

Regular Meeting (Tuesday, November 25, 2025)

Generated by Alicia Zupancic on Wednesday, November 26, 2025

Members present

Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter, Ayden Harmin and Sai Patel

Meeting called to order at 6:02 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

Sherlyn Pallassino recited the board norms.

Gavin Teeter will recite the board norms at the December 16th 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 Janet Griffin, second by Brett Barnes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

2. Executive Session

Action: 2.1 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, Brett Barnes, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern, Gavin Teeter

Time: 6:06 PM

Action: 2.2 Reconvene In Open Session

Motion to reconvene in open session.

Motion by Gavin Teeter, second by Brett Barnes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Time: 8:19 PM

3. Recognition

Recognition: 3.1 Tiger Paw Recipient

Christine Hegedus was our Tiger Paw recipient. She was nominated for her unwavering support of her colleagues and students.

Congratulations Christine.

4. Communications

Procedural: 4.1 Audience Participation

There were no requests to address the board.

5. Presentations

Reports: 5.1 New Course Proposal - General Statistics

Juli Quinn gave an overview of the new course proposal - General Statistics.

Reports: 5.2 Budget Presentation

Kris Williamson gave a budget presentation focused on debt service.

Reports: 5.3 Superintendent Update

Robert Edwards gave a shout out to the students that published the CHS Purple Press Newspaper. He celebrated the Macy's Day Parade at Barry School and the Puffs play. His report is in BoardDocs to view.

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 October 28, 2025 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 Sherlyn Pallassino, second by Brett Barnes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, 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 Janet Griffin, second by Gavin Teeter.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

8. Old Business

There were no items under old business.

9. New Business

Action: 9.1 Resolution to Approve or Deny a Grievance

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education moves to deny grievance #1 presented to them.

Motion by Brett Barnes, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Brett Barnes, Joseph McMahon, Gavin Teeter

No: Lori Megivern

Abstain: Sherlyn Pallassino, Brendan McGovern

Action: 9.2 Resolution to Approve or Deny a Grievance

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education moves to deny grievance #2 presented to them.

Motion by Joseph McMahon, second by Brett Barnes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Brett Barnes, Joseph McMahon, Gavin Teeter

No: Lori Megivern, Brendan McGovern

Abstain: Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: 9.3 Acceptance of 2025-2026 Capital Outlay Project Bid Award

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 2025-2026 Capital Outlay Project Bid Award from Upstate Companies I, LLC as presented.

Motion by Brett Barnes, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action: 9.4 Second Reading of Revised Policy #7695 - Student and Personal Electronic Devices

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the policy committee that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the second reading of revised Policy #7695 - Student and Personal Electronic Devices as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action: 9.5 First Reading of Policy #2110 - Orienting and Training New Board Members

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the policy committee that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the first reading of revised Policy #2110 - Orienting and Training New Board Members.

Motion by Brett Barnes, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action: 9.6 New Course Proposal - General Statistics

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 New Course Proposal - General Statistics as presented.

Motion by Brett Barnes, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action: 9.7 Surplus Items

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 to surplus items as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action: 9.8 Field Placement Agreement: Syracuse 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 Syracuse University as presented.

Motion by Sherlyn Pallassino, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

10. Leadership Reports

Reports: 10.1 Cabinet

Juli Quinn

- *Janesa Cornish and I attended a conference at ESM around graduation pathways.*
 - *There will be another one in the spring in Owego.*
- *Anastasia Tzortzatos and Cindy Kennedy are attending a NYSCATE conference with AI on the agenda. There will be an update at the next board meeting.*
- *At BCIC we participated in a survey on learning walks.*

Kristen Shoemaker

- *Last spring there was a special education quality assurance review conducted. There has been a corrective action plan created for adjustments on five minor items. Policies have been updated and we are working on professional development for staff to make them aware of those minute details.*
- *State performance update.*
- *High School Life Skills class hosted their annual Thanksgiving feast.*

Kris Williamson

- *December 11th, the stakeholder group is set to meet to give budget feedback.*
- *District Wide Safety Plan*
 - *It is in the public comment period right now.*
- *Thank you to CNY Food Bank and Cortland Cares for their partnership in providing some great items to our families.*

Reports: 10.2 Board of Education

CNYSBA Membership Scholarship Discussion

- *Robert Edwards told the board about a CNYSBA membership scholarship that would give the board a one-year complimentary membership.*
- *The board said yes to the complimentary membership.*
- *The board asked for the cost of membership thereafter.*

Lori Megivern

- *Asked about the progress of a staff directory.*
 - *The process to create this is being worked on.*

Reports: 10.3 Ex-Officio Student Board Member

Ayden Harmin and Sai Patel created and Ayden Harmin shared a report highlighting a Smith Intermediate School walkthrough and what the board can expect in upcoming reports. They talked to students about scratch cooking and the overall consensus was that it would not benefit students in an impactful way.

11. Other Communication

Discussion: 11.1 Audience Participation

Donald Chu addressed the board regarding increasing enrollment and budget.

12. Closing of Meeting

Action: 12.1 Adjourn

Motion to adjourn.

Motion by Brett Barnes, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Time: 9:45 PM