

Wappingers Central School District Legislative Action Committee Meeting

Friday, October 18, 2019

4:00 p.m.

Location: District Office

Attendees: Eddy Sloshower, Rob Rubin, Cheryl Migatz, Alberta Pedro

Chairman Rob Rubin called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. Appoint Community Members to Committee

- a. The Legislative Action Committee (LAC) received emails expressing interest in serving on the committee from a student at John Jay HS, as well as community members Cheryl Migatz and Allison Conti.

Motion to appoint Allison Conti, Cheryl Migatz and Student Marla Litsky to the Legislative Action Committee for the 2019-20 school year.

Motion by Eddy Sloshower

Seconded by Robert Rubin.

Motion carried. Unanimous.

2. Discuss committee focus for this year

- a. Chairman Rob Rubin asked the committee members if there were any suggestions for the focus work of the committee this year. Board member Eddy Sloshower suggested the project that Assistant Superintendent Daren Lolkema is working on with Assemblymember Lalor regarding excluding the salary for school security personnel from the tax level calculation. Mr. Sloshower provided a copy of the proposed Bill to the members of the Committee. Mr. Sloshower recommended that the LAC discuss, support, and possibly ask the full Board to approve a letter in support of this legislation.
- b. The Committee also discussed a proposed NYSSBA Resolution that would permit retired law enforcement officers to come back to work after retirement and it would not have a negative impact on their pension.
- c. The Committee also discussed vaping and wondered if it was an issue that should be addressed. With the Governor's ban on the sale of flavored

e-cigs and also two large retail stores have decided to discontinue the sale of all vaping supplies, it seems that this issue is being resolved.

- d. The Committee discussed the NYSSBA Proposed Resolution which would permit school districts to make the decision on whether school buildings should be used as a polling site. If this proposed resolution is supported at the NYSSBA Convention, then the Committee may decide to advocate on this issue.
- e. Special ed advocacy parent who is approved by the Board and may want to wait to see after the NYSSBA Convention to see if this is something to recommend.

Chairman Rob Rubin recommended a letter be drafted to support the legislation at the Assembly to exempt the cost of school districts employing school safety personnel from the calculation of the tax levy limit. Board Member Eddy Slosower will draft a letter to share with Mr. Rubin in support of Bill A05773. This will be the first focus of the LAC this school year.

3. **Schedule Meeting Dates** - According to the charter, the LAC should meet a minimum of five times (every two months). The Committee discussed wanting the draft letter to be included on the December 9 Board agenda, therefore a meeting should be scheduled during the week of December 2. Chairman Rob Rubin will meet with the District Clerk to email a doodle poll about tentative meeting dates.
4. **Update on administration outreach for volunteer student members** - Ms. Pedro provided that a reminder email was sent to the principals of RCK and OVAHS requesting a student volunteer for the LAC. Ms. DiStefano advised that her responsible seniors were working during the week and she would continue to recruit. Mr. Slosower suggested that a junior may also be recommended. Chairman Rob Rubin shared that he was interested in hearing the concerns from students, e.g. vaping, security, immunization. The committee briefly discussed the impact on the number of students being homeschooled as a result of the change to the immunization law exemption.
5. **Adjournment** - the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. Motion by Cheryl Migatz, seconded by Eddy Slosower. Motion carried. Unanimous.