

**Board of Education Meeting
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, December 15, 2021
High School Library
7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Matthew Dreher
Wayne Evans, Jr
Jason Fernau
Lawrence Ryan
Dorothy Sellers
Katie Whittemore
Timothy Turbiak

STAFF PRESENT: Kenneth Slentz, Superintendent of Schools
Brian Sirianni, Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER

Jason Fernau called the Board of Education Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Mr. Fernau stated the District continues to focus on student program offerings. He stated all programs were in progress. Mr. Fernau shared the events that had happened and will be happening in the District. He thanked parents for their support during challenging times. He thanked everyone for their patience as the District continues to receive guidelines from multiple governing bodies. He stated the goal was to provide the least restrictive environment while keeping staff and students safe.

RECOGNITION

Mr. Slentz stated the District was at the 1/3 point of the year. He stated both teachers and teaching assistant groups were at 95% – 96% attendance. He stated it was remarkable how flexible everyone has been. He described how difficult it is to get coverage when staff needs time off. He discussed the difficulty of the constant shifts driven by the pandemic. He thanked everyone for being flexible and changing jobs quickly to keep the students in school. He extended a heartfelt thank you to all of the team that shows up each day.

Mr. Fernau thanked all staff for their great attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Ann Priest, Ballston Spa, NY voiced her concerns regarding student vaccination and staff vaccination and testing requirements. She voiced her concerns regarding the suggested segregation of 8th grade students on an upcoming overnight trip and overall in the District. She encouraged the District to embrace their own values of inclusivity.

Serena Richards, 2 Deerfield Place, Ballston spa NY, voiced her concerns regarding students testing out of missing school. She voiced her concern regarding students being segregated by

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

vaccinated vs. unvaccinated leading to unvaccinated students missing school. She voiced her concerns regarding vaccinated students spreading the virus, but not having to quarantine.

Kristen Dolan 19 Century Drive Malta, reiterated the concerns of the previous speakers. She asked for clarification on the District's policy.

Mr. Slentz stated the District would be sending out communication regarding the current test out policy.

Ms. Dolan asked the District to recognize what it is doing to kids with segregation and different rules for different groups of students regarding quarantine.

Kristofer DuBuque, Kaleen Dr., Ballston Spa, offered solutions to the Board. He voiced his concern of the violation of due process. He voiced his desire to establish one protocol. He shared information from a letter submitted to the Governor's Office.

Mr. Fernau asked Mr. Dubuque to email him the document.

Jason Gurtler welcomed the new Board of Education member. He thanked Saratoga County Board of Supervisors and the Public Health Commissioner for having fortitude to not supporting the mask mandate. He voiced his concern regarding the Board of Education and the Superintendent's fortitude. He urged the Board to use their power to do what was right.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT

Student Council reported students had volunteered at the Holiday Closet event. They stated students had picked up and helped organize donations.

Student Government reported Holiday Trivia had been a lot of fun. They reported the proceeds would be used to go shopping for stockings for teens.

Student Government reminded everyone next week would be Holiday Spirit Week.

Mr. Slentz stated the students had done a great job.

Student Government stated it was nice to see everyone there in person after last year's virtual event.

MINUTES

Motion by Dorothy Sellers, seconded by Timothy Turbiak that the Board of Education approve the minutes for the December 7, 2021 special meeting.

Ayes all.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Budget Development Goals for 2022-2023

Mr. Slentz discussed the many opportunities and challenges for students. He stated students still have to move through the grade levels and get to the finish line on time. Mr. Slentz stated the District was really relying on their partnerships. Mr. Slentz reminded everyone of the meaningful diploma. He discussed the critical components of successful schools' delivery of curriculum. He discussed the strategic points of focus, and highlighted and discussed each priority. Mr. Slentz discussed the explicit instruction for the student success initiative. He explained the systematic approach for struggling students. Mr. Slentz discussed clearing the path for principals to support their staff. He also discussed Special Education and technology in the next budget.

Mr. Slentz discussed the building of the pathways to a meaningful diploma for all students by providing high quality programs to get to readiness.

Mr. Slentz shared the draft goals for 21-22. He explained each goal and the impact for students. He stated long term goals are important to accommodate all initiatives. Mr. Slentz explained some of the items the 22-23 budget would support for students, staff and curriculum.

Mr. Slentz reported the District did not have any open contracts with unions. He stated the District was staying ahead of the curve by staying proactive. He discussed staffing changes included in the budget.

Mr. Slentz stated the District was looking to balance resources and programing by maximizing aidable services to drive revenue.

Mr. Slentz stated the District was looking at pilot programs. He discussed the Major cost drivers for the District budget, stating Mr. Sirianni would discuss it in greater depth.

Jason asked for clarification on the retirement system projections and Mr. Slentz explained.

Mr. Fernau asked about the multi-tiered system that brings students back to the regular system. He stated it was important to have a built in measurement to see success.

Mr. Slentz explained the tracking data that the District was currently using.

Mr. Fernau asked for a quarterly report on improvements.

Long Range Financial Plan

Mr. Sirianni reported on the Long Range Financial Plan. He stated it was a collaborative plan with many groups. He stated there was technical analysis that provides a 5 year projection for the District.

Mr. Sirianni stated the plan helps to fulfill the District's mission and that the planning allowed structures for initiatives. He explained the elements of the forecasts. He explained the external assumptions from national economic conditions, NYS and Saratoga County. He described each

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

facet impacted from each external source. He discussed State Aid and historical situations that affected Districts regarding fair distribution of state aid.

Mr. Sirianni next explained the internal assumptions. He discussed the significant expenditures and the significant revenue areas for the District. Mr. Sirianni shared the projected student enrollment from 2022 through 2027, and the projected health insurance premium increases.

Mr. Sirianni shared the debt service projections. He explained 74% state aid ratio on existing and new debt service. Mr. Sirianni discussed the HS Co-generation plant and how the District was able to get additional building aid.

Mr. Sirianni discussed the Global Foundries PILOT. He shared the figures, stating the District would lose about ½ million dollars a year. He stated the District had been lucky to have the plant to help all the taxpayers in the area. He stated the District was hoping for a second building.

Mr. Sirianni shared the trends in revenue and the changes thorough 2027. Mr. Sirianni explained many of the changes. He stated the District is currently taxing under the amount allowable by law by a significant amount.

Mr. Sirianni next explained the trends for expenses. He highlighted several and explained the major drivers. He shared the projected revenues through 2027. Mr. Sirianni shared the gap analysis for each year through 2027. He stated the District would build budgets in detail and eliminate the deficits to produce a balanced budget as required by law. Mr. Sirianni stated it was critical to understand where the District would be for the next five years. He stated Global foundries was a positive for the District and illustrated the Global Foundries PILOT impact to the budget.

Mr. Sirianni discussed why the budgets were always lower than projected. He explained the generation of revenue through interest rates. He explained the borrowing cost has been less than projected but reminded everyone the interest rates on investments had been lower as well.

Brian Sirianni stated programs costs need to be monitored and managed. He stated 2021 was such a strange year that the historical numbers for that year are not useable. He stated inflation was included in the projections.

Mr. Fernau gave an overview of the budget process to the Board members.

Mr. Fernau thanked Mr. Sirianni and Mr. Slentz.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Fernau reported the Policy Committee was working on the ongoing development of policies to support climate and culture of the District for multiple years. He outlined the discussions. He stated the climate and culture project will encompass many areas in the District. He shared the items expected to be encompassed.

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Mr. Fernau stated the Committee had discussed the various policies that could be under the umbrella. Mr. Fernau stated changes to the Code of Conduct would require a public hearing. He stated there had been discussion regarding the potential for some standalone policies. He told the Board there was a one-page power point slide available in their policy folder. He stated the diagram would be part of the communication going out to public illustrating policies that will come under the umbrella.

Mr. Fernau stated there would be updated language regarding posting documents 24 hours prior to meetings. He stated language requiring participants to follow the code of conduct would be added to policy.

Mr. Fernau discussed the NYSSBA public comment guide. He stated it had been a topic at the Saratoga County School Boards Association Meeting last week. He stated he was interested in thoughts and comments of Board members. Mr. Fernau shared his thoughts for potential changes, including dividing the public comment portion of the meeting into two distinct eligible comment opportunities. He recommended having the 1st session be for agenda item comments and the second for open comments. Mr. Fernau stated he supported the Board being able to get through its business and then have an open session of public comment.

Wayne Evans asked if timeframes would be limited in other sections. He suggested making time constraints in other sections of the meeting and not just to the public comment.

Mr. Fernau stated there were time parameters around the Superintendent's report, but no other section. He stated to his historical knowledge, there had never had an hour of public comment. He stated if the community had a reason for more time an exception could be made.

Dorothy Sellers stated she did not think public comment had gone over an hour. She agreed an exception could be made to allow everyone to speak.

Mr. Fernau stated the purpose of the policy was to support the Board to conduct business in public. He stated it allows for public viewing and comment, but it is the Board's meeting. He asked if any other Board members had any thought to please share them with him via email.

He stated the Policy Committee would like a first reading on Jan 5th. He stated language would be available to board members prior to the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Slentz stated the general topics of correspondence regarding Twitter account and blocking. He stated by law the comments cannot be blocked. Mr. Slentz stated the District speaks directly with individuals to redirect them to an appropriate venue for concerns and conversations.

Mr. Slentz stated there had been correspondence regarding a PE injury and questions regarding oversight.

Mr. Slentz stated there had been correspondence regarding changes in masking requirements, school safety in relation to the Michigan tragedy and enrollment related to growth. He stated vaccine clinic information, busing and student social media posts had also been addressed.

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Katie Whitemore asked for clarification on twitter accounts regarding teacher's personal accounts vs. school accounts.

Mr. Slentz explained.

Mr. Fernau stated there had been correspondence to the Board in the last two weeks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stuart Williams announced the Global Foundries / Town of Malta Foundation presented grants to organizations that serve the Town of Malta. He shared the awards presented to the District.

Mr. Williams announced the Malta Food Fest was held on December 8th and sold just about 200 tickets. He stated the Fest and the on-line auction had raised approximately \$6,000. He thanked the partners for their support, and stated there would be a presentation with the partners this spring.

Mr. Williams reminded everyone of the upcoming winter concerts.

Mr. Slentz added a clarifying note regarding school safety, explaining there is not specific threat to this school district. He stated students were discussing the generalized threat. He stated the District wanted to communicate to parents to allow for conversation between parents and students that the threat was not to this District, it was a generalized threat. Mr. Slentz stated many intelligence units were focused on the threat. He stated it was on TikTok. He added that students should report any situations of concern.

Mr. Fernau stated last Monday that the Saratoga County Board Presidents had a round table discussion. He shared who was in attendance and stated it was a good event. He encouraged members to attend the next meeting and gave the specifics of the meeting time and location. He stated there would be a presentation of legal matters under the current environment to school districts in general.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #313 - Adoption of the District Wide Safety Plan

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the District Wide Safety Plan for the 2021-2022 school year, be and is hereby approved.

MOTION BY Dorothy Sellers, seconded by Timothy Turbiak that the Board of Education to approve Resolution #313 – Adoption of the District Wide Safety Plan

Ayes all

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Resolution #314 - Agreement – Village of Ballston Spa

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, hereby approves the agreement between the Village of Ballston Spa and the District for the 2021-2022 Village's ice skating program, be and is hereby approved.

MOTION BY Dorothy Sellers, seconded by Timothy Turbiak that the Board of Education to approve Resolution #314 – Agreement – Village of Ballston Spa

Discussion

Mr. Fernau stated this resolution was in regards to the skating rink on Eastern Avenue. He stated it was a wonderful partnership with the Village.

Mr. Slentz thanked Mr. Sirianni for his work on some of the challenges.

Ayes all

Resolution #315 - Acceptance of Donation

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the Ballston Spa Education Foundation donation for the K-12 Music Department and High School Social Studies, in the amount of \$4,607.92, be and is hereby accepted.

MOTION BY Dorothy Sellers, seconded by Timothy Turbiak that the Board of Education to approve Resolution #315 – Acceptance of Donation

Discussion

Ms. Sellers thanked BSEF for all the work they had done over the years.

Mr. Fernau and Mr. Slentz also offered thanks.

Ayes all

Resolution #316 - Placement of Students with Disabilities

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the said Board arrange placement of the following students as recommended by the District Committee on Special Education, effective December 15, 2021 be and are hereby approved:

Student #23032	Student #276666	Student #276898
Student #278960	Student #277749	Student #277490
Student #272950	Student #275439	Student #272292
Student #275912	Student #277326	Student #24198
Student #275525	Student #25689	Student #276070
Student #277275	Student #278965	Student #277432
Student #24726	Student #272286	Student #278769
Student #273361	Student #277340	Student #276425

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

MOTION BY Dorothy Sellers, seconded by Timothy Turbiak that the Board of Education to approve Resolution #316 – Placement of Students with Disabilities

Ayes all

Resolution #317 - Placement of Preschool Students with Disabilities

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the said Board arrange placement of the following students as recommended by the District Committee on Preschool Special Education, effective December 15, 2021 be and are hereby approved:

Student #278992

Student #278845

MOTION BY Dorothy Sellers, seconded by Timothy Turbiak that the Board of Education to approve Resolution #317 – Placement of Preschool Students with Disabilities

Ayes all

Resolutions #318 - #333 are recognized as a consent agenda for the purpose of Board of Education action.

Resolution #318 - Appointment - District Committee on Special Education

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that pursuant to the requirements of 8NYCRR section 200.3 and in accordance with section 4402 of the education law that the following persons be appointed for the 2021-2022 school year to serve as members of the Committee on Special Education, be and are hereby approved:

School Psychologist

Rosemary Olson

Resolution #319 - Resignation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of the employee(s) listed below, with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Jennifer Andreadakis	School Aide	12/15/21
Shane DeVoe	Cleaner	12/15/21
Leo Martin	Bus Driver	12/01/21
Elizabeth Pinkston	School Aide	12/15/21
Laurie Sears	Cleaner	12/14/21

Resolution #320 - Termination

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District hereby approves the termination of the employee(s) listed below, with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Scott Tobias	Cleaner	12/15/21

Resolution #321 - Appointment- Interim Supervisor of Secondary Special Education

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District hereby appoints Gianleo Duca as Interim Supervisor of Secondary Special Education, effective January 1, 2022– June 30, 2022, and authorizes a \$15,634 stipend payment thereafter.

Resolution #322 - Appointment - COVID-19 Response Coordinator

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District hereby appoints Sharon D'Agostino as COVID-19 Response Coordinator, effective January 16, 2022 – June 30, 2022, and authorizes a \$15,006 stipend payment thereafter.

Resolution #323 - Appointment – Administrative

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent, to appoint the following person(s) to the position(s) indicated below, with effective date(s) and rate shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Certification Status</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Kristi Jensen	Administrator of Special Education	NYS Permanent, School District Administrator	\$500/day	1/01/22-6/30/22

Resolution #324 - Rescission of Appointment

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) appointment previously approved by the Board at their meeting held September 1, 2021, in Resolution #145 is hereby rescinded, be and is hereby approved.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title, Location</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Matthew Lopez	Odyssey of the Mind, HS	\$931

Resolution #325 - Rescission of Appointments

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) appointment previously approved by the Board at their meeting held October 6, 2021, in Resolution #233 is hereby rescinded, be and is hereby approved.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title, Location</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Kathrin Marcincuk	Sci-Fi Club Co-Advisor, HS	\$278
Michael Walterich	Sci-Fi Club Co-Advisor, HS	\$278

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Resolution #326 - Appointment Teaching Assistant

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the probationary position(s) indicated below, with salary and effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tenure Area</u>	<u>Certification Status</u>	<u>Salary/Step</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Jennifer Andreadakis	Teaching Assistant	Teaching Assistant Level 1	\$22,325/yr. Step 1 (pro-rated)	12/16/21-12/15/25
Amy Munn	Teaching Assistant	NYS Permanent Elementary Education Pre K-6, Reading	\$26,999/yr. Step 7 (pro-rated)	12/16/21-12/15/25
Kieran Ramsey	Teaching Assistant	NYS Initial Childhood Education 1-6	\$24,931/yr. Step 4 (pro-rated)	12/16/21-12/15/25

Resolution #327 - Appointment – Support Services

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be granted appointment to the probationary position(s) indicated below, with hours, rate and effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Max. Hrs./ Wk.</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Rachael Cichy	Special Education Aide	32.5	\$17.96/hr.	12/16/21-12/15/22
Shane DeVoe	Custodian	40	\$20.11/hr.	12/16/21-12/15/22
Wayne Joseph	Bus Driver	25	\$22.91/hr.	12/02/21-12/01/22
Timothy Keeler	School Aide	37.5	\$15.59/hr.	01/03/22-01/02/23
Elizabeth Pinkston	Receptionist	37.5	\$18.73/hr.	12/16/21-12/15/22
Dennis Rheume	Bus Driver	25	\$22.91/hr.	12/06/21-12/05/22
Laurie Sears	Special Education Aide	32.5	\$17.96/hr.	12/16/21-12/15/22
Erica Self	School Aide	17.5	\$15.59/hr.	12/16/21-12/15/22
Erica Shaw	School Aide	37.5	\$15.59/hr.	12/16/21-12/15/22
Janet Tracey	School Aide	22.5	\$15.59/hr.	12/16/21-12/15/22
Tammy White	Bus Attendant	25	\$16.37/hr.	12/16/21-12/15/22

Resolution #328 - Appointment – Support Services

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the position(s) indicated below for the 2021-2022 school year, with hours shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Max Hrs./Wk.</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Kristin Mangini	Driver in Training	40	\$17.00/hr.
Keith Murphy	Substitute Bus Driver	40	\$22.22/hr.
Brandy Taylor	Substitute Cleaner	40	\$17.90/hr.

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Kristina Vivian	Substitute Clerical	40	\$18.55/hr.
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Resolution #329 - Appointment – Summer Curriculum Work

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to conduct summer curriculum work, for summer of 2021, with salary shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Number of days</u>	<u>Daily Rate</u>
Rachel Terry	3	\$244.29/day

Resolution #330 - Appointment- Tutor

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the Tutor position for the 2021-2022 school year, with rate shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Emily Devizzio	NYS Initial, Childhood Education 1-6, Early Childhood Education B-2	\$40.72/hr.

Resolution #331 - Appointment – Co-Curricular Clubs and Activities

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the advisor position(s) to the following clubs and activities for the 2021-2022 school year, with stipend shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title, Location</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Thomas Dufort	Intramurals (winter), GC	\$622
Miranda Glogowski	Intramurals (winter), GC	\$622

Resolution #332 - Appointment – Extra Duties

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the position(s) indicated below for the 2021-2022 school year, with rate shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title, Location</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Kearstin Allen	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)
Andrew Bolling	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)
Angelo D'Annibale	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)
April Dow	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)
Amy Fealey	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)
Michelle Greco	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)
Kristina Greene	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)
Renee Lavigne	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)
Sheri Litchfield	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)
Kristin O'Connor	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Rosemary Olson	CSE Chairperson, DW	\$2,607/yr. (pro-rated)
Kimberly Pusatere	PDC Chairperson, DW	\$1,027/yr.
Christine Santandrea	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)
Kristilyn Szesnat	Lunch Supervisor, GC	\$1,759/yr. (pro-rated)

Resolution #333 - Appointment - Interscholastic Sports Coaches

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the coaching position(s) indicated below for the 2021-2022 school year, with stipend shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Gary Older, Jr.	Assistant Varsity Track and Field	\$4,775

MOTION BY Dorothy Sellers, seconded by Timothy Turbiak that the Board of Education to approve Resolutions #318 - 333

Discussion

Mr. Slentz stated he was grateful to his team for stepping up into promotional positions.

Mr. Slentz shared Dr. Gianleo Duca's contributions.

Ayes all

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Fernau stated board members had a letter from NYS Education Department in front of them. Mr. Fernau stated he sits on the BOCES Board. He stated the BOCES Superintendent was retiring which triggers a review of the components. He read the options available for the District to choose regarding the components. Mr. Fernau stated he believed the District did not want to make changes, but wanted to give the Board an opportunity to discuss and choose an option.

Mr. Slentz gave some reasons why Districts may want to change and explained the process. He recommended the District choose the option to make no changes. He stated he would send the recommendation on behalf of the Board. He stated it could be a letter with the Board's nod, or by resolution.

Mr. Fernau suggested a resolution.

Ms. Sellers agreed with a resolution. She stated with many new board members it gave a chance for individuals to ask questions. She stated her opinion was that if 31 superintendents think there is no need for a change she was willing to defer to them.

Mr. Slentz stated the deadline was January 7th, enough time for a resolution.

Mr. Fernau asked that anyone with questions ask him or the Superintendent.

Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Mr. Fernau stated there are responses on the website on Scottie Scoop regarding the recent announcements from the Governor. He stated many Districts and Superintendents are putting together letters to the Governor. Mr. Fernau stated the Superintendent had written a letter. He stated they had discussed making it a joint letter from the Superintendent and the Board. Mr. Fernau stated he supported having a collective letter on record from the Superintendent and the Board.

Lawrence Ryan stated the letter was well written and worth sending. He stated he would like to get the evidence that led to the decision.

Timothy Turbiak agreed and stated asking for a body of evidence to understand the decision was reasonable.

Mr. Slentz stated he had a meeting with Assemblywoman Woerner. He stated he would report back to the Board.

Ms. Sellers stated it was a good idea to have the Board President's signature.

Ms. Whittemore agreed. She stated it was important to speak with as many legislators as possible to get answers for the students and the community.

Mr. Fernau stated there would be an updated version tomorrow, finalized by tomorrow afternoon to share with assemblywoman Woerner.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kris DuBuque recommended the proposed public comment changes be reversed to allow the public to address the Board on topics other than the meeting agenda at the beginning of the meeting as opposed to the end of the meeting so people could go home before it was too late. Mr. DuBuque voiced concerns regarding the labor market, vaccines and a push away from government jobs. Mr. DuBuque thanked the Board for allowing the winter concerts.

Lisa Donovan, Middleline Road, Ballston Spa, expressed her concerns for students regarding the mask mandates and student treatment. She stated students were constantly getting yelled at, adding stress and anxiety to the school day. Ms. Donovan thanked the District for asking for parent input. She voiced her desire to have decisions made at the local level, and the importance of mask breaks for students. Ms. Donovan thanked the County for giving the District a way out of the mandates. She asked the District to consider a virtual option during due to the stress of the current situation.

Jason Gurtler voiced support for the second public comment session being for agenda items. He voiced his concern regarding total time limits for public comment sessions. He voiced his opinion that the District was having a hard time filling positions due to the vaccination or testing requirements. He voiced his displeasure of student segregation and a lack of the bus mentality that Rosa Parks had challenged.

**Ballston Spa Board of Education
Wednesday, December 15, 2021**

BSATA, BSTA, CSEA, and PTA

Mr. Fernau announced Ms. McGowan and the BSATA wished the Board and the community a safe, happy, healthy holiday.

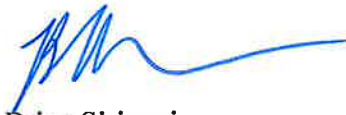
Mr. Fernau thanked the BSATA.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Dorothy Sellers, seconded by Tim Turbiak that the Board of Education adjourn at 9:18 p.m.

Ayes all

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brian Sirianni', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Sirianni
Clerk of the Board