



Board Briefings

ITEMS FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD'S AUG. 11 MEETING *(conducted remotely via Webex)*

- **DISTRICT SAFETY HEARING** — The district will still have to meet requirements for emergency drills (fire, shelter in place, lockdown, bus) this school year despite starting in the hybrid learning model, with students being on-campus/off-campus on certain days. This may mean conducting additional drills to ensure that each cohort of students receives the required training, said Assistant Superintendent Barbara Sporyz, as she presented details of the 2020-21 District Safety Plan. Drills will be conducted in a manner to minimize risk of infection. Given current circumstances, there will be no relocation drills.
- **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** — The district is fully on track to open school on Sept. 10 under the hybrid learning model, reported Superintendent Michael Cornell. A high level of collaboration and constant dialogue between many stakeholders is making this possible. Much remains to be done before school starts, including developing what hybrid instruction and 100% online learning will look like. The district anticipates notifying parents by early next week about which cohort their student is in. On the issue of technology, the district will provide each Grades 3-12 student with a Chromebook. PreK-Grade 2 students may request an iPad to use. Google Classroom and Seesaw will be the instructional apps, depending on grade level. Detailed procedures for cleaning and sanitizing are in place so that students and staff members can feel safe returning to campus. Protocols for responding to a student or staff member who has Covid-19 symptoms during the school day have been determined. Specifics on testing, tracing and notifications have been worked out in conjunction with the Erie County Health Department. This information will be posted on the district website by Aug. 15.
- **PTSA PARENT FORUMS** — The Hamburg Central PTSA will host three virtual parent forums to discuss the reopening of schools. These online forums will be on Wednesday, Aug. 19 at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Thursday, Aug. 20 at noon. Parents must pre-register for the forum of their choice to receive a Zoom link to participate. Questions for the forum must also be submitted beforehand. Further information on participating is available on the district website.
- **2020-21 TAX LEVY** — The 2020-21 tax levy of \$38.6 million was approved, establishing tax rates as follows: Hamburg, \$38.95 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation; Eden, \$32.70; Boston, \$22.22; Orchard Park, \$37.27.
- **FOOD SERVICE CONTRACT** — The board approved a four-year contract with the 22-member Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Food Service bargaining unit. Wage increases of 2.5%, 2.5%, 3% and 2.5% are provided in each year of the pact, July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024. The agreement also addresses changes in annual evaluation, snow days and attendance at Superintendent Conference Days.
- **PERSONNEL** — The board accepted the following retirements: Kathleen Webster, teacher, Union Pleasant Elementary, 15 years of service, effective Jan. 29, 2021; Marlene Zawierucha, cleaner, Middle School, 21 years of service, effective July 31, 2020.
- **PUBLIC COMMENT** — Questions received via email concerning the reopening of school were acknowledged and will be responded to individually.
- **NEXT MEETING** — Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Administration Building

Michael Cornell, Superintendent
Aug. 12, 2020