

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – MAY 4, 2021

President Davis opened the meeting at 6:43 PM immediately following the Public Budget Hearing and led the Board/Public in the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was both open to the public and livestreamed.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Kerry Davis, Jessica Hess, Uzma Mehr, Meghann Khork,

Absent: James Marino (excused), Christopher Clark (excused)

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that the agenda be approved as presented:

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

RECOMMENDED ACTION

PRESENTATIONS:

There were no presentations.

REPORTS:

Construction Report: None

Celebrating Success:

Barb Kramer, North Hornell Principal reported:

- In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, want to thank our teachers for all that they do, we have been celebrating them as well as our nurses, paraprofessionals, custodians and transportation staff – we love to celebrate at North Hornell.
- One of the most important responsibilities of an administrator is recommending a teacher for tenure, a great deal of thought and consideration goes into the process. A tenured teacher could be signing on for a career in the District that could last 25-30 years. I am very pleased to recommend the following North Hornell teachers for tenure:

Elysia Day (Reading) – Elysia came to us with lots of experience as a reading teacher. Has worked with the first grade team of teachers to decide interventions for students. I am very pleased to recommend her for tenure.

Cassie Sharrett (Special Education) - . Cassie is not new to North Hornell, she came to us with years of special education/preschool experience having previously worked in our building for ProAction. She is a member of our Kindergarten co-teach team, which serves as an exemplar example for other co teach classrooms. I am very happy to recommend her for tenure.

Sarah Valentine (Elementary) – Sarah had also worked in our building prior to becoming a Hornell CSD staff member. She came to us with many years of Pre K teaching experience. She has become an important part of the first grade team. Loves her students so much! I am pleased to recommend Sarah for tenure.

Maureen Carroll (Elementary) – Maureen came to us with prior teaching experience in special education and was an important part of the implementation of the new 4PK program at our school. I am very happy to recommend her for tenure.

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – MAY 4, 2021

Lisa Sanford, Bryant School Interim Principal reported:

- Pleased to recommend the following Bryant School teachers for tenure:

Kate Wall (Special Education) – is a 12:1:1 special education teacher at Bryant School. She is totally student centered in all aspects of student life; their learning, their social-emotional growth, life skills and their ability to self-advocate. She is highly creative in her lesson planning and delivery and the environment he makes for her students is calm, supportive and generative. Kate is a tremendous asset to her students and their families, and a valuable staff member I highly recommend her for tenure.

Cassandra Tyler (School Counselor) – Cassie is a caring and super enthusiastic counselor at Bryant School. She is totally student-centered and plays an integral role in the daily ability of each student to be successful at school. Cassie pushes in for weekly teaching segments with students, supports them in crisis and has built trusting relationships with students. She coaches them, cajoles, encourages, congratulates and always maintains a positive ca-do attitude. It is with pleasure that I recommend her for tenure.

Mark Lombardo (French/ESOL) – Mark will be recommended later by the High School, but we wish to thank him for all he does to help our ESOL students.

Julie Smith, Intermediate School Assistant Principal reported:

- On behalf of Principal Gaffney and herself, very pleased to recommend the following Intermediate School staff members for tenure:

Aryn Bailey (School Counselor) - has served as a school counselor at the Hornell Intermediate School for four years. Aryn is an advocate for students, both on the individual level and school community level. Her optimism, enthusiasm and ideas contribute to a more positive school climate. She has a passion and desire to organize and help with all school-wide activities and events. as well as day-to-day routines. She is a leader within our school-wide PBIS committee, provides weekly social-emotional learning lessons to our 3PK students, bi-weekly social-emotional learning lessons to grades five and six, and also serves a full caseload of students for counseling. She is always willing to help a student in need and strives to live up to the School Counselor expectations of NYS and the ASCA. It is without hesitation that Mr. Gaffney and I recommend Aryn Bailey for tenure with the Hornell City School District.

Kate Herrera (Special Education) - has worked with the Hornell City School District as both a special education teacher and as a 3PK teacher. Ms. Feeley could not be here tonight, but asked me to share that Kate has been a valuable resource in special education. I can speak to Kate's time in 3PK. Kate was the brave soul who helped implement the district's new 3PK program. She has been a terrific asset with our three year olds. Her work ethic is excellent. Her communication to parents is superb. Like all grade levels, and maybe even more so with 3PK, we've had some barriers and challenges related to COVID. She has met each challenge with exceptional optimism and problem-solving abilities. Kate is not a teacher to get stuck and give up. She keeps trying until she finds a way that works for students! This is the kind of people we want to keep in our district and that is why she is very highly recommended for tenure!

Scott Carroll, High School Principal reported:

- Welcomed that teachers that were in attendance, have been celebrating their hard work all week!
- Reiterated what Barb had said about recommending a teacher for tenure being a huge responsibility, hiring our teachers and granting them tenure weaves the fabric of our future educators. I am pleased to recommend the following High School staff for tenure:

Joshua Gostomski (Special Education) – Mr. Gostomski instructs our 12:1:1 seventh and eighth grade students. The students love Mr. G, his personality, and his love for the Bills.

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – MAY 4, 2021

He has tremendous rapport with his students. Behaviorally, his classroom is a well-oiled machine. While sometimes behaviors can be challenging, he manages all of them extremely well, with his calm, cool demeanor and voice. He is a dynamic teacher, colleague and role model. I highly recommend him for tenure.

Andrew Newman (English) – Mr. Newman wanted to be with us today, but he is out helping with our track and field competition as an Assistant coach. Mr. Newman teaches our 'readers and writer's workshop to all 7th grade students. He has worked tirelessly on building his curriculum and his relationships with students. Doing this has had him evolve into a dynamic teacher, colleague and role model. Andrew also reaches our students as an advisor, modified soccer coach, and helps lead as an advisor of our Adirondack club. I highly recommend him for tenure.

Mark Lombardo (French/ESOL) – Mr. Lombardo teaches all levels of French our department has to offer, helps with ENL (English as a New Language) and ELL (English Language Learners) and aids our students who qualify for these services by pushing into their English classrooms. He also coordinated a trip to hear the French language, taking a group of students and chaperones to Quebec last year. I highly recommend him for tenure.

Bryan Schram (History) – Mr. Schram has taught just about every class our social studies department has to offer, including AP courses. Mr. Schram has built amazing rapport with his students, and has become a positive role model for many of our male students to emulate. Bryan also is our SS club advisor-he too coordinated a trip, this one to Europe. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, we had to cancel this trip twice. I highly recommend him for tenure.

Tim Crowe (English) – Mr. Crowe teaches our 'readers and writer's workshop to all students in 8th grade. I knew Tim when he was working on the after school grant. I know it was always a major dream of his to get back to his alma mater to pay it forward and teach. Well...he's home. He would be here tonight, however, he's out in our community teaching guitar lessons currently. Tim has really worked hard on his relationships and curriculum, and has evolved into a dynamic teacher and colleague. He can be seen at many home sporting events as either a chaperone, scoreboard operator or simply as a supporting fan. I highly recommend him for tenure.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Palotti reported:

- Thank you to all of the administrator for your recommendations, and welcome to the teachers in attendance.
- With Teacher Appreciation Week upon us, we would like to recognize these teachers present and all of our instructional staff, the end of last year and this year have been quite bizarre and challenging. Our staff has been amazing, their effort, strength and determination to achieve has been remarkable; words are not enough to express our appreciation, we are so thankful!
- We have been working on planning for a graduation ceremony that can be closer to normal for our seniors. We sent out a letter to parents and in true COVID fashion, things changed the very next day...but for the better. Originally, we planned for each senior to have four guests that would either have to have proof of vaccination or a negative test to be admitted,

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – MAY 4, 2021

today we learned that the testing requirement had been lifted for outside events, however, there will still be a limit of four guests to comply with the physical distancing requirements still in effect.

- Due to the current condition of our tennis courts, they are and will remain closed. The tennis team will be practicing and holding their home matches at an alternate location.

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 April 14 and 21, 2021.
- Acceptance of the Treasurer’s Report of March 31, 2021.
- Acceptance of the Student Activities Report of March 31, 2021.
- Acceptance of the GF Budget Transfer Reports of March 31, 2021.
- Acceptance of the Appropriations Report of March 31, 2021.
- Acceptance of the Revenue Report of March 31, 2021.
- 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 April 14, 15, 16, 21, 22 and 30, 2021. The CPSE meetings of April 21 and 27, 2021 and the 504 meetings of April 14, 16, 28 and 30, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

POLICY/PROCEDURE

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approve the following changes to the 2020/21 School Calendar for grades PK-6 (last full day of classes for HS will be June 16, 2021):

June 22, 2021 – from full day for both to half day (AM) for students
and full day for staff

June 23, 2021 – from full day for both to no school for students
and a full day for staff

June 24, 2021- from half day for students AM to no school for students
and full day for staff

June 25, 2021 – remains a full day for staff

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board had a first reading of the Family Medical Leave Act Policy # 6551.

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – MAY 4, 2021

FINANCE

BY: HESS/MEHR
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the contract with Lippencott’s Rubbish Inc. for the 2021/22 school year.
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the appointment of Daniel Lee as our voting machine on call technician for the Budget Vote/Board Member Election to be held on May 18, 2021 for a fee of \$150.
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

PERSONNEL

BY: HESS/MEHR
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Joyce Strasburg as Food Service Helper effective June 30, 2021 (25 years of service).
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board thanked Joyce for her many years of service and congratulated her on her retirement.

BY: HESS/MEHR
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the request for an unpaid leave of absence under the FMLA of Kristen Gostomski beginning on April 26, 2021 through May 28, 2021.
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the request for a continuation of her unpaid leave of absence of Deann Lyng beginning on July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the following additional Spring coaching assignments effective April 19, 2021:
Kathryn Kenney – Modified Track
Megan Bonaquisti – 50% Spring Faculty Manager
Baseball Volunteers:
Angel Victorino
Tom Kenney
Dennis Dueno
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

BY: HESS/MEHR
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the recall from the PEL of Andrew Gibbs as Elementary Teacher effective July 1, 2021
CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – MAY 4, 2021

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the following conditional appointments for the Summer Learning Academy and Extended School Year to be paid at the rate as noted per their applicable contracts. All appointments are conditional upon enrollment in programs:

Aides (ESY):

Judy Dunn
Liz Willsey
Samantha Sirianni
Cassandra Giglio
Brienne Woodworth
Kim Smith
Samantha Zschoche
Theresa Rhude

Colleen Harrison

Teachers (ESY):

Michelle Kendall
Kate Wall
Allison Will

Support Services (ESY)

Kasey Johnson – Speech Language Pathologis
Hollie Baldwin – Occupational Therapist
Michelle Lehman – Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant

Teachers (SLA)

Pam Mendel
Sarah Valentine
Eileen Marino
Dawn Reinhart
Kelly Smilinich
Andrew Gibbs
Tracy Stark
Andrew Newman
Christopher Stiles
Michael Carretto
Leigh Emerson
Kelley Argentieri
Gillian Brubaker
Jennifer Carretto
Keelia Hamdan
Rebekah VanNorman
Jennifer Larkin
Mary Ellen Canty
Jill Brown
Stacy Moravec
Theresa Ashworth
Kristen Hazard

Coordinators (SLA)

Aryn Bailey
Christopher vanLeeuwan

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – MAY 4, 2021

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Sarah Valentine in the area of Elementary Education effective August 30, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Sarah on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Timothy Crowe in the area of English effective August 30, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Tim on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Bryan Schram in the area of History effective August 30, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Bryan on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Mark Lombardo in the area of French/ESOL effective August 30, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Mark on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Andrew Newman in the area of English effective August 30, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Andrew on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Cassie Sharret in the area of Special Education effective August 30, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Cassie on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Aryn Bailey in the area of School Counselor effective August 30, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Aryn on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Cassandra Tyler in the area of School Counselor effective August 30, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Cassie on receiving tenure.

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – MAY 4, 2021

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Maureen Carroll in the area of Elementary Education effective September 3, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Maureen on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Elysia Day in the area of Reading effective September 3, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Elysia on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Catherine Herrera in the area of Special Education effective September 3, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated “Kate” on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Kate Wall in the area of Special Education effective September 3, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Kate on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board grants tenure to Joshua Gostomski in the area of Special Education effective September 3, 2021.

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Joshua on receiving tenure.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the three year probationary appointment of Pamela Hoyt as Reading Teacher, effective September 1, 2021 at a starting salary as defined in the HEA Contract. Pamela is also hereby approved to work with her team on an hourly time sheet basis over the summer when requested by her building principal. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on the employee receiving APPR ratings of H or E in 3 of the 4 preceding years (and no I rating in the final year). (BA in Elementary Education from Alfred University, MA in Literacy from Alfred University and additional study in American Sign Language at RIT. NYS Permanent Certifications in Literacy and PK-G6 Education)

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Pam and welcomed her to Hornell.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approves the four year probationary appointment of Jayce Hanson as Elementary Teacher, effective July 1, 2021 at a starting salary as defined in the HEA Contract. Jayce is also hereby approved to work with her team on an hourly time sheet basis over the summer when requested by her building principal. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – MAY 4, 2021

on the employee receiving APPR ratings of H or E in 3 of the 4 preceding years (and no I rating in the final year). (BS in Environmental Studies from University of Missouri Kansas City, BS in Early Childhood / Childhood Education from Alfred University and MSED in Literacy from Alfred University. NYS Professional Certifications in Early Childhood Education, Childhood Education and Literacy)

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Jayce and welcomed her to Hornell.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approve the 26 week probationary appointment of Melinda Rittenhouse as Registered Nurse / School Nurse effective September 1, 2021 at a starting salary as specified in the HEA Contract, Melinda is also hereby approved to work with her team on an hourly time sheet basis over the summer when requested. (10 months, HEA Contract).

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Melinda and welcomed her to Hornell.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board accepts the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Barbara Kramer as Elementary Administration effective June 30, 2021. (25 years of service in the District and 32 years in education).

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

The Board congratulated Barb for her many years of dedicated service and congratulated her on her retirement.

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Palotti, the Board approve the building change of Elementary Administrator / Principal, Sean Gaffney from the Intermediate School to North Hornell School effective July 1, 2021 – no changes to current appointment.

CARRIED – 4 AYES - ALL

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:

Stephanie Coddington - Uncertified Teacher (Effective 2/27/21)

Thomas Haynes - Laborer (Effective 4/26/21)

Terah Wilson - Food Service Helper, Teacher Aide

CARRIED – 4 AYES – ALL

INFORMATIONAL:

The Annual Budget Vote / Board Election will be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at Noon – 9:00 PM in the HS Lobby. The Board will meet on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 9:30 PM via ZOOM to accept the results.

The next Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 5:15 PM in the HS Library.

HORNELL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – MAY 4, 2021

BY: HESS/MEHR

RESOLVED: that, at 7:23 PM the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED – 4 AYES - ALL

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Eaton, District Clerk