



5:15 PM Public Hearing-District Safety Plan

A public hearing regarding the District-Wide Emergency Response Plan took place at 5:15 pm.

Regular Board Meeting

Members Present: Jamie Hebner, Derek Case, Rachel Locke, Michelle Merritt, Andrea Spengler, Jamie Gruber, Lindsey Ellis, Student Board Member-Sophia Stewart.

Others: Pam Ferry

Administration: Dr. John O'Connor, Kerriann Pelletter

Call to Order

Andrea Spengler opened the meeting in the High School Library at 5:30 pm.

Pledge to the Flag

Approval of Agenda

Jamie Hebner made the motion, seconded by Jamie Gruber to approve the agenda.

All voted yes. Motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

Supervisory Reports

All the supervisory reports were in the packet.

Board Reports

- President Spengler reported that committee dates and times are being worked on and finalized.
- Superintendent O'Connor gave updates on the Clean Green Energy project and will get information out to the community. He also reported that new teacher orientation was being held and we are looking for a few aide positions.

Discussion Items

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business Consent Agenda

Lindsey Ellis made a motion, seconded by Derek Case, upon recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the meeting minutes.

All voted yes. Motion carried.

Recommendation from Superintendent to approve agenda items A

A. Meeting Minutes

- 1) Approve the Board of Education Organizational/Regular Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2025.

Rachel Locke made a motion, seconded by Jamie Hebner, upon recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the financial items.

All voted yes. Motion carried.

Recommendation from Superintendent to approve agenda items B

B. Financial Items

- 1) Treasurer's Report for all funds- June 2025
- 2) Warrant Summary Report and Claims Auditor Report- July 2025
- 3) Budget Transfers
- 4) Extra-Curricular Report- June 2025
- 5) Approve the 2025-2026 tax levy for the approximate amount of \$4,123,697.

Recommendation from Superintendent to approve agenda items C

Lindsey Ellis made a motion, seconded by Michelle Merritt, upon recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the personnel items.

All voted yes, motion. Motion carried.



C. Personnel

- 1) Approve the following Coach for the 2025-2026 school year. Salary will be determined by the FTA Contract:
Nate Shuart Assistant Football Coach
- 2) Approve Jeff Heim as the Trap Team Coach for the 2025-2026 school year.
- 3) Approve the following Substitute Callers for the 2025-2026 school year:

Sara Botticello	MS/HS Building	\$2500.00
Brenda Schneider	Elementary Building	\$2500.00
- 4) Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent Sarah Pearson who holds initial certification in Music (K-12) area, is hereby appointed to a probationary position in the Music tenure area for a 4-year probationary period commencing on August 27, 2025 and ending on August 27, 2029 (unless extended in accordance with the law). This expiration date is tentative and conditional only. Sarah Pearson shall receive a salary for school year (2025- 2026) of \$43,949 based on Step D of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- 5) Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent Elizabeth Barter who holds a Library Media Specialist Internship certification in the Library Media Specialist area, is hereby appointed to a probationary position in the Library tenure area for a 4-year probationary period commencing on August 27, 2025 and ending August 27, 2029 (unless extended in accordance with the law). This expiration date is tentative and conditional only. Elizabeth Barter shall receive a salary for school year (2025- 2026) of \$44,125 based on Step A of the Collective Bargaining Agreement and which includes 24 graduate hours.
- 6) Approve the salary adjustment for Luke DiFato for the 2025-2026 school year of \$46,657.
- 7) Approve the following part-time summer cleaner effective July 17, 2025 at the rate of \$15.50 per hour:
Justin Hycner 4.0 hours/day
- 8) Approve the following summer transportation substitutes at their regular 2025-2026 hourly rates:

Jane Scott Bus Aide (Effective July 25, 2025)
Jennifer Tampo-France Bus Driver (Effective August 4, 2025)

- 9) Approve the following bus driver pending all successful completion of requirements with an anticipated start date of September 4, 2025:

Marvin Cummings Jr. 4.0 hours/day

- 10) Approve the following student teachers:

Sarah Maguda Samantha Slate, Grade 4
Courtney Peregovsky Lindsey Ruffo, Grade 1

Recommendation from Superintendent to approve agenda items D

Jamie Gruber made a motion, seconded by Jamie Hebner, upon recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the other items.

All voted yes, motion. Motion carried.

- 11) Approve the second reading and adopt the following policy:
#7316 Use of internet-enabled devices during the school day.

- 12) Approve the following breakfast and lunch prices for the 2025-2026 school year:

\$2.93 Adult Breakfast
\$5.63 Adult Lunch

\$1.75 MS/HS Breakfast
\$2.30 MS/HS Lunch

\$1.75 MS/HS Breakfast
\$2.50 MS/HS Lunch

- 13) Authorize the Superintendent to enter into an agreement with Chautauqua Transportation Services, Inc. effective July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

- 14) Authorize the Superintendent to enter into a membership with CCSBA Membership Dues effective July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026, for \$1,050.00.

- 15) Authorize the Superintendent to enter into a membership with The Rural Schools Association of New York effective July 1, 2025-June 30, 2025 for \$850.00.

- 16) Authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contract with Gallagher for insurance coverages in the amount of \$103,737.00 for the 2025-2026 year.

- 17) Approve the following transportation request for the 2025-2026 school year:

Kinnsley Chitwood NCCS
Liam McKinnon NCCS

18) Approve the following tuition exemptions for the 2025-2026 school year for:

Avalyn Kwilos, child of Allison Kwilos
Cora Korzenieski, child of Stacy Korzenieski
Giulianna Patton, Mia Patton, children of Anna Patton
Spencer Grande, child of Daniel Grande
Emma Ruffo, Hudson Ruffo and Dawson Ruffo children of Lindsey Ruffo
Lila Jackson, Nora Jackson. children of Ralph Jackson

19) Approve the following 2025-2026 Handbooks:

Forestville MS/HS Student Handbook
Forestville Elementary Student Handbook
Code of Conduct

20) Approve the following Emergency Response Plan:

District Wide Emergency Response Plan

21) Approve the 2025-2026 Professional Learning Plan

22) Approve the Chemical Hygiene Plan

23) Approve the 2025-2026 Athletic Handbook

24) Accept the following donation from the State Education Department CREATE Project:

(5) Hewlett Packard EliteBook x360 G2 laptops

25) Surplus the following items:

Bus #133
Phys Ed equipment
Health textbook

Derek Case made a motion, seconded by Jamie Hebner, upon recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the additional other items.

All voted yes, motion. Motion carried.

Additional Other Items:

Approve the following resolution issuing SEQRA Negative Declaration for proposed NYSERDA Clean Green Energy Project:

Resolution Issuing SEQRA Negative
Declaration for Proposed
NYSERDA Clean Green Energy
Project

WHEREAS, the Forestville Central School District (the “District”) and its Board of Education (the “Board”) propose to undertake a NYSERDA Clean Green Energy Project (the “NYSERDA Project”) which includes mechanical / HVAC and related electrical upgrades to improve energy efficiencies and provide cooling in the majority of classrooms and other spaces at the Middle/High School and Elementary School (“NYSERDA Project”); and

WHEREAS, the District and its Board, as the lead agency, have undertaken an environmental review of this Unlisted action in accordance with State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) regulations, and duly considered the proposed Project, the SEQRA Environmental Assessment Form, the criteria for determining whether the action will have a significant adverse impact on the environment as set forth in 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617.7(c) of the SEQRA regulations, and such other information deemed appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the District/Board identified the relevant areas of environmental concern, took a hard look at these areas, and made a reasoned elaboration of the basis for its determination;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that:

1. The District/Board is the lead agency under SEQRA to review this Unlisted action, and the NYSERDA Project will not result in a significant adverse impact on the environment.

2. The attached Negative Declaration, incorporated herein by reference, is issued and adopted for the reasons stated in the attached Negative Declaration, and Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the Environmental Assessment Form are also incorporated herein by reference.

3. The Superintendent of the District is authorized to sign and file or have filed on behalf of the District/Board all documents necessary to comply with SEQRA.

4. This resolution is effective immediately.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Jamie Gruber made a motion, seconded by Lindsey Ellis, upon recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the resolution as to the special meeting and district vote.

All voted yes, motion. Motion carried.

Approve the following resolution as to the special meeting and district vote:

A RESOLUTION AS TO SPECIAL MEETING AND VOTE
FORESTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
CATTARAUGUS AND CHAUTAUQUA COUNTIES, NEW YORK

August 14, 2025

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Forestville Central School District, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties, New York (the “District”), as follows:

Section 1. That the provisions of this resolution shall be effective regardless of anything to the contrary in the policies of this Board, or the previous minutes of this Board, or otherwise.

Section 2. That the Board wishes to propose a capital improvements project involving the partial reconstruction, renovation and the construction of improvements and upgrades to various District buildings and facilities and the sites thereof, all as described in greater detail in Proposition No. 1 in the legal notice set forth below (collectively, the “Project”) and, as part of that process, pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”), an Environmental Assessment Form has been completed for the Project, which is an Unlisted action under SEQRA, a thorough review of the Project’s potential environmental impacts has been undertaken, it has been found that the Project will not result in a significant adverse impact on the environment, and a written, reasoned elaboration of the SEQRA determination of significance has been provided in a Negative Declaration.

Section 3. That a special meeting and vote of the qualified voters of the District (the “Special Meeting and Vote”) will be held in the Hornet Lobby of the Middle/High School building located at 4 Academy Street, Forestville, New York, on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 1:00 p.m., prevailing time, for the purpose of voting upon the proposition hereinafter set forth.

Section 4. That the notice of the Special Meeting and Vote, including the proposition to be voted upon, shall be in substantially the following form, to-wit:

NOTICE OF SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING AND VOTE

FORESTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CATTARAUGUS AND CHAUTAUQUA COUNTIES, NEW YORK

The Board of Education of the Forestville Central School District, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties, New York (the “District”) HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that a special meeting and vote of the qualified voters of the District (the “Special Meeting and Vote”) will be held on Thursday, October 16, 2025 in the Hornet Lobby of the Middle/High School building located at 4 Academy Street, Forestville, New York, at 1:00 p.m., prevailing time, for the purpose of voting by electronic scan voting machine(s) upon the proposition hereinafter set forth. Polls for the purpose of voting will be kept open between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., prevailing time, on that day. This assumes that the polling place is open and can be safely accessed in accordance with the terms of any prevailing law(s), executive order(s) or other directive(s) from controlling authorities that may be in effect on that day. If on October 16 the polling place cannot be so accessed, or if the polling place is closed on that day due to inclement weather (or for any other reason), it is the present intention of the District that the Special Meeting and Vote will be held on the day on which the polling place is next open and may be safely accessed, with the voting hours remaining the same. In such a situation, voters are asked to please consult the District’s website for guidance on the timing of, and procedures for holding, the re-scheduled Special Meeting and Vote.

PROPOSITION NO. 1 CLEAN GREEN ENERGY PROJECT, 2025

Shall the following resolutions be adopted, to-wit:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the Forestville Central School District, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties, New York (the “District”), is hereby authorized to undertake a proposed “Clean Green Energy Project, 2025” (the “Project”) consisting of the partial reconstruction, renovation and the construction of improvements and upgrades to various District buildings and facilities and the sites thereof, at an estimated maximum cost of \$7,466,977, to implement various health, safety, accessibility and Code compliance measures that are required by the State Education Department in connection with any significant capital improvements project and various other measures that are generally described in (but are not to be limited by) the written plan for the Project that was prepared by the District with the assistance of Young + Wright Architectural (the “Project Plan”), which is available for public inspection in the office of the District Clerk, with such work being anticipated to include, without limitation and to the extent as and where required, the particular elements that are described generally below. Proposed renovations and upgrades are anticipated to include HVAC/mechanical upgrades consisting of the installation of select rooftop units at each of the schools and the installation of new windows on the second and third floors of the Middle/High School. Other proposed work is anticipated to include the installation of cooling systems to the majority of classrooms at both the Middle/High School and Elementary School and other spaces such as the Middle/High School auditorium, cafeteria, music area, and the Elementary cafeteria and gymnasium, together with related electrical upgrades. If the budget allows, or if other items are identified, additional similar renovations, upgrades and site work improvements could be undertaken. All of such work (or so much thereof as can be accomplished within the overall budget for the Project) is to be undertaken at an estimated maximum cost of \$7,466,977, and will include the purchase of original furnishings, equipment, machinery and apparatus required in connection with the purposes for which such buildings, facilities and sites are used, and all ancillary or related work required in connection therewith, and the Board is authorized to expend therefor, including for preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing thereof, an

amount not to exceed the estimated maximum cost of \$7,466,977, provided that the detailed costs of the components of the Project (as generally described in the Project Plan) may be reallocated among such components, or such components may be deleted, revised or supplemented if (1) the Board shall determine that such reallocation, deletion, revision or supplementation is in the best interests of the District and (2) the aggregate amount to be expended for the Project shall not exceed \$7,466,977 and (3) no material change shall be made in the overall scope and nature of the Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board is hereby authorized to expend or apply toward the Project \$100,000 from utility rebates and \$945,377 from a NYSERDA grant; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a tax is hereby voted to finance the balance of the estimated maximum cost of the Project in an amount not to exceed \$6,421,600, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by the Board; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in anticipation of such tax, obligations of the District including, without limitation, serial bonds, statutory installment bonds, bond anticipation notes and/or lease/purchase obligations, or any combination thereof, are hereby authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$6,421,600, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on such obligations as the same shall become due and payable; and be it further

RESOLVED, that New York State Building Aid funds expected to be received by the District are anticipated to offset a substantial part of such costs, and such funds shall, to the extent received, be applied to offset and reduce the amount of taxes herein authorized to be levied.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that such Proposition No. 1 shall appear on the ballot sheets to be utilized for voting in substantially the following abbreviated form:

**PROPOSITION NO. 1
CLEAN GREEN ENERGY PROJECT, 2025**

YES

NO

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to-wit:

RESOLVED, that (a) the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Forestville Central School District, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties, New York (the "District") is hereby authorized to undertake a proposed Clean Green Energy Project, 2025 (the "Project") consisting of the partial reconstruction, renovation and the construction of improvements and upgrades to various District buildings and facilities and the sites thereof, to implement various health, safety, accessibility and Code compliance measures and various other measures that are included and generally described in (but are not to be limited by) the Project Plan that was referred to in the public notice of the vote on this Proposition, and to expend therefor an amount not to exceed \$7,466,977; (b) the Board is hereby authorized to partially finance the Project by expending or applying \$100,000 from utility rebates and \$945,377 from a grant; (c) a tax is hereby voted in an amount not to exceed \$6,421,600 to finance the balance of the estimated maximum cost of the Project, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by the Board; (d) in anticipation of such tax, obligations of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$6,421,600, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on such obligations as the same shall become due and payable; and (e) New York State Building Aid funds expected to be received by the District in connection with the Project are anticipated to offset a substantial part of such costs, and such funds, to the extent received, shall be applied to offset and reduce the amount of taxes herein authorized to be levied.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that an Environmental Assessment Form has been completed for all of the anticipated work involved in the Project, which constitutes an Unlisted action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"), a thorough review of the Project's potential environmental impacts has been undertaken, it has been found that the Project will not result in a significant adverse impact on the environment, and a reasoned elaboration of the SEQRA review and findings has been provided in a Negative Declaration.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that military voters who are qualified voters of the District may apply for a military ballot by requesting an application from the District Clerk. For a military voter to be issued a military ballot, the District Clerk must have received a valid ballot application by not later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, September 22, 2025. In a request for a military ballot application or ballot, the military voter may indicate their preference for receiving the application or ballot by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots may be obtained at the office of the District Clerk between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., prevailing time, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the Special Meeting and Vote, if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or on the day before the Special Meeting and Vote, if the ballot is to be issued personally to the voter at the District Clerk's office. The list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available for inspection in the office of the District Clerk, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., prevailing time, until the day set for voting, except for Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. No absentee ballot will be canvassed unless it is received prior to 5:00 p.m., prevailing time, on October 16, 2025, in the office of the District Clerk, 4 Academy Street, Forestville, New York.

Dated: August 14, 2025
Forestville, New York

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
FORESTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
CATTARAUGUS AND CHAUTAUQUA COUNTIES, NEW YORK

By: _____
District Clerk

Section 5. That the District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice to be given of such Special Meeting and Vote, in substantially the form hereinbefore prescribed, by publishing the same four (4) times within the seven (7) weeks next preceding the date of the Special Meeting and Vote, the first publication to be at least 45 days (but not more than 49 days) before the Special Meeting and Vote, in the *Dunkirk Observer*, being, upon information and belief, the only newspaper having general circulation in the District, and by giving such other notice as in the District Clerk's discretion may be deemed advisable.

Section 6. That the temporary use of available funds of the District, not immediately required for the purpose or purposes for which the same were borrowed, raised or otherwise created, is hereby authorized pursuant to Section 165.10 of the Local Finance Law, for the purpose or purposes described in this resolution.

Section 7. That this resolution shall constitute the declaration (or reaffirmation) of the District's "official intent" to reimburse the expenditures authorized in this resolution with the proceeds of the bonds, notes or other obligations authorized herein, as required by United States Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2.

Section 8. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

* * * * *

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Michelle Merritt made a motion, seconded by Derek Case to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 pm.

All voted yes. Motion carried.

Adjournment