

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

**Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
**May 11, 2009**

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

**Page 1**

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Board Members Absent:**

David M. Gibson, President

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:**

Raymond Colucciello, Sarita Winchell, Mark Diefendorf, Edward Diegel, Patrick Corrigan, Michael Goyer, Robin Jacob

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Kourtney Myers, Teri Altenhofen, Alesha Rubino, Tom Reardon, Sara Gruss, Nazely Kurkjian, Anna Nemier, Jonathan Quinn, Seneca Gray, Robert Denman, Steve Relyea, Susan Podgorski, Christine Cashin, Judy Zielinski, David Adkins, Karen Belgiovine, Doris Turcotte, Justin C. Brusgul, Sherry Burgoon, Joseph Iannotti, Chris Allard, Bryanna Wood, Becca Duncan, Thomas Mensching, Pam Standish, Kristen Wells, Tony Thanopoulos, Dr. Teresa Snyder, Dorothea Pfleiderer

Mr. Coffin called the meeting to order at 7:32 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 with the exception of Mr. Gibson

**Call to Order:**  
 7:32 p.m.

**Item 2: 2009-2010 School Budget Hearing**

Dr. Colucciello said the district is presenting an outstanding budget to the voters considering the financial uncertainty of the times. He thanked the Board for their leadership, the administrative staff for their diligence during the budget process, and Mrs. Winchell for an outstanding job in balancing the needs of the students with the available resources. Mrs. Winchell discussed the 2009-2010 budget, which will be presented for a public vote on Tuesday, May 19 from 2:00 to 9:30 p.m. The total budget is \$12,662,438, no change from last year's budget; however, the tax levy will increase by 1.69% (\$244,991). Mrs. Winchell explained that due to the drop in State Aid, revenue sources will decline, therefore, the tax levy is needed to make up the difference. She discussed the three budget components: Program, Administrative, and Capital and the separate proposition to be presented to the voters for the purchase of one 60-passenger bus.

**2009-2010 Budget Hearing**

**Item 3: Presentations/Special Recognitions**

**Shoes for Uganda**

Mrs. Susan Podgorski represented the Builders Club. Alex Singh, a member of the club, suggested collecting gently used or new sneakers and sandals to donate to needy people in Uganda who cannot afford to buy footwear. The club collected over 500 pairs of shoes, and will arrange for shipment to Uganda.

**Presentations/Special Recognitions**

*Shoes for Uganda*

**Presentation of Paper Recycling Award**

Jody Paige, representing T.A. Predel & Co., presented an award to VCSD in recognition of district efforts in recycling paper with his company. He credited Mr. Joseph Iannotti for initiating the project, and Mrs. Kelly, Mr. Young, Mrs. Treadgold, Mrs. Bye, and Mr. Burns, with helping the recycling effort. In 2008 VCSD recycled 16,300 pounds of paper (8 tons) which saved 139 trees and 57,000 gallons of water.

*Paper Recycling Award*

**Scholarship for Academic Excellence Award Recipients**

Mr. Diefendorf recognized four students who were awarded a Scholarship for Academic Excellence. The students were unable to attend the meeting, but were acknowledged as follows: John Malfetano (\$1500), Amanda O'Brien (\$500), Joshua Turner (\$500), and Fannie Liu (\$500).

*Scholarships for Academic Excellence*

**Item 4: Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Blow and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of April 6, 2009, and the special meeting of April 20, 2009.

**Approval of Minutes:**  
 04/06/09  
 04/20/09

**Item 5.1: Opportunity for students to address the Board**

Nazely Kurkjian addressed the Board in support of English teacher, Mrs. Lynn Kelly. The students would like to help save her job. Dr. Colucciello responded that he could not discuss a personnel issue in public session; however, low class enrollment has brought about the need to reduce some staff. He also indicated that Mrs. Kelly is a valued staff member.

**Opportunity for Students to Address the BOE**

**Item 5.2: Opportunity for the public to be heard**

Thomas Mensching addressed the Board regarding the impact of school taxes on residents of the Town of New Scotland, especially senior citizens, and recommended that the Board consider a multiple payment plan for senior citizens eligible for the enhanced STAR exemption. Mr. Coffin asked Mrs. Winchell to research this and report back to the Board in July.

**Opportunity for Public to be Heard:**

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

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:

<i>Warrant:</i>	<i>Date:</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Multifund Warrant #40:	March 31, 2009	\$ 251,071.83
Payroll Covering Warrant #41:	March 25, 2009	\$ 466,303.04
Payroll Covering Warrant #42	April 8, 2009	\$ 471,619.98
Multifund Warrant #43	April 15, 2009	\$ 260,228.72
Capital Fund Warrant #9:	April 15, 2009	\$ 29,776.00

Elementary School**Item 6.2: Elementary School Principal**

Principal:  
T. Reardon

Approved the appointment of Thomas B. Reardon as elementary school principal effective July 1, 2009, for a three-year probationary term. Mr. Reardon was recognized and welcomed to the district.

Parental Leave Amended:**Item 6.3: Parent Leave Request - Amended**

M. Abba-Gleason

Approved the request of Mary Abba Gleason (*Middle/High School Music Teacher*) for parental leave pursuant to Article 8.9 the VTA agreement. The leave will commence on May 1, 2009, with an expected return to work on November 9, 2009. Mrs. Abba Gleason's original request was for leave commencing on May 18, 2009 (approved by the Board on February 9, 2009); however, she has amended the commencement date of her leave.

Substitute - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English**Item 6.4: Substitute Teacher - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English**

L. Newell

Approved the appointment of Lauren Newell as substitute for 6<sup>th</sup> grade English effective June 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009. Mr. Newell will replace Ms. Zeh during her parental leave.

Salary: 1/200<sup>th</sup> of Step 1 (BA) of the VTA contract per day

Substitute- Music**Item 6.5: Substitute Teacher - Music**

C. Fisk

Approved the appointment of Carla Fisk as music substitute effective May 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009. Ms. Fisk will replace Mrs. Mary Abba Gleason during her parental leave.

Salary: Step 1 (BA) of the VTA Contract

Leave without Pay:**Item 6.6: Leave without Pay**

R. Bradshaw

Approved the FMLA leave without pay for Robert Bradshaw effective May 13, 2009, until further notice.

Summer Student Appointment:**Item 6.7: Summer Student Appointment**

Approved the following student appointment for July – August 2009.

S. Egloff

Shannon Egloff, Package Clerk

Rate: \$8.24/hour (3<sup>rd</sup> year)

Hours: As needed

Reductions / Abolishments of Positions**Item 6.8: Action on Resolution regarding Reduction, Abolishment of Positions**

Approved reduction or abolishment of the following positions for reasons of economy, effective June 30, 2009. Persons having the least seniority in the abolished positions shall be placed on the preferred eligible list (PEL) of the district in accordance with Education Law 2510 (3):

.4	FTE Grade 6-12 Music Teacher	.4	FTE English Teacher
.4	FTE Social Studies Teacher	.8	FTE Dean of Students
.4	FTE HS Math Teacher	1.0	FTE Elementary Teaching Asst. ( <i>Library</i> )
.275	HS Art Teacher (1 full-year and 1 half-year course)	15	Hrs./day MSHS Aide time
		3	Secretary positions reduced by one month per year each

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

Abolishment of Middle School Associate Principal Position**Item 6.9: Abolishment of Middle School Associate Principal Position**

Abolished the position of Middle School Associate principal for reasons of program restructuring effective June 30, 2009.

Creation of Middle School Principal Position**Item 6.10: Creation of Middle School Principal Position**

Approved creation of the position of Middle School Principal (Grades 6-8) to become effective July 1, 2009.

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

**Item 6.11: Custodial Night Boss – Middle/High School**

Approved the appointment of William Rivers as middle school/high school night boss, effective June 1, 2009, at an annual stipend of 12% of his annual base pay, per the UEV contract, Appendix A.

Custodial Night  
Boss:  
W. Rivers

**Item 6.12: 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.

Substitute  
Appointments-  
BOCES Registry

**Item 6.13: CSE Recommendations**

Approved the recommendations by the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at the meetings held on March 18, 2009, March 30, 2009, March 31, 2009, April 2, 2009, April 6, 2009, and April 8, 2009. The Board designates the Superintendent as signatory for health service contracts related to special education students' IEPs.

CSE  
Recommendations

**Item 6.14: Voting Machine Preparation**

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 19, 2009.  
Fee: \$35.00 per machine

Voting Machine  
Preparation:  
P. Barrowman

**Item 6.15: Action on Resolution Appointing Personnel for School/Library Budget Vote and Election**

Approved the resolution appointing personnel for the School/Library Budget Vote and Election to be held on Tuesday, May 2009, as outlined in the enclosure folder.

Appointment of  
Election Personnel

**Item 6.16: Non-Resident Student Admission Requests**

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

Sydney Worthley, Grade 2  
Requestor: Shauna Worthley

Madeline Conroy, Grade 6  
Julia Conroy, Grade 3  
Requestor: Karen Conroy

Non-Resident  
Student Admission  
Requests

**Item 6.17: Approval of Requests for Non-Public School Transportation**

Approved requests for non-public school transportation for sixty-seven (67) students to private schools for the 2009-2010 school year as submitted in the enclosure folder.

Non-Public School  
Transportation  
Requests

**Item 6.18: Cole Summer Writer's Institute 2009**

Approved the Cole Summer Writer's Institute Program, effective July 13 through July 17, 2009, as follows: (*Minimum of 10 students*)

Expenditures:	Salary – Brian Stumbaugh:	\$ 945.00
	Benefits:	\$ 166.00
	Supplies:	\$ 40.00
Revenues:	Tuition - \$50.00 x 12 students:	\$ 600.00
	Donation from Karen Cole Foundation:	\$ 1,000.00

Cole Summer  
Writer's Institute

**Item 6.19: Out-of-Town Conference Request**

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

Conference Title: AP Economics Workshop at Taft Education Center  
Location: Watertown, CT  
Date: June 28 – July 3, 2009  
Cost: Registration \$1,050.00  
Travel \$ 134.00  
Requestor: David Lawrence

Out-of-Town  
Conference Request

**Item 6.20: Out-of-Town Student Field Trip Requests**

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

Grade 5 Class Trip

Destination: Lake George, NY – Fort William Henry; Mohican Boat Tour  
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2009  
Cost to Student: \$14.00 per student  
Cost to District: VCSD school bus roundtrip  
Requestor: Edward Diegel

Out-of-Town  
Student Field Trip  
Requests

Grade 9 Class Trip

Destination: Six Flags New England; Springfield, MA  
Date: Saturday, May 30, 2009  
Cost to Student: \$55.00 per student (includes private bus transportation)  
Requestor: Anne Lyons, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Advisor

Surplus/Obsolete  
Items**Item 6.21: Declaration of Surplus/Obsolete Items (Textbooks)**

Declared the items on the inventory list provided in the enclosure folder surplus/obsolete and delegated to the Business Official disposition of said items in a manner consistent with current laws and regulations.

Summer Driver  
Education  
Appointment:  
J. Young**Item 6.22: Summer 2009 Driver Education Appointment**

Approved the following instructor for the summer 2009 driver education program:

Jeffrey Young, Instructor

Effective: June 29 – August 7, 2009

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

Special BOE  
Meeting Dates**Item 6.23: Special Board of Education Meeting Dates**

Approved the following two dates for two additional Board of Education meetings:

Monday, June 22, 7:30 PM;

High School Cafeteria

Wednesday, July 1, 7:30 AM;

District Office – Organizational Meeting

ADMINISTRATIVE  
REPORTS**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS****Item 7.1: Elementary School Report, Edward Diegel**

E. Diegel

- The “Blackbird Paradise” garden was dedicated on April 22. It was an auspicious occasion with a large turnout, including local officials.
- The elementary Drama Club did a terrific job presenting *Willy Wonka Jr.* on April 24, 25, and 26. Thanks to all the parents who helped with the production.
- Interviews will begin this week for the elementary librarian – 27 applications were received, 8 candidates will be interviewed, and 3 finalists will be presented to Drs. Colucciello and Snyder.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> grade concert is scheduled for May 20 along with a 5<sup>th</sup> grade fine arts night.

**Item 7.2: Middle Level Report, Theresa Kennedy**

T. Kennedy

Mr. Diefendorf reported in Ms. Kennedy’s absence.

- Current eighth-graders are invited to “Welcome to High School” night to learn more about the high school experience on Thursday, May 14, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

M. Diefendorf

**Item 7.3: High School Report, Mark Diefendorf**

- Mr. Diefendorf had no information to add to his written report.

S. Winchell

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

- The landscaping work at the entrance to high school will begin on Friday, May 15.
- Health Insurance Committee is working on an EPO (Exclusive Provider Organization) health insurance plan, and the possibility of plan participants getting brand name drugs through CanaRX. Both items have the potential for significant savings to the District.
- The school lunch program has shown a small profit this year. The Board will be receiving a monthly report on school lunch.

M. Goyer

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

- A meeting was held with the architects to discuss the completion of the capital project at the elementary school. The work will begin as soon as the students leave at the end of June.
- The new gazebo is being enjoyed by students and community members on a daily basis.
- The transportation study will begin on June 1.
- The engineers are working on fixing the stormwater problem in the elementary school boiler room.

R. Colucciello

**Item 7.6: Superintendent’s Report, Raymond Colucciello**

- People have worked hard to raise money for the Odyssey of the Mind team to attend the World Finals in Iowa. They have reached their goal of raising \$10,000.
- Congratulated the Voorheesville Community & School Foundation on a successful gala on May 2. Dr. Colucciello also acknowledged the community for their support of the schools.
- The prom will be held on Friday, May 15, at Birch Hill in Schodack.

BOARD OF  
EDUCATION  
COMMITTEES**BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS**Building Project &  
Facilities**Item 8.1: Building Project & Facilities Committee, C. J. Coffin, G. Hubert**

The committee had no report.

Curriculum  
Committee**Item 8.2: Curriculum Committee, C. Dozier, L. Henkel, K. Kroencke**

The District Goals for 2008-2009 were adopted at the April 6 meeting. The committee has started discussions about the goals with elementary school staff. They will be meeting next with the middle school / high school staff.

Planning &  
Governance  
Committee**Item 8.3: Planning & Governance Committee, C. J. Coffin, D. Gibson, K. Kroencke**

The committee met on April 29 and discussed teacher evaluations, FMLA, and Tech Valley.

