

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**                   **DIANE LYONS**  
  **STEVE JENKINS**  
  **MARK FLEISCHHAUER**  
  **JACLYN SAVOLAINEN**  
  **LIZ RAUM**  
  **JACKIE RACCUA**  
  **MATTHEW VAN WORMER**

**OTHERS PRESENT:**                   **JOSEPH PHELAN, THOMAS BURNELL,**  
  **ADMINISTRATORS, MEMBERS OF THE**  
  **PUBLIC**

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **1.0 Call to Order**

President Lyons called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 pm via Zoom.

### **2.0 Approval of Minutes**

**2.1 Motion** by Jenkins, seconded by Savolainen, to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2020 Regular Meeting.\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Lyons Jenkins, Fleischhauer, Raum, Savolainen, Van Wormer, Raccuia); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

### **3.0 Public Comment**

Victor Britton, RTA Vice President, addressed the Board about the reducing the open Science teacher position to a .50 FTE and how doing so would increase in class size.

### **4.0 Reports and Discussion**

#### **4.1 Principals Reports**

Chancellor Livingston Elementary School – Principal Brett King reviewed elementary remote learning activities. He stated that they were looking for more opportunities for interaction. They have had a “Hello” video by staff, a Porch Fest spring concert for 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders, and they are coming up with a “special friends” day video. He shared how they are trying to maintain some of the normal activities that happen during this time in the school virtually by recreating them for video conferencing.

The Board asked about surveying students and parents for their input on the topic of remote learning, and if it could be done earlier than the summer. Brett expressed that there was discussion that the survey should to be district-wide not building-by-building. The rationale for surveying during the summer was to give parents a break, along with the tight timeframe for doing it in June. Superintendent Phelan stated that a few other districts were in the process of planning or conducting surveys and would share their surveys with Rhinebeck. Other districts also were thinking about conducting similar surveys.

Bulkeley Middle School – Principal John Kemnitzer shared how the middle school was focusing on consistency, communication, and support. The middle school had an

advantage in that most of the staff were using the same platform, Canvas, for consistency. The staff are teaming up to make sure that they are communicating with all students and families. Finally they have been supporting students and families with technology issues, although the internet service for some families is not as strong as they would like it to be. They are making sure to work more with students who receive special services. The staff has conducted some online grade-level activities with students and gave iTunes gift cards to the winners as an incentive to participate. Teachers are finding creative ways to communicate with students on-line with scavenger hunts, teacher YouTube channels, and band lessons. The BMS Student Council donated \$500 each to Northern Dutchess Hospital and to Buns to feed the first responder healthcare workers. They are discussing ideas on how to have the BMS “moving up” ceremony virtually, and how to virtually introduce students and looking ahead to the Fall and trying to foresee issues they will have to start the new school year.

Rhinebeck High School – Principal Ed Davenport remembered back to the day, March 13, 2020, when they were told schools were being closed. He stated that today was the 60<sup>th</sup> day of the closure and much has happened since then. The staff, guidance department, senior class, and student council all have been having meetings, sometimes weekly. They have focused on the continuity of operations and looking at how to recreate end of year celebrations. Ed reminded everyone to go to the school app Rhinebeck Reality.org which continues to have a daily bulletin.

Steve Jenkins commended everyone, principals and staff, for getting everyone on board and asked about what remote learning platforms are being used. Director of Technology, Steve Jensen reviewed what was used in each building:

MacAir – 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>

Mac Carts – BMS/RHS

Computer Labs – PC environment

Chromebooks – RHS

He explained that students are exposed to Chromebooks, PC’s, iPads, and Macs, essentially multiple platforms.

Diane Lyons asked about the community service requirement. Principal Ed Davenport confirmed that not all students have met the requirement prior to the quarantine. Superintendent Phelan stated that Board action will be required to temporarily waive for 2019-20 the Board’s prior resolution requiring community service as a requirement for graduation.

#### **4.2 2020-21 Budget Development Update**

Assistant Superintendent, Thomas Burnell, updated the Board with the new dates for the Budget Vote and Election:

Budget Adoption: Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Budget Hearing: Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Budget Vote & Election: Tuesday, June 9, 2020

The required postcard notice which details the date of the election, date of the budget hearing, and a definition of a qualified voter will be sent out shortly. There is no date set by New York State for a second vote, if needed. The State Division of Budget has communicated to school districts that they will announce State Aid cuts by Friday, May 15.

Mr. Burnell then reviewed what items had been removed from the budget, such as the State Building Aid for completing the capital project by December. It has been confirmed that it will not totally completed by the end of December, which now appears likely. At the completion of the project, there are usually “punch list” items to complete. However, the District and community are not losing any money, just deferring it. The Board asked if Mr. Burnell knew the amount that a 20% State Aid cut would be, as that percentage has been circulating. Mr. Burnell explained that they do not know what the 20% pertains to, if it is to Foundation Aid, or all State Aid.

Superintendent Phelan reminded the Board again that the budget vote is on the approval of a total dollar amount, not on individual items included in the proposed budget. If we have to reduce that figure, we can always redistribute monies as may be needed. The Board expressed concern as to whether or not there would be additional costs to opening up in September. Superintendent Phelan stated that we still do not know what that will look like, and we are waiting for direction from NYSED, the Department of Health, and the Governor, with guidelines of what will be required. Mr. Burnell stated that there may also be additional funds from DEHIC to offset possible additional costs.

#### **4.3 Board Committee Reports (Facilities, Curriculum, Personnel, Finance)\***

Curriculum Committee Report: Matt VanWormer reviewed the May 6, 2020 meeting minutes. The Building Principals attended at the request of the Committee. The Committee discussed potential gaps that students may be experiencing with remote learning. Dr. Davenport stated that instruction is still based on NYS Education Department guidelines. They discussed how learning outcomes are accessed. The Committee also discussed surveying various members of the school community about what is working well and what may not be working well in connection to remote learning.

Personnel Committee Report: Diane Lyons reviewed the minutes from the May 7, 2020 meeting. The Committee discussed contract details for a specific employee, contract feedback requested by the ANIE bargaining unit, and food service worker compensation requested by the cafeteria staff. The discussion will continue in executive session.

Finance Committee Report: Matt Van Wormer reviewed the May 7, 2020 meeting minutes. The Committee discussed the one-to-one computing model for students and transitioning to a single learning managing system, Canvas, for grades 6–12. They discussed potential financial support from the Rhinebeck Science Foundation in connection with the one-to-one computing initiative. The costs associated with the one-to-one computing initiative were discussed. Finally, the fourth draft of the budget was reviewed.

Facilities Committee Report: Mark Fleischhauer reviewed the April 30, 2020 meeting minutes. Much of the meeting was spent reviewing the results of the “Owner’s Meeting” which took place on April 23, 2020. They reviewed work in progress, punch list completion, financing, and the work schedule.

**5.0 Comments**

**5.1 Good News**

Diane Lyons stated the videos that have been shared have been great and invited everyone to take a look.

Superintendent Phelan stated that David Woulfin had received notice that the Project Lead the Way program at CLS has received national recognition.

In response to a question from Diane Lyons, Mr. Phelan responded that the salutatorian and valedictorian have been selected, but that Dr. Davenport is awaiting their resumes to provide the press release for public notice.

**5.2 Old Business**

None.

**5.3 Public Comment**

Victor Britton, RTA Vice President, stated that the high school enrollment decline will not be realized for another three years. He anticipates more students with Poughkeepsie Day School closing.

Justin Cole asked if there would be an option for students to continue remote learning in the Fall. Superintendent Phelan stated he didn’t know the answer to that question yet.

Kirsten Greene spoke to the Board about technology platforms and possible issues connected with returning to school in Fall 2020.

**5.4 Other**

Diane Lyons questioned whether our food service program was seeing an increase in school breakfasts and lunches being provided. Superintendent Phelan confirmed that they were up to about 180 meals a week. We started significantly fewer. We average about 90 breakfasts and 90 lunches. We are being reimbursed by the New York State for what we are providing. We still have to follow all the guidelines of the school lunch program. We may be able to expand into the weekend, depending on the need. We are awaiting direction from the Governor regarding the summer.

Superintendent Phelan also shared there was a RTA food drive on Thursday. This is just for staff due to the limited resources to transport the food received.

**6.0 Action Items**

**6.1 Motion** by Jenkins, seconded by Savolainen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the following consent items:

**6.1.1 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the CSE and CPSE recommendations.\*

**6.1.2 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the requests for Summer Study Grants – 2020, in accordance with the Rhinebeck Teachers Association Agreement.\*

**6.1.3 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the resolution directing the District Clerk to give notice of the Annual School District Public Hearing on the Budget, the Annual School District Election, and the Vote on the School Budget. (See attached.)\*

**6.1.4 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the elimination of one (1) full-time (1.0 FTE) instructional position (Elementary Teacher) on the basis of attrition, effective July 1, 2020.\*

**6.1.5 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept the resignation of Barbara Rockefeller, Cleaner, for the purpose of retirement, as stated, effective at the close of business on Thursday, August 6, 2020.\*

**6.1.6 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept the resignation of Michelle Lobotsky from the position of Special Education Teacher at Chancellor Livingston Elementary School, effective at the close of business on Friday, June 26, 2020.\*

**6.1.7 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the permanent Civil Service Appointment of Ann Marie Asher as Food Service Worker, effective April 20, 2020.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Lyons Jenkins, Fleischhauer, Raum, Savolainen, Van Wormer, Raccuia); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT  
MOTION CARRIED**

**6.2 Motion** by Jenkins, seconded by Savolainen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the list of Election Tellers (Shawna Cawley, Susan Cotter, and Lucie Munger) and to give the District Clerk permission to fill additional positions as necessary.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Lyons Jenkins, Fleischhauer, Raum, Savolainen, Van Wormer, Raccuia); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT  
MOTION CARRIED**

**6.3 Motion** by Jenkins, seconded by Savolainen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to adopt the following resolution to authorize agreement for Health/Welfare services for the 2019-20 school year:

**WHEREAS**, by Section 912 of the Education Law, a school district which is the district of residence for a particular student may enter into agreement with another school district for the purpose of providing health and welfare services for said student(s) who attend a non-public school, and

**WHEREAS**, during the 2019-20 school year, Rhinebeck Central School District is eligible to provide said health and welfare services to pupils who attend a non-public school situated within the boundary of Rhinebeck Central School District, namely Primrose Hill School, Rhinebeck, New York, and

**WHEREAS**, said health and welfare services include those provided under Section 912 of Education law, as appropriate, and

**WHEREAS**, it has been calculated that the cost of such services would be \$1,070.69 per pupil, based upon the calculations set forth in commissioners decisions and the NYSED guidance document

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Rhinebeck Central School District does hereby authorize a health and welfare service agreement with each District of Residency

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board President, Superintendent of Schools, and Clerk of the Board are duly authorized to sign and execute such agreement on behalf of the Rhinebeck Central School District.\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Lyons Jenkins, Fleischhauer, Raum, Savolainen, Van Wormer, Raccuia); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6.4 Motion** by Jenkins, seconded by Savolainen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to extend the intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Rhinebeck regarding facilities use through August 31, 2021.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Lyons Jenkins, Fleischhauer, Raum, Savolainen, Van Wormer, Raccuia); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6.5 Motion** by Jenkins, seconded by Savolainen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to establish a Special Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2020, starting at 6:30 pm, for the purpose of holding a local hearing on the proposed 2020-2021 school budget, and then adopting said proposed budget to be presented for a vote of the registered school district voters on June 9, 2020.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Lyons Jenkins, Fleischhauer, Raum, Savolainen, Van Wormer, Raccuia); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**7.0 Proposed Executive Session, if Necessary, Subject to Board Approval**

**Motion** by Jenkins, seconded by Van Wormer, the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 9:05 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment of a particular person.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Lyons Jenkins, Fleischhauer, Raum, Savolainen, Van Wormer, Raccuia); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion** by Jenkins, seconded by Savolainen, the Board voted to designate Joseph Phelan as clerk pro tempore.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Lyons, Jenkins, Fleischhauer, Raum, Savolainen, Van Wormer, Raccuia); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion** by Jenkins, seconded by Savolainen, the Board voted to return to Regular session at 9:52 pm pm.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Lyons, Jenkins, Fleischhauer, Raum, Savolainen, Van Wormer, Raccuia); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **8.0 Adjournment**

**Motion** Jenkins, seconded by Savolainen, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:53 pm.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Lyons, Jenkins, Fleischhauer, Raum, Savolainen, Van Wormer, Raccuia); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Whitney Druker  
District Clerk

Joseph Phelan  
Clerk Pro Tempore