

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

**Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
**November 13, 2006**

**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:**

Steven Relyea, Rosemary Wargo, Joe Wargo, Richard Wargo, Linda Pasquali, Mary Ann Jones, Ann Biese, Lisa Myers, Jim Cacciotti, Kathy Martin, Kelly Lendrum, Susan Cohen-Axelrod, Robert Burns, Sharon Siegel, Shelly Lindsay, Tanya Hensel, Kathy Fiero, Pam Standish, Deanna Socaris, Jillian Blair, Robin Jacob, Gail Sacco, Christine Gibson, McKay Roberts, Martha Mackey, Michael Goyer, Dorothea Pfliederer

Mr. Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:33 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:**  
 7:33 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Ms. Pierce and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of October 16, 2006.

**Approval of Minutes:**  
 10/16/06

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

- Item 4.2 Addition – Resignation of Matthew Fiato as Boys’ JV Basketball Coach
- Item 4.17 Addition – Tax Collector’s Report
- Item 4.18 Addition – NYSSBA membership information
- Item 8.4 Addition – Budget development calendar for 2007-2008
- Item 8.6 Addition – Resolution re: land acquisition

**Additional items from Superintendent**

Members of the History Club reported on a proposed field trip to Washington, D.C. in March of 2007. Approximately 20-25 students would be selected to participate. The purpose of the trip is to increase the students’ awareness of government and allow them to see the many events in history that are displayed in Washington, D.C. Mr. Gladd, the History Club advisor, presented an itinerary and said the club will make every effort to get the best transportation and accommodation prices. Student eligibility will be based on good academic standing.

**Opportunity for Students to be heard:**

*History Club*

Several students presented their reactions to the dress code. Concerns were expressed about the equitable enforcement of the dress code. Mr. Gibson said the dress code is a “work in progress”, and the administrative staff is doing its best to comply with the policy. The Board would like an update later in the year.

*Dress Code*

Mr. Gibson offered the public an opportunity to be heard. Mrs. Wargo and Mrs. Barone were dismayed about Mr. Robert Crandall’s return to work in the District. Mr. Gibson said the outcome of the case was beyond the Board’s control.

**Opportunity for Public to be heard:**

*E. Barone  
 R. Wargo*

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

**APPROVED**

**Item 4.1.1 – Accepted the treasurer’s reports as presented in the enclosure.**

*Treasurer’s Reports*

**Item 4.1.2 – Accepted the following warrants and payrolls:**

**Warrants:**

General Fund Warrant #7	\$ 1,127,170.48
General Fund Warrant #8	\$ 499,672.39
Trust & Agency Fund Warrant #3	\$ 1,167,996.17
Capital Fund Warrant #3	\$ 161,395.12
School Lunch Fund Warrant #3	\$ 37,298.23
Federal Aid Fund Warrant #3	\$ 26,447.31

*Warrants*

**Payrolls:**

Payroll #9	\$ 420,827.86
Payroll #10	\$ 442,587.87

*Payrolls*

**Item 4.2 – Resignations:**

Accepted the following resignations:

**Resignations:**

David Burch, Boys' Freshman Basketball Coach  
Effective: November 5, 2006  
Reason: Accepted position as Boys' JV Basketball Coach

M. Fiato Matthew Fiato, Boys' Junior Varsity Basketball Coach  
Effective: November 9, 2006  
Reason: Personal

**Parental Leave Request:**

P. Barcher

**Item 4.3– Parental Leave Request**

Approved the request of Pauline Barcher, Special Education Teacher, for parental leave of absence pursuant to Article 8.8 of the VTA Contract. Leave to commence on or about January 15, 2007, with an expected return to work on March 12, 2007. Sick days will be used for six weeks of the leave. Unpaid leave under the Family Medical Leave Act is requested for the remaining two weeks. Mrs. Barcher reserves her right to extend the leave as per the terms of the VTA Agreement [Section 8.8.5.1]

**Emergency Conditional Sub. Appointments****Item 4.4 – Emergency Conditional Substitute Appointments**

Approved the following substitute appointments [Elementary School] on an emergency conditional basis pending fingerprint clearance through OSPRA, effective November 14, 2006:

M. Sundeen Michele Sundeen, Substitute Teaching Assistant  
Salary: \$65.00 per day

Michele Sundeen, Substitute Nurse  
Salary: \$75.00 per day

K. Curren Kathryn Curren, Substitute Teaching Assistant  
Salary: \$65.00 per day

**BOCES Substitute Registry:****Item 4.5 – 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. Memos dated August 3, 2006, September 11, 2006, and November 2, 2006 in the enclosure folder.

**Coaching Appointments:****Item 4.6 – Coaching Appointments: 2006-2007**

Approved the following coaching appointments for the 2006-2007 school year:  
[Salaries in accordance with the VTA Coaching Salary Schedule]

<u>David Burch</u>	Boys' JV Basketball	Year 1 @ Step 1 = \$2,286
<u>Andres Karins</u>	Boys' Freshman Basketball	Year 1 @ Step 1 = \$1,857
<u>Mary Catellier</u>	Girls' Freshman Basketball	Year 1 @ Step 6 = \$2,325

**Learn-to-Swim Appointments:****Item 4.7 – Learn-to-Swim Appointments**

Approved the following student appointments for the Learn-to-Swim Program, effective November 14, 2006:

<u>Andrea Schwartz</u>	Instructor	\$8.50 per hour
<u>Duncan Genter</u>	Instructor	\$8.50 per hour
<u>Nathan Alft-Lafond</u>	Lifeguard	\$8.50 per hour

**Driver Education Appointments:****Item 4.8 – Fall 2006 Driver Education Appointments**

Approved the appointment of fall 2006 driver education instructors:

J. Young Jeffrey Young  
Effective: September 21, 2006 – January 19, 2007  
Salary: \$4,710.00  
Classroom: 24 students @ \$52.50  
Car Section: 12 students @ \$287.50

W. Van Alstyne William Van Alstyne  
Effective: September 21, 2006 – January 19, 2007  
Salary: \$3,450.00  
Car Section: 12 students @ \$287.50

**Item 4.9 – Out-of-Town Student Field Trip Requests**

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

Out-of-Town  
Student Field  
Trips

National History Club Washington, D.C. Field Trip

Destination: Washington, D.C.  
Date: Thursday, March 15 – Sunday, March 18, 2007  
Cost: \$350 per student  
Requestor: Thomas Gladd, Jeanne Waters

North American Music Festival

Destination: Virginia Beach, Virginia  
Date: Thursday, April 19 – Sunday, April 22, 2007  
Cost: \$425 per student  
*Students will have the opportunity to raise funds to decrease the cost of the trip*  
Requestor: Christopher Jantson, Mary Abba-Gleason

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

**Item 4.10 – CSE Recommendations**

Approved the recommendations of the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at meetings held on October 13, 2006, October 24, 2006, and October 25, 2006.

CSE  
Recommendations:

**Item 4.11 – Renewal of Contracts/Agreements: Use of Facilities by American Red Cross**

Approved the agreement between the Voorheesville Central School District and the American Red Cross permitting the Red Cross use of school property, grounds, and equipment for mass care shelters or service centers required in the conduct of Red Cross Disaster Relief activities as described in the enclosure folder; and authorized Board President, David Gibson to sign the agreement on behalf of the District.

Agreement:  
Use of Facilities –  
American Red  
Cross

The Red Cross agrees to replace or reimburse the School District for any supplies or equipment used in the conduct of its relief activities in mass shelters or service centers.

**Item 4.12 – Conference Request**

Approved attendance of the following persons to the conference listed below:

Conference  
Request:

Conference Title: BOCES Annual Legal Update  
Location: Saratoga Hotel & Conference Center, Saratoga Springs, NY  
Date: Friday, December 8, 2006  
Cost: \$100.00 per person  
Requestors: Linda Langevin, C. James Coffin

**Item 4.13 – Superintendent’s Salary: 2006-2007**

Approved an increase in salary of 3.5% for the 2006-2007 school year. This amount reflects a dollar increase of \$4,375 for this time period and is effective July 1, 2006.

Superintendent’s  
Salary Increase

**Item 4.14 – Corrective Action Plan: External Audit**

Approved the corrective action plan to the 2005-2006 external audit as presented in the enclosure folder.

Corrective Action  
Plan: External  
Audit

**Item 4.15 – Acceptance of Technology Donations**

Gratefully accepted the following donations to be received by the Technology Department:

Technology  
Donations

<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Value</i>
	<i>Donated by Thomas McKenna</i>	
1	Boston Acoustics Digital Media Theater Sound System	\$ 150
1	HP LaserJet Series II Printer – SN: FHGo4421	\$ 50
1	Gateway Computer Pentium II w/Monitor, Keyboard & Mouse	\$ 100
2	Computers – Generic Pentium II w/Monitor, Keyboard & Mouse	\$ 200
		<i>Both Computers</i>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>

**Item 4.16 – Tax Warrant Adjustments**

Tax Warrant  
Adjustments

Approved the following tax warrant adjustments to amend the tax warrant in the amount of \$14,418,690.14 to \$14,417,534.09 (a decrease of \$1,156.05).

1. Town of New Scotland – Clerical error in exemption status
  - a. Gerald Lenseth  
Exemption Status adjusted  
Reduction in school taxes \$356.81  
Reduction in library taxes 21.91  
**Total \$ 378.72**
2. Town of Guilderland – Supreme Court Decision/Small Claims Assessment Review
  - a. Jean Joel: 2006-2007  
Reduction in assessment from \$437,500 to \$400,000  
Reduction in school taxes \$732.36  
Reduction in library taxes 44.97  
**Total \$ 777.33**  
  
Reduction in assessed value for 2005-2006  
Refund in taxes paid  
Reduction in school taxes \$2,430.01  
Reduction in library taxes 143.68  
**Total \$ 4,573.69**
  - b. Albert Pistana: 2005-2006  
Reduction in assessed value from \$576,300 to \$450,000  
Reduction in school taxes \$721.50  
Reduction in library taxes 42.66  
**Total \$ 746.16**

Acceptance of Tax  
Collector's Report

**Item 4.17 – Acceptance of Tax Collector's Report**

Accepted the Tax Collector's report for the 2006-2007 school year as presented.

NYSSBA  
Membership

**Item 4.18 – New York State School Boards Association Membership**

Approved membership in the New York State School Boards Association [NYSSBA] for calendar year 2007 as presented in the enclosure folder.  
Annual Dues: \$5,765

**SPECIAL  
REPORTS**

ELA Results:  
Grades 3-8

**Item 5.1 – Special Report on NYS Grades 3-8 Tests, Michael Paolino**

Mr. Paolino's report highlighted significant findings regarding student performance across all grade levels. He presented a district analysis of the ELA assessments for grades 3-8 and discussed how to use the data to improve instruction techniques.

MSHS Needs

**Item 5.2 – Special Report on Middle/High School Needs for 2006-2007, Mark Diefendorf**

Mr. Diefendorf discussed the needs of the Voorheesville Middle/High School students during the 2006-07 school year. A guidance plan will be presented at the December Board meeting, including: a plan to make the curriculum relevant to the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace, and helping students transition from elementary to middle school and middle school to high school.

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
REPORTS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**Item 6.1 – Elementary School Report, Kenneth Lein**

Mr. Lein

- Noted that parent attendance for American Education week was significantly lower than last year. Mr. Lein will discuss this with the Site-Based Team to determine a way to encourage greater parent participation.
- Elementary activity nights begin on Friday, November 17.
- Mr. Lein reported on the issue of parents dropping children off before school. Fewer children are arriving early and some of the parents are waiting with their children. He will continue to monitor the situation.

**Item 6.2 – High School Report, Mark Diefendorf**

Mr. Diefendorf

- A team of 38 students attended the Model UN at Brown University in Rhode Island on November 10-12.
- Twenty students left for Spain on Wednesday, November 8.
- The Drama Club presented their one-act plays on the weekend of November 11.

**Item 6.3 – Middle Level Report, Theresa Kennedy**

Ms. Kennedy

- The Middle School Scholastic Book Fair was held November 1 through 3. The profits will go to the library. The total sales increased by 17% over last year's sales.
- The trip to NanoCareer Day was a great success. Four students will be reporting to the Board at the December meeting.
- Sixth grade science teacher, John Curren, was chosen to be a member of the Tech Valley Summer Camp Committee. He will work with selected students and bring new ideas back to Voorheesville.

- Jen Wademan, Computer Tools Teacher, has started a program where elementary students provide artwork and sixth graders create stories to accompany the art. Ms. Kennedy complimented Ms. Wademan for her creative ideas and real-life applications in technology.

**Item 6.4 – Assistant to the Superintendent for Business, *Sarita Winchell***

Discussed the following items:

- Cooperative Purchase resolution with BOCES presented for approval under item 8.3 on the agenda.
- A new, cashless system for students to buy food in the cafeteria, which had been demonstrated earlier in the day. Parents would have the ability to pay for their childrens' meals through the District website. The Board asked that Mrs. Winchell investigate similar systems for comparison purposes.
- The Tax Collector's report for 2006.

*Mrs. Winchell*

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

- It Takes a Village...to Train a Driver, Mr. Goyer's report on the hiring and training of bus drivers, was discussed. Training is a lengthy and expensive process. The majority of the training is done during the summer months, when possible.
- Marianne Lenseth has been certified as a 19A examiner – she is now eligible to train and test bus driver trainees.

*Mr. Goyer*

**Item 6.6 – Superintendent's Report, *Linda Langevin***

- There will be a presentation on the Washington, D.C. "School Reinvention Symposium" at the December Board meeting.
- The Arts in Education Program will be integrated into the Humanities Program with Mrs. Lydia Tobler as the coordinator.

*Mrs. Langevin*

On a motion by Mr. Hubert, seconded by Ms. Pierce and carried unanimously, the following items were approved:

**Item 8.1 – Tenure Recommendation**

Approved the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, Linda M. Langevin, subject to New York State Education Law §3013, to appoint the following person to tenure, effective October 1, 2006, in the stated tenure area:

*Lisa Spadinger*  
*Special Education Teacher*

*Tenure  
Recommendation:*

*L. Spadinger*

**Item 8.2 – Approval of Amendments to Board of Education Policies**

Approved the amendments to the following Board of Education policies:

- Policy 6700: Purchase Policy
- Policy 6740: Purchasing Procedures
- Policy 6800: Payroll Procedures

*Amendments to BOE  
Policies*

**Item 8.3 – Resolution re: BOCES Cooperative Purchasing for Food and Cafeteria**

**WHEREAS**, the Cooperative Purchasing Service is a plan of a number of public school districts in the Capital Region BOCES Area in New York, to bid jointly cafeteria supplies including but not limited to food and paper items, and

**WHEREAS**, the Voorheesville Central School District is desirous of participating with other districts in the Capital Region BOCES in the joint bidding of the items mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-o, and

**WHEREAS**, the Voorheesville Central School District wishes to appoint the Capital Region BOCES to advertise for bid, accept, tabulate bids and award bids on their behalf; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Voorheesville Central School hereby appoints the Capital Region BOCES to represent it in all matters relating above, and designates the Daily Gazette Newspaper as the legal publication for all Cooperative Purchasing bid notifications, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Voorheesville Central School District authorizes the Capital Region BOCES to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned commodities, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Voorheesville Central School District agrees to (1) assume its equitable share of the costs of the Cooperative Bidding; (2) abide by majority decisions of the participating districts; (3) abide by the Award of the BOCES Board; (4) and that after the award of the bid it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

*Resolution re:  
Cooperative  
Purchasing for Food  
and Cafeteria*

2007 Budget  
Development  
Calendar

**Item 8.4 – 2007 Budget Development Calendar**

Approved the 2007 budget development calendar as proposed in the enclosure folder.

**Item 8.5 – Contract with World Changers**

Contract:  
*World Changers*

Authorized Superintendent Linda Langevin to sign a contract with World Changers for use of the High School building July 7, 2007 through July 14, 2007 as outlined in the enclosure folder.

Bond Resolution:  
*Land Acquisition  
VPL*

**Item 8.6 – Action on Bond Resolution re: Acquisition of Land by Voorheesville Public Library**

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Ms. Pierce and carried unanimously, the Board of Education approved the resolution dated November 13, 2006, authorizing the issuance of not exceeding **\$150,000** bonds of Voorheesville Central School District, Albany, County, New York, to pay the cost of the acquisition of land by the Voorheesville Public Library for a library building project. The complete resolution is attached to these minutes.

Executive Session:  
*9:48 p.m.*

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, the Board moved into Executive Session at 9:48 p.m.

Return to Regular  
Session: *11:50 p.m.*

The Board returned to Regular Session at 11:50 p.m.

Adjournment:  
*11:51 p.m.*

On a motion by Ms. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 11:51 p.m.

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*President*

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*Clerk, Board of Education*