

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

July 11, 2005
Regular Board of Education Meeting

Robert J. Baron, President
Performing Arts Center

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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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joseph F. Pofit

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Gary Hubert, Robert Streifer, Kathy Fiero, Kevin T. Kroencke, Betsy Glath, Martha Mackey, Linda Pasquali, Mary Ann Jones, Michael Goyer, David Gibson, Tony Thanopoulos, Pat McArdle, S. Cohen Axelrod, Robert Denman, Andrea Gleason, Alan Wagner, Shara Biernacki, Christine Wilcenski, Mr. Wilcenski, Chris Allard, Dorothea Pfleiderer

Mr. Baron called the meeting to order at 7:32 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. Pofit.

Meeting call to order: 7:32 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Ms. Macdonald and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of May 9, 2005. On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Brackett and carried unanimously, the minutes of the May 17, 2005 Budget Vote and Board of Education Election were approved.

Approval of Minutes:
 05/09/05
 05/17/05

Mr. Baron asked if there were any additional items from the superintendent. Dr. McCartney called attention to the supplemental agenda with the addition of Item 4.25, Change in Civil Service Title. Additional information from Mr. Goyer regarding the high school/middle school walk-through and the bus garage proposal was included in the supplemental folders.

Additional items from Superintendent

Mr. Baron asked if any member of the community would like to address the Board. Mrs. Wilcenski thanked Mr. Lein for his report on class size, but stated she was still concerned that the district was not taking any action. There was a brief discussion during which Mr. Lein said he had met with school personnel and is paying close attention to this concern. He will send all first grade parents a letter of explanation including his report on class size.

Public to be heard:

C. Wilcenski

Mrs. Hull-Pease said she had written a letter to the Board, and gave her phone number in case any Board member would like to respond. Dr. McCartney said he had not received the letter and asked Mrs. Hull-Pease to send a copy to him.

Mrs. Hull-Pease

On a motion made by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the action items were approved with the exception of Item 4.24, Management Confidential Salaries, and Item 4.25, Change in Civil Service Title, which were tabled for discussion in Executive Session.

APPROVED

Action Items:

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

Treasurer's Report

- Approved the following warrants and payrolls:

Warrants:

General Fund Warrant #21:	\$687,979.51
School Lunch Fund Warrant #20:	23,546.96
Trust & Agency Warrant #11:	11,032,473.83
Federal Aid Fund Warrant #19:	209,522.54

Warrants

Payrolls:

Payroll #25:	\$379,890.93
Payroll #26:	395,607.45

Payrolls

Resignations

• Accepted the following resignations:
Erin E. Conklin, Special Education Teacher
 Effective: June 30, 2005
 Reason: Personal

T. Kurkjian
Thomas Kurkjian, Social Studies Department Chair
 Effective: May 18, 2005
 Reason: Personal

M. Triller
Marie Triller, .6 Art Teacher
 Effective: June 30, 2005
 Reason: Assuming full-time art position

Resolutions re:
Abolishment of
Positions

• Approved action on the Resolutions regarding reduction, abolishment of positions:
 That for reasons of change in program, the position held by Emily Murphy in the area of Art be abolished.
 Effective: June 30, 2005

J. Seifel
 That for reasons of change in program, the position held by Jessica Seifel in the area of Music be abolished.
 Effective: June 30, 2005

Parental Leave:

• Approved the request of Maura P. Tearno, teaching assistant, for parental leave of absence.
 Effective: September 1, 2005 – December 23, 2005, with an expected return to work on January 2, 2006. Mrs. Tearno will utilize available sick time from September 1 – September 28, 2005, followed by 12 weeks leave of leave under FMLA, effective September 29 – December 23, 2005.

Family Medical

Leave:
D. Keller

• Approved the request of Dawn M. Keller for Family Medical Leave beginning May 19, 2005 and ending August 19, 2005.

Social Studies
Department Chair

P. Corrigan

• Approve the appointment of Patrick Corrigan as Social Studies Department Chair.
 Effective: June 14, 2005
 Salary: \$3,000 [Section 5.8 of the VTA Contract]

Art Teacher
Appointment:

M. Triller

• Approved the full-time appointment of Marie Triller as high school Art Teacher.
 Effective: September 1, 2005
 Salary: Step 23 of VTA Contract

Probationary
Appointment:

M. Green

• Approved the probationary appointment of Melissa Green to the position of Kindergarten Teacher.
 Effective: September 1, 2005
 Probationary Term: Three years
 Salary: Step 2 [BA] of VTA Contract

Temporary/Part-
time Appointments:

A. Huth

• Approved the following temporary/part-time appointments:
Andrew Huth, Temporary Technology Teacher [.8 position]
 Effective: September 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006
 Salary: .8 of Step 14 of VTA Contract

S. Eppelman

Stephen Eppelman, Temporary Custodial Worker
 Effective: June 27, 2005 – September 2, 2005 [8 hours per day]
 Salary: Step 4 of UEV Contract

H. Runion

Helene Runion, Temporary Music Teacher
 Effective: September 1, 2005 – June 23, 2006 [Elementary School, .5 position]
 Salary: .5 of Step 7 of VTA Contract

K. Hyatt

Kimberly J. Hyatt, Part-time Music Teacher
 Effective: September 1, 2005 [.4 position]
 Salary: .4 of Step 7 of VTA Contract

Permanent
Appointments:

M. Deffer

• Approved the following permanent appointments:
Matthew Deffer, Custodial Worker
 Effective: June 12, 2005

W. Kelly

William Kelly, Head Custodian [Elementary School]
 Effective: June 14, 2005
 Salary: Step 8 of UEV Contract

- Approved the appointment of Andrew Huth a District Energy Educator.
Effective: June 14, 2005 [12-month position; 10-15 hours/week]
Salary: \$12,000 [Annual Contract]

District Energy Educator:

A. Huth

- Approved the following coaching appointments for the 2005-2006 school year:

Coaching Appointments

<u>Reed Schultz</u>	Modified Boys' Soccer	Step 5
<u>Melissa Green</u>	Modified Girls' Soccer	Step 1
<u>Kelly McHale</u>	Varsity Cross Country – Head	Step 1
<u>Joseph Sullivan</u>	Varsity Cross Country – Assistant	Step 2

- Approved the appointment of William Becker as substitute custodial worker
Effective: May 2, 2005

Substitute Custodial Appointment:

W. Becker

- Approved the appointment of Lydia Tobler as Humanities Coordinator for the 2004-2005 school year.
Salary: ½ of \$2,600

Humanities Coordinator:

L. Tobler

- Approved the following appointments for the Special Education Summer 2005 Program:
[Salaries in accordance with UEV/NTA salary schedules. The District is reimbursed for 80% of this program]

Special Education Summer 2005 Program:

Jennifer Bovie [Hemming], Part-time Special Education Teacher
Effective: July 5, 2005 – August 12, 2005 [9 hours per week]

J. Bovie

Donna Fitzgerald, Part-time Special Education Teacher
Effective: July 5, 2005 – August 12, 2005 [9 hours per week]

D. Fitzgerald

Lynn Goyer, Part-time Teaching Assistant
Effective: July 5, 2005 – August 12, 2005 [9 hours per week]

L. Goyer

Portia Hubert, Part-time Teaching Assistant
Effective: July 5, 2005 – August 12, 2005 [9 hours per week]

P. Hubert

Deborah Lee, Part-time Speech Therapist
Effective: July 5, 2005 – August 12, 2005 [6 hours per week]

D. Lee

Lisa Herzog, Part-time Physical Therapist
Effective: July 6, 2005 – August 12, 2005 [6 hours per week]

L. Herzog

Robin Jacob, Administrator
Effective: July 6, 2005 – August 12, 2005 [9 hours per week]

R. Jacob

- Approved the following bus driver appointments for summer 2005:

Summer 2005 Bus Driver Appointments:

Pamela Traverse
Effective: July 10, 2005 – August 19, 2005 [30 days at 7 hours/day]

P. Traverse

Marie Fugitt
Effective: July 10, 2005 – August 19, 2005 [30 days at 4 hours/day]

M. Fugitt

Jill Raymond
Effective: July 10, 2005 – August 19, 2005 [30 days at 4 hours/day]

J. Raymond

Marianne Lenseth
Effective: July 5, 2005 – August 11, 2005 [18 days at 4 hours/day]

M. Lenseth

Anna Mohan
Effective: July 5, 2005 – August 11, 2005 [18 days at 4 hours/day]

A. Mohan

Michael Young
Effective: July 5, 2005 – August 12, 2005 [29 days at 4 hours/day]

M. Young

Ron Meilinger
Effective: July 5, 2005 – August 12, 2005 [29 days at 4 hours/day]

R. Meilinger

Adele Livingston, Bus Aide
Effective: July 5, 2005 – August 12, 2005 [29 days at 4 hours/day]

A. Livingston

- Approved the substitute teacher appointments for the 2004-2005 school year as presented by the BOCES Substitute Calling Service in a memo dated June 2, 2005.

BOCES Substitute Appointments

Non-Resident Tuition Requests

- Approved the following requests for non-resident tuition for the 2005-2006 school year:

<u>Cara Kelly</u> , Grade 6	<u>Alex Barsky</u> , Grade 11
Requestor: Mary E. Kelly	Requestor: Brooke Lengfellner

Out-of-Town Conference Request

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

2005 National Educational Computing Conference
Philadelphia, PA: Sunday, June 26 – Wednesday, June 29, 2005
Requestor: F. Faber

Out-of-Town Student Field Trip Requests

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

Girls' Varsity Volleyball Camp
NYS Chiropractic College, Seneca Falls, NY: Friday, July 8 – Sunday, July 10, 2005
Requestor: J. Sapienza

International Club Foreign Exchange Trip
Sedan, France: Wednesday, October 12 – Sunday, October 23, 2005
Requestor: R. Streifer

Approved: July Organizational Meeting

- Approved the date of Monday, July 11, 2005 for the July Organizational Meeting, 7:30 p.m., High School Performing Arts Center to be followed by the regular July Board of Education meeting.

Waste Removal

- Approved Wright-Way Commercial Disposal LLC to provide waste removal and recycling services to the Voorheesville Central School District for the period July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2007.

<u>Company</u>	<u>High School</u> <i>(Per Month)</i>	<u>Elementary School</u> <i>(Per Month)</i>
Allied Waste Services of North America (formerly BFI)	\$1,250.00	\$832.00
Wright-Way Commercial Disposal LLC	\$660.00	\$440.00

Approved: C.O.P.E. Membership

- Approved membership in the Cooperative Organization for Public Education [C.O.P.E.] for the 2005-2006 school year.

Special Report
R. Streifer

Special Report – Paris Conference, Mr. Robert Streifer
Mr. Streifer shared details from the professional conference he attended in Paris, France, April 4-11, 2005. He was invited to speak at an International Education Conference sponsored by the International Center for Pedagogical Studies. Dr. Alan Wagner from the SUNY Albany accompanied Mr. Streifer on that trip and was present for the discussion.

Administrative Reports

Administrative reports were noted with the following additions/discussion:

Mr. Lein – Elementary School

- The results from the ELA tests were released. Voorheesville students' mean scores were 672-678. We scored third behind Bethlehem and Heatly and first in the Colonial Council.
- The Memorial Day parade was great fun.
- Mr. Lein summarized his report on Class Size. The administration is looking at the big picture and right now the elementary program is very successful. There is more to the issue than smaller class size, and Mr. Lein will continue to monitor this matter.

Mr. Diefendorf – High School/Middle School

- The Envirothon Team did an outstanding job again this year with the highest ranking ever.
- The districtwide team competing in the GHI Corporate Challenge placed 17th out of 107 teams.
- The Junior Prom was one of the best the district has ever had. Breakfast was served to 100 students the next morning.
- Award ceremonies for high school students went well.
- The Valedictory class selection has been tweaked to reflect extracurricular and community service participation.

Ms. Kennedy – Middle School

- The 2004-2005 school year was the best year the Middle Level has had, so far. This year's 8th grade class is the first to attend the new middle school for three years.
- The field trips to the Bronx Zoo and Boston were both successful.
- The Teen Night was a great success, and the 5th graders were very excited to move up to Middle School.
- The award ceremonies went well.

Mrs. Winchell – School Business Official

- Discussed the school lunch report. The price of a la carte lunches will increase, Type A lunches will remain the same. Healthy lunches are being provided for students – this is a big improvement. Next year the District will be mandated to put together a Healthy Schools Plan with parent, student, and staff involvement. Mr. Brackett expressed concern that the elementary school does not have the same menu as the high school. Mrs. Winchell shared his concern and explained that the high school lunch program has lost money in the past. For this reason, the new cook-manager has addressed the high school menu first.
- Discussed staff evaluations and legislative changes regarding the operation of business office.
- Discussed buying water from the Village of Voorheesville and explained the large discrepancy between the last water bill which was \$2,000 and the recent \$50,000 bill. Mrs. Winchell and Mr. Coffin would be attending the Village meeting to discuss this with the Village Board.

Mrs. Winchell

Mr. Goyer – Operations, Maintenance, and Transportation

- New buses have arrived at the dealership. Mr. Goyer said he would like to have them by mid-August.
- He will be advertising for substitute bus driver.
- Discussed the severe weather on Monday, June 6, and described the procedure to get students home safely on that day.
- New swings have been installed on the Creative Playground and sealing will be done on June 27.
- Discussed his report on the high school walk-through with the Board of Education Facilities Committee. The listed projects will be taken care of during the summer.
- Discussed the pros and cons of purchasing the New Salem Saab Dealership for a bus garage and district offices. Mr. Goyer asked the Board if buying the dealership would be a consideration. The Board agreed they would need more detailed information, including a feasibility study.

Mr. Goyer

Dr. McCartney – Superintendent’s Report

- The building at the remote fields is erected, he is working on getting water for the facility, and it should be functional by the end of July. In-roads have been made on getting bleachers.
- Dr. McCartney, Mr. Baron, and Mr. Coffin met on June 2 with new Board members, Kevin Kroencke and David Gibson, for an orientation.

Dr. McCartney

Mr. Coffin reported that he, Ms. Macdonald, and Mr. McKenna, the Professional Development Committee, met with Mr. Lein to discuss elementary school evaluation procedures. This meeting provided an opportunity to discuss rules and responsibilities regarding performance evaluations.

Discussion:
Professional Development Committee

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the Board approved Policy 6830, Expense Reimbursement, and Policy 9551, Managerial/Confidential Employees, as presented in the enclosure folder. The new policies will be forwarded to NYSSBA for inclusion in the District Policy Manual.

Approved:
Policy 6830
Policy 9551

A motion was made by Mr. McKenna and seconded by Mr. Cole authorizing the issuance of \$230,000 bonds of Voorheesville Central School District, Albany County, New York, to pay the cost of the purchase of buses for said school district. The motion was approved by roll call vote, 6–0, as follows: Mr. Brackett – YES, Mr. McKenna – YES, Mr. Baron – YES, Mr. Coffin – YES, Ms. Macdonald – YES, Mr. Cole – YES.

Approved:
Bus Purchase Bond - \$230,000

There was a first reading of the Energy Management Conservation Policy from Energy Education, Inc. The Board will vote on this policy at the next regular meeting.

First Reading:
Energy Management Conservation Policy

On a motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board adopted the Resolutions in Recognition of Service of Clifford H. Casey, Robin Shufelt, and Alan R. McCartney as presented in the enclosure folder. Mr. Baron read Dr. McCartney’s resolution.

Resolutions in Recognition of Service

There was an opportunity for the Board of Education to be heard. Mr. Coffin acknowledged Mr. John A. Cole and his 15 years as a Board member, 13 of those years as Board president; and Mr. Robert J. Baron’s 10 years as a Board member, 2 of those years as president. He said they had shared many experiences over the years and should be commended for their good contributions to the community.

Opportunity for Board to be Heard

Mr. Coffin

Mr. Cole discussed the loss of his wife, Karen, three years ago, how she encouraged him to serve on the Board, and the trust that was created in her name. The trust was established to support middle level English and Social Studies programs in Bethlehem and Voorheesville School Districts. Mr. Stumbaugh has requested funds on behalf of Voorheesville, and Mr. Cole said he hoped this would continue.

Mr. Cole

Mr. McKenna reported that \$23,000 had been raised at the Community & School Foundation Gala. Funds would be donated for the Elementary School Flag, the restoration of the school bell, construction of the gallery outside of the Performing Arts Center, and the book, Success, awarded to a student by Dr. McCartney. Mr. McKenna presented Dr. McCartney with a copy of the book.

Mr. McKenna

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board moved into Executive Session at 9:45 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations. The Board came out of Executive Session at 11:35 p.m. The following actions were taken:

Executive Session:
9:45 p.m.

Approved: On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the following action items were approved:

*Management/
Confidential
Salaries*

- Item 4.24
Approved salaries for management confidential employees as presented in the enclosure folder.

*Change in Title:
S. Arditì*

- Item 4.25
Changed the title of the secretary to the School Business Official from Secretary I to Secretary II, and approved the following person to permanent status per the certified Albany County Civil Service list:

Susan Arditì, Secretary II

Effective: June 14, 2005

Salary: No change

Note: Mrs. Arditì's salary is addressed in the Management Confidential salary action item on the agenda. This appointment does not change the salary recommendation.

By consensus, the Board of Education agreed that Dr. Alan R. McCartney should continue to represent the Voorheesville School District re: Voorheesville Central School District – Robert Crandall §3020-a Proceeding after his retirement as School Superintendent.

*Adjournment:
11:40 p.m.*

On a motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Baron and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

President

Clerk