

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting
March 9, 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:

None

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jennifer Scott, Laurie Lysenko, Donna Fitzgerald, Jeanne Young, Nadine Bassler, Kourtney Myers, Andrew Karins, Teri Altenhofen, Jon Glisson, Mary Ann Jones, Alan Wagner, Brian Bailey, Jerry Clark, Kathy Fiero, Scott Murray, Dave Adkins, Steve Relyea, Robert Denman, Dave Niner, McKay Roberts, Debbie Murray, Sheila Lobel, Richard Decker, Pam Standish, Wendy Relyea, Deb Baron, Ann Biese, Laura Minnick, Dorothea Pfleiderer

Mr. Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:38 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:
7:38 p.m.

Item 2: Special Recognitions

Model UN – Outstanding Delegate

Mr. Corrigan introduced Adam Katz who won the outstanding delegate award at the Model UN held at Yale University on January 22 – 25. Adam discussed his role at the Model UN as the delegate from Algeria. He thanked the Board for their support and for giving him the opportunity to meet with people from different countries, religions, and cultures.

Special Recognitions
Model UN – Outstanding Delegate

Wrestling Champion

Mr. Sapienza introduced Jerry Clark who won the Section 2 Division II championship for wrestling. He went on to represent VCSD at the New York State Wrestling Championships on February 28. Jerry is the first State qualifier from Voorheesville since 1986. He wrestled three matches at the competition.

Wrestling Champion

Odyssey of the Mind Teams

Ms. Kennedy introduced the Odyssey of the Mind teams. “Teach Yer Creature” (*Sawyer Cresap, Casey Morrison, Erika Niner, Alexis Moore, Karen Obertubbesing, and Gabrielle Liguori*) demonstrated their project which was to build a mechanical creature that acts like a real animal and learns five new tasks during a performance. “Lost Labor of Heracles” (*Sarah Murray, John Mackey, Lydia Parker, Alex Relyea, Matt Feller, Wolfgang Gehring, and Braeden Morrison*) described their project, a performance depicting Heracles’ 12 labors and a “lost labor” created by the team. The lost labor was “Cooking the Royal Octopus Stew”. Both teams thanked the Board for supporting the Odyssey of the Mind Program.

Odyssey of the Mind Teams

Item 3.1: Physical Education Curriculum Plan – J. Sapienza, Nadine Bassler

Ms. Bassler presented the Physical Education Curriculum Plan. Ms. Bassler and Mr. Sapienza worked with the VTA, Dennis McCormick, and Theresa Luyckx to design a plan that will comply with the Commissioner's Regulations for Physical Education and satisfy PE time requirements for students. The Board will be asked to approve the plan under Item 9.1 on the agenda. If approved, the plan will be forwarded to the State Education Department where it will be kept on file.

Physical Education Curriculum Plan

Item 3.2: Budget Update – R. Colucciello, S. Winchell

Dr. Colucciello reported that the Board has worked diligently to review and reduce district spending. For now, the budget remains the same as previously presented; however, we are awaiting information on the Federal Stimulus Plan. Mrs. Winchell said we will need more information on how the stimulus money may be used. There was discussion on whether to delay Board adoption of the 2009-2010 budget from April 6 to April 20. Dr. Colucciello advised that we should know more by the March 23 budget meeting and a decision can be made at that time.

Budget Update

Item 4: Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the regular February 9, 2009 meeting and the special budget meeting held on March 2, 2009.

Approval of Minutes:

Item 5.1: Opportunity for students to address the Board

There were no comments

*02/09/09
03/02/09*

Opportunity for
Students to Address
the BOE**Item 5.2: Opportunity for the public to be heard**

Comments and concerns.

- Scheduling: Parents and students should not be surprised when courses they signed up for are not being offer because we do not have the staff to teach them.
- Communications: Parents would like to know if courses might be cut next year.
- If the district receives more money than expected, does the Board have plans on how those funds would be spent? Dr. Colucciello said additional money might be used to restore positions and/or help the taxpayers.

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

Treasurer's Report:**Item 6.1.1: Treasurer's Report**

The Board accepted the Treasurer's Report as presented in the enclosure folder.

Warrants**Item 6.1.2: Warrants**

The following warrants were accepted:

Warrant:	Date:	Amount
Multifund Warrant #32:	January 30, 2009	\$ 435,157.69
Payroll Covering Warrant #33:	January 27, 2009	\$ 488,543.70
Multifund Warrant #34:	February 13, 2009	\$ 385,208.52
Payroll Covering Warrant #35:	February 11, 2009	\$ 470,097.04
Capital Fund Warrant #8:	January 30, 2009	\$ 67,673.74

Resignations:**Item 6.2: Resignations**

Accepted the following resignations:

Sheila Lobel Grade 6 Social Studies (21 years of service)
Effective: October 31, 2009
Reason: Retirement
S. Lobel

Kathryn Brennan Secondary Mathematics (9 years of service)
Effective: June 30, 2009
Reason: Retirement
K. Brennan

Annette Zemser Library-Media Specialist (12 years of service)
Effective: July 1, 2009
Reason: Retirement
A. Zemser

Leave Requests:**Item 6.3: Leave Request**

Approved the request of Jennifer Zeh (6th Grade English) for parental leave pursuant to Article 8.9 of the VTA agreement. The leave will commence on or about June 1, 2009, with an expected return to work on February 1, 2010. Ms. Zeh requests Family Medical Leave for 12 weeks from approximately September 2 through November 30, 2009.

J. Zeh

Custodial Worker:**Item 6.4: Custodial Worker Appointment**

Approved the appointment of Mary Rosenzweig as custodial worker effective March 10, 2009.

M. Rosenzweig

Salary: Step 5 of UEV Contract - \$11.74 per hour (8 hours per day; 12-month position)

Substitute
Appointments-
BOCES Registry**Item 6.5: Substitute Teacher Appointments from BOCES Substitute Registry**

Approved Capital Region BOCES Substitute Registry appointments for the 2008-2009 school year as presented in the enclosure folder.

CSE
Recommendations**Item 6.6: CSE Recommendations**

Approved the recommendations by the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at the meetings held on January 26, 2009 and January 28, 2009. The Board designates the Superintendent as signatory for health service contracts related to special education students' IEPs.

Coaching
Appointments**Item 6.7: Coaching Appointments**

Approved the following coaching appointments for the 2008-2009 school year:

Terrence Ryan JV Softball Year 4 @ Step 8 - \$2,803

Non-Resident
Student Admission
Requests**Item 6.8: Non-Resident Student Admission Requests**

Approved the following requests for admission of non-resident students for the 2009-2010 school year:

Meaghan Conley, Grade 6
Amanda Conley, Grade 3
Timothy Conley, Grade 1
Requestor: Christine Conley

Item 6.9: Approval of Out-of-Town Student Field Trip Request

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

Yorker Club – State History Interest Project

Destination: Kingston, New York

Date: Thursday, May 7 – Saturday, May 9, 2009

Cost: \$120 per student, school bus transportation (*the club will pay transportation costs*)

Requestor: Jamie McPherson, Advisor

Out-of-Town
Student Field Trip
Request

Item 6.10: Acceptance of Technology Donations

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

Technology
Donations

<u>Qty</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Value</u>
1	Panasonic WV-3260 ProLine Digital Studio Camera with remote and accessories: SN 72106076	\$ 240.00
1	Panasonic Portable Video Cassette Recorder (NV 8420) SN D6HA0062	30.00
1	Panasonic Portable Tuner: SN J4LA00288	30.00
	Total	\$ 300.00

Item 6.11: Declaration of Surplus/Obsolete Items

Declared the following items surplus/obsolete and delegated to the Business Official disposition of said items in a manner consistent with current laws and regulations.

Surplus/Obsolete
Items

<u>Item</u>	<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Voorheesville Tag</u>
Dell: Optiplex GX1	HFAFT	1042
Dell: Optiplex GX1	758HB	1028
Dell: Optiplex GX1	758H4	No Tag
Dell: Optiplex GX1	GVOE8	1124
Dell: Optiplex GX1	GVE80	1031
Pioneer CLD-V2800	3907371	No Tag
Pioneer CLD-V2800	3908683	000012

Item 6.12: Approval of External School Auditors

Approved the auditing firm, Bonadio & Co., LLP, to conduct the independent audit of the school district for the year ending June 30, 2009, at a cost of \$13,100.00 as per the RFP response dated February 2, 2009. The Board authorizes David Gibson to sign the engagement letter.

External School
Auditors
Bonadio & Co.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

**ADMINISTRATIVE
REPORTS**

Item 7.1: Elementary School Report, Edward Diegel

- Seventy-five students are currently registered for kindergarten. Mr. Diegel expects kindergarten enrollment to be in the mid-eighties by the start of school in September.
- The elementary school has had two lockdown drills: the first was announced, the second unannounced. Both drills went well.
- Progress continues on updating the report card. The new report card will be ready for use by the start of the 2009-2010 school year.

E. Diegel

Item 7.2: Middle Level Report, Theresa Kennedy

- Grades 6, 7, and 8 are preparing for the NYS Math Assessments being given this week.

T. Kennedy

Item 7.3: High School Report, Mark Diefendorf

Mr. Corrigan reported in Mr. Diefendorf's absence.

- A "Circus Dance" is being held on Friday, March 20.
- Student organization, United for Peace and Justice, is hosting an "EVERYTHING BUT THE KITCHEN SINK SALE," on Saturday, March 21, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Proceeds from this indoor garage sale will support local and global charities.

M. Diefendorf

Item 7.4: Assistant to the Superintendent for Business Report, S. Winchell

- Mrs. Winchell did not have any additions to her Friday reports.

S. Winchell

Item 7.5: Operations, Maintenance, and Transportation Report, M. Goyer

- The flashing beacon lights have been installed. An engineer from the Department of Transportation will meet with Mr. Goyer to instruct him on how to turn the lights off when school is not in session.

M. Goyer

Item 7.6: Superintendent's Report, Raymond Colucciello

- The Data Demystification for Administrators Workshop we held on Wednesday, March 4. Mr. Gibson and Dr. Henkel attended.
- Preliminary plans have been made for the Superintendent's Conference Day on March 27. The Data Team will present information to the staff, and a variety of tasks will be covered including work on a professional development plan.
- Mr. Corrigan is working on a Guidance Plan. The Board will be asked for input in the near future.

R. Colucciello

BOARD OF
EDUCATION
COMMITTEES

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Building &
Facilities
Committee*

Item 8.1: Building Project & Facilities Committee, C. J. Coffin, G. Hubert
The committee had nothing to report at this time.

*Curriculum
Committee*

Item 8.2: Curriculum Committee, C. Dozier, L. Henkel, K. Kroencke
Work is nearly completed on the district goals. The committee will meet with stakeholders to see how the goals can be met.

*Planning &
Governance
Committee*

Item 8.3: Planning & Governance Committee, C. J. Coffin, D. Gibson, K. Kroencke
The committee met on March 3 to prepare for this evening's meeting; review the Physical Education Curriculum Plan and a revised FMLA policy; discuss the elementary principal and superintendent searches; and to discuss the budget. The next meeting will be held on March 31.

Audit Committee

Item 8.4: Audit Committee, T. Blow, L. Henkel, G. Hubert
The committee will meet again prior to the April 6 Board meeting.

*Evaluation
Committee*

Item 8.5: Evaluation Committee, C. Dozier, K. Kroencke, L. Henkel
The committee had nothing to report at this time.

Allergic Reaction
Policy/Regulation
Second Reading

Item 8.6: Life-Threatening Allergic Reaction (Anaphylaxis) Policy / Regulation, Second Reading
On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Dr. Henkel and carried unanimously, the Board approved the second reading of Policy 5421 and Regulation 5421-R, Life-Threatening Reaction (Anaphylaxis) as presented in the enclosure folder. Dr. Henkel asked that the Board be given an update on the policy at the October Board meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, the Board approved the following items:

APPROVED

Physical Education
Curriculum Plan

Item 9.1: Physical Education Curriculum Plan
Approved the Voorheesville Central School District Physical Education Plan as presented. This plan will be submitted to the New York State Education Department.

Special BOE
Meeting:
April 20, 2009

Item 9.2: Special Board of Education Meeting: Monday, 20, 2009
Approved the date of Monday, April 20, 2009 for a special meeting for the purpose of conducting an election for BOCES Board members and vote on the BOCES Administrative Budget: **7:30 a.m.** The time of this meeting might be changed to an evening meeting if the Board decides to delay adoption of the 2009-2010 budget.

Memorandums of
Understanding:

Music Stipends

Item 9.3 VTA Memorandums of Understanding
Item 9.3.1: Memorandum of Understanding re: Stipends for MSHS Music Teachers
A motion was made by Mr. Kroencke and seconded by Mr. Coffin to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Voorheesville Teachers Association and the Voorheesville CSD pertaining to stipends paid to middle/high school music teachers as presented in the enclosure folder. Mr. Blow asked why music teachers are paid this stipend in addition to their regular salary. Mrs. Winchell explained that the stipend is received for duties performed outside of the regular school day as outlined in the memorandum. The motion was unanimously approved.

*Payment for
Mandatory
Attendance at BOE
Committee Meetings*

Item 9.3.2: Memorandum of Understanding re: Payment for Mandatory Attendance at BOE Committee Meetings
A motion was made by Mr. Coffin and seconded by Dr. Dozier to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Voorheesville Teachers Association and the Voorheesville CSD pertaining to teachers' mandatory attendance at BOE committee meetings that being at or after 4:00 p.m. as presented in the enclosure folder. Mr. Blow asked for an explanation. Mrs. Winchell explained that if we ask staff to make themselves available outside of the regular work schedule, they are compensated for additional time on task. The motion was approved by a 6-1 vote. Mr. Blow voted no.

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

*Physical Education
Assignments*

Item 9.3.3: Memorandum of Understanding re: Physical Education Assignments
Approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Voorheesville Teachers Association and the Voorheesville CSD pertaining to contact minutes for PE teachers in the elementary school (15 min.) effective for the 2008-2009 school year only.

Retirement Incentive

Item 9.3.4: Memorandum of Understanding re: Retirement Incentive
Approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Voorheesville Teachers Association and the Voorheesville CSD pertaining to the retirement incentive that will be offered to VTA unit members eligible for retirement during the 2008-2009 school year. The memorandum is presented in the enclosure folder.

Item 9.3.5: Memorandum of Understanding re: Retirement – Kathryn Brennan
Approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Voorheesville Teachers Association, Kathryn Brennan, and the Voorheesville CSD pertaining to the retirement of Kathryn Brennan. The full memorandum is presented in the enclosure folder.

*Retirement –
K. Brennan*

Item 9.3.6: Memorandum of Understanding re: Retirement – Sheila Lobel
Approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Voorheesville Teachers Association, Sheila Lobel, and the Voorheesville CSD pertaining to the retirement of Kathryn Brennan. The full memorandum is presented in the enclosure folder.

*Retirement –
S. Lobel*

Item 9.4: Proposition re: Purchase of Buses

This item was tabled pending further information on the transportation budget.

**Proposition re:
Purchase of Buses
TABLED**

Item 10.1: Full-day Kindergarten Planning Grant / Study – Discussion, Donna Fitzgerald

The State Education Department has approved the \$15,000 full-day kindergarten grant. Dr. Colucciello explained that the district has three options regarding the grant:

Update:
*Full-day
Kindergarten Study*

- We do not accept the grant.
- We act on the grant and make a commitment to begin a full-day program in 2010-2011.
- We move ahead with conducting our study. If the district chooses not to implement the program, we return the money to SED.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said that the study can be done at a minimal cost which would include substitute teachers, curriculum writing, and mileage reimbursement. An online survey of parents of preschoolers is being conducted to find out their thoughts about full-day kindergarten. In addition, the survey has been distributed to local nursery schools, the public library, and local businesses. So far, 60 responses have been received. Mrs. Fitzgerald has also started compiling a list of parents who are interested in joining the study committee. The Board agreed that Mrs. Fitzgerald should continue the study; however, there was some concern that receipt of the grant would obligate the district to a full-day kindergarten program.

A motion was made by Mr. Blow and seconded by Dr. Henkel to accept the Full-Day Kindergarten Study Grant under the following conditions: the study will continue but funds will not be utilized unless authorized by the Board of Education; and the State Education Department will provide written confirmation that the district can return the grant money if a full-day kindergarten program is not implemented. The motion was approved by a 6-1 vote. Mr. Kroencke voted no.

**Opportunity for
Board to be Heard**

Item 10.2: Opportunity for the Board to be Heard

There were no comments.

Miscellaneous

Item 11: Miscellaneous

The following miscellaneous items were noted:

- Middle Level News Notes
- Budget Status Report: 01/01/09 – 01/31/09

Item 12: Anticipated Executive Session

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Hubert and carried unanimously, the Board entered into Executive Session at 9:55 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the employment history of particular individuals and negotiated contracts.

Executive Session:
9:55 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Blow and carried unanimously, the Board returned to regular session at 12:20 a.m.

Regular Session:
12:20 a.m.

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 a.m.

Adjournment:
12:25 a.m.

President, Board of Education

Clerk, Board of Education

