

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting
January 8, 2007

David M. Gibson, President
High School Cafeteria

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Board Members Present:

David M. Gibson, President
 C. James Coffin, Vice Present
 Richard K. Brackett
 Gary A. Hubert
 Kevin Kroencke
 Thomas McKenna
 Paige Pierce

Board Members Absent:

None

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Linda Langevin, Sarita Winchell, Mark Diefendorf, Michael Paolino, Kenneth Lein, Theresa Kennedy

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kathy Martin, Thomas Gladd, Brian Stumbaugh, Deb Baron, David Adkins, Kathy Fiero, Chris Allard, Allie Belgiovine, Mary Ann Jones, Sharon Cillis, Robert Alft, Nathan Alft-LaFond, Sharon Siegel, Judith Zielinski, Carol Kadamus, Lisa Spadinger, Lauren Furlong, Michelle Lindsay, Michael Fanning, Jennifer Zeh, Michael Sawyer, Robert Denman, Lisa Myers, Robert Schofield, Rachel Dutil [*The Altamont Enterprise*], Dorothea Pfleiderer

Mr. Coffin called the meeting to order at 7:35 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:
 7:35 p.m.

Michael Fanning of Dodge, Chamberlin, Luzine, and Weber reported on the status of the capital project. The project is moving along as planned. The plans and specifications have been submitted to SED, with approval expected within the month. Upon approval, bidding can begin in February, and construction will start in the summer. Mr. Fanning discussed design features and said asbestos abatement will be part of the project. DCLW has recommended that the District hire a consultant to assist in the capital project needs related to asbestos abatement, lead remediation, and PCB remediation. He introduced Michael Sawyer whose appointment would be brought before the Board for approval under Item 9.3 on the agenda.

Report on Status of Capital Project

M. Fanning

A report on the Middle Level Action Plan was presented by Ms. Kennedy and members of her Middle Level staff. They discussed the past, present, and future of the middle level program at Voorheesville. The team is working to address the intellectual and developmental needs of students. They hope to help students in the transition from fifth to sixth grade and from eighth to ninth grade. Ms. Kennedy discussed the Middle Level Mission Statement.

Report on Middle Level Action Plan

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the regular December 11, 2006 meeting.

Approval of Minutes:
 12/11/06

Mr. Coffin asked if there were any additional items from the Superintendent. Mrs. Langevin noted the following item:

Additional items from Superintendent

Item 8.9 Addition: Option agreement between VCSD and the Voorheesville Public Library regarding the purchase of land.

Mr. Coffin offered students and the public an opportunity to address the Board. There were no responses.

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

APPROVED

Item 5.1.1 – Accepted the treasurer’s reports as presented in the enclosure.

Treasurer’s Reports

Item 5.1.2 – Accepted the following warrants and payrolls:

Warrants:

General Fund Warrant #11	\$ 817,332.31
General Fund Warrant #12	\$ 805,370.92
Trust & Agency Fund Warrant #5	\$ 1,088,799.43
Capital Fund Warrant #5	\$ 114,218.00
School Lunch Fund Warrant #5	\$ 31,333.20
Federal Aid Fund Warrant #5	\$ 77,913.77

Warrants

Payrolls:

Payroll #13	\$ 439,772.76
Payroll #14	\$ 420,223.52

Payrolls

Resignations:**Item 5.2 – Resignations**

Accepted the following resignations:

M. Deffer Matthew Deffer, Custodial Worker [8 hours per day]
Effective: December 12, 2006
Reason: Personal

K. Crewell Kelly Crewell, Bus Driver
Effective: January 2, 2007
Reason: Has accepted another job

E. Glath Elizabeth Glath, Teaching Assistant [6.5 hours per day]
Effective: February 12, 2007
Reason: Personal

Leave Request:**Item 5.3 – Leave Request**Approved the request of Lauren Cosamano for leave from her position as Special Education Teaching Assistant. Ms. Cosamano will replace Mrs. Barcher as a special education teacher during her parental leave. [See Item 5.4 below]

L. Cosamano
Effective: January 18, 2007 through March 12, 2007

Per Diem Substitute Appointment:**Item 5.4 – Per Diem Substitute**Approved the appointment of Lauren Cosamano as per diem substitute Special Education Teacher. Ms. Cosamano will continue to receive full benefits for the duration of this appointment.

L. Cosamano
Effective: January 18, 2007 through March 12, 2007
Salary: \$150.00 per day

Teaching Assistant**Item 5.5 – Teaching Assistants**

Approved the following teaching assistant appointments:

L. O'Keefe Linda O'Keefe, Teaching Assistant [Elementary School, 6.5 hours per day]
Effective: January 24, 2007
Salary: Step 4 of UEV Agreement = \$13.53 per hour

E. Everett Erin Everett, Per Diem Substitute Teaching Assistant [Elementary School, 6.5 hours per day]
Effective: January 2, 2007
Salary: \$65.00 per day

Bus Driver**Item 5.6 – Bus Driver**Approved the appointment of Erin Waldbillig as bus driver.

E. Waldbillig
Effective: January 9, 2007
Salary: Step 1 of UEV Contract - \$12.20 per hour

BOCES Substitute Registry**Item 5.7 – Substitute Teacher Appointments from BOCES Substitute Registry**Approved Capital Region BOCES Substitute Registry appointments for the 2006-2007 school year as presented in the enclosure folder in a memo dated December 21, 2006.**CSE Recommendations****Item 5.8 – CSE Recommendations**Approved recommendations by the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at meetings held on December 11, 2006 and December 19, 2006.**Out-of-Town Student Field Trip****Item 5.9 – Out-of-Town Student Field Trip Request**

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

*Grade 7 to Boston***Grade 7 Class Trip**

Destination: Boston, Massachusetts
New England Aquarium, Quincy Market, Boston Museum of Science
Date: Friday, June 8, 2007
Cost: \$54 per student
Requestor: Jessica Bradshaw

Spring 2007 Driver Education Appts:**Item 5.10 – Spring 2007 Driver Education Appointments**

Approved the following appointments for the spring 2007 driver education program:

J. Young Jeffrey Young, Instructor
Effective: January 29 through June 8, 2007
Salary: \$4,710.00
Classroom: 24 students @ \$52.50
Car Section: 12 students @ \$287.50

William Van Alstyne, Instructor

W. VanAlstyne

Effective: January 29 through June 8, 2007

Salary: \$3,450.00 Car Section: 12 students @ \$287.50

SPECIAL REPORTS

SPECIAL REPORTS

Item 6.1 – Proposals for New Courses

Food Sciences: *Judith Zielinski, Frank Faber*

Proposals for New Courses

This full-year course would illustrate the scientific principles of food through lectures and labs. The course can be counted as a third year science credit or a Family and Consumer Science elective. Students majoring in food science, culinary arts, or nutrition would benefit from this course.

Marketing: *Jennifer Wademan, Frank Faber*

Most high schools in New York State offer this course as an elective. Voorheesville would offer Marketing as a half-year course. Students going into retail, restaurant or hotel management, or business majors would benefit from this course.

Business Law II: *Heather Garvey, Frank Faber*

The Business Law course has grown steadily over the past three years, and students have expressed interest in the Business Law II course. This course would benefit students majoring in law or business.

Senior Studies Program: *Thomas Gladd, Brian Stumbaugh*

The course would offer a combination of English 12, economics, government, and the senior community service requirement. Students will gain an understanding of the inter-connectedness of all discipline areas; an understanding of their career goals; and an easier transition to the next phase of their education. It would also provide internship opportunities to students.

The Board said they would consider these proposals when planning the budget for the 2007-2008 school year.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

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Item 7.1 – Elementary School Report, *Kenneth Lein*

- Thanked Mr. Stumbaugh and Mr. Thanopoulos for leading the Elementary School curriculum mapping training on January 12.
- Will meet with Dr. Lester Rubenfell from RPI in February to discuss his work in K-12 mathematics.
- Dr. Robert Southworth will meet with Elementary School faculty on January 22 to discuss assessment and documentation.
- Thanked Mr. and Mrs. Russell Reimer for their \$75.00 donation to the school library.

K. Lein

Item 7.2 – High School Report, *Mark Diefendorf*

- The mid-term exam schedule will be sent home to parents next week.
- Dr. Randy Cale, a clinical psychologist, will conduct a parenting seminar on Wednesday, January 10 at 7:00 PM.
- The National Honor Society inducted 35 new members on Saturday, January 6. Ms. Sherry Burgoon was the keynote speaker.

M. Diefendorf

Item 7.3 – Middle Level Report, *Theresa Kennedy*

- Thanked Jennifer Wademan for offering the services of her Computer Tools Class to create artwork submitted by kindergarten and first grade students. Ms. Wademan's class wrote stories about the artwork.
- Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 participated in the "Penny Wars". The money raised will be donated to the Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center.

T. Kennedy

Item 7.4 – Assistant to the Superintendent for Business, *Sarita Winchell*

- The closing for the public library land purchase has taken place and went smoothly.
- The results of the Middle School/High School walk-through were provided for the Board's review. Corrective action was taken on all items of concern. An Elementary School walk-through has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 10 at 3:00 p.m.
- Discussed the fund balance for the current year and expects the District will replicate the \$240,000 fund balance at the end of this year. Mrs. Winchell will review revenues with the Board in March.

S. Winchell

Item 6.5 – Operations, Maintenance, and Transportation Report, *Michael Goyer*

- Transportation staff is required to attend a safety meeting on January 25 focusing on Youth at Risk.

M. Goyer

L. Langevin

Item 7.6 – Superintendent’s Report, Linda Langevin

- Work continues on the curriculum initiative. The Steering Committee is defining District Goals and will report to the Board at the regular March meeting.
- Dr. Willard Daggett will present the keynote speech at the March 16 Staff Development Day, and he will work with the faculty on the curriculum initiative.
- The Technology Committee will be reviewing the SchoolTools Student Information System.

BOE Committee Reports

Item 8.1 – Building Project and Facilities Committee Report, R. Brackett, C. J. Coffin

- Discussed the capital project and their participation in the walk-through in both buildings.

Item 8.2 – Curriculum Committee, D. Gibson, K. Kroencke, P. Pierce

- Discussed redesigning District hiring procedures and review of evaluations for teachers receiving tenure this year.

Item 8.3 – Planning & Governance Committee, D. Gibson, C.J. Coffin, T. McKenna

- The committee has been working to develop new policies and revise old policies, if necessary.
- A new Whistleblower Policy will be reviewed in February.

Item 8.4 – Audit Committee, D. Gibson, G. Hubert, C.J. Coffin

- Discussed the function of the audit committee, the internal auditor and the claims auditor.
- Announced a significant reduction in purchasing errors this year.
- Will continue to analyze the School Lunch Program.

Item 8.5 – Negotiations Committee, C.J. Coffin, Kevin Kroencke

- Negotiations with the VTA will begin in February
- The committee will interview for the position of Chief Negotiator on January 11.

Mr. Gibson left a 9:35 p.m.

APPROVED

BOE Policy 8635
2nd Reading
Approved

Item 8.6 – Board of Education Policy 8635, Information Security Breach and Notification-2nd Reading

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried by a 6-0 vote, the Board approved Policy 8635, Information Security Breach and Notification as presented in the enclosure folder.

Aged Exemption Sliding Scales

July '06 – July '09

Item 8.7 – Aged Exemption Sliding Scales

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried by a 6-0 vote, the Board approved the resolution to amend the Aged Exemption sliding scales for a four-year period effective July 1, 2006, July 1, 2007, July 1, 2008, and July 1, 2009, as presented at the special public hearing held on January 8, 2007.

Disabled w/Limited Income Exemption Sliding Scales

July '06 – July '09

Item 8.8 – Disabled Persons with Limited Income Exemption Sliding Scales

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Brackett and carried by a 6-0 vote, the Board approved the resolution to amend the Disabled Persons with Limited Income Exemption sliding scales for a four-year period, effective July 1, 2006, July 1, 2007, July 1, 2008, and July 1, 2009, as presented at the special public hearing held on January 8, 2007.

Option Agreement – VCSD/VPL
TABLED

Item 8.9 – Option Agreement between Voorheesville CSD and Voorheesville Public Library

Tabled for discussion in Executive Session

OSC – Corrective Action Plan

Item 9.1 – OSC Corrective Action Plan

On a motion by Ms. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Brackett and carried by a 6-0 vote, the Board approved the corrective action plan for the audit of July 1, 2002 through August 15, 2005. Upon approval, the corrective action plan will be submitted to the Office of the New York State Comptroller in response to recommendations made by the Comptroller’s office.

Contract with International Center for Leadership in Education

Item 9.2 – Contract with International Center for Leadership in Education [ICLE]

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried by a 6-0 vote, the Board approved the agreement to provide Dr. Willard Daggett, President of the International Center for Leadership in Education, an honorarium of \$2,000 for his participation in the Staff Development Day on Education in the 21st Century, which will be held on March 16, 2007, as per the terms of the agreement and to authorize Linda Langevin as signatory for the agreement.

Professional Services for Capital Project

Item 9.3 – Professional Services for Capital Project

On a motion by Mr. Brackett, seconded by Mr. Hubert and carried by a 6-0 vote, the Board approved an agreement for professional services by Michael Sawyer, Senior Industrial Hygienist, C.T. Male, Inc., to assist in the capital project needs related to asbestos abatement, lead remediation, and PCB remediation effective January 9, 2007. The Board President, David Gibson will sign this agreement.

M. Sawyer
C.T. Male

Item 10.1 – Opportunity for the Board to Heard

There were no comments.

Opportunity for BOE
to be heard

Item 10.2 – Discussion re: Use of Board of Education Webpage

This item was tabled until February 12, 2007.

Discussion: Use of
BOE Webpage
TABLED

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Ms. Pierce and carried by a 6-0 vote, the Board moved into Executive Session at 9:47 p.m. for the purpose of discussing current litigation and the employment history of particular individuals.

Executive Session:
9:47 p.m.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 11:12 p.m.

Regular Session:
11:12 p.m.

Discussion was held regarding the status of the Middle School. It was noted that the fire exit in the hallway near the Performing Arts Center was blocked. Nothing should be in the hallways at any time as this creates a fire hazard.

Discussion:

Status of Middle
School

Mr. Schofield discussed the Option Agreement between the District and Voorheesville Public Library.

Option Agreement

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried by a 6-0 vote, the Board approved the following resolution to execute the Option Agreement as presented in the enclosure folder:

Option Agreement
between VCSD and
VPL

Approved

RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is authorized and directed to execute the attached Option Agreement between the Voorheesville Central School District and the Voorheesville Public Library, related to 78 Prospect Street, Voorheesville, New York.

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Ms. Pierce and carried by a 6-0 vote, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

Adjournment:
11:40 p.m.

President

Clerk, Board of Education