

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

**September 13, 2004**  
**Regular Board of Education Meeting**

**Robert J. Baron, President**  
**High School Commons Area**

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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, Kenneth Lein, Michael Paolino

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Gary Herbert, Valerie Glover, Susan Cohen-Axelrod, Paula Rivenburg, Connie Burns, Joan Flynn, Sandi Lindner, Linda Pasquali, Jan Kurpaska, Michael Pasquali, Linda Conway, Claudia Burtman, Anne M. Smolen, Kevin Kroenke, Kathryn Martin, M.E. Lawrence, Kathy Fiero, Diane Corbett, L. Allegretti-Freeman, Fran Gorka, Laura Morrill, Marty Bannon (*The Spotlight*), Holly Grosch (*The Altamont Enterprise*), Deann DellaPenta.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Coffin and seconded by Mr. Brackett to approve the minutes of the regular August 16, 2004 meeting. Mr. Brackett asked that the minutes be amended to show that he abstained from voting on Mrs. Glath's appointment as Teaching Assistant. The change was noted and the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting of August 16, 2004.

Approval of Minutes:  
8/16/04 [Amended]

Mr. Baron asked if there were any additional items from the Superintendent. Dr. McCartney called the Board's attention to the supplemental Agenda. The additional items were the resignation of Ms. Bailey as Teacher Aide, the recommendation of Ms. Lloyd to the vacated position, and the amended effective date of Mr. Hoobler. He also noted item 7.5, the Superintendent Search, the dates and times to be discussed at a later time

Additional Items from Superintendent

Mr. Baron then asked if anyone from the community would like to be heard. Ms. Gorka asked for clarification on the hiring policy, specifically the hiring of Mrs. Baron to the position of tax collector. She asked for clarification on the posting of the position, the number of candidates interviewed, who recommended Mrs. Baron, and who was on the hiring committee. Dr. McCartney addressed these questions with the outcome being that the candidates were taken from the civil service Clerk Typist list. Seventeen individuals were canvassed, two responded. There were four positions that needed to be filled so they went outside of the list and interviewed other people who had submitted applications with Mrs. Baron being one of them. Mrs. Baron was one of the candidates interviewed by Mr. Diefendorf and his committee; Mrs. Winchell and Dr. McCartney interviewed her. She, along with the other three people, was advised that Dr. McCartney would be recommending her hiring to the Board at the next regular meeting. A nepotism policy was briefly discussed with the Board agreeing that they would decide if and when this would be done. A member of the community warned the Board to be extremely careful if they did implement such a policy, as it would be terrible if a highly qualified teacher was not hired because a relative was working in the District or a member of the Board. Also would that affect volunteers? Mr. Cole agreed with the possible problems with a nepotism policy. Further discussion ensued on the ethic policy and a possible nepotism policy.

Opportunity for Public to be Heard:

F. Gorka

On a motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. McKenna, the following action items were approved:

Action Items:

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

Treasurer's Reports

- Approved the following warrants and payrolls:

WarrantsWARRANTS:

General Fund Warrant #3:	\$699,090.03
School Lunch Fund Warrant #3:	16,183.00
Trust & Agency Warrant #2:	394,599.85
Federal Aid Fund Warrant #3:	1,138.12

PayrollsPAYROLLS:

Payroll #4:	\$90,398.48
Payroll #5:	77,731.72

Resignations:

- Accepted the following resignations:

C. Tedesco

Courtney Tedesco, Elementary Teaching Assistant  
Effective: August 16, 2004  
Reason: Personal

J. Sapienza

Joseph Sapienza, Health and Physical Education Department Chair  
Effective: August 31, 2004  
Reason: Personal

L. Bailey

Leisl Bailey, Teacher Aide  
Effective: September 10, 2004  
Reason: Personal

Approved:N. Bassler,  
Health/PE  
Department Chair

- Approved the appointment of Nadine Bassler as Health and Physical Education Department Chair.  
Effective: September 14, 2004  
Salary: Step 1 of VTA Contract [*Compensation for Department Chairs*]

T. Kurkjian,  
Social Studies  
Department Chair

- Approved the appointment of Thomas Kurkjian as temporary Social Studies Department Chair.  
Effective: September 1, 2004 – June 24, 2005  
Salary: Step 1 of VTA Contract [*Compensation for Department Chairs*]

Extracurricular  
Appointments

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

<u>Susanne Hudacs</u>	Envirothon Team Co-Advisor	½ Step 8
<u>Susanne Hudacs</u>	Humanities Coordinator	Step 2
<u>Susanne Hudacs</u>	Model UN Advisor	Step 8
<u>John Sittig</u>	Sophomore Class Advisor	Step 8
<u>Tony Thanopoulos</u>	Envirothon Team Co-Advisor	½ Step 1

CSE  
Recommendations

- Approved the recommendations of the *Committee on Preschool Special Education* as outlined at a meeting held on August 16, 2004.

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 September 2, 2004.

Non-Resident  
Tuition Requests:

- Approved the following requests for non-resident tuition status for the 2004-2005 school year:

<u>Colin Kelly</u> , Grade 6	<u>Meaghan Conley</u> , Grade 1
Requestor: Mary E. Kelly	Requestor: Christine M. Conley

Out-of-Town  
Student Field  
Trips

- Approved the following out-of-town student field trips:

English 11 Regents/US History Regents Classes  
Lexington/Salem, Massachusetts: Thursday, October 7, 2004  
Requestor: April Levy, Jeanne Waters

English Honors/AP US History Classes  
Salem, Massachusetts: Friday, October 15, 2004  
Requestor: April Levy, Thomas Gladd

Teacher Aide  
Appointment:  
K. Lloyd

- Approved the appointment of Kirsti Lloyd as Elementary Teacher Aide as follows:  
Effective: September 15, 2004 [*PM Kindergarten – 2 hours per day*]  
Salary: Step 4 of UEV Contract

- Approved amendment of the effective date of the appointment of Jesse Hoobler, .4 Computer Programming Teacher as follows:  
Effective: January 31, 2005 – June 24, 2005  
[Previously approved as September 7, 2004 – June 24, 2005]  
Salary: .4 of Step 2 of the VTA Contract
- Approved declaration of the following items as surplus/obsolete and delegated to the Business Official disposition of said items in a manner consistent with current laws and regulations:  

13 Desks [teacher desks from the 1930s to 1960s]  
8 Tables  
1 Book Rack  
1 File Cabinet
- Approved the following successful bidders to supply products for the school lunch program during the 2004-2005 school year:  

Milk Bid: Sycaway Creamery  
Ice Cream Bid: BOCES Cooperative Bid  
Bread Bid: BOCES Cooperative Bid

Amended Appointment:  
J. Hoobler

Surplus/Obsolete Items

Lunch Bids:  
2004-2005 School Year

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Mr. Lein discussed items from his Elementary School Report attached to the meeting agenda.

Mr. Lein

Mr. Diefendorf discussed items from his High School Report attached to the meeting agenda.

Mr. Diefendorf

Ms. Kennedy discussed the Middle Level report as presented in the enclosure folder.

Ms. Kennedy

Ms. Winchell, School Business Official's Report

- One of the hot water heaters at the High School has a large leak. The problem is being assessed before replacing it.
- The mag strips are still being worked on; some of the necessary wiring can no longer be used.
- The parking situation at the Elementary School is being reviewed. Mrs. Fiero asked that the Board address this issue immediately. It is causing other safety issues. Parents are parking across from the parking lot, in the small Niagara Mohawk access, and attempting to walk their children across route 85A. A better solution to the problem should be found. Mr. Lein, Mrs. Winchell, and Mr. Goyer will be taking a closer look at this. One possible solution is to number the parking spots and monitor the parents that bring their children to school.

Mrs. Winchell

In Mr. Goyer's absence, Mrs. Winchell discussed his Transportation, Operations & Maintenance report.

Mr. Goyer

Superintendent's Report:

- Dr. McCartney discussed the problem with the gazebo at the High School and informed the Board that it will be jacked up, leveled and secured.
- Dr. McCartney asked the Board look at their calendars to confirm the three dates mentioned in the Supplemental Agenda: Monday, September 27, Monday, October 4, and Monday, October 25. These dates and times will be finalized and confirmed after speaking with Dr. Nagler.

Dr. McCartney

On a motion made by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously the board moved into executive session at 9:05 p.m.

Executive Session:  
9:05 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 11:15 p.m.

On motion by Mr. John Cole, seconded by Mr. Coffin, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 11:18 p.m.

Adjournment:  
11:18 p.m.

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President

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Clerk

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Recording Secretary