

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Clinton Central School District, Oneida County, New York, held on August 11, 2020, online via Zoom.

Present:

(Board)

(Administration)

Ms. Mary Lou Lauchert, President
Ms. Melinda Leising, Vice-president
Ms. Megan Burdick
Mr. Sam Catterson
Mr. Kevin Magdon
Dr. Luke Perry
Ms. Erica Shaw

Dr. Stephen L. Grimm, Superintendent
Mr. Joseph Barretta, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mrs. Debora Van Slyke, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Ms. Kathleen Fonda, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Ms. Ellen Leuthauser, Elementary School Principal
Dr. Shaun Carney, Middle School Principal

District Clerk: Julia A. Scranton

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. Ms. Lauchert called the meeting to order at 5:34pm

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. READING OF THE MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Lauchert read the mission statement.

5. PUBLIC HEARING: SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER AGREEMENT

Dr. Grimm reviewed changes made from the previous agreement due to the Ed Law 2-d requirements. This is a two year agreement. No questions were asked.

6. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

No one wished to speak.

7. INFORMATION-REPORTS-PROPOSAL/SUPERINTENDENT & STAFF

A. Bright Spots

Recognition School Award

Dr. Grimm was happy to announce that Clinton High School was again the recipient of the Recognition School Award. Recognition schools are identified for being among the top performing schools under ESSA in a number of essential categories. Receiving this award will enable CHS to be considered for another Blue Ribbon Award in 2022. Ms. Lauchert congratulated Dr. Lee, high school principal, faculty members, and students for this achievement.

B. Superintendent's Report**Vision 2025**

Dr. Grimm presented changes in the Mission and Vision Statements as suggested in the new Strategic Plan Vision 2025 which had been reviewed by the sub-committee. Since this is Board Policy 0000, it is also on tonight's agenda for a first reading. The revised language adds clarity.

September 11 Memorial Dedication

Dr. Grimm announced that the dedication is moving ahead. Although it will be scaled down to a site-side ceremony, it will be meaningful, involving dignitaries, color guards, veterans, speakers and student performances. On that morning, the fire horn will sound at the four times that the tragedies occurred. At the 6pm dedication, music for the Flight 93 Memorial Tower that was composed by Clinton resident and former Hamilton College professor Samuel Pellman, who was tragically killed in a pedestrian/car accident a few years ago, will be played. Thank you to the planning committee for their hard work in bringing this to fruition.

Opening of School

Four virtual town hall meetings will take place on August 12, 17, 19 and 26 regarding the opening of school in September with the assistance of PTA members who will serve as moderators. A meeting with staff took place on August 11 that raised many questions, which will be helpful in the next phase of plan development. Information is being gathered and discussion taking place with the leadership team, union representatives, staff, and community members. Although prepared at the strategic and tactical levels, more work is needed on operations. The goal is to remain safe, while delivering a quality product. A plan needs to be in place by the end of next week. It has not yet been determined if opening will be onsite.

A link to the town hall meetings will be posted on the homepage of the website.

Ms. Burdick asked if the NYSED had made any accommodations regarding the hours of instruction required for students. Ms. Lauchert said that the governor had waived the number of hours but the 180 day requirement remains in effect. Dr. Grimm clarified that the most recent order requires 180 minutes over a five day period. Attendance tracking will be impacted.

8. STANDING RESOLUTIONS (CONSENT AGENDA)

A motion was made by Dr. Perry, seconded by Ms. Leising, and carried (7, 0) to combine items 7A through 7I.

A motion was made by Ms. Leising, seconded by Ms. Shaw and carried (7, 0) to approved items 7A through 7I.

- A. Agenda and Any Additions to the Agenda for August 11, 2020
- B. Minutes from the Special Meeting held on July 21 , 2020
- C. Internal Claims Auditor Report
- D. Summary Treasurer's Report for June 2020
- E. Treasurer's Report for June 2020

F. Executive Summary for June 2020

G. Revenues/expenditures by Month

H. Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) and Committee on Special Education (CSE) Report:

Initial Review	0
Program Review	1
Annual Review	1
Reevaluation (Triennial)	0
Administrative Transfer	0
Preschool	0
504 Review	0
504 Initial	0
Amendment w/o Meeting Held	2

I. Updated List of Substitute and Supervisory Personnel

9. COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

A. Policy Committee

Dr. Perry reported that the policy committee met to review procedures and NYSSBA updates to insure CCS policies were current and compliant. Topics discussed included the Code of Conduct, the re-opening of school and the Strategic Plan. Item 9A on tonight’s agenda waives policies conflicting with executive orders during the pandemic.

B. Safety Committee

Ms. Lauchert reported that the committee met on July 28, but since then, much has changed. Discussion revolved, in great detail, around protecting the safety of all school and community members with the re-opening of school. Thank you to head nurse Cindy Smiegal for her knowledge and her involvement in this process.

Dr. Grimm added that the meeting helped formulate the plan that was submitted to NY State at the end of the month. Another meeting will soon be held for further determinations.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Policy

1. BE IT RESOLVED that draft policy 0000, Mission and Vision Statements, be adopted.

NOTE: This is a first reading. No action necessary.

A motion was made by Dr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Catterson and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

B. RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the New York State Governor declared, under Executive Order 202.4, all schools within New York State to be closed to students no later than March 18, 2020 for a period of two weeks, ending on April 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, various subsequent executive orders were issued by the New York State Governor resulting in the closure of schools to students for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 13, 2020, the New York State Department of Health issued interim guidance for in-person instruction at Pre-K to Grade 12 schools during the COVID-19 public health emergency for the 2020-2021 school year; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 16, 2020, the New York State Education Department released reopening guidance for schools for the 2020-2021 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education resolves as follows:

1. In an effort to comply with reopening requirements, the Board hereby temporarily suspends any Board policy or administrative regulation/procedure that conflicts with any current or future federal, state, or county law, regulation, executive order, or guidance released for the purpose of reopening of schools during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. The Superintendent of Schools is authorized to follow the federal, state, or county laws, regulations, executive orders, or guidance and to take such action as reasonably necessary and proper for the purpose of reopening of schools.

A motion was made by Ms. Burdick, seconded by Ms. Shaw and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution with a roll call vote as follows: Ms. Burdick, aye; Ms. Shaw, aye; Mr. Catterson, aye; Ms. Leising, aye; Dr. Perry, aye; Mr. Magdon, aye; Ms. Lauchert, aye:

C. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following tax collection resolution:

RESOLUTION

To the collectors of the Clinton Central School District, Towns of Kirkland, Paris, Westmoreland, Marshall, Whitestown, New Hartford, Vernon, County of Oneida, New York State:

You are hereby commanded:

1. To give notice and start collection on September 1, 2020, in accordance with the provision of Section 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law.
2. To give notice that tax collection will end on September 30, 2020 without penalty and October 31, 2020 with penalty.
3. To collect taxes in the total sum of \$16,137,242 in the same manner that collectors are authorized to collect town and county taxes in accordance with the provisions of Section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law.
4. To make no changes or alterations in the tax warrant or the attached tax rolls but shall return the same to the Board of Education. The Board may recall its warrant and tax roll for

correction of errors or omission in accordance with the provision of Section 1316 of the Real Property Tax Law.

5. To forward by mail to each owner of real property listed on the tax rolls within ten days after the start of collection statement of taxes due on property on tax bill forms provided by the School District in accordance with the provisions of Section 922 of the Real Property Tax Law. To forward by mail, without interest penalties, to the office of the county treasurer a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on the school tax rolls in accordance with provisions of Section 540 and 544 of the Real Property Tax Law.
6. To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons, the sum listed on the attached tax rolls without interest penalties when such sums are paid before the end of the first month of the tax collection period. To add two percent interest penalties (5 percent for Whitestown and New Hartford) to all taxes collected during the second month of the tax collection.
7. To promptly return the warrant at its expiration and if any taxes on the attached tax rolls shall be unpaid at that time, deliver an accounting thereof on forms showing by town the total tax levy, the total amounts collected and total amounts remaining uncollected as required by Section 1330 of the Real Property Tax Law.

The warrant is issued pursuant to Sections 910, 912 and 914 of the Real Property Tax Law and is delivered in accordance with Sections 1306 and 1318 of this law. It is effective immediately after it is properly signed by a majority of the members of the Board of Education. The warrant shall expire on the date stated unless a renewal or extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing in accordance with Section 308, subdivision 2 of the Real Property Tax Law.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has been authorized by the voters at the Budget Referendum of June 16, 2020, to raise for the current budget of 2020-2021 a sum not to exceed \$29,035,393.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education fixes the equalized tax rates by towns and confirm the extension of the taxes as they appear on the attached described tax roll.

AND BE IT HEREBY DIRECTED, that the tax warrant of this Board of Education, duly signed, shall be affixed to the attached described tax rolls authorizing the collection of said taxes to begin September 1, 2020 and end October 31, 2020, giving the tax warrant an effective period of 60 days for the Towns of Kirkland, Westmoreland, Paris, Marshall, Vernon, New Hartford and Whitestown, at the expiration of which time the tax collectors shall make an accounting in writing to the Board of Education.

AND IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED, that the delinquent tax penalties shall be fixed as follows:
First month free period, Second month interest of 2 percent added (5 percent for Whitestown and New Hartford).

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Ms. Leising and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- D. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that, in accordance with Policy #5152 (Admission of Non-Resident Students) and Part 174 of the

Commissioner's Regulations, tuition rates for the 2020-2021 school year be set as follows:

Grades 7-12: \$9,349

A motion was made by Mr. Magdon, seconded by Ms. Shaw and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

E. RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Clinton Central School District (the "School District") desires to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Kirkland ("Town") and Village of Clinton ("Village") for sharing of fuel for the purpose of fueling School District vehicles (the "Intermunicipal Agreement") for a period of five (5) years to commence on July 1, 2020 and to expire on June 30, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education approves the Intermunicipal Agreement for a period of five (5) years to commence on July 1, 2020 and to expire on June 30, 2025 in a form approved by the School District's legal counsel. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Dr. Grimm clarified that this is a long-standing agreement that was up for renewal.

A motion was made by Dr. Perry, seconded by Ms. Burdick, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

F. RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF KIRKLAND FOR PROVISION OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER SERVICES

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Clinton Central School District (the "District"), held on July 7, 2020.

WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the New York State General Municipal Law provides the authority for the District and the Town of Kirkland (the "Town") by and through its Town of Kirkland Police Department (the "Police Department") to enter into agreements for the performance between themselves, or one for the other, of their respective functions, powers and duties on a cooperative contract basis; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the District has determined that an effective and efficient method to protect the safety of District students, staff and property is an Intermunicipal agreement with the Town to obtain the services of a School Resource Officer ("SRO"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has had the opportunity to review the proposed agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education of the Clinton Central School District resolves as follows:

1. The Board of Education hereby approves the Intermunicipal agreement between the District and Town for School Resource Officer services.
2. The Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute the Intermunicipal agreement in the form approved by legal counsel.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Ms. Leising and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

G. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adopts Strategic Plan Vision 2025.

A motion was made by Ms. Leising, seconded by Dr. Perry and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

H. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, in accordance with Board Policy #6150, the attached 2019-2020 line item budget transfers, be approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Leising, seconded by Ms. Shaw and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

I. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, in accordance with Board Policy #6150, the attached 2020-2021 line item budget transfers, be approved.

Description	Account Code	Increase	Decrease	
MS Textbook	A2110.481.04	\$43,000		To pay for the enVision Math Program
ES Textbook	A2110.481.01		\$15,000	
HS Textbook	A2110.481.05		\$10,000	
School Construction Interest	A9711.700.00		\$18,000	

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Dr. Perry and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

J. BE IT RESOLVED that the resolution approved on July 7, 2020 appointing NBT Bank as Tax Collecting Agency for the following towns Kirkland, Paris, Marshall, Vernon, New Hartford and Westmoreland in the Clinton Central School District during the 2020-2021 school year, be rescinded.

10. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

No one wished to speak.

11. PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Ms. Burdick, seconded by Ms. Leising and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

A. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby appoints Angela Thieme as Tax Collector for the towns of Kirkland, Paris, Marshall, Vernon, New Hartford, and Westmoreland in the Clinton Central School District during the 2020-2021 school year, to be compensated with an annual stipend of \$2500.

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Ms. Burdick and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- B. BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the recommendation to approve the designation of Joseph Barretta, Assistant Superintendent for Business, as the substitute District Clerk in the event of the emergency absence of Julia Scranton, District Clerk, for the 2020-2021 school year.

A motion was made by Dr. Perry, seconded by Ms. Shaw, and carried (7, 0) to approve the following resolution:

- C. BE IT RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the resignation of Jennifer MacPherson from the civil service position of school monitor be accepted with regret.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Ms. Leising, and carried (7, 0) to go into executive session to discuss the work history of an individual. The time was 6:24pm.

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Ms. Leising, and carried (7, 0) to return to regular session. The time was 6:48pm.

A motion was by Ms. Leising, seconded by Dr. Perry, and carried (6, 1), with Mr. Catterson voting no, to approve the following resolution:

Resolution to criticize actions of board member Catterson:

WHEREAS, Board member Catterson exhibited poor judgement in making disparaging remarks in public regarding particular administrators of the District, and

WHEREAS, such actions are in conflict with and violate the terms of the Board's Principles of Governance and District Policy 2165, School Board Members Code of Ethics.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the actions of Board member Catterson, occurring at a social gathering the weekend of July 11/12, 2020, are deemed to be improper and representative of poor judgement on his part; and that it is expected that Board member Catterson will, in the future, refrain from such conduct and exhibit appropriate conduct and judgement in all matters relating to the District or Board matters.

Mr. Catterson stated that he has always been the voice of opposition, and that he has stood up for students, parents, teachers, and community members. He recognizes that the Board cannot censure an individual member, that he feels he plays a vital role, and that he will continue to do so.

13. BOARD OF EDUCATION WORKSHOP

- A. Discussion of District Goals for 2020-2021

Dr. Grimm began by reviewing the Mission and Vision Statements, and last year's District goals in relation to the Strategic Plan. Each administrator reflected on building goals set in November of 2019, strategies implemented, and results.

Ellen Leuthauser, elementary principal, reviewed steps taken to attain three goals: Implementation of the Positivity Project, Prioritization of the Next Generation Standards, and

Implementation of the Into Reading Program. In all instances, steady progress was made, but was cut short or interrupted by the school closing in March. Several CSS staff members will be presenting virtually at the P2 summit. The Standards Based Tri-mester Report Card has been created and will be implemented in September. Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Deb Van Slyke, informed the Board in detail about professional development offered and processes utilized for grades K through 8 goal achievement.

Dr. Grimm congratulated Ms. Leuthauser for insuring implementation.

Dr. Shaun Carney, middle school principal, reported that steps had been taken toward the implementation of three goals: Increased Opportunities for Parental Involvement, Modified Instructional Rounds, and Review and Analysis of RtI Process. Parents were invited to attend or present at events throughout the year, and the development of a template modifying instructional rounds was halted at the end of February. Adjustments to Learning Center content and a color coding system to identify at-risk students was devised.

High school principal Dr. Matthew Lee reported that, due to the cancellation of Regents Exams, typical data was not available. Speaking to Goal #1, that Clinton Senior High School will achieve at least a 97% student proficiency rating in all courses and on all Regents exams, only 15 students failed courses but are on track for graduation. Curriculum alignment is a priority for 2020-2021. Goal #2, the infusion of interpersonal or soft skills, came into focus with the close of school. Most students demonstrated skills that helped them succeed, while others needed intervention. A student handbook for future success is being re-shaped to include on-line and hybrid learning models. The "Writing Revolution" training was temporarily suspended but will occur in the future. The continuation of a level of communication similar to that which was implemented during the shut-down, which revealed the value of our SRO, Officer Kriz, and social worker, Mary Hosey-Pardi, will help address the issue of chronic absenteeism.

District Goal Development

Dr. Grimm referred to the new Vision 2025 Strategic Plan, reviewing the revised mission and vision statements and the core values that shape District priorities. Five goals set forth in the plan that were determined to best reflect current concerns had been selected by the strategic plan sub-committee for further discussion. An additional sixth goal was added, and it was determined which goals should be designated as district or building level. An edited document will be made available for adoption at a future meeting.

14. QUESTIONS BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ms. Lauchert informed the Board about an evaluation tool of which she had been made aware that could be used for both Board and Superintendent Evaluations. It can be purchased through Erie BOCES and is aid-able at 73%. Board members agreed that it would be worthwhile.

15. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Shaw, seconded by Ms. Leising, and carried (7, 0) to adjourn the meeting. The time was 8:57pm.

Regular Meeting

August 11, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julia A. Scranton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Julia" being the most prominent.

Julia A. Scranton
District Clerk