

ICHABOD CRANE CENTRAL SCHOOL

BOARD OF EDUCATION

APRIL 23, 2024

MINUTES

A Special Meeting of the Ichabod Crane Board of Education was held on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library.

Board Members Present:

Kelly Firmbach	Meghan Lafferty-Brown	Megan Pelizza	Elizabeth Phillips
Anne Schaefer	Christopher Scoville	Jared Widjeskog	

Board Members Absent: Jennifer Allard Matthew Nelson

School Officials Present:

Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent, Lucas Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Michael Brennan, Business Manager, Craig Shull, High School Principal, Marcella Sanchez, High School Assistant Principal, Anthony Marturano, Middle School Co-Principal, Tim Farley, Middle School Co-Principal, Andrea Williams, Primary School Principal, Peg Warner, Special Education Director, and Mindy Potts, District Clerk

Board Vice-President Elizabeth Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Board Vice-President Elizabeth Phillips announced the fire exits and conducted the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Member Christopher Scoville read the District Mission Statement:

“The Ichabod Crane Central School District is dedicated to preparing students to become contributing members of society in an ever-changing world by valuing diversity; providing a safe environment; and promoting unique talents, a desire for life-long learning, a strong spirit of community, and Rider pride.”

MOTION SCHAEFER 2ND FIRMBACH

To approve the agenda as presented

Carried, 7-0

MOTION FIRMBACH 2ND SCOVILLE

To approve the minutes of the April 9, 2024 Regular Meeting

Carried, 7-0

Public Participation

No one from the public wished to address the Board at this time.

Questar III Vote and Election

MOTION PHILLIPS 2ND WIDJESKOG

Administrative Budget for 2024-2025 Fiscal Year

RESOLVED: that the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Rensselaer, Columbia and Greene Counties is authorized to expend the sum set forth in the 2024-25 tentative Administrative budget document in the amount of \$7,257,451.

Carried, 7-0

*Election of Members of the Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services. There are three incumbent nominees for three BOCES expiring board term positions. Each component district is entitled to one vote for each position to be filled (3).*

MOTION PHILLIPS 2ND WIDJESKOG

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education casts its vote for the election of Mr. Mark Mann, Rensselaer County, NY (District of Residence: East Greenbush Central School District), as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties.

Carried, 7-0

MOTION PHILLIPS 2ND WIDJESKOG

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education casts its vote for the election of Mrs. Mary Marro-Giroux, Rensselaer County (District of Residence: The Enlarged City School District of Troy), as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties.

Carried, 7-0

MOTION PHILLIPS 2ND WIDJESKOG

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education casts its vote for the election of Mr. Frank Zwack, Rensselaer County, NY (District of Residence: Berlin Central School District), as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties.

Carried, 7-0

## Reports

Superintendent Marie Digirolamo briefly reported on the following items for consideration on the agenda:

- CSEA MOA - adding titles
- Director of Operations - appointment

Board member Christopher Scoville briefly reported on the Budget committee meeting held on April 17 noting more details would be in the Final Budget Presentation

Business Manager Michael Brennan

- Final Budget Presentation  
After five months of budget development including: preparation meetings with Department Chairs, Team Leaders, Principals, Directors, Executive meetings, five public meetings of the Budget and Finance Committee and six public Board meeting Budget Presentations, the administration gave its final Budget Presentation and reviewed the Property Tax Report Card.
- Board Discussion  
The Board had no additional discussion after the final budget presentation

Consent Agenda

MOTION FIRMBACH 2ND SCHAEFER

To approve the following items contained under the Consent Agenda:

- 8(A) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE (Full Report Card in Supplemental File)  
To accept the Real Property Tax Report Card for the Ichabod Crane Central School District as presented
- 8(B) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL  
To approve the following field trip requests and chaperones per Board Policy #4531:  
DESTINATION: New York Power Authority Blenheim-Gilboa Visitor Center  
DATE: April 25, 2024  
PARTICIPANTS: 6 Envirothon Students  
CHAPERONES: 2 chaperones including Greg Miller
- 8(C) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL  
To approve the following field trip requests and chaperones per Board Policy #4531:  
DESTINATION: Cooperstown  
DATE: May 3, 2024  
PARTICIPANTS: 18 members of the Varsity Baseball Team  
CHAPERONES: 3 chaperones including Brian McComb
- 8(D) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT  
To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Marie Digirolamo, Caterina Zogby as a short term substitute to fill the position held by Allana Moss who is on leave from her teaching position. Ms. Caterina Zogby's appointment will be effective on or about April 23, 2024 and, provided she renders satisfactory service, is intended to continue but no later than June 30, 2024. No term of employment is conferred by this resolution of appointment and Ms. Zogby's employment may be terminated at any time.
- 8(E) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZATION (Full Agreement in Supplemental File)  
To approve and authorize the Board President to execute the attached financing agreement with Questar III to purchase chromebook replacements
- 8(F) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZATION (Full MOA in Supplemental File)  
To approve and authorize the Board President to execute the MOA with CSEA New Titles
- 8(G) CONSIDERATION TO CREATE AND APPOINT  
To create, upon the recommendation of Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent, the probationary position of Director of Operations, and;  
To appoint, Dan Doyle to the position of Director of operations effective July 1, 2024 at a rate of \$140,000 per year, and;  
To authorize the Board President to execute the employment agreement

End of Consent Agenda

Prior to the vote, the process for hiring and execution of employment agreement was clarified

Carried, 7-0

MOTION WIDJESKOG 2ND FIRMBACH

To adopt for presentation to the voters of the district, as PROPOSITION #1, the 2024-2025 Budget as recommended by Administration as follows:

Shall the Board of Education of the Kinderhook Central School District be authorized to expend the total amount of \$50,187,013 during the school year 2024-2025 and to levy the necessary tax therefor?

ALLARD - ABSENT

FIRMBACH- YES

LAFFERTY-BROWN – YES

NELSON– ABSENT

PELIZZA- NO

PHILLIPS - YES

SCHAEFER – YES

SCOVILLE - YES

WIDJESKOG – YES

Carried, 6-1

MOTION SCOVILLE 2ND FIRMBACH

To adopt for presentation to the voters of the district, as PROPOSITION #2, the 2024-2025 Bus Proposal as recommended by Administration as follows:

SHALL the Board of Education of the Kinderhook Central School District be authorized to: (1) acquire five (5) school buses, at a cost not to exceed \$665,654 which is estimated to be the maximum cost thereof; (2) expend such sum for such purpose; (3) levy the necessary tax therefor, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education in accordance with Section 416 of the Education Law taking into account state aid and trade-in value; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds, notes and/or installment purchase contracts of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$655,654, and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

Carried, 7-0

MOTION LAFFERTY-BROWN 2ND PELIZZA

To adopt for presentation to the voters of the district, as PROPOSITION #3, the Student Board Member Proposal as recommended by Administration as follows:

Shall the board of education of the Ichabod Crane Central School District allow a high school student to serve as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Board subject to the requirements of the Education Law?

Carried, 7-0

## Meetings

Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting May 7, 2024 at 7:00 pm

### Committee Meetings

Communications - May 1 at 3:00 pm in the CO Conference Room

Facilities - May 9 at 11:00 am in the CO Conference Room

Policy - May 28 at 5:45 pm in the CO Conference Room

Academic - May 30 at 5:45 pm in the CO Conference Room

### Important Budget Dates

- Meet the Candidates Night on May 15, 2024 in the High School Library at 6:00 p.m.
- Budget Vote and Election May 21, 2024 from 8am-9pm in the HS Gymnasium  
\*Accept Results of Vote May 16, 2023 at approximately 9:20pm

MOTION SCHAEFER 2ND LAFFERTY-BROWN

To adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Carried, 7-0