

**ALBION CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALBION, NEW YORK 14411
JANUARY 6, 2020 SUMMARY
OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Board President, Mrs. Kathy Harling, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Moment of Silence

Mr. David Sidari shared the following: Tonight we pause to recognize a young Purple Eagle who left us far too soon. Jared Fearby, a 2016 ACS graduate, died suddenly on Friday. Jared was an Albion musician, playing trumpet in the concert band, and an athlete, playing on the golf and baseball teams.

More recently, Jared was a senior at the SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry College in Syracuse, studying Conservation Biology. It may be that his college study was predicted by a third grade essay in which 8 year old Jared attempted to persuade readers to save the rainforests with three "outstanding" reasons: thousands of rare animals will be extinct, medicines made from rainforest plants will not be able to be made, and cutting down the trees will increase global warning.

Mr. Sidari requested those present to join him in a moment of silence in Jared Fearby's memory.

RECOGNITION

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT AWARDS

Ashley Ames - Leadership
Brooklyn Reed - Character

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

BOARD APPROVED

PUBLIC FORUM - None

2. APPROVAL OF BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. Minutes of December 2, 2019 Regular Board Meeting
Minutes of December 16, 2019 Special Board Meeting
- B. Treasurer's Report November 2019
- C. Quarterly Revenue and Expenditure Reports
- D. Extra-Classroom Activity Fund Report for November 2019

- E. CSE & CPSE Recommendations
- F. Committee on Special Education Referral Information
- G. Budget Transfer Request
- H. Textbook Requests
- I. Fundraiser Request
- J. Building Use Requests

Mrs. Nesbitt asked for a better explanation of Item G - Budget Transfer Request and if this was due to Nellie Brown's survey.

Mr. Vallese explained that funds would be transferred from those for the snowplow bid to repair the HVAC system - air quality testing and boiler leak. A leak was discovered in the boiler house and the funds would cover installation of the sleeves.

Mrs. Weller asked how the leak was discovered.

Mr. Vallese responded that there was a loss of 20 gallons of water each day and we were adding to the boilers.

Mrs. Riley asked about the Textbook Request and that she did not see anything to document the reason for buying the books. She indicated it would be nice for the Board to have the information.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that there is a change in the state's approach regarding textbooks.

Miss Leto added that they look at the textbooks being used every five to eight years; change occurs out of necessity and alignment to changing state exam expectations.

Mrs. Harling asked what is done with old textbooks no longer being used.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that the district sells any old textbooks of value although it is not likely there is a value. Any surplus textbooks are brought to the Board for consideration in donating or offering to interested parties.

Mr. Sidari added that when a book is requested, the teacher gives an explanation of what the book does for the class and if this is a whole new curriculum change.

Mrs. Riley asked Mr. Sidari if he knew that's what this request was for and indicated it was a moot point; there is a need to change curriculum; she wouldn't ask if it were written.

BOARD APPROVED

3. CORRESPONDENCE - None

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Music Technology Suite Elementary School - Anna Atwater

Miss Anna Atwater presented a Power Point on the Music Technology Suite in the Elementary School. Miss Atwater noted that over the summer the keyboard lab had been upgraded to a Mac Keyboard Lab. Professional Development was offered for music teachers by Ms. Jenn Davis regarding New York State Music Standards.

Miss Atwater shared some of the student work with the Board. All third through fifth grade students begin with an exploratory piece to come up with a song by utilizing only the black keys. Audio examples of the students' interpretation of the song *Autumn Leaves* were provided. Students move from the exploratory to a written piece and are taught to read music. Actual music is used exploring different instruments.

(Mrs. Sacco arrived at 7:16 pm.)

Miss Atwater introduced GarageBand, a music program that offers students infinite possibilities. Miss Atwater, through a series of pictures and audio, provided that through the use of GarageBand, students can complete assignments using different instruments and sounds; they can use multiple tracks using the same instrument at the same time; the students can create loops and drag for duration, recording one or multiple instruments. Some of the loops are pre-recorded while students can create others. The program offers many options.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Niagara Orleans School Boards Association Legislative Breakfast Sign-Up

Information was provided to the Board regarding the Niagara Orleans School Boards Association Legislative Breakfast scheduled for Saturday, January 25, 2020 at the Cornell Cooperative Extension in Lockport, NY.

Mr. Bonnewell asked Mr. Wadhams if he would like to speak to this event.

Mr. Wadhams encouraged Board members to attend; indicating he had gone twice and it was very good.

Mr. Sidari added that it was better than it used to be. You hear a lot of good things.

Mrs. Sacco responded that it is informative.

Mr. Bonnewell provided that Board members have the option to register directly if interested in attending or to contact Ms. Ishmael to have this done for them.

Mrs. Harling asked if Board approval is needed for attendance at the breakfast.

Mr. Bonnewell responded no; attendance is at no charge but there is a fee of \$10 if you are a no show.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Spring Athletic Bid - Amendment

Mr. Derek Vallese, School Business Official, reviewed a Memo with the Board requesting approval to amend the 2019 Spring Athletic Bid reducing the total bid awarded to Laux Sporting Goods by \$293.00. The September 9, 2019 bid included a vaulting pole that was awarded to Laux Sporting Goods but has since been discontinued. A comparable vaulting pole has been found at \$200 more than the original bid. After review with Mr. Adam Krenning, Athletic Director, a determination was made to include a new vaulting pole with the 2021 Spring Athletic Bid as it is not a necessity at this time.

BOARD APPROVED

B. 2020 Spring Field Experience Placements

A list of additional 2020 Spring Field Experience Placements was submitted for Board Members' information.

Mr. Bonnewell noted that we are seeing more Field Experience students needing observation hours than we are in having student teachers.

Mrs. Weller noted that the list included two students working with Miss Seaman's class. She asked if the two would be alternating or would they be with her class at the same time.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that typically they would be there at different times but since they are just observing the class for the number of hours needed, they could be there at the same time.

C. 2021 FFA Trip to Italy

Mr. Bonnewell reviewed with the Board information provided by Mrs. Paige Hungerford. He explained to the Board that he was under the impression she planned to present to the Board but she was not present at the meeting. He indicated she would like permission for adults to travel with the group. He indicated a concern for adults without strong connections or controls attending. He noted that he was not sure the Board would want to open this up to family and friends of families for overseas trips.

Mrs. Riley pointed out that anyone interested in volunteering has to be fingerprinted.

Mr. Bonnewell indicated volunteers are checked by our procedure but not fingerprinted. Volunteers are within the sight of the teacher; he is not sure it is guaranteed that, while overseas, there would be a teacher with the group at all times. Many times on tours half of the group is with a chaperone, the other half with the teacher and then they change. The dynamic is different in a foreign land where there is a foreign language. There is a significant difference.

Mrs. Brown added that on the Costa Rica trip parents were able to go.

Mrs. Weller added that she had gone as a parent on a trip with one of her children.

Mrs. Brown responded that she looked at the materials as a parent/guardian going on the trip and it offered a great opportunity to travel with your child.

Mrs. Harling indicated they would technically be considered a chaperone.

Mr. Bonnewell responded he wasn't sure we should allow adults to be chaperones of other kids.

Mrs. Weller added that adults on trips would help the teacher making sure kids got to where they're going.

Mrs. Harling added that having parents in the chaperone role; the advisor would see it.

Mrs. Weller added there were benefits to this; more eyes on the trip.

Mr. Wadhams asked if there is a policy on non-school employees attending.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that for local school events and trips there are two roles - parent attendance with no authority except to their own child - no authority over others and the second being a chaperone who has completed the background check by providing references - who would supervise a small number of students under the teacher and other staff members. If additional adults are going, what role do they play? Are they one of the two approved chaperones or do they serve in another role? He cautioned the Board that this feels different when students are overseas in an area of another language.

Mrs. Riley pointed out that in the packet there is a list of people who are volunteers and/or chaperones. The list of people have gone through the process. They can be utilized if the teacher needs them.

Mr. Bonnewell asked if the Board would authorize the role the second person would assume.

Mrs. Harling added to Mr. Bonnewell's question and asked if the Board would like to say yes to all chaperones; no to parents; what would their response be.

Mrs. Sacco responded that she went to the briefing for this trip. Two chaperones would travel free which would be staff that are attending. Parents would be responsible for their own child. This is how Mrs. Hungerford handled chaperones on the two other trips she took to Costa Rica and Ireland.

Mrs. Weller added that when she was a chaperone on a trip, she felt responsible for the district, not just her own child; she didn't feel she was overstepping the teacher. She said additional chaperones could stop someone from walking into traffic.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that he would hope that if a person in another country saw imminent danger, they would intervene. His concern is that a chaperone is responsible for the students. If the other staff member is somewhere else, the chaperone may be on their own without another staff adult in the vicinity.

Mrs. Sacco added that there would be a tour group; that the Costa Rica trip was through EF Tours.

Mrs. Brown said that as a parent, you can go but with your own child.

Mr. Bonnewell said in the role of parent accompanist, typically the parent attendee would not require a background check as is done for a chaperone. He further indicated we can do our own background check because we do not know what the EF Tours background check entails.

Miss Leto added that ultimately, two Albion Central School staff oversee and give direction. The parent could decide to take their child somewhere else which would be concerning.

Mr. Bonnewell indicated that there needs to be a clear expectation; that more information is needed than what was received.

Mrs. Weller indicated EF Tours goes as a group.

Mrs. Brown added that the guardian/parent could be background checked and stay with the group.

Mrs. Sacco added that when she was a parent attendee on the Seneca Zoo trip, she had to be an approved volunteer.

Mr. Bonnewell provided that for parents we encourage but don't require a background check for attendees as a volunteer needs.

Mr. Sidari said that five is not a bad number to send on a trip as chaperones. However, if there's more interest, it could generate thirty plus chaperones.

Mrs. Weller could live with that; with five parent chaperones going.

Mr. Bonnewell said that four are parents and one is a friend of the family.

Mrs. Nesbitt added that it should be a guardian unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Mrs. Weller added that there needed to be more clarification.

Mrs. Sacco asked if the person was already registered for the trip.

Mrs. Weller added there is some sort of fee.

Mr. Bonnewell added that there is usually a higher fee charged if reservation is made later but you can usually persuade them to allow payment of the lower fee.

Mrs. Brown asked, what's the question?

Mrs. Harling responded to define the role.

Mr. Bonnewell added...of an attendee.

Mrs. Harling said that they cannot take the group.

Mr. Bonnewell added unless under the supervision of staff. On an EF Tour he knew previously, there were three different expeditions that were reshuffled and you could go with the guide. With two choices, one staff member could go with each group; it would set a clear expectation.

Mrs. Harling added; the more sets of eyes, the better.

Mr. Bonnewell summarized that attendees would not be chaperoning directly; would be a parent or guardian; would be no more than five.

Mrs. Harling asked what the parents were told as far as a deadline.

Mr. Boose indicated that since he is new to the group, if you go on a trip, do they get briefed on the dangers and customs of the country they are traveling to.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that EF Tours says they provide that information.

Mrs. Weller added that EF Tours provides things about different areas, such as avoiding pickpockets in Paris.

Mr. Boose asked if this is done once; twice; as you get closer to the trip.

Mrs. Weller added it was not an option to go off on your own. When she attended a trip with EF Tours, they were able to go to a bakery that was immediately a block from where they were.

Mr. Bonnewell asked the Board if they are approving adults on the trip and doing a background check.

Mrs. Weller asked if this would be in addition to what EF Tours does.

Mr. Bonnewell said that we are only asking for two references.

BOARD APPROVED non-staff adults attending the 2021 FFA trip to Italy under the following stipulations; (1) the attendee be a parent/guardian; (2) attendee is not responsible for other students; (3) there is a limit of five attendees in the role; (4) a reference check by the district will be conducted for adult attendees; and (5) attendees cannot separate from the group.

7. NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment:

- a. Tammie Golden
Position: Long-Term Substitute Teacher
at Middle School (CTE)
Certification: Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten
and Grades 1-6, Permanent
Health, Permanent

BOARD APPROVED

2. Substitutes:

Certified Substitute Teachers

- None

Non-Certified Substitute Teachers

- Daniel E. Beam
- Aaron F. Kirby
- Matthew J. Monacelli

Non-Instructional: Clerical, Teacher Aide, Monitor and Cleaner Substitutes

- TianYing Chen

BOARD APPROVED

B. Standard Work Day Resolution

TITLE	NAME	STANDARD WORK DAY	TERM BEGINS/ ENDS	PARTICIPATES IN EMPLOYER'S TIME KEEPING SYSTEM (Y/N)	DAYS/ MONTH (based on Record of Activities)
Auditor	Laura Simboli	7.5	07/01/19 - 06/30/20	N	.20
School Tax Collector	Diane Stirk	7.5	07/01/19 - 06/30/20	N	3.41

Mr. Bonnewell reviewed the Standard Work Day Resolution with the Board. He explained this is done for positions that are not full-time but provide the New York State Retirement System the amount of time spent in a day for the above activities in the full 7.5 hour work day. This is a requirement that has to be reported to the retirement system.

Mrs. Weller expressed concern over retirement numbers being included on the paperwork posted.

Mr. Bonnewell shared that the Board's copy of the packet contained the information but it had been redacted on the copy posted for the public to view.

BOARD APPROVED the Albion Central School District/Location Code 73403, hereby established the above as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the timekeeping system records or the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the deputy clerk of this body.

C. Cafeteria Equipment and Supplies Bid

Vendor	Amount
BHS Foodservice Solutions (Buffalo Hotel)	\$27,259.94
Douglas Equipment (West Virginia)	\$34,698.51

(4 companies received bid packets, 3 responded, but one bid packet was received 4 hours late)

Bid Includes:

Elementary School will be receiving two (2) milk coolers.
 Middle School will be receiving a food processor, a roll-thru refrigerator, and two (2) metal carts.
 High School will be receiving two (2) convection steamers and a milk cooler.
 All buildings will receive new anti-fatigue mats.

Delivery and installation are included in the bid price.

BOARD APPROVED

D. 2020 Fall Athletic Bid

Vendor	Quantity	Amount
AAE	4 items	\$ 396.00
Adpro	112 items	\$ 6,812.50
BSN	302 items	\$ 4,882.75
Dalberth	6 items	\$ 14.52
Laux	507 items	\$ 264.55
Medco	324 items	\$ 201.96
Pyramid	244 items	\$ 1,505.44
Riddell	69 items	\$ 3,298.30
Sportsman	246 items	\$ 1,356.60
Sports Imports	1 items	\$ 345.00
	1815 items	\$ 19,077.62

(19 companies received bid packets, 12 responded)

Mr. Vallese shared with the Board that the Bid also included hats for baseball and softball. One item not included was for Gatorade mix that was bid for \$140 versus the \$10 price found on Amazon.

BOARD APPROVED

E. Policy 1720 - Minutes

Mrs. Harling indicated there had been a question from a Board member on whether we were following Policy on the Minutes and why they have become so lengthy. Mrs. Harling noted she hasn't done anything different. She had gone through Minutes from 2016 to the present time and provided an overview to the Board showing the number of pages for each meeting as the years progressed. There was consistency of at least five pages with the average being eight or nine pages. There was one anomaly where a non-quorum summary was recorded. In the May Meeting of the 2018-2019 school year there was a jump to twenty-three pages of Minutes. She pulled those Minutes and found there had been a large Public Forum recorded. Jim Bowers, Nellie Brown and the ATA were included.

In theory there has been a push from the District for more transparency; people, are demanding it. If you look at the numbers and the current By-Law in general terms of reference, the situation warrants longer Minutes. If it's more work for Cindy, the Board could consider videotaping the meetings and providing a Summary on the website. She asked if there was any discussion at the District level.

Mr. Bonnewell said there has been no internal discussion to attempt to lengthen but they are to gather what was shared and capture what was said.

Mrs. Harling said transparency is good. If there are questions on something in the Minutes being used, we could videotape.

Mr. Bonnewell recommended the Board ask the advice of the attorney. There are different elements involved in videotaping. It does not preclude the Board from keeping Minutes.

Mrs. Brown responded that she had asked the question about the length of the Minutes. In looking at the different Minutes 15, 20, and even 5 years ago, they were simple. She has a difficult time with including conversation that "Mrs. Brown said this..." She has concerns.

Mrs. Harling asked why she had concerns. People in the room at the meeting hear what is said.

Mrs. Brown responded that it looks unprofessional.

Mrs. Weller said that she had looked at some districts that videotape their meetings.

Mrs. Brown asked if Mrs. Weller could name a district of the ones she has looked at. Mrs. Brown added that she is looking for a happy medium and is curious from a legal perspective that the detail is really a transcript of the meeting.

Mrs. Harling responded that the meetings may as well be videotaped.

Mrs. Brown said that she is not trying to hide anything; to be more concise. Few people say, "What's going on?" about the added length.

Mrs. Weller indicated she likes to go back through the Minutes if she has a question on something.

Mrs. Harling asked about videotaping and the Minutes.

Mrs. Brown indicated a need to go back and see the consensus.

Mrs. Harling said she looked back to see why the Board voted as they did.

Mrs. Brown said it was only her opinion; looking for the reason and why.

Mr. Wadhams asked for Mr. Bonnewell's opinion on the Minutes.

Mr. Bonnewell referred to a particular mid-west Board of Education vote; following any divided vote, a second vote was taken with a 9/0 result). It was a very unusual piece; the Board made decisions and the entire Board would agree to support the decision. (The mid-west Board did it visually with a second vote). He is not suggesting this. There is significant conversation; someone can identify this person didn't agree but agreed with their opinion. It is the decision of the Board if the

Minutes will be deeper in nature. Mr. Bonnewell said that Minutes previously detailed who was here, who arrived late, motion by, seconded by, the typical for Minutes but he indicated the Board could change it.

Mrs. Weller responded that she got the point...at least people can see some discussion and that decisions by the Board are not made lightly.

Mrs. Harling said that after a healthy discussion, a decision should be made. Personally, she feels the change in Minutes has been helpful for people to see. She asked the Board if (1) there was a preference for the older or newer way of recording Minutes and (2) whether the meetings should be videotaped.

Mrs. Nesbitt added that when issues are discussed, there are a few critical events where more information is needed. She agrees with more transparency and that people should be able to know; capturing the sentiments is important.

Mr. Bonnewell responded there is no right or wrong, just different.

Mrs. Sacco asked if there was a motion needed.

Mr. Bonnewell indicated it was a motion item on the Agenda but that could be changed.

Mrs. Sacco asked if it could be changed to an information item.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that it could be changed.

F. Appointment of Hodgson Russ LLP Attorneys -
(Legal Wind Mill, Solar)

Mr. Bonnewell reviewed with the Board that he had attended the first meeting of the taxing jurisdictions. The Board had not officially approved Hodgson Russ as attorneys.

Mr. Sidari asked for further explanation.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that Hodgson Russ will guide the district in the wind farms discussion. Heritage Wind is the current company with rumor there's a second one. Solar farms contact each taxing jurisdiction separately. Hodgson would assist with those too.

Mr. Sidari asked if they give a tax break.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that wind tax breaks are given by the EDA or taxing authority.

Mrs. Weller asked if the attorney would be paid by retainer or hourly and if they were local.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that they would be paid hourly and that they are a local Buffalo law firm.

Mrs. Weller asked if the school has past history with them.

Mr. Bonnewell responded yes, with some of our past building projects.

BOARD APPROVED

G. 2020-2021 School Year Calendar - Draft

Mr. Bonnewell reviewed with the Board that with trepidation and caution he is providing the draft of the 2020-2021 School Year Calendar. In years past we would have had Regents exam schedules three years and a few months out. As of this 2020-2021 calendar draft, we still don't have the 2021 Regents. Everyone wants to know the breaks to plan vacations. BOCES identifies the Regional calendar that is historically based on the Regents schedule by best guess. It is difficult to plan when the Regents schedule is not given in advance. It is estimated the Regents will end on Friday, June 25th. The reason for the estimate is Labor Day is as late as it possibly can be.

Mr. Bonnewell indicated he believed the BOCES calendar had 188 or 187 teacher days. He asked Mr. Wadhams if he knew.

Mr. Wadhams responded that he did not know.

Mr. Bonnewell replied that he didn't mean to put Mr. Wadhams on the spot but thought he might know. He indicated school cannot be in session and count the days on certain holidays. He noted specific days in our calendar that are non-school days such as November 25th and December 24th. Typically there is a full week break in February, Good Friday and some contracts allow for Spring Break. If we take all days off and Regents ends on June 25th, there would be 184 teacher days. By ATA Contract, we can have 185 teacher days. We build in emergency snow days; and have only four emergency closing days. If Regents is sooner, there will be fewer teacher and emergency days; it is a tight calendar. We could start school before Labor Day but because he desired to be a living breathing human being, he had not run this by the unit.

Mrs. Sacco asked what would happen if there was a 184 day calendar, if more than four emergency days were used, would we have to take one away?

Mr. Bonnewell responded that if school closes, and it's not a bad travel day, we can build in a Professional Development Day. If we were closed for a cold day, he is not sure the need to close applies to staff.

We might need staff to come in. If we are closed for more than the number of emergency closing days, we'll need to be in school on a day the calendar noted as a scheduled vacation day. April 8th and 9th could be striped to indicate they are days we can keep in the schedule if we use more than the number of emergency closing days.

Mrs. Nesbitt had an issue with this past Friday.

Mrs. Harling added that every school in the county was off except Lockport and perhaps some Monroe County schools. She asked Mr. Bonnewell how productive were Thursday and Friday?

Mr. Bonnewell responded that we followed the BOCES calendar.

Mrs. Harling indicated we have excess days and didn't need to have it.

Mrs. Sacco asked about the number of days in this year's calendar.

Mrs. Harling replied we had 188 days.

Mrs. Brown added that the ATA agrees to the calendar.

Mrs. Harling asked if they are given an option not to agree.

Mr. Bonnewell replied they have had the opportunity to provide feedback.

Mrs. Sacco stated this is a dangerous calendar.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that this is not about money. The driving factor is the law says you have to have 180 days. If a Waiver is not obtained for falling below the 180 days, the Board of Education is in violation. We follow state law from the first day of September to the last day of Regents.

Mrs. Sacco asked if the calendar is going to the ATA.

Mr. Bonnewell replied that the question is will the Board of Regents say the 24th is the last day. They could come back with the 23rd.

Mrs. Brown asked for clarification on starting before Labor Day.

Mr. Bonnewell replied that there could be two Professional Development Days for staff here and we would then have 186 days.

Mrs. Sacco indicated there needed to be conversation with the ATA.

Mrs. Brown added they would need to have buy in to this.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that he wanted to provide an understanding. Graduation is an issue. Where Regents fall as the last day is usually rating day. A student could potentially sit for an exam on Thursday and arrive on Friday to find that the Regents score prevents graduation.

Mrs. Harling asked if state aid is affected if attendance is less than 50%.

Mrs. Weller asked what the total was.

Mr. Bonnewell responded about 50%. He further indicated the attendance would have a negligible impact because we plan additional days.

Mrs. Weller asked for the average number of days in years past.

Mr. Bonnewell responded two emergency closings was normal until we added cold days, four.

Mrs. Harling asked for clarification on the cold temp.

Mr. Bonnewell indicated the Board had agreed to a continuous 20 degree below zero wind chill. He asked the Board if they attend the Legislative Breakfast, to share the dilemma if asked, "Are there any issues?"

Mr. Wadhams added that at the risk of bodily harm or injury to him, he had always thought the school year and the school day should be longer. Albany asks more of teachers, to do more and add more to the jar but don't offer to take anything away. When he was teaching, he was here all the time, even on snow days. If we go one year having people in before Labor Day, won't tell people planning to be out in April, no win, you can't do that. Mr. Wadhams stated he was always here - if we had to come in prior to Labor Day, he was willing to talk to the ATA President. Yeah, not the best but no reason why as a group, as a school, Tuesday, Wednesday, advocating for it.

Mrs. Harling said 184 - make it 185.

Mr. Bonnewell responded the Regents schedule is needed.

Mrs. Weller indicated 180 is the state requirement.

Mr. Bonnewell replied that you have to prove the use of every emergency day and any available day before the state would waive that 180 day requirement.

Mrs. Sacco asked the question, "say we use all days and then get past April 19th and there is a statewide power outage?"

Mr. Bonnewell responded that when he worked in a prior district, the Monday after Memorial Day a tornado ripped through the town. School was closed and he applied for a waiver. He received notice at Christmas that it had been approved. If there is an extreme weather event after all possible days are used, the state will usually grant a waiver.

Mrs. Harling asked if Professional Development can be added at the end of a calendar.

Mr. Bonnewell responded no, not past Regents. He indicated the state had also just instituted a new piece requiring calculation of instructional minutes. The Elementary School is good; the High School is good with the block schedule but the Middle School bell schedule had to be adjusted by a minute. It is a new measure by the state this year.

H. Clay Crushers

Mr. Bonnewell informed the Board that he had received a request to renew the Clay Crushers. Additionally, the request was made to extend the sport to allow students age 12 to take part. Mr. Bonnewell asked the Board for their thoughts on renewing as they were or extending the age allowance.

Mrs. Riley asked what the Clay Crushers are.

Mrs. Brown replied, skeet shooting.

Mr. Bonnewell expressed his concern over offering the opportunity to students 12 years of age.

Mrs. Sacco added she has a different perspective on this. Kids do shoot who are 12 years old and are not part of the school league. It is great for kids to teach respect.

Mr. Bonnewell added that they want to be recognized as a sports team but we don't have any other 6th grade sports team.

Mrs. Sacco said it had done wonders for her son who has been in it since age 12.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that on our team, students go to the Barre Sportsman Club and submit scores only to one program. High School age attend.

Mrs. Harling asked what the benefit for 12 year olds is.

Mrs. Sacco responded that it allows competition in state and nationals.

Mrs. Harling asked if it is typical for other schools to offer this to 12 year olds.

Mrs. Sacco responded yes, that it is the New York State age.

Mr. Bonnewell added that he is not sure that every school does but some he knows do.

Mrs. Brown added that it was first presented as a High School function. She agrees it is a positive outlet. She proposed that since it has only been a one year event, that the Board wait a couple more years to offer it to a younger age group and that they consider leaving it at the High School level.

BOARD APPROVED

I. Back-Up Drivers

Mr. Bonnewell reviewed with the Board that this fall we ran into an issue with a large number of students being transported to a stadium for a game. We managed to pull it off. We have looked at the number of buses and if we needed to evacuate the school for any reason such as a truck carrying toxic material rolling over in the village; how do we move 1,800 students fast. Many of our drivers are local and easy to get back to the school; however, some go to appointments after they finish their run. Not all drivers would be available. The question before the Board is are you okay with exploring with STMS to see about using some staff as back-up drivers once they are trained. The likelihood is there that there will be no need but better to have additional folks who would be able to assist in driving if there was a need.

Mrs. Riley asked if we would need to modify policy regarding emergency preparedness.

Mr. Bonnewell responded yes. We would talk to them to find out the cost for training and how it would operate.

Mrs. Weller added they would need to re-qualify yearly.

Mr. Bonnewell responded they would need recertification, etc.

BOARD APPROVED discussion with Ridge Road Express and/or STMS regarding training, including cost, for some staff members who could be utilized as bus drivers in the event of a need for back-up drivers if there were emergency evacuation situations.

J. ATA & Administrative Negotiations

Mrs. Harling tabled for Executive Session.

Mrs. Harling indicated it would be good to review Executive Session, what it is, and when you can use it. She will provide a printed copy of the information to be distributed to Board Members in their Friday Update.

K. RFP PINS Attorney

Mr. Bonnewell reviewed with the Board that the RFP for a PINS Attorney is in process; however, was not completed in time for review by the Board this evening.

L. Parking Issues

Mr. Bonnewell reviewed that with the increased use of facilities, parking has become an issue. When there is a concert, gym use, swim meet, and weight room use all in one night as happened recently at the Middle School, there are many cars in the lot and limited space. The concerts alone are a parking issue. We are resourceful in providing building space for all of the activities. When there are basketball games with youth wrestling taking place, we put the wrestlers in the cafeteria to practice. The expectation has been that parents would just drop off kids but often 20 parents with cars stay which makes parking for basketball games more difficult. We may need to identify school activities versus others with school taking precedence based on parking. At a recent concert, there was a car crash in the parking lot at the Middle School. Mr. Bonnewell, a grandparent and another driver all missed the concert dealing with the accident.

Mrs. Brown asked about the possibility of using the CRFS parking lot as overflow.

Mr. Bonnewell responded that the CRFS lot is already used by some who park there. The problem is getting some to use it when they might try to squeeze in at the schools rather than walk across the street. He noted that some people seem to feel it is okay to park on the grass, on the curb, and even in the fire lane. This is something to look at and come back to at a later date.

M. Special Meeting January 27th - Needs Assessment

Mr. Bonnewell said that a request had been made of the Board for scheduling a Special Meeting on January 27th for PLC Associates to return regarding the Needs Assessment. PLC will meet with administration during the day and meet with the Board in the evening. Some Board members had confirmed their availability for this meeting. Confirmation is needed so that PLC Associates can be scheduled in.

BOARD APPROVED

N. Donation(s) to Ronald L. Sodoma Elementary School

O. Donation(s) to Carl I. Bergerson Middle School

BOARD ACCEPTED

P. Volunteers

A list of volunteers was submitted and reviewed for Board Members' information.

Q. 2020 NYSSBA Capital Conference

BOARD APPROVED Mr. Wayne Wadhams and Mr. David Sidari's attendance, including reimbursement of hotel and travel expenses, at the 2020 NYSSBA Capital Conference on February 9th and 10th in Albany, New York. Mr. Wadhams abstained.

8. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS

A. Building Principal Reports

Building Principal Reports were submitted for Board Members' information.

B. Attendance Report

The Attendance Report was submitted for Board Members' information.

C. Athletic Director Report

The Athletic Director's Report was submitted for Board Members' information.

Mr. Bonnewell reviewed with the Board that Mr. Adam Krenning had an update to share on the Athletic Placement Process.

Mr. Adam Krenning, Athletic Director provided a Power Point presentation to the Board regarding the Athletic Placement Process (APP). He indicated that he would try to alleviate some of the problems with the process. He began the presentation by defining APP as a program for evaluating exceptional students who want to participate in sports at higher or lower levels. He explained that it is a tool to take exceptional athletes at the lower level up to the High School level.

Mr. Krenning explained that the intent of APP is to provide protocol for districts that choose to allow students in grades 7 and 8 to move up; allows students to participate safely at an appropriate level of competition; and to participate in activities at a pace that is consistent with their physical and emotional maturity, size, fitness level and athletic skill.

Mr. Krenning detailed the NYS Steps for APP as follows:

- Step 1 District Policy: school district has approved a resolution to allow students to participate in the APP

- Step 2 Parent/Guardian Permission: written parent/guardian permission must be obtained before any evaluation begins
- Step 3 Administrative Approval: athletic administrator should confirm the student is suitable for consideration
- Step 4 Medical Clearance: student is assessed by the medical director to determine the stage of physical development that will lessen the likelihood of student injury
- Step 5 Sport Skill Evaluation: sport coach will rely on past personal observations; consider input from the student's former coaches; if coach is unfamiliar with the student, the coach may observe the student in a physical education class
- Step 6 Physical Fitness Testing: must be done by a certified physical education teacher
- Step 7 Qualification Determination: the results of the three evaluations are sent to the director of physical education/athletics
- Step 8 Try-Outs: student is allowed to try out for the sport and level requested or student must return to the modified level of competition
- Step 9 Records: the athletic director must maintain all records of students
- Step 10 Notifications: Notification list

Mrs. Brown asked Mr. Krenning who is part of the group in the APP process.

Mr. Krenning responded the group includes Coach Bennett, Coach Uveino, Sara Koppenhaver, Cathy Schmitt and Mike Fahy.

Mrs. Riley expressed concern as she had not seen it written but wanted to reiterate the exceptions not identified and that students not be brought up just to make a team whole.

Mr. Krenning responded that this is correct; APP is not used to fill a team.

Mr. Bonnewell added that this is a double-edged question; students will be used to fill a team if moved up. It is important to note that the expectation of APP is that if the kid is not exceptional, then you won't have a team.

Mrs. Weller asked how long the process could take.

Mr. Krenning responded that if done correctly, the process can take four to five days. If students take home information rather than mailing it home, it can sometimes take less than five days.

Mr. Krenning went on to review the ACS Selection Process as follows:

- How do we currently select students for APP:
 - Physical Education Teacher
 - Modified Coach of Sport
 - Personal Observation
 - Outside Recommendations

Mr. Krenning noted that outside recommendations can come from a community member asking a coach to look at a student for a particular team. He expressed having a problem with this in not having a set guideline or rubric.

- Community Concerns
 - We miss potential kids
 - How do we define "Exceptional"
 - How do we handle cuts
 - Playing time

Mrs. Sacco asked Mr. Krenning how he could answer those questions and how will he deal with this. If an 8th grader is moved up, it means it could cut a 10th grader.

Mr. Krenning responded that open conversation goes a mile; people can text, call or email. He prefers face to face communication; to honestly discuss with a parent, not sure your kid can make the cut, need to work on skills and try again next year. He noted that he once had a student interested in cross country. He reviewed the student's information with Mr. Pritchard who identified there were issues in school. The student changed and next season got into wrestling.

Mrs. Brown added that a student pulled up would no longer be a 7th or 8th grade player but a JV, taking an opportunity from an upper classman. If you bring that player up, they should be truly exceptional, not just show potential. You don't just pull someone up because you see potential; that would be taking opportunity away from others.

Mr. Krenning responded that there are opportunities for the kid in another sport.

Mr. Bonnewell said that even an exceptional 7th and 8th grader takes a playing opportunity from a 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grader; even if the 7th or 8th grader is exceptional, upper classmen are not playing; the exceptions include track and field and cross country.

Mrs. Nesbitt asked about wrestling.

Mr. Bonnewell responded no, if wrestle off takes place and high schooler is beaten, their place is taken.

Mrs. Brown added that defining exceptional is a hard call. What will make or break? There needs to be constant vigilance as to exceptional versus outstanding.

Mrs. Sacco added that we need to be consistent. If a student has great athletic ability but grades are terrible, this creates a hairy edge.

Mr. Pritchard indicated he receives a list and decides if it gets to this level.

Mrs. Nesbitt commented on the great work and supports the need for a rubric; if you bring up an 8th grader and a 10th grader is at every practice, has straight A's and is booted off the team, there is a need to create a sense of community and belonging. Criteria should include waiting your turn to earn it; have heart, character and have the grades. There are exceptions in cross country, track and wrestling. If it's you and another guy/girl could be worried; don't need another reason you're not good enough.

Mrs. Riley added that you can't tell a student to shuffle off to another sport. The student may be dedicated, love the sport and have established a spot with their peers. It's hard after two years to leave a sport. If a student is truly exceptional, students will recognize way before you.

Mrs. Weller added that her oldest loved soccer; was not the star player but decided forget it and quit, but joined cross country and made phenomenal friends, developed and loved it. The coach wanted him back but he didn't go back. Coaches need to be honest.

Miss Leto commented that we have been talking a long time about this. Adam will advocate. The Board has opinions. Can we decide so a policy can be established?

Mr. Bonnewell indicated that if the Board wished to pursue this, there are specific questions to be answered and pieces to be sorted.

Mrs. Harling said that she looks at a different side. It's not kind to keep a 9th or 10th grader - push 11th, 12th sitting on the bench, on the team 4 years, mad, not playing; parents upset. Pulling truly exceptional athletes cut people that aren't.

Mr. Krenning went on to review the ACS Athletics - Create a Healthy Competition:

- Varsity Sports - team plays to win while teaching important lessons
- Junior Varsity - refinement of basic skills in preparation for varsity
- 7/8 Grade - fundamentals of the game, rules and basic skill development

Mr. Krenning reviewed the following Board Considerations:

- 1st
 - Move up 8th Graders only
 - Move up 7th & 8th Graders
- 2nd
 - Move to JV only
 - Move to JV or Varsity
 - Move to Varsity only if there is no JV
- 3rd
 - HS students can be cut where APP is included
 - No student will be cut where APP is included
- 4th
 - APP Skills Evaluation Day

Asked if we move up both 7th and 8th graders,

Mr. Krenning provided that the district has both right now but it is supposed to be 8th grade only.

Mr. Wadhams asked if this is in policy.

Mr. Bonnewell responded no.

Mr. Wadhams said you can't put a 7th grader on a Varsity Sport team; not the same maturity level; something extra-curricular or just athletes.

Mrs. Nesbitt made note of track and individualized sports.

Mr. Bonnewell gave an example about swimming and that all get an opportunity to swim the race and that an event can run nine heats if needed.

Mrs. Harling indicated there is the possibility of a 7th grader qualifying.

Mrs. Brown asked if you can differentiate sports.

Mr. Bonnewell responded, yes you can do that.

Mr. Wadhams said you don't want to crush cross country and track.

Mrs. Harling added that a student can be exceptional for baseball; in more than one sport; next year when eligible, play what you love.

Mr. Wadhams commented he would look at the JV cut sheet for kids as a track coach.

Miss Leto asked the Board; do you want APP? Adam wants it, do you want it?

Mr. Wadhams responded that it would be doing a disservice if the Board didn't look into it.

Mr. Bonnewell added that without APP, every kid has an opportunity to play; if students move up, they will displace upperclassmen to play; if a 7th grader is found to be exceptional, they will play even without APP; they can still play six years of basketball.

Mrs. Harling said it brings us back to the point where some kids need to be cut.

Mr. Bonnewell responded we shouldn't be cutting modified kids.

Mrs. Riley noted the policy should be 8th graders for APP for the coming year as things are being refined; leave 7th grade at modified; next year look at an update of the policy to include 7th graders; going back to original policy, guidelines being used.

Mrs. Weller asked how many students we typically bring up?

Mr. Krenning responded it depends.

Mr. Bonnewell added it depends; there are some years there are seven in one sport. Mr. Bonnewell asked how many athletes the Board thought were exceptional; 3% was offered. In general if exceptional athletes make up 3%, in an average class size of 140, there are no more than four; with athletes moved up, we're saying 10% of the boys' cohort, are exceptional.

Mrs. Weller added there was one weird group of kids when her kids competed.

Mr. Krenning indicated the need to move forward.

Mrs. Sacco commented if today, she would want a baseline.

Mr. Krenning responded 8th graders.

Mrs. Sacco asked JV or Varsity?

Mr. Krenning responded it depends on the sport.

Mrs. Sacco asked for a review of the bulleted items under the Board Considerations; that the Board needed to decide on the 3rd and 4th bulleted items.

Mrs. Nesbitt added that she gets it; one or two exceptional athletes; glad there's a rubric and it needs to be crystal clear; because track is different than football.

Mr. Bonnewell responded we can have APP for certain sports. What do we want for a policy? Adam and I will give you different opinions. There is no need to unseat another kid; cut no-one at modified because they are going to play at not quite the finesse; there are kids with different skills; have range of modified kids that will eventually play JV and Varsity.

Mrs. Harling responded that you're talking about talent; if 9th grader tried hard, beat 12th grader.

Mr. Bonnewell replied we're not bringing a 7th grader over if she sings, only high school gets high school show or, in my opinion, team. There is a difference in estimating if a kid is exceptional - we need to judge on criteria regarding exceptional.

Mr. Krenning added that in bringing up an APP kid you look at the health and safety; and the size of the player.

Mr. Bonnewell added then you're not looking at exceptional, but bigger.

Mr. Krenning responded that you run into problems when you have 45 kids and one coach. Exceptional kids receive the opportunity to flourish in the sport; will take from a senior or sophomore; we are about winning; two players should have been cut as 10th graders; need to look at exceptional kids, not 50 kids; when talking exceptional, skills assessment day; allowing to flourish at the Middle School.

Mr. Bonnewell said not determining exceptional for Middle School but at High School level.

Mr. Krenning answered bring up, try out against High School.

Mr. Bonnewell said you will always have exceptional if they are top of the Middle School; standard measure.

Miss Leto added the rubric has to be used.

Mr. Wadhams added when he was hired as a coach of JV, the varsity team had a staff member's kid; you have to think about coaching staff; that they are doing what's best.

Mrs. Brown asked about JV soccer; have all try out.

Mr. Krenning added try-outs happen in August.

Mrs. Harling said the problem is you won't have an exceptional player; vote yes to APP and work out details later.

Mrs. Sacco added it won't be in time for spring sports.

Mr. Krenning responded they won't be able to do by February 8th; very hard to get information out; parent letters; nurse.

Mrs. Harling said the skills thing is a whole new thing.

Mr. Krenning suggested that pushing the time table out is tight.

Mr. Bonnewell added that they still can do; applications go to Brad for review.

Mr. Krenning said there would be no time for the Skills Assessment Day; skills for the rubric are different.

Mr. Bonnewell said the measure should be the same.

Mr. Krenning said there is a lot of leg work.

Mrs. Weller said we need to be thorough and proper.

Mrs. Riley asked how much time is needed.

Mr. Krenning responded this would need to be pushed to March to complete the Skills Assessment; late February, early March.

Mrs. Harling asked if it could still be done for spring sports.

Mr. Bonnewell said for baseball, softball, track and field, tennis.

Mrs. Weller said she is comfortable with it; and asked if there is enough time to be up to standards for spring and work on others later.

Mr. Krenning responded yes.

Mrs. Harling asked if the Board wished to make a Motion to move forward with APP and work out details or not move forward and end it here.

Mrs. Sacco asked if this is to get rid of policy or continue and modify policy.

Mrs. Weller asked if all surrounding districts have APP.

Mr. Krenning answered yes; noting Newfane puts all of their students through it; and that some do it to fill rosters.

Mr. Bonnewell added some schools do it to select rosters.

Mr. Krenning indicated there are benefits; pros and cons.

Mr. Bonnewell responded you are not a winner just because you do it.

Mrs. Nesbitt commented it would add another level.

Mrs. Weller indicated she would make a Motion to continue with APP; to modify the policy and clearly set standards.

Mrs. Sacco added they need to perform at 9th or 12th grade level to bring them up.

Mrs. Weller said that her oldest child was not exceptional to the standards of other kids on the team; the coach should have done him a favor.

Miss Leto said there needs to be a sense of belonging; years ago there were kids overflowing on the football team but they still had a sense of belonging.

Mr. Krenning added in that this year, there were a couple of soccer kids given the option to stay on the team working with the coach; helping the team; it's how we react.

Mr. Bonnewell added it is okay to say your role is 8th man; not 6th man.

Mrs. Sacco said she was okay with that and asked if all were okay with it.

The Board members were asked to consider each of the four Board considerations for APP and they responded as follows:

- 1st
- Move up 8th Graders only
Board Response - 5-Yes/4-No
- 2nd
- Move to JV or Varsity
Board Response - 9-Yes/0-No
- 3rd
- HS students can be cut where APP is included
Board Response - 7-Yes/2-No, Any Students can be cut
- 4th
- APP Skills Evaluation Day
Board Response - 9-Yes/0-No

Mrs. Nesbitt added, need the number of kids.

Mrs. Weller said you should know the number of exceptional kids.

Mrs. Harling said there needs to be trust.

Mrs. Sacco asked if there would be a skills evaluation for spring sports.

Mrs. Harling asked if students complete the physical part of the test, does it need to be done again for another sport.

Mr. Krenning responded that once you pass the physical part, you do not have to do it again.

BOARD APPROVED to continue the Athletic Placement Process with modifications to the current policy allowing exceptional eighth grade students identified on the Skills Evaluation Day to move to JV or Varsity sports as appropriate. There is no restriction on cuts on those teams. A draft of the new policy will be presented at the February 3, 2020 Board of Education Meeting.

D. Superintendent's Report

- o Social Media Issue Thursday

Mr. Bonnewell provided to the Board that a social media post indicated "someone I know posted..." It was nothing new, was information from November and someone posted it again that day. It was not a new threat just an individual rehashing of what was previously said and it flew and spread quickly. On Thursday evening information was shared with the police and there was much staff and police interaction with Mr. Bonnewell. On Friday there was a police officer in each building and the road patrols added to provide up to seven officers on campus throughout the day to make people more comfortable. Three officers were stationed at the school all day. Mr. Bonnewell commended the police force for their presence. Mr. Bonnewell additionally provided the current status of the students involved in that they have not returned to school.

- o Additional Safety Items

Mr. Bonnewell reviewed the following with the Board:

- The next Elementary School arrival/dismissal meeting is Thursday.
- Elementary School Health Testing Update from Nellie Brown - email received that she will be in touch early January.
- Armoured One Report remains available for the Board of Education to review.
- Social Media Safety Community Presentation
 - January 15 at 7:00 pm in Auditorium
 - New York State Police Trooper John Campanella (former SRO, now School & Community Outreach Coordinator Troop A)
- School Bus Stop Arm Cameras
 - Asked that topic be added to next meeting of Orleans County School and Law Officials.

- o Economic Development

Mr. Bonnewell shared with the Board the following:

- Wind Farm Meeting - Next Week
- EDA Public Hearing on Solar Tax Incentives
 - January 9, 2020 at 11:00 am at EDA Offices

- o United Way

Mr. Bonnewell shared with the Board that the district had received the Employee Commitment Award from the United Way for being the organization with the highest number of employees committed to helping the United Way and our community. There were 110 ACS personnel who contributed to the campaign last year.

9. BOARD DATES

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME
Saturday	January 25, 2020	NOSBA's Annual Legislative Breakfast <i>Cornell Cooperative Extension Lockport, NY</i>	8:30 am
Monday	January 27, 2020	Audit Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 pm
Monday	January 27, 2020	Special Board of Education Meeting for development of the Needs Assessment	7:00 pm
Monday	February 3, 2020	Regular Board of Education Meeting	7:00 pm
Monday	February 24, 2020	Audit Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 pm
Monday	March 2, 2020	Regular Board of Education Meeting	7:00 pm
Monday	March 9, 2020	Audit Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 pm
Monday	March 23, 2020	Audit Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 pm

BOARD APPROVED

11. OPEN SESSION

BOARD APPROVED

J. ATA & Administrative Negotiations

BOARD APPROVED the appointment of Mr. Michael Bonnewell, Superintendent and Mr. Derek Vallese, School Business Official as the negotiators for the ATA and Administrative Contract negotiations.

Mr. Adam Krenning was acknowledged by Mr. Wadhams for his attendance at the Bills Game - an honor he received for being nominated Bills Coach of the Week.

12. ADJOURNMENT

BOARD APPROVED