



Board Briefings

ITEMS FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD'S APRIL 13 MEETING *(conducted in-person & remotely via Webex)*

- **2021-22 BUDGET** — An increase in foundation aid from the state and an infusion of federal funds are combining to put the district in a good position as next year's budget is developed. Assistant Superintendent Barbara Sporyz said the foundation aid increase of \$543,519 is the largest in a long time. Additionally, federal relief funding will flow in full to schools instead of being absorbed by the state. School officials are awaiting details about any restrictions on use of the federal relief funding. Given the favorable developments, the tentative 2021-22 budget is projected at \$77,650,250, a 2.8% increase from the current year. It calls for raising an additional \$851,806 through the property tax levy, a 2.2% hike. The board is scheduled to adopt the budget at its meeting on Tuesday, April 20. The public budget vote is on Tuesday, May 18. In-person voting is returning this year. Last year, it was fully by absentee ballot due to the pandemic. Those who prefer not to vote in-person due to COVID concerns can request an absentee ballot.
- **CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE** — The scope of work to be included in the first phase of a capital project continues to be refined, taking into account health and safety items identified in the building condition survey and construction to benefit program. There will be discussion at a Capital Project Committee meeting on Wednesday, May 5 and School Board work session on Tuesday, May 11. A recommended total for Phase 1 work is expected to be presented to the board for approval on Tuesday, June 8.
- **TECHNICAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTEES** — Superintendent Michael Cornell commended the 19 Hamburg High School seniors inducted into the Erie 1 BOCES chapter of the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS). The honorees are: Brooke Andolino, Ryan Bacon, Tate Barber, Jaiden Barnes, Riley Branning, Kaden Byrd, Tyler Divine, Devin Fokin, Angelo Gangemi, Logan Gunderman, Gary Harkiewicz, Lillian Hart, Victoria Kasprzak, Meghan Kazmierczak, Krystal Kuwik, Lucas Linhardt, Dylan Miskell, Charissa Schultz and Leah Sweeney. In order to qualify for acceptance into NTHS, a student must be nominated by his or her teacher, have a 90 percent or higher average in their career and technical education course, and maintain an overall grade point average of 85.
- **ELEMENTARY STUDENTS RETURN TO FULL IN-PERSON LEARNING** — Mr. Cornell discussed plans to have PreK-Grade 5 students return to Monday through Friday in-person learning as of April 26. This change has become possible due to new physical distance guidance issued by the NYS Department of Health last week. Due to the community transmission rate, Middle School and High School students will continue in the hybrid model. However, as of May 5, Grades 6-12 students in Cohorts A and B will attend in-person on alternating Wednesdays. They also will be required to following their in-person bell schedule on their off-campus days, starting Monday, May 3. As required by the state, the district has updated its 2020-21 initial reopening plan to reflect distancing requirements for classroom spaces, music, physical education and food service. A virtual community meeting on the plan will be held on Thursday, April 15 from 6 - 7 p.m., in conjunction with the PTSA.
- **REVISED 2020-21 SCHOOL CALENDAR** — Friday, June 18 was added as the Juneteenth Day school holiday on this year's calendar. Also, Wednesday, June 23 will be the last day of classes for both elementary and secondary students in order to maximize secondary learning days in place of Regents Exams.
- **RETIRING** — The board accepted the following retirements, effective July 1: Christine Bosinski, science teacher, High School, 36 years of service; Mary Ann Dates, science teacher, Middle School, 34 years; Roseline Dufresne, art teacher, Boston Valley/Charlotte Avenue Elementary, 35 years; Mary Lynn Gallagher, health teacher, Boston Valley Elementary, 29 years; Cheryl Langendorfer, teacher, Charlotte Avenue Elementary, 29 years; Leeann Miller, AIS reading teacher, 36 years; Lewis Nanna, AIS reading teacher, Union Pleasant Elementary, 28 years; Rachel Sayadoff, teacher, Boston Valley Elementary, 31 years. And, retiring effective Jan. 31, 2022, Bethann Cheney, senior clerk typist, Armor Elementary, 33 years.
- **PERSONNEL** — Appointed to the staff were Melissa Brady, districtwide cleaner, and Bonnie Nowinski, cafeteria monitor, Boston Valley Elementary.

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• **HAMBURG ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL CONTRACT** — The board approved a new three-year contract with the Hamburg Administrative Council, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. This bargaining unit represents 11 administrators. The pact provides wage increases of 3%, 2.5% and 2.5% per year. The board also approved offering a retirement incentive to eligible HAC members. It offers options pertaining to health insurance and employer contributions to 105(h) medical reimbursement and 403(b) retirement savings accounts.

• **NEXT MEETING** — Tuesday, April 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Michael Cornell, Superintendent
April 14, 2021