

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Joseph F. Pofit

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:**

Alan R. McCartney, Mark Diefendorf, Edward Diegel, Theresa Kennedy, Michael Paolino

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Molly Belmont (*The Altamont Enterprise*), Gary Hubert, Kevin Kroencke, Mike Goyer, David Gibson, Michelle Flynn (*The Spotlight*), Kathy Fiero, Kathleen Parsons, Jerry Parsons, Warren Silverman, Randy Davis, J. Adam Cole, Claudia Burtman, Mary Anne Nolan, Deann DellaPenta

Mr. Baron called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm and gave the proper procedure to evacuate the building in the event of a fire emergency. He noted all Board members were present with the exception of Mr. Pofit.

Meeting Call to Order:  
7:40 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2003.

Approved Minutes:  
10/20/03

Mr. Baron asked if there were additional items from the Superintendent. Dr. McCartney added item 6.5.6, the tax certiorari, to the agenda for discussion at a later time.

Opportunity for Superintendent to be heard

Mr. Baron offered the public an opportunity to be heard. Dr. Warren Silverman, from the Community and School Foundation brought two advance copies (one for each library) of the Alumni Association Directory. He reminded the Board that the advance copy has some holes that need to be filled in. The publishing company sent along a disc with the database for additional data that is gathered.

Opportunity for Public to be heard:  
W. Silverman

After a brief discussion of items 4.1.2, 4.4, 4.13 and 4.14 a motion was made by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Coffin, and carried unanimously, the following action items were approved:

Action Items

- Approved the Treasurer's Reports as presented in the enclosure folder.
- Approved the following warrants and payrolls:

*Treasurers Reports*

Warrants:

General Fund Warrant #5	\$573,122.50
School Lunch Fund Warrant #5:	24,594.51
Capital Fund Warrant #2:	74,866.34
Trust & Agency Warrant #3:	982,081.43
Federal Aid Fund Warrant #5:	36,811.22
Gifts, Scholarships & Endowments (TE)	120.00

*Warrants*

Payrolls:

Payroll #10:	\$391,435.40
Payroll #11:	378,666.58

*Payrolls*

- Approved the report of the Tax Collector
- Approved the following part-time/temporary appointments:

Tax Collector's Report

Appointments:

Kelly Avgerinos, Temporary Special Education Teaching Assistant [*Elementary School*]

Effective: November 10, 2003 – June 25, 2004

Salary: Step 2 of UEV Contract

*K. Avgerinos*

Michael Burns, Temporary Elementary Teacher [*Grade 4*]

Effective: November 19, 2003 – June 25, 2004 [*During Mrs. McMahon's parental leave*]

Salary: Step 2 of VTA Contract

*M. Burns*

Liesl Bailey, Part-time Teacher Aide [*Kindergarten: 2 hours/day*]

Effective: November 5, 2003

Salary: Step 2 of UEV Contract

*L. Bailey*

Increase in Hours:

- Approved an increase in hours for Kirsti Lloyd, Elementary Teacher Aide, from 4 hours per day to 6 hours per day. The extra two hours will be worked in the AM Kindergarten.  
 Effective: November 5, 2003

K. Lloyd

Extracurricular Appointments:

- Approved the following extracurricular appointment for the 2003-2004 school year:  
*[per VTA Extracurricular Salary Schedule]*

B. Blumberg

Barbara Blumberg                                      Ski Club Advisor                                      Step 8

Coaching Appointments:

- Approved the following coaching appointments for the 2003-2004 school year:  
*[per VTA Coaching Salary Schedule]*

Richard Carr    Girls' Freshman Basketball                                      Step 3  
Dennis Robinson    Varsity Wrestling    Step 4  
George Marshall    Boys' Varsity Swimming    Step 8  
Rhonda Meixner    Winter Cheerleading    Step 2

BOCES Sub. Appointments:

- Approved the substitute teacher appointments for the 2003-2004 school year as presented by the BOCES Substitute Calling Service in a memo dated October 30, 2003.

CSE Recommendations

- Approved the recommendations of the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at meetings held on October 14, 2003, October 15, 2003, and October 30, 2003.

Out-of-Town Conference Requests

- Approved the following out-of-town conference requests:

NYS Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
 Buffalo, New York: Wednesday, November 19 – Saturday, November 22, 2003  
 Requestor: Theresa Luyckx

New York State School Music Association 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Conference  
 Rochester, New York: Sunday, November 30 – Wednesday, December 3, 2003  
 Requestor: Lydia Tobler

NYS ASBO Conference  
 Saratoga Springs, New York: Sunday, June 6 – Wednesday, June 9, 2004  
 Requestor: Sarita Winchell

Out-of-Town Students Field Trip Requests

- Approved the following out-of-town student field trip request:

Drama Club Trip (Phantom of the Opera)  
 New York City: Saturday, December 6, 2003  
 Requestor: John Lopez, Advisor

Pizza Bid

- Approved the following successful bidder to supply products for the school lunch program:

Pizza Bid    Pizza Hut  
 Pizza Hut Catering & Marketing  
 4210 Pisces Circle  
 Liverpool, NY 13090

Waste Disposal Bid

- Approved award of the waste disposal bid to the low bidder, County Waste & Recycling.

Accurate Disposal:    \$17,700 per year  
 BFI:    \$13,810 per year  
**County Waste & Recycling:**    **\$11,010 per year**  
 Waste Management:    \$14,384 per year  
 Wright-Way Commercial Disposal:    \$13,290 per year

Snowplowing Bids

*[Rejected]*

- Rejected the following bids submitted for District snowplowing:

	<u>Per Snowfall Event</u>		<u>Per Hour</u>
	<u>Elementary School</u>	<u>High School</u>	
J.M. Therrien & Sons	\$640	\$800	\$90
Randy Davis	\$800	\$1,200	\$250
Last year's cost for the whole District including bus parking area	\$998		\$150

*Bids were received for plowing approximately 1/3 of the District*

- Approved the following installment purchases for copiers from IKON:"

Library Copier: Canon IR2000 – Coin operated - \$83.53 per month for 36 months  
Guidance Office Copier: Canon IR2200 - \$95.67 per month for 48 months

Installment Purchases for Copiers

- Approved the following tax warrant adjustment to amend the tax warrant in the amount of \$10,296,480.29 to \$10,294,639.91 [a reduction of \$1,840.37]:

Tax Warrant Adjustment

1. Town of New Scotland – Assessor’s Error

- a. James J. Cramer – Basic STAR exemption was not applied  
 Assessment reduction: \$28,790.00  
 Tax billing reduction:

School Tax	(\$676.77)
Library Tax	- 0 -

- b. Barbara Rissberger – Only 5% of 50% senior citizen exemption was applied  
 Assessment reduction: \$49,500.00

School Tax	(\$1,163.60)
Library Tax	- 0 -

Presentation:  
2002-2003  
Independent  
Audit Report

Michelle Rudolph, the independent auditor presented 2002-2003 Independent Audit Report to the board. On a motion made by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the board accepted the audit report.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Administrative Reports:

MR. DIEGEL:

- The first lockdown drill was held on October 30 and went very well. There was another on November 15 – the hallways and classrooms were secure in approximately 30 seconds.
- CRX spoke about railroad safety issues. This was thought to be important due to the many railroad tracks/crossings that are in the district.

Mr. Diegel

MR. DIEFENDORF:

- The results of the 2003 8<sup>th</sup> grade math assessment were attached and discussed.
- Report cards will be out in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Diefendorf

MS. KENNEDY:

- Teen night was a success, approximately 150 students attended.
- This month’s “character” awards went to 5 students from the Middle School, 5 students from the High School and 2 staff members.

Ms. Kennedy

Health Insurance Discussion  
[Tabled]

Item 8.2, the Health Insurance Discussion was tabled until the December board meeting due to the absence of Ms. Winchell.

DR. MCCARTNEY:

- On a motion made by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Thorpe and carried unanimously, action on the following tenure resolution was approved:

Dr. McCartney

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, Alan R. McCartney, subject to New York State Education Law §3013, the following person is appointed to tenure effective November 6, 2003, in the stated tenure area:

Michelle Lindsay  
**Reading Teacher**

- Dr. McCartney briefly discussed the plan he will be implementing in the search for the replacement of Mr. Diegel, Elementary Principal. The different phases and the timeline for each were discussed.
- A brief discussion of the tax certiorari concerning Colonie Country Club and Atlas Copco was held. On a motion by Mr. Coffin and seconded by Mr. McKenna, further discussion was tabled until executive session.

Discussion:  
Principal Search

Tax Certiorari

On a motion made by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the board approved the 2004 school District Budget Calendar.

Approved:  
2004 Budget  
Calendar

*Report from Mr. Goyer* Mr. Goyer spoke briefly regarding the snow plowing issue. He informed the board that the bids received were, in the business officials' opinion, too high and that the custodial/maintenance staff will be able to do the job with the proper equipment. It will cost approximately \$4,000.00 to rebuild the truck that is used for salting.

Next meeting to be held on December 8<sup>th</sup> in the High School Commons.

*Information Items* Information Items:

- Report from Michael Goyer [October 20, 2003]
- CASDA: A View from the Inside  
*Challenges and Opportunities of No Child Left Behind*
- Revenue and Appropriation Reports (*First Quarter*), Kathy Parsons  
General, School Lunch, Federal Aid, Debt Service, and Capital Funds
- Middle Level News Notes

*Executive Session:*  
*10:17 pm* On a motion made by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the board moved into executive session at 9:10p.m. The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:17 p.m.

*Approved:*  
*Medicare Cap* On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Thorpe and carried unanimously the Cap on Medicare was approved.

*Tax Certiorari* On a motion by Mr. McKenna and seconded by Mr. Brackett the Board approved the tax certiorari of up to \$5,000 per case on a 5-1 vote. Mr. Cole opposed the motion.

*Adjournment:*  
*10:20 pm* On a motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Thorpe and carried unanimously the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

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*President*

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*Clerk*

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*Recording Secretary*