

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

Date of Meeting: September 1, 2021
 Type of Meeting: **REGULAR MEETING**
 Location: Troy Middle School
 Time: 6:00 PM Regular Meeting

I. Call to Order

A. Roll Call

1. Members Present:

Mrs. Ann Apicella	Mrs. Rosemary Coles
Mr. Matthew Flowers, Jr.	Mrs. Diana Heckman
Mr. Tom Mayo	Mrs. Ebony Pompey-Conway
Mr. Donald Miller	Mrs. Anne Wager-Rounds
Mrs. Anne Wager-Rounds	

2. Members Absent: Mrs. Elizabeth Poletto

2. Others Present:
 - Mr. John Carmello, Superintendent
 - Dr. Donna Watson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
 - Mr. Adam Hotaling, Assistant Superintendent for Business
 - Mrs. Kristen Miaski, Director of Human Resources
 - Mr. Anthony Fasano, School Attorney

B. Public Session

At 6:02 pm Mrs. Wager-Rounds called the regular meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. District Announcements:

1. Today wrapped up our New Teacher Orientation, where we had over 70 new staff members participating in sessions that covered all the basics of our district level systems and processes. The excitement and enthusiasm in the room was evident and we look forward to the great work they will accomplish in Troy!

2. The first day of school is quickly approaching! Each day a new video is posted to our Facebook page counting down until the First Day of School. We've heard from the Troy cheerleaders, new board member Donny Miller and new School 2 Principal Amanda Klopott. Head on over to our Facebook page to follow our Back to School Countdown!

D. Public Input on agenda and non-agenda items non-action items

1. Ian McShane - Troy Middle School Principal
 Expresses apologies for miscommunication regarding returning to the middle school. TMS decided in order to get the students back into the building comfortably a decision was made to hold off introducing lockers at the beginning of the school year. We were not intending this to be more than a week, and then they will be able to get more comfortable with getting used to the building and then with the lockers. Mesh bags were purchased to transition back and forth between classes.

2. Van Fronhofer - 72 Oneida Ave
Parent of a 6th grader, 8th grader and recent graduate. He addressed the board regarding the modality of the teaching this year. As an educator, he personally agrees with full in person education, but does not believe it is safe right now. Mr. Fronhofer states that he is also an immunologist and that our region is considered high risk. The region's cases are going up, hospitalizations are rising and we're seeing a new highly transmissible virus in the community. Even with the trend upwards, the community is lessening restrictions. Mr. Fronhofer feels that NYSED failed the community and needed to mandate the vaccine. He recommends promoting masking, social distancing and vaccination mandates.
3. Lisa Dunham - 3 Watson Ave in Troy
Parent of a middle school child and opposes mask mandates and vaccinations. She feels that there is a lack of guidance and that parents should be able to decide. Ms. Dunham believes that she should have the choice whether or not to cover her face, and determine what is put into her children's bodies. She states, the state of emergency ended and now the choice needs to be made by parents.

Mrs. Wager-Rounds thanks the public for their input.

II. Non-Action Items

A. Superintendent Update - Reopening Plan - J. Carmello

Mr. Carmello explains that our reopening plan is based on the CDC guidance, Rensselaer County DOH. NYSDOH has not given us direct guidance as they have last year. NYSED did supply guidance that mirrors the CDC and American Association of Pediatrics. All guidance says that kids need to be in schools. We agree that in-person learning is what our kids need. A full remote option is available for students with severe medical issues which put them at risk. For students who are officially quarantined, either positives or contacts, we will provide synchronous learning opportunities for those students. The social-emotional needs are documented as well, the needs of the students and families will be prioritized making sure we reacclimate and re-engage our students and families.

Mr. Carmello continues to explain that masks will be required, which has now been required by Governor Hochul, to be worn by all in the buildings at all times. Mask breaks will be provided. CDC has recommended 3 feet of social distancing for students, also saying when and where possible. Deep cleanings will happen every night, and high touch surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day. Students and staff will have access to hand sanitizer (classrooms, cafeterias, offices, etc.) Signage will be provided throughout the school reminding students and staff for sanitizing. Students in PreK-Grade 1 will eat in their classroom, which worked well last year. Grades 2-12 will go to the cafeteria with assigned seating in case contact tracing is needed. Students will be allowed to remove their masks when seated and eating. As soon as they are done eating, students will be reminded to put their masks back on.

Buses will be at full capacity, and need to be if we are bringing all of our students back. There will be assigned seating on the bus which will help with contact tracing if and when needed. Windows and roof hatches will be open weather permitting. Deep cleaning will be done daily and high touch surfaces will be cleaned after every run. At the high school, CDTA will provide transportation and will expand to a few more neighborhoods than last year and masks will be required.

All students showing any signs or symptoms of illness should be kept home from school. We are asking parents to help out with this and staff to stay home if ill. If a student shows symptoms while at school a test will be offered by Point-Of-Care testing machines that are being purchased by Rensselaer County for each of our buildings. We will know immediately if the symptoms are Covid related or not. If they are not, they will be able to return to school when their symptoms clear up. Testing will only be given with parent permission.

Athletics, activities and after school programs will resume. Mr. Carmello explains that they are trying to have the most normal school year as possible. After school programs at elementary school will start around October. Students/staff must wear masks and maintain appropriate social distancing to the extent possible. Athletes playing high risk sports will be required to test weekly and vaccinations are encouraged. Visitors and volunteers will be welcomed again in our schools. They will be screened and will need to follow our safety protocols in place.

B. Employee Transfer 2021-2022 School Year (For notification purposes only)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM POSITION</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO POSITION</u>	<u>TO</u>
Jeffrey Alaskey	Laborer-Nights	PS2	Laborer-Days	THS

III. Action Items

A. Superintendent's Recommendations - Human Resources - Staff Matters - Unclassified and Classified *(Reviewed by D. Watson and A. Hotaling)*

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, NY, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following unclassified and classified personnel actions:

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Unclassified Items 1-10 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway

Discussion: None

Carried: 8-0

Unclassified Items 1-9 (within linked document)

10. Unclassified Employees Student Interns (Unpaid)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COLLEGE</u>	<u>AREA OF STUDY</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATES</u>	<u>SUPERVISOR</u>	<u>ASSIGN.</u>
Cameron Regan	St. Rose	Speech	9/7/21-12/23/21	Amy Gettig	PS14

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Classified Items 1-7 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway

Discussion: None

Carried: 8-0

Classified Items 1-7 (within linked document)

[Staff Matters \(Unclassified and Classified\)](#)

B. Superintendent Recommendations - Programs *(Reviewed by D. Watson)*

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Items 1-10 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway

Discussion: None

Carried: 8-0

1. Special Education Placements

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Special Education has submitted to the Board of Education students having the registration numbers as listed in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 classes for students with special needs.

[2020-2021 Special Education Placements](#)

[2021-2022 Special Education Placements](#)

2. Rebekah Magin d.b.a. Prana Mani (2021-2022 Contract - Susan O'Dell Taylor School)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Rebekah Magin d.b.a. Prana Mani for professional development at the Susan O'Dell Taylor School from September 2021 through August 2022 at a cost of \$1,300.00 to be paid from the Title IV grant funds.

[Rebekah Magin d.b.a. Prana Mani \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

3. [Rebekah Magin d.b.a. Prana Mani \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Rebekah Magin d.b.a. Prana Mani for district-wide trauma informed professional development from September 2021 through August 2022 at a cost of \$59,400.00 to be paid from the Title IV grant funds.

[Rebekah Magin d.b.a. Prana Mani \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

4. [Rebekah Magin d.b.a. Prana Mani \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Rebekah Magin d.b.a. Prana Mani for trauma sensitive services for homeless students from September 2021 through August 2022 at a cost of \$4,275.00 to be paid from the McKinney-Vento grant funds.

[Rebekah Magin d.b.a. Prana Mani \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

5. [Expressive Journeys LLC \(2021-2022 PreK Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Expressive Journeys LLC for music therapy in PreK classrooms from September 2021 through June 2022 at a cost of \$40,000.00 to be paid from the PreK grant funds.

[Expressive Journeys LLC \(2021-2022 PreK Contract\)](#)

6. [Rose and Greene Consulting, LLC \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Rose and Greene Consulting, LLC for MMI design and utilization/interim testing program technical support from September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 at a cost of \$10,500.00 to be paid from the Title I grant funds.

[Rose and Greene Consulting, LLC \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

7. [Discipline Associates, LLC \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Discipline Associates, LLC for district-wide professional development services from September 2021 through August 2022 at a cost of \$25,000.00 to be paid from the Title I grant funds.

[Discipline Associates, LLC \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

8. [Four Winds Hospital \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Four Winds Hospital for special education services from September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 at a cost of \$35.00 per hour, per student to be paid from the Special Education grant funds.

[Four Winds Hospital \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

9. [Lester Giron \(PsyD\) - Bilingual Psychologist \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts

the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Lester Giron (PsyD) - Bilingual Psychologist for special education services from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 at a cost of \$1900.00 per individual evaluation to be paid from the Special Education grant funds.

[Lester Giron \(PsyD\) - Bilingual Psychologist \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

10. North Greenbush Common School District Instructional Contract (2021-2022 Contract)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve an instructional contract with North Greenbush Common School District for instructional services for students in Grades 6-12 for the 2021-2022 school year commencing on July 1, 2021 per rate set by NYS.

[North Greenbush Common School District \(2021-2022 Contract\)](#)

C. Superintendent Recommendations - Business Finance *(Reviewed by A. Hotaling)*

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Items 1-2 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway

Discussion: None

Carried: 8-0

1. Surplus

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby accepts the inventory list of technology items to be declared as surplus as they have exceeded their useful life and will be recycled.

[Technology Inventory List](#)

2. Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA) Agreement 2021-2022

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves an agreement with Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA) to provide student transportation from September 9, 2021 through June 24, 2022 at a cost of \$225,000.00 to be paid from General funds.

[Capital District Transportation Authority \(CDTA\) 2021-2022 Agreement](#)

D. Board Resolutions

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Items 1-4 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway

Discussion: None

Carried: 8-0

1. Approval of District Safety Plans

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the district-level and confidential building-level Safety Plans for the 2021-2022 school year.

[District Level Safety Plans](#)

2. Approval of Annual Policies

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education has hereby reviewed the following policies and made no changes:

- a. Parent Engagement: [Policy 1900](#) and [1900-E1](#)
- b. Public Complaints: [Policy 1400](#)

3. Approval of Code of Conduct

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the 2021-2022 Code of Conduct.

[Code of Conduct](#)

4. Approval of 2021-2022 District Goals

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the 2021-2022 District Goals as follows:

1. Increase Proficiency

The number of students overall and for each sub-group measured for accountability achieving proficiency on Grades 3-8 ELA and Math assessments will increase as follows:

- 20% of our students who score a Level 1 will improve to Levels 2, 3 and 4 the following year.
- 20% of our students who score at Level 2 will improve to Levels 3 and 4 the following year.

2. Improve Student Engagement

Through improved student engagement in learning, development of citizenship values and use of behavioral interventions, violations of the student Code of Conduct will decline in each school by 5% each year.

3. Increase Regents Diploma Graduation Rate

The Regents diploma graduation rate from Troy High School will increase by 3% for each school year until it exceeds 90% and the number of students obtaining a Regents Diploma with Distinction will increase by 5% each year.

4. Improve Attendance

The percentage of students who are "Chronically Absent," as defined by NYSED, will decrease in each building and district-wide by 2 percentage points each year for the next five years.

5. Improve Equity in Opportunities and Outcomes

Guided by the NYS Board of Regents Framework on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as well as the NYSED's Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education Framework, equity in opportunities and outcomes will be improved for all students throughout the district.

[Goals Poster 2021-2022](#)

E. Future Meetings

1. September 15, 2021 at TMS at 6:00pm
2. October 6, 2021 at TMS at 6:00pm
3. October 20, 2021 at School 14 at 6:00pm

F. Adjourn

At 6:44pm, Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to adjourn the public session and re-enter executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular individual. This was seconded by Mrs. Pompey-Conway and carried 8-0.

Respectfully submitted by,



Theresa Kaniff
District Clerk

