

**Sherman Central School  
Board of Education  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
February 27, 2023**

**TIME & PLACE: 5:30 PM, Auditorium**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Carrie Yohe, Kimberly Oehlbeck, Nicole Marino, Ann Morrison, Luke Waygood, Andrew Minton, Hewitt Meeder, Karen Croscut, Ashley Pinzok, Carol Chase, Brooke Long, Cindy Sears, Megan Wilson, Heather Ramsey, Elizabeth Meeder, Jessica Weise, Travis Weise and David Prenatt of the Post-Journal.

President Brian Bates called the **meeting to order** at 5:32 pm.

**CALL TO ORDER  
ROLL CALL**

Timothy Sears moved to approve the **board minutes** of the regular board meeting held January 23, 2023. Emily Reynolds seconded the motion, carried 5-0.

**MINUTES**

Teresa Guzman moved to **approve the financial consent agenda:**

- 2a) **Treasurer Reports** for period ending 1/31/23
- 2b) **Extra Curricular Treasurer Report** for period ending 1/31/23
- 2c) **Financial Report** for period ending 1/31/23

**FINANCIAL  
AGENDA  
Treasurer Reports  
Financials**

Seconded by Emily Reynolds, carried 5-0.

**PRESENTATION:**

**Presentation**

- Melissa Kirkland of Bernard P. Donegan, Inc. provided a presentation on the proposed Capital Project. Ms. Kirkland went over the building debt service, aid, and local share. She provided information regarding historical change in assessed valuation in the region. She advised that the Capital Project made sense from a tax cap standpoint and provided a tentative first look at the financial cost. SCS will utilize \$400,000 from Capital Reserve and \$500,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance towards the Capital Project, which will help the local share. Current projection of the cost of the Capital Project is \$11,950,000. The net local share is around \$300,000 per year, although with building aid this could potentially decrease to as little as \$80,000 per year. This would translate into an average of a 60 cent increase per \$1,000 assessed property value to taxpayers. She provided an example that for a \$100,000 house, a taxpayer could see an annual increase of between \$15 to \$60 (or \$1.25 to \$5.00 per month), depending on whether the homeowner receives a STAR exemption or not. Mrs. Yohe explained that this breakdown shows what the maximum cost could be, without additional revenue, such as the potential solar project. Mrs. Kirkland also provided the timeline for the Capital Project.
- Cindy Sears of the Minerva Free Library provided a presentation on the proposed tax levy. She said that today is the 115th birthday of the Minerva Free Library. At current revenue and expense levels, the library will continue to be viable for 3 years. Thus, they are requesting that a vote be put to the Sherman residents for the tax levy. If the proposal is successful the library would still remain a separate entity. The library's endowment fund is rapidly diminishing, and will be exhausted by 2026, while costs increase and funding remains static. Basic operating costs of the library is \$52,000, while increasing services to meet local needs could increase the budget to \$85,000. She provided an overview of the various services provided by the library. The proposed 2024 budget is \$85,000. She provided a breakdown of the tax rate increase rate by area. It was clarified that if voters approved the proposition, the library would receive \$85,000 per year through a permanent school tax increase, however if an increase were requested then another vote would need to be held.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – No one addressed the Board.

**Public participation**

**Board of Education President** - Mr. Bates said that the Board has completed their evaluation of Mrs. Yohe and that going forward Board members would provide committee updates.

**Board President**

**Update from the Policy, Budget and/or Capital Project Committee(s)** - Ms. Irwin advised that a number of policies were reviewed by the Policy committee. It was clarified that policy 1510 states that public comments are reserved for agenda items, although the Board can allow comments on other subjects at their discretion. Mrs. Irwin advised that the only change to policy 1510 was to increase the amount of time per person from 3 minutes to 5 minutes. Mr. Sears questioned if policy 6211 if the vote has to be made annually or just once per employee, and whether the required votes could be changed to a majority of  $\frac{3}{4}$  or  $\frac{4}{5}$ . Ms. Irwin offered to send her committee notes in advance to the Board going forward. Mrs. Irwin also advised that the Budget committee met and went over things line by line.

Committee Updates

**Superintendent Report** - Mrs. Yohe mentioned the girls basketball game which will take place at JCC this Wednesday. She advised of the Saturday morning basketball championship games which took place prior to recess, and she would like to see future events advertised to the public. She advised that the calendar is up for approval on this agenda. Given the late end to 2024, it is hoped to have graduation earlier. April 8, 2024 will see a total eclipse, and other schools are reviewing the date, although she suggests leaving the calendar as is for now. She advised that the half days have been very effective. Mr. Oehlbeck had advised her of the lead report test results, so a letter will be sent to the community soon. There are 7 areas in the cafeteria with lead concerns. The FFA donated chickens to the cafeteria, enabling them to offer chicken and biscuits. After school snacks are being offered again. Two hydroponics systems have been installed, so Ag students will be growing lettuce and herbs for the cafeteria. The curriculum coordinator advised her that she would like to see 7th grade students have Tech for half a year, and Ag for half a year. Mrs. Bryant took staff to the Lit conference. Mrs. Yohe advised that there will need to be an executive session to discuss contracts. She advised that the school wishes to put in a new addition as part of the Capital Project, and showed some renderings of the potential outside of the addition. She advised that the brick color of it might be difficult to match to the original building brick color. She advised of the Capital Project informational meeting taking place on Thursday, 3/2/23.

Superintendent  
Report

**School Business Administrator** – Mrs. Oehlbeck went over the BOCES parts of the budget. She provided a breakdown of BOCES coser costs projected into 23-24. The 23-24 overall coser costs are \$1,301,662.48, with an overall increase of \$148,734.27 over 22-23. She also went over the budget categories and their respective budget amounts and the difference compared to 22-23. Overall the 23-24 estimated budget is \$12,039,703, an increase of \$863,203. She also presented the tax cap calculation. The maximum allowable levy for the 23-24 year is \$2,951,150 or 3.39%.

SBA Report

**PreK-12 Principal** - Mrs. Marino said that Regents testing took place in January. Presentations regarding Sandy Hook See Something Say Something and a vaping presentation by Prevention Works took place. Elementary celebrated the 100th day of school on February 10. Q2 Elementary awards took place on February 16. Mrs. Svenson highlighted the field trip for 10th grade students to CTE Hewes on February 7 and the 8th Grade information meeting on February 8. There will be a field trip to JCC on March 10, and on March 27 there will be a career day event for grades 7-12. The nurse advised her that there are still several cases of strep throat in Elementary. The dental van is coming in late spring and approximately 20 students have signed up for it. There will be vision, hearing and scoliosis screenings are in progress.

PreK-12 Principal  
Report

**Director of Pupil Services & Data/Grant Coordinator** - Mrs. Morrison said that SCS was due for indicator 13 review for transitions. Prior to this year they had been internal audits with a coach, however in September the State required that the audits be in-person. The review took place and the school was 100% in compliance with no corrective action necessary. The school is currently working on indicator 14, which deals with students with IEP post graduation. She provided some historical Regents data to the Board, even though it is difficult to compare years with the impact of changes due to Covid. Regents students who receive 50-54 currently are eligible for a special appeals process, which would determine if the student could still receive

Dir. of Pupil Svcs.,  
Data/Grant Coord.

Regents credit for that course. The new US History exam will take place in June 2023. The trend that she noticed is that SCS has a very high passing rate, with the majority between 65-84%, so the next push should be towards mastery. She advised of the Covid exemptions causing students with lower achievements passing Regents. There is no longer a Covid exemption but the special appeals will go through June 2024.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The Board held a discussion on the Wall of Fame. It was noted that while an electronic nomination form may be filled out on the SCS website, people may still pick up a physical copy of the nomination form from the District office. Next ceremony will probably be in the fall of 2024.

Old Business

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.
  
- 3b) Approve the following policy updates:
  - 1330 Appointments and Designations by the Board
  - 1510 Regular Board Meetings And Rules (Quorum And Parliamentary Procedure)
  - 3410 Code of Conduct
  - 6410 Staff Acceptable Use Policy
  - 7133 Education of Students in Foster Care
  - 7212 Response To Intervention (RTI) Process
  - 7221 Participation In Graduation Ceremonies And Activities
  - 7540 Suicide
  - 7553 Hazing of Students
  - 8130 Equal Educational Opportunities
  - 8242 Civility, Citizenship, and Character Education/Interpersonal Violence Prevention Education
  
- 3c) Establish a Prime Money Market account at Community Bank - Account # 980042998.
  
- 3d) Resolution for **nominations** of the following candidates to the Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus **BOCES Board** for 4 vacant seats, 3-year term of office to expire 6/30/2026.  
Roster of incumbents:
  - Gregory Cole, 24 Babcock Street, Silver Creek, NY 14136
  - Thomas DeJoe, 14 Fay Street, Brocton, NY 14716
  - David Lowrey, 96 Sigma Lane, Elma, NY 14059
  - Christine Schnars, 20 Fairfield Avenue, Jamestown, NY 14701
  
- 3e) Approve the 2023-2024 **school calendar**.
  
- 3f) Approve the request to put the following proposition detailed below on a school district ballot at a special vote to be held in June 2023.  
  
Proposition: **Shall the sum of \$85,000 be raised by annual levy of a tax upon the taxable real property within the Sherman Central School District for the purpose of funding the operating budget of the Minerva Free Library with this appropriated amount to be the annual appropriation until thereafter modified by a future vote of the electors of the Sherman Central School District?**
  
- 3g) Approve the creation of an intramural CSP Girls Flag Football team, effective 2/28/2023.

Seconded by Teresa Guzman, carried 5-0.

It was noted that there would be 1 Varsity flag football team.

Timothy Sears moved to approve the **personnel consent agenda** including the following items:

New Personnel Agenda

- 4a) Approve the appointment of Molly Swanson as Noon Hour Supervisor Jr. High, effective 1/17/2023.
- 4b) Approve the appointment of Lynn Sloan as Fitness Monitor, effective 2/2/2023.
- 4c) Approve the appointment of Jennifer Wattenbaugh as Substitute Bus Driver, effective 2/6/2023.
- 4d) Approve the appointment of Camdin Trask as Fitness Monitor, effective 2/28/2023.
- 4e) Accept the resignation of Thomas Nedimyer, effective 2/24/2023.
- 4f) Accept the resignation of David Maleski from the appointment of JV Softball Coach for the 2022-2023 academic year, effective 2/17/2023.
- 4g) Approve the appointment of Jessica Weise to the position of JV Softball Coach for the 2022-2023 academic year, effective 2/28/2023.
- 4h) Approve the appointment of Matthew Hair to the position of JV Baseball Coach for the 2022-2023 academic year, effective 2/28/2023.

Seconded by Emily Reynolds, carried 5-0.

Teresa Guzman requested that first readings of policies be noted in future minutes.

Emily Reynolds moved to enter into executive session at 7:10 pm for the purpose of contract negotiations with no action to be taken after. Seconded by Kristin Irwin, carried 5-0.

Executive Session

Emily Reynolds moved to leave executive session at 8:54 pm. Seconded by Teresa Guzman, carried 5-0.

Emily Reynolds moved to **adjourn** the meeting at 8:55 pm. Seconded by Teresa Guzman, carried 5-0.

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Luke Waygood  
District Clerk

The following policies were put to the Board for a 1st reading:

1. 1520 Special Meetings of the Board
2. 1540 Executive Sessions
3. 3430 Diversity Equity and Inclusion in the District
4. 5660 Meal Charging and Prohibition Against Meal Shaming
5. 5672 Information Security Breach and Notification
6. 5676 Privacy and Security for Student Data and Teacher and Principal Data
7. 5681 School Safety Plans
8. 6211 Employment of Relatives of Board Members
9. 7240 Student Records: Access and Challenge
10. 8241 Patriotism, Citizenship, and Human Rights Education