



Board Briefings

ITEMS FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD'S DECEMBER 12 MEETING

- **BOARD REPORTS** — Student representative Abby Nikiel said Student Government ordered food for the high school support staff for Support Staff Appreciation day and they are deciding on date for winter formal to bring the school back together after the holidays and ticket sales will go towards Bald for Bucks. Mr. Dave Yoviene reported the Parent Child Connection has raffle tickets available to win a gift card basket. Mr. Tom Flynn said the board visit to Charlotte Avenue went well and gives the board the ability to see what really happens day-to-day in our schools. He also attended the high school orchestra and chorus concerts and and the NYSSMA concert in Fredonia. Mr. Mike McGarry also enjoyed the Charlotte Avenue visit and was particularly impressed with the reading program. He also said 20+ alumni played in an alumni flag football game after Thanksgiving. Lastly, Mr. Rich Schneider said the next safety meeting is in January and agreed the school visits have been enjoyable.
- **BUILDING REPORT** — Principal Tom Riddoch led a presentation about Armor Elementary School and the meeting was held in the cafeteria. He invited several 5th graders to join him to talk about the different “5th grade helpers” positions they hold. Students talked about their roles which include safety patrol, announcements, recycling, kindergarten helpers, and character club. Mr. Riddoch wrapped up the presentation with a video showcasing how PK-5 students feel joy, value, and connection at school.
- **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** — Superintendent Mr. Michael Cornell reminded everyone an email will be sent out informing parents of three things - the first day of break week is Friday, December 22 and the district will be upgrading it's network. Therefore, students will not have access to their district email and programs. Secondly, January 26 will now be a half day for elementary students, and thirdly, look for a request for parents to complete the Digital Equity Survey on Operoo. Mr. Cornell also gave an update about the Blue Ribbon Commission from NYS, which will eventually implement graduation changes. He said this will give school districts flexibility with Regent exams and the ability to utilize performance exams in some cases. Mr. Cornell also said he attended one of the middle school concerts and commended our teachers for their effective instruction which is crucial in making these programs successful.
- **CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE** — Christian Meara from Turner Construction said the team is hoping to receive SED approval for Phase 2 in mid-February followed by a tentative date for bid day on April 2. He said the batting cages are going up in next 30 days, and the next major deliveries will be poles for baseball and softball fields. This month, the dugout was installed and the Howe Field sign started being refurbished. The sign will be placed at the field entrance and a new Fisher Athletic Complex sign will be added at the entrance to the full complex. He said we are in a good place heading into early spring.
- **APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS** — The board approved all items including a high school art field trip trip to Boston, Massachusetts in June, a high school student athlete field trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in March/April, and a high school wrestling trip to Falconer High School in January.
- **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL ITEMS** — The board approved all items including this month’s budget transfers.
- **APPROVAL OF ACTION ITEMS** — The board approved all items including a reimbursement of \$873.92 for medical expenses related to injuries sustained by a student during school activities, an MOA with the Hamburg Teachers Association regarding a retirement incentive, and an updated 2023-24 calendar, which reflects the half day for elementary students on January 26.
- **NEXT MEETING** — Tuesday, January 9 at 6:30 p.m. at Hamburg High School

Michael Cornell, Superintendent
December 13, 2023