



Board Briefings

ITEMS FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD'S TUESDAY, NOV. 13 MEETING:

- **KUDOS FROM PTSA** — Board member David Yoviene was recognized by the NYS PTA and Hamburg Central PTSA for his longstanding partnership and support of the organization. Presenting the Advocate in Action award, HC PTSA President Dana Lamb praised Mr. Yoviene for his work toward education policies and laws benefitting children and for his involvement in the organization's activities.

- **SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS THANKED** — Artwork created by students at each of the schools was featured as School Board members were honored for statewide School Board Recognition Week 2018. Principals and art teachers accompanied the contributing students as their art techniques were explained and their talents commended. The featured artists were: Raelynn Cory, Gia Massucci, Armor Elementary; Thomas Zawada, Ryan Yager, Boston Valley Elementary; Heather Wall, Christina Dixon, Charlotte Avenue Elementary; Viera Sentman, Garrett Herman, Union Pleasant Elementary; Samantha Engel, Lily Darling, Middle School; Sydney Gartley, Dakota Reynolds, Madelyn Kruszka, High School. Each board member selected a copy of one of the artworks; the remaining pieces will be displayed in the Administration Building conference room. Superintendent Michael Cornell thanked board members for their efforts on behalf of children in what is sometimes a difficult job.

- **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** — Mr. Cornell discussed results of a Prevention Needs Assessment Survey administered last year to Hamburg's 8th, 10th and 12th graders. The survey measured student behaviors and attitudes, as well as risk and protective factors, as they relate to substance use. The results were recently interpreted and presented to school administrators by representatives of WNY United Against Drug & Alcohol Abuse. In general, the survey found that Hamburg students engage in less alcohol and drug use than the national norm. It also pointed to a need for more recognition of students for pro-social involvement.

- **MENTAL HEALTH GUEST SPEAKER** — Approval was given to an agreement that will bring speaker Kevin Hines, a suicide survivor, to Hamburg for presentations to students, staff and the community in March. This is part of the district's ongoing efforts to raise awareness of mental health issues.

- **PERSONNEL** — The board accepted the retirements of Judith Shaughnessy, special education teacher, SS. Peter & Paul, effective Jan. 1, 2019, with 21 years of service and Barbara Wagner, registered professional school nurse, High School, effective June 30, 2019, with 27 years of service. The following appointments were approved: Jessica Evans, physical education/health teacher, Middle School; Susan Nagele, cleaner part-time, Union Pleasant Elementary; Tina Ellis, senior account clerk, Accounting Office, Administration Building; Marlena Stefaniak, cafeteria monitor part-time, Armor Elementary.

- **PUBLIC COMMENT** — Candy Ditkowski, HC PTSA Vice President, commended the district for being in the forefront in matters concerning school safety and pledged the organization's continued support on the issue.

- **FUTURE MEETINGS** — Tuesday, Dec. 11 in the Middle School LMC & Tuesday, Jan. 8 in the Union Pleasant Elementary Adult Learning Center, both at 6:30 p.m.

Michael Cornell, Superintendent
Nov. 14, 2018
