



**Newfane Central School District  
Board of Education**

**NEWFANE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**

**JANUARY 19, 2021**

The January 19, 2021 meeting of the Newfane Board of Education was held in Room 129 at the Early Childhood Center. The meeting was called to order by Board President Schmitt at 7:00 pm.

**CALL TO ORDER**

A. Casinelli, A. Kennedy, M. Lingle, E. Oudette, J. Schmitt, M. Stefanoski, S. Tomasine  
G. Noon, M. Whyle, K. Klumpp, B. Joe, (remote) H. Staley, K. Crombie, P. Young, J. Anstett, J. Huntington, C. Hurtgam

**TRUSTEES PRESENT**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

The District Mission Statement was read by Trustee Lingle.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
and  
DISTRICT MISSION  
STATEMENT**

Motion made by Trustee Casinelli and seconded by Trustee Kennedy  
RESOLVED, that the proposed agenda for January 19, 2021 be approved.  
Resolution Carried:       7 YES       0 NO

**ESTABLISH ORDERS OF  
THE DAY**  
Approved the agenda

There were no comments at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**PRESIDENT REPORT:**

**REPORTS**

President Schmitt did not have a report at this time.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

Superintendent Baumann informed the Board of Education that Niagara County and ON BOCES drafted a Public Health Safety Plan that Newfane tailored and will be presenting to the board for consideration in February.

**Presentations:**

PPE/COVID preparedness – G. Noon, Director of Facilities presented to the Board of Education a recap of the steps that the district has taken since the pandemic started in March 2020. Supplies have been purchased and stored for future use, we are well suited with supplies and have continually increased the services provided by the custodial staff to maintain cleanliness and reduce illness. Sanitizing is the main focus of course and Mr. Noon explained how hand sanitizer, room sanitation, staffing and monitoring has been implemented. The staff has done a wonderful job stepping up to the task he said.

Reserve Accounts Update – M. Whyte, Interim Business Administrator presented a complete outline of current reserve accounts and projected transfers which included reasoning. He provided board policy and pin pointed objectives based on them. A history of Fund Balance was discussed with a plan for right sizing the accounts. Mr. Whyte shared a projected time line and indicated that this will take some time and consideration in the next couple years. The goal is to not create a burden on the tax payer in future budgets.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Trustee Lingle shared an update from the Audit Committee, which met prior to this meeting. They reviewed the Internal Audit as well as the Corrective Action Plan related to the Comptrollers Audit.

The Internal Audit provided twenty-five recommendations that the district has reviewed and started responding to. The Board of Education will be provided the final audit report once received and will vote on accepting it in February. Questions can be addressed to the committee.

The Corrective Action Plan for the Comptrollers Audit Report is on the agenda for vote tonight and the committee recommends that approval.

The Audit Committee will meet again on March 6, 2021, where they review the goals, the reserve report and policy.

Trustee Kennedy updated the board on the recent curriculum committee meeting. Mr. Young facilitated a comprehensive discussion of each department in the district to get a complete “state of the school” account. She shared specific information on what is working from some of the curriculum facilitators. Trustee Kennedy also shared results from the most recent survey from parents regarding remote learning and district response during the pandemic. The majority of responses were marked very high and the feedback is appreciated.

The NOSBA Committee was also attended by Ms. Kennedy. The Virtual Legislative Breakfast is January 23, 2021 at 9am. Local Superintendents have a very powerful message this year. NOSBA is planning for events such as New Board Candidate informational meeting, as well as starting to study advocacy which is an important topic for the group.

B. Seymour, Coordinator of Community Programs, attended the Newfane Business Association meeting and shared that two High School groups are organizing with the association a way to give back to local businesses. The groups, Model UN, Mrs. Keys and Senior Class, Mr. Najuch will be meeting with the group to facilitate some events such as a “Shop Newfane” day or community day where they will provide the “man power” so no burden will be put on the local businesses. Looking for innovative ways to engage the school with the community.

S. Tomasine, shared that the subcommittee has developed a plan for sharing information with the public upon request. The District Clerk will receive the request related to pending agenda for example, and to the extent possible will respond in less that forty-eight hours with the documents. Prior to sharing the documents with the requestor, the board and superintendent will receive the documents to approve for appropriateness.

**NEWFANE TEACHER’S ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE:**

The NTA was represented by C. Hurtgam, there was not a report.

The Routine Order of Business was voted on by consensus to be listed separately in the minutes.

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Tomasine RESOLVED, that the minutes of the December 15, 2020 meeting of the Board of Education be and are approved.

Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO

**ROUTINE ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Approved the Meeting Minutes  
Encl. 2021.01.19.8A

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Tomasine RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon reviewing the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education will arrange for the appropriate special education programs and services to be provided for meetings held as listed in Enclosure 2021.01.19.8B.

Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO

Approved Classification and Placement of Students  
Encl. 2021.01.19.8B

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Tomasine RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept and file the Treasurer’s Monthly Report for the periods of October and November 2020.

Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO

Accepted and filed the Monthly Treasurer’s Report  
Encl. 2021.01.19.8C

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Tomasine RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept and file the School Lunch Profit and Loss Statement for the period of November 2020.

Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO

Approved the School Lunch Profit and Loss Statement  
Encl. 2021.01.19.8D

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Tomasine RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept and file the following Warrant Reports for the periods ending November and December 2020.

Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO

Accepted and filed the Warrants  
Encl. 2021.01.19.8E

The Personnel Order of Business was voted on by consensus to be listed separately in the minutes (except 9A and 9B).

Motion made by Trustee Kennedy and seconded by Trustee Lingle RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that Alexandria Abbo, having been appointed on January 17, 2017, effective February 17, 2017, and having served a satisfactory probationary period of February 17, 2017 through February 16, 2021, be and is appointed to tenure in the Mathematics Tenure area, effective February 17, 2021.

Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO

**PERSONNEL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Appointed Tenure, A. Abbo  
Encl. 2021.01.19.9A

Motion made by Trustee Oudette and seconded by Trustee Lingle  
RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools,  
that Angela Silvestrini, having been appointed on February 21, 2017, and  
having served a satisfactory probationary period of January 30, 2017 through  
January 29, 2021, be and is appointed to tenure in the Special Education  
Tenure area, effective January 30, 2021.

Resolution Carried:        7 YES            0 NO

Appointed Tenure,  
A. Silvestrini  
Encl. 2021.01.19.9B

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Casinelli  
RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools,  
that the hourly rate be increased effective December 31, 2020 as follows:  
Substitute Food Service Helper \$12.50 /hour.

Resolution Carried:        7 YES            0 NO

Increased minimum  
wage  
Encl. 2021.01.19.9C

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Casinelli  
RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools,  
that the following people be and are approved as substitutes in the district  
effective as noted:

Alina Young - non certified Substitute Teacher, Instructional Associate  
Effective 11/30/2020

Julia Baumann - Substitute Typist, Instructional Associate  
Effective 12/17/2020

Steven Klock – Substitute Laborer  
Effective 12/14/2020

Shelby Pasquale – non certified Substitute Teacher  
Effective 1/13/2021

Resolution Carried:        7 YES            0 NO

Appointed district  
substitute employees  
Encl. 2021.01.19.9D

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Casinelli  
RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools,  
that Brooke Horning, be and is approved as an unpaid student, participating  
in Student Teaching to complete seven weeks, at the Elementary School, in  
affiliation with Niagara University Education Department as noted, with Mrs.  
Reis, Elementary Teacher as determined, effective January 4, 2021.

Resolution Carried:        7 YES            0 NO

Approved a student  
teacher, B. Horning  
Encl. 2021.01.19.9E

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Casinelli  
RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools,  
that Lindsey Grochowski, be and is approved as an unpaid student,  
participating in field work to complete 35 hours of observation, at the  
Elementary School, in affiliation with University at Buffalo Occupational  
Therapy Department as noted, with Mrs. Kim Schuler, Occupational  
Therapist as determined, effective December 2, 2020 through December 23,  
2020.

Resolution Carried:        7 YES            0 NO

Approved a college  
student to observe and  
participate,  
L. Grochowski  
Encl. 2021.01.19.9F

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Casinelli  
 RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools,  
 that the following individual, be and is approved as an unpaid assistant for  
 the 2020-21 school year in the sport noted, with the understanding that  
 unpaid assistants are to work under the direct supervision of the Head Coach  
 and that at no time are they to supervise students unattended.

Approved an unpaid  
 coaching assistant,  
 M. MacFarlane  
 Encl. 2021.01.19.9G

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SPORT</u>	
Marlo MacFarlane	Varsity Girls Basketball	
Resolution Carried:	7 YES	0 NO

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Casinelli  
 RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools,  
 that Connor Ziegler, be and is approved as an unpaid School Psychology  
 Practicum Student, participating in field work, in affiliation with the School  
 Psychology Program through Niagara University, from January 14-May 7,  
 2021, to complete hours with Dr. Elizabeth Botzer, School Psychologist.  
 Resolution Carried:           7 YES           0 NO

Approved an unpaid  
 Practicum Student,  
 C. Ziegler  
 Encl. 2021.01.19.9H

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Casinelli  
 RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools,  
 that Marguerite Mosher, be and is approved as an unpaid School Psychology  
 Practicum Student, participating in field work, in affiliation with the  
 Doctorate of Psychology Program Robert Wesleyan College, from  
 January 14-May 7, 2021, to complete hours with Dr. Elizabeth Botzer, School  
 Psychologist.  
 Resolution Carried:           7 YES           0 NO

Approved an unpaid  
 Practicum Student,  
 M. Mosher  
 Encl. 2021.01.19.9I

The New Order of Business was voted on by consensus to be listed  
 separately in the minutes.

**NEW ORDER OF  
 BUSINESS**

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Oudette  
 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept and file the results of the  
 Newfane Central School District’s Capital Project Vote held on December 15,  
 2020, as listed below:   **PROPOSITION NO. 1**

Accepted the results  
 from the Capital Project  
 Vote  
 Encl. 2021.01.19. 10A

**“TOGETHER WE CAN, NEWFANE 2020 – BUILDING OUR FUTURE” PROJECT**

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:  
 RESOLVED, that (a) the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Newfane  
 Central School District, Niagara County, New York (the “District”) is hereby  
 authorized to undertake a proposed “Together We Can, Newfane 2020 -  
 Building Our Future” capital improvements project (the “Project”) consisting  
 of the reconstruction and renovation of, and the construction of  
 improvements, additions and upgrades to various District buildings and  
 facilities (and the sites thereof), to implement various health, safety,  
 accessibility and Code compliance measures and various other measures  
 that are included and generally described in (but are not to be limited by)  
 the Project Plan that was referred to in the public notice of the vote on this  
 Proposition, and to expend therefor an amount not to exceed \$30,569,000;  
 (b) the Board is hereby authorized to expend or apply toward the Project the  
 entire balance (\$7,000,000, plus any interest earned) from the District’s

Building Capital Reserve Fund that was established in 2020, and then to terminate such Fund; (c) a tax is hereby voted in an amount not to exceed \$23,569,000 to finance the balance of the estimated maximum cost of the Project, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by the Board; (d) in anticipation of such tax, obligations of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$23,569,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on such obligations as the same shall become due and payable; and (e) New York State Building Aid funds expected to be received by the District are anticipated to offset a substantial part of such costs, and such funds, to the extent received, shall be applied to offset and reduce the amount of taxes herein authorized to be levied.

YES 531 NO 290  
 Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Oudette  
 RESOLVED, that the NYS Comptroller’s Audit Report of the Newfane Central School District dated November 2020 for the period of July 1, 2016 through April 27, 2020, be and is received by the Board of Education, and;  
 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the audit report be made public upon request.  
 Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO

Accepted the State  
 Comptrollers Audit  
 Report  
 Encl. 2021.01.19.10B

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Oudette  
 RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the corrective action plan in response to the State Comptroller’s Audit dated November 2020 for the period of July 1, 2016 through April 27, 2020, be and is approved, and;  
 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the correction action plan be made public for review upon request.  
 Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO

Approved the corrective  
 action plan relating to  
 the NYS Comptroller’s  
 Audit Report  
 Encl. 2021.01.19.10C

Motion made by Trustee Lingle and seconded by Trustee Oudette  
 RESOLVED, that the following, being determined with the consultation of Cannon Design, to be the lowest responsible bidder, be awarded the following as part of the Capital Project:  
 Stohl Environmental LLC; Pre-renovation Hazardous Materials Inspection.  
 Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO

Approve a contract,  
 Stohl Environmental  
 Encl. 2021.01.19.10D

**CONCLUDING ORDERS  
 OF BUSINESS**

There were no comments at this time.

Public comments

This time was used for trustees to share information without action. It was noted that the Board would like a retreat in the Spring guided by their wants and needs. Focus groups are being formed for the Capital Project areas.

Anything for the “good  
 of the order”

Motion made by Trustee Kennedy and seconded by Trustee Lingle  
MOVED, that the Board of Education enter executive session for the purpose  
of discussing specific personnel matters and the Superintendent's Quarterly  
Review.

Resolution Carried:        7 YES        0 NO

Recessed at:    9:02 pm        Reconvened at:    9:40 pm

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by Trustee Oudette and seconded by Trustee Lingle  
MOVED, that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

Resolution Carried:        7 YES        0 NO

Meeting adjourned at:    9:41 pm

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Seymour  
District Clerk