

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

January 10, 2005
Regular Board of Education Meeting

Robert J. Baron, President
High School Commons Area

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MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Alan R. McCartney, Sarita Winchell, Mark Diefendorf, Theresa Kennedy, Ken Lein

OTHERS PRESENT:

Laura Morrill, Gary Hubert, Mary Ann Jones, Nancy DiBlasi, Greg Stapleton, Elaine Barone, Tim Kraft, Kevin Kroencke, Robert L. Denman, Justin Marks, Linda Pasquale, Pat Snyder, Ann Biese, Patricia McArdle, S. Cohen Axelrod, Tony Thanopoulos, Kathy Fiero, Andrea Gleason, Fran Gorka, Sara Hotopp, Mike Goyer, Martin Bannon (*The Spotlight*), and Deann DellaPenta.

Mr. Baron called the meeting to order at 7:31 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: 7:31 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. McKenna, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of December 13, 2004.

Approval of Minutes:
12/13/04 - Regular

Mr. Baron asked if there were any additional items from the Superintendent. Dr. McCartney noted that there was a supplemental agenda. A copy of the public participation policy was placed next to the sign-in sheet. He noted that this policy was adopted in April of 2003.

Additional Items from Superintendent

The search for the new Superintendent would be further discussed in Executive Session.

The issue of using the personal e-mail addresses of Board members will be discussed in the Superintendent's report later in the meeting.

Mr. Baron asked if anyone from the community would like to be heard. A member of the community asked if there were any further developments in the Mr. Crandall issue. Dr. McCartney said that the legal fees, to date, were approximately \$7,000.00 and that the annual salary of the substitute is \$33,000. He noted that coaches are hired on an annual basis. It was asked if a hearing date had been set. Dr. McCartney said that, to his knowledge, a date had not been set; however, that would be between the attorneys. He said that neither he nor any Board member could discuss specific individuals. In general, this is a lengthy process and is in the hearing officers hands at this point.

Opportunity for Public to be Heard:

Liz Funk from the Helderbarker asked Dr. McCartney if he was aware that the newspaper staff asked to be on the agenda. He was aware of their request and had asked Mr. Diefendorf to arrange a separate meeting. It was not a Board issue at this point and could be handled with a meeting between Dr. McCartney and the Helderbarker advisor.

L. Funk

Mr. Baron suggested that the agenda would change slightly to accommodate guest speaker, April Richardson-Moore and several students who were in attendance to give a presentation on the Lego League.

Presentation:
Lego League

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Ms. Macdonald, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the action items in their entirety.

Approved:

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

Treasurer's Reports

- Approved the following warrants and payrolls:

Warrants

Warrants:

General Fund Warrant #11:	\$475,568.31
School Lunch Fund Warrant #10:	15,238.79
Trust & Agency Warrant #6:	1,038,944.89
Federal Aid Fund Warrant #12:	66.00

Payrolls

Payrolls:

Payroll #13:	\$397,098.68
Payroll #14:	387,068.70
Payroll #15:	(316.36)

Probationary
Appointments:

- Approved the following probationary appointments:

T. Mulligan

Timothy J. Mulligan, Cook-Manager
Effective: January 24, 2005
Probationary Term: Six months
Salary: Step 12 of UEV Contract

M. Deffer

Matthew B. Deffer, Custodial Worker
Effective: January 11, 2005
Probationary Term: Six months
Salary: Step 3 of UEV Contract

R. Alft

Robert Alft, Teacher Aide [*Middle School; 1.5 hours per day*]
Effective: January 11, 2005
Probationary Term: Six months
Salary: Step 1 of UEV Contract

CEIP Coordinator:

J. Hoobler

- Approved the appointment of Jesse Hoobler as CEIP Coordinator [*Career Exploration Internship Program*]
Effective: January 11, 2005 – June 24, 2005
Salary: \$3,000

Extracurricular
Appointments

- Approved the following extracurricular appointments for the 2004-2005 school year:

<u>Jennifer Zeh</u>	Middle School Drama Club Advisor	Step 1
<u>Portia Hubert</u>	Drama Club Assistant	½ Step 3

CSE Recommendations

- Approved the recommendations of the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at meetings held on December 2, 2004, December 3, 2004, December 7, 2004, December 10, 2004, and December 14, 2004; and recommendations of the *Committee on Preschool Special Education* as outlined at a meeting held on December 20, 2004.

2004-2005 BOCES
Substitute Appointments

- Approved substitute teacher appointments for the 2004-2005 school year as presented by the BOCES Substitute Calling Service in a memo dated December 29, 2004.

Spring 2005 Continuing
Education Program

- Approved the Spring 2005 Continuing Education Program as outlined in the enclosure folder.

Permanent Civil Service
Appt.

M. Bruno - OT

- Approved the permanent appointment of Megan Bruno as Occupational Therapist per the Civil Service Certification of Eligibles for Occupational Therapist list that expires on January 28, 2005.

Professional Conference
Leave:

R. Streifer

- Approved the Professional Conference Leave for Robert Streifer as follows:

International Center for Pedagogical Studies
Paris, France: Monday, April 4 – Monday, April 11, 2005

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

Mr. Lein

- There was an excellent response to the request for donations for the tsunami victims. Along with the generous donations from parents, the children have been emptying their piggybanks to help the unfortunate people that were affected. All donations will be turned over to UNICEF.
- Thanked Mr. Diefendorf, Ms. Kennedy and the high school staff for their help and cooperation when it was necessary to evacuate students from the Elementary School due to the power outage.

High School – Mr. Diefendorf

Mr. Diefendorf

- Mr. Diefendorf gave his report on the High School activities.
- The National Honor Society induction ceremony was postponed due to inclement weather. It has tentatively been rescheduled for Monday, February 7.

Ms. Kennedy

Ms. Kennedy gave her report on the Middle School as presented in the enclosure folder.

School Business Official – Mrs. Winchell

Mrs. Winchell

- The new cook-manager will begin work on January 24.
- A brief discussion was held on the condition of our bus fleet and future plans as expected changes on guidelines are made.

Operations, Maintenance, and Transportation Report – Mr. Goyer

- Provided the Board a list of potential building problems and maintenance that will be required. Although there are no emergencies at this point, the list should be addressed soon.
- The Elementary School will be in need of floor tiles in about 20 of the classrooms. The current tiles contain asbestos and, although not dangerous, need special handling to do more than a three foot square area.
- The Univent System should be looked at. The system is over 40 years old and parts are extremely costly if/when they can be found.
- The water drainage system should be looked at. The small gym floods unless the pumps are running all the time.
- The High School currently has rubber roofs on some parts of the building and a plan for updating them should be made.
- Two bathrooms in the Tech area of the building need updating, the locker rooms need a facelift, and the tennis courts need major work done.

Mr. Goyer

Dr. McCartney

On a motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Coffin, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the permanent appointment of Michael Goyer as Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds per the Civil Service "Certification of Eligibles for Superintendent of Building and Grounds" list that expires on January 29, 2005.

Permanent Civil Service Appt:
M. Goyer-Supt. of Buildings & Grounds

- A sample of a potential nepotism policy was given to the board for a first reading.
- Use of personal e-mail addresses of the Board Members was discussed. The problem lies with separation of personal and school business and the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL). An e-mail policy should be reviewed/rewritten into the policy. The possibility of members being added to the school's system will be looked into, or having a "general" mailbox that the district clerk would then distribute to the members of the board.

Dr. McCartney

Old Business

The Curriculum committee will look at class size and the language program.

Old Business:

New Business

Ms. Winchell conducted a discussion of the Initial Estimates for the 2005-2006 budget proposal; specifically, General Support, Transportation, Debt Service, and Bus Purchases.

New Business:

A discussion of the sale of the Library was held. It was noted that the Library, not the school district, would be responsible for the debt service. It was also noted that the Library could still bond under the school district. Sale of the public library would need to be voted on by the public. The Board unanimously approved presenting a proposition for the sale of the public library to voters in May.

Discussion Items:

School Budget

Sale of Public Library

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Pofit and carried unanimously, the Board approved the adoption of the resolution in recognition of service of Ann Foley.

Approved Resolution in Recognition of Service: A. Foley

Other Business

There was an opportunity for the board to be heard.

Mr. McKenna read the notice of this year's Gala Auction to be held on June 4. The Honoree will be Dr. Alan McCartney. A selection of a chair will be made soon.

Other Business:

T. McKenna

On a motion by Mr. Pofit, seconded by Mr. Brackett and carried unanimously, the Board approved moving into Executive Session at 9:37 p.m. The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:53 p.m.

Executive Session:
9:37 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. McKenna, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Adjournment:
10:55 p.m.

President

Clerk

Recording Secretary