

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

**Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
**May 7, 2007**

**David M. Gibson, President**  
**High School Cafeteria**

**Page 1**

**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:**

Amanda Giminiani, Robert Giminiani, Nicole Bouvier, Alex Sotola, Dick Ramsey, Jim Cacciotti, Kathy Marton, Sharon Cillis, Mary Ann Jones, Stacy Giovangelo, Kelly McHale, Lynn Kelly, Mary Kelly, Vicky Polsonelli, Michelle Cillis, Jennifer Scott, David Adkins, Gail Sacco, Melissa Green, Chris Allard, Deb Baron, Laura Minnick, Mike Fanning, Don Van Cott, Kathy Fiero, Ann Biese, Dawn Mancuso, Mary Anne Milano, Martha Kemp, Laura Taggart, Robin Jacob, Linda Spina, Cameron Macdonald, Mike Snyder, Mike Goyer, Julie Mazzaferro, Dorothea Pfleiderer

Mr. Gibson 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.

**Item 2.1: Voorheesville Public Library 2007-2008 Budget Presentation, Gail Sacco**

Gail Sacco, Director of the Voorheesville Public Library, summarized the proposed library budget. She discussed the need for additional space to expand the building and to provide additional services. The total increase, including debt service, is 5.5%; the increase for library operations is 1.8%; total proposed budget for 2007-2008 is \$928,280. Mrs. Sacco concluded with a DVD presentation of youth activities provided by the public library.

**2007-2008 Budget Presentations:**

*Voorheesville Public Library*

**Item 2.2: Voorheesville School District 2007-2008 Budget Presentation, Linda Langevin**

Mrs. Langevin presented an overview of the proposed budget, which supports all current district programs and services. The three components of the budget – administrative, capital, and program – were reviewed and the bus purchase proposition discussed. The District is proposing a 2007-2008 budget of \$21,073,101.

*Voorheesville School District*

**Item 3: Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of April 2, 2007, the special meeting of April 17, 2007, and the special meeting of April 23, 2007.

**Approval of Minutes:**  
 04/02/07;  
 04/17/07  
 04/23/07

**Item 4.1: Visitors and Communication**

Mr. Gibson asked if there were any additional items from the Superintendent. Mrs. Langevin noted the following agenda changes:

**Additional items from Superintendent**

- Item 5.10 Correction of a typographical error in the resolution to appoint personnel for the budget vote/election
- Item 5.15 Addition: award of bid for three Chevrolet Suburbans
- Item 9.10 Addition: contract for special inspections at the elementary school
- Item 9.11 Addition: license agreement with Niagara Mohawk for land access
- Item 9.12 Addition: contract with Guilderland CSD for placement of a disabled student

**Item 4.2: Opportunity for students to address the Board**

There were no responses.

**Opportunity for Students to Address the Board**

**Item 4.3: Opportunity for the public to be heard**

Mr. Snyder complimented Mr. Kyle Turski for his help with the Community & School Foundation Gala. Mr. Cacciotti expressed appreciation to Mr. Diefendorf for being proactive about the speed limit in front of the High School, and he looks forward to the installation of the beacon lights to slow the traffic in front of the high school.

**Opportunity for Public to be Heard:**

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Ms. Pierce and carried unanimously, action item 5.1 was approved in its entirety.

**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:**WarrantsWarrants:

General Fund Warrant #17	\$ 1,129,283.80
General Fund Warrant #18	\$ 540,151.49
Trust & Agency Fund Warrant #8	\$ 1,131,265.17
School Lunch Fund Warrant #8	\$ 49,988.74
Federal Aid Fund Warrant #8	\$ 20,812.72

PayrollsPayrolls:

Payroll #20	\$ 415,373.01
-------------	---------------

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, action items 5.2 through 5.15 were approved.

Resignation**Item 5.2: Resignation**

A. Riddell

Accepted the resignation of Amy Riddell as Yearbook Advisor.

Effective: June 30, 2007

Reason: Personal

Substitute Teacher  
Appointment:**Item 5.3: Substitute Teacher Appointment**

A. Parker

Approved the appointment of Athena Parker as substitute teacher for the elementary school.

Effective: May 8, 2007

Salary: BOE approved per diem substitute teacher rate

BOCES Substitute  
Registry**Item 5.4: Substitute Teacher Appointments from BOCES Substitute Registry**Approved substitute teacher appointments for the 2006-2007 school year as presented by the Capital Region BOCES Substitute Registry as outlined in memo dated April 26, 2007 in the enclosure folder.Substitute Bus  
Driver:**Item 5.5: Substitute Bus Driver**

A. Guyer

Approved the appointment of Ann Guyer as a substitute bus driver.

Effective: April 23, 2007

Salary: Step 1 of UEV contract (\$12.20 per hour)

New Bus Route**Item 5.6: New Bus Route**

Approved the creation of a new bus route to provide transportation for two special needs students.

Effective: May 8, 2007.

Bus Driver  
Appointment**Item 5.7: Bus Driver Appointment**

J. Allard

Approved the appointment of James Allard as bus driver to fill the position created by the new bus route.

Effective: May 8, 2007

Salary: Step 1 of UEV contract (\$12.20 per hour)

CSE  
Recommendations**Item 5.8: CSE Recommendations**Approved recommendations by the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at meetings held on March 29, 2007, April 2, 2007, April 3, 2007, April 16, 2007, April 17, 2007, and April 18, 2007.Voting Machine  
Preparation:**Item 5.9: Voting Machine Preparation**

P. Barrowman

Approved the appointment of Paul Barrowman to prepare three voting machines for the School Budget Vote/Election and the Public Library Budget Vote/Election on Tuesday, May 15, 2007.

Fee: \$35.00 per machine

Personnel for  
Budget Votes &  
Election**Item 5.10: Action on Resolution Appointing Personnel for School/Library Budget Vote and Election: Tuesday, May 15, 2007**

Approved the resolution appointing personnel for the School/Library Budget Vote and Election on Tuesday, May 15, 2007, as outlined in the enclosure folder.

Transportation  
Requests**Item 5.11: Approval of Requests for Non-Public School Transportation**

Approved requests for non-public school transportation for seventy-three (73) students to private schools for the 2007-2008 school year as submitted in the enclosure year.

Contract for  
Health Services:**Item 5.12: Contract for Health Services with North Colonie Central School District**

N. Colonie

Approved the contract for health services provided to 5 students residing in the Voorheesville School District and attending schools located in the North Colonie School District. The contract is included in the enclosure folder, including a Cost Justification Sheet and invoice in the amount of \$1,951.20 (\$390.24 per student)

**Item 5.13: Summer 2007 Driver Education Appointments**

Approved the appointment of Jeffrey Young as instructor for the summer 2007 driver education program.

Effective: June 27 – August 10, 2007

Salary: \$12,240.00 (36 students @ \$340.00 per student)

Summer 2007  
Driver Education:

*J. Young*

**Item 5.14: Out-of-Town Student Field Trip Requests**

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

Senior Class Trip

Destination: Jenkinson's Beach; Pt. Pleasant, New Jersey

Date: Monday, June 11, 2007

Cost: \$30.00 per student

Requestor: Allison Belgiovine

Out-of-Town  
Student Field Trips

France Exchange Program

Destination: Sedan, France

Date: Wednesday, November 7 – Sunday, November 18, 2007

Cost: \$1,500 per student (estimate based on current exchange rates)

Requestor: Robert Streifer

**Item 5.15: Award of Bid for Three Chevrolet Suburbans**

Pending voter approval of the bus proposition, the Board of Education awarded the bid for three (3) Suburbans to Joe Basil Chevrolet, Inc., Depew, New York. Bids were as follows:

DePaula Chevrolet \$110,442

Joe Basil Chevrolet \$107,544

Bid Awards:

*Chevrolet Suburbans*

**SPECIAL REPORT**

**Item 6.1: Presentation on School Report Card Data, Michael Paolino**

Mr. Paolino presented highlights of the Voorheesville High School Report Card for the 2005-2006 school year. Voorheesville students scored very well on standardized tests and Regents exams, and those scores continue to improve each year. Mr. Paolino discussed graduation data. The graduation rate for New York State is 55%. In 2006, 92% of Voorheesville students received a Regents Diploma; 55% received a Regents Diploma with Advance Designation.

**SPECIAL  
REPORT**

*New York State  
School Report Card*

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**Item 7.1: Elementary School Report, Kenneth Lein**

- The Elementary School play, *Romeo and Harriet*, was excellent. Mr. Lein complimented Mr. Guerette and Ms. Studler for a wonderful job directing the students. He also recognized the dozens of parents who were involved.

*K. Lein*

**Item 7.2: High School Report, Mark Diefendorf**

- Steven Wang was named valedictorian and Richard Curreri salutatorian, of the 2007 graduating class.
- The final exam schedule for June will be distributed with progress reports this week.

*M. Diefendorf*

**Item 7.3: Middle Level Report, Theresa Kennedy**

- Complimented Jen Zeh for her work on the middle school drama production, *Honk*. The students did a great job.
- The Middle School Paper Recycling Project has collected 1,000 pounds of paper. Mr. Iannotti has led the students in this project.
- A second trip to the University at Albany's College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering is planned for May 10. Thirty students from grades 6, 7, and 8 will be attending.

*T. Kennedy*

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

- Mrs. Winchell discussed a change in health insurance plans which would result in an annual savings of \$21,000. Blue Cross PPO will replace the Community Blue program. Both the UEV and VTA presidents have taken the proposed change to their unions.
- Discussed the bond sale. Funding for the project is as follows: \$531,000 Capital Reserve; \$409,000 Excel Aid; and \$3,774,000 bond issue. The bond issue will be amortized with a declining debt schedule. The estimated interest cost will be approximately \$1,339,900.
- The Public Library will have a write-in vote for their vacant trustee seat on May 15. There will be a preliminary count of votes for the school and library budgets and winner of the School Board election. Once the library write-in votes are counted, there will be an official announcement of the results.

*S. Winchell*

**Item 7.5: Operations, Maintenance, and Transportation Report, Michael Goyer**

- Mr. Goyer reported that on April 27, he attended a meeting at the Department of Environmental Conservation regarding municipal storm systems.

*M. Goyer*

BOE  
COMMITTEE  
REPORTS

Facilities

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

- On April 19, members of the Facilities Committee, Mrs. Langevin, and Mike Fanning attended the PTA meeting to discuss the upcoming capital project with parents.
- A preconstruction meeting was held on April 25 with the approved contractors to discuss the timeline for the project. Construction meetings will be held bi-weekly as the starting date for the project gets closer.

Curriculum

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

- The Curriculum Committee will meet on May 10 to for an update on the development of the Middle School and to discuss the development of Literacy Circles, Arts in Education / Humanities Program and to review class size for subject areas at the MSHS.

Standard of  
Teaching Quality

**Item 8.3: Standard of Teaching Quality Committee**

- The Committee is working on a draft of the *Probation to Tenure Process*. A meeting will be scheduled to finalize the document.

Planning &  
Governance

**Item 8.4: Planning & Governance Committee, D. Gibson, C.J. Coffin, T. McKenna**

- The second reading of the Tobacco Policy will be presented for Board approval under item 8.7 on the agenda.

Audit

**Item 8.5: Audit Committee, D. Gibson, G. Hubert, C.J. Coffin**

- Henry Binzer did an audit of the School Lunch Fund and found a few deficiencies, which were addressed immediately. Mr. Binzer recommends a Point-of-Service program (swipe cards).

Negotiations

**Item 8.6: Negotiations Committee, C.J. Coffin, Kevin Kroencke**

- The negotiating teams have planned three additional sessions in May and June. Each group is reviewing the other's proposals and hope to see progress shortly.

Second Reading:  
Tobacco Policy  
[Approved]

**Item 8.7: Board of Education Policy 9330: Second Reading**

The Board reviewed the policy with revisions that were discussed at the April 2 meeting. On a motion by Ms. Pierce and seconded by Mr. Coffin, the Board approved the second reading of the Tobacco Policy as follows: Six (6) yes votes; one (1) no vote by Mr. Kroencke.

Tenure  
Recommendations

**Item 9.1: Tenure Recommendations**

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Ms. Pierce and carried unanimously, the following tenure resolutions were approved:

M. Green

9.1.1 Tenure recommendation for Mr. Kenneth Lein was tabled for Executive Session

9.1.2 **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, Linda M. Langevin, subject to New York State Education Law §3013, the following person is appointed to tenure effective September 1, 2007, in the stated tenure area:

**Melissa Green**  
Elementary Education

J. Baron

9.1.3 **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, Linda M. Langevin, subject to New York State Education Law §3013, the following person is appointed to tenure effective September 1, 2007, in the stated tenure area:

**Joan Baron**  
Special Education

B. Clair

9.1.4 **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, Linda M. Langevin, subject to New York State Education Law §3013, the following person is appointed to tenure effective September 1, 2007, in the stated tenure area:

**Brenda Clair**  
Elementary Education

J. Zeh

9.1.5 **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, Linda M. Langevin, subject to New York State Education Law §3013, the following person is appointed to tenure effective September 1, 2007, in the stated tenure area:

**Jennifer Zeh**  
Elementary Education

S. M. Fiato

9.1.6 **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, Linda M. Langevin, subject to New York State Education Law §3013, the following person is appointed to tenure effective September 1, 2007, in the stated tenure area:

**Stephen Matthew Fiato**  
Physical Education



Approval of  
Resolution to  
Install Flashing  
Light System:Route 85A at  
Middle School-  
High School**9.8: Traffic Concerns – Route 85A**

The Board discussed the proposal from the New York State Department of Transportation to install signage (flashing light system) to reduce the speed limit near the entrance of the Middle School/High School. DOT would pay for the signage and the District would pay \$1,200 a year for maintenance and electricity. DOT would also train the District in programming the sign.

On a motion by Ms. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Voorheesville School District authorize a flashing light system at the Middle School/High School as per the letter from Mark Kennedy, of the NYSDOT Region One Transportation Operations, dated April 16, 2007. An agreement is approved contingent upon school attorney review at an initial estimated cost of \$1,200.

Contract for  
Special Inspections  
POSTPONED**9.10: Contract for Special Inspections – Voorheesville Elementary School**

This item was postponed until the June 11, 2007 meeting.

Niagara Mohawk  
License Agreement  
re: Land Access**9.11: Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation License Agreement re: Land Access**

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, the Board approved a license agreement between Voorheesville Central School District and Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation for use of their land for access to the Elementary School during the building project. This land runs right next to the west side of the Elementary School building, and it will be necessary for the contractors to cross the land to get to the staging area. The Board authorized Superintendent Linda Langevin as signatory for this contract.

Contract with  
Guiderland CSD:Placement of  
Disabled Child**9.12: Contract with Guiderland Central School District for Placement of Disabled Student**

On a motion by Ms. Pierce, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the Board of Education approved a contract for placement of a disabled Voorheesville student in the Guiderland Central School District's Skills Development Program from February 12, 2007 through June 22, 2007. Voorheesville CSD agreed to pay Guiderland CSD the sum of \$16,408 for this service and authorized Board President David Gibson as signatory for this contract.

Executive Session  
10:35 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the Board entered into Executive Session at 10:35 p.m. for the purpose of discussing current litigation and the employment history of particular individuals.

Return to Regular  
Session:  
11:23 p.m.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 11:23 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the Board approved item 9.1.1, tenure recommendation.

Approval of  
Tenure  
Resolution:

K. Lein

**RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, Linda M. Langevin, subject to New York State Education Law §3013, the following person is appointed to tenure effective July 1, 2007, in the stated tenure area:

**Kenneth Lein**  
*Elementary School Principal*

Ms. Pierce left the meeting at 11:33 p.m.

Return to  
Executive Session:  
11:35 p.m.

The Board returned to Executive Session at 11:35 p.m. to consider current litigation and negotiations.

Return to Regular  
Session:  
12:50 a.m.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 12: 50 a.m.

On a motion by Mr. McKenna and seconded by Mr. Coffin the Board approved item 9.3, the Memorandum of Understanding between the Voorheesville Central School District and the Voorheesville Teachers' Association to allow teachers who have exercised their right to receive the retirement incentive, effective June 30, 2007, to continue to be eligible to have their children attend school in the District as though such retiree was an active employee entitled to the rights enumerated under Board Policy 5152, Admission of Non-Resident Students. The motion was approved by four (4) yes votes and two (2) no votes by Mr. Brackett and Mr. Kroencke.

MOU: Early  
Retirement Incentive  
Amendment  
**APPROVED**MOU: Technology  
Coord/Director of  
Spec. Ed.  
**APPROVED**

On a motion by Mr. McKenna and seconded by Mr. Kroencke, the Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Voorheesville Central School District and the Voorheesville Administrators' Association to recognize the position of District Technology Coordinator and the Director of Special Education under the Collective Bargaining Agreement (July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2008). The Board agreed to the stipulations outlined in the MOU. It is further agreed by and between the District and the Association that upon each incumbents' separation from service with the District, the salary and benefits under this agreement will cease to exist and will no longer be enforceable unless agreed to in whole or in part, in writing, by both the District and Association

The resolution was amended to include language that would allow the VTA to retain the position of District Coordinator of Technology upon Mr. Faber's severance of employment with the District. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

A motion was made by Mr. McKenna and seconded by Mr. Kroencke to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Voorheesville Central School District and the Voorheesville Administrators' Association to recognize the position of Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds/Transportation Supervisor under the Collective Bargaining Agreement (July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2008).

Effective: July 1, 2007

The motion was approved by five (5) yes votes and one (1) no vote by Mr. Brackett.

A motion was made by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously to approve the date of May 15, 2007 at 9:30 p.m. for a special Board meeting to consider changes in the employee health benefit plans.

A motion was made by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Hubert and carried unanimously to approve the date of Monday, July 2, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. for the Annual District Reorganizational Meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 a.m.

**MOU:** Supt. of  
Bldgs. & Grounds-  
Transportation  
Supv.  
**APPROVED**

**Approval of  
Special Meeting:**  
May 15, 2007; 9:30  
p.m.

**Approval of  
Reorganizational  
Meeting:**  
July 2, 2007; 7:30  
p.m.

**Adjournment:**  
1:05 a.m.

---

*President*

---

*Clerk, Board of Education*