

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

John A. Cole

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Gary Hubert, Kathy Fiero, Fran Gorka, Molly Belmont (*Altamont Enterprise*), Kevin Kroencke, Kathy Martin, Pat Flynt, Linda Pasquali, Michele Flynn (*The Spotlight*), Mike Bates, Betsy Glath, Mike Goyer, Peter Belenchia, Robin Trencher-Cresap, Deb Baron, Rick Glover, Val Glover, Steve Relyea, Claudia Burtman, Carey Hatch, Candace Raderman, Andrea Gleason, Mike Bates, Deann DellaPenta.

Mr. Baron called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. 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. John Cole.

Meeting Call to Order:
7:36 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 August 18, 2003.

Approved Minutes:
8/18/03;

Mr. Baron asked if there were any additional items from the Superintendent. There were none.

Opportunity for Superintendent to be heard

Mr. Baron offered the public an opportunity to be heard. Michael Bates of Glen Street addressed the Board about a transportation issue. He has 2 children, one 2nd grader and one 8th grader, who ride the bus. The regular bus driver informed them that the children would be picked up at the end of the street. However, a substitute driver picks up and delivers the children at the driveway. If the substitute can maneuver the streets, why can't the regular bus driver? Mr. Bates said that pick-up/drop-off at the end of the street is fine, but it should be consistent – the same for any driver. Mr. Goyer, head of transportation, informed the Board and Mr. Bates that there are issues with the buses due to road construction, but he is working on solutions. Dr. McCartney noted that school had been in session for only 3 days, and it would take more time to work out problems.

Opportunity for Public to be heard:

M. Bates

A group of four students from the junior class asked that the student-parking situation be addressed. They are members of the CEIP Internship Program, Torch, yearbook staff, and other school activities. Driving to school is necessary for them so they can attend interviews that may be scheduled during the school day and also for meetings that usually last past the late bus schedule. They are under the impression that administrators are making this a "Senior Based" school, which is extremely difficult for juniors who need to have transportation for school functions.

Student Group
(Student Parking)

Mr. Diefendorf informed the Board and the students that there are currently 100 parking spots designated for student parking. At this point, 81 spaces are taken. The Senior class has until Friday, September 12, to claim spaces before the spaces are given to members of the junior class. There are not enough spaces to meet the demands of all juniors who would like parking privileges. It is not finalized how student parking privileges will be determined, however, there are spaces available for "one time" users and these would certainly be used in instances of interviews. Student parking has been an issue for some time, and the District is trying to accommodate everyone. There were several suggestions/comments from community members, administrators, and Board members:

- Mr. Baron reminded the students that parking is a privilege and should be treated as such.
- Kathy Fiero suggested that as a student issue, students should be part of the parking discussion. It was noted that Board agendas and meeting minutes are now on the website. Students are welcome to view the agendas and participate in Board discussions.
- Students could carpool and share a parking space
- Speed bumps to control speeding.

The administration agreed to take these suggestions into consideration; however, the Board and some parents had very serious concerns about the carpooling idea. Mrs. Gleason reminded everyone of the new DMV rule that states there should be no more than 2 people in the car with a new driver.

Valerie Glover brought up the issue of indoor graduation. She said it was her understanding that the Board had responded to her letter in *The Enterprise*. None of the board members were aware of this and stated that the discussion from the previous meeting was all that was said. Ms. Bassler still intends on having a commencement committee during 7th period and an evening meeting would be scheduled so parents might attend. There is also a calendar of events on the website that will give more information on the meeting. The administration will send correspondence so that any parent who wishes to participate can make arrangements to be at the meetings.

V. Glover

One parent asked if the pool is up and running and was informed that all is going well.

Action Items On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Pofit and carried unanimously, the Board approved the Action Items in their entirety.

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

Warrants

Warrants:

General Fund Warrant #4	\$1,750,134.23
School Lunch Fund Warrant #4:	2,903.65
Capital Fund Warrant #1:	52,889.22
Trust & Agency Warrant #2:	425,349.82
Federal Aid Fund Warrant #4:	85,784.19
Non-Expendable Trust (TE) Warrant #1:	18,100.00

Payrolls

Payrolls:

Payroll #5:	\$72,373.84
Payroll #6:	143,248.01

- Resignations**
- Accepted the following resignations:

K. Bingham Karen Bingham, Teaching Assistant
 Effective: August 18, 2003 Reason: Accepted teaching position in another district

Ana Valladares Ana Valladares, School Store Advisor
 Effective: August 19, 2003 Reason: Personal

S. Sheldon Sharon Sheldon, Bus Driver
 Effective: September 1, 2003 Reason: Disability Retirement

- Probationary Appointments**
- Approved the following probationary appointments:

C. Tedesco Courtney Tedesco, Probationary Teaching Assistant [Elementary School]
 Effective: September 2, 2003
 Probationary Term: Three years
 Salary: Step 2 of UEV Contract

M. Green Melissa Green, Probationary Teaching Assistant [Elementary School]
 Effective: September 2, 2003
 Probationary Term: Three years
 Salary: Step 2 of UEV Contract

Amy Behan Amy Behan, Teaching Assistant [High School/Middle School]
 Effective: September 3, 2003
 Probationary Term: Three years
 Salary: Step 3 of UEV Contract

K. Martin Kathryn Martin, Probationary Teacher Aide [High School/Middle School]
 Effective: September 15, 2003
 Probationary Term: Six months
 Salary: Step 5 of UEV Contract

- Permanent Appointment:**
- Approved the appointment of Anna Mohan as a permanent bus driver.
 Effective: September 4, 2003
 Salary: Step 2 of UEV Contract

- Coaching Appointments:**
- Approved the following coaching appointments for the 2003-2004 school year:
 [per VTA Coaching Salary Schedule]
- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| <u>Joerg Siemann</u> | Boys' Modified Soccer Coach | Step 7 |
| <u>Jeffrey Palmer</u> | Girls' Junior Varsity Soccer Coach | Step 7 |
| <u>Sandra Vorse</u> | Girls' Varsity Volleyball Coach | Step 4 |
| <u>Jenae Quinn</u> | Girls' JV Volleyball Coach | Step 1 |

- Approved the substitute teacher appointments for the 2003-2004 school year as presented by the BOCES Substitute Calling Service in a memo dated September 8, 2003.

Substitute
Teacher
Appointments

- Approved the recommendations of the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at a meeting held on August 14, 2003.

CSE
Recommendations

- Approved the following requests for non-resident tuition status for the 2003-2004 school year:

Non-Resident
Tuition
Requests

Alex Barsky, Grade 9 Requestor: Brooke Lengfellner

Robert Britt, Grade 12 Requestor: Timothy Britt

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

School Lunch:
Successful
Bidders

Sycaway Creamery, Inc.: Troy, New York Ice Cream Bid
Star Dairy, Inc.: Rock Hill, New York Milk Bid

- Approved the following extra-curricular appointments for the 2003-2004 school year:
[per VTA Extra-Curricular Salary Schedule]

Extra-
Curricular
Appointments

<u>Anne Lyons</u>	Freshman Class Co-Advisor	½ of Step 1
<u>Kenneth Beckley</u>	Freshman Class Co-Advisor	½ of Step 8
<u>Anne Lyons</u>	Mock Trial Team Co-Advisor	*
<u>Jeanne Waters</u>	Mock Trial Team Co-Advisor	*
<u>Matthew Fiato</u>	Key Club Co-Advisor	½ of Step 1
<u>John Lopez</u>	Key Club Co-Advisor	½ of Step 8

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

Out-of-Town
Student Field
Trip Request

AP US History/English 11 Honors/AP English Trip
Mystic Seaport, Connecticut: Friday, October 17, 2003
Requestors: T. Gladd, Brian Stumbaugh

Administrative Reports

Administrative
Reports

MR. DIEGEL:

- Although there was a slight problem with the floor, opening day was a success. He expressed his appreciation to the custodial staff for their efforts and cooperation in the whole building project.
- August 26 was the orientation program at the elementary school and twenty new students attended. Fifth grade students served as guides and there was a PowerPoint presentation. Everyone was invited to make his or her own ice cream sundaes at the end of the orientation.
- The curriculum focus for the start of the school year will be to finish updating the social studies curriculum review done last spring. A meeting will be held with teachers to finalize changes. The revision of our English/Language Arts program will be conducted during the second half of the school year.
- Mr. Diegel discussed the handout with the grade 4 results for the NYS tests in ELA and math. He reviewed how the district scored in relation to similar schools. He also went over some of the “missed” questions and how teachers use this information to target problem areas.
Mr. Baron expressed concern with the number of students missing questions. Mr. Thorpe was concerned with the curriculum framework. Are the questions covered in the classroom? Is there mathematical reinforcement? Mr. Diegel informed the Board that these tests are intended to drive instruction and give the teachers direction. The wording on some of the questions is very challenging, and errors occurred because of students rushing through the tests and not focusing on the question.
Dr. McCartney informed the board that these results were unofficial and are being used for teacher information at this point so that they may plan ahead.

Mr. Diegel

MR. DIEFENDORF:

- Distributed the new pins.
- Informed the Board that they are waiting for the restructure of the grading system – a school in Rochester uses the actual score of the Physics exam and not the regents matrix.

Mr. Diefendorf

MR. PAOLINO:

- Scheduling, with early dismissal and late arrival for seniors, continues to be developed.
- Class elections will be held September 19 – speeches by the candidates will be given during lunch periods.
- A new Character Education committee is being formed to identify several students every month who are community oriented. The committee will be comprised of four high school students, three middle school students and one staff member.

Mr. Paolino

MS. KENNEDY:

Ms. Kennedy

- The first days of school went very well. The locker set up before school started was again a success. There seemed to be minimal confusion with the students getting to their classrooms on time for class.
- The teen night scheduled for September has been moved to October.
- A workshop to help 6th grade students with their study habits is being planned.

MS. WINCHELL:

Mrs. Winchell

- The state aid forms are filed. The state will give a quick audit of the forms because of the time. The enrollment estimates will have to be revised to agree with the BEDS information (Basic Educational Data System), due by October 1.
- Brochures for the fall Adult Education Program have been mailed, including the pool schedule. The “learn to swim” program, family swim on Saturdays, and senior citizens participating in the early and afternoon swim program are utilizing the pool.

DR. MCCARTNEY:

Dr. McCartney

- The new web page is up and running. Under the District Office site there will be links to the Board meeting agendas, minutes from past meetings, adult education brochure, phone directory, job openings, school closings and a host of other information.
- All things considered, opening day this year seemed to be calmer than last year.
- The three floors at the elementary school are said to have moisture problems, therefore the floor cannot be laid until that is solved. The quickest way to do that is to run the heat at night to remove the moisture. The carpeting in the Elementary School Main Office will be installed this weekend. The nurse’s office is almost completed.
- The lawn and fields will require professional help.

MR GOYER:

Mr. Goyer

- Maintenance on the athletic fields has begun. A treatment for a moth problem has been recommended. The custodial staff has done a great job. The problem continues as to how and when the equipment should be stored.
- Transportation issues, due to construction and road closings, are being worked out. For the most part, students and parents are being cooperative and every day is getting better. The most challenging part is the separate family issues and after-school care. There will be several days this fall when the bus runs for sporting events may present more difficult challenges.
- Mr. McKenna inquired about the shortage of bus drivers. This does not seem to be the case for Voorheesville as it is in other districts.
- Mr. Coffin inquired about the road construction problems, and how they were being addressed. At this point, the out-of-district and Ostrander Road runs are being hit the hardest. Work on railroad crossings has made it necessary for the buses to detour out of their way.
- On a better note, fueling has been working extremely well.
- Mr. Brackett asked that some attention be paid to the fields at the elementary school as well as the high school.

Approved:

*Benetech
Cafeteria Plan*

On a motion by Mr. Pofit, seconded by Mr. Thorpe, and carried unanimously, the following resolution to approve the Benetech Cafeteria Plan was approved:

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has enacted legislation in the form of Sections 105, 106, and 125 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (“Code”), which it designed to encourage employers to offer their employees health benefits and accident and disability insurance coverage operated on a nondiscriminatory basis; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of **Voorheesville Central School District** has determined that it is in the best interest of employees of **Voorheesville Central School District** to adopt a Cafeteria Plan, which will better enable eligible employees to provide for health and other medical and dental benefits in a cost effective fashion;

NOW, THEREFORE, in order to accomplish these purposes, the Board of Education of **Voorheesville Central School District** has, by appropriate resolution, adopted the **Voorheesville Central School District Cafeteria Plan** (“Plan”) as hereinafter stated, to be effective as of October 1, 2003.

It is intended that this Plan meet all of the requirements of Sections 105, 106, and 125 of the Code, governing the tax treatment to eligible employees of health, accident, and disability benefits, and the Plan shall be interpreted, wherever possible, to comply with such terms of the Code.

An informal gathering will be held on October 20th at approximately 6:45 for the new employees of the Voorheesville Central School District to meet the board members. The regular board meeting will follow immediately at 7:30, in the High School Commons

The following information items were noted:

- CAPSBA Newsletter and September 25 Meeting Announcement
- BOCES Early Edition Newsletter [August 2003]

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board moved into Executive Session at 9:08 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:30 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Pofit, seconded by Mr. Thorpe and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 p.m.

Information Items

Executive Session:
9:08 p.m.

Adjournment:
10:32 p.m.

President

Clerk

Recording Secretary