

**UNION SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
AGENDA**

**November 13, 2017  
MS/HS Library**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Acceptance of the Agenda and Minutes**

The agenda for the November 13, 2017 Meeting .....	1.1
The minutes of the October 30, 2017 Regular Meeting.....	1.2

***DESSERT RECEPTION FOR  
MAINTENANCE/FACILITIES STAFF***

**Convene Regular Meeting**

**Verbal Communication**

It is the practice of this Board to encourage the community to use this portion of the meeting to share information and concerns with board members. Individuals wishing to address the Board are asked to **sign up in advance** before the meeting or at the beginning of the meeting, giving their name and address to the Board Clerk. Names will be placed on a speakers list and speakers will be called in the order signed up. Speakers are asked to keep their remarks to 5 minutes. Questions raised in “verbal communications” may be referred to the Superintendent to prepare a response by the next morning. The questions will be requested in writing to ensure clarity. At the discretion of the Board President, inaccurate information may be given a response.

**Comments from Visitors**

**Superintendent’s Report:  
Presentations & Reports to the Board:**

- ❖ **Tax Certiorari Claims – Katherine Gavett, Esq.**
- ❖ **Math Minute & Presentation of Class Trips– Chuck Walker**
- ❖ **Radio Replacement**

**School Board ACTION – NEW BUSINESS**

MOTION, to adopt all District, Instruction and Business Resolutions as presented:

Instruction

CSE Recommendations .....	2.1
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Business

Approve Memorandum of Agreement with Cayuga Community College..... 3.1  
Approve Senior Trip – Toronto, Canada – April 13-15, 2017..... 3.2

MOTION to adopt all Personnel resolutions as presented:

Personnel

Appoint 2017-2018 Spring Co-Varsity Baseball Coaches..... 4.1  
Approve Graduate Credits – J. Dean..... 4.2  
*Approve FMLA – J. Bacon..... 4.3*

Next Board Meeting:  
**November 27, 2017, 7:00 PM @ *Bus Garage***  
Reception with Bus Garage Staff and Board of Education

**Adjournment**



UNION SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

MINUTES, of a Regular Meeting of the Union Springs School District Board of Education held on November 13, 2017, at 7:01 p.m. at MS/HS Library.

Members Present: Ann Marie Daum, Robin McKay, Carol Quill, Barry Schwarting, Mary Seitz, Daniel Testa, Tom Weaver (*late arrival: 7:10 p.m.*)

Members Absent: Jeffrey Culver, Randy Morehouse

Others Present: Jarett S. Powers, Marge Robbins, Sheila LaDouce, Chuck Walker, Mike Wurster, Katie Graham, Katherine Gavett, Esq., Amy Feeley, Peitress Powers, Todd Rafferty

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Board President Barry Schwarting called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**Acceptance of the Minutes & Agenda**

**Motion by: Ann Marie Daum                      Seconded by: Robin McKay**

- 1.1 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the agenda of the November 13, 2017 Board meeting (*with the inclusion of addendum/personnel item 4.3*).
- 1.2 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the minutes of the October 30, 2017 Regular Board meeting (*with some minor corrections*).

**Carried: 6-0**

**DESSERT RECEPTION FOR  
MAINTENANCE/FACILITIES STAFF**

Superintendent Powers announced that the board would take a break for refreshments to thank the maintenance and facilities staff. Todd Rafferty, Head of Building Maintenance was in attendance.

President Barry Schwarting also presented Superintendent Powers with a new name plate, “Dr. Jarett Powers” and the board members, administrators and audience all congratulated Dr. Powers on his graduation from Sage Colleges with a doctorate in educational leadership on November 9, 2017.

*There was a brief break with light refreshments for the celebrations.*

### **Convene Regular Meeting – 7:25 p.m.**

### **Comments from Visitors - NONE**

### **Superintendent’s Report: Presentations/Reports to the Board**

#### **❖ Tax Certiorari Claims – Katherine Gavett, Esq.**

Katherine Gavett, Esq. from Ferrara, Fiorenza Law Firm gave the board an overview of assessment challenges and school tax refunds that she is currently controverting for the district.

REHC5 (Johnson Paper property) on Routes 5 & 20 has a PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) of which is in year three of a fifteen year PILOT. It is not expected that this matter will affect school taxes, in that it only relates to special district charges.

NECG Fingerlakes, LLC involves the power center located across the street from the Finger Lakes Mall. Attorneys are in a discovery phase of this assessment challenge and Ferrara, Fiorenza are defending the district vigorously to challenge the petitioner’s request for a refund.

The Grober Pilot is a matter that involves a PILOT entered into between the Cayuga County IDA and Grober Nutrition LLC. The IDA forwarded an application to the Town of Aurelius Assessor in 2015. The Assessor failed to move the property from the taxable section of the assessment roll to the exempt section of the assessment roll. It has now been corrected, but the error has caused a loss to the school district currently of approximately \$109,000. According to the Real Property Tax Law, the district cannot file an Article 78 Proceeding against the Town of Aurelius to recoup the funds, as the error doesn’t follow the criteria of the law. Attorney Gavett will continue to work with the Town on other possible resolutions, along with preparation of a letter from the Board of Education to the Town Board of Aurelius to address their extreme dismay in this error. She will also work on letters to local legislators to ask for assistance with additional funding to cover this unexpected loss of 1.5% in the district’s levy.

#### **❖ Math Minute & Presentation of Class Trips – Chuck Walker**

Mr. Walker reported to the board that there is an ESOL student that is learning English while also learning Math through a translation program on his electronic device.

The senior trip is scheduled for Toronto, Canada April 13, 2017 – April 15, 2017. Mr. Walker heard from the border patrol earlier in the day that students will only need their birth certificates to cross the border into Canada and back to the United States. President Barry Schwarting expressed concerns regarding the possibilities of potential student discipline and student

illness/injury and parents inability to get across the border to assist their child. Mr. Walker assured the board that there are systems in place. He would be able to cross the border with the child to meet the parent or the Consulate could also help if a parent didn't have the required passport or enhanced driver's license to get across the border.

❖ **Radio Replacement**

Superintendent Powers, Marge Robbins and Todd Rafferty and Martial Bergerstock met with Finger Lakes Communications regarding a replacement radio system throughout the district. The new radios are digital and the Finger Lakes Communications would need to first make application for an FCC license for the system for the district. This process will take several months and they would like to do this as soon as possible. The current fleet of radios is at the end of the life cycle and most do not work at all. The district is in dire need of radios that have the capacity to communicate between all schools and the bus garage. Marge Robbins will check to see if there is government contract pricing for the system.

Superintendent Powers attended the Shrek Musical over the weekend as did many of the board members and the students did a fantastic job. Mrs. Jennifer Gordon did a great job with the children and he was pleased that they rented an audio system. It worked very well.

He reported attending the Lead Task Force Meeting earlier in the day and four (4) sites in the schools were tested and all four were clean and passed.

Joseph Reilly who is assisting the district with the *Smart Bonds* funding will be attending a committee meeting on November 27, 2017, and expects that the district is in the que for approval. He will advise after the meeting.

**School Board ACTION – NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion by: Tom Weaver**

**Seconded by: Mary Seitz**

**Instruction:**

2.1 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following **Committee on Pre-School Special Education**, recommendation for the **2017-2018** school year:

#658000418

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following **Committee on Special Education**, recommendation for the 2017-2018 school year:

#658000451

#610384260

#610414681

#610342030

#610386179

#610377461

#610410335

#610389499

#658000005

#610389261

**Business:**

- 3.1 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the District and Cayuga Community College for the *Cayuga Advantage* program (partnership between Cayuga Community College and local school districts) which awards college transcript credits for college courses taught in secondary school settings to qualified high school students.
- 3.2 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Senior Class Trip to Toronto, Canada from Friday, April 13, 2017 through Sunday, April 15, 2017.

**Carried: 7-0**

**Personnel:**

**Motion by: Ann Marie Daum                      Seconded by: Tom Weaver**

- 4.1 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint the following coaches for the 2017-2018 Spring sports season as follows:

<b>Dan Zdanowski</b>	<b>Co-Varsity Baseball Coach</b>	<b>Step #3</b>	<b>\$ 2,699.50</b>
<b>Mitch Fabian</b>	<b>Co-Varsity Baseball Coach</b>	<b>Step #3</b>	<b>\$ 2,699.50</b>

- 4.2 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following increase in graduate credits:

<b>Jason Dean</b>	<b>Technology Teacher</b>	<b>B+99M</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b> <b>(annual stipend)</b>
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- 4.3 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an intermittent leave of absence for **Jane Bacon** for the purpose of medical reasons to include the use of Family Medical Leave in conjunction with the use of sick time from approximately October 3, 2017 through approximately January 1, 2018.

**Carried: 7-0**

**Call for Executive Session**

President Barry Schwarting called for an executive session for the purposes of student discipline at 8:46 p.m.

**Motion by: Tom Weaver                      Seconded by: Mary Seitz**

**Carried: 7-0**

Returned to regular session at 8:54 p.m.

**Adjournment**

**Motion by: Tom Weaver      Seconded by: Ann Marie Daum**

To adjourn the Board meeting at 9:17 p.m.

**Carried: 7-0**

Next Board Meeting:  
**November 27, 2017, 7:00 PM @ *Bus Garage***  
Reception with Bus Garage Staff and Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Castiglia  
District Clerk