

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting
April 3, 2006

Joseph F. Pofit, President
High School Cafeteria

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Board Members Present:

Joseph F. Pofit, President
 C. James Coffin, Vice Present
 Richard K. Brackett
 David Gibson
 Kevin Kroencke
 Thomas McKenna
 Paige Pierce

Board Members Absent:

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Linda Langevin, Sarita Winchell, Mark Diefendorf, Michael Paolino,

OTHERS PRESENT:

Gary Hubert, Tom Mensching, Susan Cohen Axelrod, Robert Denman, Kathy Fiero, Chris Allard, James McAssey, Linda Pasquali, David Adkins, Michael Goyer, Dorothea Pfleiderer

Mr. Pofit called the meeting to order at 7:40 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.

Call to Order:
 7:40 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 March 13, 2006, and the special meeting of March 27, 2006.

Approval of Minutes:
 3/13/06; 3/27/06

Mr. Pofit asked if there were any additional items from the superintendent. Ms. Langevin noted the following items:

Additional items from Superintendent

- Item 4.1.2 Correction to the warrants
- Item 4.5 Additional non-resident tuition request
- Item 4.7 Addition – Kids’ Club Building Use Agreements for 2006-2007 [A.M. & P.M.]
- Item 8.1 Addition – Elementary School Groundwater Pilot Test – Countryside Septic Service
- Item 8.2 Addition – Recommendation to approve RFP for External Auditor Services
- Item 8.3 Addition – Recommendation to accept Henry Binzer as Internal Auditor

Mr. Pofit offered the public an opportunity to be heard. Michael Snyder asked if there would a student dress code going into effect for VCSD. Mr. Diefendorf said the Site Based Team is currently reviewing a dress code to present to the Board of Education. If approved, the code would be incorporated into the School District “Code of Conduct”.

Opportunity for Public to be heard:
 M. Snyder

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

APPROVED

Item 4.1.1 – Approved the treasurer’s reports as presented in the enclosure folder.

Treasurer’s Reports

Item 4.1.2 – Approved the following warrants and payrolls:

<u>Warrants:</u>		
General Fund Warrant #14		\$1,044,388.86
General Fund Warrant #15		577,369.22
School Lunch Fund Warrant #12		27,401.23
Trust & Agency Warrant #8		1,101,847.33
Federal Aid Warrant #13		42,266.77
 <u>Payrolls:</u>		
Payroll #20		\$411,912.89

Warrants

Payrolls

Mr. Pofit asked for a motion to approve items 4.2 – 4.5. Ms. Pierce asked that under Item 4.3, CSE Recommendations, the March 17, 2006 CSE meeting be voted on as a separate item.

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

APPROVED

Item 4.2 – Long Term Substitute for Physical Education

Approved the appointment of Reed Schultz as long-term substitute for Physical Education (*Middle School/High School; .8 FTE*). Mr. Schultz will be replacing Mrs. Eggleston during her parental leave. Effective: May 8, 2006 – June 30, 2006
 Salary: .8 of Step 1 of VTA Contract - \$30,560 [*prorated from May 8, 2006*]

Long-Term Sub. – Physical Ed.:
 R. Schultz

CSE
Recommendations
[Excludes March 17,
2006]Item 4.3 – CSE Recommendations

Approved the recommendations of the *Committee on Special Education* and *Committee on Preschool Special Education* as outlined at meetings held on March 2, 2006, March 9, 2006, and March 15, 2006.

BOCES Substitute
AppointmentsItem 4.4 – Substitute Teacher Appointments from BOCES Substitute Calling Service

Approved substitute teacher appointments for the 2005-2006 school year as presented by the BOCES Substitute Calling Service in a memo dated March 23, 2004.

Non-Resident
Tuition RequestsItem 4.5 – Non-Resident Tuition Requests

Approved the following non-resident tuition requests for the 2006-2007 school year:

Meaghan Conley, Grade 2
Amanda Conley, Grade 1
Requestor: Christine M. Conley

Michael Kelley, Grade 11
Camryn Kelley, Grade 3
Requestor: Timothy Kelley

Nazely Kurkjian, Grade 10
Armine Kurkjian, Grade 7
Requestor: Thomas Kurkjian

Colin Kelly, Grade 8
Cara Kelly, Grade 7
Requestor: Mary E. Kelly

Alex Barsky, Grade 12
Requestor: Brooke Lengfellner

Conor Cashin, Grade 9
Requestor: Christine Cashin

Troy Tracey, Grade 3
Requestor: Lauren Tracey

CSE
Recommendation:
March 17, 2006

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Gibson and carried by a 6-0 vote, the Board approved the recommendation of the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at a meeting held on March 17 2006. Ms. Pierce abstained from voting.

APPROVED

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board approved the following items:

Out-of-Town
Student Field Trip
RequestItem 4.6 – Out-of-Town Student Field Trip Request

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

Cape Ann Whale Watch – Biology and AP Biology Classes

Destination: Gloucester, Massachusetts
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2006
Cost: Whale Watch \$16.00 per person
Motor Coach \$40.00 per person
Requestors: C. Berte, K. McHale

Kids' Club, Inc.
2006-07 Building
Use AgreementsItem 4.7 – Kids' Club, Inc. A.M. and P.M. Building Use Agreements: 2006-2007

Approved the 2006-2007 A.M. and P.M. Kids' Club Building Use Agreements as presented in the enclosure folder.

Fee: \$9,000 per year

Discussion was held regarding the Building Use fee. The Kids' Club provides a service to the community while providing income to the District. The Board will consider incremental increases each year to avoid overwhelming increases in the future.

Administrative
ReportsItem 6.1 – Elementary School, Mr. Lein

Mr. Paolino reported in Mr. Lein's absence.

Mr. Lein

- Math scoring has been completed. Scores should be available in September.
- Kindergarten screening went smoothly. Seventy-six of ninety eligible children were screened.
- On March 31, a consultant from the Literacy Center presented to the staff on guided reading.
- On May 2, second grade students will be taking the Terra Nova standardized tests.

Item 6.2 – High School, Mr. Diefendorf

Mr. Diefendorf

- Congratulated the Model UN team for a job well done at Cornell University. Recognition was given to Michael Cretz for his achievement in the Paris Peace Conference simulation.
- The Drama Club presented three successful performances of "Once Upon a Mattress".
- Congratulated Doug and Lizzie Dawson for finishing 2nd at the Philadelphia First Robotics Competition. They were members of the Capital Region team made up of area high school students. Forty-six teams took part in the event.
- Reports cards will be mailed on April 13.
- The Red Cross Blood Drive will take place on April 6.

Item 6.3 – Middle School, Ms. Kennedy

Mr. Paolino reported in Ms. Kennedy's absence

- Middle School report cards will be sent home on Wednesday, April 12.
- Thanks to the Humanities Committee, 8th grade students attended a performance of Looking Over the President's Shoulder at the Capital Repertory Theater.

T. Kennedy

Item 6.4 – Assistant Superintendent for Business, Mrs. Winchell

- Voorheesville School District was the recipient of a safety award from Utica Mutual Insurance Company for outstanding efforts to create a safe school environment. Mr. Goyer represented the District at the presentation ceremony on March 22. Mrs. Winchell commended the members of the School Safety Committee for their efforts and good work.

S. Winchell

Item 6.5 – Transportation, Operations & Maintenance, Mr. Goyer

- The Transportation Department is looking to hire two additional substitute bus drivers for the 2006-2007 school year.
- Expressed interest to International Buses to have Voorheesville test a new electric-diesel hybrid school bus.
- Attended the Incident Command Training Program for managing a multi-jurisdictional response to a major emergency. Communication was a topic of discussion along with the school district's role in providing transportation and shelter.

M. Goyer

Item 6.6 – Superintendent's Report, Mrs. Langevin

Mrs. Langevin recapped the proposed 2006-2007 budget. The total proposed budget increase from the 2005-2006 budget is \$772,645 for a total budget of \$20,098,500.

L. Langevin

- New technology and new equipment would be the items lost through a contingent budget (*Contingency budget level is \$20,098,889*)
- New items in the proposed 2006-2007 budget:
 - One elementary school reading teacher
 - Funding to provide tutors for at-risk Middle School/High School students
 - Funding to change the position of Athletic Director (10-month position) to Coordinator of Athletics and Aquatics (12-month position)
 - Proposition for two full-sized and one wheelchair bus
 - One additional extracurricular advisor for Masterminds
 - Increased stipend for the Drama Club to cover two Drama Club events annually

APPROVED

Mr. Pofit complimented Mrs. Langevin and the administrative staff on keeping the budget increases at a minimum.

Item 7.1 – Approval of 2006-2007 School District Budget

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, the Board approved the 2006-2007 School District Budget in the amount of **\$20,098,500**.

2006-2007 School District Budget:
\$20,098,500

Item 8.1 – Approval of Countryside Septic for Groundwater Pilot Test

Approved Countryside Septic Tank Service to perform the groundwater pilot test at the Voorheesville Elementary School for an amount not to exceed the price quote of \$5,125.00.

Discussion: Mr. Goyer said that Chazen Engineering wrote the specifications for the cistern pilot test based on discussions with the Facilities Committee. Four packets were mailed, and Countryside Septic was the only bidder to respond.

Groundwater Pilot Test
Countryside Septic

Item 8.2 – Recommendation to approve RFP for External Auditor Services

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Gibson and carried unanimously, the Board approved the Request for Proposal for External Auditor Services based on the recommendation of the Audit Committee. The successful bidder will audit the District's financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, and possibly for the following two subsequent years.

RFP for External Auditor Services

Item 8.3 – Recommendation to accept Henry Binzer as Internal Auditor

On a motion by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried by a 6-0 vote, the Board approved the appointment of Henry Binzer, Educational Consultant, as Internal Auditor based on the recommendation of the Audit Committee. Mr. Coffin abstained from voting.

Fee: \$15,000 per year

Internal Auditor

Henry J. Binzer

Mr. Binzer will be responsible for the development and execution of detailed reviews of the various activities performed in the District. He will determine that internal controls are adequate and functioning properly in conformance with all applicable NYS and District codes, policies and administrative regulations. Mr. Binzer shall make formal reports of all audit findings to the Board of Education, and/or the Board Audit Committee, on a periodic scheduled basis, but not less than four times per year.

Executive Session:
9:05 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board entered into Executive Session at 9:05 p.m. for the purpose of discussing negotiated contracts.

Return to Regular Session:
10:30 p.m.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 10:30 p.m.

Discussion Items:

The following items were discussed:

- The 2006-2007 budget newsletter
- The Curriculum Committee and tasks of this committee
- Evaluation for tenure:
 - Criteria are based on unannounced observations
 - No reports on unannounced observations
 - Only 4 parts to the Likert Scale – the scale, itself, needs to be redefined

Adjournment:
11:10 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Brackett, seconded by Ms. Pierce and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

President

Clerk