

CUBA-RUSHFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
March 14, 2023

*All appendices referenced to, herein, are incorporated into and made a part of the official minutes of this meeting to the same extent as if fully set forth.*

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Crowley, Mr. Linderman, Mr. Neu, Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Sirianni, Mr. Wright and Mr. Young. Student Member – McKennah Patten

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ADMINISTRATION/MANAGERS PRESENT: Mr. Gildemeister, Mr. Fee, Dr. Ralston, Miss Mosher, Mr. Smith

ADMINISTRATION/MANAGERS ABSENT: Mrs. Sears

SUPPORT STAFF PRESENT: None

SUPPORT STAFF ABSENT: Mrs. Pfeiffer

OTHERS PRESENT: Melissa Patanella, Diane Weatherell, Jared Bell, Nicole Williams, Chris Cappelletti, David Wild, BJ Howe, Sam Wilson (Olean Times Herald), Ashley Hunt, Jared Hunt, Jennifer Wyant, Christie Reynolds, Mandi Spoor, Jason Patten

1. **Call to Order/Agenda Review**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.

The pledge of allegiance was given at this time.

2. **Executive Session**

**Motion to go into Executive Session at 7:05pm to discuss public safety.**

**Moved: Mrs. Sirianni**

**Seconded: Mr. Crowley**

**Motion Carried: 7-0**

**Motion to go out of Executive Session at 7:16pm.**

**Moved: Mr. Crowley**

**Seconded: Mrs. Sirianni**

**Motion Carried: 7-0**

3. **Clerk Pro Tem**

**Motion to appoint Diane Weatherell Clerk Pro Tem**

**Moved: Mr. Crowley**

**Seconded: Mr. Neu**

**Motion Carried: 7-0**

4. **Special Report**

Mr. Smith presented the Special Education Plan providing an overview of CRCS programming and planning for

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next year. He also presented the Special Education budget with an increase of over 8% due to tuition of private placements primarily.

Mr. Gildemeister reviewed the first draft of the proposed budget along with the BOE, general support, salaries, benefits, debt service and BOCES first draft.

**5. President's/Board Member's Report**

Mr. Wright and Mr. Crowley met with the team of representatives that conducted a site visit for the *Schools to Watch* process. They shared that it provided validation that our Middle School is a top-notch school.

Mr. Wright shared that the public comment meeting on Thursday evening will be livestreamed for public participation. District residents are also welcome to attend in person at the MSHS auditorium at 7pm.

Mr. Young shared that Bald for Bucks raised around \$12,000.

Mr. Neu discussed the upcoming delegate meeting agenda items regarding electric buses and costs associated.

**6. Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Gildemeister provided updates to the board:

- He shared that in addition to other recent accolades such as NYS Teacher of the Year, he congratulated all Middle School Staff both past and present for receiving the honor as a School to Watch.
- He shared that there will be a celebration for the *Schools to Watch* honor on 5/25/2023.
- He provided an update on the Bald for Bucks events held.
- He shared information about Black History Month presentations.
- He spoke about transitioning the vote to scan machines provided by Allegany County who also require their own trained personnel to be poll workers.
- He described the \$100k Capital Outlay Project which includes maintenance repairs and improvements and replacing univents. There is a SEQRA resolution to be approved in the motions.
- He provided information on the proposed 2023 Capital Project public Q&A on 3/16/2023. He shared that all aspects of the project will be reviewed. The State Education Department took 18 months to approve and this meeting will give the public the opportunity to share their opinions on each aspect of the project. Some highlights are being able to offer FULL DAY PreK program, demolishing the rainbow hallway due to building maintenance issues and building new classrooms.
- He shared that we have received approval from Section 6 to merge our football program with Portville.
- He clarified some misinformation from social media with a statement about how this will sustain our football program into the future. This statement will be posted to the CRCS webpage.

**7. Consent Agenda Items for Routine Matters (Reference items A-K)**

- a) *Approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting for on February 7, 2023*
- b) *Approval of CSE/CPSE recommendations*
- c) *Approval of setting the annual meeting and vote date for May 16, 2023*
- d) *Approval of setting the voter registration dates for May 2-11, 2023*
- e) *Approval of MOA with Allegany County Board of Elections*
- f) *Approval of CRTA Seniority List*
- g) *Approval of Cafeteria Report for February 2023*
- h) *Approval of Treasurer's Report for February 2023*
- i) *Approval of Extra-Curricular Report for February 2023*
- j) *Approval of Revenue's Report for February 2023*
- k) *Approval of Warrants for February 2023*  
*totaling \$870,711.11 for general fund bills*

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*totaling \$7,559.99 for cafeteria fund bills*  
*totaling \$74,389.75 for federal fund bills*  
*totaling \$83,600.00 for capital fund bills*  
*totaling \$615.41 for extra-curricular fund bills*  
*totaling \$862,065.65 for general fund payroll*  
*totaling \$19,768.20 for cafeteria fund payroll*  
*totaling \$94,712.94 for federal fund payroll*

**Motion pertaining to Approval of Consent Agenda (Reference items A-K)**

**Moved: Mr. Young**

**Seconded: Mrs. Sirianni**

**Motion Carried: 7-0**

**8. Consent Agenda Items for Personnel Matters (Reference items A-E)**

*a) Approval of appointments as follows:*

- 1. Trae Durke to the probationary position of cleaner to be effective March 20, 2023 through March 20, 2024 pending fingerprint and physical clearance. Pay per CRESPA contract.*
- 2. Cloey Kranock to the committed substitute position effective retroactive to February 12, 2023 pay per substitute pay sheet.*
- 3. Nicole Deck to work on an as needed per diem basis at her rate of pay upon her resignation effective through June 30, 2023.*
- 4. Athletic Appointments 2022-2023:*
  - a) Mark Neu to the position of unpaid volunteer Assistant Track Coach.*

*b) Approval of Leave of Absences as follows:*

- 1. Jane Dye to be effective March 27-31, 2023.*
- 2. Deanna Smith (FMLA) to be effective retroactive to February 10, 2023 – approximately March 10, 2023, pending medical release from her physician to return to work.*
- 3. Rochelle Hellier (FMLA) to be effective retroactive to February 8-February 17, 2023, pending medical release from her physician to return to work.*
- 4. Adreanna Wight (FMLA) effective retroactive to February 9, 2023 for the purposes of maternity and child rearing leave pending medical release from her physician to return to work.*

*c) Approval to accept resignation, with regret:*

- 1. Dave Hardman for the purposes of retirement to be effective October 15, 2023, from his Senior Maintenance Mechanic position.*
- 2. Ruthanne Hardman for the purposes of retirement to be effective June 30, 2023, from her Teaching Assistant position.*
- 3. Nicole Deck to be effective retroactive to February 24, 2023, from her Guidance Secretary/Typist position.*
- 4. Mike Antonioli to be effective February 17, 2023, from his cleaner position.*

*d) Approval of support staff substitute list for 2022-2023 as attached including additions; Kaitlyn Campbell - TA; Joelle Cole – TA; Tonya Waite, Nurse and TA.*

*e) Approval of substitute teacher list for 2022-2023 as attached including additions; Alesia Heslin – NC, BA. Tonya Waite, NC – AAS Nursing; Beverly Jones, NC – BS.*

**Approval of Personnel Agenda (Reference items A-E)**

**Moved: Mr. Crowley**

**Seconded: Mr. Young**

**Abstained: A3 – Mr. Neu**

**Motion Carried: 7-0**

**9. APPROVAL OF COOPERATIVE PURCHASING ANNUAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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**WHEREAS**, It is the plan of a number of public school districts in Cattaraugus County and Allegany County, New York, to bid jointly for **various supplies, commodities, and/or services in the 2023-2024 fiscal year, and**

**WHEREAS**, The Cuba-Rushford Central School District is desirous of participating with other school districts in Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties in the joint bidding of all or some of the supplies, commodities, and/or services as mentioned above, as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0, and as determined by district need, and

**WHEREAS**, The Board of Cooperative Educational Services and Boards of Education wish to appoint a committee to assume the responsibility for drafting of specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids, reporting of the results to the Board of Cooperative Educational Services and Boards of Education and making recommendations thereon; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Cuba-Rushford Central School District Board of Education hereby appoints the Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming Board of Cooperative Educational Services to represent it in all matters related above, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Cuba-Rushford Central School District Board of Education authorizes the above mentioned committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned supplies, commodities, and/or services, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Cuba-Rushford Central School District Board of Education agrees to assume its equitable share of the costs of the cooperative bidding, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Cuba-Rushford Central School District Board of Education agrees (1) to abide by the majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards; (2) that unless all bids are rejected, it will award contracts according to the recommendations of the committee; (3) that after award of contract(s) it will conduct all negotiations with the successful bidder(s).

**Approval of Cooperative Purchasing Annual Resolution**

**Moved: Mr. Crowley**

**Seconded: Mr. Neu**

**Motion Carried: 7-0**

10. **APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION ISSUING SEORA NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR PROPOSED CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT 2023**

WHEREAS, the Cuba-Rushford Central School District (hereinafter referred to as the “District”) and its Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”), in an effort to improve its educational facilities, proposes to undertake a Capital Outlay Project 2023 consisting of various additions, renovations, upgrades, and site work improvements including items described in the accompanying Negative Declaration; and

WHEREAS, the Cuba Rushford Central School District has Unit Vent Controls replacement, as more fully set forth in the proposal of the architects/engineers retained by the District which is herein incorporated by reference; and

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WHEREAS, the District proposes Unit Vent Controls replacement at the Elm Street Elementary School Building which is classified as a Type 2 action; and

WHEREAS, the project is classified as a Type 2 action and is subject to review within the requirements of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR); and the District and its Board are the “Lead Agency” for purposes of undertaking the environmental review of the proposed action; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, Marathon Engineering, on behalf of the District, has prepared a full environmental assessment statement, which is now on file with the Cuba Rushford Central School District, and may be reviewed at the District offices, 5475 Route 305 North, Cuba, New York 14727; and

WHEREAS, the District/Board has duly considered the proposed action, the Environmental Assessment Form, the criteria for determining whether the action will have a significant adverse impact on the environment as set forth in 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617.7(c) of the SEQRA regulations, and such other information deemed appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the District/Board has identified the relevant areas of environmental concern, has taken a hard look at these areas, and has made a reasoned elaboration of the basis for its determination.

WHEREAS, the District, through its architects/engineers, has undertaken and fully completed a coordinated review of the project; and

WHEREAS, any comments from the Town and Village of Cuba and the Town of Rushford in addition to the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, New York State Department of Transportation, and County of Allegany have been received by the District or have no comments have been made and a response to same, if relevant, has been submitted with such issues having been fully reviewed and considered as set forth in Part III of the Full Environmental Assessment Form; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Law, the Cuba Rushford Central School District assumes lead agency status;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Cuba-Rushford Central School District Board of Education that:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Cuba Rushford Central School District upon the recommendation of the Superintendent hereby assumes the role of lead agency for the purpose of determining what significance this project has on the environment, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Cuba Rushford Central School District, as Lead Agency, hereby determines that the proposed Type 2 action, as described in the attached SEQR Negative Declarations, Notice of Determination of Non-Significances, which attached notices are hereby made part of this resolution, will not have a significant effect on the environment and that an environmental impact statement is not required to be prepared with respect to said proposed action.

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RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of the District is authorized to sign and file or have filed on behalf of the District and its Board all documents necessary to comply with SEQRA.

RESOLVED, that this resolution is effective immediately.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of March, 2023 by the Cuba-Rushford Central School District Board of Education.

**Approval of Resolution Issuing SEQRA Negative Declaration for Proposed Capital Outlay Project 2023**

**Moved: Mrs. Sirianni**

**Seconded: Mr. Neu**

**Motion Carried: 7-0**

11. **APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO BAN PARENT FROM SCHOOL PROPERTY**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the following resolution to ban the individual as noted below:

**An issue has arisen again with respect to a parent who has been repeatedly abusive to staff, parents and students and who has been aggressive and threatening to staff and community members while on District property to the point that legal proceedings have been undertaken and Orders of Protection issued by the judiciary. In spite of previous attempts to quell such behavior, changes have not been made and there is a real and legitimate concern that further inappropriate and potentially violent instances could jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of the students, staff and visitors to our schools. In light of these behaviors, the Superintendent is directed to advise the individual that the individual is banned from being on District property or at any District event until further notice and in the event of a failure to honor this decision, the appropriate personnel are instructed to engage the services of the police to enforce this determination.**

**Approval of Resolution to ban parent from school property**

**Moved: Mr. Crowley**

**Seconded: Mr. Neu**

**Motion Carried: 7-0**

12. **Administrative Reports**

Dr. Ralston shared that CRCS has been recognized to represent a model Middle School by Schools to Watch. She shared that the final decision is based on enthusiasm and observations by the team that visited CR. This is an honor to be recognized!

Miss Mosher provided information about the upcoming Character Ed assembly. She shared that Read Across America was well attended.

13. **Public Forum**

Ashley Hunt expressed her concerns about a lack of information being provided to the public prior to the decision to merge football programs with Portville.

14. **Executive Session**

**Motion to go into Executive Session at 8:45pm to discuss personnel.**

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**Moved: Mrs. Sirianni**

**Seconded: Mr. Neu**

**Motion Carried: 7-0**

**Motion to go out of Executive Session at 9:40pm.**

**Moved: Mr. Young**

**Seconded: Mrs. Sirianni**

**Motion Carried: 7-0**

**15. Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:41pm**

**Moved: Mrs. Sirianni**

**Seconded: Mr. Neu**

**Motion Carried: 7-0**

Respectfully Submitted:

Heather Pfeiffer  
Board Clerk