

**SCHROON LAKE CENTRAL SCHOOL  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2020**

**7:00 PM Town Pavilion**

**Wear masks if not socially distanced and bring your own chair  
Maximum of 50 people**

**This meeting will not be live streamed but will be available later on Facebook**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bruce Murdock  
Kevin Kelly  
Susan Repko  
Ashley Barry  
Jared Whitley

**BOARD CLERK**

Lisa DeZalia

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Tamara Belanger  
Laura Corey  
Roger & Cathy Peace  
Rachel Pelkey  
Sharon Smith  
Amber Mieras  
Craig & Heather Maisnville  
Nick & Sally Deliberato  
Glen Repko  
Rick Gero  
Lee Silvernail  
Brett Bernhard  
Angela Slaterpryce  
Lisa Gratto  
Christian Gratto  
Mike Sutfin

**MEETING  
TO ORDER**

President Bruce Murdock called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Those present pledged allegiance to the flag.

**PREVIOUS  
MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Susan Repko to accept minutes of July 23, 2020 as presented  
All Board Members voted Yes-5 No- 0 motion carried.

**PREVIOUS  
MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Jared Whitley to accept minutes of July 30, 2020 as presented  
All Board Members voted Yes-5 No- 0 motion carried.

**PUBLIC  
PARTICIPATION**

There were no concern at this time

**BUDGET  
TRANSFERS  
GENERAL  
FUND**

A motion was made by Kevin Kelly, second by Susan Repko to approve the budget transfers for 2018-2019 dated 2-16-19  
All Board members voted Yes- 3 No-0 motion carried

- TREASURER'S REPORT** A motion was made by Susan Repko, second by Ashley Barry to accept the Treasurer's Report dated 8/23/2020.  
All Board Members voted Yes-5 No- 0 motion carried
- CERTIFICATION OF WARRANT** A motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Jared Whitley to approve the extra curricular report for June dated 6/30/20 as presented.  
All Board Members voted Yes- 5 No- 0 motion carried
- EXTRA CURRICULAR REPORT** A motion was made by Kevin Kelly, second by Jared Whitley to approve the June extra curricular report dated 6/30/20 as presented.  
All Board Members voted Yes- 5 No- 0 motion carried
- EXTRA CURRICULAR REPORT** A motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Jared Whitley to approve the July extra curricular report dated 7/31/20 as presented.  
All Board Members voted Yes- 5 No- 0 motion carried
- TAX WARRANT** A motion was made by Susan Repko, second by Ashley Barry to approve the tax warrant to set tax rates as follows: Schroon \$8.22 North Hudson \$7.35 Chester \$8.22  
All Board members voted Bruce Murdock-Yes Susan Repko- Yes Kevin Kelly-Yes Jared Whitley- Yes Ashley Barry – Yes  
All in favor motion carried
- GASB-75 REPORT** A motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Kevin Kelly to approve the GASB 75 report entailing the future benefit expense for employees.  
All Board members voted Yes- 5 No-0 motion carried
- SUPT REPORT** Supt. Gratto reviewed the opening school year schedule allowing two professional development days at the beginning of the year for staff to attend training. The SLTA suggested one additional day be scheduled to allow time to cover all of the new protocols, have time to develop and submit their remote learning plans as well as time to train with School Tools. It was suggested that November 23<sup>rd</sup> become a regular school day adding September 8<sup>th</sup> as an additional professional development day. September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> will be half days and September 11<sup>th</sup> will be a remote day. There were concerns of attendance with November 23<sup>rd</sup> being the only day students would attend school. Mrs. Barry suggested the 23<sup>rd</sup> be a remote day to address the attendance concern. It was agreed by the Board to make a change to the school calendar.
- BOE AMENDS SCHOOL CALENDAR** A motion was made by Kevin Kelly, second by Susan Repko to amend the 2020-2021 school calendar. November 23, 2020 will now be a remote learning day to allow an additional professional development day for staff on September 8<sup>th</sup>.  
All Board members voted Yes- 5 No-0 motion carried

At this time 78% of students will be returning in person. 13% are remote and 9% have gone to homeschool. Remote learning will look very different this year. Remote students will be expected to be online during the actual class time. The SLTA has suggested that the in person students be sent home at 2PM to allow additional time to reach remote learners. Mr. Whitley is in support of the early dismissal, it will be necessary to support the remote program Mrs. Barry stated that sending 160 kids home early to support 40 students did not seem practical. Although this may not meet the requirements of hours of instruction, Supt Gratto was in support of the idea with it being evaluated at five weeks. There should be a waiver for the 990 hours of instruction.

**EARLY DISMISSAL** A motion was made by Susan Repko, second by Kevin Kelly to approve the early dismissal of 2:00 pm for in person learners to allow additional time to be spent with the remote students. This dismissal time will be reevaluated at five weeks. All Board members voted Yes- 4 No-1 (Ashley Barry)

**FALL SPORTS** Mr. Silvernail updated the board of the NYSPHSAA decision to postpone fall sports until September 21<sup>st</sup>. At this point the decision would be left up to the school districts. Only two spectators would be allowed per athlete with social distancing being practiced. Students will be asked to wear masks with more direct guidance coming soon. Mrs. Barry asked if we have enough athletes for our own team why we would merge with another district. Mr. Silvernail will get an idea of how many students would want to play with the new guidelines and get more information to the Board before a decision could be made. Another meeting will be scheduled prior to the start of the season.

**BOE APPROVES OT** Upon the recommendation of Supt. Gratto, a motion was made by Jared Whitley, second by Ashley Barry to approve Katheryn Kitchen Snide to provide twenty one hours of Occupational Therapy at the rate of \$75.00 per hour beginning September 1, 2020 and concluding August 31, 2021. All Board members voted Yes- 5 No-0 motion carried.

**ACCEPT AIDE RESIGNATION** Upon the recommendation of Supt. Gratto, a motion was made by Kevin Kelly, second by Susan Repko to regretfully accept the resignation of Megan DeZalia as a teacher's aide effective September 1, 2020. All Board members voted Yes -4 No-0 1- Abstain ( Ashley Barry)

**BOE APPOINTS CLEANER** Upon the recommendation of Supt. Gratto, a motion was made by Susan Repko, second by Kevin Kelly to appoint Mel Torsiello, Jr. as a full time cleaner/ cafeteria worker effective September 2, 2020 . Mr. Torsello will be compensated \$12.50 per hour. This position comes with a six month probationary period beginning on September 2, 2020 and ending on March 2, 2021 All Board members voted Yes- 5 No- 0 motion carried

**CAFÉ WORKER** Upon the recommendation of Supt. Gratto, a motion was made by Jared Whitley, second by Kevin Kelly to appoint Melody Bellot as a temporary part time cafeteria worker effective September 2, 2020. Mrs. Bellot will be compensated \$12.50 per hour. All Board members voted Yes- 5 No-0 motion carried

**BOE** Upon the recommendation of Supt. Gratto, a motion was made by Jared Whitley  
**APPPOINTS** second by Ashley Barry to appoint Lawrence Conley as a non certified substitute  
**SUBS** teacher. Mr. Conley will be compensated \$90.00 per day  
This position is contingent upon completion of the NYSED fingerprinting  
process.  
All Board members voted Yes-5 No-0 motion carried

Upon the recommendation of Supt. Gratto, a motion was made by Jared Whitley  
second by Ashley Barry to appoint Carolyn Gallo as a non certified substitute  
teacher. Mrs. Gallo will be compensated \$90.00 per day  
This position is contingent upon completion of the NYSED fingerprinting  
process.  
All Board members voted Yes- 5 No-0 motion carried

**LABOR** A motion was made by Kevin Kelly, second by Jared Whitley to approve the  
**RELATIONS** inter municipal agreement with the Coxsackie-Athena Central School  
**CONTRACT** for labor relation services for the 2020-2021 school year. Coxsackie - Athens  
**APPROVED** will be compensated \$6000.00 billed in equal monthly installments.  
All Board members voted Yes-5 No-0 motion carried

**CODE** The second read of both the Code of Conduct and the Student Disciplinary Code  
**REVIEW** was completed.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> read** A motion was made by Susan Repko, second by Ashley Barry to approve the  
Code of Conduct for the 2020-2021 school year.  
All Board members voted Yes- 5 No-0 motion carried

**PUBLIC** Heather Maisonville spoke on behalf of a group of parents that were  
**PARTICIPATION** surprised at the negativity by teachers. She is concerned about the climate  
the students will be entering emotionally. Teachers need to be all in to  
make students feel comfortable. Please continue to have a positive  
impact and think through the well being of the children. The new  
information from tonight is equally concerning. An early dismissal of  
80% of the student body means less class time. Also concerning is the  
issue of mask wearing. The CDC guidelines should be recognized and if  
students are social distanced they should be allowed to take their mask off.

**JOINT**  
**STATEMENT** A joint statement from the Board, Supt. Gratto and the SLTA association  
was read by Laura Corey.

Dear Parents and Students,

School is about to open. We want you to know that we are very excited to see our students back, both remote and in-person. Coronavirus has changed everyone's life and it has made educating our students much more difficult. We are pleased with progress students, parents, and educators made in the spring, and we look forward to a successful fall opening.

We realize that everyone has concerns associated with sending students back to school in the time of Coronavirus. While nothing is ever certain, we believe that SLCS has followed the guidelines provided to us for a safe reopening. Federal grant monies have been made available to purchase necessary PPE, cleaning supplies, and cleaning help.

%

We are confident that we can provide an outstanding education to our in-person and remote students that follows the reopening guidelines which require an equitable education for all students that features regular substantive interactions between students and teachers and includes routinely scheduled times for students to interact with and seek feedback and support from their teachers. Again, it is necessary that all students are able to get an equitable education no matter how instruction is delivered.

The Schroon Lake teachers, staff, administrators, and school board members are happy to work together to provide the best possible education for all of our students during these difficult times. We love our students, we are happy to be back, and we are looking forward to school starting in September. We want our students and parents to be excited also. We will all get through this together. Welcome back

PUBLIC  
PARTICIPATION  
CONT

Roger Peace stated that he has had two children graduate from SLCS. He has always been a supporter of public education, however, he is very concerned with the message he has seen online. It seems as though there is a major divide between the teachers association and administration. This will have an effect on our students. Students spend more time with their teachers during the day than they do with their parents and it is important to realize students look up to you. Please consider what is best for students, you can be reasonable and respectful all at the same time

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** A motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Jared Whitley to go into executive session at 8:06 pm for employment history of a particular person or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person.

All Board members Voted Yes- 5 No-0 Motion carried

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** A motion was made by Jared Whitley, second by Ashley Barry to move out of executive session at 9:28 pm.  
All Board members voted Yes -5 No-0 Motion Carried

**ADJOURNMENT** A motion was made by Ashley Barry, second by Jared Whitley to adjourn at 9:29 pm.  
All Board members voted Yes – 5 No-0 Motion Carried

---

District Clerk