previously;

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- approves the probationary appointment of Molly Brizee as Cafeteria Monitor, 10 months, 3 hours per day effective November 1, 2023 at the starting rate per HESSA contract;
- approves the probationary appointment of Samantha Davolio as Bus Attendant, 10 months, 4 hours per day effective November 13, 2023 at the starting rate per HESSA contract;
- approves an increase in hours for Tara Regan, Food Service Helper from 3.5 hours per day to 7.0 hours per day (10 months) effective October 23, 2023;
- approves the following additional Winter Coaching appointments, pending required certifications and clearances:
  - Varsity Assistant Coach – Mark Woodworth
  - Volunteers:
    - Jessie Cullen - Wrestling
    - Alan Raycroft - Wrestling
    - Don Lockwood - Wrestling
    - Joe Flint - Boys Basketball
- accepts the resignation of Daniel Congdon as Regular Assigned Substitute effective at the end of the day on November 15, 2023 and furthermore, approve him as an uncertified substitute teacher;
- approves the MOA with HPA pertaining to extraordinary duties;
- approves the request of Amanda Owens for an unpaid leave of absence beginning on or about January 8, 2024 through April 15, 2024;
- approves the Settlement Agreement with employee #329;
- approves the limited term appointment of Angela Conway to return as a Special Education Teacher for the period of January 2, 2024 through June 30, 2024;
- approves the appointment of Lauryn Smith as Regular Assigned Substitute effective November 2, 2023 through the end of the 2023/24 school year at a rate of \$225 per day;
- approves the appointment of Mike Hopper for consulting and emergency AV support on an as needed basis at the rate of \$55 per hour;
- approves the MOA with HPDG pertaining to the seniority of Eli Marcus;
- approves the four year probationary appointment of Eli Marcus as District Technology Director effective July 1, 2023, HPDG Member, starting salary as negotiated;
- accepts the resignation of Katherine Clark as School Psychologist effective at the end of the day on January 10, 2024;
- approves the Individual Contract of Patrick Flaitz, School Business Official dated July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026;
- approves 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:**

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Delores Dailey - Bus Attendant  
John Gandy - Clerical, Teacher Aide, Laborer  
Fay Parada - Bus Attendant (Effective 10/31/23)  
Christine Smith - Bus Attendant (Effective 9/1/23)  
Susan Thompson - Food Service Helper (Effective 10/23/23)

**Removed:**

CARRIED – 5 AYES - ALL

**Discussion:**

**Informational:**

The Capital Project Public Vote will be held on Wednesday, December 20, 2023 from Noon until 9:00 PM in the HS Lobby.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at 5:15 PM in the High School Library.

The Board will hold a Special Meeting on Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at 9:30 PM in the HS Cafeteria to accept the results of the Capital Project Vote.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, January 3, 2024 at 5:15 PM in the High School Library.

BY: MEHR/KHORK

**RESOLVED:** that, at 5:42 PM the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED – 5 AYES – ALL

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Eaton, District Clerk