

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

**Regular Board of Education Meeting**  
**February 8, 2010**

**David M. Gibson, President**  
**Large Group Instruction Room**

**Page 1**

**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:**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Kathryn Martin, Sherry Burgoon, Justin Brusgul, Steven Relyea, Kathy Fiero, Pam Standish, Jen Hampston, Sara Hotopp, Dorothea Pfliederer

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.

**Item 2: Budget Presentation – Sarita Winchell**

Mrs. Winchell discussed major losses in revenue for 2010-2011. This year the district is dealing with declining revenue and increasing costs. The biggest loss in revenue is in State Aid - \$681,416. She also discussed the major cost increases, staffing, and program. The proposed budget for 2010-2011 is \$21,584,114, a decrease of \$78,324 from last year's budget (-.362%). She also discussed purchasing two new school buses, which would be presented to voters as a separate proposition. The projected tax levy impact is 2.87%.

Presentation:  
 2010-2011 Budget

**Item 3: Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Blow and seconded by Mr. Coffin to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 11, 2010 and the special budget meeting of January 25, 2010. Mr. Gibson asked for a revision in the January 25 minutes regarding the Board's request to see the impact on the budget if an additional \$175,000 were taken out. Mr. Blow amended the motion with the revision, seconded by Mr. Coffin and the minutes were approved by a 6-0 vote. Dr. Henkel abstained.

Approval of Minutes:  
 01/11/10  
 01/25/10

**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**

There were no comments.

Opportunity for Public to be Heard:

On a motion by Mr. Coffin seconded by Mr. Hubert and carried unanimously, the Board approved the following items, with the exception of Item 5.12, which was voted on separately:

**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:

<b>Warrant:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Payroll Covering Warrant #26:	December 19, 2009	\$ 464,794.43
Multi-Fund Warrant #27:	December 30, 2009	\$ 322,891.29
Payroll Covering Warrant #28:	December 22, 2009	\$ 479,528.37
Payroll Covering Warrant #29:	January 5, 2010	\$ 497,628.86
Multi-Fund Warrant #30:	January 15, 2010	\$ 250,190.27
Capital Fund Warrant #5:	January 15, 2010	\$ 80,542.00

Warrants

**Item 5.2: Rescission of Retirement Letter**

Approved the request of Frank Faber to rescind his request to retire on June 30, 2010. Mr. Faber will continue his employment as Director of Technology for Voorheesville Central School District with a new retirement date of June 30, 2011.

Rescission of Retirement Letter

F. Faber

**Item 5.3: Resignations**

Accepted the following resignations:

Resignations:

Sherry T. Burgoon, English Teacher (34 years of service)

Effective: June 28, 2010

Reason: Retirement

S. Burgoon

Barbara Bleyman, Teacher Assistant (26 years of service)

Effective: June 28, 2010

Reason: Retirement

B. Bleyman

Coaching  
Appointments**Item 5.4: Coaching Appointments: 2009-2010**

Approved the following the following coaching appointments for the 2009-2010 school year:

<u>Kyle Turski</u>	Varsity Baseball	Step 7
<u>Matthew Fiato</u>	Varsity Softball	Step 7
<u>David Lawrence</u>	JV Baseball	Step 3
<u>Steve Relyea</u>	Varsity Track (Head)	Step 8
<u>Phil Carducci</u>	Varsity Track (Assistant)	Step 8
<u>Ted Simons</u>	Varsity Track (Assistant)	Step 2
<u>Andrew Karins</u>	Modified Track	Step 2
<u>Thomas Kurkjian</u>	Boys' Varsity Tennis	Step 8
<u>Joseph Sapienza</u>	Varsity Football (Head)	Step 8
<u>James Duncan</u>	Varsity Football (Assistant)	Step 8
<u>Matthew Fiato</u>	Varsity Football (Assistant)	Step 8
<u>Andrew Karins</u>	JV Football (Head)	Step 4
<u>Joseph Santos</u>	Girls' Varsity Soccer	Step 8

BOCES Substitute  
Registry**Item 5.5: 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.

Lifeguard/Swim  
Instructor Appt.**Item 5.6: Lifeguard / Swim Instructor Appointment**Approved the appointment of Kyle Nichols as lifeguard / swim instructor for the Voorheesville School District effective February 9, 2010.

Salary: \$8.50 per hour

CSE  
Recommendations**Item 5.7: CSE Recommendations**Approved the following recommendations by the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at the meetings held on January 13, 2010 and January 19, 2010. Also, designated the Superintendent as signatory for health service contracts related to special education students' IEPs.Waiver of Facilities  
Use Fee**Item 5.8: Approval to Waive Facilities Use Fee**

Approved waiving the facilities use fees (custodial and kitchen) for the annual PTA Fun Festival fundraising event being held on Friday, March 19, and Saturday, March 20, 2010.

Non-Resident  
Student Admission  
Requests**Item 5.9: Non-Resident Student Admission Requests**

Approved the following requests for admission of non-resident students for the 2010-2011 school year:

<u>Ryan Beardsley</u> , Grade 1 Requestor: Christina Menetti	<u>Colin Kelly</u> , Grade 12 <u>Cara Kelly</u> , Grade 11 <u>Erin Kelly</u> , Grade 9 Requestor: Mary Kelly
<u>Meaghan Conley</u> , Grade 7 <u>Amanda Conley</u> , Grade 4 <u>Timothy Conley</u> , Grade 2 Requestor: Christine Conley	<u>Armine Kurkjian</u> , Grade 11 Requestor: Thomas Kurkjian
<u>Madeline Conroy</u> , Grade 4 <u>Julia Conroy</u> , Grade 7 Requestor: Karen Conroy	<u>Brianna Nicole Lee</u> , Grade 11 Requestor: Deborah Lee
<u>Francesca Coppola</u> , Grade 1 Requestor: Marie Coppola	<u>Noah Justin Robinson</u> , Grade 6 Requestor: Lori Farrell
<u>Sawyer Cresap</u> , Grade 11 Requestor: Robin Jacob	<u>Troy Tracey</u> , Grade 7 <u>Tyler Tracey</u> , Grade 2 Requestor: Lauren Tracey
<u>Shawn Goyer</u> , Grade 9 Requestor: Michael Goyer	<u>Claire Tearno</u> , Kindergarten Requestor: Maura P. Tearno
<u>Camryn Kelley</u> , Grade 7 <u>Alicia Kelley</u> , Grade 4 <u>Jayden Kelley</u> , Grade 4 Requestor: Timothy Kelley	<u>Sydney Worthley</u> , Grade 3 Requestor: Shauna Worthley
<u>Ella Kelly</u> , Grade 1 Requestor: Lynn Kelly	<u>Austin Zielinski</u> , Grade 8 Requestor: Judith Zielinski

Tax Warrant  
Adjustment**Item 5.10: Tax Warrant Adjustment**

Approved the following tax warrant adjustments to amend the tax warrant in the amount of \$14,146,590.69 to \$14,144,406.76 (a reduction of \$2,183.93).

Town of New Scotland Assessor Error – Joan Wallace		
Reduction in School taxes	\$2,051.22	
Reduction in Library taxes	132.71	Total: \$2,183.93

**Item 5.11: Out-of-Town Student Field Trip Requests**

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

Out-of-Town  
Students Field Trip  
Requests

Trip with Spanish Exchange Students

Destination: Lee / Stockbridge, MA  
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2010  
Cost to student: \$5 per student (*admission to Norman Rockwell Museum*)  
Cost to district: VCSD school bus transportation and one substitute teacher  
Requestor: April Levy

Trip with Spanish Exchange Students

Destination: Boston, MA  
Date: Friday, March 26, 2010  
Cost to student: \$35 per student (*includes private coach transportation*)  
Cost to district: None  
Requestor: Jamie McPherson

YORKERS Club – State History Interest Project

Destination: Rochester, New York  
Date: Thursday, May 6 – Saturday, May 8, 2010  
Cost to student: \$175 per student (*includes accommodations, registration fees, transportation*)  
Cost to district: One substitute teacher for two days to cover Mr. McPherson's classes  
Requestor: Jamie McPherson

**Item 5.13: 2010-2011 Kids' Club Agreement, Inc.**

Approved the agreement with Kids' Club, Inc. in the amount of \$10,500 for rental of space the Voorheesville Elementary School for the 2010-2011 school year as outlined in the proposed contract.

2010-2011 Kids'  
Club Agreement

**Item 5.14: Elementary School Boiler Repair**

Authorized the repair of one elementary school boiler by Trojan Energy Systems for an estimated cost of \$11,300.

Elementary School  
Boiler Repair

**Item 5.15: Parental Leave Request**

Approved the request of Alyssa Seaburg (*Middle School Math Teacher*) for parental leave beginning on or about April 12, 2010, with an expected return on September 1, 2010. Mrs. Seaburg will use accumulated sick time until it runs out.

Parental Leave  
Request

**Item 5.12: Requests for Non-Public School Transportation**

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board approved a request for non-public school transportation for one (1) additional student to private school for the 2009-2010 school year as follows:

Request for Non-  
Public School  
Transportation

*Note: We will be transporting a total of 71 students to private school; currently, 5 students are being transported to St. Thomas School)*

St. Thomas School                      Grade 2

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

ADMINISTRATIVE  
REPORTS

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

- After receiving 80 responses to a survey regarding elementary students going to recess before lunch, overall 92% of the parent respondents approved of the change. This will go in effect in September 2010.
- The "Go Beyond" series has received great support, with two more classes being held this week.
- Elementary faculty continued math discussions as they pertain to literacy during the January 22 half-day for professional development.
- On March 24, Mr. Reardon and the fourth grade team will visit Tech Valley High School.
- At this point, 72 children have been enrolled for kindergarten next year.

T. Reardon

**Item 6.2: Middle School Report, Brian Whitley**

- The MS Steering Committee visited Brittonkill Schools to view their TV program. With the help of the Community & School Foundation, the MS would like to purchase equipment and have a television station/studio running by next September.
- The annual Spelling Bee for students in grades 4-8 was conducted last week. Abigail Goldfarb, a 5<sup>th</sup> grader was the winner and will go on to Capital Region Spelling Bee on March 15.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students attended an assembly on nanotechnology to help prepare them for the next generation of jobs.
- Exam week went well. Some middle school teachers conducted scaled-down versions of mid-year exams. There were very issues, and the students did not experience a great amount of stress. This was a good first step in moving away from the traditional mid-year mindset.

B. Whitley

**Item 6.3: High School Report, Mark Diefendorf**

*M. Diefendorf*

- Exam week went well.
- On Saturday night, February 13, the Senior Class will host "Game Show Night". Teachers will take on students in a "Family Feud" battle. Proceeds will be used to support the senior class trip.

*S. Winchell*

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

Mrs. Winchell had no additional items to report.

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

*M. Goyer*

- The two new bus mechanics are doing a great job.
- April 1 is the deadline for requesting private school transportation for the 2010-2011 school year.
- The maintenance staff will be using February break for cleaning and repair. This is also a good time to cut back on energy.

*T. Snyder*

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

- Dr. Snyder has been working with Mrs. Winchell and the administrative staff on budget issues.
- Superintendent's Conference Day on March 25 has been mapped out; Dr. Snyder is waiting for volunteers to lead the sessions.
- Wellness Day will be held on March 24.

**BOARD OF  
EDUCATION  
COMMITTEES**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Facilities

**Item 7.1: Facilities Committee**

There was no report.

Curriculum

**Item 7.2: Curriculum Committee**

Met on February 1, 2010. Dr. Snyder shared the update on Superintendent's Conference day. Karen Conroy reported on the reading initiative being expanded to the middle school. The committee will continue to explore the curriculum mapping initiative.

Policy &  
Governance

**Item 7.3: Policy & Governance Committee**

Met on February 2 to review the policies presented on the agenda.

Audit

**Item 7.4: Audit Committee**

The committee met prior to this evening's meeting to review the results of the risk assessment conducted by Marvin & Company January 6 and 7. The school lunch fund profit and loss statement was reviewed, and the program has been running in the black through the end of December.

Evaluation

**Item 7.5: Evaluation Committee**

There was no report.

Communications

**Item 7.6: Communications Task Force**

Date for upcoming meetings will be scheduled.

Contract  
Amendment:

**Item 8.1: Assistant Superintendent for Business Contract Amendment**

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Dr. Dozier and carried unanimously, the Board approved the amendment to the agreement between Sarita Winchell, Assistant Superintendent for Business, effective July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011.

*S. Winchell*

BOE Policies:

**Item 8.2.1: BOE Policy – First Reading**

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke seconded by Dr. Dozier and carried unanimously, the Board approved the first reading of the following policy:

Policy 5281 Interscholastic Athletes Academic Eligibility Policy

**Item 8.2.2: BOE Policies – Second Reading**

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, the Board approved the second reading of the following policies:

Policy 1225 Relationship with Local Education Foundation  
Policy 8414.6 Idling Prohibition for Buses and Other Vehicles  
Policy 8505 Negative Balance on School Meals

**Item 8.2.3: BOE Policy – Third Reading**

Adjournment:

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Blow and carried unanimously, the Board approved the third reading of the following policy:

*9:45 p.m.*

Policy 5225 Student Personal Expression

**Item 8.2.4: Revision – Policy 2100**

On a motion by Mr. Kroencke, seconded by Mr. Coffin and carried unanimously, the Board approved the revision to Policy 2100, School Board Legal Status which changes the term limit of Board members from five year to four years as approved by the voters in May 2008.

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

**Item 8.3: Acceptance of Donations / Budget Amendments**

Gratefully accepted a donation from Box Tops for Education of \$857.90 for the Elementary School and Amended the 2009-2010 budget to allow for the expenditure of the gift amount; and increased the revenue code A2705 to reflect the receipt of these funds.

Donations and  
Budget  
Amendments

Gratefully accepted the donation of \$200 from the PTA for the Middle School Principal's discretionary fund, and increased the revenue code TE2705 in Gifts, Scholarships, and Endowments by \$200 to reflect the receipt of these funds.

**Item 8.4: Budget Amendment – Unemployment Insurance**

Amended the 2009-2010 budget to fund the expenditure of Unemployment Insurance in the amount of \$13,000; funding to be provided from the Unemployment Insurance Reserve Account A815. Budget code to be amended is:

Unemployment Insurance	A9050800	\$13,000
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**Item 8.5: Discussion: Fingerprinting of Retired Voorheesville Teacher Substitutes**

In order to be in compliance with New York State regulations, anyone hired to work with school children after July 1, 2001, is required to be fingerprinted. We currently use the BOCES Substitute Service when a teacher will be absent; however, the elementary school teachers tend not to use BOCES. Instead, the call retired elementary teachers during an absence. Retirement is considered a break in service; therefore, the retirees should be fingerprinted. This has become an issue as several retirees do not want to pay the fee. Dr. Snyder asked the Board for their input toward a solution.

Discussion:  
*Fingerprinting of  
Retired  
Voorheesville  
Teachers*

Note: Currently, the district does not pay fingerprinting fees for professional staff: administrators, teachers, and teaching assistants are required to pay for the own fingerprinting. BOCES substitutes pay for their own fingerprinting.

After discussing this item, the Board asked Dr. Snyder to present them with suggestions/options.

**Item 9.1: Discussion: Superintendent's Responsibilities for 2009-2010**

Discussion was held regarding Dr. Snyder's responsibilities for this year as presented in the enclosure folder. The Board agreed that Dr. Snyder had presented reasonable tasks to meet the Board of Education's goals for this year.

Discussion:  
*Superintendent's  
Responsibilities for  
2009-2010*

**Item 9.2: Opportunity for the Public to be Heard**

There were no comments

Opportunity for  
the Public to be  
Heard

**Item 9.3: Opportunity for the Board to be Heard**

- Mr. Blow asked for analysis of student performance data and trends.
- There was discussion of planning the Board retreat earlier next year, possibly in the month of June so the Board can set goals before the school year begins. A final decision was not made.

Opportunity for  
the Board to be  
Heard

**Item 10: Miscellaneous**

Budget Status Reports: 07/01/09 – 12/31/09

Miscellaneous

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, the Board agreed to cancel the special budget meeting scheduled for March 1, 2010. This action was taken because the Board was satisfied that the budget presented earlier in the evening should not be reduced any further.

**Item 11: Executive Session**

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Dr. Henkel and carried unanimously, the Board moved into executive session at 10:00 p.m. to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to article 14 of the Civil Service Law.

Executive Session:  
*10:00 p.m.*

The Board came out of executive at 11:00 p.m.

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

Adjournment:  
*11:02 p.m.*

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*President, Board of Education*

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*Clerk, Board of Education*