

**Sherman Central School
Board of Education
Regular Monthly Meeting
November 14, 2022**

TIME & PLACE: 5:30 PM, Auditorium

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian Bates, Teresa Guzman, Kristin Irwin, Emily Reynolds and Timothy Sears.

OTHERS PRESENT: Carrie Yohe, Nicole Marino, Kimberly Oehlbeck, Ann Morrison, Andrea Bryant, Luke Waygood, Melva Rowan, Brooke Long and David Prenatt of the Post-Journal.

President Brian Bates called the **meeting to order** at 5:33 pm.

**CALL TO ORDER
ROLL CALL**

Teresa Guzman moved to approve the **board minutes** of the regular board meeting held October 17, 2022. (Att. #1) Emily Reynolds seconded the motion, carried 5-0.

MINUTES

Timothy Sears moved to **approve the financial consent agenda:**

- 2a) **Treasurer Report** for period ending 9/30/22 and 10/31/22 (Att. #2)
- 2b) **Extra Curricular Treasurer Report** period ending 10/31/22 (Att #2)
- 2c) **Financial Reports** the following: (Att. #3)
 - School lunch and Federal for periods ending 6/30/22 and 9/30/22
 - General Fund for periods ending 6/30/22 through 10/31/22

**FINANCIAL
AGENDA
Treasurer Reports
Financials**

Seconded by Emily Reynolds, carried 5-0.

Laura Napoli from Bahgat & Laurito-Bahgat, CPA's, P.C. provided a presentation on the 2021-22 External Audit Report. She said that she went over the external audit in detail with the audit committee today. The goal of the external audit is to determine whether the financial statements are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, which she confirmed that they are. This is an unmodified opinion, which is considered a clean opinion and the best opinion which one can receive on financials. She provided some highlights of the audit report. She advised that SCS has a healthy fund balance. A single audit was also conducted this year, which is required when a District spends over \$750,000 in Federal aid. This included a review of internal controls. Overall the audit report was very good. The Board thanked her for her report.

Presentation

Board of Education President - Mr. Bates gave a brief rundown of school board meetings. He advised that it is a board meeting held in public rather than a public hearing which may involve conversation between the Board and public. There is a section for public participation as delineated by the policy governing this. Anything brought to the Board may be discussed in Executive session and any response may be brought at a later time - this is due to legal reasons rather than a desire for secrecy. Some Board members attended the CCSBA dinner on 10/19 which included a presentation by Dr. Rick Timbs, as well as attending the NYSSBA convention in Saratoga from October 27-29.

Board President

Superintendent Report - Mrs. Yohe said that she met with Teresa Guzman, Timothy Sears and Jared Oehlbeck to narrow down the focus of the next capital project. The overall cost will be around \$2 million, and will mainly consist of smaller renovations. Main points of focus are the cafeteria, STEAM/Technology/AG rooms, the nurse's office, and OT/PT/Fitness rooms. She will meet with the team tomorrow to narrow down on what aid funding there will be available for this. There was also a policy committee meeting of which Kristin Irwin is a part. There are 3 policies which are before the Board for approval tonight, with 8 additional first readings of policies. Luke Waygood advised on the policy process and explained why a policy was before the Board for deletion, and why additional deletions will be forthcoming. Mrs. Yohe advised on the Thought Exchange results, in which people requested more communication - acting on this, the school is using more parent broadcasts to improve communication with the community, as well as staff daily bulletins to improve internal communication. Remind is a useful tool to improve communication, particularly with the parents of elementary students. She also advised that the reopening of the fitness

**Superintendent
Report**

center is on the agenda. Faculty, staff and students will not pay - the prices are only for members of the public. The fitness center monitor will be paid minimum wage. She advised on the new website, which hopefully will launch at the end of November. Mr. Shimmel will attend the December meeting to show the new website. She gave a brief update on how the new website will appear. Concerning the cafeteria, there are still supply chain issues which may cause changes to the planned menus. In athletics, basketball has just started. The bus garage has started inspections. The director of facilities advised that there are no bee issues now, the 12 new trees have been planted and there were some water leaks in the main office which will require the contractor to re-wrap the pipes, and some tile replacement will be necessary.

School Business Administrator – Mrs. Oehlbeck went over the budget calendar. This starts the week of January 3rd when teachers are given their budget forms. She advised on the various key dates leading up to the presentation of the budget and the budget vote. She advised that budget work sessions may be necessary as per the calendar. She advised that the tax collection report item on the agenda will need to be removed as she has not yet received all of the information from the tax lockbox - the tax collection report will come to the Board at the December meeting. She advised on the items listed for auction which are on the agenda, which included reference to the van which will eventually be sold to offset the purchase of the new van. She also advised of the corrective action plan in the audit report, as well as any other findings which arose from the audit report. Teresa Guzman asked if the audit report could be submitted to the Board a week in advance going forward, which Kim Oehlbeck advised would be possible in an electronic format. She advised that the contract with the auditors is up, however they advised of a price increase of \$4,000, which will remain static for 2 years. She noted that there had not been a price increase since 2019, and the reason for the price increase is due to the additional work as a result of the single audits. Kristin Irwin advised that the rate is a typical rate for a district to pay. The general consensus of the Board was to put it out to bid to compare prices.

SBA Report

Principal - Mrs. Marino said that fall sports are wrapping up. Football, girls cross country, and volleyball went to playoffs. The student services committee meets on Thursdays. The Wizard of Oz was a success and she commended Mrs. Berg and Mr. Minton for their work. Mr. McKane ran Red Ribbon Week and the SCS Cares leaf raking, as well taking a group of students to the Reg Lenna to see some plays. Mrs. Svenson and Mr. Delles took 34 students to visit Slippery Rock. Mrs. Svenson has been administering SATs and PSATs. Mrs. Kopta ran the flu clinic last week. There were also 13 students inducted into the National Honor Society last week by Courtney Taylor. Teacher observations have begun. She advised that the first Class of 2021 composite photo was sent to the school but there were a number of errors which are being corrected.

Principal Report

Director of Pupil Services - Mrs. Morrison provided a Special Education report to the Board and provided an overview of it. There are currently three 4-year old students in pre-school who require services, five 3-year old students 4 of whom are receiving related services only and one is in an integrated pre-school setting. There is another pre-school student currently being evaluated, which may be 2 by the end of the week. She advised of the various room descriptions. She explained the difference between a resource room and a guided study hall. The report also gave guidance on other services which are offered by the school, including OT, PT and speech. At 9th grade and above a Special Education teacher will need to have both a special education certification and a content area certification, to be able to teach 15:1. She has been in informal discussions with neighboring districts regarding a middle school self-contained program. All of this leads to the question of limited space to accommodate special education students. Mrs. Yohe advised that the group of students coming up through middle school will require additional space, especially as the school currently is doubling up on teachers to meet student needs. She advised of students who are utilizing CDOS, which is essentially work-based learning. She provided clarification on which students could graduate with a Regents diploma or CDOS credential.

Dir. of Pupil Services Report

Curriculum Coordinator - Mrs. Bryant advised on some updates. Her time is also split with Clymer Central School. One big focus has been on the UPK program. SCS has purchased the ASGI progress monitoring platform which helps assess Kindergarten readiness. This generates a report which will be provided to parents in the parent-teacher conferences. SCS also purchased the Brigance Early Childhood Screening Assessment program, which she will assist in administering to incoming pre-K students next summer, as well as to outgoing pre-K students in the fall. She is trying to plan a trip to Jamestown to see a potential curriculum in current use. There was an in-service afternoon on October 31, during which she met with 3-8 grade teachers to look at their ELA and Math assessments. Grades 2 and 5 are piloting a math program called enVision. High School social studies teachers are working on the Seal of Civic Readiness, which will hopefully be offered next year. 1st and 2nd grade teachers worked on a new phonics program called Heggerty. ARC is not meeting student phonics needs and teachers have been asking for a new phonics program. She is currently asking teachers what monthly topics they are covering, which helps keep everyone on the same page as to what is being taught.

No members of the public addressed the Board.

Public participation

No old business was discussed at the meeting.

Old Business

Timothy Sears moved to remove item 3c) school tax collection report for 2022-2023 tax year from the business consent agenda.

Seconded by Teresa Guzman, carried 5-0.

Kristin Irwin moved to approve the **new business consent agenda**:

New Business Agenda

- 3a) **CPSE/CSE Placements** as per the recommendation of the CSE/CPSE chair for the attached roster of students. (Att #4)
- 3b) Accept the 2021-22 Audit Report and Corrective Action Plan as presented by Bahgat & Laurito-Bahgat, CPA's, P.C., external auditors.
- 3c) Adopt the 2023-24 Budget Calendar as presented by the School Business Administrator. (Att. #5)
- 3d) Declare the following items as surplus/excess equipment to be available at auction on 12/22/2022. Auctioneer: Peterson Auction & Realty LLC, Terms - 25% of proceeds, 10% on the rolling stock (van) and 10% buyer's premium. The van will have a reserve set at an equal value as our previous trade in value.:

21 - Football Helmets	2 - Shoulder pads
Hobart mixer & accessories	Misc napkin holders and display stands
7 - Beverage pitchers	16 - Cooking pots
Misc knives & serving spoons	Misc serving dishes
Nacho cheese dispenser	5 - Stainless steel carts
50 - Plastic baskets	Pretzel warmer
8 - Mesh cooking grates	20 - Glass sugar bowls
Serv lift warming oven	Office desk w/hutch
Dining table	10 - Computer tables
2 - Teacher desks	2- Office chairs
Drafting table	2 - Library tables
2 - File cabinets	3 - Magazine racks
Misc chairs and stools	
- 3e) Approve the re-opening of the fitness center to the public effective November 28, 2022. The hours of operation for the public will be Monday through Friday 6am - 7:30am and 4pm to 8pm, Saturday from 8am to 10am. Students will have additional access Monday through Friday from 3:10pm to 4pm. For

security, all adults will have an individual swipe badge. Fitness center monitors will be paid minimum wage. Membership prices for 2022-2023:

SCS Community Member 65+	Single Membership Ages 18 – 65	Type of membership
\$15	\$20	1 month
\$25	\$45	3 months
\$50	\$80	6 months
\$100	\$150	Full Year

- 3f) Approve the deletion of Policy 7552 Bullying: Peer Abuse In The Schools. (Att. #6)
- 3g) Approve the following policy updates (*Att #7*):
- Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers # 5741
 - Sexual Harassment in the Workplace # 6121
 - Sexual Harassment of Students # 7551

Kristin Irwin advised that she supported having work sessions regarding the budget.

Seconded by Timothy Sears, carried 5-0.

Teresa Guzman moved to approve the **personnel consent agenda** including the following items:

New Personnel Agenda

- 4a) Appoint Lori Svenson as secondary Civil Rights Compliance Officer, effective 11/15/2022.
- 4b) Approve JoAnn Kopta as the volunteer ski/board club advisor for the 2022-23 winter ski season at Peek'n Peak Resort.

Seconded by Emily Reynolds, carried 5-0.

Emily Reynolds moved to enter into executive session at 6:33 pm for the purpose of discussion of a personnel issue and contract negotiations with no action to be taken after. Seconded by Timothy Sears, carried 5-0.

Emily Reynolds moved to leave executive session at 8:00 pm. Seconded by Teresa Guzman, carried 5-0.

Executive Session

Emily Reynolds moved to **adjourn** the meeting at 8:01 pm. Second by Teresa Guzman, carried 5-0.

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Luke Waygood
District Clerk