

## HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – DECEMBER 2, 2020

President Davis opened the meeting at 5:20 PM immediately following a Public Hearing on the District's Safety Plan and led the Board/Public in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the meeting was held in person for Board Members, Administration and staff and was live streamed for the public.**

### **ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Kerry Davis, Jessica Hess, James Marino, Uzma Mehr, Meghann Khork, Christopher Clark  
**Absent:** John McNelis

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that the agenda be approved as presented:  
CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that at 5:20 PM the Board move to Executive Session to discuss tenure appointments and the employment of a particular employee.  
CARRIED - 6 AYES - ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that at 5:46 PM the Board return to Regular Session.  
CARRIED – 6 AYES - ALL

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

**Superintendent Palotti:** shared (via video) holiday musical selections of first grade music classes at North Hornell provided by Music Teacher Sydney Schierer as well as selections from various Intermediate School band members provided by Music Teacher Ed Belin.

The Board commented on how great it was to see the students continuing to enjoy doing something they love and thanked the students and their teachers for their presentation.

**Patrick Flaitz:** presented the Board with information pertaining to the proposed updates to the District's Reserve Plan.

### **REPORTS:**

**Construction Report:** Andy Billiotte (Welliver) provided the Board with a construction update (via ZOOM)

### **Celebrating Success:**

**Supt. Palotti on behalf of Barb Kramer, North Hornell Principal reported:**

- Staff and students donated items for our Veterans Day collection. These items are given to the Veterans at the Bath VA and are greatly appreciated.

## HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – DECEMBER 2, 2020

- Staff at North Hornell School joined in celebrating our custodian, John Dolph's birthday, by all wearing his favorite work attire-flannel shirts. John was pleasantly surprised by this gesture!
- Our counselors, Kasi Washburn and Carli Cavanaugh deserve a big kudos for their hard work in organizing what we call "operation holiday cheer" They work with Cassie Tyler, from Bryant, to identify families that could use support over the holidays. This will be the third year that the Station Church, and its supporters, have partnered with North Hornell School to give away 100 meals. The counselors also organize help from the United Presbyterian Church and St James Hospital employees to provide gifts to children in need along with our annual shop with a cop program. Many hours of time and effort go into this!
- Parent teacher conferences are next week. Report cards will be distributed and discussed with parents via zoom or phone conferences.
- Kudos to the teachers for their flexibility in scheduling these meetings. This is a very different method of meeting with parents than has been used in the past but we have adapted and adjusted.

### **Supt. Palotti on behalf of Lisa Sanford, Bryant School Interim Principal** reported:

- It's gratitude and empathy time of year at Bryant! Our Social-Emotional Learning lessons provided by counselors are focusing each week on those themes with their lessons. A few themes are showing gratitude, being a world changer and "I can put myself in someone else's shoes."
- Many of our classrooms are also putting a real life spin on this with community outreach projects. The Ronald McDonald House, the Humane Society and our local nursing home residents will be the recipients of their outreach.
- In the Bryant library, gratitude is expressed for the excitement and curiosity about literacy that students are bringing into their book choices and conversations about being good and interested readers. The Bryant library has added 1841 books into the homes of students this year with many more to come!
- As we approach the end of the first marking period, teachers reflected on unanticipated take aways so far in this unusual year. A few of the teacher takeaways they are grateful for despite the difficulties in our world:
  - Smaller student groups are facilitating learning.
  - Parents and students are more engaged and communication/support from home has been a great plus.
  - The spirit of collaboration that we are all in this together.
  - Students seem more grateful for their school and their education. As we approach the end of the first marking period, teachers reflected on unanticipated take aways so far in this unusual year. A few of the teacher takeaways they are grateful for despite the difficulties in our world: Smaller student groups are facilitating learning. Parents and students are more engaged and communication/support from home has been a great plus. The spirit of collaboration that we are all in this together. Students seem more grateful for their school and their education

### **Supt. Palotti on behalf of Sean Gaffney, Intermediate School Principal and Julie Smith, Intermediate School Asst. Principal** reported:

- School Counselors (Jodi Mac and Aryn Bailey) for organizing the winter coat drive and our Stockings for Students.
- Mr. Belin for starting up Virtual Drumline
- Mrs. Hopper for beginning Chorus after school

## HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – DECEMBER 2, 2020

- Our Para-Professionals, who help with student supervision, assisting teachers organizing work for students, help students enter and exit the building in an orderly fashion,
- Special Education staff (12:1:1) managing students who are here 5 days a week, making it fun and engaging, Consultant and Co-Teach staff who have gone above and beyond reaching out to students and families to provide support
- Custodial staff for keeping the building clean and sanitized.
- Amanda Fanton who has been our Point person with the ever-changing COVID requirements, her patience and diligence is appreciated.
- Mr. Gaffney for taking a pie in the face in our efforts to improve student attendance and participation. Explanation---links to a voting survey are embedded throughout the instruction, sometimes in the chat at the end of a zoom, sometimes in a google classroom assignment, sometimes shared with a class working in-person. As long as students are participating and doing work, they get a chance to vote for the faculty/staff member to get the pie. Surprisingly, Sean was the first winner. He is off the list now, so everyone is excited to see who will be next.....

### **Supt. Palotti on behalf of Scott Carroll, High School Principal reported:**

- Kelley Argentieri's work with Turning point and our Seniors volunteering...they helped 300 households (over 850 people) which allowed them to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner. Students sorted 2,900 lbs. of food for distribution to people in need (the equivalent of) 2,417 meals for families in our community. Our students are heading back Wednesday, December 9 and the 16 to help prepare for Christmas.
- Recordings of our HS Choir/Band are complete, soon these will be released to our Facebook page and website. Wait until you hear them!
- Congrats to our Varsity Girls Soccer Team-Pretty cool to win a sectional title, let alone win it on your own home field.
- Huge shout out to all of our secretaries keeping us organized. So much goes on behind the scenes, and just wanted to make sure they are being recognized!
- A huge thank you to Mr. Kelleher for having student government continue the 'deck the halls' competition for grades 7-12. Seniors won last year, did an impressive job, and are looking forward to the judges picking a winner this year!
- E-Sports (maybe an explanation about this) is about to get off the ground. We have done all of the logistics on the back end to have it be successful, and we're excited to see what this could look like!

### **Superintendent's Report**

#### **Superintendent Palotti reported:**

- In this time of thankfulness and giving, I continue to be impressed with our staff, students and our community. As we navigate through these difficult times, the generosity and service to our community is very evident. Wonderful things are going on all around us and we are grateful, thankful and proud. Great work!!

### **ROUTINE ITEMS**

BY: HESS/MEHR

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

- Approves of the minutes for the meetings of November 4, 2020.

## HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – DECEMBER 2, 2020

- Acceptance of the Treasurer’s Report of October 31, 2020.
- Acceptance of the Student Activities Report of October 31, 2020.
- Acceptance of the Revenue Report of October 31, 2020.
- Acceptance of the GF Budget Transfer Reports of October 31, 2020
- Acceptance of the Appropriations Report of October 31, 2020.
- Acceptance of the Warrant Report of October 31, 2020.
- The Board has no objections to the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and approves the authorization of funds to implement the special education program s and services consistent with such recommendations for the meetings of November 4, 5, 10, 12, 18, 19 and 20, 2020. The CPSE meeting of November 9, 10, 19 and 30, 2020 and the 504 meetings of November 4, 10, 12 and 18, 2020.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

### OLD BUSINESS

None

### NEW BUSINESS

#### **POLICY/PROCEDURE**

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the Opt-In Agreement with Erie 1 BOCES and Clever, Inc. effective through June 30, 2023.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the cancellation of the Modified Swimming season due to lack of numbers of athletes participating.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** WHEREAS, the voters of the State of New York (the “State”), on November 4, 2014, approved the Smart Schools Bond Act (“Smart Schools”), which authorizes the State to issue bonds to fund certain capital improvements projects involving technology and security upgrades; and

WHEREAS, the City School District of the City of Hornell, Steuben County, New York (the “District”) has been awarded a Smart Schools allocation of \$2,039,972 by the State; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the District (the “Board”), with the assistance of the District’s architect, Hunt Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors & Landscape Architect D.P.C. (“Hunt”), proposes to undertake a capital improvements project under Smart Schools, such work being anticipated to include, but not necessarily be limited to, improvements and upgrades to the reconstruction, renovation and expansion of, and the construction of improvements, additions and upgrades to the North Hornell Elementary School building and related facilities and the site thereof (collectively, the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the District and Board have made certain findings with respect to the Project in the past, and have modified/reduced the proposed scope of the Project, and now wish to review and reaffirm such prior findings; and

**HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – DECEMBER 2, 2020**

WHEREAS, in accordance with State Education Department guidance and policy, the District and the Board constitute, collectively, the lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) for the environmental review of the Project, which is an Unlisted Action; and

WHEREAS, the District and Board have duly considered the Project (as modified), the Environmental Assessment Form, the criteria for determining whether the Project will have a significant adverse impact on the environment as set forth in 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617.7(c) of the SEQRA regulations, and such other information as was deemed appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the District and Board have identified the relevant areas of environmental concern, have taken a hard look at these areas, and have made a reasoned elaboration of the basis for its determination under SEQRA; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is the final determination of the Board that:

1. The District/Board as the lead agency under SEQRA determines that the proposed modifications to the Project will not change the Board’s February 2019 and October 2019 determinations that the Project will not result in a significant adverse impact on the environment.

2. The attached amended Negative Declaration, incorporated herein by reference, is issued and adopted for the reasons stated in the attached amended Negative Declaration.

3. The Superintendent of the District is authorized to sign and file or have filed on behalf of the District and its Board all documents necessary to comply with SEQRA.

4. This resolution is effective immediately.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** by the Board of Education of the Hornell City School District that Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with Article 57-A: (a) only those records will be disposed of that are described in Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein; (b) only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approve/adopts the updates to the Records Management Policy #5670.

CARRIED - 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, the Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute a contract of sale for the sale of the Bryant Elementary School.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation Board of Education Member, John McNelis effective immediately. (Nine years of service)

CARRIED – 6 AYES - ALL

**HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – DECEMBER 2, 2020**

**FINANCE**

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the retainer of Dr. Richard Ciccone, MD. for services pursuant to Section 913 of the NYS Education Law.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the generous donations made in memory of James Harrick on the list dated November 18, 2020.

CARRIED - 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the Reserve Plan.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the lease amendment with Amextra effective December 1, 2020 through November 30, 2022.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

**PERSONNEL**

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves Brandon Burritt as a volunteer to work with the Intermediate School Drumline.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: CLARK/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation of Stephanie (Hunt) Rosemier as a Regular Assigned Substitute effective November 20, 2020.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/KHORK

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation of Mary Wolf as Attendance/Teacher Aide effective at the end of the day on December 4, 2020.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MERH

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation of Roxanne Sanford as LPN effective November 27, 2020.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

**HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – DECEMBER 2, 2020**

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the appointment of Roxanne Sanford as Teacher Aide effective November 30, 2020 through June 30, 2021 (starting salary as defined in the HPA Contract allowing for 4.5 years service).

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the probationary appointment of James Boone as School Bus Driver, 10 months, 4 hours per day effective December 3, 2020.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation of Michael Carretto as PE Department Chair, effective November 9, 2020.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approve the request of Stacey Illi for an unpaid leave of absence beginning on December 15, 2020 through March 26, 2021.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: MEHR/HESS

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the change in the retirement date of Shelly Clancy as RN from December 1, 2020 to a date to be determined.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

The Board expressed their gratitude to Shelly for her flexibility and willingness to stay on to assist with all of the added duties during the pandemic.

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the appointment the following coaches for the Winter Sports season:

Mary Franklin –	Skiing Head Coach
Mark Kelly -	Boys Swimming Head Coach
Kristen Hazard -	Boys Swimming Assistant Coach

Appointments are conditional upon actual existence of a season, with stipends as defined in the HEA Contract – stipend may be prorated to reflect if the season is abbreviated due to the COVID restrictions in place.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the Education Law 913 resolution as discussed in Executive Session pertaining to employee #966.

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

**HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – DECEMBER 2, 2020**

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approve 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:**

Brandon Mellerski - Teacher, Teacher Aide, Typist

Chelsea Miller - Uncertified Teacher (Effective 11/16/20)

Shannon Simms - Food Service Helper, Laborer, Teacher Aide, Typist

Susan Thompson - Bus Attendant, Food Service Helper, Laborer, Teacher Aide, Typist

**Removed:**

Stephanie (Hunt) Rosemier

CARRIED – 6 AYES – ALL

**INFORMATIONAL:**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 5:15 PM in the High School Library located at 134 Seneca Street, Hornell, NY.

BY: HESS/MEHR

**RESOLVED:** that at 6:22 PM the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED – 6 AYES - ALL

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Eaton, District Clerk