

**BYRON-BERGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Thursday, November 19, 2020  
5:00 p.m. – Jr./Sr. High Cafeteria**

**4:30 p.m. – Tour of Bus Garage**

- Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by D. List.
- Members Present: D. List, Y. Ace-Wagoner, K. Carlson, W. Forsyth, A. Phillips, J. VanValkenburg
- Members Absent: T. Menzie
- Also Present: M. Edwards, L. Prinz, R. Stevens, P. McGee, B. Brown, R. Manfreda, B. Meister (arrived at 5:17 p.m.)
- President's Report: D. List stated the Bus Garage is in acceptable condition. D. List commented that when she was writing her article for the Focal Point there were zero cases of COVID-19. We as a District are doing the best we can and she wishes the best to everyone to stay healthy and safe over the Thanksgiving break. She congratulated the girls' soccer team for going as far as they did in Sectionals and was happy that some of our sports teams were able to compete.
- Principals' Comments:
- P. McGee reported:
- The Jr./Sr. High School made it through the first 10 weeks of school with some hiccups but starting to adjust to the "new normal."
  - P. McGee was glad that some of our fall sports were able to take place.
  - Administrators are continuing to work with the disengaged students and their parents.
  - The Jr./Sr. High faculty is working on social and emotional learning, stress management, and wellness for themselves.
  - The Jr./Sr. High Administrators will have visited all remote learners by Christmas break.
  - They are developing moral boosters such as "Spirit Days" to try and keep school "normal" for our kids.
- B. Brown reported:
- P. McGee and B. Brown provided each faculty member a KitKat with "Give Me a Break" on it. This entitles them to a 20 minute break where P. McGee or B. Brown will cover their class; the break must be used by December 18<sup>th</sup>.

- Yesterday the whole 6<sup>th</sup> grade class was back together. The class was able to have band rehearsal and bonding exercises. The counselors met with them to talk about stress management.
- The Jr./Sr. High is developing a plan for each grade level back to come into the building on a virtual Wednesday.
- Working on getting Google Classroom more consistent, decluttered, and user friendly for students and parents/caregivers.

B. Meister reported:

- The Elementary School is doing great; they have at least 400 kids in school every day.
- Brian thanked everyone involved in helping the school stay clean and safe.
- The Elementary has been working with the younger students on how to use the Chromebooks if the building must go fully virtual.
- Students and staff have had to stay inside a bit more due to the weather getting colder.

Director Of  
Instructional  
Services  
Comments:

B. Manfreda reported administrators are working on trying to find more time for professional development for teachers during COVID-19; most teachers would prefer to do this virtually. Mrs. Manfreda presented the new ParentSquare app the school is using to communicate with parents and staff. ParentSquare is a 21<sup>st</sup> century school-home communication platform that bases their values on simplicity, automation, and friendliness. ParentSquare can be used on either a mobile app or a web portal. Mass notifications, classroom communications, and school services are all part of the platform.

Business  
Administrator  
Comments:

L. Prinz stated the tax collection period is over and despite this year with COVID-19, the collection rate was pretty high. The refunding for the 2012 borrowing is almost complete. L. Prinz reported that the Budget Committee met and went through different budget scenarios if the State were to cut 20% of our aid. L. Prinz reported that from the 2016-2017 school year to current they have been able to eliminate about 13-14 positions with retirements and not filling open positions. L. Prinz reported that current NYS law does not allow for transportation aid on costs incurred from mid-March to June. The Board of Regents is currently trying to change this law.

Academic Focus:

None

Student Council

None

Superintendent's  
Comments:

M. Edwards talked about the possibility of moving into a Yellow Zone designation. All information that is available will be posted on the District's website under the COVID-19 tab; information can also be found on our social media outlets. If the District is designated as a Yellow Zone, 20% of the schools total population would have to be tested over a two week period. M. Edwards played a video of Dr. Mendoza demonstrating how a COVID test would be administered. Two new approvals are being added to New Business: 12.5 Appointment – LTS Special Education (Gr. 1-6) Teacher Category II – Elizabeth Volpe (Eff. 11/30/20), and 12.6 Appointment – Substitute Teacher (Gr. PK-6) – Elizabeth Volpe.

Consent Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes

October 22, 2020

Financial Matters

General Fund Bills: Warrant A-23, Ck. # 20034-20038, \$130,484.72

Warrant A-25, Ck. # 20039-20093, \$105,401.47

Warrant A-28, Ck. # 20094-20161, \$560,751.91

School Lunch Fund Bills: Warrant C-7, Ck. # 200621-200628, \$6,096.99

Warrant C-8, Ck. # 200629-200633, \$12,038.87

Federal Fund Bills: Warrant F-6, Ck. # 400285-400287, \$6,186.36

Warrant F-7, Ck. # 400288-400289, \$9,990.00

Capital Fund Bills: Warrant H-7, Ck. # 2584-2588, \$527,923.21

Warrant H-8, Ck. # 2589-2590, \$122,981.67

Trust & Agency Fund Bills: Warrant TA-12, Wire # 1308-1313,

Ck. # 300716-300725, \$405,178.70

Warrant TA-14, Wire # 1314-1317

Ck. # 300726-300734, \$388,771.95

Monthly Treasurer's Report – October 2020

Personnel Matters

Resignations/Retirement:

None

Approvals:

2020-2021 Winter Coach Appointments

Swimming

Varsity – Sara Stockwell

Modified – Jason Blom

Modified – Jay Wolcott

Additional 2020-2021 Jr./Sr. High Advisor Recommendations

9-12 Math League – Jon Dilaura

National Junior Honor Society – Ken Gropp and Kerri Smith  
National Senior Honor Society – Laurie Penepent and Justine Fritz

Miscellaneous Matters

None

CSE/CPSE Review

CSE: Case # 2666, # 3587, # 4608

CPSE: Case # 4511, # 4518, # 4554, # 4583

The motion passed 6 Yes, 0 No

Reports: Transportation Update – Jaime Vindigni  
J. Vindigni provided the Board with a tour of the bus garage bay and one of the new buses purchased this summer. J. Vindigni pointed out all the cleaning and painting in the garage which was done by Jon Thompson and Kevin Bruton since last March. The Board was provided with an example of the paperwork now required to be completed by drivers to track student attendance and cleaning procedures due to COVID-19 rules. The Transportation Department is able to track all kids riding on buses to and from school. In addition, J. Vindigni explained all the cleaning and social distancing protocols staff have to follow in the building. At the end of the tour, training and testing requirements for transportation staff were reviewed.

Policy Committee Update: None

Facilities Committee Update: None

Budget Committee Update: There was a meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in the District Office to discuss budget concerns with the State possibly withholding 20% of our aid money for the 2020-2021 school year.

Audit Committee Update: None

SOAR Update: None

Positive Recognition: None

Approval –  
Cancellation of  
January 28, 2021  
And March 4, 2021  
Board of Education  
Meetings

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by W. Forsyth and seconded by A. Phillips to approve the Cancellation of the January 28, 2021 and March 4, 2021 Board of Education Meetings. There was mention that if we go into an orange or red zone we may have to go back to virtual meetings.

The motion passed 6 Yes, 0 No.

Approval –  
New Course  
Elective –  
Plant Science

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by J. VanValkenburg and seconded by K. Carlson to approve the New Course Elective – Plant Science.

The motion passed 6 Yes, 0 No.

Approval –  
Creation of  
Computer  
Repair  
Technician  
Position

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by Y. Ace-Wagoner and seconded by J. VanValkenburg to approve the Creation of Computer Repair Technician Position.

The motion passed 6 Yes, 0 No.

Approval –  
Appointment –  
Computer Repair  
Technician –  
Debra Pangrazio  
(Eff. 11/23/20)

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by A. Phillips and seconded by W. Forsyth to approve the Appointment – Computer Repair Technician – Debra Pangrazio (Eff. 11/23/20).

The motion passed 6 Yes, 0 No.

Approval –  
LTS Special  
Education  
(Gr. 1-6) Teacher  
Category II –  
Elizabeth Volpe  
(Eff. 11/30/20)

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by W. Forsyth and seconded by A. Phillips to approve the LTS Special Education (Gr. 1-6) Teacher Category II – Elizabeth Volpe (Eff. 11/30/20). Elizabeth Volpe, who holds initial certification in English Language Arts (Gr. 5-6, 7-12) certification areas in the public schools of New York State, is hereby appointed to the position of Long-Term Substitute Special Education (Gr. 1-6) Teacher (Category II) for the period of November 30, 2020 through December 23, 2020 (or until the return of N. Malick from leave). The salary during his appointment will be paid in accordance with the salary schedule as outlined in the collective bargaining agreement between the Byron-Bergen Faculty Association (BBFA) and the Board of Education, and will be based upon 1/200th of Step 1. This is not a benefits eligible position.

The motion passed 6 Yes, 0 No.

Approval – Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was moved by  
Substitute A. Phillips and seconded by Y. Ace-Wagoner to approve the Substitute  
Teacher Teacher (Gr. PK-6) – Elizabeth Volpe.  
(Gr. PK-6) –  
Elizabeth Volpe The motion passed 6 Yes, 0 No.

Comments from the Audience:  
None

Information/Announcements/Reports:  
None

Requests Requiring Board Consideration:  
Y. Ace-Wagoner went over some of the resolutions from the NYSSBA  
Conference she virtually attended on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

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 W. Forsyth and seconded by Y. Ace-Wagoner to  
adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m.  
The motion passed 6 Yes, 0 No.