

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
CATTARAUGUS-LITTLE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
April 23, 2024

The regular meeting of the Cattaraugus-Little Valley Central School Board of Education was called to order in the MS/HS Library at 7:16 p.m. by Ben Stoll, Board President.

Members Present: Ben Stoll, Board President
Christopher Shattuck, Vice President
Stacey Aguiar
Carrie Colburn-Mozes
Jim McDonnell; Non-Voting via Zoom

Members Absent: Jason Opferbeck
Tim Walsh

Administration: Sharon Huff, Superintendent
Molly Wallschlaeger, Elementary Principal
April Preston, Middle School Principal
Tina Maines, High School Principal
Amy Blair, Director of Special Education
Robert Miller, Director of Technology
Megan Brown, Educational Support Learning Loss Coordinator
Paula Jones, District Clerk
Sally Hadley, Business Executive

Participants: Justine Pelligrino; via Zoom

Mr. Stoll led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:

Elementary Principal, Molly Wallschlaeger—

Mrs. Wallschlaeger reported that Mrs. Maguda has taken it upon herself to work with 4th grade students to bring back the 4th grade morning announcements. She is doing an amazing job at this so far.

The principal also noted that classrooms all over the Elementary School have collaborated with Mrs. Mitrowski's ag classes to hatch chicks in the classrooms. This has been an incredible learning experience all-around and Mrs. Wallschlaeger noted that it is a wonderful thing that the grade levels are so close to each other to be able to do this.

ELEMENTARY
PRINCIPAL REPORT

The NYSED UPK reviewer was onsite to complete her annual site review. She was pleased with the school building. Mrs. Wallschlaeger will now be going over the review with her to look at the whole program and be sure the district is in compliance.

NYS ELA testing took place last week. The principal expressed her thanks for the many individuals who helped with this process.

Upcoming events for the Elementary include a visit from Mr. Morton and his animals, the spring book fair, and field trips to the Stoll Family Farm, Allegany State Park, Niagara Falls, Hidden Valley Animal Adventure and Waldameer.

Middle School Principal, April Preston—

Mrs. Preston reported that the Middle School completed computer-based NYS ELA testing. The testing was spread out over four days: two days for grades 5 & 6 and two days for grades 7 & 8. There were no major issues with the testing. The principal reported that CBT requires a little more work for her on the front end in preparation, but less after testing is complete. CBT for the NYS Math exams is coming up May 7-10 and the one-day science exams for grades 5 & 8 will be May 14th.

The Middle School continues with its implementation of the Olweus Anti-bullying Program with classroom meetings and regular communications about kindness and inclusion. Mrs. Preston reported that there is a survey for the program coming up. She has been warned that, typically, numbers of bullying behaviors will show an increase on this first survey as bullying has been defined to students through the program.

As the year wraps up, there are upcoming field trips and events such as a Grades 3-6 concert on May 21st and Strive to Thrive on May 31st.

A Board member questioned how opt outs were for NYS testing. Twenty-nine out of 73 students in 8th grade opted out of the ELA testing. There were 10 or 11 in the other grades. Some students with test anxiety opt out, however some opt out because they don't see the value, and others just do not want to sit for the test. The principal is hopeful that numbers of opt-outs will go down for the Math testing as sometimes students do not care for the writing portion of the ELA test.

High School Principal, Tina Maines—

Mrs. Maines was unable to attend the meeting. The Board received her written report.

Director of Special Education, Amy Blair—

Mrs. Blair was unable to attend the meeting. The Board received her written report.

Director of Technology, Robert Miller—

Mr. Miller reported that Computer Based Testing went very well, and our district had fewer issues than other districts. He attributes some of this ease to a script created by Mr. Baldwin that allowed testers to click one button, which shut down all programs running in the background on the computers. These background programs need to be shut down prior to testing and can cause issues if any are missed.

The Technology Director also noted that he recently attended a conference about AI. Student use of AI was discussed, examining the good and bad and what is considered cheating when using this technology. Mr. Miller has asked CABOCES to present to teachers who want to learn more about this.

Mr. Miller also reported that E-fax is up and running, the projector in the theatre that was lost during the power outage has arrived and is being installed by maintenance, and,

MIDDLE SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL REPORT

DIRECTOR OF
TECHNOLOGY
REPORT

though the new phones started off smoothly, the “ungraceful” shutdown caused by the power shutdown led to a failure and lost data and has taken a lot of time to rebuild. The issue has been corrected in anticipation of future outages.

Mr. Miller also expressed thanks on behalf of Mark Benton, the new Varsity football coach, to the community for supporting the football breakfast fundraiser. Almost 100 breakfasts were sold.

Educational Support Learning Loss Coordinator/AP, Megan Brown—

Mrs. Brown has joined with others to start planning the Community Days event, which is coming up on June 8th. The first planning meeting is this Friday after school. The group is looking for vendors, donations, etc.

EDUCATIONAL
SUPPORT
COORDINATOR/
AP REPORT

Mrs. Brown also mentioned that the district continues to work with Sue Rothwell on spirals and is discussing partnering with Pioneer CSD for some professional development on the issue.

The high-dosage tutoring programs wraps up this month and upper-level students are participating in Regents reviews.

7:38 p.m.—Administrators exited the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

Budget, Final Draft—

Dr. Huff thanked the Board for their work on the budget. She noted that it is one of the most challenging she has ever worked on, due, in part, to the uncertainty of aid based on the governor’s actions and a late state budget. Other complicating factors included the elimination of ARP funding. The final state budget came out Friday. The Superintendent thanked Mrs. Hadley for coming in on another Sunday to work on finalizing the district budget proposal. She noted that there was an additional reduction of just over \$161,000 in foundation aid from the February state aid run to the final enacted April budget. The Superintendent and Business Official participated in two Zoom meetings today examining the impact of the late budget. There was a change for the CPI, which was reduced to 2.8% for schools. The district is fortunate, however, to be receiving an increase in Transportation aid due to increased summer transportation last year. CLV is receiving a slight increase in foundation aid but was not considered a “hold harmless” district. Other districts were considered “hold harmless” but received no increase in foundation aid, while still other schools had an aid reduction.

BUDGET

The appropriation of fund balance added to the budget is over \$2.4 million.

Officials will need to submit the final costs for Phase 1 of the capital project by the end of June and the remaining costs by the end of December.

Dr. Huff noted that she spoke with staff who will be impacted by next year’s budget. There will be a reduction of one Elementary teacher, one High School Special Education teacher and one buildings and grounds position all by attrition. There will also be the reduction of one Elementary AIS position and one Middle School AIS position. One administrator position will be reduced to a 10-month position, while one other support staff position will be reduced from 11 months to 10 months. Two positions will not be filled, creating a reduction in PE positions and a realignment of math positions.

These reductions were driven by a need to balance the budget while maintaining academics, not cutting extra curriculars and maintaining athletics.

A Board member questioned how many students have enrolled for Pre-K next year. Mrs. Wallschlaeger could not remember precisely, but the number is somewhere in the 40s. Spring screenings are currently completed, but there are always more Pre-K registrations throughout the summer.

Other factors that impacted the budget include increased health insurance costs and increased costs for Special Education students out-of-district.

Randolph Request to Use Transportation Facility—

Randolph CSD has lost their lease on their location for DOT inspections. They have requested to use our transportation facility one day a month for five or six months. Dr. Huff has spoken with the district’s insurance carrier, and they will approve this as long as CLV has a contract and insurance paperwork naming CLV as additional insured from Randolph.

FACILITY USE
REQUEST

A Board member questioned what Mr. Lemk thinks of the arrangement. He is good with it as are the mechanics. They can work on other vehicles or inventory while the lifts/areas are being used for inspections.

ARP—

Dr. Huff is working to schedule a community forum on the first Thursday in May for ARP funds. As much as possible, the district would like to spend down all funds by the end of June.

AMERICAN
RESCUE PLAN

NYSED Safety Plan Updates—

Posted in the Board packet was the NYS proposed amendments to safety plans. These amendments would not have a significant impact on CLV’s safety plans with just a couple of adjustments needed and no major shifts.

SAFETY PLAN
UPDATES

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

FYI: Warrants—The Board did not have any questions for Sally Hadley.

FINANCIAL
REPORTS

POLICY:

Policy 1640—Absentee, Military, and Early Mail Ballots—

CLV uses personal registration for voting, so Option 2 of this sample policy applies. One of the biggest shifts in the policy is that the revision includes language around military or early mail ballots. Paula Jones explained that early vote ballots have been recently implemented for school districts similar to voting for other municipalities. However, the early mail ballots will be counted after polls are closed, consistent with how absentee ballots are counted, but different than other public voting that records early mail ballots prior to the polls being opened.

POLICY 1640

Property Tax Report Card—

Mrs. Hadley handed out the property tax report card and explained to the Board the sections of the report.

PROPERTY TAX
REPORT CARD

BOARD MINUTES/CONSENT ITEMS:

MOVED by Christopher Shattuck, seconded by Stacey Aguiar, to approve consent items as presented:

- a. Approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, April 9, 2024. 4-9-24 MINUTES
- b. Approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held Tuesday, April 16, 2024. 4-16-24 MINUTES

MOTION: Carried 4-0

REGULAR BUSINESS:

MOVED by Christopher Shattuck, seconded by Carrie Colburn-Mozes, to approve the Regular Business Items as presented:

- a. Accept the donation from Cattaraugus County Bank—The America’s Promise team of \$100 for our school library for National Librarian Day. DONATION
- b. Approve the request from the Cattaraugus Area Youth Council Summer Swim Program for use of a bus Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from July 8, 2024 to August 14, 2024. The driver, fuel, and insurance will be covered by the Village of Cattaraugus. BUS USE
- c. Approve agreement between Cattaraugus-Little Valley CSD and Randolph CSD for use of the transportation facility/bus lifts for DOT inspections effective May 1, 2024 through on or about October 31, 2024. FACILITY USE
- d. Approve CSE/CPSE Action Items dated April 5, 2024 through April 19, 2024. CSE/CPSE ACTION
- e. Approve the Final Draft of the 2024-2025 Cattaraugus-Little Valley Central School District Annual Budget as presented in the amount of \$32,167,569 with a tax levy increase of 2%. BUDGET APPROVAL
- f. Approve the 2024-2025 Property Tax Report Card. PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD

MOTION: Carried 4-0

PERSONNEL:

MOVED by Christopher Shattuck, seconded by Carrie Colburn-Mozes, to approve the following Personnel Items for the 2023-2024 school year:

- a. Conditionally appoint Kimberly Jones as second Intramural Volleyball coach for spring 2024 pending need based on number of participants. INTRAMURAL VOLLEYBALL COACH

MOTION: Carried 4-0

MOVED by Christopher Shattuck, seconded by Carrie Colburn-Mozes, that the Board recess at 8:02 p.m. to conduct an executive session on matters related to negotiations, EXECUTIVE SESSION

litigation and employment of particular persons and put to a vote which resulted as follows:

MOTION: Carried 4-0

8:02 p.m.—Board members took a brief recess. Zoom meeting was continued as there were no non-Board members in attendance via Zoom at this time.

MOVED by Christopher Shattuck, seconded by Carrie Colburn-Mozes, to resume the regular order of business at 8:43 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF
REGULAR
BUSINESS

MOTION: Carried 4-0

MOVED by Christopher Shattuck, seconded by Carrie Colburn-Mozes, to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Carried 4-0

Next Board of Education Meeting: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:30pm.

Paula Jones
District Clerk
Cattaraugus-Little Valley Central School