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**FALCONER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
APRIL 19, 2023, AT 6:30 PM  
HELD IN THE MEDIA CENTER  
AT HARVEY C. FENNER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

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Members Present: Tracy Schrader  
Tom Frederes  
Robert Carpenter  
Ro Woodard  
Marcella Centi  
Heather Cardot  
Mark Wilcox

Members Excused: none

Administration Present: Stephen Penhollow, Superintendent

Others Present: Brent Agett  
Jamie Bowman  
Gary Gilbert, H.C. Fenner Elementary School Principal  
Scott Peterson, Head Bus Driver  
Dave Micek, Director of Facilities  
Fenner teachers

**CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT:**

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Tracy Schrader, at 6:34 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The public was invited to address the Board of Education. No one wished to address the Board.

- A motion was made by Marcella Centi and seconded by Heather Cardot to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2023, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

- A motion was made by Tom Frederes and seconded by Ro Woodard to add the additions and/or deletions to the agenda.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

## **EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS:**

- The Fenner teachers gave the following updates:
  - Carrie Roth (5th-grade team)
    - STEM Wars overview and results.
    - Upcoming Battle of the Books at Chautauqua Institution.
    - AMPLIFY Science program getting students ready for testing next year.
    - Buddy Leadership program for preparing 4th-grade students for the changes in 5th grade.
    - Currently piloting two ELA programs.
    - The 5th-grade band and chorus concert was held on April 18th. The number of band members is increasing.
  - Jackie Bohall and Nancy Payne (4th-grade team)
    - Thank you to the Board and the Administration for allowing so much volunteer involvement to help meet the rising needs of students. Class sizes are smaller but the emotional needs are greater.
    - A summary was given of the Native American projects that were recently completed and there was an overview of past and upcoming field trips.
  - Julie Pawlak (3rd-grade team)
    - Currently piloting the Scholastic Reading program and piloted the AMPLIFY Science program last year. The students are enjoying the weather and climate science unit they are currently working on.
    - The students are looking forward to going to Allegany State Park on April 21st and going to see *Amelia Bedelia* in May.
  - Emily Narraway and Molly (Fenner therapy dog) (Special education)
    - Thank you to the Board for allowing therapy dogs in the schools. They are having a great impact on the kids and the staff.
    - Mrs. Stanton's class attended the CA BOCES Winter Carnival at Holiday Valley in February and had a great time.
    - Special Olympics are coming up on May 12th at the athletic field.
    - The special education classes will be going on field trips to Midway State Park and the Erie Zoo.
  - Sue Arrance (AIS)
    - Summary of the Summer Reading Challenge.
    - Just completed PARP (Pick a Reading Partner). The JCC basketball teams came to read to the students and the students enjoyed the dress-up theme days.
    - The Scholastic Fair will be held again this year and parents are invited to the building to view all of the projects.
    - The Race Into Summer With Reading program was summarized.

Ro Woodard reminded the staff that all 4th-grade students are eligible for a free pass to New York State Parks.

Gary Gilbert thanked the PTO for all of the support for the projects and fun activities for the students.

Fenner teachers left the meeting at 7:02 PM

### **DEPARTMENT/STAFF REPORTS:**

- Report from Todd Beckerink, School Safety Advisor
- Scott Peterson, Head Bus Driver
  - A discussion was held regarding McKinney-Vento students and cooperation with other districts for bussing these students and the issues that these students are facing.
  - The prices of vehicles, tires, and maintenance costs were discussed as well as when vehicles will need to be replaced.
  - Nightly parking accommodations for all of the vehicles were discussed.
- David Micek, Director of Facilities
  - Provided an overview of the maintenance crew, and custodial and cleaning staff.
  - Projected equipment replacement dates and new equipment purchases were discussed.
  - A discussion was held about what services the village will provide to the District.
  - A summary of the upcoming kitchen equipment project was given.
  - A discussion was held regarding when it is decided to trade in equipment.

Scott Peterson and David Micek left the meeting at 7:48 PM

### **INFORMATION:**

Robert Carpenter provided a brief explanation of BOCES budget law.

### **Administrative Reports:**

Summaries of reports presented at the Board Meeting are included below. Additional details and information are included in the board packet written administrative reports.

- Brent Agett -
  - There is a small change to the first draft of the budget.
  - Overview of ERS and health insurance rates.
  - Late-add to BOCES Commitment from March (Dunkirk and Falconer tech assistants).
- Steve Penhollow -
  - CCSBA Honors Night coming up on May 23rd.
  - Board of Education petitions were received for Heather Cardot and Mark Wilcox.
  - A meeting was held on April 19th to discuss the ongoing annexation proposal. So far nothing has been decided. Discussion about the reduction in assessed value of the Dow Street substation. The next meeting will be at the BPU on May 10.
  - Overview of the current and upcoming construction projects.
  - Discussion about the School and Safety Officer positions.

- The budget vote is upcoming and school administration will be at the local libraries for public questions.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Ro Woodard questioned whether the 2023-2024 school calendar would be altered to take off April 8, 2024, for the solar eclipse. A discussion was held; no decision has been made yet.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A motion was made by Marcella Centi and seconded by Ro Woodard to approve the CSE minutes from March 21, 22, 23, 27, 29, 30 and April 11, 12, 13, and 14, 2023 / CPSE minutes from March 30, 2023.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

- A motion was made by Robert Carpenter and seconded by Tom Frederes to approve the BOCES Board Member Election Ballot/Certification (attached).

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

- A motion was made by Robert Carpenter and seconded by Heather Cardot to approve the authorization for the Board President to sign the BOCES Commitment Statement and the Superintendent to sign the BOCES Commitment Form for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$2,969,722.77.

Voting Yes - 7  
Voting No - 0  
Motion Carried

- A motion was made by Marcella Centi and seconded by Heather Cardot to approve the appointment of Ro Woodard as permanent chairperson for Falconer Central School's Annual Budget Meeting.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

- A motion was made by Ro Woodard and seconded by Mark Wilcox to approve the request from Tara Warren for travel with students to the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford in Bradford, PA, on April 26, 2023, for a college tour.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

**POLICIES:**

- First reading of revised Policy 6150, Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs, and Other Substances.
- First reading of revised Policy 6161, Conference/Travel Expense Reimbursement.
- First reading of revised Policy 6170, Safety of Students-Fingerprinting Clearance of New Hires.
- A motion was made by Ro Woodard and seconded by Mark Wilcox for the approval of the following policies:
  - o Policy 6110, Code of Ethics for Board Members and All District Personnel.
  - o Policy 6120, Equal Employment Opportunity.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

**FINANCE:**

- A motion was made by Robert Carpenter and seconded by Tom Frederes to approve the claim schedules, as of April 4 and April 19, 2023.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

- A motion was made by Robert Carpenter and seconded by Ro Woodard to approve the 2023-2024 Proposed School Budget in the amount of \$29,515,418.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

- A motion was made by Tom Frederes and seconded by Robert Carpenter to approve the 2023-2024 Property Tax Report Card.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS:**

- Robert Carpenter provided an update on his continuing research of the viability of the gas well.

**TRANSPORTATION:**

- A motion was made by Ro Woodard and seconded by Heather Cardot to approve the non-public school transportation request for the 2023-2024 school year:

Chautauqua Christian Academy

For: Danielle Conroe  
Mason Muscarella, gr. 1  
18 Elmeere Ave.  
Falconer, NY 14733

For: Emma Liuzzo  
Josephine Liuzzo, gr. K  
2126 Buffalo St. Ext.  
Jamestown, NY 14701

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

- A motion was made by Ro Woodard and seconded by Heather Cardot to approve the late, non-public school transportation request for the 2023-2024 school year, subject to space available and at no cost to the District:

Chautauqua Christian Academy

For: Liz Smith  
William (Xander) Smith, gr. 7  
3843 Ellington St.  
Kennedy, NY 14747

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- A motion was made by Tom Frederes and seconded by Heather Cardot to enter into Executive Session at 8:43 PM to discuss proposed, pending, or current litigation.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

Gary Gilbert left the meeting at 8:43 PM

- Board President, Tracy Schrader, reconvened the Regular Session of the Falconer Central School Board meeting at 8:59 PM.

**PERSONNEL:**

- Personnel item #4 was added to the deletions.
- A motion was made by Heather Cardot and seconded by Mark Wilcox for the Board of Education of the Falconer Central School District to approve the following personnel items:
  - o Resignation of Kathleen Busekist, LPN aide, effective March 27, 2023.
  - o Revised request from Casey Barber for maternity leave, beginning on April 17, 2023, through July 7, 2023, in accordance with Board Policy 6551.
  - o Addition of Tina Duliba, retired high school guidance counselor, to the substitute teaching list.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried

**EXTRA ENCLOSURES:**

- Temple Elementary April 2023 Dream Team Calendar
- CIC Minutes – February 8, 2023

**ADJOURN MEETING:**

- A motion was made by Heather Cardot and seconded by Mark Wilcox to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM.

Voting Yes – 7  
Voting No – 0  
Motion Carried



Jamie Bowman  
Assistant Board Clerk  
Assistant District Clerk