

**VOORHEESVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*Voorheesville, New York 12186*  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**April 4, 2005**  
**Regular Board of Education Meeting**

**Robert J. Baron, President**  
**High School Cafeteria**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:**

Alan R. McCartney, Sarita Winchell, Mark Diefendorf, Kenneth Lein, Theresa Kennedy, Michael Paolino

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Gary Hubert, Tim Brockley, Sandy Pelletier, Nancy Rucks, Lynn Edmunds, Steven Relyea, Mary Ann Jones, Michael Goyer, Brian Reeve, Linda Pasquali, Claudia Burtman, Tony Thonopoulos, Justin Murley, S. Axelrod, Jane Norris, Kathy Fiero, Mike Snyder, Pat Snyder, Joe O'Brien, Donna O'Brien, Laura Morrill, Christine Allard, Austin Saddlemire, Deann DellaPenta

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

Meeting call to order: 7:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Coffin and seconded by Mr. Pofit to approve the minutes of the special meeting of March 7, the regular March 14 meeting, and the special meeting of March 23, 2005. Mr. McKenna asked that the minutes of the regular March 14 meeting be amended to reflect that the proper procedures were followed when hiring the soccer coach. After a brief discussion, the Board unanimously approved the minutes.

Approval of Minutes:  
03/07/05  
03/17/05  
03/23/05

Mr. Barron asked if there were any additional items from the Superintendent. Dr. McCartney informed that Board that Mr. Goyer's O&M report had been placed in their red folders. He then introduced Mr. Thomas Kurkjian, the coach of the Boys' Volleyball team. Mr. Kurkjian informed the Board and community that the team won the Section II Regional Championship. That is the highest achievement the team could earn. He was extremely proud of his team and presented each member with a certificate. The Board congratulated them on their efforts.

Additional items from Superintendent

Mr. Baron asked if any member of the community would like to address the Board. Josh O'Brien read a letter to the Board concerning cross-country coach, Kenneth Kirik (a copy of the letter is attached). It was rumored that Mr. Kirik would not be coaching this year. Mr. Relyea, a member of the community and Track & Field coach, reminded everyone that coaching positions are renewed annually. Dr. McCartney informed everyone that there has been no Board action on this; it is currently a personnel issue and cannot be discussed in open session.

Public to be heard:

J. O'Brien  
S. Relyea

There was a brief discussion on the Art Teacher position and the curriculum of the students in the seventh grade. Ms. Kennedy informed Ms. Pelletier that she would be available to meet with her to further discuss this matter.

Ms. Pelletier

Austin Saddlemire, a student on the Superintendent Search committee, commented on his disappointment in the process. He noted that the team was given only 15 minutes to review résumés of the candidates. He also found it hard to believe that there were only 2 qualified candidates presented to them from BOCES, although he did understand that the third candidate decided to withdraw from the process. He felt that another candidate should have been presented. Mrs. Allard also voiced her displeasure with the process. Mr. Baron informed them that there were 28 applications received and that the committee was presented with the three most qualified individuals. He wanted them to be aware that we are not the only district looking for a Superintendent. There are approximately 23 other districts in need of replacements. He also informed them that the committees are not required to choose one of the two candidates. If the majority felt that neither candidate was a good fit for the district, the position could be re-opened and the process would start at the beginning. If that becomes the case, they would probably ask Dr. McCartney to stay (per diem) to help the transition go smoothly.

A. Saddlemire

Approval of Action  
Items

A motion was made by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mr. McKenna to approve the action items in their entirety. The Board briefly discussed Item 4.8, contract with Energy Education, Inc. The Board unanimously approved the action items with the exception of item 4.3, Civil Service Appointment. On a motion by Mr. Pofit and seconded by Mr. Coffin, Item 4.3 was approved by a 5-2 vote. Mr. Brackett and Ms. Macdonald voted against Item 4.3.

## Treasurer's Reports

- Approved the treasurer's reports as presented in the enclosure folder

## Warrants

- Approved the following warrants and payrolls:

Warrants:

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| General Fund Warrant #17:      | \$423,643.47 |
| School Lunch Fund Warrant #16: | 18,856.31    |
| Capital Fund Warrant #3:       | 21,180.44    |
| Trust & Agency Warrant #9:     | 993,005.39   |
| Federal Aid Fund Warrant #17:  | 9,334.63     |

## Payrolls

Payrolls:

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| Payroll #21: | \$383,252.28 |
| Payroll #22: | 381,355.46   |

Probationary  
Appointments:

- Approved the following probationary appointments:

J. Pendergast

John T. Pendergast, Custodial Worker/Night Boss [*High school/middle school; 40 hours per week*]

Effective: March 30, 2005  
 Probationary Term: Six months  
 Salary: Step 6 of UEV Contract + 12% for Night Boss

T. Wakeley

Thomas R. Wakeley, Custodial Worker [*High school/middle school; 40 hours per week*]

Effective: April 4, 2005  
 Probationary Term: Six months  
 Salary: Step 4 of UEV Contract

G. May

Gretchen May, Teacher Aide [*High school/middle school; 1.5 hours per day*]

Effective: April 5, 2005  
 Probationary Term: Six months  
 Salary: Step 5 of UEV Contract

Permanent Civil Service  
Appointment:

- Approved the permanent Civil Service appointment of Deborah Baron as Keyboard Specialist, per the Civil Service Certified List of Eligibles.

D. Baron

Effective: April 5, 2005

Elementary  
Substitute Appts:

- Approved the following elementary school substitute appointments:

S. Keenan

Suzanne Keenan, Teacher Aide/Office Substitute

Effective: April 5, 2005

J. Rivenburg

Jeffrey Rivenburg, Teaching Assistant Substitute

Effective: April 5, 2005

CSE  
Recommendations

- Approved the recommendations of the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at meetings held on March 14, 2005 and March 17, 2005.

BOCES Substitute  
Appointments

- Approved BOCES Substitute Calling Service appointments for the 2004-2005 school year as presented in Mr. Paolino's memo dated March 24, 2005.

Out-of-Town  
Student Field

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

Grade 6 Field Trip to Bronx Zoo

Bronx, New York: Friday, June 3, 2005  
 Requestor: Maria Karatzou

Contract:  
Energy Education,  
Inc.

- Authorized the School Business Official to enter into a contract with Energy Education, Inc. for participation in an energy management program.

Investment Banks:  
Pioneer Commercial,  
Charter One/Citizens  
Bank

- Approved the addition of Pioneer Commercial Bank and Charter One/Citizen's Bank to the list of investment banks.

Administrative reports were noted with the following additions/discussion:

Administrative  
Reports

**Mr. Lein – Elementary School**

- Mr. McKenna asked if more than the 80 screened kindergarten students were expected. Mr. Lein thought that no more, but possibly a few less, would attend.
- The Terra Novas and the NYS math testing were briefly discussed.

Mr. Lein

**Mr. Diefendorf – High School/Middle School**

- Specifically addressed the Cornell University trip and the Model United Nations competition.

Mr. Diefendorf

**Ms. Kennedy – Middle School**

- No additions or discussion

Ms. Kennedy

**Mrs. Winchell – School Business Administrator**

- Discussed the school lunch review. Although there were no negative comments, there were some suggestions. The program is doing well and Mrs. Winchell considers it a success.

Mrs. Winchell

**Mr. Goyer – Operations, Maintenance, and Transportation**

- No additions or discussion

Mr. Goyer

Dr McCartney gave his presentation on the 2005-2006 school budget followed by a brief discussion. On a motion by Mr. Coffin, and seconded by Mr. Pofit, the Board voted as follows:

Mr. Brackett – YES, Mr. McKenna – YES, Mr. Baron – YES, Mr. Coffin – YES, Mr. Pofit – YES, Ms. Macdonald – YES, Mr. Cole – YES.

The Board unanimously approved the 2005-2006 school budget in the amount of **\$19,325,855**.

Presentation &  
Approval:

2005-2006 School  
Budget

On a motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Pofit, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the one-time window of opportunity, the month of April 2005, for VTA members to change TSA contributions, which is in addition to dates listed in the Board Policy on Tax Sheltered Annuities.

Approved:  
April 2005 TSA  
Contributions  
[One-time only]

There was an opportunity for the board to be heard.

- Mr. McKenna informed the board that plans for the Gala are going well; there will be over two thousand dollars towards school projects and endowment.
- Mr. Cole reminded the public that the deadline for petitions to run for vacant Board of Education seats are due to the District Office by April 15. Mr. Baron informed the public that he would not be running this year, leaving two seats vacant/unopposed.

Opportunity for  
BOE to be heard:

T. McKenna

J. Cole

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Pofit, and carried unanimously, the Board moved into Executive Session at 8:55 pm to discuss personnel matters. The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:47 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Executive Session:  
8:55 p.m.

Adjournment:  
9:50 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary