

CORTLAND ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting – Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
Cortland Junior Senior High School, 8 Valley View Drive, Cortland NY

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at the Kaufman Center, 1Valley View Drive, Cortland, New York.

Present: Ms. Melissa Davis-Howard, Ms. Janet Griffin, Ms. Christine Gregory, Mr. David Lemon, Ms. Judith Murphy and Ms. Alane Van Donsel

Also Present: Mr. Michael Hoose, Superintendent; Ms. Judi Riley, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil and Personnel Services; Ms. Kimberly Vile, Business Administrator; School and Community Members and Ms. Alicia Zupancic, Clerk

Absent: Mr. Peter Rogoff

1. CALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Ms. Davis-Howard called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

School Board President, Ms. Melissa Davis-Howard, introduced members of the Board of Education and Administrative Cabinet, then turned the hearing over to Superintendent Mr. Michael Hoose and Ms. Kimberly Vile.

Mr. Hoose welcomed the audience and thanked the administrative team for their hard work and dedication throughout the budget process. He then turned the meeting over to Ms. Kimberly Vile, Director of Business Services.

Ms. Vile provided a PowerPoint presentation detailing the proposed 2017-18 Budget. She reviewed the budget process and the fiscal challenges. She discussed planning with the future in mind and explained what the zero tax levy increase means to each tax payer. She discussed the tax rate and why we stay within the tax cap. She discussed STAR savings. She displayed a chart showing how we spend our money: Instruction 54%, Benefits 26%, Operations 6%, Debt Service 9%, Transportation 2%, and District Support 3%.

The proposed 2017-18 school budget is in the amount of \$49,576,887. This is a % budget increase and a 0% tax levy increase from the 2016-17 budget. Budget increases are offset by budget decreases. The budget will be funded through state aid (\$28,706,663), property taxes (\$17,006,932), miscellaneous sources (\$1,510,150) and the District will be using \$2,353,142 in reserves to make up the gap in revenues.

Ms. Vile reviewed the following cost containment measures: retirement rate decrease, energy costs, and retirements.

Ms. Vile summarized by reminding the audience that the annual election and budget vote is Tuesday, May 16, 2017, 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. There will be three propositions on the ballot: Proposition 1 – approval of proposed budget, Proposition 2 – approval of the purchase of 4 large buses and 1 large bus with a wheelchair lift, Proposition 3 - Cortland Free Library tax increase. She noted that the School District serves only as a vehicle to collect the Library tax levy; the Cortland Free Library sets its own budget. The District has two incumbents, Janet Griffin and David Lemon, each running unopposed for the School Board.

The 2017-18 proposed budget and tonight's PowerPoint presentation are posted on the District's website. The budget booklet/notice has been mailed to the voting public.

3. COMMUNICATIONS and RECOGNITION:

a. Kudos Korner

- 1.) 2017 Cortland Rotary Teachers of the Year

The Board recognized Karen Matteson and Pam West for being nominated and recognized as 2017 Cortland Rotary Teachers of the Year.

- b. Audience Participation – (speakers are asked to state their name and address and limit their comments to two minutes).

Mr. Brian Barnes and Ms. Robin Nauseef Cataldo both spoke their concerns of the impact of losing a .5 music teacher may have on students.

c. Board Committee Reports:

- 1.) BOE Policy Committee – Report on April 27, 2017 meeting

- 1.) Ms. Griffin reported that the policy committee has received some policies back from the school attorney and the committee is going through them.

- 2.) BOE Facilities Committee – Report on April 27, 2017 meeting
 - 1.) Ms. Vile reported that the committee discussed security cameras in more detail. There is some money left in the Energy Contract for more work to be done. One of the priorities for the upcoming capital project is the Junior Senior High School auditorium.

d. Reminders

- 1.) May 16, 2017 – Budget Vote and School Board Election 12:00 noon-9:00 PM
- 2.) Do any Board members plan to attend the CNY School Boards Association Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 31, 2017?

4. PRESENTATIONS:

a. What’s Happening at Smith School

- 1.) Ms. Wanish introduced Ms. Gallagher who with the help of students shared some things that are happening at Smith School.

b. District Librarians

- 1.) The elementary school librarians along with students shared stuff they are doing in the makerspaces and fab labs.

5. CONSENT ITEMS:

a. Minutes of April 24, 2017 Regular Meeting

b. CSE/CPSE (Committee on Pre-school Special Education) Recommendations 2016-2017

610354459, 607000492, 607002216, 607001660, 607001679, 607002145, 607002201, 610380835, 607001365, 607002380, 607000856, 607000595, 607000147, 607001130, 607002093, 607002756, 607000091, 607002429, 607002151, 607001738, 607002646, 610373987, 607002699, 610342339, 610366730, 607001780, 607001881, 610309695, 610343164, 607002180, 610373833, 607002784, 607002099, 607001086, 607000196, 610350592,

c. CSE/CPSE (Committee on Pre-school Special Education) Recommendations 2017-2018

607002502, 607002503, 607000492, 607002216, 607001660, 610342472, 610340630, 610365380, 610341869, 607001365, 607000856, 607000595, 607000147, 607000848, 607001130, 607002093, 607002756, 610328939, 607002429, 607002151, 607001738, 607002646, 607002264, 610383965, 607002699, 610342339, 610308249, 610366730, 607000179, 610366226, 607002666, 610394618, 607002394, 607001681, 610309695, 610353282, 610298182, 610364527, 607000196, 607000260,

SUGGESTED RESOLUTION: RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Consent Items as presented.

Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Ms. Murphy. Discussion: None

Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.

6. OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Approval of the Section III Combined Cortland-Homer Varsity Boys Ice Hockey Team for 2017-18

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the continuation of the Section III Combined Cortland-Homer Varsity Ice Hockey team for 2017-18 Winter Season as presented.

Moved by Mr. Lemon, seconded by Ms. Gregory. Discussion: None

Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.

b. Approval to Separate the Cortland Junior Senior High School into Cortland Senior High School and Cortland Junior High School.

RESOLVED, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District is desirous to change the current 7-12 grade configuration at the Junior Senior High School to a separate 7-8 grade and 9-12 grade configuration.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Education of the Cortland Enlarged City School District as follows:

- A. The Superintendent is directed to take all steps necessary to submit an application to the New York State Education Department to modify the registrations of the district’s current Junior Senior High School building to begin the reorganization of the various grades in the district.

- B. That 7th & 8th grades be registered to Cortland Junior High School for the 2017-2018 school year and 9th through 12th grades be registered to Cortland Senior High School for the 2017-2018 school year.
- C. Thus, giving Cortland Junior High School a 7th & 8th grade configuration and Cortland Senior High School a 9th through 12th grade configuration for the 2017-2018 school year.

**Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Lemon. Discussion: None
Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

- c. Approval of Proposed Settlement in the Matter of the Application of 28 Kellogg Road, LLC (Crown Center for Nursing) v. Assessor of the City of Cortland, the City of Cortland, et al Cortland County, New York.

Upon the recommendation of the School District’s attorneys and having had an opportunity to consider the proposed settlement in the Matter of the Application of 28 Kellogg Road, LLC (Crown Center for Nursing), v. Assessor of the City of Cortland, the City of Cortland, et al Cortland County, New York, Respondents, Index Nos. 2012-497, 2013-485, 2014-502, 2015-631, and E2016/630;

Resolved that the above settlement is approved and that the President of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Schools and the School District’s attorneys are each separately authorized to sign any documents necessary to complete the settlement.

**Moved by Ms. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Lemon. Discussion: None
Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

- d. Approval of Extra Classroom Activity Fund Quarterly Report
RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Extra Classroom Activity Fund Quarterly Report as presented.

**Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Lemon. Discussion: None
Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

8. PERSONNEL ACTION:

- a. Approval of Personnel Resignations and Leaves
RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Resignations and Leaves as presented on the revised Resignations and Leaves Schedule 11.92.
**Moved by Mr. Lemon, seconded by Ms. Van Donsel. Discussion: Retirement of Ms. Passeri with regret
Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.**
- b. Approval of Non-Instructional Personnel Appointments
RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the appointments for Non-Instructional Personnel as presented on Schedules of Appointment 1212 and 1213.
**Moved by Mr. Lemon, seconded by Ms. Griffin. Discussion: None
Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.**
- c. Approval of Administrative and Instructional Personnel Appointments
RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the appointments for Administrative and Instructional Personnel as presented on Schedules of Appointment 2457 and 2458.
**Moved by Ms. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Lemon. Discussion: None
Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.**
- d. Approval of Tenure Recommendations
RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Tenure appointments as presented on Schedule of Appointment 2459.
**Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Ms. Murphy. Discussion: None
Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

9. LEADERSHIP REPORTS:

- a. Director of Business Services
 - 1.) Ms. Vile reported that there is an Audit Committee meeting scheduled May 25, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

- b. Assistant Superintendent for Pupil and Personnel Services
 - 1.) Ms. Riley brought attention to the Meet the Candidates for Special Education on May 11, 2107 at 5:45 p.m. in the JSHS Library Media Center
- c. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
 - 1.) Mr. Craig thanked the librarians and students for their presentations tonight.
- d. Superintendent
 - 1.) Mr. Hoose asked the audience to vote and to ask their friends, family, and neighbors to vote.

10. BOARD MEMBER ACTIVITIES - None

11. NEXT MEETING AGENDA REVIEW - None

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

In accordance with Public Officer’s Law Section 96, Subdivision 1, I would like to call for an Executive Session at 7:56 p.m. to Discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person.

**Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Ms. Van Donsel. Discussion: None
Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

The Executive Session adjourned at 8:34 PM.

**Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Ms. Gregory. Discussion: None
Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

The Board went back into public meeting as was announced prior to Executive Session to vote on the following resolution.

Since we determined probable cause in relation to the charges against a tenured employee, we can now determine whether the tenured employee should be suspended under the provisions of Education Law § 3020-a

RESOLVED, that the person against whom the Board has found probable cause under the provisions of Education Law § 3020-a be suspended pending a hearing and a final determination thereof in accordance with Education Law § 3020-a.

**Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Ms. Gregory. Discussion: None
Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

13. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, Ms. Davis-Howard asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

**Moved by Ms. Gregory, seconded by Ms. Griffin. Discussion: None
Final Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0. Motion Carried.**