



Board Briefings

ITEMS FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD'S APRIL 9 MEETING

- **BUDGET WORK SESSION** — Business Official Christine Ljungberg gave a presentation about the budget. She said there is no state budget yet, we are hoping to get it by next week. She said Hamburg’s state aid ratios dropped in all four categories. Mrs. Ljungberg said the district still has a budget shortfall of \$594,571. The budget hearing will be held May 14, 2024. Mrs. Ljungberg and Superintendent Michael Cornell answered some board member questions, including one regarding transportation costs compared to other districts. Mr. Cornell said we spend less on transportation than our neighboring districts. He also answered a question about our administrator to student ratio, sharing we have one adminsitator per every 210 students, which is on the lower end compared to other WNY districts
- **BOARD REPORTS** — Student representative Abby Nikiel said the next student government would be happening Wednesday and they would be voting on new officers. The student government also plans to put something together to show support for the teachers. Laura Heeter attended the SMART Schools Collaborative, a regional mental initiative which Mr. Cornell helped create and now helps lead. She was proud to represent Hamburg, and mentioned that some of our mental health staff and administrators have trained other districts in Youth Mental Health First Aid. She said there is a Special Ed Process 101 meeting on April 24 at 6:30pm at Union Pleasant, which is being put on by the Parent Child Connection. Dave Yoviene said the next transportation committee meeting is coming up on April 23 and a PTSA meeting next week. He mentioned upcoming events at all buildings, including Girls and Boys on the Run and high school prom. He commended Charlotte Avenue on their successful STEAM Day and the Middle School and Megan Molbert on another successful Family Reading Night. He also said Mrs. Molbert was awarded the NYS Innovative Teacher Grant. Cam Hall said the transportation committee has met a few times in the past month, discussing a variety of topics. He also said the IDA is exploring new opportunities including helping out with AOF graduation. Mike McGarry attended Family Reading Night which was super busy and a great event. He encouraged everyone to come out and support the girls flag football team at their upcoming games. Rich Schneider said there is a safety committee meeting end of May.
- **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** — Mr. Cornell said due to the upcoming Luke Combs concert on Friday, April 19, we will be dismissing all students 20 minutes early. Communication will be sent out to families later in the week. Mr. Cornell attended a flag football game at Amherst before break, STEAM Day at Charlotte, and visited Lynn Sajdak’s students while they were working with Mazurek’s Bakery at the Broadway Market. He also mentioned Boston Valley read a book called A Boy Called Bat for the Pick A Reading Partner program. The book is about a boy with autism and has lessons about acceptance. They read this ahead of National Autism Awareness Month, which is in April.
- **CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE** — The construction team said the baseball turf, dugouts, and safety netting are complete. The refurbished Howe Field sign went back up, concrete was poured, and Phase 1 is set for substantial completion on April 15, weather dependent. Phase 2 awards for the Gordion contracts are going out next week, The general contractor bids went out this week, and construction will start in early May to get going fully in June. Phase 1 total costs have come down to \$16.15 million, the projection for Phase 2 is \$29.4 million, and \$23 million is projected to remain for Phase 3.
- **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AND FINANCIAL ITEMS** —All items were approved.
- **APPROVAL OF ACTION ITEMS** —All items were approved including the 2024-25 calendar.
- **PUBLIC EXPRESSION** — 13 students, parents, and staff spoke about the 2024-25 budget.
- **NEXT MEETING** — Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at Hamburg Middle School

Michael Cornell, Superintendent
April 12, 2024