

**New Hartford Public Schools
Regular Meeting Board of Education
August 21, 2018
7:00 pm/Multi-Purpose Room
Ann Antolini School**

Present: Josh Adams, Jenn Benaitis, Tom Buzzi, Tim Goff, Tim Klepps, Penny Miller, Kelly O'Dell-Longhi Pat Spaziani, and Superintendent of Schools Brian Murphy, and members of the public.

Absent: Staci Cull

A. Chair to Open Meeting

Chairman Adams called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

B. Chair to Select Order of Business

No changes to the Order of Business.

C. Superintendent's Report

1. Start of the 2018-2019 School Year – Superintendent Brian Murphy stated that everything is ready for the start of the 2018-2019 school year. Staff is very excited. He then shared some staffing updates that occurred over the summer:

Monika Szarwacki has been hired as the new Kindergarten teacher at New Hartford Elementary School. Leah Piros has been hired as the long-term sub for Allison Melillo who is out on an extended child rearing leave. Kristina Lapointe and Tracy Wennberg will be returning as tutors. Two cafeteria workers have tendered their resignations. Mary Sue Cunningham and Sharon Lingenheld. Special Ed Tutor, Amy Brophy has also resigned. Mr. Murphy thanked them all for their years of service to New Hartford Public Schools. Donna Peterson and Dina Calabrese have been hired as the new food service workers and we are in the process of identifying someone to replace Mrs. Brophy. We are in the process of interviewing for the Curriculum Specialist position as well as the Special Education Teacher.

With respect to the facilities, the custodians did a fabulous job of cleaning the schools in the summer. The new gym floors was installed at Antolini. Components of the heating systems at the school were repaired, and security software systems were upgraded I each building. New access points were installed in each classroom in the district. Chromebooks will be handed out to each 6th grader and new iPads were ordered for the Kindergarten students and Promethean Boards were also ordered. The custodians love their new mower, and the outside entrance was painted at Bakerville School. Mr. Murphy thanked the Board for their support.

D. Public Comment

Donna LaPlante – 77 Stedman Road read a letter about the need to better anticipate increases in enrollment and staffing prior to the budget being approved (attached).

Mr. Aulay Carlson of 455 West Hill Road read a letter about the safety of our schools (attached).

E. Consent Agenda

- 1. Approval of Minutes – June 19, 2018; July 10, 2018**
- 2. Expenditure Report**

Pat Spaziani asked to pull the minutes of July 10, 2018 from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION: by Goff to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Spaziani

Aye: Adams, Benaitis, Goff, Klepps, Miller, O'Dell-Longhi, Spaziani; Abstained, Buzzi.

Motion passes.

July 10, 2018 minutes were changed to include Board member Tim Klepps, correct the spelling of Spaziana to Spaziani, and from member of the public to members of the public.

MOTION: by Goff to approve the minutes of July 10, 2018 as amended , second by Spaziani

UNANIMOUS

F. Communications to the Board of Education

Josh Adams received a letter from the Connecticut State Department of Education regarding Thomaston's Board of Education filing a petition for students who attend an AgEd program. Mr. Adams will forward this letter on to the full Board.

G. Old Business

- 1. Board of Education Meeting Structure** – there was a request from a Board member that all meetings start with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION: by Buzzi to start all New Hartford Board of Education Meetings with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, second by Miller

Aye: Adams, Benaitis, Buzzi, Goff, Klepps, Miller, O'Dell-Longhi, Spaziani; Opposed: Adams

Motion passes.

H. Old Business

- 1. Board of Education Self Evaluation (discussion proposed for Executive Session) –**

MOTION: by Miller to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Board of Education Self Evaluation, second by Benaitis

Aye: Adams, Benaitis, O'Dell-Longhi, Spaziani; Opposed: Buzzi, Goff, Klepps, Miller

Motion does not carry.

The Board discussed their strengths and weaknesses regarding: Vision, Community Leadership, Board Operations, Board Ethics, and Board/Superintendent Team.

At the end of Old Business, Josh Adams tendered his resignation from the New Hartford Board of Education.

I. Reports

1. Policy Review

- a. Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment (5145.5)**
- b. Bullying Prevention and Intervention (5131.911)**
- c. Food Service Personnel-Code of Conduct (3542.22)**

MOTION: by Benaitis to table Policy Review till the next meeting, second by Spaziani

UNANIMOUS

I. Adjournment

MOTION: by Miller to adjourn at 9:03, second by Benaitis

UNANIMOUS

Respectfully submitted by Janet A. Terenzi, Recording Secretary