

Jason Chevrier  
Superintendent  
518-732-2297



Shelley Palmer  
President  
Board of Education

**Thursday, February 15, 2024**  
**February 15, 2024 - Board of Education Minutes - Regular Meeting**

**Minutes are final and were approved at the March 21, 2024, board meeting.**

Meeting Time: 6:00 pm

Meeting Location open to the public: 1477 South Schodack Road, Room 310

Live Stream Link for viewing or listening:

<https://schodackk12.webex.com/schodackk12/j.php?MTID=m5d92ca06c865591d293ad7021643460e>

To join by phone:

1-646-992-2010

Access number: 2330 775 2692

**Present: Shelley Palmer, Kurt Maier, Blake Kush, Tylea Gebbie, Angela Beber, Marion Spar, Sherri Gibson, Mary Yurista and Aydin Ahmed**

**Absent: None.**

**Also Present: Jason Chevrier, Brian Carey, Alyssa Sabbatino, Hillary Brochu, Robert Santarcangelo, James Derby, and Michele Reickert**

## **1. MEETING OPENING**

A. **President Shelley Palmer** called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

B. **President Shelley Palmer** asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

C. **Mary Yurista moved** to approve the Present Agenda, **Marion Spar seconded, all present in favor.**

D. **Tylea Gebbie moved** to approve the Minutes of the January 18, 2024, regular meeting, **Angela Beber seconded, all present in favor.**

## **2. REPORTS**

A. Science of Reading

Alyssa Sabbatino explained the Science of Reading, the myths about it, recommended practices vs. how it is used in Schodack, as well as the needs and next steps moving forward.

B. 2024-2025 Budget Draft 1

Brian Carey and Jason Chevrier presented Draft #1 of the 2024-25 Budget, what has changed since the last presentation, addition/subtraction sheets, Mr. Chevrier expressed that it is possible that none of the

sheets will make it into the budget, the board and administration rating of the addition/subtraction sheets, State Aid Projections, discussion ensued around State Aid, Tax Cap Projection was shared, it was noted that it is early and subject to change, and next steps were shared.

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **4. DISTRICT/BUILDING/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE UPDATES**

#### **A. District Updates**

- Exemptions:
  - Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers
  - Senior Citizens

Changes have taken place with exemptions, last year we matched the Town of Schodack exemptions, in February the Town of Schodack changed their exemptions, and the district will need direction from the board if they want to change the exemptions.

- RECOVS Grant – Two grants, RECOVS – Learning Loss and RECOVS – Mental Health, we received approval on the Mental Health grant, not the Learning Loss grant, we were one of 50 Schools in NYS to receive money.
- SRO Update – Looking into Grants to apply for funds, interviews were scheduled for February 14, 2024, officer was sick, rescheduled for the Thursday after break, for a start date of the following Monday.
- Enrollment Report attached for review. In January there was a discrepancy in the English Learners numbers, we have updated that and the numbers now mesh, also a column was added for students placed out of district.
- Capital work will be done over break. Ceiling tiles will be removed and will remain off until work can be completed, abatement work will be done in the auditorium on pipes, and abatement work will be done over break and completed before students return.

#### **B. Building Updates**

- Castleton Elementary School – Spirit week last week leading up to the Super Bowl, kids collected soup for the “Souper” Bowl, Rensselaer County Dept. of Health will be in to speak with 6<sup>th</sup> grade students about Vaping and Tobacco use and the dangers of it. Kindergarten is currently at 42 with a few packets still out, in a good place with numbers.
- Maple Hill Jr./Sr. High School – Career Fair took place at the Jr/Sr High School, Kate Tubbs organized, and Kids were given a survey for a spring career fair to see what they are interested in learning more about. Teen intervene training, Michelle Stilson, teen substance abuse and a restorative approach to discipline when students are caught. Annual cabaret performance was fantastic, the Drama Club announced the upcoming Musical. This week is spirit week with a Pep Rally on Friday, upcoming March events – Hoops Against Hunger, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### **C. Student Representative to the Board of Education Update**

Sports have been busy, boys Basketball won Patroon Conference, Kate Ackerman going to States for Bowling, Cabaret performance was good, Spirit week in February is new and fun, Snowball was well attended and the last DEI meeting with Student Leadership was held this week.

### **5. POLICIES**

**Angela Beber moved to approve items 5. A. through 5. B., Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

A. Motion to approve the 2nd reading and adoption of the following policy(ies):

- 2325 Videoconferencing of Board Meetings
- 6700 Purchasing
- 6700-R Purchasing Regulation
- 6710 Purchasing Authority
- 8414.5 Alcohol and Drug Testing of Drivers
- 8414.5-R Alcohol and Drug Testing of Drivers Regulation
- 9520.6 Rights of Employees to Express Breast Milk in the Workplace

B. Motion to approve the 1st reading of the following policy(ies):

- 0100 Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity
- 0110.2 Sexual Harassment in the Workplace
- 0110.2-E Sexual Harassment in the Workplace Exhibit with attached reporting form
- 9260 Conditional Appointment and Emergency Conditional Appointment - Student Safety

**6. FINANCE**

**Kurt Maier moved to approve items 6. A. through 6. D., Tylea Gebbie seconded, all present in favor.**

- A. Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the month(s) of December 2023.
- B. Acceptance of the Claims Auditor's Report for the month(s) of December 2023.
- C. Approval contracts:

<b>Schodack Central School District</b>				
<b>Contract / Lease Approvals for Board Meeting: Date: February 15, 2024</b>				
<b>CONTRACTOR / VENDOR NAME</b>	<b>TERM OF CONTRACT</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>RATE/RETAINER</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>
North Greenbush School District	2023-2024 School Year	Health Services	\$349.09 per student	14 Students
<b>TENANT NAME</b>				

D. Acceptance/Acknowledgement of Donation(s):

<b>Schodack Central School District</b>				
<b>Gifts &amp; Donations for Acceptance (Increasing General Fund) at Board Meeting</b>				
<b>Date: February 15, 2024</b>				
<b>DONOR NAME</b>	<b>DONATION AMOUNT</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>CODE</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>
Progressive Insurance Donation	\$250.00	CES Assemblies Donation	A2110.405.10.0000	(CES Assemblies)
<b>Schodack Central School District</b>				

<b>Gifts &amp; Donations to be Acknowledged (TA &amp; TE) at Board Meeting Date: February 15, 2024</b>				
<b>DONOR NAME</b>	<b>DONATION AMOUNT</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>CODE</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>
Hannaford Distribution Center (Robert Leclair)	Food items valued at: \$1300.00	Backpack Program		See attached list

**7. OTHER ACTION**

**Sherri Gibson moved to approve item 7. A., Tylea Gebbie seconded, all present in favor.**

A. Motion to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar.

**8. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS**

**Mary Yurista moved to approve items 8. A., with sentiment to the retiring employees of regrets that they are leaving and thanks for their service to the district, Kurt Maier seconded all present in favor.**

A. Approval of Staffing Actions:

<b>Schodack Central School District</b>				
<b>Staffing Actions for Board Meeting Date: February 15, 2024</b>				
<b>RESIGNATIONS</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>REASON</b>	<b>COMMENT</b>
Sara More	Teaching Assistant	February 16, 2024	Resignation	
Leigh Stevens	School Bus Driver	February 9, 2024	Resignation	
Shannon Hibbs	Registered School Nurse	March 4, 2024	Resignation	
Sharon Bourdeau	AIS Math/Resource Specialist	July 17, 2024	Retirement	Held various Leave Positions, was a Teaching Assistant, Teacher and most recently AIS Math/Resource Specialist
Richard D. Vogel	Custodial Worker	March 15, 2024	Retirement	Has been with the facilities department since July 1, 2011.
<b>SUBSTITUTE APPOINTMENTS</b>	<b>SUBSTITUTE AREA</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE</b>		<b>RATE</b>
Amy Beaudoin	Regular Substitute	January 22, 2024		Rate set at the July Organizational Meeting.

	Teacher for Kim Donato			
Amanda Escaravage	Teacher			Rate set at the July Organizational Meeting.
<b>APPOINTMENT</b>	<b>AREA / TYPE</b>		<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>RATE</b>
Haley Salvagione	Teaching Assistant - part-time 4 hours per day		February 7, 2024	CESA Start Rate
<b>CORRECTION TO APPOINTMENT</b>	<b>AREA / POSITION</b>		<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>COMMENT/ADDITIONAL CORRECTION</b>
Walter Voss	Extended Term Substitute Teacher for Meghan Krug.		January 29, 2024	Correct January 18, 2024, minutes to reflect the correct name to be Meghan Krug, not Meghan Hughes and make note at top of minutes that they are revised.
<b>ADVISOR / COACH</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>DURATION</b>	<b>RATE/STIPEND</b>	<b>COMMENT</b>
Nathan Ryan - Coach	Varsity Lacrosse	2023-24 season	Stipend in accordance with Appendix C	
Micaela Madigan	Volunteer Assistant Coach - Softball	2023-24 Season	n/a	Volunteer
Renee Seymour - Advisor (partial year)	National Honor Society	9/1/2023-2/09/2024	\$649.22	Pro-rated stipend includes longevity
Kaitlin Mahota - Advisor (partial year)	National Honor Society	2/12/24-6/30/24	\$537.40	Pro-rated stipend

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**10. END BUSINESS MEETING**

A. Agenda Planning

- Cursive writing status, 7<sup>th</sup> grade is learning their signature, how to sign, and when to sign.
  - Sample lessons will be shared with the board.
  - How do we push it home to get support at home.
  - What is being done in the gap grades, how do we address it will all students?

B. Board Member Comment

- 4-5 Fun night was well attended and Sara Lant did a great job planning

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

A. **Mary Yurista moved** to adjourn to executive session at 7:35 pm. to discuss contract negotiations with SAA, contract negotiations with the Directors, and the personnel history of a particular employee, **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

B. **Kurt Maier moved** to reconvene to open session and adjourn the meeting at 8:47 pm., **Sherri Gibson seconded, all present in favor.**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Michele A. Reickert*

District Clerk