

BRASHER FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Regular Board of Education Meeting**

St. Lawrence Central MS/HS Auditorium

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 6:00 PM

AGENDA

Board of Education Members:

Sarah Ashley  
Abdo Bejjani  
Seth Belt  
Katy Brown  
Julie Carvel-Liberty  
Courtney Hallahan  
Terri Rios-Passon  
Bethany St. Hilaire  
Beth Todd

Administrators:

Christopher Rose, Superintendent of Schools  
Kathy Mitchell, Business Manager  
Kristen Zender, High School Principal  
Jamie LaBarge, Middle School Principal  
Danielle Colterman, Elementary School Principal  
Katherine LaVigne, Admin. Dir. Of Special Serv.  
Timothy Redmond, Dir. of Trans/Bldg & Gnds  
Kevin Welsh, Dir. of Data & Technology

District Clerk: Cindy Delisle

**Call to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Presentations – Kristy Gardner, Speech Pathologist**

**Approval of Agenda** - Motion that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Mr. Rose, Superintendent of Schools, approves the agenda for this Regular Board of Education meeting.

**Approval of Minutes** - Motion that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Mr. Rose, Superintendent of Schools, approves the minutes of the December 18, 2023 Regular Board of Education meeting, as per enclosure.

**Administrative Reports – Superintendent of Schools**

a) Capital Project - Schematic Design Phase

**Board Communications**

- Finance Committee Budget Meeting – February 8, 2024 4:00 PM

**Policy Readings** – The Board of Education is presented with the second reading of the following policies by State or Federal Law and/or Regulation:

- Policy 1510 – Regular Board Meetings and Rules
- Policy 1511 – Delete – Agenda Format
- Policy 2110 – Orienting and Training Board Members
- Policy 2120 – Delete – Use of Parliamentary Procedure
- Policy 3110 – Media/Municipal Governments/Senior Citizens (New)
- Policy 3110 – Delete – School-Community Relations (Old)
- Policy 3120 – Delete – School Sponsored Media
- Policy 3130 – Delete - Relations with the Municipal Governments
- Policy 3140 – Delete – Senior Citizens
- Policy 3220 – Delete – Public Expression at Meetings
- Policy 2320 – Delete – Attendance by Board Members at Conferences, etc.
- Policy 3260 – Relations with Booster Organizations
- Policy 5140 – Administration of the Budget
- Policy 6550 – Leaves of Absence

The Board of Education is presented with the first reading of the following policies by State or Federal Law and/or Regulation:

### **Action Items**

1. Motion that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Mr. Rose, Superintendent of Schools, accepts the following financial reports:
  - a) Treasurer's Report – December 2023
  - b) Claim Auditor's Report – December 2023
  - c) Revenue Status Reports – December 2023
  - d) Budget Status Reports – December 2023
  - e) Budget Transfers – December 2023
  - f) Extra-Curricular Qtrly Report – December 2023
  - g) School Lunch Fund Qtrly Report – December 2023

#### FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

- Warrant/Check Register – December 2023
  - Dashboard Report – January 2024
2. Motion that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Mr. Rose, Superintendent of Schools, adopts the following resolution:

BOND RESOLUTION DATED JANUARY 16, 2024 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BRASHER FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING NOT TO EXCEED \$11,850,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SERIAL GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND THE EXPENDITURE OF \$712,000 FROM THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO, RECONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION AND IMPROVEMENTS OF VARIOUS DISTRICT BUILDINGS, FACILITIES AND SITES, THE ACQUISITION OF ORIGINAL FURNISHINGS, EQUIPMENT, MACHINERY AND APPARATUS AND PAYMENT OF COSTS INCIDENTAL THERETO AT A MAXIMUM COST OF \$12,562,000, LEVY OF TAX IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS IN PAYMENT THEREOF, THE EXPENDITURE OF SUCH SUMS FOR SUCH PURPOSE, AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the qualified voters of the Brasher Falls Central School District (the "District"), at a special meeting of such voters duly held on the 13th day of December, 2023, duly approved a proposition authorizing the issuance of serial general obligation bonds in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$11,850,000 and the expenditure of \$712,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund, to finance the construction of improvements to and reconstruction, renovation and improvements of various District buildings, facilities and sites, acquisition of original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purpose for which such buildings, facilities and sites are to be used and payment of costs incidental thereto, at a maximum aggregate cost of \$12,562,000, the expenditure of such sums for such purpose, and the levy of the necessary tax therefor, to be levied upon the taxable property of the District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The District shall construct improvements to, reconstruct, renovate and improve various District buildings, facilities and sites, acquire original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purpose for which such buildings, facilities and sites are to be used and pay costs incidental thereto, at a maximum cost of \$12,562,000, as more particularly described in Section 3 hereof, and as generally outlined to and considered by the voters of the District at the special meeting held on December 13, 2023.

Section 2. The District is hereby authorized to (a) issue its serial general obligation bonds (the "Bonds") in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$11,850,000 pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York, and (b) expend \$712,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund, in order to finance the class of objects or purposes described herein.

Section 3. The class of objects or purposes to be financed pursuant to this Resolution (the "Purpose") is the construction of improvements to and reconstruction, renovation and improvements of various District buildings, facilities and sites, acquisition of original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purpose for which such buildings, facilities and sites are to be used and payment of costs incidental thereto, at a maximum aggregate cost of \$12,562,000.

Section 4. It is hereby determined and declared that (a) the maximum cost of the Purpose, as estimated by the Board of Education, is \$12,562,000, (b) no money has heretofore been authorized to be applied to the payment of the cost of the Purpose, and (c) the District plans to finance the cost of the Purpose from funds received from the State of New York as building aid, funds raised by the issuance of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes hereinafter referred to and the expenditure of funds from the Capital Reserve Fund.

Section 5. It is hereby determined that the Purpose is one of the class of objects or purposes described in Subdivision 97 of Paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law, and that the period of probable usefulness of the Purpose is thirty (30) years.

Section 6. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the sale of the Bonds, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer.

Section 7. The power to further authorize the issuance of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes and to prescribe the terms, form and contents of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes, including the consolidation with other issues and the use of substantially level or declining debt service, subject to the provisions of this Resolution and the Local Finance Law, and to sell and deliver the Bonds and bond anticipation notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education. The President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to sign and the District Clerk is hereby authorized to attest any Bonds and bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to this Resolution, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized to affix to such Bonds and bond anticipation notes the corporate seal of the District.

Section 8. The faith and credit of the District are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such Bonds and bond anticipation notes as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year. After taking into account all New York State building aid received by the District, there shall be levied annually on all taxable real property of the District, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same become due and payable.

Section 9. This Resolution shall constitute the declaration of the District's "official intent" to reimburse expenditures authorized by Section 1 with proceeds of the Bonds and notes, as required by United States Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2.

Section 10. This Resolution, or a summary thereof, shall be published by the District Clerk together with a notice in substantially the form prescribed by Section 81.00 of said Local Finance Law, and such publication shall be in each official newspaper of the District. The validity of the Bonds or of any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale of the Bonds may be contested only if such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which the District is not authorized to expend money, or the provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this Resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication; or if said obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 11. The firm Barclay Damon LLP is hereby appointed as Bond Counsel to the School District in connection with the issuance of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized herein.

Section 12. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

3. Motion that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Mr. Rose Superintendent of Schools, adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Brasher Falls Central School District Board of Education is committed to providing high-quality education to its students; and

WHEREAS, after careful consideration and evaluation, the Curriculum Committee of the Elementary School has recommended the adoption of a new curriculum which aligns with state standards, promotes student engagement and enhances educational outcomes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the implementation of Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts for grades UPK through Grade 4, and Heggerty Phonemic Awareness for grades UPK through Grade 2, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.

BE IT FURTHER resolved that the Superintendent of Schools and relevant administrators are authorized to take all necessary steps for the successful implementation of the new curriculum, including professional development for teachers and communication with parents and the community.

4. Motion that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Mr. Rose, Superintendent of Schools, approves the transportation request from the Quad-Town Senior Citizens' Club for February 10, 2024 to attend a Dinner & Theater in Brockville, Ontario leaving at 3:00 PM and returning approximately 11:00 PM, costs covering fuel and bus driver expenses (estimated \$306.50) paid by the group and also approves a second request to attend a dinner and show at the Ogdensburg Command Performance on March 23, 2024 leaving at Noon and returning at 7:30 PM, costs covering fuel and bus driver expenses (estimated \$279.50) paid by the group.
5. Motion that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Mr. Rose, Superintendent of Schools, accepts a monetary donation from Glenn L. Seymour donated \$5,000.00 for the St. Lawrence Central Music Program in memory of Patricia Gengo; and accepts the final payment for the JUUL Settlement in the amount of \$6,571.17.
6. Motion that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Mr. Rose, Superintendent of Schools, approves the budget amendments as authorized by Education Law §1718 in order to recognize the qualifying transactions: Increase Estimated Revenues by the \$5,000 donation and Appropriations in funds A211-0-450-03-24 – Music Vocal Supplies in the amount of \$2,500 and

A2110-450-03-26 – Music Band Supplies in the amount of \$2,500, as stated in the memo enclosed; And increase Estimated Revenues by the \$6,571.17 final Juul Settlement and Appropriations in funds A2110-400-02-01 – HS Contractual in the amount of \$3,071.17 and A2110-400-03-01 – MS Contractual in the amount of \$3,500.00, as stated in the memo enclosed.

7. Motion that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Mr. Rose, Superintendent of Schools, adopts the revisions of the following policies by State or Federal Law and/or Regulation:
  - Policy 1510 – Regular Board Meetings and Rules
  - Policy 1511 – Delete – Agenda Format
  - Policy 2110 – Orienting and Training Board Members
  - Policy 2120 – Delete – Use of Parliamentary Procedure
  - Policy 3110 – Media/Municipal Governments/Senior Citizens (New)
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  - Policy 3260 – Relations with Booster Organizations
  - Policy 5140 – Administration of the Budget
  - Policy 6550 – Leaves of Absence
8. Motion that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Mr. Rose, Superintendent of Schools, approves creating one FTE Teacher Position, effective January 17, 2024.
9. Motion that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Mr. Rose, Superintendent of Schools, approves CSE, CPSE, and Section 504 classifications and placements, as per enclosures.

### **Executive Session**

Motion that the Board of Education moves into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing 1 teacher transfer; 1 long-term substitute, 9 Extra Curricular Appointments, 1 Adult Volunteer, and 8 substitute appointments.

Motion that the Board of Education moves back into general session.