CALL TO ORDER:  at 7:00 p.m. at the Franklin Academy Library, Husky Lane, Malone

MEMBERS PRESENT:  Stephen Dupree, Penny Gardner (teleconferenced from Tierra Verde, Florida), Philip Hans, Donna Kissane, Terrence Maguire, Shannon Pitcher-Boyea, Wayne Rogers

MEMBERS ABSENT: Wayne Walbridge

OTHERS PRESENT: Jerry Griffin, Superintendent, Bryn Fefee, District Clerk, Brandon Pelkey, Lisa Dupree, Michelle Bailey, Reginald McDonald, Christopher Van Houten, Chad Lawrence, Dominic Barse, and government students.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Hans.

BUSINESS MATTERS:
AGENDA for 2/11/20 was adopted.
MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held 1/28/20 were approved.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Adoption of the 2020-2021 School Calendar; was approved as presented.

Board Reports:  Mr. Rogers summarized the NSBA (National School Boards Association) legislative priorities and how they apply to NY. NSBA is advocating for elementary and secondary education provisions in the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA) to help address teacher shortages, advancing school infrastructure and school safety priorities. The next HEA must place a higher priority on strengthening educator preparation systems including cultivating and supporting strong induction and other partnerships between educator preparation program and school districts, encourage high performing students to enter the teaching profession, including a focus on preparing a new generation of special education and preschool educators. Mr. Rogers stated data shows there was a decrease of 300,000 people enrolled in teacher prep programs from 2010-2017. Ms. Kissane asked what policies are being discussed at the next policy meeting in March. The following policies will be discussed: Privacy and Security for Student Data and Teacher and Principal Data (#5676), and a recommended policy deletion of Student Data Breaches (#7243). Mr. Griffin said he would like to have approvals by July 1, 2020. Further policy discussion will be held in a future policy committee meeting.

Budget Discussion: Mr. Griffin gave thanks and appreciation to Ms. Reyome for preparing the budget. The budget is based on using two main factor of revenue. The tax levy limit which at this time is estimated at 3.7361% and the Governor’s state foundation aid estimated at $25,934,821 an increase from 2019-2020 of $915,198. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is currently set at 1.81%, which is lower than the 2.44% set for the previous year. When calculating the Tax Levy Limit for the 2020-2021 school year, the district is required to use the lesser of the CPI or allowable levy growth factor set as 2% and utilizing a prior year carryover of $209,652. Thus based on current calculations the additional amount that can be raised from taxes is $513,394, which is the maximum allowable tax levy. This information is subject to change once the BOCES capital exclusion is included for the prior year and the current year.
In the current budget proposal, the tax levy is set using a 3.7361% increase from the prior year. Revenues have been estimated using current information and will be adjusted accordingly as information is forthcoming. As a result of increased expenses, low state aide projections and maintaining the current tax levy at 3.7361%, the balance of revenues is currently set to use $823,043 of fund balance. If additional state aid money is realized for the 2020-21 school year there will be an opportunity to consider adjusting the amount of fund balance being utilized or consider additional program and special requests. Further budget discussions will be held over the next few meetings.

CONSENT AGENDA:
Permanent Appointment: was made to: Hannah Rhodes, Teacher Aide, St. Joseph’s Elementary, effective 2/24/20.

CSE/CPSE Recommendations: were approved as presented.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:07 p.m.

Bryn M. Fefee
District Clerk/Board of Education
2/11/20