

ALEXANDER CENTRAL SCHOOL
Board of Education Meeting

Date: October 3, 2018
Kind: Public Hearing
Time: 5:45 P.M.
Place: MS/HS Auditorium

Members Present: John Slenker, President
Richard Guarino, Vice-President
Sara Fernaays

Member Absent: Molly Grimes
Brian Paris

Also Present: Catherine Huber, Superintendent
Tim Batzel Gretchen Rosales William Roy John Falls
Roger Pohl Kathy Pohl Philip Gaudy Fred Daniels
William Wagner Marion Franks Josh Adair Paul Adair
Eric Radder Ann Miller, District Clerk

At our May 2018 Board of Education meeting, members of our community asked that we revisit the Veterans' Tax Exemption. In the spring, representatives from the Board and the school district joined local veterans for a discussion. The district committed to hosting a forum in the fall to discuss this matter.

Tim Batzel explained the exemption, the eligibility criteria, and the impact on taxpayers.

District residents were given the opportunity to share their opinions and ask questions.

The Veterans' Tax Exemption will be discussed on the November 7th Board agenda.

Gretchen Rosales informed residents of the Veterans' Day activities being planned for Friday, November 9th. A luncheon will be held in the High School and a Meet & Greet in the Elementary School. Information flyers were distributed.

Ann M. Miller, District Clerk

ALEXANDER CENTRAL SCHOOL

Board of Education Meeting

The mission of the Alexander Central School District is to challenge students to be confident, contributing learners within a structured, safe and caring environment

Date: October 3, 2018
Kind: Regular
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Place: MS/HS Conference Room 112

Members Present: John Slenker, President
Richard Guarino, Vice-President
Brian Paris
Molly Grimes
Sara Fernaays

Also Present: Catherine Huber, Superintendent
Tim Batzel Gretchen Rosales Kathy Busch Rose Howard
Sharleen Dunbar Lisa Atkinson Becky Cokelet Kolbee Koch
Jonathan Bigsby Cody Ball Ann Miller, District Clerk

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Alexander Central School District was held in the MS/HS, Conference Room 112 on Wednesday, October 3, 2018. President John Slenker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Res. No. 32: Motion offered by a Molly Grimes and seconded by Brian Paris. Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Alexander Central School District, approves the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Yes – 5 No - 0 Motion carried

PRESENTATIONS

Kathy Busch presented and update and overview of the Special Education program.

ROUNDTABLE

Board Member reports:

Brian Paris attended the Powder Puff and Homecoming games. He commented on the fine job done by our buildings and grounds department to keep our schools in great condition.

Rich Guarino felt the Veterans’ Tax Hearing went well and he thanked Tim Batzel for the presentation. He suggested inviting a Scouts troop in for a flag ceremony.

Sara Fernaays liked how excitement was spread into the Elementary during homecoming week.

At the 2030 Summit conference, John Slenker learned about several free Microsoft programs and suggested looking into these potential resources..

Superintendent’s Report:

Student and Staff Celebrations:

- Congratulations to Nick Allen - 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program "Commended Student." About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2019 competition by taking the 2017 PSAT/NMSQT.
- Congratulations to 2018 graduate Austin Davis who became an Eagle Scout on September 12, 2018. We are so proud of Austin!
- The Jazz Experience was a featured ensemble at the Vintage Cow Harvest Festival on Sunday, September 23. AJE performed rock, blues, jazz, and funk for 90 minutes in an outdoor venue.
- On October 9th, AJE will host the “Lucky Chops,” a world renowned brass band that features musicians from the NYC music scene. They will provide a 30 minute master class to AJE as well as a 30-40 minute jam session with our own students from AJE. This master class funded by the profits of the Alexander Jazz Invitational last June.

Other Information:

- The Board packet includes an overview of the work that our SRO Deputy Meyer has been doing in the district. We are grateful to have him on staff and appreciate his hard work and commitment to Alexander.
- We are working to automate attendance calls. When a student is absent and the absence is not called in, an automated call will be generated to check in with the parent. Our nurses currently call parents of absent students whose absence has not been called in. Our target date for implementation of our new system is December 1, 2018. Some parents received calls this week when our provider turned the system on in error. This unexpected test of the system was a good one and we know that we will be ready to go when our system is live. Thank you to our families who updated their information on the forms sent home this summer. That information is essential for systems like the attendance calls and School Messenger messages.
- We will be utilizing School Messenger for emergency closings, emergency situations, or situations that impact an entire school or the district. When a School Messenger call goes out, please know that the message is important.
- The district is in the initial planning stages of a Winter Rec program. During summer 2017, the district took over the Summer Rec program from the town. Following that success, we are considering the development of a Winter Rec program for students in kindergarten through Grade 6 on Saturday evenings. We are hopeful that we will be able to provide this program. I will keep the Board and community updated on this opportunity.
- Anyone interested in attending the October 22 evening with GVSBA, please let Ann know so she can register you.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Res. No. 33: Motion offered by Sara Fernaays and seconded by Rich Guarino. Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the personnel actions as presented.

PERSONNEL
ACTIONS

- a. Appointment of Winter Coach Assignments for 2018-2019

<i>Thomas Aldinger</i>	<i>Varsity Wrestling Coach</i>
<i>Donald Gugel</i>	<i>Varsity Wrestling Assistant Coach</i>
<i>Wayne Hanley</i>	<i>Varsity Boys Basketball Coach</i>
<i>Marcia Hirsch</i>	<i>Varsity Girls Basketball Coach</i>
<i>Matt McCracken</i>	<i>Modified Boys Basketball Coach</i>
<i>Paul Santoro</i>	<i>Modified Girls Basketball Coach</i>
<i>Beth Shea</i>	<i>Varsity Swimming Coach</i>
<i>Jessica Sherman</i>	<i>Modified Swimming Coach</i>
<i>Keith Stoerr</i>	<i>Modified Wrestling Coach</i>
<i>Shannon Tiede</i>	<i>Varsity Basketball Cheerleading Coach</i>
<i>Cole Watterson</i>	<i>Modified Boys Basketball Coach</i>
<i>Ben Whitmore</i>	<i>Modified Girls Basketball Coach</i>
<i>Emanuel Williams</i>	<i>JV Boys Basketball Coach</i>
- b. Approval of Additional 2018 Summer Work Day

<i>Allison Hamann</i>	<i>Summer Work Day (1)</i>
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- c. Appointment of Additional Instructional Staff Substitute for 2018-2019

<i>Kim Burns</i>	<i>Teacher/Teacher Assistant</i>
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- d. Appointment of Probationary Non-Instructional Staff

<i>Alicia Dylag</i>	<i>Bus Driver, Full Time</i>
<i>John Kendall</i>	<i>Building Maintenance Mechanic</i>
- e. Appointment of Part-time Non-Probationary Student Helper

<i>Donald Donnelly</i>	<i>Student Helper</i>
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- f. Appointment of Additional Service Staff Substitute for 2018-2019

<i>Kim Burns</i>	<i>Substitute Teacher Aide</i>
<i>Audrey Igla</i>	<i>Substitute Bus Driver</i>
<i>Michael Dylag</i>	<i>Substitute Bus Driver</i>

g. Acceptance of Non-Instructional Resignations/Discontinuance

<i>Michael Dylag</i>	<i>Substitute Bus Driver (Retirement)</i>
<i>Tiffani (McIlmoyle)</i>	
<i>Hargrave</i>	<i>Substitute School Monitor (Cafeteria)</i>
<i>Audrey Igla</i>	<i>Bus Driver, Part Time (Resignation)</i>
<i>John Kendall</i>	<i>Senior Custodian (Resignation)</i>

Yes – 5 No - 0 Motion carried

BUSINESS MATTERS

Res. No. 34: Motion offered by Brian Paris and seconded by Rich Guarino. Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the business matters as presented.

BUSINESS MATTERS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. A special meeting of the qualified voters of the Alexander Central School District shall be held Room 112 of the Middle-High School in said District, on Monday, December 3, 2018, between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 8:00 P.M., for the purpose of voting on the proposition described in the notice of special meeting hereinafter set forth.

2. Said special meeting shall be called by giving the following notice thereof:

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF
ALEXANDER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the qualified voters of the Alexander Central School District shall be held Room 112 of the Middle-High School in said District, on Monday, December 3, 2018, between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 8:00 P.M. The following proposition will be submitted for voter approval at said meeting:

PROPOSITION

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Alexander Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake certain capital improvements consisting of construction and reconstruction of school buildings and facilities, including, without limitation, Elementary School reconstruction, the demolition of the existing transportation facility and the construction of a new bus garage, various site and athletic field improvements and the acquisition of certain original furnishings, equipment, and apparatus and other incidental improvements required in connection therewith for such construction and school use, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$12,620,000; and to appropriate and expend from existing capital reserve funds \$1,900,000 for such costs and \$705,000 from current available funds for such costs, and that the balance of such cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments, with such tax to be partially offset by state aid available therefor; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$10,015,000 shall be issued.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the text of the aforesaid proposition may appear on the ballot labels in the following abbreviated form:

PROPOSITION

Shall the proposition set forth in the legal notice of this special voter meeting, authorizing addition to, construction, reconstruction and equipping of school buildings and facilities, including, without limitation, elementary school building reconstruction and bus garage demolition and the construction of a new bus garage, site, athletic field, and incidental improvements, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$12,620,000; with the expenditure of \$1,900,000 from existing capital reserve funds and \$705,000 available current funds for such costs, the issuance of not to exceed \$10,015,000 of debt obligations of the School District therefor, and the levy of a tax in annual installments therefor, with such tax to be partially offset by state aid available therefor, all as more fully described in said notice, be approved?

The School District, acting as lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act and the applicable regulations promulgated thereunder (“SEQRA”), has completed its environmental review and, on September 19, 2018, duly issued a negative declaration and determined and found a portion of the proposition to be an unlisted action which will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts, and, on September 19, 2018, duly determined and found a portion of the proposition to be a type II action which will not have a significant impact on the environment and is not subject to any further environmental review under SEQRA.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots to vote on the proposition may be applied for at the office of the School District Clerk. Any such application must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the date of the aforesaid special district meeting if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before such special district meeting if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued shall be available for public inspection in the office of the District Clerk during regular office hours on each of the five days prior to the day of the vote (excluding Saturday and Sunday). An absentee ballot must reach the office of the District Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of such special district meeting.

3. At such meeting taxes to be levied by installments will be proposed providing for payment of such capital costs and providing for the financing costs therefor. Such taxes shall be levied upon all the taxable property of the District, shall be levied in annual installments and shall be of such amounts and levied in such years as may be determined by the Board of Education.

4. The District Clerk or the Clerk’s designee is hereby directed to publish a copy of said notice of special meeting in two newspapers having general circulation within the School District in the manner prescribed by law for publication of notice of the annual meeting of the School District.

5. All actions by the School District prior to the final environmental determination by the Board of Education, if any, are hereby found and determined to have been preliminary planning activities under SEQRA necessary to the formulation of a proposal for action which did not commit the School District to commence, engage in, fund or approve any portion of the proposed capital improvement project and financing therefor.

6. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Duly put to a vote as follows:

	AYES	NAYS
Molly Grimes	X	
Brian Paris	X	
Richard Guarino	X	
Sara Fernaays	X	
John Slenker	X	

Yes – 5 No - 0 Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

Tri-Town Discussion:

Dr. Huber provided background on the development of the facilities use policy and practices as well as her meeting with the President and Vice President of TriTown in Spring 2018 regarding the new policy and fee structure. Board policy #3820 was adopted in December 2017 with the sole purpose of providing access to the school facilities while ensuring that the facilities were cared for in the manner that the community has come to expect. The facilities use committee consisted of faculty, staff, administrators, coaches, and Board members. Some of the committee members were current or former TriTown parents and coaches.

During the Spring 2018 meeting, during conversations with TriTown members, and at a June 2018 Board meeting, Dr. Huber stated that the district would be flexible around the fees for the 2018-19 school year because the process and the fee structure represented a new process/practice. At that time, the district indicated that the chaperone fee would be waived for the 2018-29 school year.

On September 28, 2018, the district was notified by TriTown that TriTown was cancelling their basketball season due to the fees charged by the school district.

The fee that the district planned to charge TriTown for the 18-19 basketball season was \$1240 for the entire season. That amount covered M-F use of our elementary gym from 5:30-9:00 for 60+ days (November - March) in addition to eight, eight hour Saturdays. The district offered to allow TriTown to use the MS/HS gym when available while charging only the cost of the elementary school gym. The district waived the chaperone fee for the 2018-19 school year. Even at the full rate with the chaperone fee waived, the season would have cost \$1840.

As the community is aware, TriTown chose to build a football field on the Firemans' Rec Hall property this summer and did not use the district field for football. If TriTown had used the district football field for their four home games and paid the full facilities fee with the chaperone fee waived, the total cost would have been \$800 for the season.

Dr. Huber shared that she and Rob Adams held a very productive meeting with representatives from TriTown in late September at the request of TriTown. During that conversation, the importance of TriTown and the district working together to create great experiences for our students was discussed and reinforced. At that meeting, TriTown was asked to put in a facilities use form for the dates needed and the district offered to adjust fees as discussed in every other meeting in order to support TriTown during this transition year and because the other options explored by TriTown were cost prohibitive to the organization. TriTown submitted a signed facilities use form. The district is holding those dates even though TriTown has indicated that the organization is not interested in using district facilities and that the basketball season is cancelled.

The Board engaged in a discussion about the facilities fees and the relationship between TriTown and district.

CONSENT AGENDA

Res. No. 35: Motion offered by Molly Grimes and seconded by Sara Fernaays. Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Consent Items as presented.

- a. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting 9-19-18
- b. Approval of Minutes Audit Committee Meeting 9-19-18
- c. Acceptance of Internal Claims Audit report 9-17-18
- d. Acceptance of Warrants: Federal #1,#2, General Fund #4
- e. Acceptance of July and August Treasurer's Report, Extra Class Multiple Acct. Report & Bank Reconciliation, Appropriation Status Report and Revenue Status Report
- f. Approval of CSE/CPSE Recommendations
- g. Approval of Intermunicipal MoA for Merged Athletic Team (Gymnastics)
- h. Approval of Agreement between Alexander Central and the Parents of a particular student
- i. Approval of New Technology Course Proposal, AP Computer Science A
- j. Acceptance of Gift (\$500 from Walmart for Robotics club)
- k. Acceptance of Gift (5 Chromebooks from anonymous donor at DonorsChoose.org for elementary classroom use)

Yes – 5 No - 0 Motion carried

Res. No. 36: Motion offered by Brian Paris and seconded by Rich Guarino at 8:22 P.M. that the Board move directly into Executive Session to discuss particular personnel issues and negotiations.

Yes – 5 No - 0 Motion carried

Ann M. Miller, District Clerk

Executive Session began at 8:30 P.M.

Res. No. 37: Motion offered by Brian Paris and seconded by Rich Guarino that the meeting be adjourned. President, John Slenker adjourned the meeting at 8:47 P.M.

Catherine Huber, Clerk Pro Tem

CONSENT
ITEMS

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

ADJOURNMENT