

The regular monthly board meeting of the Minerva Central School Board of Education held on December 12, 2024 immediately following the Budget Meeting was called to order by President Nellie R. Halloran at 6:02 pm.

Present: Ms. Halloran, Mrs. Killon, Mrs. West, Mrs. Griffen, Mr. Sanalidro, Mrs. Husson, Ms. Hyatt, Mrs. McCauliffe and Mrs. Green.

5 Faculty and Staff Members

1 Community Member

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Mrs. Killon seconded by Mrs. West to enter into Executive Session @ 6:14 pm.

Carried 5-0

Motion by Mr. Sanalidro seconded by Mrs. Griffen to exit Executive Session at 6:46 pm. Carried 5-0

Mrs. Husson gave Superintendent's Report including: Resignation of Jody Hyatt, Electric busses, purchase of a fuel bus, Capital Project update, new stage curtains, construction company meetings, project manager very helpful, construction could start as soon as February, project funds have been received, honors breakfast, finance conference, Governor Hochul's state aid, Assemblyman Matt Simpson's visit to the school, spirit week, next board meeting.

Mrs. Griffen inquired about background checks for workers that will be in the building during construction.

Request that Mrs. Husson gives an intro speech for concert.

Ms. Hyatt gave Curriculum and Instruction Report including: Special Education CSE reevaluations and extra time needed for Mr. Wilk, professional development, TCI training, curriculum, science grant, SUNY ESF in Newcomb field trip, holiday programming, Christmas Giving, Operation Santa, Essex County Shop with a Cop, Adirondack Experience, Balsam Traditions, Field trip to Barnes and Noble with Culture Club, Youth and Government at Silver Bay, upcoming field trips Woman's in trade event, Santa's Work Shop and Oceans Rock Exhibit.

Motion by Mr. Sanalidro seconded by Mrs. West to approve the Reading and Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 14th, 2024.

Carried 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Killon seconded by Mrs. Griffen to approve Financial Reports and Treasure's Items including: Treasurer's Report, Warrant # 12 \$80,813.88, Budget Status, Revenue Status and Extra Classroom Report.

Carried 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Killon seconded by Mrs. Griffen to approve Committee Reports School Board Policy 5322: Cell Phone Policy.

Carried 5-0

Correspondence: Letter of Resignation from J. Hyatt.

Motion by Mrs. West seconded by Mr. Sanalidro to approve New Business items a-c:

- a. Action to approve the Standard Work Day and Reporting for Elected and Appointed Officials.
- b. Action to recognize the following Johnsburg Athletic Appointment:

- i. Nordic- Co-Coach Joe San Antonio
- c. Action to approve Eric McCauliffe as a Volunteer Girls Varsity Basketball Coach. Carried 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Killon second by Mrs. West to approve New Business item d with regret:

- d. Action to accept the letter of resignation as the Coordinator of Student Services and Instructional Support from Jody Hyatt. Effective January 5, 2024. Carried 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Killon seconded by Mrs. Griffen to approve New Business item e:

- e. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Minerva Central School District hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint Dr. Kerri Zappala- Piemme as Interim Coordinator of Student Services and Instructional Support effective January 6, 2025 to June 30, 2025 and approves the Employment Agreement dated December 12, 2024 setting forth the terms and conditions of such appointment and employment. Carried 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Griffen seconded by Mrs. West to approve New Business items f-h:

- f. Action to appoint Dr. Kerri Zappala- Piemme as the CSE/CPSE Chairperson effective for the remainder of the 2024-2025 School year.
- g. Action to appoint Dr. Kerri Zappala- Piemme as the Dignity for All Students Act Coordinator effective for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year.
- h. Action to approve Impartial Hearing Officer Rotational list. Carried 5-0

Motion by Mrs. West seconded by Mrs. Griffen to approve New Business item i:

- i. Action to Adopt Advocacy Priorities for the 2024 New York State Legislative Session
WHEREAS, the Minerva Central School District strives to provide an outstanding education and post-secondary pathway for each and every student; and

WHEREAS; the district recognizes the deep commitment shown by the legislature and the Executive to fully fund the foundation formula; and

WHEREAS, the District works diligently to meet the needs of all students while still fulfilling its core mission, and

WHEREAS, the District is facing significant increased costs due to inflationary factors for labor, fuel and goods; and

WHEREAS, property tax levy legislation at the state level has provided an increased need for State Aid to maintain quality programs; and

WHEREAS, public schools are being asked to do more for students than ever before, so they are prepared for college, military or a career; and

WHEREAS, each child in Minerva Central School District only has one opportunity to go through the full elementary and secondary educational experience;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minerva Central Board of Education calls on the New York State Legislature and Governor Kathy Hochul to act upon the following priorities:

1. **School Aid Including Foundation Aid**
 - A. Fully fund the current law Foundation Aid Formula for the 2025-26 school year.

- B. Consider and propose recommendations for change in funding only in the context of all data points.
 - C. Phase in any changes to the Foundation Aid Formula over multiple years to allow for local and state financial planning.
 - D. Fully fund expense-based aids.
2. **Graduation Requirements**
- A. Fund professional development for faculty and staff to properly support and transition students under the new requirements.
 - B. Increase the BOCES Aid reimbursement rate, allowing for the first \$60,000 in salary for CTE instructors to be BOCES aidable, rather than the current \$30,000.
 - C. Fund model curriculum development for districts to consider and adopt, at local option.
3. **Workforce Development**
- A. Extend the ability of retirees to work in school districts without pension penalty or a 211 waiver.
 - B. Reduce requirements for professionals certified in other states and other mid-career professions to enter the teaching profession by allowing them to demonstrate their proficiency.
 - C. Continue to align Tier 6 retirement benefits more closely with those offered to Tier 3 and 4 members by allowing retirement at age 55 with 30 years of service.
4. **Zero-Emission Buses**
- A. Amend relevant funding streams to ensure that needed changes and supports are supported by state aid. These include funding streams such as building aid for bus depots, aid streams for items such as electricity needed by visiting buses and other currently unanticipated needs.
 - B. Hold all stakeholders accountable for supporting this transition, including clear guidance on who should be responsible for financing needed updates to the state electrical grid to support this transition.
 - C. Evaluate how delays from vendors, including bus and charger manufacturers, energy providers, and consultants for needs assessments and transportation systems, may impact school districts' success, and adjust timelines as necessary.
 - D. Immediately adopt a procedure and guidance for alternatives to address defeated bus bond initiatives. Carried 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Killon seconded by Mrs. Griffen to accept the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education for the student numbered 7475. Carried 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Killon seconded by Mrs. West to adjourn meeting at 7:22 pm. Carried 5-0