

Wappingers Central School District Legislative Action Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 18, 2021 -- 3:15 p.m.

This meeting will be held remotely via Zoom and live stream to the public at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbmirHxXLln0yrMBhi6XJTA/videos>

Attendees: Eddy Slosower, John S. Morgan (arrived 3:26 p.m.), Rob Rubin, Jaclyn Coffman, Allison Conti, John Lumia (left 3:40 p.m.)

Others Present: Alberta Pedro

Not Present: Sanjay Natesan, Carl DeMarco, Jr.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Eddy Slosower at 3:21 p.m.

1. Chairman Slosower provided a recap of where the committee left off from the last meeting. The committee finished two of the three letters. The goal for this meeting is to make two edits to the previous letters, finish the third letter, and propose a 4th letter.

Funding to Keep Schools Open – Unfunded Mandates to Require School Districts to test for COVID and provide PPE - [J. Coffman & A. Conti](#)

- After review by Assistant Superintendent Crandall, a recommendation was made to delete the fourth bullet in the letter because the district is not pursuing this mitigation factor.

Motion by John Lumia to delete the bullet that reads, “Our buses will need to be updated with exhaust fans and that is an added cost of \$1,300/bus to have these retro-fitted and installed. Our District has approximately 200 buses - this cost alone will amount to \$260,000+.”

Second by Rob Rubin

Yes: Eddy Slosower, Rob Rubin, John Morgan, Jaclyn Coffman, Allison Conti, John Lumia

Motion passed.

Preventing 20% Reduction/Withholding of State Aid -- \$9.6-11 million - [J. Morgan and C. DeMarco](#)

- After review by Assistant Superintendent Crandall, a recommendation was made to edit the second paragraph to state that the District “has not received approximately \$520,000 of the \$1,000,000 that was budgeted...”

Motion made by Allison Conti to amend the letter and submit to the Board of Education.

Second by John Lumia

Yes: Eddy Slosower, Rob Rubin, John Morgan, Jaclyn Coffman, Allison Conti, John Lumia

Motion passed.

Mental Health (Social Emotional Well Being) - [R. Rubin and S. Natesan](#)

- The committee began reviewing the three paragraphs already started for the mental health letter. There was discussion about obtaining numbers and statistics from District Office staff regarding the percentage of students who never used services before and were now requesting them, and those who needed increased services. Providing the data justifies and benefits the advocacy for additional funding for students in need. It would show the money that exceeds what we have available. The committee edited the letter and left blank spaces to fill in the data that was missing.

Motion by Allison Conti to submit the draft mental health letter to the Board of Education for review. Mr. Slosower will contact Assistant Superintendent Zipp to request the missing information. District Clerk Pedro will send the draft letter to Mr. Zipp for his review.

Second by Rob Rubin.

Yes: Eddy Slosower, Rob Rubin, John Morgan, Jaclyn Coffman, Allison Conti

Not Present: John Lumia

Motion passed.

Chairman Slosower proposed a fourth letter for consideration. He proposed drafting a letter to the State asking that vaccines be specifically allocated to school districts through the local Department of Health, in order to streamline the process so that any teacher who wants one can get one to get students back into the building.

Mr. Morgan volunteered to draft the letter.

Motion to draft the letter made by Allison Conti.

Second by Jaclyn Coffman.

Yes: Eddy Slosower, John Morgan, Jaclyn Coffman, Allison Conti

No: Rob Rubin

Not Present: John Lumia

Motion passed.

2. **Schedule Next Meeting Date** - Another meeting will be scheduled toward the end of the month or early April.

3. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Eddy Sloshower

Second by Rob Rubin

Yes: Eddy Sloshower, Rob Rubin, John Morgan, Jaclyn Coffman, Allison Conti,
John Lumia

Motion passed.

The meeting ended at 4:15 p.m.