

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – MARCH 12, 2020

President Davis opened the meeting at 5:15 PM and led the Board/Public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Kerry Davis, Jessica Hess, James Marino, Meghan Khork,

ABSENT: John McNelis (excused), Uzma Mehr (excused)

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

RECOMMENDED ACTION

REPORTS:

Celebrating Success:

Barbara Kramer, North Hornell School Principal reported:

- Celebrated 100 days of school on February 25th with lots of activities centering around “100”
- We continue to have New Visions Education Students coming in and helping out in Classrooms. One student even comes in extra on her own time!!
- The 4th grade visited our school last week as a writing celebration with Kindergarten students. Each shared their writing pieces with multiple other students.
- Kindergarten has had their data meeting following their latest BAS testing, from it came a book club for students who excel in reading in Kindergarten!
- We had Career Day with visits from many different areas including the Fire Department and Mr. Merry from Merry Farms.
- Celebrated “Read Across America” with many volunteer readers, March Book Madness and Dr. Seuss Fun Days
- Scheduling has begun for next year coordinating between 3PK, NH and Bryant.

Jennifer Sorochin, Bryant School Principal reported:

- Enjoyed many of the same activities that were celebrated at North Hornell
- Great professional development with Lindsay Barton – Modeling Writing Instruction
- BAS testing has shown double digit increases!
- Have enjoyed reading, artwork and the bookfair – even though the showcase had been cancelled unexpectedly due to the COVID-19 restrictions – kudos to all the work that Jamie Kellogg, Jen Carretto and Sydney Shierer put into preparing for it...it was going to be great

Sean Gaffney, Intermediate School Principal reported:

- The 4th grade really enjoyed their trip to North Hornell to share writing with the Kindergarteners as Barb mentioned earlier.
- Big shout out to Julie Smith for joining the Int School team and her support
- The 4th grade band concert was amazing with guest musicians – great job Mr. Belin!

Superintendent Palotti added that it was an interesting week at the Intermediate School, Commended Sean for his quick thinking and actions during the recent fire where he noticed the smoke, saw the fire, extinguished it and called the Fire Department. His actions were

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key to keeping the fire contained and the students and staff safe. Also noted that everyone involved handled the situation very well, the staff at the Intermediate School, High School and Business teamed up to move our students to safety and get them home.

Scott Carroll, High School Principal reported:

- Congratulations to our numerous BOCES students who won awards at Skills USA!
- Our annual National Honor Society Induction was earlier this week, congratulations to the new inductees!
- Stay tuned for the plans for the play that was to take place on March 20 & 21, 2020, we are trying to figure out alternate means to perform.
- Thank you to our staff for helping with the unexpected visit from the Intermediate School, we were able to feed them and keep them in a safe place until they could go home.

Juliana Smith, 3PK Coordinator / Community Schools Coordinator reported:

- We celebrated Valentine's Day, Read Across America and Dr. Seuss, which is so much fun at the pre-school level!
- We have been working closely with Erica to create consistent curriculum
- Big shout out to the Family Resource Center – it is packed with people and a great asset to the community!

Amy Feeley, Director of Pupil Personnel reported:

- Working on the Indicator 13 Transition Plan for IEPs
 - K-3 meetings had great participation
 - Working hard to make plans student lead
 - Working with the Intermediate School this month
- The Family Resource Center is doing great, very proud of the numbers served.

John Cardamone, Athletic Director reported:

- We have over 200 Spring athletes – and they have already been practicing outside!
- Congratulations to Cade Slayton for making it to States in Wrestling

Construction Report: Andy Billiotte (Welliver) provided the Board with an overview of the current mold remediation project in the HS Guidance Suite. He also provided information pertaining to the 20/21 Capital Outlay Project.

Superintendent Palotti reported:

- On updates regarding COVID-19
- 90 students from the Sophomore class traveled to Washington DC – opened floor for student presentation

PRESENTATIONS:

Sophomore Class Trip to Washington, DC:

Morgan Allison, HS History Teacher together with members of the Sophomore Class Julianna Patrick, Maylen Harwood, Caylin Young with behind the scenes help from Nick Oyer, Maddie Lyng and Dominic Nasca presented the Board with and information and a PowerPoint presentation about their recent trip to Washington, DC to tour the Holocaust Museum as well as other various other National museums and monuments. They thanked the Board on behalf of their classmates for the wonderful opportunity.

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Budget Preparation Update:

Superintendent Palotti and Patrick Flaitz, School Business Official provided the Board with updated information pertaining to the status of the preparation of the 2020-21 budget (handout).

ROUTINE ITEMS

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti to approves/accepts the following Consent Agenda items:

- Approves of the minutes for the meeting of February 13, 2020.
- Acceptance of the Student Activities Report of January 31, 2020
- Acceptance of the GF Budget Transfer Report of January 31 2020
- Acceptance of the Appropriations Report of January 31, 2020
- Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report of January 31, 2020
- Acceptance of the Revenue Report of January 31, 2020
- Acceptance of the Warrant Reports of January 31, 2020 and February 29, 2020
- Acceptance of the Fed Budget Transfer Report of January 31, 2020.
- Has no objections to the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and approves the authorization of funds to implement the special education programs and services consistent with such recommendations for the CSE meetings of February 5, 6, 11, 13, 25 and 27, the CPSE meetings of February 5 and 11, 2020 and the 504 meetings of February 6 and 27, 2020.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

POLICY/PROCEDURE

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the overnight trip request of the DECA Club to travel to Rochester, NY on February 26, 2020 through February 28, 2020 to participate in the State Career Conference.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the out of State trip request of the DECA Club to travel to Nashville, TN on April 28, 2020 through May 3, 2020 for a member to participate in the International Competition.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the postponement and rescheduling of the History Club's out of Country trip from July 2020 to July 2021 (originally approved January 1, 2019).

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

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BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the results of the RFP for Independent Auditors dated February 24, 2020 and award same to Drescher and Malecki according to the terms in the RFP for the term of 2020-2024.
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the annual school board member election/budget vote be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 (7:00 AM – 8:00 PM) in accordance with Education Law, and further:

- (1) Recommended that the Board approve the Notice of Annual School Election/Budget Vote. (Exhibit A)
- (2) Recommended that the Board approve the Notice of Filing of School Election District Registers. (Exhibit B)
- (3) Recommended that the Board approve the Notice of Registration for Annual School Election/Budget Vote. (Exhibit C)
- (4) Recommended that the Board approve the list of school election inspectors and alternates and authorize payment at the rate of \$200 per day.
- (5) Recommended that the Board authorize the Clerk of the Board of Education to appoint new election inspectors in the event that those who are appointed are unable to work.
- (6) Recommended that the Board approve the process for absentee ballots in accordance with §2018-a of Education Law.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED WHEREAS, the City School District of the City of Hornell, Steuben County, New York (the “District”) is in the process of responding to an emergency situation arising out of the presence of mold (as discovered in connection with certain exploration work done by an outside vendor on or around January 16, 2020) due to water infiltration along the exterior south wall of the Guidance Suite at the District’s High School Building that is located at 134 Seneca Street, Hornell, New York (the “Facility”); and
WHEREAS, the District’s architect, Hunt Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors & Landscape Architect D.P.C. (“Hunt”), has determined that the damages at the Facility pose a risk of injury or harm to District students and employees and other users of the Facility, and recommends that the District pursue an emergency capital project with the State Education Department to facilitate the immediate remediation of such mold, thereby allowing the Guidance Office in the Facility to be rapidly returned to its full intended and critical-function and ensuring the health and safety of District students and employees and other users of the Facility; and
WHEREAS, Hunt has specifically recommended that the District Implement, on an immediate basis due to the nature of the problem and the safety risks posed, a remedial capital improvements project, with such work being anticipated to include, but not necessarily be limited to, (A) the remediation of mold and (B) the installation of window head and sill flashing along both stories of the Facility and the partial removal and replacement of the existing EIFS exterior wall finish of the Facility to accommodation such installation, and any related and necessary measures that may reasonably be required to address and rectify the emergency situation, all in compliance with applicable statutes, regulations and standards (collectively, the “Emergency Capital Project”); and
WHEREAS, Section 617.5 of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) Regulations (6 NYCRR Part 617) provides that certain activities are Type II actions which

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are not subject to review under SEQRA and that such activities include “emergency actions that are immediately necessary on a limited and temporary basis for the protection or preservation of life, health, property or natural resources, provided that such actions are directly related to the emergency and are performed to cause the least change or disturbance, practicable under the circumstances, to the environment,” “routine activities of educational institutions,” “maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility;” and “replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site...unless such action meets or exceeds any [Type I] thresholds in section 617.4”; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Emergency Capital Project constitutes such emergency actions, routine activities of educational institutions; maintenance or repair activities; and/or in-kind, same-site replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction activities;

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

FINANCE

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the following proposed calendars for the 2020/21 school year:

2020/21 School Calendar

2020/21 Payroll Calendar

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the following Lease of School Buses Resolution to be placed on the official ballot to be voted on by the qualified voters of the City School District of the City of Hornell, New York at the Annual Budget Vote/Board Member Election on May 19, 2020:

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Chapter 472 of the Session Laws of 1998, the Board of Education of the Hornell City School District is hereby authorized to lease and expend therefore, including costs incidental thereto and the financing thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated maximum cost of two hundred forty thousand dollars (\$240,000.00), and for a term not to exceed five (5) years, the following motors vehicles: One (1) sixty-six (66) passenger school bus and one (1) forty-eight (48) passenger bus with wheel chair lift station and lift; AND, that such sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax collected in annual installments; and that in anticipation of such tax, obligations of the District shall be issued.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the generous donation of \$1,000 to the Hornell High School from Gordman’s

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the fee proposal from HUNT Engineers, Architects and Surveyors for services related to the 2021 Capital Outlay and Phase II Projects dated February 6, 2020.

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CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: WHEREAS the City School District of the City of Hornell, Steuben County, New York (the “District”) is in the process of responding to an emergency situation arising out of the presence of mold (as discovered in connection with certain exploration work done by an outside vendor on or around January 16, 2020) due to water infiltration along the exterior south wall of the Guidance Suite at the District’s High School Building that is located at 134 Seneca Street, Hornell, New York (the “Facility”); and WHEREAS, the District’s architect, Hunt Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors & Landscape Architect D.P.C. (“Hunt”), has determined that the damages at the Facility pose a risk of injury or harm to District students and employees and other users of the Facility, and recommends that the District pursue an emergency capital project with the State Education Department to facilitate the immediate remediation of such mold, thereby allowing the Guidance Office in the Facility to be rapidly returned to its full intended and critical function and ensuring the health and safety of District students and employees and other users of the Facility; and WHEREAS, Hunt has specifically recommended that the District implement, on an immediate basis due to the nature of the problem and the safety risks posed, a remedial capital improvements project, with such work being anticipated to include, but not necessarily be limited to, (A) the remediation of mold and (B) the installation of window head and sill flashing along both stories of the Facility and the partial removal and replacement of the existing EIFS exterior wall finish of the Facility to accommodate such installation, and any related and necessary measures that may reasonably be required to address and rectify the emergency situation, all in compliance with applicable statutes, regulations and standards (collectively, the “Emergency Capital Project”); and WHEREAS, the District and Hunt are in the process of contacting the New York State Education Department to confirm that the Emergency Capital Project can be appropriately treated as an emergency situation, with an expedited review and an accelerated flow of State building aid; and WHEREAS, the District is in the process of soliciting cost proposal(s) and retaining contractors to undertake and complete the Emergency Capital Project, as well as any reasonably required additional work to address the described situation; and WHEREAS, the District proposes to undertake the Emergency Capital Project for the general protection of the public and, specifically, for the restoration and continued use of a safe and reliable Facility for the benefit of the District, to ensure the safety of District students and employees and other users of the Facility;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the District finds that the situation described above: (1) requires immediate action to protect the health and safety of District students and employees and other users of the Facility; and (2) constitutes an emergency within the meaning of Section 103(4) of the General Municipal Law; and be it further RESOLVED, that the Emergency Capital Project shall be limited in general scope to those items of work that have been deemed by Hunt to be immediately necessary or advisable to return the Guidance Suite at the Facility to its intended function and use on an expedited basis, and to ensure the safety of District students and employees and other users of the Facility; and be it further RESOLVED, that it was the final determination of the District’s Board of Education that the Emergency Capital Project is a Type II action, which is not subject to review under SEQRA, and that the proposed action will not result in a significant adverse impact on the environment; and be it further

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RESOLVED, that the Board hereby declares that the expenditure of funds for the purpose of undertaking the Emergency Capital Project in an amount up to \$200,000 (being Hunt's preliminary estimate of the maximum total cost of the work involved, including incidental expenses), less the amount of any insurance settlement proceeds that may be received, constitutes an ordinary contingent expense of the District, on the basis that such action is immediately necessary to maintain the District's educational program, preserve property and assure the health and safety of District students and employees and other users of the Facility; and be it further

RESOLVED, that all of the expenses associated with the Emergency Capital Project (including, without limitation, the costs of the Emergency Capital Project, and the undertaking of any reasonably required additional work to address the described emergency situation, as well as the incurrence of necessary architectural and engineering costs, legal costs and other related incidental costs), all of which (less any insurance settlement proceeds received) are hereby declared to be ordinary and contingent expenses in response to the emergency situation, shall be initially funded by the expenditure of up to \$200,000 (or so much thereof as may be necessary) from the District's General Fund or (to the extent received) from payments made by the District's property and casualty insurer arising out of the described situation and, ultimately, from State building aid that is anticipated to be forthcoming in connection with the Emergency Capital Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools, the School Business Official and other appropriate District officials be, and they hereby are, authorized to work with the District's contractors and/or Hunt to develop and complete the plans and specifications for the Emergency Capital Project, to solicit (in accordance with State Education Department guidance) cost proposals/quotes/bids for the work on the Emergency Capital Project, to enter into (in the case of the Superintendent, only) contracts for the work on the Emergency Capital Project on behalf of the District, and to undertake such other actions as may be reasonably necessary for the District to undertake, carry out and complete the Emergency Capital Project as soon as reasonably practicable, all in accordance with applicable New York State law; and be it further

RESOLVED, that any actions previously taken by the Superintendent of Schools, the School Business Official and other appropriate District officials in connection with this Emergency Capital Project be, and they hereby are, ratified.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

PERSONNEL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation of Mary Wolf as .50 FTE Library Aide and approve a change in her appointment as Teacher Aide from .50 FTE to 1.0 FTE with a change in hours per day from 6.5 to 7.5 effective February 24, 2020.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves a change in the appointment of Barbara Johner from 1.0 FTE Teacher Aide to .50 Library Aide and .50 Teacher Aide with a change in hours per day from 7.5 to 6.5 effective February 24, 2020

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

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BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation of Angela DeLany as Senior Typist effective at the end of the day on March 10, 2020.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the termination of Monique Herbert as Food Service Helper effective March 12, 2020.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approve the following additions to the Spring Sport coaching assignments pending required clearances and certifications:

Mod Softball -	Kara Capozza
Mod Tennis -	Jim Dagon
JV Baseball –	Joe Flint (Step 1)
Varsity Tennis (Co) -	Jim Tobin (Step 23 50%) & Sean Gaffney (Step 3 50%)
Volunteers -	Dan Masterson (Mod Baseball)
	Dave Drew (JV Baseball)
	Issac Spike (Track)

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Bonnie Murray as RN effective June 27, 2020. (16 years of service)

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Bonnie and thanked her for her many years of dedicated service.

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the appointment of Lisa Sanford as Interim Principal as well as her individual contract for same effective March 23, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the following changes to the substitute roster and other assignments, **pending successful fingerprint clearance through the New York State Education Department and approval through DMV and or Civil Service if applicable:**

Substitute Additions:

Karla Arias - Counselor

Dakota Delill - Teacher Aide, Laborer, Food Service Helper, Bus Attendant

Removal:

Rachel Carson - Bus Attendant

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

Informational:

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The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 5:15 PM in the HS Library.

BY: HESS/KHORK

RESOLVED: that at 6:24 PM the Board move to Executive Session to discuss the employment of a particular individuals.

CARRIED – 4 AYES - ALL

BY: MEHR/DAVIS

RESOLVED: at 6:57 PM to return to Regular Session and adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED – 4 AYES - ALL

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Eaton, District Clerk