

**New Hartford Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Antolini School Library
November 7, 2023 @ 7 pm
<https://meet.google.com/yvw-inve-ijn>**

Present Chairman Karl Hermonat, Members: Tom Buzzi, Tim Klepps, Kelly O'Dell-Longhi, Penny Miller, Tony Persechino, Mary Stempien, Deirdre Tindall and Supt. of Schools Jeff Sousa

Absent: Travis Bonhomme

Chairman Karl Hermonat opened the meeting at 7:00 pm asking all present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair to Select Order of Business

No changes

Communications to the Board of Education / Public Comment

None

Board of Education Chair's Report

Chairman Hermonat thanked Mary Stempien, Tony Persechino, Travis Bonhomme and himself for the years of service on the Board. He said a lot has been done on the committees everyone was on. That it is also tireless work that is done on the committees. He also thanked Penny Miller for chairing the Search Committee for a new superintendent. She had done a lot of work coordinating the interviews leading up the hiring of Jeff Sousa as our new Superintendent. The new board will be at the December meeting when a new Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary are chosen. Kelly O'Dell-Longhi, current Vice-Chairman, will lead the nominations at that meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Supt. Sousa echoed the sentiments of having a wonderful first board. He thanked Karl for being the Chair in providing a great deal of wisdom, expertise and path to move forward. He said that Karl was also a voice of calm and reason. Mr. Sousa also thanked Mary, Tony & Travis for serving on the board. A small gift of appreciation on behalf of the school district was given to each of them.

Student Performance Presentation

Mr. Sousa welcomed the leadership team consisting of Dr. Kelly Carroll, Amy Kennedy and Heather Mathes. The team talked about the academic performance of our students. The team provided data and information focusing on the Smarter Balance Results and the Dibels Assessment. A copy of the report is available from the Superintendent's Office.

School Armed Security Officer Informational Sessions Oct. 25 or Nov. 21

Mr. Sousa said that the next informational session is November 21st in the Antolini School Library at 6 pm.

Staff Recognition

Mr. Sousa recognized the many years of service both to the community and the school family by Chris Barbaret. She has been with the New Hartford Public Schools for 27 years and is retiring. She has a welcoming and beautiful presence about her. She keeps everything running super smooth at Antolini School. She knows the ins and outs, the historical knowledge, she knows everything. It is very bitter sweet that she is retiring. She will be sorely missed. A round of applause was given by everyone in attendance.

Routine Business**Approval of Minutes – October 16, 2023**

Motion by Ms. Tindall to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2023. Second by Mr. Persechino.

Unanimous

Expenditure Report

Motion by Ms. Miller to approve the Expenditure Report. Second by Ms. Tindall.

Unanimous

Personnel

Supt. Sousa said that we are now fully staffed. The following personnel has been hired. Kristen Michalski - Kindergarten, Todd Miltimore – Library Media Specialist and Marcela Setton-Colon – Special Education Teacher.

New Business

Ms. Miller said looking at our calendar for next year and comparing it with the Board of Finance calendar there are some conflicting dates.

Motion by Mr. Buzzi to table the approval of the calendar to the December BOE meeting. Second by Mr. Hermonat.

Unanimous

Old Business**Policy Updates (Second Reading)**

Policy 5118.21 on Students – Children of Military Families – special attention and care for students from military families who experience unique circumstances relative to deployment.

Motion by Mr. Hermonat to approve Policy 5118.21 as presented. Second by Mr. Persechino.

Unanimous

An update to policy on 6159 Instruction – IEP/SPED Programs – students are eligible under IDEA to receive special education services until the end of the school year in which they turn 22.

Motion by Ms. Miller to approve Policy 6159 as presented. Second by Mr. Persechino.

Unanimous

An update to policy on 7230.2 New Construction – IAQ & HVAC – to be in compliance with Act 23-157 reporting and potential amelioration of Indoor Air Quality and Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning.

Motion by Ms. Tindall to approve Policy 7230.2 as presented. Second by Mr. Hermonat.

Unanimous

An update to policy on 4121 Personnel – Substitute Teachers – greater flexibilities

Motion by Ms. Miller to approve Policy 4121 as presented. Second by Mr. Persechino.

Unanimous

Reports

Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Miller to adjourn at 8:01 pm. Second by Mr. Persechino.

Unanimous

Respectfully submitted, Penny Miller, Board Secretary