

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

**Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
**December 11, 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, Michaela Conway, Linda Conway, Mike Clark, Dan Clark, Linda Pasquali, Mary Anne Milano, Sharon Cillis, Tony Thanopoulos, Christine Cashin, Alexandra Childs, Sarah Miller, Kerry Shanley, Doug Shanley, Paul Standish, Rita Okoniewski, Paul Kaloyeros, Nick Kaloyeros, Patrick Corrigan, Ann Biese, Chris Allard, Kathy Fiero, David Adkins, Robert Denman, Jim Cacciotti, Susan Podgorski, Peg Flanders, Sara Hotopp, Rachel Dutil [*The Altamont Enterprise*], Dorothea Pfleiderer

Mr. Gibson 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.

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of November 13, 2006.

**Approval of Minutes:**  
 11/13/06

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

- Item 4.12 Addition – Leave request – Deborah Frederick
- Item 8.2 Changes/corrections in language: Policy 0340
- Item 8.4.1 Clarification of language: Policy 9551
- Item 8.4.2 Clarification: Policy 8635
- Item 8.7 Addition: Special hearing – January 8, 2007  
 re: Aged Exemption and Disabled Persons with Limited Income Sliding Scale

**Additional items from Superintendent**

Middle School students Danny Clark, Michaela Conway, and Nick Kaloyeros reported on their trip to the Albany College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering. Fifteen 7<sup>th</sup> graders and fifteen 8<sup>th</sup> graders attended NanoCareer Day on October 17. The students were given a tour of the facility where they learned about nanochips and how they are used for technology. Ms. Kennedy hopes to take another middle school group to the facility in the spring of 2007.

**Opportunity for Students to be heard:**

*MS Students re: NanoCareer Day*

Mr. Gibson offered the public an opportunity to be heard. Mr. Cacciotti commented on a recent newspaper article regarding Robert Crandall's assignment in developing the PE curriculum when he returns in January. He asked that Mr. Crandall be given the resources to develop a much needed curriculum that would also address the needs of special education students.

**Opportunity for Public to be heard:**

*R. Cacciotti*

**APPROVED**

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

*Treasurer's Reports*

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

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

*Warrants*

*Payrolls*

Warrants:

General Fund Warrant #9	\$ 1,705,731.14
General Fund Warrant #10	\$ 532,157.27
Trust & Agency Fund Warrant #4	\$ 1,127,849.60
Capital Fund Warrant #4	\$ 6,998.00
School Lunch Fund Warrant #4	\$ 33,055.75
Federal Aid Fund Warrant #4	\$ 98,848.06

Payrolls:

Payroll #11	\$ 411,826.83
Payroll #12	\$ 410,155.38

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the following item was approved:

Audit Committee  
Minutes**Item 4.2 – Audit Committee Minutes**

Accepted the minutes of the Audit Committee as presented in the enclosure.

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

Resignations:**Item 4.3– Resignations**

B. Pierce

Accepted the resignation of Brent Pierce, Modified Wrestling Coach.

Effective: November 17, 2006

Reason: Accepted position as varsity assistant wrestling coach

Substitute  
Appointments:**Item 4.4 – Substitute Appointments**

M. Fraterrigo

## 4.4.1 Substitute Teacher

Approved the appointment of Maria Fraterrigo as a per diem substitute teacher [Elementary School, 1.0 FTE]. Ms. Fraterrigo will replace Kelly Lendrum during her parental leave.

Effective: December 21, 2006 – April 4, 2007

Salary: \$125.00 per day

A. Praga

## 4.4.2 Substitute Maintenance Teacher

Approved the appointment of Anthony Praga, Custodial Worker, as a four-hour per day substitute buildings and grounds maintenance worker, to replace four hours of his custodial worker time, on an as-needed basis. This is due to employee illness.

Effective: December 12, 2006

Salary: Step 1 of UEV Contract = \$15.01 per hour

Substitute  
Custodial  
Appointment:**Item 4.5 – Substitute Custodial Appointment**

B. Donnelly

Approved the appointment of Bryan Donnelly as substitute custodial worker. This appointment is due to the medical absence of a custodian and is not an additional position.

Effective: December 12, 2006

Salary: Step 1 of UEV Contract = \$10.13 per hour

19A Examiner**Item 4.6 – 19A Examiner**

M. Lenseith

Appointed Marianne Lenseith as a New York State 19A Examiner for the school district for a \$500 stipend, to be prorated, per the UEV contract Section 24.11. Mrs. Lenseith completed all training and examinations. The effective date of the appointment and stipend shall be December 12, 2006. The position of 19A Examiner is required by law.

Coaching  
Appointments**Item 4.7 – Coaching Appointments: 2006-2007**

Approved the following coaching appointments for the 2006-2007 school year.

[Salaries in accordance with the VTA Coaching Salary Schedule]

Brent Pierce

Varsity Assistant Wrestling Coach

Year 1 @ Step 5 = \$2,631

John Curran

Modified Wrestling Coach

Year 1 @ Step 6 = \$1,699

BOCES Substitute  
Registry**Item 4.8 – 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 November 30, 2006.

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

CSE  
Recommendations**Item 4.9 – CSE Recommendations**

Approved recommendations by the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at meetings held on November 2, 2006, November 8, 2006, November 9, 2006, November 14, 2006, November 16, 2006, November 21, 2006, November 29, 2006, and November 30, 2006.

Spring 2007  
Continuing Ed.  
Program**Item 4.10 – Spring Continuing Education Program**

Approved the spring 2007 Continuing Education Program as presented in the enclosure folder.

Continuing Ed.  
Program Assistant:**Item 4.10.1 – Continuing Education Assistant**

L. Hladun

Approved the appointment of Linda Hladun to assist in the preparation for the mailing of 5000 continuing education brochures.

Salary: \$10.50 per hour [10 hours total]

Tax Warrant  
Adjustments**Item 4.11 – Approval of Tax Warrant Adjustments**

Approved the following tax warrant adjustments to amend the tax warrant in the amount of \$14,417,534.09 to \$14,410,876.51 (a decrease of \$6,657.58):

1. Town of New Scotland: Small Claims – Decision of Hearing Officers			
a.	Peter Adams		
	Reduction in school taxes	\$778.71	
	Reduction in library taxes	47.82	
			Total \$826.53
b.	William Barone		
	Reduction in school taxes	\$361.43	
	Reduction in library taxes	47.82	
			Total \$383.62
c.	Timothy & Laura Blow		
	Reduction in school taxes	\$869.07	
	Reduction in library taxes	53.37	
			Total \$922.44
d.	William Clarke & Kristine Kelly		
	Reduction in school taxes	\$888.79	
	Reduction in library taxes	54.57	
			Total \$943.36
e.	Mary Ellen Kiernan		
	Reduction in school taxes	\$957.79	
	Reduction in library taxes	58.81	
			Total \$1,016.60
f.	Nathan Kullman		
	Reduction in school taxes	\$290.78	
	Reduction in library taxes	17.86	
			Total \$308.64
g.	Karen Papandrea		
	Reduction in school taxes	\$966.00	
	Reduction in library taxes	59.32	
			Total \$1,025.32
h.	Vincenzo & Paola Ragonese		
	Reduction in school taxes	\$226.72	
	Reduction in library taxes	13.92	
			Total \$240.64
i.	Kenneth & Andrea Stewart		
	Reduction in school taxes	\$72.28	
	Reduction library taxes	4.44	
			Total \$76.72
j.	Kathryn Wright		
	Reduction in school taxes	\$860.86	
	Reduction in library taxes	52.85	
			Total \$913.71

**Item 4.12 – Leave Request**

Approved the request of Deborah Frederick for leave under the Family Medical Leave Act.  
Effective: January 8, 2007 through February 23, 2007

Leave Request:

*D. Frederick*

**SPECIAL REPORTS**

**Item 5.1 – Special Report on the School Symposium: October 27-29, 2006**

*Patrick Corrigan, Mary Ann Milano, Susan Podgorski, Christine Cashin, Dan Calhoun, Brian Stumbaugh*  
Mr. Corrigan used a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate the experiences of the Symposium Group during their trip to Washington, D.C. in late October. They attended the *School Reinvention Symposium* and were exposed to data regarding trends relevant to education; how other districts have addressed these trends in innovative ways; and collaboration with facilitators from the International Center for Leadership in Education [ICLE], the sponsoring organization. Discussion included how the global economy is affecting education. Mrs. Cashin and Mrs. Podgorski discussed the Superintendent’s Conference Day held on December 4, at which time the Symposium Group presented these ideas to the K-12 faculty – the feedback was positive, and the initiative will continue at the March 16 Superintendent’s Conference Day. The group will meet on December 19 to discuss the selection of an inspirational speaker for March 16.

**SPECIAL REPORTS**

*School Reinvention Symposium*

**Item 5.2 – Analysis of Math Assessment for Grades 3-8**

Mr. Paolino presented data on the 2005-2006 math assessment for students in grades 3 through 8. His report highlighted significant findings regarding student performance across all grade levels. Mr. Paolino also discussed the New York State Education Department aggregate report summarizing performance, based on grade level, as well as individual student groups.

*Math Assessments: Grades 3-8*

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

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

- Mr. Lein talked about “Rigor and Relevance”. A lot of time has been spent on this idea at the elementary school. Students attended a kindness and spirit assembly on November 22.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

*K. Lein*

- The Site Based Management Team is working on bringing peace to the school buses to help the drivers pay attention to driving.
- Mr. Lein gave an update on the morning supervision issue. The number of students arriving before the doors open has decreased to approximately 20 students. Providing supervision for these students has not impacted the Kids' Club program. Mr. Lein recommended appointing Mrs. Relyea to continue her before-school supervision duties from 8:15 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. for a 60 day period.

Increase in Hours:  
C. Relyea  
[E.S. Student  
Supervision]

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the Board approved increasing daily hours from five (5) hours per day to five and one-quarter (5¼) hours per day for Carol Relyea for the purpose of supervising students from 8:15 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. This appointment would be effective for 60 days beginning December 12, 2006.

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

M. Diefendorf

- The American Legion's Oratorical contest was held on December 5. Laura Amato took first place and placed second at the Albany County level on Saturday, December 9. She will move on to the district level.
- The Guidance Office will sponsor a financial aid workshop on Wednesday, December 13.
- National Honor Society induction will be held on Saturday, January 6, 2007.

Proposal:

Additional School  
Support Personnel

**Item 6.2.1 – Proposal for Additional School Support Personnel**

Mr. Diefendorf discussed the proposal for the addition of school support personnel, which would provide more time for school counselors to focus on the individual needs of every student. He described the need for meaningful transition from grade 5 to grade 6, and grade 8 to grade 9. The plan objective and staffing implications were described. The Board asked for more information to better assess the rationale for this proposal. Mr. Diefendorf said he would report on schools that have already adopted this kind of program, and request information from the Successful Practices Network that specifically deals with transition programs.

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

T. Kennedy

- Described the Mix-it-Up Lunch Day on November 14. Students were assigned to different tables for lunch to provide them an opportunity to make new friends. Beginning December 11, every Monday will be Mix-it-Up Monday.
- The Middle School Program is in its fifth year. The faculty and staff are reviewing the original action plan and will start to form a Middle School Mission Statement with input from parents and the community. Ms. Kennedy will give a full report on the action plan in January.

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

S. Winchell

- Reported on Driver Education costs as requested at the November meeting.
- Reported on the School Lunch Fund. The District has lost money, with health insurance costs being the largest factor contributing to this loss; however, the losses have been cut by 2/3. Mrs. Winchell described measures being taken to increase school lunch profits: ex. \$5,700 per year is being saved by making our own pizza; healthy vending machines are showing a net profit of \$48 - \$54 per day. Mr. Coffin asked Mrs. Winchell to provide an update on the data at the March 2007 Board meeting.

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

M. Goyer

Mrs. Winchell reported in Mr. Goyer's absence.

- The Elementary School walk-through took place on November 15. A list was compiled as to changes that need to be made.
- Bus drivers were trained on the use of the bus wash facility.

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

L. Langevin

- Mrs. Langevin discussed her District-Wide Educational Plan for 2006-2011. This will be a useful document for the Board and will help with decisions in the future. Mrs. Langevin said she would welcome input from individual Board members and will share any comments or suggestions with the other members.
- Mrs. Langevin announced that she will soon have her own link on the District website.

Acceptance of  
Receipt of NYS  
Comptroller's Audit  
Report

**Item 8.1 – Acceptance of NYS Comptroller's Audit Report**

On a motion by Mr. Hubert, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, the Board of Education accepted receipt of the audit report by the New York State Comptroller for the period July 1, 2002 through August 15, 2005. Acceptance of receipt of this report is required by law.

Memorandum of  
Agreement:  
UEV Evaluation  
Instrument

**Item 8.2 – Memorandum of Agreement re: UEV Evaluation Instrument [Policy 0340]**

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the Board approved the Memorandum of Agreement between the United Employees of Voorheesville and the Voorheesville Board of Education dated December 11, 2006, regarding an evaluation instrument for use with UEV members through the end of the current contract [June 30, 2008] as noted in the memorandum.

**Item 8.3 – Use of Time and Expense Reimbursement for Superintendent**

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Brackett and carried unanimously, the Board authorized the Board President to approve, in writing, the use of time and reimbursement of expenses by the Superintendent of Schools in accordance with the Superintendent's contract and Board of Education Policy. This item was approved in accordance with the recommendation of the District Audit Committee. The full Audit Committee will review those expenses at their next meeting.

Use of Time and Expense Reimbursement for Superintendent

Board of Education Policies

**Item 8.4.1 – Board of Education Policy – Amendments**

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board approved the amendments to Policy 6830-R, Expense Reimbursement Regulation, as presented in the enclosure folder. This policy will continue to be amended in accordance with federal reimbursement rates for incidental expenses and mileage.

**Approved:**  
Policy 6830-R  
Expense Reimbursement

A motion was made by Mr. Coffin and seconded by Mr. McKenna to approve Policy 9551, Managerial/Confidential Benefit Policy. After discussion of the policy and the ambiguity of several articles, Mr. Coffin withdrew his motion to approve. The Board agreed to reconsider the amendments to the policy on January 8, 2007, with clarification in the language.

**Tabled:**  
Policy 9551  
M/C Benefits

**Item 8.4.2 – Board of Education Policy – First Reading**

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Brackett and carried unanimously, the Board approved the first reading of Policy 8635, Information Security Breach and Notification.

**First Reading:**  
Policy 8635  
Information Security Breach & Notification

**Item 8.4.3 – Board of Education Policy – Discussion**

Discussion was held regarding Policy 9330, Tobacco Use Policy, which will replace the former smoking policy. This policy is different because it includes all types of tobacco products. Mrs. Langevin noted that the policy would be posted on the school website with students, staff, and community members invited to offer input. Those comments will be offered to the Board to help in crafting the policy. The timeline for adoption is July 1, 2007.

**Discussion:**  
Policy 9330  
Tobacco Policy

**Item 8.5 – Approval of Siena College Endowed Scholarship Agreement**

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, the Board approved the agreement with Siena College to establish the Douglas MBA '66 and Cristine Lonnstrom Scholarship as outlined in the enclosure folder. The Board also authorized Superintendent Linda Langevin to sign the agreement on behalf of the school district.

Siena College Endowed Scholarship Agreement

**Item 8.6 – Rental of School Vehicles by the Town of New Scotland**

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried unanimously, the Board approved the rental of school vehicles by the Town of New Scotland for the transport of Senior Citizens as per the enclosure. It was noted that use of vehicles would be scheduled not to interfere with school schedules

Rental of School Vehicles by Town of New Scotland

**Item 8.7 – Special Hearing: Aged Exemption and Disabled Persons with Limited Income Sliding Scale**

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Hubert and carried unanimously, the Board approved a special hearing on Monday, January 8, 2007, at 7:15 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria to discuss the aged exemption and disabled persons with limited income sliding scales.

Special Hearing:  
Aged Exemption & Disabled Persons with Limited Income Sliding Scale

**Item 9.1.1 – Reinstatement of Board of Education Committee Reports – Discussion**

Mr. Gibson asked the Board members if they would like to reinstate an opportunity for Board of Education committees to give a monthly report under "Old Business" on the agenda. After discussion of this issue, the Board agreed to add these items to future agendas.

Reinstatement of BOE Committee Reports

**Item 9.2 – Use of Board of Education Webpage – Discussion**

This item was tabled until January 8, 2007.

Use of BOE Webpage Tabled

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Ms. Pierce and carried unanimously, the Board moved into Executive Session at 10:45 p.m. for the purpose of discussing current litigation and the employment history of particular individuals.

Executive Session:  
10:45 p.m.

Board President, David Gibson, returned the meeting to Regular Session at 12:12 a.m.

Regular Session:  
12:12 a.m.

On a motion by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Brackett and carried unanimously, the Board resolved to deny the VTA grievance dated November 22, 2006.

VTA Grievance:  
Denied

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Brackett and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 a.m.

Adjournment:  
12:20 a.m.

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President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk, Board of Education