

April 28, 2021
Date

Special
Kind of Meeting

Virtually
Where held

Dr. Teri Martin
Presiding Officer

Members Present:

Dr. Teri Martin
Susan Simpfenderfer
Debra Bunce
Melissa Maldonado
Drew Shuster
John Wiktorko, Superintendent

Absent

Others Present:

The special meeting of the Board of Education of the Windham-Ashland-Jewett CSD was called to discuss a district matter.

Call to Order

The President, Dr. Teri Martin, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Dr. Martin led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board read and discussed the voter proposition presented by Mr. MacGregor dated April 18, 2021.

Legal counsel provided written guidance that such a proposition could not be accepted because the proposed proposition sought to set the curriculum of the School District and to dictate certain textbooks for the School District to use. New York Education Law Sections 1709(3) and (4) vest the right and authority to determine a school district's curriculum and the textbooks it uses solely with a school district's board of education. Therefore, pursuant to this law, the proposed proposition that was submitted to the School District was beyond the power of the voters to decide in a proposition.

The Board inquired if the books mentioned were available in the school for students. All the novels referenced were available in the school and were produced for the BOE.

The Board then moved to the resolution below.

RESOLVED, the Board of Education of the Windham-Ashland-Jewett Central School District, does hereby refuse placement of the following voter proposition on the ballot for the 2021-2022 Annual vote, "**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Windham-Ashland-Jewett Central School District be and is hereby authorized to expend the sum of monies not to exceed \$1,200.00 dollars to be raised by tax upon the taxable property of said school district after first deducting the estimated money available from state aid and other sources for the sole purchase of the following four textbooks: *Brave New World*, by Aldous Huxley; *1984*; *Animal Farm*, both by George Orwell; and *Fahrenheit 451*, by Ray Bradbury. One copy of each separate book shall be placed in the WAJCSD Library, the remainder books shall be used as part of the curricula and given to the students in the grades ten through twelve." on motion by Drew Shuster, second by Susan Simpfenderfer and carried by those present.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m. on motion by Drew Shuster, second by Susan Simpfenderfer, and carried by those present.

John Wiktorko, Clerk Pro Tem