



**Newfane Central School District  
Board of Education**

**NEWFANE BOARD OF EDUCATION WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

**May 5, 2020**

The May 5, 2020 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 7:13 pm.

**CALL TO ORDER**

A. Casinelli, L. Licht, M. Lingle, E. Oudette, J. Schmitt, M. Stefanoski  
A. Kennedy  
B. Schuler, remote  
others excused

**TRUSTEES PRESENT  
TRUSTEES REMOTE  
ADMINISTRATION  
PRESENT**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
and  
DISTRICT MISSION  
STATEMENT**

The District Mission Statement was read by Trustee Licht.

Motion made by Trustee Licht and seconded by Trustee Lingle  
RESOLVED, that the proposed agenda for May 5, 2020 be approved as amended to include an executive session prior to reports.  
Resolution Carried:       7 YES       0 NO

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

There were no remarks at this time.

**Public remarks or  
comments**

There were no presentations at this meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Motion made by Trustee Licht and seconded by Trustee Lingle  
MOVED, that the Board of Education enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a specific personnel item.  
Resolution Carried:       7 YES       0 NO  
Recessed at: 7:17 pm       Reconvened at: 8:13 pm

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**PRESIDENT REPORT:**

**REPORTS**

President Schmitt acknowledged that it is Teacher Appreciation week. He requested that something be sent from the board to the teachers.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

Superintendent Baumann shared that he has been included in teacher google classrooms and found them to be wonderful. The Continuity of Learning plan was updated. The Instruction, connection and social emotional plans are working.

The NTA has donated \$1000 to foodservice programs and contributed gift cards for local families.

COVID-19 meeting update: It was shared from the Niagara County Health Director that there will not be gatherings before June 30, maybe the end of July. Keep in mind that there will most likely be a second resurgence.

There will not be summer school or summer activities on campus. There is still a question if Fall athletics will take place. The O/N BOCES will place an order for PPE and the local districts can purchase through them.

May 15 is the anticipated date to receive more information regarding state aide.

The Budget Vote and Election will take place on June 9. All voting will be by absentee voting. The process is not fully developed yet.

Mr. Baumann will video the Public Budget Hearing May 19, and then post to the website.

There is still a question as to if Food Service will be required over the summer.

FEMA grant is filed, there is contact with the claims representative.

Locker cleanout and return of district items is being discussed.

There needs to be a plan for September...need to start trying to plan.

STA has requested payment, services are not being rendered, so not paying at this time.

There is a savings with the closing.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

There were not any committee reports

**NEWFANE TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE:**

Cassandra Hurtgam represented the Newfane Teachers Association. She said that the teachers are keeping up with instruction, they are learning some amazing programs. The NTA has offered 100 Newfane frontline medical workers and unemployed community members. The NTA is collecting for another \$2000 for donations to local food pantries. The NTA feels that they are receiving amazing support from Administration, Superintendent and the Board of Education. They appreciate that.

Motion made by Trustee Licht and seconded by Trustee Lingle  
RESOLVED, that the minutes of the April 22, 2020 meeting of the Board of Education be and are approved.

Resolution Carried:           7 YES           0 NO

**ROUTINE ORDER OF  
BUSINESS**

Approved the minutes  
Encl.2020.05.05.8A

Motion made by Trustee Licht and seconded by Trustee Lingle  
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 2020.05.05.8B.

Resolution Carried:           7 YES           0 NO

Approved classification  
and placement of  
students  
Encl. 2020.05.05.8B

Motion made by Trustee Licht and seconded by Trustee Lingle  
RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools,  
that the Board of Education accept and file the following Warrant Reports  
for the period ending March 2020.  
Resolution Carried:           7 YES           0 NO

Accepted and filed the  
warrants  
Encl. 2020.05.05.8C

Motion made by Trustee Licht and seconded by Trustee Lingle  
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 February and March 2020.  
Resolution Carried:           7 YES           0 NO

Accepted and filed the  
Treasurer's Monthly  
Report  
Encl. 2019.05.05.8D

There were no resolutions under Personnel Items at this meeting.

**PERSONNEL ORDER OF  
BUSINESS**

The New Order of Business was considered voted on by consensus to be  
listed separately in the minutes (except 10A and 10B)

**NEW ORDER OF  
BUSINESS**

Motion made by Trustee Licht and seconded by Trustee Oudette  
MOVED, that resolutions 10A and 10B be taken from the table.  
Resolution Carried:           7 YES           0 NO

Motion made by Trustee Casinelli and seconded by Trustee Oudette  
RESOLVED, A RESOLUTION, DATED MAY 5, 2020, OF THE BOARD OF  
EDUCATION OF THE NEWFANE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, NIAGARA  
COUNTY, NEW YORK (THE "DISTRICT") DECLARING THE DISTRICT'S  
PROPOSED CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT (INVOLVING MODEST UPGRADES AND  
IMPROVEMENTS AT THE DISTRICT'S MIDDLE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM) TO BE A  
TYPE II ACTION UNDER SEQRA, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE  
INCLUSION OF FUNDING FOR SUCH PROJECT IN THE DISTRICT'S PROPOSED  
2020-2021 BUDGET.

Approved the Capital  
Project to be included in  
the 2020-2021 Budget.

WHEREAS, the Newfane Central School District, Niagara County, New York  
(the "District"), after consultation by District officials with the District's  
selected architectural firm (Cannon Design), has resolved that the District  
should propose to undertake, during the District's pending (2020-2021) fiscal  
year, a capital outlay project involving modest upgrades and improvements  
at the District's Middle School building, such work being anticipated to  
include, but not necessarily to be limited to, the removal and replacement of  
the gymnasium bleachers and wall pads, along with associated painting work  
(collectively, the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the estimated maximum cost of the Project (inclusive of all  
preliminary and incidental costs) has been determined by Cannon Design to  
be \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, the District is proposing that the Project be financed by the  
application of \$100,000 of funds to be earmarked for such purpose as a  
"Transfer to Capital Fund" in the District's pending (i.e., 2020-2021) budget,  
with the work on the Project expected to be completed during the 2020-  
2021 fiscal year of the District; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with State Education Department guidance and policy, the District/Board of Education is the appropriate agency to be the lead agency to undertake Project review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"); and

WHEREAS, the District wishes to reserve the right to expand, contract or modify the scope of the Project in light of the level of future construction bids received, with the understanding that the estimated maximum cost of the Project will not exceed \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, Section 617.5 of the SEQRA Regulations (6 NYCRR Part 617) provides that certain activities are Type II actions which are not subject to review under SEQRA and that such activities include "routine activities of educational institutions," "maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility;" "replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site...unless such action meets or exceeds any [Type I] thresholds in section 617.4"; and WHEREAS, the proposed Project constitutes such routine activities of educational institutions; maintenance or repair activities; and/or in-kind, same-site replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction activities not exceeding Type I thresholds;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the final determination of the District's Board of Education that the proposed Project is a Type II action, which is not subject to review under SEQRA, and that the proposed Project will not result in a significant adverse impact on the environment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the proposed Project shall be included as a "Transfer to Capital Fund" line item (not exceeding \$100,000 in amount) in the District's proposed budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year (with appropriate additional notification to District voters regarding the anticipated details of the work to be given in connection with the District's regular budget presentation and approval process), so that such Project may be initiated and completed (assuming voter approval of the District's proposed budget) during the District's 2020-2021 fiscal year; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution Carried:           6 YES           1 NO - Licht

Motion made by Trustee Casinelli and seconded by Trustee Oudette  
RESOLVED, that the General Fund Budget for the 2020-2021 school year of the Newfane Central School District shall be \$36,007,988 and that said amount shall be put forth before the District voters on a date to be determined by New York State, as Proposition 1.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proposed property tax report card and budget notice, which corresponds to the budget, adopted on May 5, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year, be and is approved.

Resolution Carried:           6 YES           1 NO - Licht

Adopted the 2020-2021  
School District Budget  
Encl. 2020.05.05.10B

Motion made by Trustee Licht and seconded by Trustee Oudette  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the addition of May 19,  
2020 to the meeting schedule in order to hold a regular meeting on that  
date.

Resolution Carried:           7 YES           0 NO

Approved an additional  
meeting date

Motion made by Trustee Licht and seconded by Trustee Oudette  
RESOLVED, according the Executive Order 202.26 issued on May 1, 2020  
relative to the COVID-19 Pandemic and School Districts Annual Budget Vote  
and Election, the Newfane Board of Education rescinds the following  
resolutions previously adopted at the March 17, 2020 Board of Education  
meeting for the May 19, 2020 meeting date:

Resolution 9B – Appointment of Election Inspectors

Resolution 10B – Adoption of the “... rules for use of Voting Machines and  
the Submission of Questions...”

Resolution 10E – Approval of the Public Budget Hearing and Legal Notice

Resolution Carried:           7 YES           0 NO

Rescinded previously  
adopted resolutions

Motion made by Trustee Licht and seconded by Trustee Oudette  
RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the  
Board of Education adopt the following resolution with regard to the budget  
hearing and notice of the annual district meeting, budget vote and election:  
WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 1716 of the Education Law, it is necessary to  
set the date of the District’s budget hearing;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 1716 and 2002 of the Education Law, it is  
necessary to provide for publication of the notice of the annual meeting and  
election of the District, as well as notice of the budget hearing of the District;  
NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Newfane Central School  
District:

1. THAT, the provisions of this resolution shall be effective regardless of  
anything to the contrary in the Board Policy Manual, or the previous minutes  
of this Board, or otherwise;
2. THAT, it is hereby determined, pursuant to Section 1716 of the  
Education Law, that the Annual Budget Hearing of this District, for  
presentation of the proposed 2020-21 school district budget, shall be  
adjourned and presented remotely June 1, 2020 as a video posted to the  
Public District Website.
3. THAT, pursuant to Section 2002 of the Education Law, the Annual  
Meeting and Election of the District shall be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020  
for the purpose of voting on the appropriation of the necessary funds to  
meet the District’s estimated expenditures for the fiscal year commencing  
July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021, for the purpose of electing two (2)  
members of the Board of Education and for the transaction of such other  
business as may be authorized by law.
4. THAT, all registered voters will receive absentee ballots via mail to  
include a postage paid return envelope, with a listing of persons to whom  
absentee ballots have been issued being available for inspection in the office

Approved the adoption  
of the Public Budget  
Hearing and Legal Notice  
of the Annual District  
Meeting, Budget Vote  
and Election.

of the District Clerk during each of the five days prior to the day of the election, except Saturdays and Sundays.

5. THAT, the District Clerk is hereby directed to publish a copy of the following notice in the Lockport Union-Sun & Journal, two times on or before May 12, 2020, preceding such District meeting, the first publication in such newspaper.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
AND

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING,  
BUDGET VOTE AND ELECTION OF THE  
NEWFANE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing for the qualified voters of the Newfane Central School District for the presentation of the 2020-2021 budget, shall be adjourned and presented remotely, to be posted to the Public District Website immediately following.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Annual District Meeting and Election of the qualified voters of the Newfane Central School District, Niagara County, New York, will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 for the purpose of voting on the annual budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year and electing two (2) members of the Board of Education for three (3) year terms commencing on July 1, 2020. All voting will be done via mail and absentee ballots. All registered voters will receive an absentee ballot to use for voting, anyone not receiving a ballot by May 27, 2020 should contact the District Clerk.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that the voting on the budget will consist of voting on the following propositions, as well as other such matters as may be lawfully presented at the meeting:

PROPOSITION NUMBER 1

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

RESOLVED, that the budget of the Newfane Central School District (the "District"), Niagara County, New York, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 as presented by the Board of Education, is hereby approved and adopted and the required funds therefore shall be hereby appropriated and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in said District to be levied and collected as required by law.

PROPOSITION NUMBER 2

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Newfane Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a Building Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law (to be known as the 2020 Building Capital Reserve Fund") with the purpose of such fund being to finance reconstruction, renovation and equipping of the High school, Middle school, Elementary school, Early Childhood Center and facilities, including the District athletic facilities, fields and track; pavements and grounds; fire suppression, phone and security systems; heating, plumbing, electrical and ventilation systems; structural repairs to doors, windows, floors and roofs; and other various improvements for energy efficiency and costs incidental thereto.

The ultimate amount of such fund is to be \$7,000,000.00, plus earnings thereon. The probable term of such fund is to be ten (10) years, but such fund shall continue in existence until liquidated in accordance with Education Law or until such funds are exhausted. The sources from which funds shall be obtained for such Reserve are: (i) amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time; (ii) unappropriated fund balance made available by the Board of Education from time to time; and (iii) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time; all as permitted by law.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that the Board of Education of this District will have prepared and completed a detailed statement in writing of the amount of money which will be required during the 2020-2021 fiscal year for school purposes, specifying the several purposes and the amount for each. The amount for each purpose estimated necessary for payments to Boards of Cooperative Educational Services shall be shown in full, with no deduction of estimated state aid. The amount of state aid provided and its percentage relationship to the total expenditures shall also be shown. Such statement shall be completed at least seven days before the budget hearing at which it is to be presented and copies thereof shall be prepared and made available, upon request, to residents within the District during the period of seven days before the budget hearing and/or fourteen days immediately preceding the annual meeting and election, and may be obtained by any resident in the District at each school house in the District in which school is maintained as well as the District Office during normal business hours.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that all candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education shall be self-nominated with the Clerk of the District. Each candidate must file the Candidate Certification of Nominating Petition form in the office of the Clerk of the District between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays but not later than 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day preceding the annual meeting and election, to wit, May 8, 2020. Board of Education candidates will be listed alphabetically on the ballot.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the vote will be conducted entirely by Absentee Ballot. Absentee Ballots and a postage paid return envelope will be sent to all qualified voters in the district automatically. Absentee ballots must be received in the office the District Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. prevailing time, on Tuesday, June 9, 2020. A listing of persons to whom absentee ballots have been issued will be available for inspection in the office of the District Clerk during each of the five days prior to day of the election, except Saturdays and Sundays.

6. That the District Clerk is hereby directed to arrange for the printing of ballots to be used, and each proposition to be submitted shall be so printed thereon in full with the words YES and NO so printed for each proposition.

7. The District Clerk may be contacted in the district office by emailing [bseymour@newfanecentralschools.org](mailto:bseymour@newfanecentralschools.org) or calling 716-778-6853 for information relating to this notice.

Dated: May 5, 2020

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NEWFANE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bernadette Seymour, District Clerk  
Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO

There were no remarks at this time.

This time was used for trustees to share information without action.

Motion made by Trustee Licht and seconded by Trustee Lingle  
MOVED, that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.  
Resolution Carried: 7 YES 0 NO  
Meeting adjourned at: 9:27 pm

**CONCLUDING ORDERS  
OF BUSINESS**

Public remarks or  
comments

Anything for the “good  
of the order”

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Seymour  
District Clerk