

**BYRON-BERGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Thursday, April 8, 2021
5:00 p.m. – Jr./Sr. High Cafeteria**

- Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by D. List.
- Members Present: D. List, Y. Ace-Wagoner, K. Carlson, W. Forsyth, T. Menzie, A. Phillips, J. VanValkenburg
- Members Absent: None
- Also Present: S. Bischooping, L. Prinz, R. Stevens, P. McGee, B. Meister, R. Manfreda, R. Caldwell
- President's Report: D. List thanked all of the Board members for their time and dedication in the Superintendent search. She said that they are thankful for three great candidates. She said that the focus groups met last night and the interviews were in person. Kevin MacDonald is compiling all of the data from the interview sheets and should have them to the Board soon. Next week the final round will be Tuesday-Thursday; she is looking forward to meeting the candidates and their spouses/significant others.
- Principals' Comments:
- P. McGee reported:
- The school is still waiting on word from the State about decreasing the 6 feet to 3 feet social distancing limit so that students in grades 6-12 can return to five day in person instruction.
 - April 19th the 6th grade is set to return to five day in person instruction. They are returning under the 6 feet rule with barriers.
 - The senior class had custom signs delivered to them and are planning some end of the year events.
- B. Meister reported:
- It was nice to have the kids get outside to enjoy the nice weather.
 - The 2020-2021 5th/6th grade trip has been cancelled. The travel agent was contacted regarding refunds and were able to recoup the majority of the money that had already been paid out. Any "cash" paid by parents, donations from letter writing, and donations from businesses will be refunded. Money that was earned through fundraising will stay in the class account.
 - Three more remote students will be returning to in-person learning; the number of remote students has gone from approximately 50 to fewer than 25.

Director Of
Instructional
Services
Comments: R. Manfreda reported there still is nothing on the State assessments; NYS is waiting for a waiver from the Federal government. The mid-year benchmark assessment for K-3, for in-person students only, shows on average, students are three months behind. The next step is determining how to address this gap.

Business
Administrator
Comments: L. Prinz reported 6 of the 8 construction management companies that were mailed RFP's met with R. Caldwell on 4/7/21 to discuss in further detail the scope of the upcoming Capital Project. The first negotiation session with the bus drivers went very well. The next negotiation meeting will take place 4/28/21 with a reschedule date of 5/5/21. Negotiations with SEIU haven't started yet; the SEIU is still working on their proposals. The New York State Aid runs that were just sent out are much better than predicted with an increase in foundation aid. Interviews were held for the Head Bus Driver position and an appointment for the position is under New Business.

Academic Focus: None

Student Council None

Superintendent's
Comments: S. Bischooping said that he reached out to Karen Sapienza-Hall and the architects about the money that was raised to put in a track scoreboard in honor of her daughter Kara that was tragically killed. In the next Capital Project, the track will be part of plan because it needs to be resurfaced and the scoreboard will be able to be added; the money that was raised in honor of Kara would be used as the local share. He also said that he, P. McGee, and R. Hannan met with the new president of the Sports Boosters and they are going to sign an MOA that has to deal with how the sports groups ask and get money for things they need. There is a new addition under New Business: 12.4 Approval of Head Bus Driver – Scott Nevol (Eff. 5/3/21).

Consent Agenda: It was moved by W. Forsyth and seconded by Y. Ace-Wagoner that the following consent agenda be approved:

Approval of Minutes

March 18, 2021

Financial Matters

General Fund Bills: Warrant A-56, Ck. # 20491-20493, \$2,078.30

Warrant A-58, Ck. # 20494-20554, \$534,905.99

Warrant A-60, Ck. # 20555-20591, \$94,141.96

School Lunch Fund Bills: Warrant C-17, Ck. # 200684-200691, \$18,127.79
Warrant C-18, Ck. # 200692-200696, \$9,989.49
Federal Fund Bills: Warrant F-15, Ck. # 400312-400313, \$539.94
Warrant F-16, Ck. # 400314-400320, \$14,300.23
Trust & Agency Fund Bills: Warrant TA-25, Wire # 1348-1351,
Ck. # 300794-300802, \$390,451.99
Warrant TA-26, Wire # 1352-1357,
Ck. # 300803-300813, \$413,303.91
Warrant TA-27, Wire # 1358-1361
Ck. # 300814-300823, \$400,464.37

Personnel Matters

Resignations/Retirement:

None

Approvals:

Substitute Teacher (UPK-5) – Sophie Farnholz

Miscellaneous Matters

None

CSE/CPSE Review

CSE: Case # 2435, # 2675, # 2777, # 2853, # 4220, # 4285, # 4663, # 4664,
4668

CPSE: Case # 4591

The motion passed 7 Yes, 0 No

Reports

Maintenance Report – R. Caldwell

R. Caldwell said that since the last time he reported at a Board meeting the Capital Project was closed out. Over Spring Recess all the desks were brought out of storage and back into the Jr./Sr. High building in anticipation of students returning full-time. The cleaners have perfected the rigorous cleaning and disinfecting procedures to ensure everyone's safety. The Grounds Department has been working outside getting a jump on the ball fields. The campus notification system and cameras in the Elementary School, Natatorium, and Bus Garage should be completed by the end of summer. Graduation is at the soccer stadium this year so he and P. McGee are working out the details to make sure it runs smoothly. The COEP at the Bus Garage will also happen this summer.

Final Draft Budget Discussion – L. Prinz

L. Prinz stated that \$800,757 in Federal Aid is allocated to the school; details of the how and what the money can be spent on is still coming. Another \$2.272 million is set aside for the school over the next four years; more details and information is also coming on the how and what it can be used for. The proposed budget to be approved by tax payers is \$24,991,065. The tax levy will remain the same as last year without an increase. There is one proposition to also be approved by tax payers: the purchase of (2) 66 passenger busses and (1) minivan not-to-exceed the cost of \$249,850. Transportation Aid is at 90% so the projected maximum out-of-pocket cost to tax payers is \$24,985 over five years. The budget vote is May 18, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. (noon)-9:00 p.m. This year there is in-person voting, but the State passed that you can also apply for an application for an absentee ballot and used “Fear of Covid-19” as a reason.

Policy Committee
Update: None

Facilities
Committee
Update: None

Budget Committee
Update: L. Prinz presented the budget with the revised numbers from the State.

Audit Committee
Update: None
SOAR Update: None

Positive
Recognition: None

Approval –
Policy # 3240 –
Non-Discrimination
And Anti-
Harassment in the
District and Policy
5635 – Gender
Neutral Single-
Occupancy
Bathrooms
Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, it was moved by W. Forsyth and seconded by T. Menzie to approve Policy # 3240 – Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment in the District and Policy # 5635 – Gender Neutral Single-Occupancy Bathrooms.
The motion passed 7 Yes, 0 No.

Approval –
MOA between
Byron-Bergen
Central School
District and the
Byron-Bergen
Personnel &
Teacher Aides’
Association

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, it was moved by J. VanValkenburg and seconded by W. Forsyth to approve the MOA between Byron-Bergen Central School District and the Byron-Bergen Personnel & Teacher Aides’ Association.

The motion passed 7 Yes, 0 No.

Approval –
Moving 6th
Grade Back
To the Jr./Sr.
High School

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, it was moved by A. Phillips and seconded by Y. Ace-Wagoner to approve Moving the 6th Grade Back to the Jr./Sr. High School.

The motion passed 7 Yes, 0 No.

Approval –
Of the 2021-2022
Budget and
Propositions

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, it was moved by W. Forsyth and seconded by A. Phillips to approve the 2021-2021 Budget of \$24,991,065; 2021-2022 Vehicle Replacement Proposition which includes purchasing 2 buses (66 passenger) and 1 minivan at a cost not-to-exceed \$249,850.

The motion passed 7 Yes, 0 No.

Approval –
Head Bus
Driver – Scott
Nevol (Eff. 5/3/21)

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, it was moved by T. Menzie and seconded by K. Carlson to approve Head Bus Driver – Scott Nevol (Eff. 5/3/21) pending Civil Service approval.

The motion passed 7 Yes, 0 No.

Public Comment:

None

Information/Announcements/Reports:

Parental Leave of Absence – Colleen Hardenbrook (Eff. 8/10/21)

Requests Requiring Board Consideration:

None

Review of Next Meeting’s Agenda:

Policy Committee Update
Facilities Committee Update
Budget Committee Update
Audit Committee Update

SOAR Committee Update
Positive Recognition

Executive Session: It was moved by W. Forsyth and seconded by A. Phillips to enter executive session at 6:22 p.m. to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. There will not be any new business transacted after executive session.

The motion passed 7 Yes, 0 No.

Return to Public Session: It was moved by W. Forsyth and seconded by Y. Ace-Wagoner to return to public session at 6:48 p.m. There was further discussion by the Board about the returning of students to school.

The motion passed 7 Yes, 0 No.

Adjournment: It was moved by W. Forsyth and seconded by Y. Ace-Wagoner to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

The motion passed 7 Yes, 0 No.