

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robert J. Baron, President
C. James Coffin, Vice President
Richard K. Brackett
John A. Cole
Thomas McKenna
Joseph F. Pofit
Thomas M. Thorpe, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Alan R. McCartney, Mark Diefendorf, Edward Diegel, Michael Paolino, Sarita Winchell

OTHERS PRESENT:

Gary Hubert, Linda Pasquali, Kathy Fiero, Kevin T. Kroencke, Paige Macdonald, Jack Berte, Martin Bannon [*The Spotlight*], Molly Belmont [*The Altamont Enterprise*], Larry Bonham, Nan Bonham, Rich Wargo, Rose Mary Wargo, Fran Gorka, Laura Morriel, Michael Goyer, Deann DellaPenta.

Mr. Baron called the meeting to order at 7:30pm and gave the proper procedure to evacuate the building in the event of a fire emergency. He noted all Board members were present.

On a motion by Mr. Thorpe, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the special meeting [*Aged Exemption and Disabled Persons with Limited Income Sliding Scale*] and the regular meeting of March 8, 2004. On a motion by Mr. McKenna and seconded by Mr. Coffin the Board approved the minutes of the special budget meeting of March 22, 2004 on a 6-0 vote. Mr. Brackett abstained.

Mr. Baron asked if there were additional items from the Superintendent. Dr. McCartney asked that the drawing of lots for the order that the candidates will appear on the ballot be done at this time. Three of the four candidates were present.

The drawing was done in alphabetical order, the results being as follows:

- 1st - C. James Coffin
- 3rd - Kevin Kroencke
- 4th - Paige Macdonald

The remaining ticket (#2) was assigned to David Gibson, in his absence.

Mr. Baron offered the public an opportunity to be heard. Mrs. Wargo expressed her concern with the weighting of grades, and the effect it has on the acceptance of students in colleges. It seems that some students will not be taking the AP courses if this system continues. Some colleges do not look at the difficulty of the courses and just the grade. Mr. Cole said that this has been a subject of discussion in the past and although looked at, never resolved. There was a brief discussion on this matter with the outcome as follows:

- The board asked that Mr. Diefendorf prepare a package with the positives and negatives of the weighting system for the June Meeting.
- Mrs. Macdonald, the parent chair with the Site Based Team, informed the board that she has material that they might be interested in, and if she could be of assistance in this matter she will be available.

A member of the community asked if the agenda for the board meetings would be available on the website soon. Dr McCartney said that it was one of his goals.

Ms. Gorka brought up the coaching issue of the track and field team. She was concerned that there was only one coach for 65 students. This is not only unfair and unsafe for the students, but it is unfair to the coach. There are many different events and the coach cannot be in all areas at the same time. Mr. Kroencke suggested that separate coaches for the boys and girls should be considered. There same issue exists with the cross-country team. Dr. McCartney said it was too late in the year to hire an additional coach, but further down on the agenda is a recommendation to appoint a modified track coach. The search will begin earlier next year. With the new facility, there are many more students interested in this sport this year.

On a motion made by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Pofit and carried unanimously the board approved the action items with the exception of items 4.5 and 4.13.

- Approved the Treasurer's Reports as presented in the enclosure folder.

Meeting Call to

Order:

7:39 p.m.

Approved

Minutes:

3/8/04

3/22/04

Additional items

from the

Superintendent

Opportunity for

Public to be

heard:

Action Items

Treasurers
Reports

- Approved the following warrants and payrolls:

Warrants

Warrants:

General Fund Warrant #18:	\$536,988.03
School Lunch Fund Warrant #15:	14,349.63
Capital Fund Warrant #6:	8,6332.60
Trust & Agency Warrant #8:	989,808.71
Federal Aid Fund Warrant #10:	110,931.89

Payrolls

Payrolls:

Payroll #20:	\$386,984.78
Payroll #21:	380,870.21
Payroll #23:	378,202.63

Parental Leave Request

- Approved the request of Ana Valladares-Weiser, Foreign Language Teacher, for parental leave commencing on September 1, 2004 and ending January 31, 2005.

Extension of Parental Leave

- Approved extending the following requests for parental leave as per Article 8.6B of the VTA Contract:

K. Hyatt

Kimberly J. Hyatt, Music Teacher
 Extended from September 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005

L. Spadinger

Lisa Spadinger, Special Education Teacher
 Extended from September 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005

M. McMahon

Megan M. McMahon, Elementary School Teacher
 Extended from September 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005

Probationary Teaching Appt.:

- Approved the following probationary teaching appointment:

B. Clair

Brenda Clair, Sixth Grade Mathematics Teacher
 Effective: September 1, 2004
 Probationary Term: Three years
 Salary: Step 3 [MA] of VTA Contract

Temporary Appointment:

- Approved the temporary of Donna Kraft as Occupation Therapist Consultant
 Effective: March 4, 2004 [*Substitute for Mrs. Bruno during her parental leave*]
 Salary: \$20.00 per hour

D. Kraft

Permanent Appts:

- Approved the following permanent appointments due to successful completion of the six-month probationary period:

G. Nugent

George Nugent, Custodial Worker [3 hours per day]
 Effective: April 14, 2004
 Salary: Step 5 of UEV Contract

M. LaRock

Mark LaRock, Custodial Worker [8 hours per day]
 Effective: April 21, 2004
 Salary: Step 4 of UEV Contract

R. Farley

Rhonda Farley, Food Service Helper [2½ hours per day]
 Effective: March 1, 2004
 Salary: Step 2 of UEV Contract

Census Enumerator:

- Approved the appointment of JoAnn Donohue as Census Enumerator.
 Effective: 2004-2005 School Year
 Salary: \$3,700

J. Donohue

Approved:

- Approved Board of Education sponsorship of a swim clinic and the following appointment of the clinic advisor:

Swim Clinic

Advisor:

A. Hilton

Amy Hilton, Voorheesville Swim Clinic Advisor
 Effective: April 20, 2004 – June 24, 2004
 Salary: Per the salary schedule

Learn to Swim Program:

- Approved the Learn-to-Swim Program from April 24 through June 5 as noted in the enclosure folder.

Director:

B. McKenna

- Approved the appointment of Barbara McKenna as Director of the Learn-to-Swim Program.
 Effective: April 24 – June 5, 2004 [*Six Saturdays*]
 Salary: \$22.00 per hour

- Approved the list of certified lifeguards for the Voorheesville Central School District as presented in the enclosure folder.
- Approved substitute teacher appointments for the 2003-2004 school year as presented by the BOCES Substitute Calling Service in a memo dated April 7, 2004.
- Approved the recommendations of the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at meetings held on March 11, 2004, March 15, 2004, March 16, 2004, March 18, 2004, March 23, 2004, April 1, 2004, and April 3, 2004; and recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education as outlined at meetings held on March 3, 2004 and March 29, 2004.
- Approved requests for non-public transportation for sixty-two (62) students to private schools for the 2004-2005 school year as submitted in the enclosure folder.
- Approved the following out-of-town student field trip requests:
 - International Club Trip
Montreal, Canada: Friday, April 23, 2004
Requestor: Robert Streifer
 - Grade 7 Field Trip
Boston, Massachusetts: Friday, June 4, 2004
Requestor: Sally Dobris
 - Grade 6 Field Trip
Bronx Zoo – Bronx, New York: Friday, June 4, 2004
Requestor: Maria Karatzou
- Accepted the resignation of Charlotte A. Fuss, Internal Auditor.
Effective: April 28, 2004
Reason: Accepted another position

Approved:
Lifeguards

BOCES
Substitute List

CSE
Recommendation

Private School
Transportation

Out-of-Town
Student Field
Trips

On a motion made by Mr. Brackett, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the board approved item 4.5, Support Staff appointments as follows:

Support Staff
Appointments:

Adele Livingston, Elementary School Cashier
Effective: March 18, 2004 [*Monday – Friday; 10:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*]
Probationary Term: Six months
Salary: Step 1 of UEV Contract

A. Livingston

Steve Eppelmann, School Bus Driver
Effective: March 22, 2004 [4 hours per day]
Probationary Term: Six months
Salary: Step 1 of UEV Contract

S. Eppelmann

An area of concern is that, too often, employees are being hired and starting work before they are Board approved. The Board should be approving appointments before employees begin work. Mrs. Winchell said that there are occasions when a position needs to be filled before the next board meeting. She noted that employees are on a six-month probation should the board not approve that individual.

A motion was made by Mr. Thorpe and seconded by Mr. McKenna to approve the following coaching appointments for the 2003-2004 school year:

Coaching
Appointments

Kyle Turski	JV Baseball Coach	Step 1
Michael Braet	Modified Track Coach	Step 1
Henry Czerwinski	Varsity Baseball	Step 5

The coaching appointments were approved on a 6-0 vote with Mr. Cole abstaining.

Mrs. Winchell then introduced Mr. John Panichi. Mr. Panichi presented the board with information on the Schoharie Area Workers' Compensation Trust Plan. He answered several questions from the board. The board requested that Mrs. Winchell provide them with additional information as it becomes available to her. They were specifically interested in the history of the other districts in the plan, and what Utica Mutual had to counteroffer.

Presentation:
Schoharie Area
Workers' Comp.
J. Panichi

SPECIAL REPORTS: New York State School Report Card Presentation

Special Report:

Mr. Diegel and Mr. Diefendorf presented their reports on the New York State School Report Card. Copies of the reports are attached.

NYS School
Report Card

Mr. Diegel said that some questions were put on the test to stump the kids. These tests are used as a guideline and not the “end all” and “be all” of tests. All in all, he was pleased with the results.

Mr. Diefendorf went over the highlights of the Middle School and High School report.

Mr. Berte asked why there was a large drop in the math scores from students in the elementary school testing to the same students now in the Middle Level classes. It was explained that the tests given to the elementary students were more of a computation test. The Middle Level tests are a combination of computation and comprehensive Math.

Administrative Reports.**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**Mr. Diegel – Elementary School

Mr. Diegel

- The kindergarten screening went extremely well this year. Seventy-nine students were screened and all were present and ready for the process. Mr. Diegel predicted that there would be approximately 85 students in the kindergarten class by the September start date and that number would increase to 93 or 94 students by the time they are in first grade.

Mr. Diefendorf – High School/Middle School

Mr. Diefendorf

- The Student Government Red Cross Blood Drive collected 48 pints of blood.
- Six students as have been selected as National Merit Semi-finalists. [PSAT scores determine Selection.]

Ms. Kennedy – Middle Level

Ms. Kennedy

- Friendship was the theme for the March Character Education Program. There were 10 students and 2 staff members selected.
- Two performances of Annie will be presented on May 15 and 16. Both performances will take place in the Performing Arts Center.

Mrs. Winchell – Business Official

Mrs. Winchell

- The health insurance committee has come to an agreement to offer one, self-insured drug plan. The plan would have three tiers, with co-pays ranging from \$5 to \$40. Mr. Cole commended Mrs. Winchell on her hard work with this project.

Dr. McCartney

Dr. McCartney

- Along with the Executive Summary on the budget, Dr. McCartney updated the Board on the Elementary School Principal search. He informed the Board that there were 37 completed applications, 14 or 15 which will be chosen for individual interviews. Dr. McCartney and Mr. Diefendorf will begin conducting interviews in the middle of next week.
- He also informed the board that with the resignation of Ms. Fuss, the Internal Auditor, the office will be reorganized before advertising for a new position.

Mr. Goyer – Transportation, Operations, and Maintenance

Mr. Goyer

- The installation of the rug in the guidance office over the break went well. The maintenance staff did an excellent job.
- Ms. Macdonald asked that the late bus run be reviewed again. She felt that it was a hardship for working parents or single parents to pick up students at school after practice. Mr. Goyer informed her that transporting the number of students taking the bus at that time is not cost effective. However, it will be taken under advisement.

Approved Resolution:

On a motion by Mr. Thorpe, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the following resolution regarding a co-generation performance contract was approved:

Co-Generation
Performance
Contract

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education desires to investigate and energy performance contract involving co-generation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized to enter into an energy audit with Atlantic Energy Services, Inc. at no cost to the District.

Facilities Update

Dr. McCartney informed the board that there were still some fixtures in the Middle Level wing that needed to be hung properly. There will also be an RFP for brickwork and for erecting the bleachers.

Approved:
2004-2005 School
Budget

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Pofit and carried unanimously the Board approved the 2004-2005 school budget in the amount of **\$18,442,445**.

On motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Thorpe and carried unanimously the Board tabled the resolution to enter into membership in the Schoharie Area Workers' Compensation Trust Plan effective April 19, 2004, pursuant to Section 119-o of the General Municipal Law as presented in the enclosure folder.

On a motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously the Board approved the special meeting to be held Monday, April 26, 2004, for the purpose of conducting an election for BOCES Board members and vote on BOCES Administrative Budget. The meeting will be at 7:30 AM.

Mr. Baron then asked if any member of the board would like to be heard. Mr. McKenna gave his compliments to the Voorheesville Community and School Foundation in organizing the gala event for Mr. Diegel and the proposal for the Welcome Arts Center in the elementary school. He also noted that Mr. Thorpe's band, "Fire in the Kitchen" will be entertaining.

The following information items were noted:

- CASDA Newsletter [March 2004]
- Middle Level News Notes
- BOCES Early Edition Newsletter [April 2004]

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Pofit and carried unanimously, the Board moved into Executive Session at 9:35 p.m. The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:25 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Thorpe and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

President

Clerk

Recording Secretary

Resolution:
*Schoharie Area
Worker's
Compensation Trust
Plan*
Tabled

Approved:
Special Meeting
[BOCES Vote]
4/26/200

Opportunity for
BOE to be Heard:

T. McKenna

Information Items:

Executive Session:
9:35 p.m.

Adjournment:
10:30 p.m.