

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – FEBRUARY 7, 2024

President Clark opened the meeting at 5:15 PM and led the Board/Public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Christopher Clark, Joseph Liberto, Meghann Khork, Dr. Uzma Mehr,

ABSENT: James Marino, Kerry Davis, Brian May

BY: MEHR/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, the agenda be amended to change the date for item VI E. 1 b. from May 3-7, 2024 to June 3-7, 2024

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: MEHR/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

PRESENTATIONS:

Superintendent Palotti and School Business Official Flaitz presented the Board with an overview of the first draft of the 2024/25 budget (slide presentation) as well as a review of the Reserve Plan.

REPORTS:

Celebrating Success:

Morgan Allison, High School Principal shared:

- First round of Youth in Government complete, the Seniors finished by presenting to the legislature and arguing their positions on a subject, they did a great job! We have a group of Juniors set to attend the next session.
- We had a very successful Regents week, a lot of work goes into this. We had very positive results! Congratulations to the students and all who made things run smoothly.
- A big shout out to our School Counselors in honor of National School Counselors week.
- Seniors vs Faculty Basketball game tonight...come watch the Faculty win!

Dr. Julie Smith, Intermediate School Principal shared:

- Students have been contributing to our bulletin board, "What I've Learned in 100 Days of School". Among them are multiplication, division, sight words; along with how to tell time on an analog clock, how to play a recorder and how to put things in ABC order.
- This is School Counselor Appreciation week. Our school could not function without our counselors: Mrs. Tyler, Mrs. McAneney and Mrs. Bailey. Thank you to them!
- We had World Read Aloud Day on Feb. 7th. Several volunteers from across the district and throughout the community came to read to our students. Classes were on a schedule all day, so reading occurred non-stop! We even had Mr. Scholes bring in one of his HS basketball players, Xavier Patrick, to read to students and he did a great job! Thank you to Jordan Hahn and Jen Carretto for organizing it all!
- 4th grade held a concert in January. All singers and instrumentalists were fantastic!
- The Intermediate School musical, Matilda, Jr., was a success! The students were amazing! Thank you to all the parent and community volunteers who helped in all the rehearsals and performances!

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- 3rd grade went to the Clemens Center to see a showing of "Dot Dot Dot: The Musical". We've done quite a few shows at Clemens Center this year. These are a great connection to literacy and give our students an opportunity to see things outside of Hornell.
- 3rd graders have also been working on their Persuasive Essay unit. After last year's third graders successfully advocated for a new slide on the playground, this year's class is definitely enthusiastic about the power of their writing!
- Next week, we are looking forward to Grand Week, when all students are able to bring in two "Grand" guests for a little celebration and open house. Also, our school Spelling Bee will be held next week.

Dr. Charles Infuna, North Hornell Principal shared:

- Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) was a big success with about two dozen different parents coming to read to our students during their library time.
- Our students had a wonderful time attending Matilda, Jr. It was a big hit with our students and teachers.
- A big shout out to our school counselors Carli Cavanaugh and Kasi Washburn for School Counselor Appreciation Week.

ROUTINE ITEMS

BY: MEHR?KHORK

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

- approves the minutes from the meeting of January 3, 2024.
- accepts the General Fund Budget Transfer Report of December 31, 2023.
- accepts the Revenue Report of December 31, 2023.
- accepts the Appropriations Report of December 31, 2023.
- accepts the Treasurer's Report of December 31, 2023.
- accepts the Student Activities Report of December 31, 2023.
- accepts the Warrant Reports of December 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 January 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 24 and 31, 2024, the CPSE meetings of January 3, 6, 19, 23, 25 and 30, 2024 and the 504 meetings of January 4, 10, 18 and 24, 2024 and February 2, 2024.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

BY: MERH/KHORK

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

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

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BY: MEHR/KHORK

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

POLICY/PROCEDURE

- approves the following calendars:
 - 2024/25 Academic Calendar
 - 2024/25 Payroll Calendar
- approves the request of Kris Kansco to travel to Kansas City, MO to attend the Scoring/Reading of AP European History Exams on ~~May~~ **June** 3 - 7, 2024;
- Held the First Reading of the Workplace Violence Prevention Policy / Plan;
- WHEREAS, personal registration of voters in city school districts of cities with less than one hundred twenty-five thousand inhabitants is required pursuant to Section 2606 of the New York State Education Law;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education (the "Board") of the City School District of the City of Hornell, Steuben County, New York (the "District") as follows:
 - Section 1. The Board hereby appoints Carol Eaton, Susan Brown, Susan Martin, Colby Moore, Kimberly Bacon, Tara Foster and Melissa Evans as members (the "Members") of the Board of Registration for the District and hereby specifically authorizes and directs the Members to provide a means and opportunity for qualified District residents to register to vote in connection with the District's Annual Meeting and Vote to be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, pursuant to applicable law.
 - Section 2. The Board of Registration for the District shall attend at the District Clerk's office, located at 120 Raider Road, Hornell, New York 14843, to prepare the voter register for the District, pursuant to applicable law.
 - Section 3. The Members shall serve as the District's Board of Registration until February 15, 2025 or such time as the Board acts to change the membership of the Board of Registration, and shall continue to act as the Board of Registration for future District votes, until such time as the Board directs otherwise.
 - Section 4. This resolution is effective February 15, 2024;

PERSONNEL

- accepts the resignation of Kaitlin Stephens as Teacher Aide effective at the end of the day on January 16, 2024;
- accepts the resignation of Taylor Clark as Cleaner effective at the end of the day on January 12, 2024;
- accepts the resignation of Christopher Kautz as School Bus Driver effective at the end on January 5, 2024;
- accepts the resignation of Kimberly Locker as Teacher Aide effective at the end of the day on February 29, 2024;
- accepts the resignation of Lauren Moore as Bus Attendant effective at the end of the day on February 9, 2024 and furthermore, approves the following change to her appointment as Food Service Helper effective on February 12, 2024:
 - from 3.75 hours per day to 6.0 hours per day;
- approves the request of Lynda Kull, Bus Attendant to take three unpaid days on February February 26, 27 and 28, 2024;
- approves the Separation Agreement with Employee # 751;
- approves the following amendment to the probationary appointment of Emily Moore as LPN: from 7.0 hours per day to 8.0 hours per day;

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- approves the change of appointment of Delores Dailey as Food Service Helper to include Crew Chief effective January 16, 2024;
- approves the probationary appointment of Victoria Miles as Cleaner, 10 months, 3.75 hours per day effective January 24, 2024 at the starting rate as defined in the HPA contract;
- approves the probationary appointment of Shienna Anonuevo at Teacher Aide, 10 months, 7.0 hours per day effective February 8, 2024 at the starting rate as defined in the HPA Contract;
- approves the probationary appointment of Melissa Wood as Teacher Aide, 10 months, 7.0 hours per day effective February 5, 2024 at the starting rate as defined in the HPA Contract;
- approve the permanent appointment of Ernie Greenthal as Grounds / Maintenance Worker effective July 10, 2023;
- accepts the resignation of David Browne as Regular Assigned Substitute effective at the end of the day on February 7, 2024;
- approves the following temporary change to the appointment of Katrina Hurd as Regular Assigned Substitute effective February 5, 2024 through a date to be determined: daily rate from \$175 to \$225;
- approves the MOU with HEA pertaining to the addition of Assistant Musical Director Positions;
- approves the MOA with HEA pertaining to the Entry Level Salary for New Hires;
- approves the MOA with HEA pertaining to the compensation of the High School Counselors for extra work beyond the normal school day while working through the new Synergy program;
- approves the following additional Advisor appointment for the 2023/24 school year: HS Assistant Musical Director – Sydney Schierer;
- approves the following Spring Coaching appointments, pending required certifications and clearances:

Baseball:

Varsity Head Coach	Joe Flint
JV Head Coach	Christopher vanLeeuwen
Modified Head Coach	Joe Gibson
Volunteer	Mike Bassage

Softball:

Varsity Head Coach	Jennifer Bowie and Amber Kossow (50/50 Split)
JV Head Coach	Hallie Mistretta
Modified Head Coach	Ashlen Arias-Baird

Track:

Varsity Girls Head Coach	Angela DeLany
Varsity Boys Head Coach	Michael DeGaetano
Assistant Coach	Julia Butts
Assistant Coach	James Welch
Modified Head Coach	Katie Kenney

Tennis:

Varsity Head Coach	Jimmy Dagon
Modified Head Coach	Michael Harrick

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Golf:

Varsity Head Coach	Amy Feeley
JV Head Coach	Todd Bialecki
Volunteer	Elizabeth Norton

- approves the following change to the resignation of Stacy Moravec as Special Education Teacher: effective date from June 20, 2024 to June 30, 2024;
- approves the paid administrative leave of employee # 40 effective on January 26, 2024 through a date to be determined;
- approves the placement of Alfred University Counseling Practicum Student Carly Drake with Kasi Washburn beginning on January 26, 2024;
- approves the four year probationary appointment of Billy Doell as Special Education Teacher in the tenure area of Special Education, effective January 22, 2024 at a starting salary as defined in the HEA Contract. Billy is also hereby approved to work with her team on an hourly time sheet basis over the summer when requested by her building principal. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on the employee receiving APPR ratings of H or E in 3 of the 4 preceding years (and no I rating in the final year). (BS in Elementary Education / Special Education and Masters in Special Education from Grand Canyon University - NYS Initial Certification in SWD 1-6).

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board welcomed Billy to the District.

BY: MEHR/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the four year probationary conditional appointment of Mark Woodworth as Special Education Teacher in the tenure area of Special Education, effective March 1, 2024 at a starting salary as defined in the HEA Contract. Mark is also hereby approved to work with his team on an hourly time sheet basis over the summer when requested by his building principal. This appointment is conditional upon Mark being enrolled in classes and actively seeking NYS Certification in the area of Special Education (Students with Disabilities). Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on the employee receiving APPR ratings of H or E in 3 of the 4 preceding years (and no I rating in the final year). (AAS in Banking and Finance from Alfred State College, Police Academy Certificate from CCC, BS in Management from Houghton College, MS in Leadership from Roberts Wesleyan College - NYS Transitional A Certification in Security Operations 7-12 (expired 8/31/2023).

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board welcomed Mark to the District.

BY: MEHR/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the four year probationary appointment of Derek O'Dell as Special Education Teacher in the tenure area of Special Education, effective March 1, 2024 at a starting salary as defined in the HEA Contract. Derek is also hereby approved to work with his team on an hourly time sheet basis over the summer when requested by his building principal. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on the employee receiving APPR ratings of H or E in 3 of the 4 preceding years (and no I rating in the final year). (BA in Liberal Studies from Mansfield University, MAT in Elementary Education - Special Education from Liberty University - NYS Initial

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Certification in SWD 1-6).
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board welcomed Derek to the District.

BY: MEHR/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Lisa Dunning as Math Teacher effective on June 30, 2024. (31 years in service in education all in district).
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Lisa on her upcoming retirement and thanked her for her dedicated service to the District.

BY: MEHR/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Kathy Flint as Science Teacher effective on June 30, 2024. (31 years in education 28 years of service in district).
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Kathy on her upcoming retirement and thanked her for her dedicated service to the District.

BY: MEHR/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Todd Bialecki as Music Teacher effective on June 30, 2024. (33 years in education 5 years of service in district).
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Todd on his upcoming retirement and thanked him for his dedicated service of the District.

BY: MEHR/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Michael DeGaetano as English Teacher effective on June 30, 2024. (31 years in education 27 years of service in district).
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Mike on his upcoming retirement and thanked him for his dedicated service to the District.

Superintendent Palotti congratulated all of the retirees and stated they would be honored at a reception at the end of the school year.

BY: MEHR/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the appointment and individual contract of William Bean as Administrative Staff Trainer effective January 23, 2024.
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: MEHR/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Dr. Juliana Smith in the area of Elementary Administration effective February 4, 2024.
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

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The Board congratulated Julie on her receiving tenure. Superintendent Palotti indicated she would be honored later in the school year with the other 2024 tenure recipients.

BY: KHORK/MEHR

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

James Beer - Laborer (Effective 1/31/24)

Taylor Clark - Cleaner (Effective 1/13/24)

Heather Ehmann - Food Service Helper (Effective 1/31/24)

Aurora Foreman - Typist, Teacher Aide, Bus Attendant, Food Service Helper

Joseph Guinnip - Laborer (Effective 1/6/24)

Robin Huffsmith - Food Service Helper (Effective 1/22/24)

Madelyn Moore - Typist, Teacher Aide, Bus Attendant, Food Service Helper, Nurse Aide

Elizabeth Raab - Typist, Teacher Aide, Food Service Helper, Bus Attendant

Noah Sleight - Uncertified Teacher (Effective 1/5/24)

Becky Smith - Food Service Helper, Teacher Aide

Lacey Teed - Typist, Teacher Aide, Laborer, Bus Attendant

Kaeden Weakland - Uncertified Teacher (Effective 1/26/24)

Aubrey Wilkins - Uncertified Teacher (Effective 1/2/24)

David Browne - Uncertified Teacher

CARRIED – 4 AYES - ALL

Discussion:

Member Mehr addressed the Board and public regarding her thoughts on the District's inclusivity of all students, noting that while she feels the District does a great job including all students and making them feel welcome, everyone (including herself) can always do better and to always be mindful of others.

Informational:

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 5:15 PM in the High School Library.

BY: DAVIS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, at 5:55 PM the Board move to Executive Session to discuss the tenure of a particular individual.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: MEHR/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, at 6:18 PM the Board return to Regular Session and the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED – 4 AYES - ALL

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Eaton, District Clerk