

Union Board of Education

Union, CT 06076

Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 6:30 pm

ZOOM only

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:38 pm by Andrea Estell.

Attending: A. Estell, A. Blank, R. Fischetti, E. Fournier, J. Garden, Sup./Prin. S. Jackopsic, M. Powers, Rec. Secretary
Others Attending: A. Agosto, L. Demurjian, J. Kavanagh

Approval of Minutes

E. Fournier made a motion to approve the minutes from December 8, 2021.
Seconded by J. Garden. Unanimously approved.

Individuals to be heard- none.

Communications: Sup./Prin. Jackopsic stated that the 22-23 proposed budget as well as the Superintendent's report will be submitted to the Board of Finance for the annual town report.

Administrative Reports and Activities Summary

a. Superintendent and Principal's report-Sup./Prin. Jackopsic was pleased to report that the staff have been very helpful and flexible this year. The CSDE and DPH have released new protocols. Remote learning in schools is not an option at this time. It will be part of discussion at the next superintendent's meeting.

We were closed on Jan. 3 and 4 after the winter break to allow for extra safety and to distribute COVID-19 test kits to staff and school families. We have plenty of test kits with more on the way. Staff has worked on remote learning plans if we do need to go to remote learning. We have made some internal adjustments-Maker Space has been temporarily paused to support remote learning for absent students; Health classes have been paused to allow nurses more time for weekly COVID-19 testing and other safety issues related to Covid; PE has been temporarily shifted to Wednesday. Response has been good with the mobile van clinics for vaccinations.

The one bus contingency plan has been finalized. Professional development has been paused temporarily. Ms. Agosto and Mr. LaMonica treated the middle school to a movie night before the winter break. SEL focus on gratitude continues. High school registration presentations is next week. Mid-year (STAR) assessments begin soon, as well as NAEP testing for grade 4 only. The January winter/music event is on hold for now.

b. Staff report- Grade 1 and 2 teacher, Alicia Agosto introduced herself and expressed that she enjoys her new teaching position here at Union School.

Committee Reports

a. Curriculum-none.

b. Communication-none.

c. Transportation- Bus contingency plan is in place.

d. Personnel- Next meeting Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 3:15 pm.

- e. Building- Front door alert issue has been resolved (new batteries have been installed).
- f. EASTCONN-none.

Financial Report

- a. Review of bills- The bills were reviewed and in order.
- b. 2021-22 Board of Ed Budget- On target with a ~\$40,000.00 surplus.
- c. 2022-23 Board of Ed Spending Plan- Supt./Prin. Jackopsic will be attending the BOF meeting next Tuesday at 7:00 pm to present projections/22-23 BOE spending plan.

Old Business

- a. BOE Goals and Process- Nick Caruso from CABE will be at the February 23 meeting to discuss the self-evaluations. Staff will be able to share ideas and goals.
- b. Meet and Greet/New Staff Collaborative Session- Targeting February.

New Business

- a. New BOE member appointment- A. Estell introduced Jim Kavanagh to those in attendance. He presented his background and expressed his interest in joining the Board. A. Blank moved to invite and appoint Jim Kavanagh to the Union Board of Education. E. Fournier seconded the motion. The motion to appoint Jim Kavanagh to the Union Board of Education unanimously carried.
- b. School cyber insurance- Sup./Prin. Jackopsic said the Town of Union decided not to renew cyber insurance. After discussion with our IT person, it was determined that since our programs are securely backed up on a nightly basis, we would not be purchasing cyber insurance.
- c. School credit card- Sup./Prin. Jackopsic is discussing the best type of card that would suit us with the EASTCONN CFO for use to expedite some of our purchases. A. Estell recommended drafting a procedure for its use and documentation.
- d. Updated contract tracing, testing and quarantine considerations from CSDE and DPH- Sup./Prin. Jackopsic highlighted the main points on the most recent document that was supplied to board members.

Individuals to be heard- A. Estell welcomed Jim Kavanagh in his new position.

Adjournment

Motion by to adjourn at 7:54 pm. by A. Blank. J. Kavanagh seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Michele Powers, Recording Secretary.