

CONSIDERED DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AT THE 3/18/24 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Marion Central School District
Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2024 ~ 6:00 PM
Marion Jr-Sr High School Library
Hampton Inn & Suites, 55 Eagle Street, Albany, NY 12207

A. Opening

1. Call to Order: Mr. Marshall called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

Board Members Present: M. Kuelling, R. Marshall, J. Monroe, J. Reesor (6:04p) and A. Taber

Administrators Present: S. Dehn, K. Kellerhouse (Admin Intern), Ä. Harasimowicz, E. Lloyd (via zoom), N. Miller, C. Steiner, R. Walker, and D. Wise

Guests: Guest Register

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. Kuelling, and unanimously carried by Board members present the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Educational Law, approves the agenda of March 4, 2024 with the addition under Consent Agenda of item #13 Accept resignation of Cara Carr, LPN at Marion Jr-Sr High School, effective March 15, 2024. (FY 23/24 March #1) 4-0-0

B. Community Comments on Agenda Items - No comments were made.**C. Tenure Appointment**

Motion by Mrs. Kuelling, seconded by Mr. Reesor, and unanimously carried by Board members present the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, the Board of Education approves the tenure appointment of **Stephanie Wheeler** ~ Special Subject Area ~ Special Education, effective March 14, 2024. (FY 23/24 March #1) 5-0-0

D. Presentation

Mrs. Steiner, Mrs. Harasimowicz and Mr. Dehn, presented to the Board the progress that has been made on each of the 2023-24 building goals during the first half of the school year giving examples for each. They also shared for each of the building goals, what their action plans were for the remainder of the school year in an effort to reach each goal.

E. Board of Education Reports & Discussion

Ms. Taber reported that the Board Instagram page is a work in progress, stating that she doesn't do a lot on social media, so she has been familiarizing herself with Instagram and will soon have a page set up for the Board. Mrs. Kuelling reported that they had submitted an article for the recent Black Knight Banner which was one of their goals for this year. Mr. Marshall reported on the budget forum stating that there was a decent turnout and they received good feedback. He also shared that he looked into streaming future forums, and found that the reason we did not is due to lack of proper equipment when using a larger venue such as the auditorium, sharing that the equipment used for the board meeting held in the auditorium was borrowed.

F. Student Representative Report - No report was made.**G. Superintendent Report**

Dr. Lloyd joined the board meeting via Zoom as she was attending the NYSCOSS conference in Albany, NY, where she will, in addition to the various sessions she will attend, be meet with legislators and senators regarding budget advocacy for our district. She then continued regarding advocacy to report that the Democrat and Chronicle visited on February 15th to learn about our programming, specifically the things that are unique to Marion and how the budget cuts can affect a small district like ours versus a larger city district. This will be part of a regional article and so we'll see when the article comes out and thanked Mr. Bradley for helping to facilitate the visit. Dr. Lloyd then shared that the district was visited by the secretary, treasurer of NYSUT (New York State United Teachers) which was arranged by Mr. Herlan; NYSUT was looking for districts to highlight in their budget advocacy; he toured both buildings and met with the MTA leadership and the administrators to discuss the impact to the district if foundation aid is cut. She then shared more details regarding the positions that have been impacted by the ending of the COVID state aid, sharing that the people have been notified and the board will be taking action at the next meeting to abolish these positions for the 2024-25 school year. Dr. Lloyd gave a summary of the positions impacted for each area (MTA 16.5, 3 were unfilled, CSEA 11, 4 were unfilled, Administration 1 and Non-Union 2), which is a lot and will have an impact on our students and our

district. She also shared that they also looked at the teacher to student ratios for both buildings because it is important to continue to provide a high quality of education for our students. She shared what the ratio is currently and for next school year and then compared those to the 18/19 school year for both buildings. Lastly she reported on Marion hosting Elementary All-County Band and Chorus, stating that Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Steiner would talk more about that during their reports.

Certify APPR Evaluator

Motion by Mrs. Kuelling, seconded by Ms. Taber, and unanimously carried by Board members present the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, the Board of Education approves the resolution for the certification of APPR Lead Evaluator as presented. (FY 23/24 March #1) 5-0-0

H. School Business Administrator Report

Mr. Walker gave an update on the 24-25 budget planning. He stated that for the last few years expenditures have outpaced revenue with our state aid increasing 0-3% and the tax levy capped at 2% and salaries and insurance, to name a few, are increasing more than that. He then shared that we won't likely know about foundation aid until after we have the Board approve our budget, as a result there will need to be a lot of assumptions made during the planning of the budget. Lastly, he shared that the only significant change to the financial report was a \$270,000 decrease on the expenditure side from debt service excess.

Financial Report

Motion by Ms. Taber, seconded by Mr. Monroe, and unanimously carried by Board members present the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Educational Law, approves the Financial Report as presented.

I. Administrators' Reports

Mrs. Miller reported that the spring professional learning plans have been rolled out and focus on AI (Artificial Intelligence) and the Science of Reading, as well as the second part of Teacher Clarity. Next, she spoke about the audit of Tier I reading program with respect to how well it is aligned with the science of reading and the audit showed we are doing a lot of things well, but there is always room for improvement. She also shared that summer work planning has started, the priorities, balance how to best use the funds that we have. Mrs. Miller mentioned that she had the opportunity to stand in for Dr. Lloyd and do the welcome for Elementary All-County Band and Chorus concert and shared that they had a wonderful turn out, standing room only and the students did a great job. Lastly, she shared that next week is Civic Learning Week nationally, but also here in district and there will be activities for students and their families to engage in.

Mrs. Harasimowicz explained March madness with different grades being teamed up and sending out encouraging Knight Notes. She shared that the elementary kiddos will be heading to the Jr-Sr High on Thursday for the musical preview. Lastly, Mrs. H spoke about collaborating with teachers and counselors with regard to 6th graders who would benefit from getting more exposure to the Jr-Sr High in an effort to make their transition to middle school less stressful.

Mrs. Steiner reported on the MES All-County Band/Chorus concert being an amazing event and gave kudos to all who played a part in making it happen. She then shared that they were celebrating Reading Across America, having theme days, noting hers and Mrs. H's shirts with words. Lastly, she reported on PTO activities, including the 500 (plastic) frogs that they hid around the building which the kiddos thoroughly enjoyed and a corn hole/hoola hoop event for 5th and 6th graders that was a great time.

Mr. Dehn reported that most winter sports are done, girls modified basketball is wrapping up and congratulated individual sectional champions, Oren and Ethan Welch. He then mentioned that the musical is this weekend, tickets are still on sale if you haven't gotten them and that, for the first time, they will have an ASL interpreter during the matinee on Saturday. Lastly, Mr. Dehn mentioned that the staff basketball game was great and that the some members of FFA attended a competition over break and did well.

Mr. Kellerhouse reported that he is updating users for Ed-Data which is used for submitting requisitions for supplies for the next school year.

Mr. Wise shared that he and his team have started rolling out Windows 11 on teacher laptops, along with the reasoning behind the roll out, and it is going better than he anticipated. He then reported that the wireless project went through a bid process because e-rate can come into play due to it being a wireless device, and as a result it looks like erate will compensate 50% of the devices. Lastly, he stated that they are rolling out Datamate system for teachers which mirrors the computer-based state testing platform so that students can be familiar with how it will look when the time comes.

J. Policy Review

1. The board discussed and held the first reading of Policies 1410-1730, 2110-2340, 5574, 7530.
2. The board discussed and held the second reading of Policies 0001, 0002, 0003, 1110-1338.
Motion by Mr. Reesor, seconded by Mrs. Kuelling, and unanimously carried by Board members present the following resolution: Be it resolved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves Policies 0001, 0002, 0003, 1110-1338, 6190 as presented. (FY 23/24 March #1) 5-0-0

K. Consent Agenda Items

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
Motion by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mrs. Kuelling, and unanimously carried by Board members present the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Educational Law, approves the consent agenda items K2 - K13 as presented. 5-0-0
2. Meeting Minutes 2-12-24
Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves the meeting minutes of the February 12, 2024 regular board of education meeting as presented. (FY 23/24 March #1)
3. Treasurers/Warrants Reports
Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves the Treasurer's and Warrants reports as presented. (FY 23/24 March #1)
4. CSE/CPSE Recommendations
Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves the CSE/CPSE recommendations regarding student placement as presented. (FY 23/24 March #1)
5. Internal Claims Auditor Reports
Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves the Internal Claims Auditor reports as presented. (FY 23/24 March #1)
6. Accept Resignation (M. McGreevy)
Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, accepts the resignation of **Michael McGreevy** as a 5-hour Food Service Helper and a 3-hour evening cleaner at Marion Jr-Sr High School. (FY 23/24 March #1)
7. Appoint Universal Aide (M. McGreevy)
Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves the appointment of **Michael McGreevy** as a Universal Aide at Marion Jr-Sr High School, effective March 5, 2024, rate: \$15.25/hr, 12-month employee. (FY 23/24 March #1)
8. Appoint Part-time cleaner (B. Taber)
Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves the appointment of **Beth Taber** as a part-time cleaner at Marion Jr-Sr High School, effective March 5, 2024, rate: \$15.70/hr + 5% shift differential. (FY 23/24 March #1)
9. Appoint Part-time cleaner (N. Bauer)
Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves the appointment of **Natalie Bauer** as a part-time cleaner at Marion Jr-Sr High School, effective March 5, 2024, rate: \$15.70/hr + 5% shift differential. (FY 23/24 March #1)
10. Abolish 3-hr Evening Cleaner Position
Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves the abolishment of the 3-hr evening cleaner position at Marion Jr-Sr High School, effective March 5, 2024. (FY 23/24 March #1)
11. Non-Certified Substitute (J. Howard)
Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves the appointment of **Jessica Howard** as a non-certified, substitute

teacher, teacher assistant, teacher/classroom aide, and cafeteria/recess monitor for Marion Central School District, fingerprint clearance on file. (FY 23/24 March #1)

12. Appoint Substitute School Bus Monitor (C. Caramanna)

Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves the appointment of **Christopher Caramanna** as a Substitute School Bus Monitor and Bus Driver in Training for Marion Central School District, effective March 5, 2024, fingerprint clearance on file. (FY 23/24 March #1)

13. Accept Resignation (C. Carr)

Resolved, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, accepts the resignation of **Cara Carr** as a LPN at Marion Jr-Sr High School, attendance office, effective end of day March 15, 2024. (FY 23/24 March #1)

L. Community Comments - No comments were made.

M. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Taber, seconded by Mr. Reesor, and unanimously carried by Board members present, the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the adjournment of its March 4, 2024 meeting at 7:16 p.m. (FY 23/24 March #1) 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Nadine A Mitchell
District Clerk