

Re-organizational Meeting (Tuesday, July 2, 2024)

Generated by Kristopher Williamson on Monday, July 8, 2024

Amended by Kristopher Williamson on Tuesday, July 24, 2024

Members present

Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Members absent

Christine Gregory

Meeting called to order at 6:02 PM

1. Opening of Meeting

Procedural: A. Call to Order

Procedural: B. Pledge of Allegiance

Kristopher Williamson called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Procedural: C. Recite Board Norms

Kristopher Williamson recited the Board Norms.

2. Communications

Procedural: A. Audience Participation

There were no requests to address the Board.

3. New Business

Procedural: A. Administration of Oath to Newly Elected Board Members

Procedural: B. Administration of Oath of Office to the Ex-Officio Student Board Member

Procedural: C. Administration of Oath of Office to the Superintendent of Schools

The Oath of Office was administered to the newly elected board members, Brett Barnes and Sherlyn Pallassino, the new ex-officio student board member Giovanna Perfetti, and the Superintendent of Schools Robert Edwards.

Action: D. Nominations for President of the Board of Education

Janet Griffin nominated Brett Barnes for President of the Board of Education, seconded by Joseph McMahan.

Lori Megivern nominated Donald Chu for President of the Board of Education, seconded by Sherlyn Pallassino.

There was a roll call vote as follows:

*Brett Barnes voted for Brett Barnes
Donald Chu voted for Donald Chu
Janet Griffin voted for Brett Barnes
Joseph McMahan voted for Brett Barnes
Lori Megivern voted for Donald Chu
Sherlyn Pallassino voted for Donald Chu*

With 3 members in favor of Brett Barnes and 3 members in favor of Donald Chu, a President was not elected. A second attempt was then made to elect a President of the Board of Education.

Joseph McMahan nominated Brett Barnes for President of the Board of Education, seconded by Janet Griffin.

Lori Megivern nominated Donald Chu for President of the Board of Education, seconded by Sherlyn Pallassino.

There was a roll call vote as follows:

*Brett Barnes voted for Brett Barnes
Donald Chu voted for Donald Chu
Janet Griffin voted for Brett Barnes
Joseph McMahan voted for Brett Barnes
Lori Megivern voted for Donald Chu
Sherlyn Pallassino voted for Donald Chu*

With 3 members in favor of Brett Barnes and 3 members in favor of Donald Chu, a President was not elected.

There was discussion on board members being able to ask questions of the candidates nominated for office.

Donald Chu made a motion prior to the first roll call vote to ask candidates questions before a vote was conducted, which was seconded by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Motion Failed

Yes: Lori Megivern, Donald Chu, Sherlyn Pallassino

No: Janet Griffin, Brett Barnes, Joseph McMahon

Action: E. Nominations for Vice President of the Board of Education

Brett Barnes nominated Joseph McMahon for Vice President of the Board of Education, seconded by Janet Griffin.

Lori Megivern nominated Donald Chu for Vice President of the Board of Education, seconded by Sherlyn Pallassino.

There was a roll call vote as follows:

Brett Barnes voted for Joseph McMahon

Donald Chu voted for Donald Chu

Janet Griffin voted for Joseph McMahon

Joseph McMahon voted for Joseph McMahon

Lori Megivern voted for Donald Chu

Sherlyn Pallassino voted for Donald Chu

With 3 members in favor of Joseph McMahon and 3 members in favor of Donald Chu, a Vice President was not elected.

There was discussion regarding the appointment of a board member to Vice President without a President elected and their eligibility to be elected as President.

Procedural: F. Administration of Oath of Office to School Board President and Vice President

No oaths were administered since no President or Vice President was elected.

Action: G. Appointment of Officers

BE IT RESOLVED upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education appoints the officers for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: H. Other Appointments

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the other appointments as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: I. Official Depository for Funds

WHEREAS, it is provided that the Board of Education of Cortland Enlarged City School District shall designate by written resolution the banks or trust companies in which the collectors and treasurer shall deposit the monies coming into their hands by virtue of their office, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the J.P. Morgan Chase, NYCLASS and Tompkins Trust be and they are hereby designated as depositories in which the tax collector, treasurer, and extracurricular and school store treasurers shall deposit all monies coming into their hands by virtue of their offices.

Motion by Joseph McMahon, second by Donald Chu.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: J. Set Board of Education Meeting Dates for the 2024-2025 school year

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Cortland Enlarged City School District, County of Cortland, New York, to approve the board meeting dates for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Brett Barnes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

No: Donald Chu

Donald Chu shared that he wanted the meetings to be on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. It was discussed that the 2nd Tuesday would generally be committee meetings.

Action: K. Appointment of Board of Education Committee Members

Motion to table the Appointment of Board of Education Members until the next board of education meeting.

Motion by Joseph McMahon, second by Donald Chu.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: L. Official Newspaper

BE IT RESOLVED that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education appoints the Cortland Standard as the official newspaper for the District.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: M. Authorizations

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the authorizations as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: N. Bonding of Personnel

BE IT RESOLVED that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves Faithful Performance Blanket Bonding as presented.

Motion by Joseph McMahon, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: O. Re-adoption of all policies and bylaws in effect at the end of the previous year
BE IT RESOLVED. that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education re-adopts all policies and bylaws in effect at the end of the previous year.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: P. Mileage Reimbursement Rate

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education adopts the published IRS Mileage Rate.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: Q. 2024-2025 Curriculum and Additional Rates

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the 2024-2025 Curriculum and Additional Rates as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: R. Claims Auditor Procedures

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the claims auditor procedures as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: S. Certification of Teacher and Principal Lead Evaluators for the 2024-2025 School Year

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education certifies the teacher and principal lead evaluators as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

4. Executive Session

Action: A. Proposed Executive Session

Motion to convene into Executive Session

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: B. Reconvene in Open Session

Motion to reconvene in Open Session

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

TIME: 7:26 PM

5. Consent Calendar

Action (Consent), Minutes: A. Approval of Minutes

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education accept the minutes of the regular board meeting on June 11, 2024 as presented.

Action (Consent): B. Approval of CSE/CPSE Recommendations

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education accepts the approval of CSE/CPSE recommendations as presented.

Action (Consent): C. Consent Vote

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education accepts the consent calendar as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Brett Barnes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

6. Personnel Action

Action: A. Approval of Personnel Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education accepts the approval of personnel action as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

7. Old Business

There were no items under Old Business.

8. Other New Business

Action: A. OCM BOCES certification of initial contract (AS-7)

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the OCM BOCES services contract for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: B. Agreements between CAPCO Head Start Program and Cortland Enlarged City School District

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the agreements between the CAPCO Head Start Program and the Cortland Enlarged City School District as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Brett Barnes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: C. Agreement between Cortland Child Development Center and Cortland Enlarged City School District

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the agreement between the Cortland Child Development Center and Cortland Enlarged City School District as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: D. Best Value Award Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the Best Value Award resolution as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: E. Wind Farms Opt Out Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the Wind Farms Real Property Tax Law §487 resolution as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: F. Occasional and Volunteer Drivers

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the Occasional and Volunteer Drivers as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: G. Guiding Principles

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education accepts the guiding principles for utilization of reserves, assigned fund balance and encumbrances as noted in the attached document.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: H. Independent Contractor Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the Independent Contractor Agreement as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: I. Agreement between C&S Companies and Cortland Enlarged City School District

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the agreement between C&S Companies and the Cortland Enlarged City School District, as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: J. Pre-K Contract with Cortland County Health Department

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the Pre-K Contract with the Cortland County Health Department as presented.

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Donald Chu.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: K. Creation of Assistant Supervisor of School Operations Position

BE IT RESOLVED upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the creation of an Assistant Supervisor of School Operations position as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: L. Health and Welfare Services Agreement between Cortland Enlarged City School District and East Syracuse Minoa Central School District

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of Mr. Robert Edwards, Superintendent of Schools, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education approves the Health and Welfare Agreement between CECSD and East Syracuse Minoa Central School District as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: M. First Reading of Revised Policy #7350 - Timeout and Physical Restraint

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cortland Enlarged City School District Board of Education accepts the first reading of revised Policy #7350 - Timeout and Physical Restraint as presented.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: N. Resolution to approve or deny a grievance

Motion to table the decision to approve or deny a grievance.

Motion by Joseph McMahon, second by Donald Chu.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: O. Authorization to Sign Board Approved Documents in Absence of President
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board agrees to add an agenda item authorizing Brett Barnes to sign board-approved documents in the absence of a President.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Brett Barnes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby delegates to Board Member Brett Barnes the power to sign and execute all documents, contracts, and agreements on behalf of the Board of Education until such time as a Board of Education President is elected for the 2024-25 school year.

Motion by Joseph McMahon, second by Donald Chu.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

Action: P. Authorization to Issue and Sell \$21,570,000 Bond Anticipation Notes
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board agrees to add an agenda item authorizing Brett Barnes to sign the closing documents for the \$21,570,000 Bond Anticipation Notes.

Motion by Joseph McMahon, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby delegates to Board Member Brett Barnes the power to issue and sell the District's \$21,570,000 Bond Anticipation Notes, 2024, including all powers or duties pertaining or incidental thereto.

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Janet Griffin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

9. Leadership Reports

Reports: A. Cabinet

Katie Swanson

- She reported that there were over 900 CSE and CPSE meetings held this past year.
- She welcomed the newly elected board members.

Jordan Ashley

- He shared that there are 188 students enrolled in Tiger Academy and 119 students enrolled in summer enrichment.
- He shared that there are more than 20 approved curriculum projects underway this summer
- He shared that he has accepted a position in another district and is grateful for the chance to work with collaborative teams that focus on systematic ways to reach students.

Kris Williamson

- He shared that the District-Wide Safety Plan will be posted on the district website for public comments from July 10 through August 10.
- He shared an update on the current Capital Project work, which is ahead of schedule.

Robert Edwards

- He provided an update on the upcoming Board of Education Retreat, scheduled for August 8.
- He shared that there will be a School Boards conference in NYC from October 20 - 22. Brett, Sherlyn, and Janet expressed interested in attending.
- He shared that the curriculum camps are underway, and shared appreciation of Jordan's work.
- He shared that the Video Club program is being rebuilt to boost student engagement.
- He shared that the Cortland Standard featured our Art Department.
- He shared that the Workforce Development Group Grant has been submitted, and thanked Janesa and the staff at Groton and Dryden.
- He provided some updates from the NYS Department of Education.

Reports: B. Board of Education

Brett Barnes

- He shared updates from the NYSSBA advocacy efforts, including gathering more input on bills to be written, IDA requiring representatives from schools as a requirement, and changes to the Zero-Emission bus law.

Donald Chu

- He asked if there can be an update on the Seal of Civic Readiness from this year. Bob indicated a report will be shared.
- He discussed attending a webinar regarding the Clean and Great Schools initiative.
- He mentioned the possibility of receiving IRA tax credits.

Janet Griffin

- She thanked Jordon Lilley and Brett Barnes for their work in preparing for graduation.
- She welcomed Sherlyn and Giovanna.

Lori Megivern

- She asked the board if she could attend the summer NYSSBA law conference. The board approved.
- She thanked Katie for her reports on where the students are, and asked if all Cabinet reports could show quarterly information.

10. Communications

Information: A. Audience Participation

There were no requests to address the board.

11. Executive Session

Action: A. Proposed Executive Session

Motion to convene into Executive Session

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Sherlyn Pallassino.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

TIME: 8:18 PM

Action: B. Reconvene in Open Session

Motion to reconvene in Open Session

Motion by Donald Chu, second by Joseph McMahon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

TIME: 9:08 PM

12. Closing of Meeting

Action: A. Adjournment

Resolution to adjourn

Motion by Janet Griffin, second by Donald Chu.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Janet Griffin, Lori Megivern, Brett Barnes, Donald Chu, Joseph McMahon, Sherlyn Pallassino

TIME: 9:08 PM