



Board Briefings

ITEMS FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD'S OCTOBER 11 MEETING

- **SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION WEEK** — Superintendent Michael Cornell presented each board member with artwork created by students in the district to honor School Board Recognition Week.
- **FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT** — Sara Dayton of Lumsden & McCormick, the district's external auditor, said that a "clean" opinion was rendered, the best possible outcome, after a review of district financial statements from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022. This indicates that financial statements were fairly presented and materially accurate in accordance with general accounting standards. Additionally, the auditor's management letter indicated no material weaknesses in the district's internal controls and compliance.
- **BOARD REPORTS** — Board members highlighted several recent events they attended including the BOCES school safety seminar at Resurgence, Hamburg-Fredonia anniversary celebration at Hamburg Brewing, ECSB student leader dinner, AOF kickoff, Jr. Chef Challenge, and the Free Hugs presentations. The Counseling Plan Advisory Committee met with student government to discuss how to get all high school students involved and feel included in the school community. The group also congratulated the Charlotte Avenue School PTSA on a successful Fun Run. They raised a total of \$28,606.05. The board also discussed electric buses being introduced slowly in New York State and the challenges the state-imposed shift to an all-electric fleet by 2035 could present,
- **RESOLUTIONS** — The board agreed to vote “no” on a NYS resolution proposing school board members receive a stipend for their work. They agreed it’s a slippery slope and could attract people for the wrong reasons.
- **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** — Mr. Cornell shared information about a new county group that will start meeting November 2 to discuss how to make it easier for children and families to receive services to support their mental health. He explained there can be a gap between the county, contractors of these services, and school districts, and they are trying to close that gap. Mr. Cornell also spoke about Free Hugs, saying he spent a lot of time with Ken throughout the day and he kept reiterating how impressed he was with the culture we’ve built in Hamburg. Mr. Cornell also apologized to parents for some bus delays and assured everyone the district is working to fix this problem and hire drivers and get kids home sooner after the school day ends.
- **APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS** — The board approved four extended field trips including an HS music trip to Buffalo’s sister city Kanazawa, Japan in May-June 2023, HS athletic trip to Myrtle Beach in April 2023, HS athletic trip to Rochester in January 2023, and HS chorus trip to New York City to perform at Carnegie Hall. The trips include a total of 125 parent volunteers. The board also approved the auditor’s report and a facility agreement with Kleinhan’s Music Hall for graduation. The ceremony will be held Wednesday, June 21.
- **PUBLIC EXPRESSION** — Several community members spoke on the topic of preserving school-based book choices for students. One spoke about wanting information about the creators of student surveys.
- **NEXT MEETING** — Tuesday, November 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Hamburg Middle School

Michael Cornell, Superintendent
October 11, 2022