

**ALBION CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALBION, NEW YORK 14411
JUNE 3, 2019 SUMMARY
OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Board President, Mrs. Margy Brown, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

RECOGNITION

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT AWARDS

Kirk Ellison – Leadership
Nathaniel Scanlan – Character

FRIENDS OF EDUCATION

VFW Ladies Auxiliary
Strickland Post 4635

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda as written. Mr. Wadhams questioned a committee report and it was pointed out that it is under the old business portion of the agenda.

BOARD APPROVED

A. Public Forum

Mr. Gregg Boose addressed the Board regarding the vacant Board seat. He introduced himself to the audience and explained that he ran in the recent election and lost by 6 votes. He stated that he is still interested in serving the Board and the community. He understands that due to a resignation there is still a seat open on the Board and he asks that he be considered for that seat. He stated that he has lived in the community for many years and his son is a graduate of Albion. He stated that the School Board should fully represent the community it serves and that he can add an aspect of diversity that the Board has lacked for quite some time. He indicated that he would represent the minority community. He stated that he feels that the community spoke clearly in coming out in support of him and that he did everything required of him and received the signatures required. He reiterated that he only came up short by 6 votes. He stated that he feels that he has earned the right for consideration. He understands that the appointment is for 1 year and is only until next May and he would plan to run again next year. Mr. Boose stated that he understands that he has no experience on the School Board, but reminded each member that they also had no experience when they were initially elected. He indicated that he is a hard worker and a fast learner and feels that he will be a good addition to the Board if given a chance. Mr. Boose stated that he anxiously awaits the decision of the Board. Mr. Boose provided a copy of his written statement to members of the Board and he was thanked for his input and assured that it will be taken into consideration.

Mr. Kevin Doherty introduced himself and indicated that he is an Albion resident, graduate, former management staff of the district and a former Board member. In November the Smart School Bond Act was passed. The state borrowed 2 billion dollars for technology. He stated that adjacent districts are adjusting their plans and that some of them have been funded. He indicated that some of the numbers are significant and he detailed neighboring districts and the money that has been awarded. According to the website, Albion has not been approved nor has

their application been received. He indicated that he must assume that it has not been submitted. He stated that he recognizes that this Board swallowed the line that we cannot provide additional food service for our students. If it requires stake holder buy in there may be difficulties with the Teachers' Association right now. Whatever the reason, Mr. Doherty stated that there is no excuse for leaving money on the table when there is money available. He indicated that he is familiar with the Board routine and understands he will receive a thank you for his input and he will receive an appropriate response. He stated that during the executive session of the Board meeting last month he snapped a picture of one of the district's trash cans which states "If you can do it, why not do it". Mrs. Brown thanked Mr. Doherty for his comments and requested that there be an updated report at the July meeting to show where we are with this project. Mr. Doherty indicated that he understands that NYSED doesn't always update their website and there may be things in the works that he is unaware of.

2. APPROVAL OF BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Minutes of May 13, 2019 Regular Board Meeting

Mrs. Nesbitt questioned an opening remark under the public forum section of the May 13th Board meeting. She stated that she would like it to be corrected to note that it was not her opinion., but rather the opinion of Mrs. Brown.

Mr. Wadhams stated that he wanted to discuss the minutes of the May 13th meeting as he feels they should properly reflect what took place. Page 13 of the packet was cited; specifically the statement that reads "Mr. Wayne Wadhams asked if it would not be representing the Board President and Vice-President." He indicated that he does not understand what that was supposed to mean, but claims he did not state that. Mr. Wadhams indicated that during last month's meeting the question was raised as to why there was a cancellation of a meeting between the President and the Vice-President of the Board, the President and Vice-President of the ATA, and 2 representatives of the District Office. His question was why that meeting was cancelled. Mrs. Brown indicated it was set up to try to mediate the relationship between the ATA and district administration. She stated that it had nothing to do with the breast cancer concerns, but rather with the relationship between the ATA and administration. Mrs. Brown indicated that Mr. Keller agreed to the meeting on Thursday. On Wednesday morning, Mr. Keller notified her there was a change in the participant coming to the meeting. Mrs. Brown stated that the meeting was cancelled as the purpose was to address the relationship between the district administration and the ATA and since the participants were changed, it didn't make sense to pursue the meeting because all of the players who were part of the initial discussion would not be present.

Mr. Wadhams stated that he wants to make it clear that it was cancelled because the ATA chose to change who they were bringing to the meeting. He indicated that he would think they would have to hold the meeting because shortly after he found out the meeting was cancelled, he found out that the Board Vice-President resigned his position. Mrs. Brown reiterated that the purpose of the meeting was to mediate between administration and the ATA. The meeting was cancelled before she knew that the Board Vice-President was resigning. Mr. Wadhams requested that the minutes of the meeting be changed to reflect that the meeting was cancelled because the ATA chose to change the participants. He pointed out that after the fact the Board would have been changing their participants as well. Mrs. Brown indicated that the meeting was cancelled before Mr. LaLonde resigned.

It was noted that there are 2 corrections suggested to the Board meeting minutes of May 13, 2019. Therefore, the meeting minutes will not be approved and will be amended per this discussion. The minutes from the May 13th meeting will be pulled from the packet and only the meeting minutes of the May 21st Board meeting will be approved, along with items B-G.

BOARD DISAPPROVED

BOARD APPROVED

- B. Treasurer's Report April 2019
- C. Extra-Classroom Activity Fund Report for April 2019
- D. CSE & CPSE Recommendations
- E. Committee on Special Education Referral Information
- F. Budget Transfer Requests
- G. Building Use Requests

BOARD APPROVED

3. CORRESPONDENCE – None

4. PRESENTATIONS – None

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. NYSSBA School Board Appreciation Week

Mr. Bonnewell stated there will be member receptions in June for NYSSBA. He pointed out that information is provided in the packet and Board members can register via the website or contact the District Office to handle the registration if they so choose. The reception will provide an opportunity to meet some of the folks from NYSSBA. It was pointed out that there is a reception scheduled in Buffalo as well as Rochester.

- B. 2019-2020 District Goals

Mrs. Brown reminded the Board that they will need to come up with a plan to discuss the 2019-20 district goals. Several options were suggested and include a special meeting, adding on to the July meeting, or a Saturday morning Board session. Mrs. Sacco questioned if it needs to occur prior to the July Board meeting. Mr. Bonnewell explained that it does not, but typically they are given to the building principals in time so that as they are preparing for the coming year with their leadership, they have a direction to guide their planning. Mr. Bonnewell stated that based on past practice, we like to have goals complete before the students return to school in September. If it occurs later, the buildings are somewhat less prepared for the start of the year. Mrs. Nesbitt suggested that we start with identifying the district goals, but she would also like to do a few workshops and look at several different things. It was determined that the July 8th Board meeting will start at 6 pm to discuss district goals.

Mrs. Nesbitt indicated that she would be happy to lead a committee which could create a framework and compile feedback on academics, community and connections.

Mrs. Brown stated that she would like to have each Board member come prepared to share 3 ideas for goals at the 6 pm July meeting in order to have a framework to start with. The reorganizational meeting will begin at 7 pm and the regular Board meeting will follow. It was noted that the code of conduct hearing can be done on a different night or before 6:00 pm. It was suggested that the code of conduct could be addressed at the August meeting, but it was pointed out that if there are changes, it would be difficult to get the modified code of conduct created by the beginning of the school year. It was noted that the committee typically reviews it and takes considerations from the buildings and then shares the information with the Board. It was agreed that if it looks like there are only a few modifications, it can be tacked on to the July meeting.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Nellie Brown “Tools for “Schools” James Bowers, NYSDOH

Mr. Bonnewell referred to an email that was shared in the Board packet that he wrote to all staff regarding Mrs. Nellie Brown, industrial hygienist at the Industrial and Labor Relations School at Cornell University, who was in Albion on January 31st. The email indicated that Mrs. Nellie Brown will be returning on June 10th to provide a 3 hour classroom session which will be open to any interested personnel as well as a hands-on session on the Tools for Schools Training for a small number of participants. It was reiterated that the classroom session allows for unlimited participants, but the hands-on session will be limited to a small group. It was pointed out that Mrs. Nellie Brown can schedule another hands-on session if there is additional interest as her schedule allows. All staff received the email and there are individuals that have signed up for the June 10th hands-on portion and the names were provided in the Board packet.

Mr. Bonnewell reminded the Board that Mrs. Nellie Brown will return in the fall and will take part in an investigation, utilizing the tools from her training.

A follow-up to the March 29th meeting of association representatives is scheduled for June 6th. The group will review the purpose of Mrs. Nellie Brown’s visit (Tools for Schools Training), work to schedule Jim Bowers’ visit for the fall, and review Mrs. Nellie Brown’s investigation date on September 23rd.

Mrs. Brown asked about the last time Mrs. Nellie Brown was in the District and met with the maintenance staff. It was questioned if she left a report or any notes. It was pointed out that she did not leave a report, but there were some brief notes taken during the meeting on a chart. It was questioned if it would be possible to ask her to provide a brief statement of her findings and a summary of how the day went. It was explained by Mr. Bonnewell that we can ask her although that has not been her practice. Mr. Wadhams asked who the notes were shared with and it was explained that they were not formal notes, but just some writing used at the meeting. Mr. Wadhams asked if the notes had been saved. Mr. Vallese indicated that the notes were typed into a word document. Mr. Wadhams asked if those notes could be shared with the Board. Mr. Bonnewell stated that we can share the notes, but as an individual that was not part of the session, they will be hard to follow and are pretty sparse. Mr. Bonnewell stated that he would like to have the group have the notes from the April meeting in hand on June 10th as then the notes may make more sense as the group meets with Mrs. Nellie Brown again.

Mrs. Nesbitt questioned what the response from ATA has been and if they have been pleased. Mr. Bonnewell stated there had been no response from the ATA on this topic since the May 13th Board meeting.

Mrs. Brown stated that it would be appropriate to discuss that at the meeting on Thursday. Mrs. Nesbitt stated that there have been suggestions made to her by several teachers and community members that we should be looking at the overall wellness of the schools. She questioned if this is something that the community and ATA may want. Some programs such as yoga were suggested which could promote overall well-being and mental health. Mrs. Brown asked if the Heath Committee would like to look at this broader picture of health within our community. Mrs. Brown asked that the Committee discuss this at their meeting on Thursday and Mr. Bonnewell agreed that he would ask them to entertain the idea.

It was determined that a follow-up from Mrs. Nellie Brown from the meeting with maintenance staff will be requested, however, it will be up to Mrs. Nellie Brown to provide, as well as a summary of the meeting that will take place on Thursday.

B. Retirement Contribution Reserve Sub-Fund

Mr. Vallese indicated that as shared at the last Board meeting, we are allowed to create a sub-fund which coincides with our existing fund for TRS contributions. He described it as a vehicle to house funds for future debts. He stated that he needs to take a roll call in order to establish the TRS sub-fund. Before doing so, Mr. Vallese asked if there was any clarification that was required. Mr. Wadhams asked if it is correct that we have all the money in a larger fund and we will now create a sub-fund that we can add to now or later. It was agreed that this is the case. Mr. Vallese indicated that each year we may deposit 2% of the prior year's payroll for a total of 10% of payroll which may be in the reserve. This will be accomplished in approximately 6 years when it will be fully funded. The Comptroller has reported funding future obligations today is a good practice but has not been able to pass laws to do what the Comptroller says every municipality and school should be doing. We do agree with him, and have been given a vehicle to set aside up to 10% of TRS payroll.

Almost all entities have zero or almost zero put away at this time. The State has been trying to do this for more than 8 years per Mrs. Brown. A roll call was conducted by Mr. Vallese and each Board member present offered a "yes" vote to establish a retirement contribution reserve sub-fund.

BOARD APPROVED

C. Auditorium Lighting Bid

Vendor Name	Amount
BMI Supply	\$ 86,500.00
Illuminated Integration LLC	\$ 186,793.00
Applied Audio & Theatre Supply	\$ 211,905.00

(3 companies received bid packets, 3 responded, 1 withdrew their bid due to a calculation error)

BOARD APPROVED, upon the recommendation of School Business Official, Mr. Derek Vallese, Illuminated Integration LLC as the low responsible bidder for the Middle School Auditorium Lighting Upgrade in the amount of \$186,793.00.

D. David Pike – RPA-C Memorial Scholarship

BOARD APPROVED

E. Field Trip Request

BOARD APPROVED

F. Athletic Director Position

Moved to Executive Session

G. Vacant Board of Education Seat

Moved to Executive Session

H. Fall 2019 Field Experience Teachers & Observers

A list of 2019 fall Field Experience Placements was submitted for Board Members' information.

I. Volunteers

A list of volunteers was provided for Board Members' information.

8. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS

A. Building Principals Reports

Building Principal Reports were submitted for Board Members' information.

B. Attendance Report

The Attendance Report was submitted for Board Members' information.

C. Superintendent's Report

○ FBI Internet Safety Training

Mr. Bonnewell indicated that an FBI internet safety training has been set up for the middle school and high school on June 5th. The parent and community session still needs to be scheduled as the agent was not available the evening of June 5th.

○ Alms House Interpretive Panel Dedication

Mr. Bonnewell indicated that an interpretive panel dedication is scheduled for Alms House site on June 5th at 10 am. Board members were reminded of the work that has already been completed there and that the group has done an incredible job restoring the cemetery and honoring the individuals that are remembered there.

○ Semiannual Extracurricular Report

Mr. Bonnewell submitted the semiannual extracurricular report the Board requested administrators develop at the last meeting to the Board as a draft.

○ Tenure Transmittal Forms

Mr. Bonnewell submitted the tenure transmittal forms requested May 13th as drafts. These forms are aligned to our evaluation systems (Danielson/Teacher; Multi-Dimensional Principal Performance Rubric/Administrator).

○ Athletics

Mr. Bonnewell detailed many accomplishments by individual student athletes and athletic teams:

Track & Field:

6th Place:

4x100: Sam Sanchez, Tre Yaskulski, Ugene Harrison, Kendyll Hadick

110 High Hurdles: Tre Yaskulski

5th Place:

Discus: Ashlyn LeBaron

3rd Place:

Pole Vault: Brieonna Haines (Mr. Wadhams noted this was a school record)

Long Jump: Tre Yaskulski

2nd Place:

Discus: Nick Perry

Triple Jump: Tre Yaskulski

Baseball:

9th seed at start of BI Tournament finished 2nd Thursday

Clay Target Results:

3rd of 8 in conference

Patrick Brien 6th (50th in league, earned All-State Honor

Alex Rustay 3rd (33rd in league, earned All-State Honor

○ APPR

Mr. Bonnewell indicated that there have been changes to the APPR and that NYS has presented them to the Board of Regents. He pointed out that politicians pass or sign laws, while NYSED develops the regulations that direct schools based on laws. At this point, we are still at the politician stage. It is now in SED's hands as they will provide direction to schools. The framework for APPR that we are currently under will mostly stay in place with some minor technical changes. The APPR is a measure of both educational practice as well as a measure of student learning. Those two categories come together in a scale known as HEDI which eventually becomes the final rating for an educator. The scale assures that weighting is beneficial to the educator. If you are rated as highly effective in one area and effective in another, you are going to end up as highly effective as the system "rounds up".

Areas that remain unchanged are that we are still required to do observations and school visits. We are still required to use improvement plans and use APPR for employment-related decisions.

Some changes were reviewed. NYSED must now make the use of NYS assessments optional rather than mandatory. For us, this is a positive element. We have been using the high school Regents exam measures. When this started, we wanted to support our purpose as a district, which is to lead students through graduation. The state required exams as a measurement, rather than graduation. The best exam measurement of graduation was to use the 5 required Regents exams. We were originally barred from using those measurements for elementary and middle school students. NYSED indicated that their use was not timely. After revisions, NYSED agreed that it was acceptable to use those measures and approved our plan using those measures. The Regents are a measure that we know and are comfortable with and based on performance of our students it puts our teachers in a pretty good spot in terms of calculation. They are comfortable assessments for us to use.

Another change is the growth model that was used by the state to determine how our students had performed on assessments. The score was also used to assess teachers. This is no longer required. Mr. Bonnewell pointed out that this was the piece that led to great angst. Those will no longer be required to be used and state law says that State Ed needs to write a plan that does not include using them. It is unclear if NYSED will continue to calculate them. Mrs. Sacco asked about teachers that were rated poorly in the past. Mr. Bonnewell indicated that the state growth model was an advisory score and we had to share it, but couldn't act on it. Now it is not to be used at all. Whether it will still be calculated or not continues to be seen.

Mr. Bonnewell stated that all educators must have Student Learning Outcomes at the beginning of a course. Unlike the assessment change, this leaves him with some concerns. He questioned what the SLO will look like. In one of the versions of APPR, every single student had to have an individually developed target and examples were provided. We do not know if it is a composite measure of all the students in the class, or if it is individual by student. That is left to be decided when regulation is set by NYSED. In the course of a year, most students have 8 teachers and that is a lot of SLOs to be developed if it is individual. It was stressed that we do not yet know what the requirement will be. Mrs. Brown indicated that the child

should show growth, but the teacher does not get credit if the student doesn't pass the test. Mr. Bonnewell stated that if we had to create an SLO it was at the superintendent's sole discretion in the old version. In the new version, they must be collectively bargained. He stated that there are roughly 900 students between the middle and high school. If each student takes 8 courses per year and we have to calculate an SLO for every child, that would be approximately 7,200 SLOs that would need to be collectively bargained. That would mean teachers and administrators sitting across the table negotiating what each SLO needs to be. Mr. Bonnewell stated that the state will probably go to a more collective scenario, but we do not yet know. This is law right now, but we have to wait to see what the state develops as a regulation. Mr. Bonnewell stated that his personal sense is the Commissioner is tired of this and wants to make this as reasonable as possible. He thinks we will see collective SLOs vs. individual student SLOs. What we call the district SLO will hopefully pass muster. Our district SLO is designed to give our teachers a very fair shot. Our district plan has been shared across the state as a model. He hopes that the Commissioner will find ours acceptable if negotiations renew it.

Mr. Bonnewell stated that the next step is that NYSED will work with the field to develop a regulatory proposal to implement the requirements of education law. He doesn't expect to see anything before Christmas and would be shocked if it came before that. Although there is a lot of talk about APPR changes, we don't yet know what we need to use or what we can use, but there has been no change yet beyond the law that tells State Ed that they can't use the 3-8 scores. Mrs. Sacco questioned if we just continue to go with what we are currently using and Mr. Bonnewell indicated that is correct. He indicated that if we don't have the new plan, the existing plan stays in place. Mr. Bonnewell stated that he hopes that SED makes some good decisions that will support what we have done. He believes that evaluating teachers by student performance on one test is not an effective measurement. He concluded that they have made some positive options in the law which has been given to State Ed.

9. BOARD DATES

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME
Friday	June 14, 2019	Class Night MS Auditorium	7:00 pm
Wednesday	June 19, 2019	Kindergarten Graduation MS Auditorium	5:30 pm
Thursday	June 20, 2019	Kindergarten Graduation MS Auditorium	5:30 pm
Monday	June 24, 2019	5 th Grade Moving-Up Day MS Auditorium	5:30 pm
Friday	June 28, 2019	Graduation High School Gym	7:00 pm
Monday	July 8, 2019 (2 nd Monday)	Regular Board of Education Meeting 2019-2020 District Goals and Code of Conduct Hearing	6:00 pm
Monday	July 8, 2019 (2 nd Monday)	Reorganizational Meeting	7:00 pm

BOARD APPROVED

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

BOARD APPROVED

11. OPEN SESSION

A motion was made to re-open the Athletic Director position and allow that individual to coach.

Mrs. Brown opened the floor for discussion on this motion and Mr. Wadhams requested Mr. Bonnewell to share the legal advice presented to the Board of Education on the need to open the position up to new applicants.

Mr. Bonnewell shared that there were a few qualifying reasons why the position would be reposted, one being that the Board already acted and appointed someone to the position, so the district should treat the declination of the position as a resignation. According to the Albion Teacher Association contract, the resignation of a position requires the district to post.

BOARD APPROVED

Mr. Wadhams asked what the next steps were.

Mrs. Brown suggested holding a special meeting in June to revote on the topic.

Mrs. Harling suggested a revote.

Mr. Bonnewell asked Ms. Jennifer Schwarzott, school district attorney, to clarify whether this vote needs full Board majority.

A motion was made to re-vote.

BOARD APPROVED

A motion was made once again to open the Athletic Director position and allow the individual to coach.

BOARD APPROVED

A motion was made to appoint Gregg Boose for the open Board seat. It was shared that if appointed, Mr. Boose would provide the Board with the diversity it has been lacking, that the community voted for Mr. Boose, he missed being elected by 6 votes and it would be shameful to ignore the voters and select someone the community did not vote for.

Mrs. Kirby shared that the community also had voted for her in the past.

Mr. Sidari shared concerns that he cannot support this decision because "strings are being pulled". Mrs. Nesbitt asked what that meant and Mr. Sidari replied Mr. Boose's campaign had been funded by the ATA.

Mrs. Schwartzott clarified that this vote did require Board majority to pass (5 votes).

Mrs. Brown shared that this vote is not about diversity, it is about the community not selecting a particular individual for the Board of Education.

Mr. Wadhams shared there are other reasons why people may not have run. He asked Mr. Vallese if there were others who picked up Board packets and did not return them. Mr. Vallese shared that this was correct. Mr. Wadhams further stated that the Board has the opportunity to choose someone who chose to run.

BOARD DECLINED

Mrs. Brown offered to schedule a special Board meeting in June.

Mrs. Harling suggested that the topic be revisited in July.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

BOARD APPROVED

13. ADJOURNEMENT

BOARD APPROVED