

**New Hartford Board of Education Meeting
Special Board of Education Meeting- January 7, 2020
Antolini School/ Multi-Purpose Room 6:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Chairman Tim Goff. Members: Penny Miller, Karl Hermonat, Heather Tomala, Tom Buzzi, Mary Stempien, Kelly O'Dell Longhi, Tim Klepps (arrived at 6:09 pm) and Tony Persechino.

Also present: Superintendent Brian Murphy, Antolini School Principal Amanda Shaw, Bakerville & New Hartford Elementary School Principal Kelly Carroll, Director of Student Services Barbara McLean, School Psychologist Jennifer Harris, Recording Secretary Diane Barrett, Kelly Howard, Melissa Hughes, Hillary Schibi, Jessica Chicowski, Colleen Wipperman and Rebecca Wipperman. Also present Nick Caruso – presenter of the CABE presentation.

A. CHAIR TO OPEN MEETING: Chairman Goff opened the meeting at 6:07 pm and asked all those present to join in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. CHAIR TO SELECT ORDER OF BUSINESS:

C. BOE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: CABE PRESENTATION

Nick Caruso- Senior Staff Associate for Field Services and Coordinator of Technology for CABE discussed: (Kelly O'Dell Longhi stepped out - 6:35 pm, stepped back in - 6:38 pm)

1. Legal responsibilities of the Board of Education
2. Roles of the Board of Education
3. Roles and responsibilities of the Superintendent of School

7:29 PM Move to recess for 3 minutes by Chairman Tim Goff- All in favor, none opposed.

Unanimous

7:36 PM resumed Board Meeting

D. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Antolini School Gazebo Proposal

Superintendent Murphy introduced Rebecca Wipperman, a sophomore at Northwest Regional 7 and Principal Amanda Shaw to review the Outdoor School Gazebo/Classroom proposal for the potential construction in the summer of 2020. Rebecca is a girl scout completing her badge for the highest level of achievement. This gazebo is proposed to be constructed behind Ann Antolini School and will be utilized as an outdoor classroom. Rebecca has passed around a handheld model of the Gazebo for the Board Members to review.

- a. Rebecca Wipperman, explains the plan is to build a 12 x 14 foot cedar Gazebo (kit) with aluminum roofing and eight cedar benches. The proposal also provides an outdoor whiteboard, 24 clipboards, and an outdoor storage bench to hold supplies. She states she will have a team of volunteers that include carpenters, sister girl scouts, teachers and other volunteers from the community. Rebecca has been approved by the building

and zoning and is waiting on the permission of the First Selectman. Rebecca will be raising money by applying for grants and fundraisers. She is asking the board for their blessing and also in assistance with cedar wood for the construction of the benches, hardware, the outdoor storage bench, clipboards, and whiteboard.

MOTION: by Penny Miller to approve the installment of the Gazebo contingent upon the approval of the Board of Selectmen and the New Hartford Planning and Zoning Division, seconded by Heather Tomala. All in favor. Motion passes.

Unanimous

2. Project Playground Update

Superintendent Murphy introduces Jessica Chicoski, chairperson of the Project Playground Committee. Jessica has been working diligently as far as developing plans and fundraising for two new playgrounds at Bakerville School and New Hartford Elementary School.

Jessica Chicoski communicates that currently the committee has raised \$60,500.00. She also states she has future fundraisers in the works. She explains that she wrote a grant for \$60,000 to the Draper Fund that was completed in December 31, 2019, which is a multi-step process.

Total funds needed \$160,000.00.

Technically, it is three playgrounds, New Hartford Elementary (relocation of playground), New Hartford Elementary Preschool and Bakerville School.

Spring Fling – 100% of the proceeds will be going to Project Playground.

Playgrounds will be ADA compliant, and will be compliant for grades K-2.

Jessica is requesting \$20,000 from the Board of Education.

Chairman Tim Goff states that the discussion of the request of \$20,000 will be over the next few months as the budget season begins. No motions are necessary.

3. The District Newsletter

Superintendent Murphy discussed the district newsletter that is sent out in January and June of each school year. This newsletter highlights the wonderful learning opportunities that are offered to the New Hartford students. Superintendent Murphy gave a big thanks to Linda Fitzgerald for completion and formation of the newsletter, and to the administrative team and several staff members for the completion of the articles.

4. Budget Priorities and Assumptions 2020-2021

Superintendent Murphy has highlighted the key initiatives for the next school year. The entire budget will be presented at the next board meeting in February.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

F. CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Expenditure Report** - No discussion
2. **Approval of Minutes- December 3, 2019-** No discussion

G. Communication to the Board: None

H. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Penny Miller to adjourn at 8:21 pm, seconded by Karl Hermonat.

Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Barrett
Recording Secretary