

**SCHENEVUS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Agenda for Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Meeting
Wednesday, August 26, 2020
6:00 p.m.**

Board President, Stacie Haynes, called the Board of Education meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Members present: Stacie Haynes, Jay Deitchman, Liz Reed, Tom Snyder, Tim Walke

Members absent: NONE

Also present: Theresa Carlin, Superintendent
Nicole Couse, District Clerk
Greg Beall, Treasurer
Ashley Warren, School Social Worker
Tom Hunt, Head Maintenance Mechanic/Head Bus Driver
Debra Reed, Community Member
Marge French, Community Member

PUBLIC COMMENT

None At this time

REPORTS

Tom Hunt discussed options for the Board's consideration regarding a possible vote on Policy regarding student transportation. Currently, we are not following the Board of Education Policy which states we are to follow NYS Statute for providing transportation to students who live within walking distance of school. The NYS Statute states that any student, Gr. K - 8, who resides within a 2 mile radius of school will walk. And, that any student, Gr. 9-12, residing within a 3 mile radius of school will walk. Students outside of these guidelines are to have transportation provided up to 15 miles.

Ms. Carlin stated that the only reason we even looked into this is due to COVID-19 regulations regarding restricted transportation seating. She spoke to several employees about our transportation policy and was told that, several years ago a student with special needs lived within the 2 mile radius of school, but needed transport. The practice continued to then include more students by picking them up along the way, rather than have them walk. If we are to continue our current practice, we cannot simply amend our Policy, but must bring it to a public vote.

Mr. Hunt stated that if we set a 1 mile radius for all students in PK-12, it would eliminate a bus run which would free a bus to be used to transport special needs students out-of-district. The Board deliberated between setting the distance, within a safe walking zone, at $\frac{3}{4}$ mile vs. 1 mile radius. This could then be determined on a yearly basis. Currently, we would have only 6 - 10 students who would be required to walk or self transport.

Ms. Carlin stated that with this new policy, if the weather is deemed not safe for walkers, the school can announce that transportation will be provided within those limits for that day.

Superintendent Carlin reported that the teachers were in the building Tuesday through Thursday and were extremely grateful for the additional preparation time.

She distributed a notice that was sent to the Governor regarding school sports. Schools question the safety of having a sports program if it's deemed unsafe for students to be allowed into the building.

The Governor has threatened to make cuts to school aid. However, Foundation Aid is guaranteed, so it seems that only expense-driven aid may be cut by 20% at this time.

During this Virtual learning experience, students will be graded in the usual manner. These grades will determine their 5 week average and be part of their final grade. NYS dictates the total time spent on instruction. Attendance will be taken daily by having students login and answer a question, indicating that they are attending. Special Education teachers will either work with teachers in the classroom or directly with their S.Ed. students. When returning to the hybrid classroom, Special Education students will be offered the option of attending 4 days instead of 2.

REVIEW

Following the report the Board reviewed the Bus Transportation Proposition for Legal Notice of Public Vote

NEW BUSINESS

Business Items:

On the recommendation of the superintendent, RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following:

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. A special meeting of the qualified voters of the Schenevus Central School District shall be held at the Schenevus Central School on October 15, 2020, between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 9:00 PM, for the purpose of voting on the proposition described in the notice of special meeting hereinafter set forth.
2. Said special meeting shall be called by giving the following notice thereof:

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF
SCHENEVUS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the qualified voters of the Schenevus Central School District shall be held at the Schenevus Central School on October 15, 2020, between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 9:00 PM. The following proposition will be submitted for voter approval at said meeting:

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

PROPOSITION

Shall the Board of Education of the Schenevus Central School District be authorized to transport only those students of the School District who reside at least three-quarters (3/4) of a mile but no more than fifteen (15) miles from the school they legally attend, with the Board having authority, annually, to choose a safe walker zone. This shall take effect immediately upon approval of a majority vote of the qualified voters of the school district, at no additional cost.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots to vote on the proposition may be applied for at the office of the School District Clerk. Any such application must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the date of the aforesaid special district meeting if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before such special district meeting if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued shall be available for public inspection in the office of the District Clerk during regular office hours on each of the five days prior to the day of the vote (excluding Saturday and Sunday). An absentee ballot must reach the office of the District Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of such special district meeting.

2. Approve the Special Meeting Notice to be published to the public 45 days prior to the Special Meeting Vote held on October 15,2020.

Motion: Jay Deitchman; second, Tim Walke, vote 5-0

Personnel Items:

On the recommendation of the superintendent, RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following:

1. Appoint Sarah Mellor to a Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher position effective 9/1/2020 at a SUT contractual rate for B+30, Step 1.
2. Appoint Allyson Hares to a Long Term Substitute Spanish Teacher position effective 9/1/2020 at a SUT contractual rate for B, Step 1.
3. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Schenevus Central School District hereby re-appoints Kelley Jones from the seniority/recall list, pursuant to Education Law 3013, to an Elementary position in the Elementary1-6 tenure area, effective September 1, 2020, contingent upon a vacancy occurring pending letter of resignation from current Elementary teacher. Mrs. Jones, will be reinstated with the 2 years seniority which she had accrued prior to being excessed. She will also continue her probationary period, with 2 years remaining to a 4-year probationary period ending on June 30, 2022.

Motion: Jay Deitchman; second, Tim Walke, vote 5-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marge French made a comment on the upcoming bus vote. She was not aware that the total cost of the proposition was aided 90% which equals \$18,100 over 5 years; to be \$3,600 a year. This would be something the community should know. This makes a big difference. Mrs. Carlin followed her comment stating that she did notify everyone during the budget zoom meetings however the attendance at these meetings was very small as well as the budget news letter. .

Having no further business before the Board, Jay Deitchman made a motion to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. second, Tom Snyder; vote 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted



Nicole Couse, District Clerk