

Board of Education Meeting April 20, 2021

26:18 *Debra Barbiani*: Just checking to see if we have everybody here. I think, I think we have a quorum. Okay. Okay. Jane, could you start the recording, please? thank you very much, welcome everybody to our April 20 20th board meeting I'd like to call for the Pledge of Allegiance. if we could stand for the pledge, I pledge a lead one to the flag of the United States of America. And to the Republic.

27:33 *JOE EOCS*: for which has

27:33 *Debra Barbiani*: For which it stands. One nation. Under God. Indivisible, with liberty and justice

27:40 *JOE EOCS*: and just for all

27:41 *Debra Barbiani*: for all. Thank you very much. Okay.

27:50 *JOE EOCS*: and just for all

27:50 *Debra Barbiani*: for all. Thank you very much. Okay.

27:50 *JOE EOCS*: and just for all

27:50 *Debra Barbiani*: for all. Thank you very much. Okay.

27:50 *JOE EOCS*: and just for all

27:50 *Debra Barbiani*: for all. Thank you very much. Okay. Can I have a much emotion to approve, the agenda for April 20th as presented?

27:58 *JOE EOCS*: I'll make the motion

28:00 *Debra Barbiani*: Joe.

28:01 *Mike Weiner*: Second.

28:02 *Debra Barbiani*: Kathy. Any discussion. Hearing none all those in favor say aye.

28:09 *Mike Weiner*: I,

28:09 *Renee Kates*: I,

28:11 *Debra Barbiani*: Any opposed. Motion carries. Thank you. Okay, we have correspondence, I didn't see any. We're moving on to our public recognition. First up under public recognition is our student board member Emily.

28:30 *Emily Collura*: Hello. Good evening. At the moment, the SGA is doing

28:32 *Debra Barbiani*: Good evening.

28:33 *Emily Collura*: nothing else to share with the board. So um, thank you have a good night.

28:40 *Debra Barbiani*: Okay, thank you. Emily. Okay, no public comments. And next on the agenda is the superintendent's report.

28:52 *Ivan Katz*: Well, thank you and welcome.

28:54 *Debra Barbiani*: Thank you.

28:55 *Ivan Katz*: We're gonna start with a presentation on our high school graduation and I can tell you a lot of work is gone into it and we've had a great feedback and great effort by staff to get that feedback and I'm exceptionally proud of those efforts and I don't want to steal any fire for Mr. Riley's presentation. So here to present the high school, graduation presentation is principal Roddy

29:27 *Kyle Roddey*: All right. Thank you Dr. Katz. Good evening everyone. Nice to see everyone tonight. I'm going to share my screen if you would bear with me. Okay. All right. Can you see that screen that says class of 2021?

29:49 *Ivan Katz*: Yes.

29:50 *Kyle Roddey*: Okay. All right. So I'm gonna be going over tonight. What our process has been so far for the planning for graduation of the class of 2021. We began with a student survey, you know, I think that everyone in this meeting knows that the challenges that this class has faced over the last, you know, year and a half, almost two years now. And you know as the school administration and consultation with District leadership, we knew that we wanted to do whatever really we could do within the legal regulations that the students favored. We wanted to get student feedback every step of the way it is, their day, it is there's a celebrating the fact that they are ready to go out into the world and to college and to whatever their next plans are in life. So we wanted to empower them for the decision-making process. We put out a survey and excellent participation in the survey from students. When all is said and done over 90% of the student population of the senior class participated. And it might even be more than that. People continue to respond and we found over 80%. So heavily 80% favorite graduation on Saturday June 26th outside at the Junior Senior High School. With the rain date of June 27th. So that is what's guiding our decision making moving forward? Now the reality is and we don't even want to say this, but it's also important that everyone knows that we do have a backup plan. In case there is another one of those covid shutdowns where the school has to go fully remote that last week in June, which is not going to happen. But if it were to happen, we'd be looking at a date in June either, June 10th or June 17th for a virtual graduation and an in-person graduation. The idea being we would still want to offer them, an in-person alternative, so they can walk and celebrate in lifetime in person with families and School staff. But we also know that if it does get moved into July, we could be connected with some, you know, Vacations or just people not being around as much. So we would do both. That's the case which again it will not be the case, but we do have a plan and we'll be firing on both cylinders. If need be So the way it's going to

work is we are going to have three different ceremonies, you know, with an outside graduation. You know, the current regulations allow up to 200 people. But if it rains, we are going to be inside on the Sunday. So the rain date of Saturday is Sunday, but if it rains both days, we're gonna go inside and we want it to be as little complex as possible, as simple as possible. So everyone knows exactly what times they are and who is gonna be able to go. So we want to make it seamless. So there are going to be three ceremonies outside 10, 12 and two ceremonial will be about 45 minutes maybe up to an hour, depending on how fast people are walking when they receive their diplomas. And that'll give us an hour for disinfecting. So we'll be a little over 30 graduates per ceremony, and each graduate is gonna have four tickets and the tickets are not transferable. You know, in the past, it's possible that someone didn't use all their tickets. They be able to give them to someone else, but because of social distancing and contract racing and all the reasons that we know, that's not gonna be allowed this year. So it's gonna be a hard for tickets for each guest. If it does move indoors on that Sunday, we would still be able to accommodate all four guests for students by using a color-coded system. So the graduates will get their tickets in advance and they'll be four tickets to one color to another color black and gold. Let's say, and if it's outside then the color of the ticket doesn't matter. It's all the same either way, but if it gets moved inside to that Sunday, then we would say, okay, two black tickets to go to the auditorian to for the cafeteria so to speak. So that way it's very simple and we're gonna be sending another letter out to families and within the next week giving all this information again and chances are before graduation. We'll have kind of like a public session like this so I can speak directly to parents families through a live stream just to go through the process again because I think that Outreach really is critical. We want everyone to know, you know what, the exact process is the day of graduation. So we're gonna be very communicative, of course, we'll have the normal rehearsal. Students as what happened in the past, which will be practiced social distance but we believe that this will allow us to have a beautiful ceremony outside times three, so the students can be together with four of their guests. Whoever they might choose to be able to celebrate in Lifetime on the campus. And, you know, I think it'll be a beautiful setting. I know that years ago, it was held on the campus. So this would be kind of a retro graduation in that capacity and we're gonna have a tent. So if it is super Sunny we'll have some covering and you know if it's something where there's a little drizzle then we would still have the option to move forward if we so chose But regardless of the dates or the location, we are going to make sure that graduation is live streamed. So it'll be uploaded in live time. So family from all over the world will be able to tune in and watch our graduates. Walk for all three ceremonies and of course, that'll be recorded and saved and ultimately uploaded to the website so people can refer back to it and watch it down the line and we'll use social media as well. Of course. one thing I do want to add, you know, one of the downsides of the current regulations is our graduates. They can't all be together at once. And, you know, it's such a momentous moment. It's a celebration of everything they've accomplished for the last 12 years. We wanted to come up with some way within the regulations, to allow them to be together. So we're gonna be holding a senior night event, right now, we're looking at Friday, June, 4th right around 6:30, with the rain, date of the 18th, and the entire senior class will be able to come no guests, just the senior, just the graduates. And it'll be socially distance, of course, but they'll come to the school. We'll have some kind of barbecue set up with social distancing seating after the barbecue will have a slideshow with, you know, pictures of people growing up throughout their lives. You know, some pictures of senior year set to some nice music and that'll be the night. We'll also announce the senior superlatives so, you know, to be exciting, but also, I think a nice moment to have everyone be together one time before the big day. And with that that concludes our presentation and I'm happy to answer any questions that you might have.

36:16 *Ivan Katz*: Principal writing, I just want to thank you. Your team at the Junior, Senior High School, the senior class, for all participating and surveys, and having conversations, and looking and leaning really on our seniors for what would make this a little end of the school year special for them? And it really looks like you put something together that really will be special and memorable in a very challenging year. And I want to thank everyone involved for making that happen because I think it's going to be a wonderful set of events between now and graduation. So thank you for that.

36:53 *Kyle Roddey*: Here, thank you very much.

36:56 *Debra Barbiani*: Yeah, I ditto that a lot of hard work, it's gonna be great for the kids. It's just so good to see some action for them, you know, together. And especially graduation, you know, being to you know even though you have your separate groups, they're going to graduate and they're going to be with their loved ones and their families. So yeah. Thank you.

37:16 *Kyle Roddey*: Absolutely.

37:16 *Debra Barbiani*: Thank you so much.

37:18 *Kyle Roddey*: Thank you.

37:19 *Debra Barbiani*: Any other members? Okay. Thank you.

37:27 *Ivan Katz*: You know, we did a survey a couple of weeks ago where it was the snow day survey that we sent out to our staff, our parents and our kids and basically the question was in the future. Do we want to have snow days? Traditionally like we had before this past year where if, if Transportation was not possible school was closed, or the non-traditional way, which we had this year, for the most part and that is And inclement weather. We still had remote instruction, we got mixed reviews from different groups on what their preference was. So we decided that we were going to get the feedback and see what folks had to say. So we surveyed staff, we surveyed parents. It was surveyed students. We got a total of 426 responses. And long story short. The traditional Choice got 224 votes and the non-traditional remote 202. So it looks like the majority folks prefer moving forward to have traditional snow days where people do what they do at home, whether it's helping to clean the snow doing winter activities. It was a family. Of course, those were the kinds of things we heard. Now, the only thing I'm going to say to that is at this point, we don't even know whether it's gonna be an option for next year to have that. But the fact that we have this and we know that we flavor of the majority of those surveyed is to have the traditional snow day. Traditional snow days. The calendar that was approved has traditional. No they didn't. So we are ready to move forward with that. I do think the community members, our staff, our students, and our parents, Dissipated in the surveys for letting us know their thoughts. We want you to know that what you think, and what you say, and what you feel is important and that's why we stop this feedback and you've spoken. So now we know what direction we're gonna go in the future, what's known a day? So thank you for that. I will be doing a follow-up a summary of the survey results and I'll be posting that and our usual media spots so that you'll see that over the next few days. And again thank you for that feedback also. I just want to update everyone. Both buildings are working hard with their reopening teams to plan for the near future. In terms of any changes that will be made based on the updated Department of

Health guidance, which I kind of gave a summary of in a letter that I released at the end of last week and we're going we're in the process of following through with our teams and getting feedback and we're required to do before we make any changes. Is to get feedback from our stakeholders and then alter our plans moving forward, we'd like to see some changes in place before the end of the school year, if for nothing else to help us plan for what it's going to look like in September. We do have some obstacles that we're dealing with. Things like how we feed all our kids, given the requirements of a physical distancing that doesn't match the reduction of physical distancing in the classrooms because kids don't are required to have six feet of Separation when eating. So we're trying to balance all those things and find solutions that we that make sense. The other major issue we're dealing with is that we are in a Red Zone. We are in high infection Zone with the highest in the state, in New York. Which means that at this point at the Junior Senior High School level, we really can't make any changes in terms of physical distancing while we remain a red zone or a Hot Zone. We would be able to plan from changes for the elementary school but that said, our planning teams are planning for the ultimate changes so we can plug them in as soon as we're committed to do. So we're working hand in hand with someone County Public Health because we do need their approval, they are going to oversee The safety precautions in place that are pandemic related and we're moving forward. I do want to thank all of our teams all over volunteers, parents and students involved who are working with our reopening committees and I thank you for the time you're spending and they're gonna be spending in the near future to get those plans moving forward, you will continue to update the public. We are going to have parent meetings and each of the buildings in the very near future so that parents can ask their questions and share concerns. And that's the the planning taking place. And the very last thing I want to mention is that on April 29th on Thursday, there's going to be a covid-19 vaccine clinic at the senior center in South Fallsburg and that will take place 9:30, AM to 4:30 am and that is available to anyone over the age of 18 who lives and works, in New York state, we've posted this online, you do have to pre-register for it, but there's an opportunity and I wanted to make sure that everyone Wherever we have shared that online. So please take a look at that. And that the report that was

42:47 *Debra Barbiani*: Thank you, Dr. Katz are we moving forward over the Business Report.

42:56 *Ivan Katz*: I, let me just Mr. Greco. Are you back with us at this point? Okay, I'll see, let's move forward and we'll come back to the business report.

43:14 *Debra Barbiani*: Okay, very good. Thank you. Okay, next on the agenda or the minutes, can I have a motion to approve the minutes of the April 7th meeting as submitted?

43:25 *Mike Weiner*: Motion.

43:25 *Debra Barbiani*: Mike.

43:26 *JOE EOCS*: I'll second.

43:27 *Debra Barbiani*: Joe discussion on the minutes. Okay, hearing none all those in favor. Say aye.

43:33 *Mike Weiner*: Hi.

43:34 *Kathy Rappaport*: I,

43:34 *JOE EOCS*: Right.

43:35 *Debra Barbiani*: Any opposed. The motion carries. Next, we're on to our consent agenda. Which is item. Two through 14. May have a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.

43:54 *Kathy Rappaport*: Motion.

43:54 *JOE EOCS*: I'll make emotion.

43:56 *Debra Barbiani*: Joe. Second Kathy.

43:57 *Kathy Rappaport*: Second.

44:00 *Debra Barbiani*: Any discussion on the items on the consent agenda? Okay, here in none. All those in favor. Say aye.

44:10 *Mike Weiner*: Hi.

44:11 *JOE EOCS*: All right.

44:12 *Debra Barbiani*: and any opposed, okay, motion carries Next, we have other action items. And under the first item, we have a motion that the board casts one vote for Mrs. Linda Berkowitz, one vote for Mrs. Linda Fisk and one vote for Mr. Simmie Williams to serve three year terms on the Sullivan County Boces board, may have a movement That's

44:39 *Mike Weiner*: Motion.

44:40 *Debra Barbiani*: May have a movie That's Mike.

44:41 *Mike Weiner*: Motion.

44:42 *Kathy Rappaport*: Second.

44:43 *Debra Barbiani*: Kathy discussion on the motion. Okay, hearing none all those in favor. Say aye.

44:50 *Mike Weiner*: I,

44:51 *Kathy Rappaport*: I,

44:52 *Debra Barbiani*: Any opposed. That motion carries. Thank you. Next, we have a motion. That the board approves, the 2021-20-22 Sullivan County Boces administrative budget in the amount of three million 187 717 as presented. They have a motion. Kathy.

45:16 *Mike Weiner*: Second.

45:17 *JOE EOCS*: I'll send it.

45:17 *Debra Barbiani*: Joe. Discussion on the BOCES budget. Okay, hearing none all those in favor. Say aye.

45:25 *Mike Weiner*: I,

45:26 *Kathy Rappaport*: well, I

45:26 *Debra Barbiani*: Any opposed. Motion carries. Okay, next motion, the board, approves the appointment of Michael weiner as volunteer for the 2020 2021 school year.

45:42 *Kathy Rappaport*: motion.

45:42 *Debra Barbiani*: The motion, Kathy.

45:43 *JOE EOCS*: Our.

45:44 *Debra Barbiani*: Second.

45:45 *JOE EOCS*: All second it.

45:47 *Debra Barbiani*: Okay, Joe discussion. I'd like to say. Thank you. Mike. All those in favor. Say, aye. Any opposed.

45:58 *JOE EOCS*: I,

45:59 *Mike Weiner*: I'm saying.

46:01 *Debra Barbiani*: Okay, one abstention. Mike Okay, motion carries. Thank you. okay, I think we need to

46:12 *Ivan Katz*: at this point, I would ask if we before the budget resolution, if we

46:15 *Debra Barbiani*: Yeah.

46:15 *Ivan Katz*: could take a three minute break and then return, and hopefully, we'll be ready by then.

46:22 *Debra Barbiani*: Exactly, that's fine. Did you? Okay, would you like me to move on? We don't have public recognition, a second one. And the next item would be board time committee reports. We can move on to that. Any board members that would like to speak at board time or committee reports? Mmm, not hearing any. All right. So it looks like we're down to old new business, which we do not have any and now we will just take a few minutes and we will wait for our business report. Thank you. All.

52:47 *Ivan Katz*: Well, welcome back, Mr. GreCco. Thank you. And I do apologize to everyone

for having the break but now I think we're ready to have Mr. Greco's budget presentation. So Mr. Greco please take it away.

53:09 *Dan Grecco*: Is that better? Can you hear me now?

53:11 *Debra Barbiani*: Yes.

53:11 *Ivan Katz*: Yes.

53:12 *Debra Barbiani*: Yep.

53:12 *Dan Grecco*: Okay. I need to share my screen, of course.

53:46 *Ivan Katz*: Okay, it's up.

54:01 *Dan Grecco*: All right, let's talk about the version for the 21 22 school budget. Version 4. The role over budget. We started out with an increase of 1.9 million dollars or 4.32% version. 1 was a little lower at 4.19 percent version. Two of the budget was an increase of two million dollars or 4.46%. Version three, which we talked about at the last meeting was an increase of 1.5 or 3.36%. And finally, to the knights version is an increase of two million, 3,125 or 4.36%. we have some retirements included in version 4, we have an elementary school teacher, who retired a special ed teacher at the elementary school, a management information, computer tech assistant. And Elementary Aid. We also have. A positions in version for the budget that are currently unfilled. In the current school year, including secondary science and two, secondary Spanish teachers, Included in version for the budget, our new positions and Elementary bilingual teacher to expand our dual language program. A second Elementary. Bilingual teacher. In elementary bilingual ta for the pre-k program. A secondary bilingual teacher. Other additions in version 4 would be a after school program, which would focus on academics. It would be four days a week at the high school five days per week at the elementary school. And would include one additional bus run. If we look at the budget by component, the largest component is instructional cost at the 78%. Administration costs are 10% and capital costs are 11%. The component increases, the instructional component goes up. 2.29%, the administrative section goes down 1.42% and your Capital cost 28.47% driven mainly by Debt Service, on the project that we're currently completing. Our revenues, the enacted State, budgeting had an increase of 2.25 million dollars or 9.72% over the previous year. Our projected tax increase or tax levy increase is zero. And the designated fund balance, the amount of accumulated funds that we applied towards a tax levy is reduced by 251,000 to 1.1 million 516,665. Again, our revenue is broken down. You see a large increase in the state aid categories and a reduction of the designated fund balance and everything else remains flat? Are there any questions? Caring, none. Thank you.

57:21 *Ivan Katz*: Do you have the number to give? Sarah to put in for the budget number.

57:28 *Dan Grecco*: I do. I do the resolution will look something like.

57:39 *Debra Barbiani*: Ivan Sarah's, shared it with me, the resolution.

57:41 *Ivan Katz*: Okay, right.

57:43 *Dan Grecco*: The board approve, the filing resolution for the 21. 22 budget, vote. Propose expenditures would be 47,994,681.

57:58 *Ivan Katz*: Thank you.

58:01 *Debra Barbiani*: Okay. So, with the resolution being up on the screen, I would like to move forward with the board. To recommend that the board approve. The following resolution for the 2021-2022 budget. Vote ballot. As presented may have emotion.

58:25 *Mike Weiner*: Motion.

58:27 *Debra Barbiani*: Mike. Second.

58:30 *Kathy Rappaport*: My second.

58:32 *Debra Barbiani*: Kathy. Discussion on the motion for the budget. Okay.

58:41 *JOE EOCS*: Was muted.

58:42 *Debra Barbiani*: Okay. All those in favor. Say, aye.

58:45 *Mike Weiner*: I,

58:48 *Debra Barbiani*: Any opposed.

58:50 *Kathy Rappaport*: Nay.

58:52 *Debra Barbiani*: One opposed, Kathy.

58:55 *Kathy Rappaport*: Yes.

58:55 *Debra Barbiani*: Okay, thank you. All right. So we have, I believe we have five. And OneNote. Sarah.

59:10 *Sarah Satz*: Yes.

59:11 *Debra Barbiani*: okay, so the motion carries Okay, budget passes. Thank you. Okay. Looks like we do not have a new agenda item. Do we need an executive session? No. Okay, motion to adjourn.

59:36 *Mike Weiner*: Motion.

59:37 *Debra Barbiani*: Mike.

59:38 *Mike Weiner*: Second.

59:38 *Kathy Rappaport*: second

59:40 Debra Barbiani: Kathy second. Discussion on them, adjournment. Hearing none all those in favor say aye.

59:47 Mike Weiner: I,

59:47 Kathy Rappaport: Hi.

59:48 Debra Barbiani: Any opposed. Motion carries. Thank you. Everybody have a good night.

59:56 Emily Collura: Have a great night.

59:57 Debra Barbiani: Thank you.