

Minutes of Special Meeting
Thousand Islands Board of Education
Tuesday, September 20, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
MS/HS Library



Members Present: Bruce Mason
 Jenny Bach
 Shawn Cherchio
 Sarah Riddoch
 Dan Ward

Also Present: Michael Bashaw, Jr., Superintendent
 Angela Picunas, Business Manager
 Jessica Steblen, BOE Secretary / District Clerk
 Lisa Freitag
 Kenny Garnsey
 Dan Hammond
 Andrea Lomber
 Chelsea Nohle (6:10 p.m.)

Vice-President Mason called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was observed in honor of Jolene Radley.

Presentation:

Nick Signorelli and Mike Frisina, of Ashley McGraw, led a Capital Project Presentation regarding a proposed capital project of \$23,000,000 to address needs across the district. Together they explained the principals of safe and healthy places obtained through the methodology of collecting, reviewing, and categorizing data for each building, and ultimately prioritizing resulting items with the district as high, medium, and low. All options begin with abatement of asbestos in each of the elementary buildings to initiate necessary and holistic upgrades in mechanical systems including heat, electric, and plumbing. Kenny Garnsey echoed that these steps toward the future must take place in order to be able to do any work within these areas of the buildings, along with the fact that the existing equipment is outdated and parts are unavailable to repair any longer. It was discussed, to respect budgetary responsibility, that these systems are compatible with each other and therefore could prolong the use of the heating system at Bashaw Elementary while working at Guardino. Proposals also include kitchen upgrades at Bashaw Elementary and the Sand Bay campus, again salvaging/sharing quality equipment when possible. Additionally, there are needed repairs and upgrades to be performed at the bus garage at Guardino Elementary. Upgrades at the Middle School/High School include revamping vital pieces and central areas of the buildings; the auditorium, kitchen and cafeteria, and the main foyer to the gymnasium, library, and café, as well as site work to include sidewalks and pavement.

Administrators reported shared excitement and success in the beginning of the school year. At the elementary level Mrs. Freitag and Mrs. Nohle both expressed the best part is seeing a true return to normal with small group work, carpets and shared areas in the classroom, and close collaboration amongst staff. Open Houses went well in both buildings and both Bashaw and Guardino Elementary Schools are looking forward to upcoming activities to include Bus Safety, the climbing wall, field trips and school pictures. At the Sand Bay campus clubs and athletics are up and

running. Mrs. Lomber reported successful activities for students including the Homecoming Dance and HOCO festival, senior whitewater rafting trip, Spirit Week and pep rally. Academics are also off to a good start with supports like the Learning labs and ASAP in place, along with well-received breaks for students in the form of “free time” for half of their lunch period in the gymnasium or outdoors when weather permits. Mr. Hammond explained some progressive disciplinary action in both regular and proposed 5:40 detention(s) using best practice for more productive and effective work. Scheduling and staff will provide quality opportunities and support for better used reflective and meaningful time after school hours. Lastly, Mrs. Lomber introduced the idea for Seniors to begin planning for a possible trip to Florida this year, which was well-received by the board. Mr. Garnsey, Building and Grounds, reported that the fuel depot project is 100% complete with the only complaint that he has heard being the wait for parts. He explained some issues/concerns with infrastructure; including the bus garage chimney and another possible sinkhole that he is working closely with the Town of Clayton on.

Business, Finance, and Property:

Motion by Sarah Riddoch, second by Jenny Bach, to approve the following:

- Approve Minutes of August 16, 2022 meeting.
- Second reading and approval of § 3220- Service Animal Policy, as recommended by the Policy Committee- enclosure.
- Approve monthly Treasurer’s Reports and Statement of Savings for the 2022-2023 school year- enclosure.
- Approve School Psychologist Practicum Student, Anna Coughlan, for the 2022- 2023 school year.
- Approve Claims Auditing Reports for 3/15/22-4/15/22.
- Approve Claims Auditing Reports for 4/16/22-6/30/22.
- Approve Legal Notice for Tax Collection.
- Approve surplus of school furniture.

Personnel:

Motion by Jenny Bach, second by Sarah Riddoch, to approve the following:

- Revision of Annual Term Appointment of Joshua Ostrander in the area of Special Education pending NYS Certification at a salary of B30, Step 2, effective ~~September 1, 2022~~ July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023, with benefits consistent with the TIEA contract.
- Appointment of Briel Faircloth as 1.0 FTE Elementary teacher, in the tenure area of Elementary, at a salary of B, Step 1, with benefits consistent with the TIEA contract, with a four-year probationary period effective September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2026 (tentative), pursuant to Education Law § 3012-c and § 3012-d, pending criminal clearance by the New York State Education Department.
- Advance on Teacher Salary Schedule for Lisa Ingerson, Secondary Science, to M18 Step 26, effective September 1, 2022
- Advance on Teacher Salary Schedule for Taylor Kieffer, Physical Education/Health, to B12 Step 2, effective September 1, 2022.
- Advance on Teacher Salary Schedule for Joshua Ostrander, Special Education, to M Step 2, effective September 1, 2022
- Advance on Teacher Salary Schedule for Nicholas Sunberg, Secondary Math, to B24 Step 4, effective September 1, 2022
- Appointment of Katrina Clement, provisional typist, at a salary of \$18.34/hour, 8.0 hours per day, excluding lunch, 260 days per year, with a 52-week probationary period, benefits consistent with the CSEA contract, effective September 19, 2022.
- Appointment of Kasey Pitkin, provisional typist, at a salary of \$19.61/hour, 8.0 hours per day, excluding lunch, 260 days per year, with a 52-week probationary period, with benefits consistent with Administrative

Procedures 4212.7 and .71- Compensation and Related Benefits, Nonaffiliated Personnel, Supervisor and Confidential Personnel.

- Appointment of Debra Maloney as Teacher Aide at a rate determined by the CSEA contract settlement, for 7.0 hours per day, with benefits consistent with the CSEA contract, effective September 1, 2022, with a 52-week probationary period, and acknowledgement of criminal clearance by the New York State Education Department.
- Appointment of Meghan Swenson as Teacher Aide at minimum hiring rate determined by the CSEA contract settlement for 7.0 hours per day with benefits consistent with the CSEA contract, effective September 1, 2022, with a 52-week probationary period, acknowledgement of criminal clearance by the New York State Education Department.
- Increase daily hours of Joy Rhinebeck, Teacher Aide, from 5 to 6.5 hours, with benefits consistent with the CSEA contract, effective September 1, 2022.
- Appointment of Abigail Duffy as Substitute Teacher for the 2022-2023 school year and acknowledge receipt of criminal clearance from the New York State Education Department.
- Appointment of Alicia Keefer as Substitute Teacher for the 2022-2023 school year and acknowledge receipt of criminal clearance by the New York State Education Department.
- Appointment of Jessica Lashomb as Substitute Teacher Aide for the 2022-2023 school year, pending issuance of criminal clearance by the New York State Education Department.
- Appointment of Sauliss Martinez as Substitute Teacher Aide for the 2022-2023 school year, pending issuance of criminal clearance by the New York State Education Department.
- Appointment of Christina Robinson as Substitute Teacher Aide for the 2022-2023 school year, and acknowledge receipt of criminal clearance from the New York State Education Department.
- Appointment of Erica Knapp as Substitute Teacher Aide for the 2022-2023 school year, and acknowledge receipt of criminal clearance from the New York State Education Department.
- Appointment Susan Kellogg as Substitute RN for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Appointment of Craig Orvis as Substitute Food Service Worker for the 2022-2023 school year, and acknowledge receipt of criminal clearance from the New York State Education Department.
- Appointment of Aidan Demotta as Lifeguard for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Appointment of Sharon Nebbia as Class of 2023 Advisor for the 2022-23 school year, at a stipend per TIEA contract.
- Appointment of Genny Scales as Advisor for HS Student Council for the 2022-23 school year, at a stipend per TIEA contract.
- Appointment of Collin Zehr as both Select Voice Ensemble Coordinator and Stage Lighting and Sound Technician Coordinator for the 2022-23 school year, at stipends per TIEA contract.
- Appointment of mentors/mentees for the 2022-23 school year, at a stipend per TIEA contract:
 - Year 1 of 2:
 - Ed Oliver for Raegan Becker, HS Science
 - Rob Riddoch for Briel Faircloth, Elementary (Grade 4)
 - Paulette Roux for Mikael-Ann Melfi, MS Science
 - Kathy Wiley for Collin Zehr, MS/HS Music
 - Year 1 of 1:
 - Jen Augliano for Rachel Emmerson, MS English
 - Melinda Bechaz for Susana Fairchild, Spanish
 - Shannon Connerton for Sherry McCarthy, Elementary (Grade 5)
 - Heather Lavarney for Nicole Majewski, SS/Special Ed (Grade 6)
 - Kelly Melfi for Courtney Wright, Elementary (Grade K)

- Approve addition of 5:40 p.m. Detention Monitor to Hourly Compensation Schedule for the 2022-2023 school year.

Vote was taken; all voting aye

5:0

The Board acknowledged receipt of criminal clearance from the New York State Education Department for the following individuals: Raegan Becker, Mark Benz, Rachel Emmerson, Susana Fairchild, Christine Gustafson, Meghan Jenis, Sara Lantier, Nicole Majewski, Michaela McAdoo, Sherry McCarthy, Karla Sanchez, Linda Saraceni, Corrine Willis, Claire Ward, Courtney Wright, and Collin Zehr.

Motion by Sarah Riddoch, second by Jenny Bach, to approve the following:

- Appointment of Lynne Hoover as a Teacher Assistant for the 2022-2023 school year, with benefits consistent with the TIEA contract.
- Appointment of Juliane Flora as a Teacher Assistant for the 2022-2023 school year, with benefits consistent with the TIEA contract.
- Tenure appointment of Margaret Berry, in the tenure area of School Psychologist, effective September 1, 2022.
- Resignation of Kevin Balok, Secondary Mathematics, with last date of employment being September 16, 2022.
- Resignation of Donald Zimmer Jr. as a Part-time Bus Driver effective August 31, 2022.
- Appointment of Donald Zimmer Jr. as a Substitute Bus Driver, effective September 1, 2022, at a rate determined by the Hourly Compensation sheet.
- Appointment of Emily Durr as a Lifeguard, for the 2022-2023 school year, at a stipend per the TIEA contract.

Vote was taken; all voting aye

5:0

The Board acknowledged receipt of criminal clearance from the New York State Education Department for the following individuals: Hannah Cupernall, Mikael Melfi and Thomas Thayer.

Superintendent's Report:

Looking into a School Resource officer is still on-going, after speaking to Jefferson County Sherriff's Office and another district, we are learning that this is not a quick process. Mr. Bashaw did find that we are able to hire ourselves, however it seems like the heavily outweigh the pros.

After attending a visit to STARBASE, a week-long 5th grade STEM and career exploration program at Fort Drum, Mr. Bashaw was "blown-away" emphasizing it was really great and that he believes the kids are going to love it. He explained that the program experience and materials/equipment are of unbelievable quality and is at no cost to the district besides transportation. Side-note; he met the Garrison Commander who is a T.I. Graduate!

Students and Programs:

Motion by Dan Ward, second by Shawn Cherchio, to approve the following:

- Recommendations by Committee on Special Education.

- McGraw Hill Health text books for Middle School: Grades 6-8, *Teen Heath* ISBN 978-1-26-418253-4 and High School: Grades 9-12, Glencoe Health ISBN 978-1-26-432160-5.
- Approval of Alexandria Central School’s request to combine with TICSD for the 2022-23 school year in the sport of Modified Boys Lacrosse and Varsity Boys Lacrosse at a fee of \$125/Modified and \$250/Varsity, per athlete, to be paid prior to starting season by participating district.
- Approval of Alexandria Central School’s request to participate with TICSD for the 2022-23 school year as an independent swimmer in the sport of Modified Girls Swimming at a fee of \$125, per athlete, to be paid prior to starting season by participating district.
- Approval of Lyme Central School’s request to combine with TICSD for the 2022-23 school year in the sport of Modified Boys Lacrosse and Varsity Boys Lacrosse at a fee of \$125/Modified and \$250/Varsity, per athlete, to be paid prior to starting season by participating district.

Vote was taken; all voting aye **5:0**

Motion by Sarah Riddoch, second by Dan Ward, for the Board to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel.
Vote was taken, all voting aye. The Board entered executive Session at 7:39 p.m. **5:0**

The Board reconvened at 9:01p.m.

Motion by Dan Ward, second by Shawn Cherchio, to approve the following:

- Appoint Kenny Garnsey as Clerk of the Works Coordinator for the Capital Project for the school year of 2022-2023, at a stipend rate of \$5,000, effective July 1, 2022.
- Approve stipend for District Clerk, Jessica Steblen, for the 2022-2023 school year, at a stipend rate of \$2,500, effective July 1, 2022.

Vote was taken; all voting aye **5:0**

Motion by Sarah Riddoch, second by Jenny Bach to adjourn the meeting. Vote was taken; all voting aye. **5:0**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Date

District Clerk