

**SCHROON LAKE CENTRAL SCHOOL  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2020**

**7:00 PM Town Pavilion**

**Wear masks if not socially distanced and bring your own chair  
Maximum of 50 people**

**This meeting will not be live streamed but will be available later on Facebook**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bruce Murdock  
Kevin Kelly  
Susan Repko  
Ashley Barry  
Jared Whitley

**BOARD CLERK**

Lisa DeZalia

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Stephen Gratto  
Tamara Belanger  
Lee Silvernail & Sarah Silvernail  
David, Rachel & Isiah Pelkey  
Sharon, Riley & Carly Smith  
Amber & Brittany Mieras  
Danielle Fosella  
Jeff Cutting      Laura Corey  
Anita Masiello      Mike Sharp  
Mike Tracy      Jeanette Weber  
Wendy Sargent      Mat Riddle  
Melissa Whitley      Julie Dunkley  
Sarah Behm      Beth Root  
Brett Bernhard      Tabitha Gillings  
Monique Wicks      Natalie Royer-Loiselle  
Marylou Shaughnessy  
Rick Gero      Rick Dumolin  
Kayli Hayden      Ken Hayden  
Gabby DeZalia      Glen Repko  
Craig & Heather Maisonville  
Anna Maisonville      Emma Haneman

**MEETING  
TO ORDER**

President Bruce Murdock called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Those present pledged allegiance to the flag.

**PREVIOUS  
MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Jared Whitley to accept minutes of August 27, 2020 as presented  
All Board Members voted Yes-5 No- 0 motion carried.

**PREVIOUS  
MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Susan Repko to accept minutes of September 17, 2020 as presented  
All Board Members voted Yes -5 No- 0 motion carried.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** Laura Corey spoke on behalf of the SLTA, they would like to thank the Board on the original decision to allow teachers to enforce the mask policy that ultimately keeps our students, staff and families safe. A combination of mask wearing and social distancing are best practices for transmission prevention. Student safety is the main goal and we must not lose sight of that goal. If we want to increase our chances of keeping our school open and in person this in not the time to relax the mask policy. Please continue to allow teachers to enforce the current mask policy. Anita Masiello also spoke on behalf of the SLTA regarding the 2:00 pm release time for in person learners. This release time allows teachers to differentiate instruction and provide an equitable education for all the students of SLCS. It is vital that this remains in place to allow continued support to our remote learners. Laura Corey followed up by saying that it is important to support best practices and any changes to this program would have major educational impacts. Mary Gereau thanked the Board and Mr. Gratto for the support of the Girls Varsity program. They are very heartbroken in their house tonight.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** A motion was made by Susan Repko, second by Jared Whitley to accept the Treasurer's Report dated 9/18/2020.  
All Board Members voted Yes-5 No- 0 motion carried

**CERTIFICATION OF WARRANT** A motion was made by Kevin Kelly, second by Jared Whitley to approve the extra curricular report for dated 9/18/20 as presented.  
All Board Members voted Yes- 5 No- 0 motion carried

**EXTRA CURRICULAR REPORT** A motion was made by Susan Repko, second by Ashley Barry to approve the July extra curricular report dated 8/30/20 as presented.  
All Board Members voted Yes- 5 No- 0 motion carried

**SUPT REPORT** Mrs. Fosella gave an update on the stair replacement project. They are waiting on the stone pillars to arrive. This is slated for the second week of October.  
Mr. Silvernail gave an update on the sports program. Girls Varsity had started Practice. However with low numbers and a few other circumstances it has been decided to not move forward with the soccer program at this time. The team will continue to work on skill building with the goal of playing in the spring. Both modified teams had low numbers at this time and will also go ahead with skill building. He pointed out that this decision is based on soccer and the current situation. In no way does this mean future sports are at risk. It will depend on circumstances at that time.

**BOE RESCINDS MOTION** A motion was made Susan Repko, second by Ashley Barry to rescind the motion made on June 25, 2020 to appoint Marylou Shaughnessy as the Girls Varsity soccer coach for the 2020 season.  
All Board members voted Yes- 5 No-0 motion carried

**SUPT  
REPORT  
CONT**            The five week mark will be on October 9<sup>th</sup> and at this time remote learners can decide if they would like to come back to in person learning. A letter has been sent to parents with a deadline of October 2, 2020 to let the district know if they would like to switch. Enrollment is down slightly with 165 in person learners, 40 remote students and 28 students that have gone to homeschool.

**CSE/ CPSE  
504 RECS  
APPROVED**      A motion was made by Kevin Kelly, second by Susan Repko to approve the CSE/CPSE and 504 recommendations for #10052, 10496 & 10768, 20116 10630 as presented.  
All Board members voted Yes- 5 No-0 motion carried

**BOE  
APPOINTS  
ACCOMPANIST**    Upon the recommendation of Supt. Gratto, a motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Jared Whitley to appoint Tony Kostecki as a choral accompanist the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Kostecki will be compensated \$30.00 per hour.  
All Board members voted – Yes- 5 No-0 motion carried

**EXTRA  
CURRICULAR  
RESIGNATION**    Upon the recommendation of Supt. Gratto, a motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Susan Repko to accept the resignation of Natalie Royer-Loiselle as the extra curricular treasurer for the 2020-2021 school year.  
All Board members voted Yes- 5 No-0 motion carried

**RETENTION  
SCHEDULE  
APPROVED**      Resolved, by the Board of Education of the Schroon Lake Central School District that the Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government records issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed herein.  
Motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Kevin Kelly  
All Board members voted Yes- 5 No-0 motion carried

**TENURE            PROPOSED RESOLUTION REGARDING TENURE**

Motion was made by Susan Repko, second by Ashley Barry  
"RESOLVED, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3013 of Board of Education Law and Part 30.3 of the rules the Board of Regents and upon the recommendation of Superintendent Gratto, that Brett Bernhard, a probationary teacher having been appointed to the position of Technology teacher by resolution of this Board dated September 24, 2020 be appointed to position of teacher in the Technology tenure area. It having been shown that Mr. Bernhard holds a valid New York State Certificate to teach in the foresaid tenure area and it further having been shown that the probationary period of Brett Bernhard to teach in this district will expire on June 30, 2023

All members voted    Yes- 5            No-0            Motion passed

**TENURE      PROPOSED RESOLUTION REGARDING TENURE**

Motion was made by Susan Repko, second by Ashley Barry "RESOLVED, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3013 of Board of Education Law and Part 30.3 of the rules the Board of Regents and upon the recommendation of Superintendent Gratto, that Melissa Whitley a probationary teaching assistant having been appointed to the position of assistant teacher by resolution of this Board dated June 21, 2018. It having been shown that Mrs. Whitley holds a valid New York State Teaching Assistant Certificate and it further having been shown that the probationary period of Melissa Whitley will expire on June 30, 2022

All members voted    Yes-4    No-0    Abstain 1- (Jared Whitley)      Motion passed

**BOE  
APPOINTS  
MENTOR**

Upon the recommendation of Supt. Gratto, a motion was made by Jared Whitley, second by Ashley Barry to appoint Julie Dunkley as a teacher mentor to Tabitha Gillings for the 2020-2021 school year. Mrs. Dunkley will be compensated \$1500.00.

All Board members voted Yes-5    No-0    motion carried

**SUPPLEMENTAL  
AGREEMENT  
APPROVED**

A motion was made by Jared Whitley, second by Ashley Barry to approve the supplemental agreement between the Board and the SLTA dated September 24, 2020 as presented. This agreement shall terminate on June 30, 2021 or earlier if mutually agreed upon by both parties.

All Board members voted Yes- 5    No -0    motion carried

**MASK  
POLICY  
DISCUSSION**

Parents have expressed concern regarding the mask policy and feel it is more than what is required of the CDC guidelines. Students are doing a great job with mask wearing and Mr. Gratto believes the mask policy is effective. He will not recommend any changes at this time and it will still be at the discretion of the teacher with a mask break at the beginning and end of each period. As well as a minute in the middle. There have been some complaints by parents that mask breaks are not being given. This has been addressed with the faculty. Ms. Corey stated that the SLTA thanks the Board for the discretion regarding masks. Bottom line is we are glad to have our students back and in order to assure we can continue in person learning we must continue to wear masks as well as social distance. No one wants students to be miserable but it is important to keep everyone safe.

**PUBLIC  
PARTICIPATION**

Heather Maisonville asked if the CDC Guidelines had changed as it is her belief it is recommended that mask be worn if social distancing is not possible. There should be some kind of variance for classes that only have four or five kids. It is obvious that these small classes would be able to social distance. Are other schools in the area breaking CDC guidelines? Mr. Whitley stated that he read the CDC guidelines had added masks and social distancing should be considered

when possible. Mr. Maisonville would like to see where that is written.

Mr. Pelkey stated he has kids from all age groups and the mask policy seems to depend on what class you are in. He said he teaches his kids to respect authority but it is difficult to ask them to do that when the rules don't make sense. He urged Mr. Gratto or any Board member to ask kids when there is not a teacher around how their day is going as he has heard many concerning stories.

Rick Dumolin stated that the state guidelines say we do not need a mask if six feet away but we are following the most strict guidelines. Mr. Murdock said it all comes down to safety. If necessary you can go to your child's doctor and get a note to exclude a child from wearing a mask. Mr. Kelly mentioned that the mask protocols were put into place prior to the parents deciding if they would send their child to school, work remote or go to homeschool.

Heather Maisonville stated that a child has a right to a public education without the teachers demanding mask wearing in excess to the CDC Guidelines.

Ms. Corey stated that the SLTA is working nonstop to provide the best education possible. We truly care about our students and we are passionate about keeping them safe. Mr. Gratto asked that we refocus on the 165 students that are making it work. A difference of opinion should not become personal. A student spoke with no disrespect to the teachers to say the mask can be a distraction and difficult to wear all day.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** A motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Susan Repko to go into executive session at 8:10 pm for employment history of a particular person or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person.

All Board members Voted Yes- 5 No-0 Motion carried

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** A motion was made by Jared Whitley, second by Ashley Barry to move out of executive session at 10:40 pm.  
All Board members voted Yes -5 No-0 Motion Carried

**ADJOURNMENT** A motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Jared Whitley to adjourn at 10:40 pm.  
All Board members voted Yes – 5 No-0 Motion Carried

---

District Clerk