

Regular Meeting (Tuesday, February 24, 2026)

Generated by Alicia Zupancic on Thursday, February 26, 2026

Members present

Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter, Sai Patel

Members absent

Brett Barnes, Ayden Harmin

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM

1. Opening of Meeting

Procedural: 1.1 Call to Order

Procedural: 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Brendan McGovern called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Procedural: 1.3 Recite Board Norms

Sai Patel recited the board norms.

Joe McMahon will recite the board norms at the March 24 meeting.

Action: 1.4 Approval of Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the agenda as presented.

Motion by Gavin Teeter, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Not Present at Vote: Brett Barnes

2. Executive Session

Action: 2.1 Proposed Executive Session

Motion to convene into executive session.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Not Present at Vote: Brett Barnes

Time: 6:03 PM

Action: 2.2 Reconvene In Open Session

Motion to reconvene in open session.

Motion by Joseph McMahon, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Time: 6:40 PM

3. Recognition

Recognition: 3.1 Tiger Paw Recipient

Amy Worlock was recognized with a Tiger Paw Award for being accepted into the NYS Master Teacher Program.

4. Communications

Procedural: 4.1 Audience Participation

Whitney Meeker addressed the Board of Education asking for a traffic pattern change at Smith School.

Jenifer Phelan addressed the Board regarding why we should offer driver education in the high school curriculum.

5. Presentations

Reports: 5.1 Superintendent Update

Mr. Edwards celebrated our Lego League Teams for making it to the regional tournament. He gave a shout out to the bus driver, the coaches and all the staff that supported the team.

He also shared budget information with the board. He explained how a 7.5% tax levy increase is approximately a \$2.75 adjustment per month on a home assessed at \$100,000.

He shared that there will be an upcoming musical, Guys and Dolls along with spring concerts.

He gave the board instructions on how to get to the ST3 website.

Reports: 5.2 Budget Presentation

Kris Williamson shared a budget presentation focused on tax levy calculations.

6. Consent Agenda

Action (Consent): 6.1 Approval of Minutes

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education accepts the minutes of the regular Board Meeting on January 27, 2026 and the special Board Meeting on February 10, 2026 as presented.

Action (Consent): 6.2 Approval of CSE/CPSE Recommendations

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the CSE/CPSE recommendations as presented.

Action (Consent): 6.3 Approval of Financial Reports

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City Schools District Board of Education approves the financial reports as presented.

Action (Consent): 6.4 Consent Vote

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education accepts the consent agenda as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Gavin Teeter.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

7. Personnel Action

Action: 7.1 Approval of Personnel Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the personnel action as presented.

Motion by Sherlyn Pallassino, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

8. Old Business

Action: 8.1 SRO Contract Revisions

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education accepts the revised SRO Agreement as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

No: Lori Megivern

9. New Business

Action: 9.1 Request for Extended Overnight Field Trip to Providence, Rhode Island

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the

request for an extended overnight field trip to Providence, RI for the All Eastern Choir Honors Festival as presented.

Motion by Lori Megivern, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Action: 9.2 2026-27 \$100K Capital Outlay Project SEQRA Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the 2026-27 \$100K Capital Outlay Project SEQRA Resolution as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Gavin Teeter.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Action: 9.3 Bus Bond Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the Bus Bond Resolution as presented.

Motion by Sherlyn Pallassino, second by Janet Griffin.

Brendan McGovern voted yes

Janet Griffin voted yes

Brett Barnes was absent

Joseph McMahon voted yes

Lori Megivern voted yes

Sherlyn Pallassino voted yes

Gavin Teeter voted yes

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Action: 9.4 Capital Reserve Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the Capital Reserve Resolution as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Action: 9.5 Transportation Capital Reserve Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the Transportation Capital Reserve Resolution as presented.

Motion by Sherlyn Pallassino, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Action: 9.6 Notice of Annual Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education hereby approves the Notice of Annual Meeting defining the Budget Public Hearing Date, Polling Locations, Voter Registration Day, Student Transportation Vehicles Proposition, 2026 Capital Reserve Fund Proposition, 2026 Transportation Capital Reserve Fund Proposition and Cortland Free Library Tax Proposition as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Gavin Teeter.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Action: 9.7 Board of Registration and Election Inspectors for the Budget Vote and School Board Elections on May 19, 2026

BE IT RESOLVED upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the appointments of the Board of Registration and Election Inspectors for the Budget Vote and School Board Elections on May 19, 2026 as presented.

Motion by Sherlyn Pallassino, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Action: 9.8 2026-2027 Student / Faculty Calendar

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the 2026-2027 Student / Faculty Calendar as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

No: Lori Megivern

Action: 9.9 Field Placement Agreement: Simmons University

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the Field Placement Agreement for Simmons University as presented.

Motion by Lori Megivern, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

10. Leadership Reports

Reports: 10.1 Cabinet

Kristen Shoemaker

- *Secondary annual reviews are underway.*
- *Kindergarten screenings are coming up.*
- *We are partnering with Midstate offering SDI training for our special education teachers.*
- *The special education quarterly report is in BoardDocs.*

Juli Quinn

- *Shared information regarding the conference report is in BoardDocs.*

Kris Williamson

- *Reported on the NASA Hunch Team event in Rochester.*
- *The fiscal strategic planning group has wrapped up.*

Robert Edwards

- *Will be attending Winter Lobby Day in Albany March 1st through 3rd.*
- *FS10s were shared with the board.*
- *Discussed scheduling a BOE budget workshop.*
 - *Wednesday, March 4th at 5:00 p.m. works for everyone.*

Reports: 10.2 Board of Education

Janet Griffin

- *Shout out to all of the students that have participated in extra-curricular activities. You're all doing a great job.*

Brendan McGovern

- *Talked about his concern for the budget.*
- *He appreciates all the work that has gone into preparing the budget.*
- *He hopes the word gets out to push for the tax cap override of 7.5%.*

Reports: 10.3 Ex-Officio Student Board Member

Sai Patel

- *We are still working on our homeschool survey.*

11. Other Communication

Discussion: 11.1 Audience Participation

Donald Chu addressed the Board expressing his hope that teachers will not have to be laid off.

Jeffrey Wolff addressed the Board regarding our visitor policy, registration and transparency.

12. Executive Session

Action: 12.1 Proposed Executive Session

Motion to convene into executive session.

Motion by Sherlyn Pallassino, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Time: 8:16 PM

Action: 12.2 Reconvene In Open Session

Motion by Joseph McMahon, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Time: 9:26 PM

13. Closing of Meeting

Action: 13.1 Adjourn

Motion by Joseph McMahon, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Time: 9:27 PM