

ICHABOD CRANE CENTRAL SCHOOL

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION

February 9, 2021

MINUTES

A Special Meeting of the Ichabod Crane Board of Education was held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

All Board Members Present:

John Antalek	Elaine Berlin	John Chandler	Kelly Firmbach
Ruth Moore	Matthew Nelson	Jeffrey Ouellette	
Elizabeth Phillips (arrived 7:04pm)		Susan Ramos	

School Officials Present:

Suzanne Guntlow, Superintendent, Lucas Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Michael Brennan, Business Manager, Craig Shull, High School Principal, Marcella Sanchez, High School Assistant Principal, Anthony Marturano, Middle School Co-Principal, Tim Farley, Middle School Co-Principal, Andrea Williams, Primary School Principal, Peg Warner, Special Education Director, Tim Stewart, Athletic Director and Mindy Potts, District Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Board President Matthew Nelson conducted the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Member Ruth Moore read the District Mission Statement:

“The Ichabod Crane Central School District is dedicated to preparing students to become contributing members of society in an ever-changing world by valuing diversity; providing a safe environment; and promoting unique talents, a desire for life-long learning, a strong spirit of community, and Rider pride.”

MOTION NELSON      2ND FIRMBACH

To approve the agenda as presented

ANTALEK - YES	BERLIN - YES	CHANDLER - YES
FIRMBACH - YES	MOORE - YES	NELSON - YES
OUELLETTE - YES	PHILLIPS - ABSENT	RAMOS - YES

Carried, 8-0

Board member Elizabeth Phillips joined the meeting.

Public Participation

No one from the public wished to address the Board at this time

Athletic Director Tim Stewart gave a presentation on sports deemed "high-risk" and answered Board questions on COVID-19 procedures and guidelines regarding holding shortened seasons for various sports.

MOTION NELSON 2ND MOORE

WHEREAS, the Governor of New York State has authorized interscholastic "High Risk" sports to begin on February 1, 2021, at the discretion of local County Public Health Departments; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department of Columbia County has authorized interscholastic High Risk Sports to resume under certain circumstances, including: the creation of sport specific preparedness plans for each High Risk Sport which must be approved by the district's school physician/medical director; obtaining informed consent from parents/guardians, including consent for COVID-19 testing; medical clearance from the student-athletes' healthcare providers; and approval by district Boards of Education for each, individual, High Risk Sport; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department of Columbia County also identified community COVID-19 metrics that must be met in order for interscholastic High Risk Sports to resume, including a rolling seven (7) day positivity rate for COVID-19 under 4% within the County and hospital bed capacity in excess of 15% in the capital region; and

WHEREAS, the Ichabod Crane Central School District obtains both informed consent from parents and student-athlete medical clearance; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools, in coordination with the Athletic Director, created sport specific preparedness plans for each High Risk Sport which have been reviewed by the school physician; and

WHEREAS, the school physician, Neil Baillargeon, has at this time approved the preparedness plans for Girls' Basketball (Varsity and JV), Boys' Basketball (Varsity and JV), Boys' Volleyball (Varsity), Wrestling (Varsity only), Girls' Volleyball (Varsity, JV and Modified) Football (Varsity only) and Cheerleading (Varsity only); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education believes that interscholastic sports are an important component of a student's experience;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ichabod Crane Central School District, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby authorizes the resumption of , Girls' Basketball (Varsity and JV), Boys' Basketball (Varsity and JV), Boys' Volleyball (Varsity), Wrestling (Varsity only), Girls' Volleyball (Varsity, JV and Modified) Football (Varsity only) and Cheerleading (Varsity only); once the COVID-19 community metrics established by the Columbia County Public Health Department are met; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District's participation in high-risk sports shall be in compliance with all guidance, rules, policies and procedures issued by New York State and the Columbia County Public Health Department.

MOTION NELSON 2ND PHILLIPS

To amend the motion to include wording to regarding testing for athletes participating in wrestling:

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby directs the Superintendent of Schools to work together with the School Physician, Athletic Director and other appropriate parties to develop a testing protocol, prior to the resumption of Wrestling (Varsity Only)"

ANTALEK - YES	BERLIN - YES	CHANDLER - YES
FIRMBACH - YES	MOORE - YES	NELSON - YES
OUELLETTE - YES	PHILLIPS - YES	RAMOS - ABSTAIN

Carried, 8-0-1

A lengthy discussion ensued.

MOTION RAMOS 2ND CHANDLER

To amend the motion to remove approval of Wrestling

ANTALEK - NO	BERLIN - NO	CHANDLER - NO
FIRMBACH - NO	MOORE - NO	NELSON - NO
OUELLETTE - NO	PHILLIPS - NO	RAMOS - YES

Failed, 1-8

After a lengthy discussion, the Board voted on the amended motion (full amended resolution as follows):

WHEREAS, the Governor of New York State has authorized interscholastic "High Risk" sports to begin on February 1, 2021, at the discretion of local County Public Health Departments; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department of Columbia County has authorized interscholastic High Risk Sports to resume under certain circumstances, including: the creation of sport specific preparedness plans for each High Risk Sport which must be approved by the district's school physician/medical director; obtaining informed consent from parents/guardians, including consent for COVID-19 testing; medical clearance from the student-athletes' healthcare providers; and approval by district Boards of Education for each, individual, High Risk Sport; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department of Columbia County also identified community COVID-19 metrics that must be met in order for interscholastic High Risk Sports to resume, including a rolling seven (7) day positivity rate for COVID-19 under 4% within the County and hospital bed capacity in excess of 15% in the capital region; and

WHEREAS, the Ichabod Crane Central School District obtains both informed consent from parents and student-athlete medical clearance; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools, in coordination with the Athletic Director, created sport specific preparedness plans for each High Risk Sport which have been reviewed by the school physician; and

WHEREAS, the school physician, Neil Baillargeon, has at this time approved the preparedness plans for Girls' Basketball (Varsity and JV), Boys' Basketball (Varsity and JV), Boys' Volleyball (Varsity), Wrestling (Varsity only), Girls' Volleyball (Varsity, JV and Modified) Football (Varsity only) and Cheerleading (Varsity only); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education believes that interscholastic sports are an important component of a student's experience;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ichabod Crane Central School District, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby authorizes the resumption of , Girls' Basketball (Varsity and JV), Boys' Basketball ( Varsity and JV), Boys' Volleyball (Varsity), Wrestling (Varsity only), Girls' Volleyball (Varsity, JV and Modified) Football (Varsity only) and Cheerleading (Varsity only); once the COVID-19 community metrics established by the Columbia County Public Health Department are met; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby directs the Superintendent of Schools to work together with the School Physician, Athletic Director and other appropriate parties to develop a testing protocol, prior to the resumption of Wrestling (Varsity Only); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District's participation in high-risk sports shall be in compliance with all guidance, rules, policies and procedures issued by New York State and the Columbia County Public Health Department.

ANTALEK - YES  
FIRMBACH - YES  
OUELLETTE - YES

BERLIN - YES  
MOORE - YES  
PHILLIPS - YES

CHANDLER - YES  
NELSON - YES  
RAMOS - ABSTAIN

Carried, 8-0-1

#### Public Participation

No one from the public wished to address the Board at this time

MOTION NELSON      2ND PHILLIPS  
    To adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.  
Carried, 9-0