

REGULAR MEETING
February 10, 2021

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITTLE FALLS CITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD VIRTUALLY ON
WEDNESDAY, February 10, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Coulson, Dodge, Finkst,
Hameister, Jodway, Mendl, and Shepardson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

LATE ARRIVALS: None

EARLY DEPARTURES: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Dr. Keith T. Levatino,
Director of Technology/Business Operations Mr. Ashraf
Allam, Mr. Bart Tooley, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Leeann
Dooley, High School Principal, Middle School Principal Mrs.
Maria Lindsay, Mr. Joe Long, BHA Principal, Jennifer Smith,
Director of Pupil Personnel, Mr. Andrew Casullo, Mrs. Kara
Milianta, Mrs. Sarah Barnes, Student Alyssa Santos and Board
Clerk Mrs.
Stephanie Beaulieu.

CALL TO ORDER

President Hameister called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Levatino,
Commissioner Jodway made a motion the Board approve the
following agenda items:

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the regular meeting of January 13,
2021
- b. Treasurer's Report

Seconded by: Commissioner Shepardson
Ayes All

Motion Carried

OTHER FINANCIAL
MATTERS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Mrs. Dooley had Kara Milianta, Sarah Barnes along with Alyssa
Santos gave a brief presentation. Entrepreneurship and graphic
design classes joined to create businesses. They created business
plans to go along with their business which was an actual business
that when they graduate they could continue with their business.
They went with the idea of creating a food truck. They use life
skills and are college ready and life ready when they leave here.
Café Macaron – food truck/catering service presentation

Mrs. Lindsay gave a brief update regarding the Connected
Community Schools. We have been meeting with different
community groups/leaders. We are community with families in
need which is why we are working together to save time and
resources. We need to take care of our students needs before we
focus on academics. We need our families to feel a connection.
We want academics to become a priority. In order to do this we
first need to identify families in need. From there we will create

family experiences at school. We will expand upon our already introduced literacy nights. We will provide childcare so parents can come and check things out. We would provide field trips based on curriculum. We need to create experiences so they can learn. We need to show our children what is out there beyond the city limits of Little Falls. We need to help them understand the diverse cultures within our Country. Community involvement would be us looking at doing beautification projects downtown and working with the Mayor and other business people in the city. To make this a reality we need a BOCES Coser for funding, a site coordinator, spaces to establish hubs, community partnerships, prioritize curriculum and writing grants. Ultimately, we are looking to create leaders for not only our school and community but also for our country.

Mr. Long –Informed the Board that he has Teacher assistants helping to get kids here and help with tutoring.

Mr. Tooley presented a high risk sports proposal provided by area Athletic Directors along with Public Health. This plan does have the support of Herkimer County Superintendents along with Herkimer County Public Health. The metric that we had to use in Herkimer County is a 14-day rolling average with 3 % or below for 14 consecutive days in order to begin anything. As of today, the data shows us at 5%. Our regions hospital capacity must be above 15%. We are proposing a 3 season model starting March 1st going basically until June 10th. Our first season would be boys/girls basketball from March 1st – April 10th and stay within Herkimer County BOCES component schools but including CVA. We are looking at Varsity and JV only. Modified would do skills/drills only. No spectators for indoor high risk sports. We would live broadcast sports. Masks would be worn by athletes, coaches and officials. We would not be using locker rooms. Second season which includes football, volleyball and sideline cheer would start April 5th -May 8th. The traditional spring season baseball, track, tennis and golf would start April 26th – June 11th. Spectators would be allowed and masks must be worn. Wrestling may be moved to spring as it is the riskiest. Dr. Grace is in support of this plan along with the County plan. Her only concerns are with wrestling. We can hold off on making a decision on wrestling for now since it wouldn't start until late April.

Approval is needed for basketball, volleyball, football, sideline cheer along with skills/drills. Off season conditioning would also be included in this approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Shepardson

Seconded by: Commissioner Finkst

Ayes: Shepardson, Hameister, Finkst, Coulson, Mendl

No: Dodge, Jodway

Motion Carried

PRESIDENT'S REPORT None

PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTIONAL

APPOINTMENT
TEAM LEADER
DARIN LYNCH Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Jodway made a motion to appoint Darin Lynch to the position of 8th grade Team Leader for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year effective immediately.

Seconded by: Commissioner Shepardson
Ayes All Motion Carried

LIBRARY MEDIA
SPECIALIST
JANICE MURRAY Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Shepardson made a motion to appoint Janice Murray to the position of Library Media Specialist on Step 17 of the LFTA contract with a three-year probationary period effective March 15, 2021.

Seconded by: Commissioner Coulson
Ayes All Motion Carried

LONG-TERM SUB
RICCARDO RIPA Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner made a motion to extend the current long-term substitute appointment of Riccardo Ripa to June 30, 2021 while continuing to receive Step 1 salary and benefits as per LFTA contract. His current long-term substitute position is set to expire February 26, 2021.

TABLED

TENURE APPOINTMENT
LAURA TARTAGLIA Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Shepardson made a motion to grant tenure in the area of elementary special education to Laura Tartaglia effective 9/1/21.

Seconded by: Commissioner Jodway
Ayes: All Motion Carried

TENURE APPOINTMENT
SARAH HARTMAN Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Shepardson made a motion to grant tenure in the area of elementary special education to Sarah Hartman effective 9/1/21.

Seconded by: Commissioner Coulson
Ayes: All Motion Carried

TENURE APPOINTMENT
BRITTANY NILES Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Shepardson made a motion to grant tenure in the area of elementary education to Brittany Niles effective 9/1/21.

Seconded by: Commissioner Jodway
Ayes: All Motion Carried

TENURE APPOINTMENT NICOLE LAMPHERE	<p>Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Shepardson made a motion to grant tenure in the area of elementary special education to Nicole Lamphere effective 9/1/21.</p> <p>Seconded by: Commissioner Jodway Ayes: All</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried</p>
TENURE APPOINTMENT MAEGHANNE PAUGH	<p>Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Jodway made a motion to grant tenure in the area of elementary education to Maeghanne Paugh effective 9/1/21.</p> <p>Seconded by: Commissioner Shepardson Ayes: All</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried</p>
TENURE APPOINTMENT THOMAS REID	<p>Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Jodway made a motion to grant tenure in the area of physical education to Thomas Reid effective 9/1/21.</p> <p>Seconded by: Commissioner Shepardson Ayes: All</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried</p>
TENURE APPOINTMENT KRISTINE ZITOLI- RICHARDSON	<p>Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Jodway made a motion to grant tenure in the area of teacher assistant to Kristine Zitoli-Richardson effective 9/1/21.</p> <p>Seconded by: Commissioner Coulson Ayes: All</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried</p>
TENURE APPOINTMENT KRISTY KINVILLE	<p>Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Jodway made a motion to grant tenure in the area of teacher assistant to Kristy Kinville effective 9/1/21.</p> <p>Seconded by: Commissioner Shepardson Ayes: All</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried</p>
TENURE EXTENSION KYRBE FODEN	<p>Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Shepardson made a motion to extend the tenure appointment date due to an unpaid leave of absence in the 2020-2021 school year to Kyrbe Foden. Her new tenure date will be June 1, 2022.</p> <p>Seconded by: Commissioner Finkst Ayes: All</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried</p> <p>“WHEREAS, the Board of Education passed a resolution at its meeting on August 30, 2017 appointing Kyrbe Foden to a probationary appointment as a teacher assistant in the tenure area of teacher assistant for the period September 1, 2017 to September 1, 2021; and,</p> <p>WHEREAS, Kyrbe has been on an unpaid leave for the period December 14, 2020 to June 30, 2021 which does not qualify for probationary service.</p>

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the probationary appointed for Kyrbe Foden is hereby extended to June 1, 2022. The Superintendent shall so notify the employee.”

Seconded by: Commissioner Finkst
Ayes: All

Motion Carried

SPRING COACHING APPOINTMENTS

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Jodway made a motion to appoint the following spring coaches pending certification and subject of change due to the COVID pandemic:

JV Baseball	Wayne Rodger
Modified Baseball	Jason Izzo
JV Softball	Marissa Carney
Modified Softball	Mandi White
Varsity Assistant Boys Track and Field	Brian Stever
Varsity Assistant Girls Track and Field	Breanna Keblish
Modified Girls Track and Field	TBD
Modified Boys Track and Field	Christina Martyniuk

Seconded by: Commissioner Shepardson
Ayes: All

Motion Carried

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Jodway made a motion to arrange for placement as per the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education as submitted.

Seconded by: Commissioner Shepardson
Ayes All

Motion Carried

SUBSTITUTE LIST

Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Keith Levatino, Commissioner Jodway made a motion to approve substitute list #3 as submitted.

Seconded by: Commissioner Shepardson
Ayes All

Motion Carried

FIRST READING OF POLICY #0014

Let the minutes show the first reading of policy:
0014 – Gender Neutral Single-Occupancy Bathroom Facilities

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:42 p.m. Commissioner Jodway made a motion the Board go into executive session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, resignation, discipline, suspension or removal of a particular person or corporation.

Seconded by: Commissioner Shepardson
Ayes All

Motion Carried

RETURN TO
REGULAR SESSION

At 8:13 p.m. Commissioner Jodway made a motion the Board
return to Regular Session.

Seconded by: Commissioner Shepardson

Ayes All

Motion Carried

INFORMATION AND
PROPOSALS

None

FUTURE BUSINESS
AND MEETINGS

Regular Meeting: March 10, 2021 @ 6 pm (virtual)

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business at hand, Commissioner Mendl
moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded: Commissioner Finkst

Ayes All

Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Clerk