

ALDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Transcription of the
Board of Education Meeting
June 4, 2020

For the purpose of this transcription, the following people spoke at this meeting:

- Board of Education: Jill Hopcia, President; Michael Bennett; Vice President; Richard Karalus, Michael Karpie, Tanya Lords-Quinn; Ken Stoldt and James Yoerg.
- Adam Stoltman, Superintendent of Schools
- Paul Karpik, School Business Administrator
- Kevin Ryan, High School Principal
- Steve Smith, Middle School Principal
- John Mikulski, Intermediate School Principal
- Michael Stepnick, Primary School Principal

At 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Hopcia: I'd like to call the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag.

Collectively: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mrs. Hopcia: Alright, welcome everyone. We'll get started. Um, a motion is needed to approve the Board of Education minutes from the regular meeting held on May 19, 2020.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mr. Bennett: Adam is muted.

District Clerk: Oh, hold on.

Mr. Bennett: Adam's muted.

Mr. Karalus: I think we like it that way.

Mr. Stoltman: I got, I got Ken on the phone. If you can, Ken can hear and you can hear him.

Mrs. Hopcia: Okay.

Mr. Stoltman: Ken, you there?

Mr. Stoldt: Yep, I'm here.

Mrs. Hopcia: Perfect. Thank you. Alright. Um, so we had a first, do we have a second?

District Clerk: Yes.

Mrs. Hopcia: Okay, um, any abstentions? No. All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karalus: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: You already got Mr. Karalus. You forgot Mr. Karpie.

District Clerk: I'm sorry, Mr. Karpie.

Mr. Karpie: Thanks Tracy. Aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. A motion is needed to receive warrant and budget status reports for the period ending May 15, 2020.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any questions? All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. A motion is needed to approve the following resolution: be it resolved that, upon the recommendation of the superintendent, the Alden Central School Board of Education hereby abolishes the teaching positions in the following tenure areas, effective June 30, 2020, as listed.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any questions? All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. A motion is needed to accept the following resignation, Edward Sisson, Jr., maintenance mechanic, effective the close of business May 29, 2020.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any questions? All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. A motion is needed to approve the following unpaid medical leave request for Theresa Kwandrans, lunch monitor, retroactive to May 26, 2020, until the end of the 2019-20 school year or until released by a physician.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any questions? All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. A motion is needed, upon the recommendation of the superintendent, to appoint the following as listed.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any questions? All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. A motion is needed to approve the following resolution, whereas the Alden Central School District has established various reserve funds under the provisions of the education law and or general municipal law; and whereas the district's Board of Education has determined that it is in the district's best interest to transfer a portion of the district's unappropriated fund balance to one or more of the district's established reserve funds; now therefore be it resolved, that the board hereby declares its intent to direct such transfers upon receipt of the confirmation from the district's external auditors in the amount of the district's unappropriated fund balance following the conclusion of the district's 2019-20 fiscal year.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any questions? All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. Oh, did I stop too soon Tracy?

District Clerk: No, you're good.

Mrs. Hopcia: Okay, a motion is needed to approve the following resolution: be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Alden Central School District continue to fund the tax certiorari reserve fund

in the amount of \$5,000 plus interest earned to provide for potential liability of current tax assessment challenges.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Questions? All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. A motion is needed to accept the following resolution: be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Alden Central School District has reviewed and accepted the recommendations of the Committee on preschool special education from the meetings held on May 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, 18th 2020.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

District Clerk: No, I'm sorry...check him. Oh,

Mrs. Hopcia: Did I skip it? Well, we'll just do this one and then we'll do the next one, Tracy. Is that okay?

District Clerk: Yep. Okay.

Mrs. Hopcia: Did you get through everybody?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. Okay, now I'm going back to the special education, a motion is needed to accept the following resolution: be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Alden Central School

District has reviewed and accepted the recommendations of the Committee on special education from the meetings held on April 29th, May 6th, 8th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 19th, 20th and 22nd, 2020.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any questions? All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. A motion is needed to approve the terms and conditions of the following contracts, as presented and authorize Adam Stoltman, Superintendent of Schools, and or the school board president to sign the same. Omni U.S. Employee Benefits Group, World of Wonders Preschool and Mengel Metzger Barr & Co.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any questions?

Mr. Karalus: I have a question. So if, I was just wondering, with World of Wonders Preschool, what happens if the state decides that they don't want in-person classes, or we can't accommodate the social distancing for that contract?

Mr. Stoltman: So, currently, right now, they are providing emergency online instructions with their, with their students. So that would be the exact same thing if, moving forward, if we weren't back in schools in September, they would provide the remote teaching; the way they are right now. In the event that the state pulled that funding from us, obviously we wouldn't have the UPK program then, but we have no indication point at that point to happen.

Mr. Karalus: Okay.

Mrs. Hopcia: Okay Rich, all set?

Mr. Karalus: Yep, I'm all set.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any other questions? All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. All right, moving on to my report, um, a couple of things. We just got, right before the meeting, Adam reached out to remind everyone about our ballots to vote. I know Tracy's been dutifully collecting them and there's quite a few so remind your, your people that they should get their votes in. Um, today I was talking to one of my parents, and she brought up a concern that I thought would be a concern for all school districts and, and her thought was, I just hope that when we do figure out how we're going back in September, that the superintendents get together and maybe come up with the same plan. Not necessarily the same form of instruction in the schools, but at least the same plan whereas we're all going back, or, you know, just so that it's kind of consistent throughout education and Adam, I don't know if that's even remotely possible, or if that's what you guys have been talking about in your Superintendent meetings. But what are you thinking?

Mr. Stoltman: That's exactly what we're talking about. So, we're working with the other Erie 1 component superintendents. We're actually crafting a survey right now, and our intention is to make that survey available to each of our communities, school communities. You know the town of Alden, whomever, to gather some data. To see just you what folks are thinking. But that's, we're absolutely going to be as much on the same page as possible, obviously it's going to look much differently in Alden, New York than it does in Lancaster about number of kids in the classroom. So, we started that conversation. We learned Tuesday? Excuse me, we learned Tuesday that the Chancellor is actually starting regional task force, task forces, and as of Tuesday, nobody in the western New York Region, which included Rochester that we knew, were invited to participate on this taskforce; they have like seven or eight different categories. Just before I hopped on the meeting, I did receive the invitation to participate. And I'm, excuse me, I need to take a look at my calendar, because as you know I'm on the task force from New York state public high school athletic association too. So if there's conflicts and I can't represent one of them, I'm gonna have to make a choice and ask one of, one of our colleagues in Western New York to possibly serve on that task force. But we're doing the same thing in Erie 1 to make sure that we're communicating with one another.

Mrs. Hopcia: Okay. And then I guess that turns into Mr. Lowery's email today, or two emails today, talking about lunches and how the governor has, you know, said that we're supposed to provide these services throughout summer, and yet there's no help with funding. I mean, can we really afford to do that throughout the summer?

Mr. Stoltman: Jill, which, what are you referencing? Because I have something, stating just the opposite.

Mrs. Hopcia: Oh, well he sent an email today talking about the governor's mandate with lunches, but then saying that there wasn't any support for that and how were we going to pursue it. Perhaps there was a follow up email that I missed?

Mr. Stoltman: We got, we received guidance from state ed that said we are not required to.

Mrs. Hopcia: Okay.

Mr. Stoltman: To provide meals over the summer. However, for those school districts that have been doing it in the past. You know, they will be required to continue but I think their intention has and will always be to continue to provide those services, but if we normally don't provide meals over the summer vacation, as I understand it, is that we are not required to do it.

Mrs. Hopcia: So then, do we finish up when the students last day is or do we go through June 30th?

Mr. Stoltman: We made a conscious decision to go through the original, originally scheduled last day of our school which I believe is June 26th.

Mrs. Hopcia: All right. Thank you. All right, moving on to the others on the board, any comments or questions Mr Karpie?

Mr. Karpie: Yes, Adam, can Ken hear us?

Mr. Stoldt: Yes.

Mr. Karpie: Hey Ken, just want to say, there's only maybe one more meeting before we say goodbye to you, and I am really gonna miss your support on the board and your guidance through all the years here and I know you're not going to retire this year. You're probably gonna retire next year. But everything you gave to the school district you belong to, to Alden, and certainly to section six. You should be proud of the time and effort you put into education in western New York and, you know, never forget all the good moments you had. And actually, I'm glad you're gonna probably possibly retire next year, or not to retire under certain circumstances, so I'm going to miss you Ken.

Mrs. Hopcia: Thank you, Mike. That was great.

Mr. Stoldt: I appreciate that. I'm very humbled. I really stinks listen I am working now so I can't thank you enough. It's been an honor to work with such a great group of people and you know, I can look back

and I'm very proud of what this board has accomplished, and you know, I know it's, it's tough to come to consensus at times and we didn't all agree but I think when it all came down to it, we all look at what's in the best interest of kids and I am going to look back on these last 10 years with pride; and I really thank you for saying that I appreciate that.

Mrs. Hopcia: Awesome. Tanya?

Mrs. Lords-Quinn: I also agree with Mike on that Ken. Thank you so much. I've enjoyed being on the board with you, even though it hasn't been as long as most of you guys, but I do enjoy and I thank you for all your wisdom you've shown me. I also wanted to, I'm looking forward to the envision your future on June 16. Um, and also, I heard from a few parents: they're concerned. They want to know what's going on with the yearbooks. And if there is still some kind of a prom thing going to happen.

Mr. Stoltman: Can we push that off to the principal's reports Tanya? Would that be okay for you guys if you could just make a mental note and talk about those? I received an email from our middle school principal today. It spoke to just that topic, not the prom.

Mrs. Lords-Quinn: Okay, great. And the graduation; is there anything going to happen for kindergarteners, or moving up fifth grade, or eighth graders, anything like that, or as a receiving procedure that

further reports.

Mrs. Lords-Quinn: Okay, sounds good.

Mr. Stoltman: Thanks Tanya.

Mrs. Hopcia: Thank you. All right, Mr. Bennett?

Mr. Bennett: Yeah, I would definitely agree with what Mike said about Ken. I think back to when I first got on the board, and I really appreciate the knowledge that Ken had, and I would ask him questions and look to him for his guidance and his experience. Just being a teacher, um, you know, and when he was just through all this section six football stuff that he does. I just, yeah I agree wholeheartedly with what Mike said. He was just someone I could sit back and listen to and absorb what he had to say and I really appreciate it.

Mrs. Hopcia: And Jim?

skip, oh I guess we

can now go and do something else you'd like to say,

Mr. Yoerg: No, just that I'm very thankful, and it's easy to do when you're surrounded by great people that are willing to, you know, put forth the effort for kids and that's what it's all about. And, again, I'm really proud to be with this group it's, it's, I can't say enough about what we've accomplished and just happy to be a part of it.

Jim, now you're on Thank you Jim,

I'll just get all emotional and stuff so I'll just stay with her later but nine years, nine out of 10 910 10 years I think I said Mexico, and boy, it's going to be spending, getting into somebody else so yeah you will be missed. But we are expected to attend every board meeting.

Exactly, going forward, especially if we zoom them so you're kind of stuck. But, and hopefully if some people wrote in your name on the ballot to that might actually reach back so

I will miss you. And thank you everybody for being on it's beautiful night out there, everybody that came for this meeting, it's wonderful. The participation we have these is amazing. And as I said before to Tracy Thank you for everything.

Mrs. Hopcia: All right, and rich.

Mr. Karalus: I just wanted to reiterate the same thing about Ken that everybody else has said. He's always been that voice of reason, steady and wise, and we're gonna miss you. And really, it's been a joy having you on the, on the board, you're one of the reasons why I continue to serve.

Mr. Stoldt: I do thank you very much. You guys are all true blue I appreciate it.

Mrs. Hopcia: Well, we still get to get one more meeting with Ken. Am I right?

yes.

Mrs. Hopcia: Alright, so can I'll save my words for the next time.

All right.

All right.

Mrs. Hopcia: Thanks guys. I'm moving on to a motion for the Board of Education meeting schedule, I need a motion to approve the Board of Education meeting schedule for the 2020-21 school year as presented.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any questions?

Mr. Karpie: Yeah. Take a look at any least one meeting in the summertime, just in case we need it. I don't want to wait until we need a meeting and to try to scramble and get four people and get a quorum. So, if we put one on the calendar that we know most of us can be there at least we can plan ahead of time, and not have Tracy or Adam or yourself Jill trying to make calls at the last minute, you know doing early morning or afternoon or something like, I thought, when July into August.

Mr. Stoltman: The extra one I think, it was in August right, that we added?

District Clerk: There's actually two extra ones over the summer; one in July, and one in August.

What's the you know what the killer I'm looking at I'm sorry Trace I was, I printed the whole one, what's the other day in August that.

District Clerk: So I have started the summer dates are July 2 for the reorg July 23 August 13, and August 25.

Perfect.

Mr. Stoltman: Okay, are you good with that Mike.

Mr. Karpie: I'm good with that. Yep.

Awesome. Any other.

Mr. Karalus: I just wanted to confirm that all those Tuesday dates are for all the plays and such and they've all been accounted for, right there.

District Clerk: Yeah, I did move one to a Wednesday, which is odd because Paul needs a little extra time to get the budget stuff ready.

Mrs. Hopcia: And then when we do have those meetings on Tuesdays and Wednesday, whoever is representing the NYSSBA, you could, you could actually go to their meetings because we always seem to miss those because our meetings are on Thursday, so we can talk about that further in the future. All right, um, if there's no more comments. Thank you. Okay. All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. A motion is needed to approve the second reading and adoption of the policy series 1000, 5000, 6000 and 7000 as presented and outlined in the Erie one BOCES suggested policy revisions 2020, and or revisions, made by the policy review committee.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any questions? All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. A motion is needed to approve the first reading of policy 5676 as presented and outlined in Erie one BOCES suggested policy revisions 2014.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: Any questions? All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Motion carries. All right, Adam over to you.

Mr. Stoltman: Okay. Um, we've got the Code of Conduct that you have in your packets to take a look at. There were no substantial changes to our code of conduct therefore it does not require us to have a public hearing. So, that's for your information, updates that I have, Jill already hit on one of them. I wanted to share with the board that the latest news out of state ed was we are not required to continue to provide meals over the course of the summer. But I want to emphasize that folks that have been doing this under the leadership of Anita Trautwein. She has done an absolutely marvelous job. They get the meals out Monday and immediately start getting bags and preparing meals to go back out on Thursday. And when this is all said and done, I'll have a grand total for you; I think you're going to be absolutely shocked at the number of meals that we've provided our, our families or our students, incredibly impressive. Not only us, but across Western New York. Every school district's doing it and something that we're not accustomed to doing, but in my opinion, we did a marvelous job doing it.

The other update. Regarding the votes, the voting for our annual budget and election at 6:45 today hopefully people received a phone call from me as a reminder to get the, the absentee ballots in if they haven't already. They can pop them in the mail or if they feel more safe driving them to the district office, we do have a drop box in the district office hallway for them to drop them in. We've had, you know, the last several days, been getting many ballots in. More than usual, which we anticipated. At about 3:30 this afternoon we were formed that there's a real possibility that we might not end up with voting machines; county might not provide school districts of voting machines. So that's the next struggle that Tracy and I are gonna have to figure out. So, the options that we're hearing is we can drive them downtown and take them to the Erie County Board of Elections, but we're not quite sure; you can imagine how many 19 school districts 20 school districts in, in Western New York or Erie County; all of us competing to use one voting machine. I was fortunate to talk to the Lancaster Superintendent who spoke to somebody on Erie County Board of Elections and the individual said there's absolutely zero chance and we're gonna have results on June 9. So, stay tuned. Roll up, because we won't have a meeting before June 9th. I just don't want that to come as a shock to folks. And as I get information I'll be sure to share it out to the board.

Mrs. Hopcia: And are they saying, why that happened?

Mr. Stoltman: No. Tracy, you didn't get a "why," did you?

District Clerk: I did not. I actually spoke with somebody just probably Monday or Tuesday and seemed pretty confident that we were going to get the machines; even confirmed that I asked for three. And he was going to work on getting a representative out to the district for me, beginning at 4:30, and, you know, through until the ballots were counted. So, as you can imagine I'm not very happy. It's like I feel like we've been strung along all along and then you know last minute, you know, we're at the gate and they pull it from us.

Mr. Stoltman: Tracy's done, as you know, Tracy has done a marvelous job managing this incredible undertaking, and every day presents a new set of challenges. And she's on the phone with the Board of Elections with our legal counsel. You can imagine, we're getting ballots in that aren't sent in in the manner in which they should be. And you know, maybe not signed, maybe not an address, maybe not sealed, maybe ripped, maybe torn. What am I missing Tracy? Maybe have things inserted into them.

District Clerk: Or they're not even in the oath envelope.

Mr. Stoltman: So there is going to be, I mean guide, safe, safe to say right now there are going to be many, many, many ballots in what they call a spoil pile that cannot be counted.

Mrs. Hopcia: Oh my gosh, oh my gosh.

Mr. Stoltman: And we're not alone. We're not alone. The superintendent's across the region, I've been communicating with them, and they, you know, they share that they to have a large spoil pile. And anything from people, you know, that could be making honest mistakes to people signing it with some pretty outrageous messages, I'll just leave it at that. That's all I have under my updates, we can have a conversation when I meet in a pre-agenda with Mrs. Hopcia and Mr. Bennett about possibly reconvening these meetings in the Distance Learning Lab, as I believe we will be at phase three at that time. If that's the Board's decision we can absolutely support that and, you know, proper, exercise proper social distancing, masks, what have you, but I'll leave that up to the board. Okay, I'm going to turn it over, principals, guys if you didn't, if you could please touch on the great things that you have going under the circumstances in regards to acknowledging our students achievements, graduation and yearbook distribution. Why don't we start with Mr. Stepnick.

District Clerk: Ah, you caught me off guard. Oh, there he is.

Mr. Stepnick: I think I'm good now. Um, hi everybody. Just a, just a couple quick updates from the primary school. And if you were able to read through my report you got a little glimpse into this based on the little email excerpt that I shared, but I think as we hit the homestretch here and the calendar flipped over to June, I've really seen an uptick in the amount of complimentary emails that I've received from families. Just parents singing the praises of staff for them bending over backwards to, you know, pick up the phone at eight o'clock at night to do a private Zoom with a child whose parents have kind of reached their wit's end, complementing the meal distribution, it's just, it's email after email from families saying thank you, please pass this along to your staff; and I just want to tip my hat to all the staff members who put in those hours to, to earn those types of compliments from our families. so that's been great. Next week, the primary school is actually holding our distribution and pick up nights on June 8th, 9th and 10th. Each of the buildings has decided to hold a similar event, but being as the primary school does not have any technology to collect, we were able to put ours on the calendar a little bit earlier than some of the other buildings. So our students will be coming through next week in a drive thru format,

each grade level has their own evening setup, staff members are coming in on a voluntary basis, but I will say that the response to participate was pretty overwhelming, and we have, we have a tremendous amount of participation coming from our teachers. So, we'll be handing out some of those end of the year materials to kids that they didn't get a chance to receive yet. Students will have a chance to drop off library books and return anything that was the belongings of the school, and teachers are putting together end of the year gifts for students to pass out at that time. Included in those end of the year gifts are things like our yearbooks, the things that the teachers buy out of pocket for their students. The Pink Cow was gracious enough to donate free ice cream cone coupons to the district. So we have all of those things bundled together for the, for the kids and that should be pretty exciting for them to see their teachers and get to receive that through their car window, you know. In addition to that, as we look forward to our final week of our home study, teachers are planning some, some really fun and kind of outside the box activities for kids. We have a lot of guest speakers coming into classrooms to, you know, we, I heard one where a teacher has a magician coming in to, you know, put on a little show for the kids. We have some virtual field trips happening where parents have volunteered to show different aspects of maybe their family farm or, or something unique that the kids haven't gotten a chance to see before. So, um, I've heard of some games, some competitions, things that the teachers are playing which is really fun and we're hopeful that the kids will really, it will give them some memorable stuff to kind of provide some closure to all of this. So we're looking forward to all of those things. I'm sure there'll be a lot of pictures of things that are happening on those class Zooms in the coming week. So, that is all I have tonight.

Mrs. Hopcia: Thank you.

Mr. Stoltman: Thanks, Mike. John?

Mr. Mikulski: So I can safely say that Mr. Stepnick stole all of our thunder. He has similar stories to share building kind of phillium what that looks like at the Intermediate School. So a couple things, the home study program has been going fantastic. The teachers really have gotten into a groove and have been able to make those accommodations and be flexible with different families and different kids based on their needs; so it's gone very, very well. The big conversation that we've been having lately is just how do we start to ease out of that; how do we get into that last week of school? We still want to make sure that our teachers are present, we're still providing some engaging experiences for kids, but we also recognize that continuing with new instruction the last week of school is probably not going to be very fruitful, so they've been working on similar to what is happening at the primary school; each day having kind of a special event, a special guest, something to kind of ease the kids in numbered them that closer to the year for our fifth graders. A lot of that really is looking at that transition. You know, typically this is the time of year to do fifth grade moving up ceremonies, and doing orientations at the middle school, and having kind of that exit out of the Intermediate School into the middle school. So a lot of that's been going on through zoom meetings where they're, they're actually having sixth grade ambassador students come in, kind of talk about the middle school. I believe some of the fifth-grade teachers have also had

the middle school counselors, come in and be special guests so that they can do a question and answer. So all these patients that I think are helping students start to kind of get a sense of what will Middle School look like in the future. Those conversations in the past have happened during those orientation days and, unfortunately, that's just not possible at this time. So, a lot of that is going on right now for our students coming up from the primary school. We've been having those similar conversations at grade level competitive third grade, I had a couple of teachers actually reach out to me, "I will be a mystery guest next week." So it's all these kind of ways just to kind of keep everybody connected, or they're ready for that next step in terms of kind of celebrating the end of the year as a building. We to have some collection pickup dates; planned hours are going to be the 17th 18th and 19th. That's going to take place in the evening, 4 to 6pm. Similar to the primary school, have a ton of teachers who have already volunteered to come and be part of that. That will be a chance for us to get back our things from the students and then give them some things, including whatever's left in their lockers. Their yearbooks will be distributed at that time, as well as some extra kind of gifts and things for the fifth-grade, because we wanted to do something extra special for fifth-grade; typically that's in the form of the moving up ceremony. In the next coming day, we are going to have, the fifth-grade teachers will actually be making a personal visit, by cars, to every student in fifth-grade, deliver the yearbook and then as well as a special gift that the PTO areas and other things too So Jamie and Molly. Now, no sharing that with your kids, but we will be getting some more information out to you shortly and that is finally, the last piece that we want to make sure that we do provide for parents because it's always a nice piece of closure and feedback to the year. We do have a plan for our progress reports; those will be, they're actually getting worked on by teachers in the next week or so, and our plans to mail those home, along with those Pink Cow certificates to the students that first week of summer break. The teachers have kind of customized what the progress report looks like this year, so that it really provides kind of a summary of the learning that's gone on despite these really, oh you know, unusual circumstances. That's all I have for you this evening.

Mr. Stoltman: Thanks John.

Mr. Smith: Good evening everyone. Just as John and Mike stated in the intermediate and primary school, we are starting to wind things down at the middle school. Um, it has also been very successful I feel with the home, the home learning, the remote learning. A lot of that success has to do with the time and hours that our teachers have spent with our students. Like Mike said, it's not a 7:40 to 3:10 job anymore; they've been doing it after hours. I'm late on the weekends to make sure our kids are successful and prepared, so I also want to give them some kudos for, for making this work, and we got thrown into it. And they did a nice job with it. Just as you can imagine, every June is a crazy month, especially in the middle school. It is no different, without staff being in the school. We have a lot of celebrations, a lot of events that we are continuing to have. We have our, our envisions program, which is a new program that we started this year with our eighth graders. It was kind of like an honors project-type program. The kids have worked very hard at creating a capstone project and we didn't want to end it for them, so we are going to do a zoom on June 16, and each kid is going to have an opportunity to share their capstone

project and what they learned from the program. We also have our NJHS induction ceremony which was supposed to be at the end of May but, actually, at the end of April; we will be having that on June 11 and that will be also via zoom in. We have a guest speaker from the high school coming to speak to our kids and then we'll be doing the ceremony that we would typically do in the middle school; odd we're going to do it via Zoom. Finally, our eighth-grade, or eighth-grade moving up ceremony is a big event that we have for all our eighth graders. With that being canceled we are going to be doing a virtual reception for them, it is not going to be zoom, but it is going to be a virtual taped reception that we will share with all the eighth-grade families and all the eighth-grade students. And it's going to kind of have the same feel with all the eighth-grade teachers exploratory teachers. We do have two high school students speaking to the, to the students so that will be mailed, that will be emailed, probably the week of June 15th. We're hoping it will be something nice that students can remember forever. They're a 33 year. Kind of like Mike John had said about getting our eighth graders, doing something a little bit, a little special for them, a little more, little extra. We are going to also be delivering the awards that they would have received at the ceremony, along with gifts from the PTO, gifts from the eighth-grade class account, and also gifts from ABC. So we will be delivering the gifts from the middle school, and that's going to be on June 18. It should take us a couple hours, we're gonna have four groups and the kids up, and we will be delivering those, kind of like you seen those birthday parades, that kind of style to the kids; kind of making a big deal and making them remember all their hard work and accomplishments for the year. I believe that's it. And then we also are going to have our drop off. I know Mike said that he's doing his next week and John's doing it the final week of instruction. We are going to have our drop off the week of June 22. We need to wait till after the 19th because the students are using a lot of the materials they have. So, June 22 we will be using. We're going to begin our, our supply, our supply return, which has to do with computers textbooks library books. We will also hand out yearbooks for kids that ordered their yearbooks, the Pink Cow certificate and then any sixth and seventh grade awards that those students would have received at the end of the year will be also able to get a lot going on in June. And we're, we're kind of wrapping up our plans and looking forward to seeing them. That's all I have.

Mr. Stoltman: Thank you, Steve. And lastly, Kevin.

Mr. Ryan: Last night actually would have been the spring award ceremony of the annual spring awards program in the high school auditorium, where we celebrate the incredible achievements of our students grades 9 through 11, and then also honor our seniors with a number of scholarships through the Alden community scholarship foundation, of course not being able to have that in person. One of the things that is in production now is a little slideshow presentation that will be public sometime next week, where parents and students will find it posted to social media and the district web page, so that people can watch that when it when it works for them. So again, that's our way this year to honor students for the great achievements throughout the year, academic and otherwise. Alright, so stay tuned for that. With regard to the yearbooks, High School yearbooks are in; they were delivered this week. And I'd like to remember Brenda LaBar and her students, along with the support of Sue Siuta, did an amazing job working with Justin's. You know when this when this thing went down in March, we sat in a zoom

session with the Justin's folks and talked about, you know, what are we going to do, can we, can we make this work; and we finished it. Certainly, Brenda stepped up and our kids stepped up big time and got it done to build the yearbook was delivered. This week, we will be delivering yearbooks to our seniors and next week, as we've been doing a number of different deliveries to seniors in 2020. And then we will make yearbooks available to grades 9-11 after that point. The process for picking up those books, um. In terms of the prom; what I do know is this. We didn't officially cancel the prom yet. However, in speaking to most principals across western New York, most proms have been canceled. Sadly, it's just not something that at this point in time, we're able to do, bringing large groups of people together, you know, under the certain, under the circumstances we face, so we haven't cancelled it officially, but it may be a foregone conclusion shortly, that we'll need to move on from the prom this year. In terms of graduation, interestingly enough, and throwing some frustration with that, we finally received some guidance from New York State, with regard to commencement ceremonies today. Okay, June 4. So while we've been working on, you know, plans A through F since March, we finally get some guidance from the state. So what we'll be doing now is, is looking at the guidance and trying to figure out the best plan forward with regard to a commencement ceremony for the class of 2020. And we hope to get to share with the community, very shortly. Thanks.

Mr. Stoltman: Okay, any questions for any of the principals? I usually pause in between their reports at colleges.

Mr. Karalus: I just wanted to comment, I'm going to miss all the ceremonies. I really enjoy going to those things, especially for the high school students who are graduating and the ones getting awards.

I know you're not alone rich,

zoom won't be the same, but it's all right.

There'll be stories to tell.

will be stories.

Mr. Stoltman: Okay, that's all I have for the principal's report I think Back over to you Mrs. Hopcia.

Mrs. Hopcia: All right, Well, we are going to go into Executive Session for the employment of a particular person, please.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mrs. Hopcia: All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mrs. Hopcia: Alight. Motion carries. Alright, thank you for tuning in, everyone, we appreciate it.

Mrs. Lords-Quinn left the meeting.

Mrs. Hopcia's microphone disconnected. Mr. Bennett took over the meeting.

Mr. Bennett: A motion is needed to reopen the meeting.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mr. Bennett: All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mr. Bennett: Motion carried.

My Motion carried on was Motion carried. Joe was trying to say something. Tanya. She's not I know Is she not on.

Okay. We still have quorum so we can still continue right. Yeah,

yeah.

Mr. Bennett: A motion to close the meeting adjourn, adjourn.

Mr. Yoerg: So moved.

Mr. Karalus: Second.

Mr. Bennett: All in favor?

The District Clerk asked for a roll call.

Mr. Karpie: aye; Mrs. Lords-Quinn: aye; Mrs. Hopcia: aye; Mr. Bennett: aye; Mr. Stoldt: aye; Mr. Yoerg: aye; Mr. Karalus: aye.

Mr. Bennett: Motion carries.