

# SOUTHERN CAYUGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
High School Library

March 25, 2024  
6:00 pm

1.0 Call to Order at 6:01 PM Board Vice-President Matthew Bennett called the meeting to order.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance Board Vice-President Matthew Bennett led the pledge.

**Board members present:** Matthew Bennett, Dave Harvatine, Janet Lehman, Timothy Pallokat

**Board members absent:** Heather Rejman, Kelsey Rossbach

**Board member arriving late:** Rachel McCarthy at 6:05 pm

**Administrators present:** Patrick Jensen, Loretta Van Horn, Luke Carnicelli, Mike Naylor,  
Caitlin Wasielewski

**Others present:** Nynette Adams, Jamie Bailey, Aaron Brozon, CJ Calarco, Julia  
Dunsmoor, Marcy Hand, Mary Hemans, Danielle Janssen, Robb Jetty,  
Lori Knopp, Mary Napier, Beth VanDeValk, Greg Otis, Janet Otis,  
Guy Van Benschoten

3.0 Approval of the Agenda

On a motion made by Dave Harvatine, seconded by Janet Lehman, the agenda was approved.

Motion carried: Yes – 4 No – 0

Rachel McCarthy joined the meeting at 6:04 pm

Superintendent Jensen asked the Board of Education to amend the 2023-2024 school calendar to a full day closure on Monday, April 8, 2024 due to the solar eclipse.

Rachel McCarthy made a motion to amend the 2023-2024 school calendar to change April 8, 2024 from a half day of school to a full day closure, motion was seconded by Janet Lehman.

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0

4.0 Questions from the audience regarding agenda items

Aaron Brozon spoke and volunteered himself and his son to serve on the mascot committee as a community member and his son as a student member, if the committees are accepting more members.

5.0 Presentations:

A. Mascot Recommendations and Decisions – Robb Jetty, Mascot Committee Chairperson, shared a Mascot Update informational packet with Board of Education members. Robb Jetty asked the Board of Education to approve various items on his mascot selection review meeting agenda. There was much discussion amongst Board of Education members regarding his mascot selection review meeting agenda.

Dave Harvatine made a motion to add Aaron Brozon and Isaac Brozon to the community member and student member committees, motion was seconded by Matt Bennett.

Motion failed: Yes – 2 (Matt Bennett, Dave Harvatine)  
No – 3 (Janet Lehman, Rachel McCarthy, Tim Pallokat)

Rachel McCarthy made a motion to go ahead with the numbers of individuals who responded they would volunteer again on community member and student member committees, motion was seconded by Janet Lehman.

Motion failed: Yes – 3 (Janet Lehman, Rachel McCarthy, Tim Pallokat)  
No – 1 (Matt Bennett)  
Abstain – 1 (Dave Harvatine)

There was more discussion amongst Board of Education members.

Dave Harvatine made a motion to task Robb Jetty to decide the committee make-up, motion was seconded by Rachel McCarthy.

Motion carried: Yes – 4 (Matt Bennett, Dave Harvatine, Rachel McCarthy, Tim Pallokat)  
No – 1 (Janet Lehman)

Robb Jetty clarified that he is now supposed to decide whether to allow more people to participate.

Robb Jetty then asked for a motion to approve the mascot selection review agenda to take to the mascot committee.

Motion made by Tim Pallokat, seconded by Rachel McCarthy to approve the mascot selection review agenda:

Welcome/Introduction – 10 minutes

- Review packet
- Review agenda

Review BOE questions/concerns and direction – 5 minutes

- Concerns
  - Alignment with criteria
  - Communication between committees
  - Weighting process
  - Voting process

- Direction Review and improve the selection process and implement it to identify top 5 nominations, ranked with rational, for a BOE decision

Review mascot criteria – 5 minutes

- Be unique to our neighboring districts (Lansing, Moravia, Union Springs)
- Be relatable to students – be positive, appropriate, enduring not vulgar, discriminatory, religious, political, fad, etc.
- Represent Southern Cayuga or our history in some manner
- Be a strong powerful mascot, physically, athletically and mentally

Discuss and approve a weighting and scoring formula – 15 minutes (weighting picked by committee)

Discuss and approve voting method for decision making – 10 minutes (one vote per person)

Review nominations – 60 to 120 minutes

Review first and second cuts -select any nominations that should be moved forward

Review each nominee and record decisions on scoring worksheet – 20 plus any brought forward

Analyze scoring worksheet and decide process for making reductions

Discuss next steps – 15 minutes

Bring top 5 nominations, ranked with rationale, for a BOE decision. If the Board doesn't reach a conclusion there will be additional discussion on next steps including the potential of holding a community vote.

Progress report to BOE by facilitator – next BOE meeting

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0

B. SCCS Budget Discussion – Loretta Van Horn, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations shared information regarding cost drivers, grant positions ending, state aid projections, revenue scenarios and tax cap calculation. Board members discussed budget scenarios and different tax levy scenarios.

6.0 New Business/Action Items; Consent Agenda

RESOLVED that the SCCS Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby approves the action items listed in section 6.0 A through H.

Motion made by Rachel McCarthy, seconded by Tim Pallokat

Janet Lehman asked to update the March 11, 2024 minutes for clarity purposes from:

“Mascot Selection – Robb Jetty, Mascot Committee Chairperson, shared data he gathered and offered two options to the Board based on where they've been and where they currently are.” to her suggestion of:

“Mascot Selection – Robb Jetty, Mascot Committee Chairperson, shared data he gathered and offered two options to the Board. One option was for Board of Education members to make a final mascot decision based on the data provided from previous committee work, and the second was for committees to reconvene and progress through steps Robb provided.”

Rachel McCarthy rescinded her motion.

Rachel McCarthy made a motion to add the verbiage Janet Lehman suggested for clarification to the March 11, 2024 minutes and approve the action items listed in section 6.0 A through H, motion was seconded by Tim Pallokat.

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0

A. Minutes; Board of Education meeting March 11, 2024

B. CSE Recommendations; 2023/2024 and 2024/2025

C. Dryden Central School District, Health Services Resolution;

CONTRACT FOR HEALTH SERVICES; An agreement made this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024 by and between the Board of Education of the Southern Cayuga Central School District, the Central Office of which is located at 2384 State Route 34B, Aurora, New York, as party of the first part, and the Dryden Central School District, Dryden, New York as party of the second part.

Witnesseth, that whereas, party of the first part has been duly empowered by the provisions of Section 912 of the Education Law to enter into a contract for the purpose of providing health and welfare services for children residing in said school district and attending nonpublic schools in the Dryden Central School District, Dryden, New York to begin on September 7, 2023, and to end on June 30, 2024.

Now therefore the said party of the first part hereby agrees to pay the party of the second part the sum of **\$6,595.45** for health and welfare services to be provided under Section 912 to approximately **five (5)** child/children residing in said Southern Cayuga Central School District and attending non-public schools in said Dryden Central School District, Dryden, New York.

And the party of the second part hereby agrees with the party of the first part as follows: the health and welfare service provided shall consist of the following: physician services, nurse services, school psychological services, school social work services, school speech therapy services.

The party of the second part will also furnish the following equipment to be used in providing such services if requested by the authorities in charge of the non-public school: supplies and equipment for use by the physician, school nurse, psychologist, social worker and speech therapist (i.e. scales, vision and hearing testing devices, health record forms, first-aid supplies and all other readily transportable equipment and supplies pertaining to delivery of services).

It is expressly agreed by and between the parties hereto that the services agreed to be supplied under this contract shall not include any teaching service.

It is mutually agreed by and between the parties hereto that the pupil charge shall be recomputed at the end of the school year for which the charge is made based on actual cost divided by the Basic Educational Data System (BEDS) day enrollment on October 4, 2023.

It is mutually agreed that this contract shall not become valid and binding upon either party thereto until the same shall be approved by the Superintendent of Schools.

Witness whereof, the parties have set their hands the day and year above written.

D. Overnight Field Trip Request – SUNY Cobleskill, Cobleskill, NY; twelve (12) students to travel on Thursday, April 11 through Friday, April 12, 2024; students will be accompanied by Halee Wasson

E. Overnight Field Trip Request – Buffalo Niagara Convention Center, Buffalo, NY; twenty (20) students to travel on Thursday, May 2 through Friday, May 3, 2024; students will be accompanied by Halee Wasson and Brett Jillson

F. Donation, New York Schools Insurance Reciprocal (NYSIR); \$1,000 toward Varsity Softball.

G. Donation; twenty (20) baseball team hats, from Aaron Brozon, value of \$540.80.

H. Donation; three hundred seventy (370) solar eclipse glasses, from the Aurora Free Library and Hazard Library Association, value of \$500.00

7.0 Personnel/Consent Items; Consent Agenda

RESOLVED that the SCCS Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby approves the personnel items listed in section 7.0 A through F, for the 2023/24 school year or for the term as indicated.

Motion made by Rachel McCarthy, seconded by Dave Harvatine

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0

A. Resignations

A.1	Custodian, <b>James Dixon, II</b> , for retirement purposes, effective June 30, 2024
A.2	Community Swim Director, Elementary Swim Director, Head Lifeguard, <b>Ian Murray</b> , effective March 26, 2024

B. Appointments 2023-2024

B.1	Substitute Teacher, uncertified, Substitute Teaching Assistant, Substitute Teacher Aide; <b>Sasha Lamoree</b> , effective March 20, 2024
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C. Co-Curricular Appointments 2023-2024

C.1	After School Supervisor	<b>Greg Otis</b>	\$ per contract
C.2	ELL Tutor	<b>Elishia Hoatland</b>	\$ per contract
C.3	Tutor	<b>Simone Lanning</b>	\$ per contract
C.4	Tutor	<b>Caitlin Rejman</b>	\$ per contract
C.5	Tutor	<b>Stephen Shepherd</b>	\$ per contract

D. Volunteers 2023-2024

D.1	Elementary Volunteer	<b>Brittany Ward</b>
D.2	Modified Softball Volunteer	<b>Michael Heiner</b>

E. Changes in Employment Status

E.1	Uncertified Substitute Teacher <b>Molly Walter</b> , to Certified Substitute Teacher, effective March 14, 2024
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F. Spring Sports Appointments 2023-2024

F.1	Modified Track Coach	<b>Michael VanDoren</b>	\$2,235
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8.0 Business Office Reports/Informational Items –

A. Treasurer’s Reports

RESOLVED that the SCCS Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby accepts the Treasurer’s Reports for January and February, 2024.

Motion made by Rachel McCarthy, seconded by Dave Harvatine

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0

9.0 Superintendent’s Report/Informational Items – No report.

10.0 Board of Education/Committees

A. Agriculture Advisory Board – Dave Harvatine – No report.

B. Board of Education Committees

B.1	<b><i>Athletics;</i></b> Matt Bennett, Rachel McCarthy, Heather Rejman Met on Wednesday, March 13 <sup>th</sup> , meeting minutes provided.
B.2	<b><i>Audit;</i></b> Tim Pallokat, Heather Rejman, Kelsey Rossbach No report.
B.3	<b><i>Budget/Finance;</i></b> Dave Harvatine, Janet Lehman, Tim Pallokat Met on Monday, March 18 <sup>th</sup> , meeting minutes provided.
B.4	<b><i>Directions/Long-Range Education;</i></b> Janet Lehman, Rachel McCarthy, Kelsey Rossbach Will meet on Thursday, March 28 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00am.
B.5	<b><i>Facilities;</i></b> Matt Bennett, Dave Harvatine, Kelsey Rossbach No report.
B.6	<b><i>Policy;</i></b> Rachel McCarthy, Heather Rejman Superintendent Jensen is waiting for some information, then he will schedule a meeting.
B.7	<b><i>Safety/Wellness;</i></b> Janet Lehman, Rachel McCarthy Will meet at the end of April, beginning of May.
B.8	<b><i>Transportation;</i></b> Matt Bennett, Tim Pallokat Assistant Superintendent Van Horn will send a summary to the Board of the discussion the committee has been having regarding school bus purchasing.
B.9	<b><i>Cayuga Onondaga School Boards Association (COSBA);</i></b> Dave Wiemann No report.

11.0 Visitor Recognition; Residents Wishing to Address the Board

Guy Van Benschoten spoke requesting a 10% property tax exemption for volunteer fire and EMS providers.

Greg Otis spoke regarding the 3% and 5% proposed tax levy scenarios.

12.0 Executive Session

On a motion by Rachel McCarthy, seconded by Dave Harvatine, the Board of Education entered executive session at 7:51pm to discuss the employment history of particular persons.

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0

13.0 Return to Open Session

On a motion by Dave Harvatine, seconded by Tim Pallokat, the Board of Education returned to open session at 9:10 pm.

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0

14.0 Adjournment

On a motion by Dave Harvatine, seconded by Tim Pallokat, the Board of Education meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0

Respectfully submitted,  
*Marcy Hand*, District Clerk