

**BYRON-BERGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Thursday, November 16, 2023
6:00 p.m. – Professional Development Room**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by President D. List.

Members Present: D. List, H. Ball, K. Carlson, J. Cook (left at 7:12 p.m.), L. Forsyth, C. Matthews

Members Absent: L. Smith

Also Present: P. McGee, C. Stehm, K. Loftus, R. Stevens, B. Brown, K. Grattan, K. Kaercher, J. Back, and 22 members of the audience.

Executive Session: It was moved by J. Cook and seconded by K. Carlson to enter executive session at 5:32 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.
The motion passed 6 Yes, 0 No.

Return to Public Session: It was moved by H. Ball and seconded by K. Carlson to return to public session at 5:57 p.m.
The motion passed 6 Yes, 0 No

President's Report: D. List reported that the NYSSBA Convention was a great learning experience and thanked the Board members who were able to make it. She and P. McGee attended the Al Hawk Awards dinner. The Member's Voice met before the meeting and everything is going well. The start time for the December 14th meeting was asked to be changed from 6:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Academic Focus: Two members of the FFA came in to talk about their trip to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. They made stops in Ohio and Kentucky before they went to the convention. Over 70,000 people from across the nation and FFA chapters from all 50 states attended the convention. The experiences, career opportunities and friendships that were made during this trip were truly a once in a lifetime event. Six students along with advisor J. Parnapy attended the convention. They made stops at the Cleveland Zoo, Keeneland Racetrack, Churchill Downs, Kentucky Derby Museum, Ashford Farm, Winstar Farms, Haygard Equine Medical Facility, and Tom Farms before they arrived at the convention.

Student Council
Report:

The Elementary Student Council Executive Team came to talk about what has been happening in the Elementary. They approved the purchase of new t-shirts for every student and staff member in the Elementary building with the new logo "Many Bees, One Hive." They also approved the purchase of a popcorn machine for the Elementary to be used for the Math Carnival and other special events throughout the school year. They had a spirit week during Red Ribbon week where students dressed up for the different days of the week. In October a bullying assembly was held and members of the Student Council read books about bullying to the homeroom classes. Also in October, an employee from Impact Earth came to talk to them about composting and recycling. The District is looking into possibly bringing a composting program to the school. A food drive is being held from November 13th-17th and all food donated will be given to the North Bergen Food Pantry.

Principals'
Comments:

K. Loftus reported:

- Benchmark assessments have been given to students and they will be reviewed to discuss the results.
- The Step Boosters Trunk-or-Treat was a huge success and very well attended.
- The Kindergarten team held their annual pumpkin carving outside this year.
- With the great weather we had in October the Halloween Parade was held outside again this year.
- Student lunch bunches are back where she selects students to eat lunch with her. Her goal is to eat lunch with all of the Elementary students.
- Parent/teacher conferences start tomorrow.

C. Stehm/K. Grattan reported:

- Parent/teacher conferences are tomorrow.
- The first Bees Break Day took place on November 9th. Students focused on health and safety, mindfulness, exercise, visual arts, board games, and a visit from members of the district therapy dog team. A panel of military professionals also presented to students who showed an interest in military careers. Volunteers from the Bergen Fire Department showed students how to do hands-only CPR and reviewed emergency best practices.
- They hosted a Fall Fest for the senior class where they took over the cafeteria to play games and paint pumpkins.
- The 10th grade class went to BOCES for the day to see what they have to offer.
- The course offering catalog is being revamped.
- Learning Walks have resumed this year.

Director of
Instructional
Services

B. Brown thanked M. Wahl for coming in to give the SEL update. She said principal interviews went well and there was a great pool of candidates. Learning Walks have resumed in both buildings. Special Education goals

Comments:	are being reworked because they are very vague and hard to monitor the progress of students.
Director of Technology & Assessment Comments:	J. Back reported October was Cybersecurity Awareness Month. In the month of November, a phishing email was sent out district wide. Of the 220 emails sent only three people clicked on the email. This is less than 2%, the average of employees who open phishing emails is 18%, we are doing well. An assessment email went out after the phishing email to test the knowledge of everyone on cybersecurity. This will show the strengths and weaknesses of the District. Chromebook insurance is available to parents again.
Business Administrator Comments:	None
Superintendent's Comments:	P. McGee thanked everyone who helped out in the Jr./Sr. High Principal process. He thanked the Administration team for always going above and beyond for attending afterschool activities of students. He welcomed the PIG students. There are several new additions to New Business: 13.3 Approval of MOA for Winterguard, 13.4 Approval of Additional 2023-2024 Jr./Sr. High Extracurricular Advisor, 13.5 Approval of Substitute Teacher (UPK-12) – Kendall Phillips, and 13.6 Approval of Jr./Sr. High Principal – Paul Hazard (Eff. 1/3/24).
Consent Agenda:	<p>It was moved by K. Carlson and seconded by H. Ball that the following consent agenda be approved:</p> <p><u>Approval of Minutes</u> October 19, 2023 <u>Financial Matters</u> General Fund Bills: Warrant A-25, Ck. # 24262, \$37.56 Warrant A-27, Ck. # 24263-24265, \$5,977.39 Warrant A-29, Ck. # 24266-24344, \$633,766.70 Warrant A-30, Ck. # 24345-24347, \$517.66 Warrant A-32, Ck. # 24348-24425, \$135,658.69 School Lunch Fund Bills: Warrant C-6, Ck. # 201127-201140, \$69,233.03 Warrant C-8, Ck. # 201141-201152, \$14,921.41 Federal Fund Bills: Warrant F-4, Ck. # 400517-400519, \$7,295.88 Warrant F-5, Ck. # 400520, \$177.38 Capital Fund Bills: Warrant H-6, Ck. # 2721-2722, \$36,536.08 Warrant H-7, Ck. # 2723-2728, \$1,055,608.43 Trust & Agency Fund Bills: Warrant TA-8, Wire # 1665-1668, Ck. # 301329-301335, \$442,337.16 Warrant TA-9, Wire # 1669-1673, Ck. # 301336-301344, \$446,442.05 Monthly Treasurer's Report – September 2023</p>

Personnel Matters

Resignations/Retirement/Termination:

Resignation – Alliance for Equality – Heather Painting (Eff. 10/19/23)

Resignation – Bus Driver – Sharon Grefrath (Eff. 9/1/23)

Resignation – School Monitor – Teal Langmaid (Eff. 9/1/23)

Resignation – School Monitor – Ashley Yerdon (Eff. 9/25/23)

Resignation – Cleaner (Part-Time) – Ken Hale (Eff. 9/1/23)

Resignation – School Monitor – Heidi Malin (Eff. 11/17/23)

Approvals:

Teacher Aide – Rebecca Cummings (Eff. 11/1/23)

Substitute Teacher (UPK-12) – Patricia Iamon

Substitute Teacher (UPK-12) – Madison Farnsworth

Substitute Bus Driver – Sharon Grefrath

Substitute School Monitor – Teal Langmaid

Additional 2023-2024 Winter Sport Coaches/Advisors

Cheer

Kristina Bird (.5)

Amanda Wannike (.5)

Substitute Teacher (UPK-12) – Kennedy Beverly

Substitute Teacher (UPK-12) – Heidi Malin

Miscellaneous Matters

Field Trip – Senior Class – Cleveland, OH and Cedar Point –
6/10/24-6/11/24

CSE/CPSE Review

CSE cases as presented

The motion passed 5 Yes, 0 No

Reports:

SEL Report – SEL Coordinator

M. Wahl talked about the “living room” for her SEL report. Assemblies, Bees Break Days, SEL Playbook, MTSS, U of R SOS – Mental Health Team, and video resources are everyday tools used for students and staff.

Social workers have gone through suicide trainings. She went through the Four R’s of Trauma: Realize, Recognize, Respond, and Resist Retraumatization. A Fifth R that has developed is Resiliency.

EV Bus Report – CPL

CPL helped Byron-Bergen conduct an electric bus survey based on the current legislation of moving to electric buses by 2027. They analyzed route data for the district of total miles traveled by each bus. The data shows that the grid does have enough space to allow for the charging of the buses. A conceptual site plan was given to show how the bus charging station area would look. Solar panels and clean energy storage options were discussed to help with charging during peak times or power outages. There are a lot of incentives and grants being offered NYSEERDA, National Grid, and other entities for the purchase of electric buses.

Policy Committee Update:	Date to be set
Facilities Committee Update:	None
Budget Committee Update:	December 14, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.
Audit Committee Update:	None
SOAR Update:	None
Positive Recognition:	Date to be set
Approval – December 14 th BOE Meeting Start Time from 6:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<p>Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by C. Matthews and seconded by K. Carlson to approve the December 14, 2023 Board of Education meeting start time from 6:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>The motion passed 6 Yes, 0 No.</p>
Approval – First Reading Policy # 6121 – Sexual Harassment in The Workplace	<p>Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by H. Ball and seconded by L. Forsyth to approve the First Reading of Policy # 6121 – Sexual Harassment in the Workplace.</p> <p>The motion passed 5 Yes, 0 No.</p>
Approval – Creation of School Nurse Practitioner Position	<p>Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by K. Carlson and seconded by H. Ball to approve the Creation of the School Nurse Practitioner Position. There was discussion.</p> <p>The motion passed 5 Yes, 0 No.</p>
Approval – MOA for Winterguard	<p>Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by K. Carlson and seconded by C. Matthews to approve the MOA for Winterguard.</p> <p>The motion passed 5 Yes, 0 No.</p>

Approval –
Additional
2023-2024
Jr./Sr. High
Extracurricular
Advisor

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by H. Ball and seconded by K. Carlson to approve the Additional 2023-2024 Jr./Sr. High Extracurricular Advisor.
Academic Challenge Bowl – Ken Rogoyski (Substitute)

The motion passed 5 Yes, 0 No.

Approval –
Substitute Teacher
(UPK-12) – Kendall
Phillips

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by K. Carlson and seconded by C. Matthews to approve Substitute Teacher (UPK-12) – Kendall Phillips.
The motion passed 5 Yes, 0 No.

Approval –
Jr./Sr. High
Principal –
Paul Hazard
(Eff. 1/3/24)

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by L. Forsyth and seconded by H. Ball to approve Jr./Sr. High Principal – Paul Hazard (Eff. 1/3/24). Paul Hazard, who holds a Professional New York State certificate in the School District Leader certification area in the public schools of New York State, is hereby appointed to the 12-month, full-time position of Jr./Sr. High School Principal in the Jr./Sr. High School Principal tenure area for a probationary period of four (4) years to commence on January 3, 2024 and to end on January 3, 2028. The salary during the 2023-24 school year is as presented to the Board. All other terms and conditions of employment are as stated in the Byron-Bergen Administrators and Supervisors Association agreement.
The motion passed 5 Yes, 0 No.

Public Comment: None

Information/Announcements/Reports: None

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

Adjournment:

It was moved by H. Ball and seconded by C. Matthews to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m.
The motion passed 5 Yes, 0 No.