

**HADLEY- LUZERNE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING  
April 6, 2023  
STUART M. TOWNSEND ES LGI 6:00 PM  
27 Hyland Drive Lake Luzerne, NY**

**MINUTES**

(PA) Public Access Document

1. **CALL TO ORDER**- Present: Mr.Moulton, Mr.Novotarski, Mr.Weiss Absent: Mrs. Braico, Mr.Hunt

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **CORRESPONDENCE** - Letters of resignation were received

4. **PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION/ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS**

***Athletic Committee Report*** – Athletic Director, Gary Wilson reported that the spring sports season has begun with JV & Modified Softball, all three levels of baseball, Tennis and Track & Field. Mr. Novotarski asked if Trap Shooting Club has begun. Mr. Wilson said it started last evening with 9 students.

***Buildings & Grounds Committee Report*** – Mr. Ovitt said the committee met on March 28<sup>th</sup> and discussed safety issues with the risers at the high school and that a proposal will be forthcoming for purchasing new ones along with a proposal to replace stairs in the auditorium. Mr. Ovitt said they also discussed the need to purchase additional AED's for the district and informed the Board that the fuel tank at the high school needs to be drained and cleaned.

***Budget Presentation to BOE.*** – Michelle Taylor presented the 2023-2024 budget \$23,293,895 an increase of 3.39% with a proposed tax levy increase of 0.9%.

Shannon Fornier asked if ESD would continue next year. Ms. Taylor said the administration will have to discuss that. Mr. Ovitt said that ESD was 100% funded by ESSER monies and it is not included in the budget for next school year.

5. **OLD BUSINESS** (ACTION) (PA)

- A. **Board Meeting Minutes** (PA)

Resolution #168

As recommended by the Superintendent to approve the March 2, 2023 regular meeting minutes and the March 22, 2023 Budget Workshop Minutes.

Motion by Mr. Novotarski      Seconded by Mr. Weiss

Yes: 3      No: 0      Abstain:0

**6. NEW BUSINESS (ACTION)**

**A. 2023-2024 Final Proposed Budget (PA)**

Resolution #169

As recommended by the Superintendent - BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District hereby adopts the annual proposed budget for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$23,293,895.00 and to authorize the requisite portion therefore to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the district. (Represents an estimated 0.9% tax levy increase)

Motion by Mr. Weiss      Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

**B. New York State Property Tax Report Card (PA)**

Resolution #170

As recommended by the Superintendent - BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District hereby approves the 2023-2024 Property Tax Report Card for submission to NYSED.

Motion by Mr. Novotarski      Seconded by Mr. Weiss

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

**C. School Business Official Agreement (PA)**

Resolution #171

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District, to approve the agreement between the District and the School Business Official effective July 1, 2023.

Motion by Mr. Weiss      Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

**D. Approve RFP for Auditing Services (PA)**

Resolution #172

As recommended by the Superintendent BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District, hereby accepts the winning bid as a result of the Request for Proposals for Audit Services on March 23, 2023 from Raymond G. Preusser, CPA, P.C for years ending June 30, 2023 – 2026 with an option to extend for two additional years.

Motion by Mr. Novotarski      Seconded by Mr. Weiss

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

**E. Health-Safety-Risk Management Goods and Services Cooperative Bid (PA)**

Resolution #173

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District authorizes Capital Region BOCES to represent it in all matters leading up and including the entering into a contract for the purchase of goods and services related to Health-Safety-Risk Management for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years.

Motion by Mr. Weiss      Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

**F. Purchase of Folding Machine/Maintenance Agreement (PA)**

Resolution #174

As recommended by the Superintendent - BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District hereby approves the purchase of a DS-40i Folder-Insert machine and Maintenance Agreement for \$5141.00

Motion by Mr. Novotarski      Seconded by Mr. Weiss

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

**G. Approval of John Deere Loader Lease (PA)**

Resolution #175

As recommended by the Superintendent - BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District hereby approves the proposal from John Deere Financial dated January 21, 2023 to lease a new John Deere 524 P Wheel Loader for 5 years for an annual cost of \$23,999.55 including all fees and authorizes the Superintendent to execute the agreement.

Motion by Mr. Weiss      Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

**H. Disposal of Obsolete Library Books (PA)**

Resolution #176

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District that the said District hereby grants permission to dispose of obsolete library books effective June 30, 2023.

Motion by Mr. Novotarski      Seconded by Mr. Weiss

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

**I. Fox Pass Advanced Radius Security Software Purchase (PA)**

Resolution #177

As recommended by the Superintendent - BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District hereby approves the purchase of Fox Pass Advanced Radius Security Software Support for 3 years for \$7,975.00 per year.

Motion by Mr. Weiss      Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

## **7. PERSONNEL (ACTION)**

### **A. RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS (PA)**

#### **Jenny DeCarli**

Resolution #178

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District to accept with appreciation the resignation from part- time Teaching Assistant Jenny DeCarli effective 3/13/2023.

Motion by Mr. Weiss      Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

#### **Thomas Socolof**

Resolution #179

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District to accept with appreciation the resignation from Full-time Music Teacher Thomas Socolof effective 6/30/2023.

Motion by Mr. Novotarski      Seconded by Mr. Weiss

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

### **B. APPOINTMENTS - HLTA (PA)**

#### **Margaret Albohn - Tenure**

Resolution #180

BE IT RESOLVED, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3012 of the Education Law and Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents and upon the recommendation of Burgess Ovitt, the Superintendent of Schools, that Margaret Albohn, a probationary Special Education Teacher, having been appointed to such position by this Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District, does hereby grant tenure to Margaret, effective September 1, 2023, in the tenure area of Special Education.

Motion by Mr. Weiss      Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

Mr. Mark said Margaret works very well with our students and staff and has been a wonderful addition.

#### **Stephanie Gordon - Tenure**

Resolution #181

BE IT RESOLVED, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3012 of the Education Law and Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents and upon the recommendation of Burgess Ovitt, the Superintendent of Schools, that Stephanie Gordon, a probationary School Counselor, having been appointed to such position

by this Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District, does hereby grant tenure to Stephanie, effective July 1, 2023, in the tenure area of School Counselor.

Motion by Mr. Novotarski      Seconded by Mr. Weiss

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

Mr. Baker said Stephanie has made a positive impact on our students and wears many hats. He said she is always supportive of students and staff and he congratulated her and thanked her for all she does.

**Fay Gorton - Tenure**

Resolution #182

BE IT RESOLVED, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3012 of the Education Law and Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents and upon the recommendation of Burgess Ovitt, the Superintendent of Schools, that Fay Gorton, a probationary Special Education Teacher, having been appointed to such position by this Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District, does hereby grant tenure to Fay, effective September 1, 2023, in the tenure area of Special Education.

Motion by Mr. Weiss      Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

Mr. Mark said Fay works in the Junior High and has been a wonderful asset to the district.

**Benjamin Reynolds - Tenure**

Resolution #183

BE IT RESOLVED, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3012 of the Education Law and Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents and upon the recommendation of Burgess Ovitt, the Superintendent of Schools, that Benjamin Reynolds, a probationary Technology Teacher, having been appointed to such position by this Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District, does hereby grant tenure to Benjamin, effective August 1, 2023, in the tenure area of Technology (Industrial Arts).

Motion by Mr. Novotarski      Seconded by Mr. Weiss

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

Mr. Hamm said Ben teaches technology, welding, ADP and is also a class advisor and coach and is happy to have him in the high school.

Mr. Ovitt congratulated all of the teachers receiving tenure tonight.

C. **APPOINTMENTS – Other & Extra Curricular** (PA)

Resolution #184

As recommended by the Superintendent, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District that the following persons be granted appointment to the positions below:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>	<b><u>Stipend/Wage</u></b>
Sandra Farrell	Café Sub	03/02/2023	\$14.20/hr
Randi Maxam	Sub Cleaner	03/01/2023	\$14.81/hr
Joseph Harder	Sub Cleaner	03/15/2023	\$14.81/hr
Melanie Brooks	Tutor	03/23/2023	\$30/hr
Kathleen Plumeau	Sub Nurse	03/27/2023	\$120/day
Lindsay Brower	Substitute Aide	03/29/2023	\$14.20/hr
Lindsay Brower	Sub Teaching Asst.	03/29/2023	\$15.87/hr

Motion by Mr. Weiss      Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

8. **CSEA LEAVE OF ABSENCE** (ACTION) (PA)

Resolution #185

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District hereby approves the request for a unpaid leave of absence requested by Teacher Aide, Mara Spotswood, 5/1/2023-5/5/2023, Pursuant to the CSEA Agreement Article XVII – Other Leave, Section 2.

Motion by Mr. Novotarski      Seconded by Mr. Weiss

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

Resolution #186

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Hadley-Luzerne Central School District hereby approves the request for a leave of absence requested by Teacher Aide, Suzanne Bujold, 5/15/2023-8/1/2023, Pursuant to the CSEA Agreement Article XVII – Other Leave, Section 2.

Motion by Mr. Weiss      Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

9. **DISTRICT TREASURER REPORT** (ACTION) (PA)

Resolution #187

As recommended by the Superintendent, for the Board of Education to accept the February 2023 Treasurer's Report.

Motion by Mr. Novotarski      Seconded by Mr. Weiss

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

**10. SCHEDULE OF BILLS (ACTION) (PA)**

Resolution #188

As recommended by the superintendent for the board of education to accept warrants #37(\$156,079.40), #38 (\$550,514.84), #39(\$136,855.64), #40 (\$150,275.93)

Motion by Mr. Weiss      Seconded by Mr. Novotarski

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

**11. CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS (ACTION)**

Resolution #189

As recommended by the Superintendent, for the board of education to accept the CSE/CPSE recommendations dated March 21, 2023

Motion by Mr. Novotarski      Seconded by Mr. Weiss

Yes: 3    No: 0    Abstain:0

**12. STUDENT/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Desiree Morgan – spoke to the Board about her concerns that her special needs child and other special needs children are being discriminated against. Specifically, her child and others were excluded from picture day. She said inappropriate comments about her child’s class were made by staff and an aide spoke hatefully about her son. She said her child is being mocked by others and she is demanding change. She believes DEI training is needed and if nothing changes she will take further action.

Ashley Harris – parent – Ashley said she is also a parent of a special needs child and she shares the same concerns along with being short staffed all of the time. She quoted NYS Education laws and said both staff and teacher’s behavior is unacceptable. She said the culture needs to change and special needs students need to stop being excluded.

Christi Murray – parent – Christi said her child is a special needs student and she just wants him to be treated normally and doesn’t believe it’s asking too much.

Bob Duffy – parent – Mr. Duffy spoke to the board about NYS trainings that are happening in our school on Superintendent Conference Days. He believes that the training included speaking to staff about white privilege and he doesn’t want that filtering down to our students and thinks it’s divisive. He wants social issues to be handled by parents and thinks parents should be made aware of what these trainings are before they happen.

**13. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Mr. Baker wished everyone a nice spring break. He said they had a nice awards ceremony for students and he was slimed today. He thanked the PTSA for all they do.

Mr. Hamm said the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter has ended and wished everyone a nice spring break.

Mr. Mark – Congratulated all the newly tenured teachers and said that today's student events were on the schools Facebook page.

Mr. Ovitt thanked all the parents who came out tonight and said the Administration is working on the issues they presented. He said there is DEI training on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April and they will be bringing it back to staff. Ms. Morgan said she and others are willing to help because it needs to be addressed. Mr. Ovitt thanked the PTSA for all they do. And said the kids had a great time. He wished everyone a nice spring break. A parent in the audience asked when will they know about the plan to address these issues and staffing. Mr. Ovitt said they will discuss it.

Mr. Moulton thanked the parents for coming and said he is sorry about their experiences and that he is also very upset about it, and it is hard to hear. He thanked the PTSA and said they will all be getting together to put together a plan.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Novotarski made a motion to adjourn @ 7:40pm. Mr. Weiss seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

*SUBMITTED BY:* \_\_\_\_\_

*District Clerk, Mary Visscher*