

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #272
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.
AMBOY CENTRAL SCHOOL GYM**

President Jones called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. All board members were present except Stenzel and Payne. Also present were Joshua Nichols, Yvonne Vicks, Edward Morrissey, Jason Neal, Jason Ramos, Carl Grossman, Randall Singleton, Katie Bulfer, Anna Willis, Delbert Kessel, Shauna Dinges, Emily Stephenitch, Judy King, Janet Crownhart, Andrew Full, Joyce Schamberger, and Jenny McCoy.

President Jones opened the Public Hearing regarding the 2019 Tax Levy. Superintendent Nichols presented the Tax Levy information that included historical requests and rates from 2014 to 2019 and explained that the levy request is not the tax rate. Randall Singleton, Jason Neal, and Carl Grossman shared their questions and concerns. The board explained that more money is not being asked. If we don't levy, other government entities would get the money. President Jones asked the public and the board if there were any more questions or comments. There were none.

A motion was made by Schnaiter and seconded by Leffelman to adopt the Resolution for the 2019 Tax Levy, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Schnaiter and seconded by Pratt to direct the Board Secretary to file the Certificate of Tax Levy. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Schnaiter and seconded by Pratt to direct the Board President and Board Secretary to file the Truth in Taxation Certificate of Compliance. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Schnaiter and seconded by Pratt to close the Public Hearing regarding the 2019 Tax Levy. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

The floor was opened to comments from the public. Edward Morrissey asked why all students (PK-12) be in one building after the addition and what's going to happen to current junior high. Superintendent Nichols explained that we can't have certain grade levels in same building because of state guidelines and the junior high will be demolished and salvage what we can. Carl Grossman asked the cost of new gym and because of the large number of students that attend Whiteside Area Career Center, why is there a need. President Jones replied that the cost is around \$4,000,000 and the need is for extra-curricular activities.

A motion was made by Leffelman and seconded by Schnaiter to approve the following Consent Agenda item(s):

- Minutes of the November 12, 2019, Open & Closed Regular Board Meetings;
- To keep all Executive Session Minutes from April 25, 2019 through September 26, 2019, closed to the public; and
- Delete Audio Recordings dated June 14, 2018 and June 26, 2018.

Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Superintendent Nichols reviewed the financial reports. For revenue, the anticipated 88% for the year and \$161,089 in sales tax dollars for use on facilities have been received. For expenses, roughly 39% have been used in the operating funds, which means we are running around 1.9% under budget in the operating funds. A motion was made by Pratt and seconded by White to approve the current expenditures and payroll. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

The Principal reports were reviewed as presented.

For his Superintendent report, Nichols gave an update on the curriculum and building committees.

Katie Pratt, Carol Schnaiter and Superintendent Nichols shared information from the Triple I Conference.

A motion was made from Leffelman and seconded by Schnaiter to adopt the resolution abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2019 to pay debt service on the General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019A, of the District, as presented. Superintendent Nichols explained that this is abating the property taxes associated with the sales tax bond that was issued but instead use the revenues from the sales tax. This will be done annually until the bonds are paid. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Schnaiter and seconded by Pratt to approve the IASB Policy Revisions, as presented. Superintendent Nichols shared a few of the revisions: FAFSA must be filled out in order to receive diploma, legalization of cannabis, and the handling of sexual abuse allegations and investigations. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Pratt and seconded by Schnaiter to approve the application for the Property Tax Relief Grant, as presented. Superintendent Nichols shared that this is an opportunity to reduce local property taxes and gain state aide at 39 cents on the dollar abated. Amboy is 213 on the list of 851 districts. He would like to apply for up to \$100,000. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Leffelman and seconded by Pratt to approve the Junior High School Improvement Work Plan, as presented. Superintendent Nichols explained that the team is working their way through it but need the approval of the plan prior to the completion. Principal Full reported that their held up by the Social Emotional Learning part but will continue to get it completed. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Schnaiter and seconded by Leffelman to approve the policy on Moderation of Third-Party Content on District Social Media, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 8:23 p.m., a motion was made by Schnaiter and seconded by White to move to executive session for the purpose of discussion of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance and/or dismissal of specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting or specific volunteers of the public body; setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body; and student discipline. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 9:32 p.m., a motion was made by Pratt and seconded by White to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Schnaiter and seconded by Leffelman to approve the suspensions of students 12-12-19-1 through 12-12-19-19, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Schnaiter and seconded by Leffelman to accept the resignation of David Sutton as Part-Time Cook at Central School, effective January 1, 2020. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Upcoming dates include: Regular School Board Meeting - Thursday, January 23, 2020 - 7:00 p.m. - Central School.

There being no further business to bring before the Board, a motion was made by Leffelman and seconded by Schnaiter to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Pratt, Secretary

Nicole Jones, President

Approved: _____