

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

**Special Board of Education Meeting - Budget
 March 2, 2009**

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

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Board Members Present:

- David M. Gibson, President
- C. James Coffin, Vice Present
- Timothy E. Blow
- Cheryl L. Dozier
- Lisa A. Henkel
- Gary A. Hubert
- Kevin T. Kroencke

Board Members Absent:

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Raymond Colucciello, Sarita Winchell, Mark Diefendorf, Edward Diegel, Theresa Kennedy, Patrick Corrigan, Robin Jacob, Michael Goyer, Joseph Sapienza

OTHERS PRESENT:

Donna Fitzgerald, Steve Relyea, Chris Allard, Mary Ann Jones, Robert Denman, Pam Standish, Ed Hampston, Kathy Fiero, Dorothea Pfleiderer

Mr. Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:15 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:
 7:15 p.m.

Item 2: Coaching Appointments: 2008-2009

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Blow and carried unanimously, the Board approved the following coaching appointments for the 2008-2009 school year:

<u>David Lawrence</u>	JV Baseball	Year 1 @ Step 2 - \$2,004
<u>Theodore Simons</u>	Varsity Track Assistant	Year 1 @ Step 1 - \$1,773
<u>Ashley Trembley</u>	Modified Track	Year 2 @ Step 3 - \$1,525

Coaching Appointments:
 2008-2009

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

Appointments:

Item 3: Custodial Worker Appointment

Approved the appointment of Brian Peck as custodial worker effective March 3, 2009. (12-month position, 8 hours per day).

*B. Peck
 (Custodial Worker)*

Salary: Step 4 of the UEV Contract - \$11.40 per hour

Item 4: Substitute Bus Driver

Approved the appointment of Larry Cross as substitute bus driver effective March 3, 2009.

*L. Cross
 (Substitute Bus Driver)*

Salary: Step 1 of the UEV Contract - \$12.92 per hour

Item 5: 2009-2010 Budget Presentations

- Overview, *Dr. R. Colucciello*
 This evening's budget presentation was the third in a series that will culminate in a vote by the public on May 19. The administrative staff continues to look for ways to cut district spending; however, the final budget will be affected by: 1) the State budget; and 2) State and Federal stimulus packages.
- Update Status, *S. Winchell*
 Mrs. Winchell's update included comparing the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 budget changes, dollar amounts, and percentages. She discussed State Aide and the tax levy impact. Based on the Governor's proposal, the district is looking at a tax levy increase of 3.56% which does not include stimulus money. Mrs. Winchell discussed revenue estimates and reviewed the proposed staffing changes. The district will receive \$261,000 in federal money over two years; however, it is uncertain how that money will be used. In summary, the district is looking at a budget decrease of \$345,696 (-1.6%) for the 2009-2010 school year. These numbers could be affected by the State budget and stimulus packages.
- Elementary School Staffing, *E. Diegel*
 Mr. Diegel summarized the elementary school staff reductions that were presented in the preliminary budget. He discussed physical education at the elementary school: students are required to have 120 minutes of PE per week – our students are 13 minutes short. Recess can count as PE time if a PE teacher plans and supervises activities. The principals have worked on a plan to provide more teacher time for elementary physical education which will keep us in compliance with the NYS Learning Standards.
- Middle/High School Staffing, *M. Diefendorf*
 Mr. Diefendorf summarized the middle school/high school staff reductions presented in the preliminary budget. He noted that a number of teacher reductions are the result of classes that will no longer be offered due to decreased enrollment. In addition, aide time will be reduced by 15 hours per day and three high school secretaries will go from 12-month positions to 11-month positions.

**2009-2010
 BUDGET
 PRESENTATION
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- **Transportation, *M. Goyer***
Mr. Goyer referred to his memo to the Board with information on school bus drivers, bus routes, and student numbers. In summary, the transportation budget could be further reduced by exploring the following: increased walking distances, reduction of late bus runs, reduction of field trips, double tripping in areas of close proximity to the school buildings, and assessing the number of pick-up/drop-off locations allowed annually. Some of these options would require amending BOE Regulation 8411-R, School Bus Scheduling and Routing. Out-of-district transportation was discussed. Mr. Goyer continues to work with other districts to achieve the most efficient, cost effective transportation for our district.
- **Special Education, *R. Jacob***
Mrs. Jacob reported that she is hoping to bring four special education students who are enrolled in out-of-district programs this year back to Voorheesville in the 2009-2010 school year. This would be a significant reduction in special education spending. She cautioned that her program is “fluid” and costs can change depending on the needs of students or additional special education students moving into our district.
- **Physical Education, *J. Sapienza***
Mr. Sapienza presented a spreadsheet showing cost savings for athletic events. The dollar amounts were an average of sports officials’ fees and transportation costs for each event. He estimates that the district could save between \$3,105 and \$5,338.
- **Open Forum**
It was requested that Mrs. Winchell show the Board a breakdown of costs for supplies and contractual services. It was also requested that Dr. Colucciello work with other school superintendents to discuss what steps those districts are taking to develop budgets while focusing on student needs and learning standards.
Kathy Fiero requested that the Board consider delaying adoption of the budget from April 6 to April 20 to allow more time to determine what additional funding or stimulus packages might be available to the district.
- **Close, *Dr. R. Colucciello***
Dr. Colucciello said he and Mrs. Winchell would be meeting with area superintendents next week to discuss school budgets and the possibility of districts collaborating to reduce costs.

Superintendent Search Update

Item 6: Superintendent Search Update, *Mr. Gibson*

Mr. Gibson said that two groups interviewed seven superintendent candidates over the course of two evenings: February 3 and 4. On the recommendation of the groups, the full board interviewed the four finalists on February 24 and 26. The Board is now considering these candidates and hopes to make a final decision in the month of March.

Dates to Remember

Item 7: Dates to Remember

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| 7.1 Planning & Governance Meeting | Tuesday, March 3, 2009; 7:30 a.m.
District Office |
| 7.2 Regular Board of Education Meeting | Monday, March 9, 2009; 7:30 p.m.
7:30 PM
High School Cafeteria |
| 7.3 Special Budget Meeting | Monday, March 23, 2009; 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
High School Cafeteria |
| 7.4 Regular Board of Education Meeting
Adoption of 2009-2010 budget | Monday, April 6, 2009; 7:30 p.m.
High School Cafeteria |
| 7.5 Budget Hearing | Monday,
May 11, 2009; 7:30 p.m.
High School Cafeteria |
| 7.6 Budget Vote / Election | Tuesday, May 19, 2009; 2:00 – 9:30 p.m.
Middle School Foyer |

Executive Session:
9:00 p.m.

Regular Session:
11:00 p.m.

Adjournment:
11:02 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Dr. Dozier and carried unanimously, the Board moved into executive session at 9:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the employment history of particular individuals.

The board returned to regular session at 11:00 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 11:02 p.m.

President

Clerk, Board of Education

