

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting
January 11, 2010

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:

Teresa Snyder, Sarita Winchell, Mark Diefendorf, Brian Whitley, Thomas Reardon, Patrick Corrigan, Michael Goyer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Douglas Brill, Tom Sweeney, Martha Mackey, Pam Standish, AnneMarie Hollywood, Steve Relyea, Peter Kiriapoulos, Kathy Fiero, Chris Allard, Bill Hennessey, Frank Faber, Brian Stumbaugh, Dorothea Pfleiderer

Mr. Coffin called the meeting to order at 7:30 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:
 7:30 p.m.

Item 2: Presentation re: Tech Mondays – Frank Faber, Brian Stumbaugh

Mr. Faber and Mr. Stumbaugh presented to the Board on “Tech Mondays”, a new program offered to faculty and staff for in-house, technology-centered professional development. The programs are offered by eight on-staff instructors and provide teachers an opportunity to learn and apply new technology skills in the classroom. These one-hour courses, offered on Monday afternoons, are well attended, and Mr. Stumbaugh said that the district has also begun using video teleconferencing with other districts for professional development.

Presentation:
 Tech Mondays

Item 3: 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 December 14, 2009.

Approval of Minutes:
 12/14/09

Item 4.1: Opportunity for students to address the Board

There were no comments.

Opportunity for Students to Address the BOE

Item 4.2: Opportunity for the public to be heard

Comments / Concerns:

- Mr. Sweeney spoke regarding the proposal for a boys’ JV lacrosse team and informed the Board that boys wishing to participate in the sport would not pay a registration fee.

Opportunity for Public to be Heard:

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

Item 5.1.1: Treasurer’s Report

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

Treasurer’s Report:

Item 5.1.2: Warrants

The following warrants were accepted:

Warrant:	Date:	Amount
Payroll Covering Warrant #24:	November 23, 2009	\$ 464,794.43
Multi-Fund Warrant #25:	December 15, 2009	\$ 442,825.64
Payroll Covering Warrant #26:	December 19, 2009	\$ 474,182.40

Warrants

Item 5.2: Resignations

Accepted the following resignations:

Nicole Strevell, .6 Social Studies Teacher

Effective: January 1, 2010

Reason: Accepted a full-time teaching position

N. Strevell

Kathleen Rudd, Elementary Teacher (31 years of service)

Effective: July 1, 2010

Reason: Retirement

K. Rudd

Kevin McDermott, Bus Mechanic

Effective: January 22, 2010

Reason: Personal

K. McDermott

Change in
Employment Status:

T. Harrington

Item 5.3: Change in Employment StatusTerminated the employment of Timothy Harrington as a bus mechanic effective December 11, 2009Leave Request:

M. Matheke

Item 5.4: Leave RequestApproved the request of Melynda Matheke (elementary music teacher) for parental leave on or about March 29, 2010, with an expected return to work on September 1, 2010. Mrs. Matheke will use sick leave until April 16, 2010.Temporary
Appointment -
Extension:

K. Bogart

Item 5.5: Temporary Teaching Assistant – ExtensionExtended the appointment of Kathleen Bogart as temporary teaching (middle school) effective February 1, 2010 through March 26, 2010.Parent Volunteers:

B. Kruzansky

F. Owens

Item 5.6: Appointment of Parent Volunteers

Approved the following parent volunteer appointments:

Barbara Kruzansky Voorheesville Checkmates Chess ClubFrank Owens Voorheesville Checkmates Chess ClubBOCES Substitute
Registry**Item 5.7: Substitute Teacher Appointments from BOCES Substitute Registry**

Approved the Capital Region BOCES Substitute Registry appointments for the 2009-2010 school year as presented in the enclosure folder.

Spring 2010 Driver
Ed. Appointments:**Item 5.8: Spring 2010 Driver Education Appointments**

Approved the salaries for spring 2010 driver education instructors:

Jeffrey Young

Effective: February 1 – June 11, 2010

Salary: \$4,710.00 (Classroom: 24 students @ \$52.50; Car Section: 12 students @ \$287.50)

William Van Alstyne

Effective: February 1 – June 11, 2010

Salary: \$3,450.00 (Car Section Only: 12 students @ \$287.50)

Lifeguard/Swim
Instructor Appf.**Item 5.9: Lifeguard / Swim Instructor Appointment**Approved the appointment of Jonah Mackay as lifeguard / swim instructor for the Voorheesville School District effective January 12, 2010.

Salary: \$8.50 per hour

CSE
Recommendations**Item 5.10: CSE Recommendations**Approved the following recommendations by the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at the meetings held on December 17, 2009 and December 22, 2009. Also, designated the Superintendent as signatory for health service contracts related to special education students' IEPs.Spring 2010
Continuing
Education Program**Item 5.11: Spring 2010 Continuing Education Program**

Approved the spring 2010 Continuing Education Program as presented in the enclosure folder.

Use of Facilities –
American Red Cross**Item 5.12: Agreement re: Use of Facilities by the 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 the Superintendent to sign the agreement on behalf of the District.

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.

Appointment of Bus
Mechanic/Driver:

R. McClung

Item 5.13: Bus Mechanic / Bus DriverApproved the appointment of Robert McClung as bus mechanic / bus driver (sub routes only) effective: January 20, 2010.

Salary: Step 1 of UEV contract (8 hours/day; 12 months/year)

ADMINISTRATIVE
REPORTS**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS****Item 6.1: Elementary School Report, Thomas Reardon**

- Goals for each grade level will be discussed during the elementary school half day on January 22.
- So far, eight people have volunteered to participate in the "Go Beyond" series.
- Casting is complete for the elementary school play, *Mulan*, which will be presented April 23, 24, and 25.

T. Reardon

Item 6.2: Middle School Report, Brian Whitley

- Complimented the middle school band and chorus for their outstanding performance at the concert in December.
- Middle school students were encouraged to wear clothing that captured the holiday spirit for Spirit Day on December 23. The students participated enthusiastically in the event which was sponsored by Student Counsel.
- Praised the Chain Links Club for organizing a clothing drive for Randy Saunders, a teen with a rare skin condition. The club, under the direction of Mr. Manchester, delivered a van full of clothing, as well as, a generous cash gift. This was part of the *Rachel's Challenge* program.
- The Steering Committee and Site-Based Committee met in December to discuss middle school scheduling, acceleration, a student TV station, and transition programs.

B. Whitley

Item 6.3: High School Report, Mark Diefendorf

- The high school mid-term exams have been scheduled for January 25, 26, and 27.
- Students will travel to the Yale University Model UN on January 21. This is the twelfth year that students from Voorheesville have participated.

M. Diefendorf

Item 6.4: Assistant to the Superintendent for Business Report, S. Winchell

- Discussed safeguards that are in place to protect the district's bank accounts and assets.
- Updated the Board on State Aid and the delay in sending payments to school districts. Mrs. Winchell is awaiting more information, including the Governor's budget on January 19. She will update the Board as she learns more.
- The Health Insurance Committee will meet on January 12 to discuss participating with other districts in a drug and pharmacy plan to further reduce health care costs.
- Employees' Retirement System (ERS) billing for public library employees is billed through the school district. The library owes the district \$22,000 billed for one of their employees. Mrs. Winchell asked the Board for permission to set up a payment plan in which the library would reimburse the district over a period of four years. A motion was made by Mr. Blow and seconded by Mr. Hubert to allow the four-year payment plan with the library. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote. Mr. Kroencke abstained.

S. Winchell

Item 6.5: Operations, Maintenance, and Transportation Report, M. Goyer

- Reported a power issue at the elementary school on January 10 due to a blown transformer outside of the building. A local electrician worked on the problem and the power was back by 10:30 p.m. Mr. Goyer thanked the people who helped take care of the problem.
- A bus driver safety meeting will be held on January 19.
- Thanked the staff for being mindful of saving energy over the December break. The district had an energy savings of 19% as a result of district-wide cooperation.

M. Goyer

Item 6.6: Superintendent's Report, Teresa T. Snyder

Dr. Snyder discussed a recent web-based alumni survey that was posted from November 24, 2009 through January 4, 2010. Voorheesville graduates were invited to give feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of the district and how well they were prepared for life after graduation. Through a series of graphs and charts, Dr. Snyder demonstrated that the majority of the 208 respondents felt their experiences as students at Voorheesville were positive.

T. Snyder

**BOARD OF
EDUCATION
COMMITTEES**

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Item 7.1: Facilities Committee

There was no report

Facilities

Item 7.2: Curriculum Committee

Met on December 15, 2009 to finalize the Curriculum Committee Charter and on January 7, 2010 to discuss the Professional Development Survey and begin planning for the Superintendent's Conference Day on Friday, March 26.

Curriculum

Item 7.3: Policy & Governance Committee

Met on January 5 to review the policies presented on the agenda.

*Policy &
Governance*

Item 7.4: Audit Committee

The committee will meet again on February 8. Representatives from Marvin & Company conducted a risk assessment on January 6 and 7. They will report to the Audit Committee on February 8.

Audit

Item 7.5: Evaluation Committee

Met with Dr. Snyder to provide historical perspective on the committee and review the teacher tenure process.

Evaluation

Item 7.6: Communications Task Force

The meeting planned for this evening was postponed and will be rescheduled.

Communications

Curriculum
Committee Charter

Item 8.1: Curriculum Committee Charter

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Dr. Dozier and carried unanimously, the Board approved the Curriculum Committee Charter as presented.

BOE Policies:
First & Second
Readings

Item 8.2.1: BOE Policies – First Reading

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Dr. Henkel and carried unanimously, the Board approved the first reading of the following policies which will be placed on the district website for community/student feedback.

Policy 1225	Relationship with Local Education Foundation
Policy 8414.6	Idling Prohibition for Buses and Other Vehicles

Policy 8505, Charging School Meals, was discussed and the Board requested that language be added regarding notice to parents when a child's account reaches a negative balance. Dr. Snyder and Mrs. Winchell will work on this and bring the policy to the P & G committee for review at the next committee meeting.

Item 8.2.2: BOE Policy – Second Reading

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Dr. Dozier and carried unanimously, the Board approved the second reading of Policy 5225, Student Personal Expression. At the request of the P & G committee, this policy will remain on the district website for feedback until the February 8 meeting when it will be presented for a third reading.

Discussion:

*Boys' JV Lacrosse
Team Proposal*

Item 8.3: Discussion re: Boys' JV Lacrosse Team

Discussion was held regarding the proposal presented on December 14 to establish a boys' JV lacrosse team. On the advice of legal counsel, Dr. Snyder recommended against establishing a team because it would be difficult to integrate the program into our interscholastic sports program and a potential violation of Title IX. In addition, the district is facing several challenging budget years. Adding a sport while facing the possibility of cutting teacher positions, would send the wrong message to the community.

Mr. Coffin polled the Board on whether or not to go ahead with establishing a boys' JV lacrosse team this year. Mr. Blow was in favor; the other five members were not. Mr. Coffin suggested that if the Board would like to explore this further, it should be part of next year's budget process.

Opportunity for the
Public to be Heard

Item 9.1: Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

There were no comments

Opportunity for the
Board to be Heard

Item 9.2: Opportunity for the Board to be Heard

There were no comments

Miscellaneous

Item 10: Miscellaneous

Budget Status Reports: 07/01/09 – 11/30/09

Executive Session:

9:20 p.m.

Item 10: Executive Session

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Blow and carried unanimously, the Board moved into executive session at 9:20 p.m. to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

The Board came out of executive session at 9:44 p.m.

Adjournment:

9:45 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Mr. Hubert and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

President, Board of Education

Clerk, Board of Education