

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting
November 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:

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Schachne, Karen Conroy, Sherry Burgoon, Ed Hampston, Karen Griffin, Amy Hooker, Donna Fitzgerald, Chris Allard, Jean Mackay, Kathy Fiero, Deb Baron, Dan Chaize, Lynn Kelly, Tom Sweeney, Dorothea Pfleiderer

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 Literacy Presentation – Thomas Reardon, Karen Conroy, Rochelle Soloway

In relation to American Education Week (November 16 – 20), Mr. Reardon and Mrs. Conroy presented a video on the elementary school literacy program. The video highlighted students and the various ways they are learning fluent reading. Following the presentation, literacy consultant, Rochelle Soloway, explained the fundamentals of the program and answered questions from the Board.

Presentation:
 Literacy

Item 3: Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Hubert and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of October 19, 2009, and the special vote of October 20, 2009.

Approval of Minutes:
 10/19/09, 10/20/09

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

Mr. Tom Sweeney addressed the Board regarding his intent to explore the possibility of starting a JV LaCrosse team. He will be meeting with the Athletic Director and requested 10 minutes at the December 14 meeting to make a formal presentation to the Board.

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:

<i>Warrant:</i>	<i>Date:</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Multifund Warrant #14:	September 30, 2009	\$ 1,184,259.79
Payroll Covering Warrant #15:	September 30, 2009	\$ 463,681.32
Capital Fund Warrant #2:	September 30, 2009	\$ 15,790.49

Warrants

Item 5.2: Resignation

Accepted the resignation of Kristy A. Therrien, Elementary School Secretary (Secretary 1) effective November 6, 2009.

Reason: Personal

Resignation:

K. Therrien

Item 5.3: Substitute Appointments

Approved the following substitute appointments:

Sabrina Skotarczak, Special Education Long-term Substitute

Effective: December 11, 2009 – January 26, 2010

Salary: Step 3 (MA) of the VTA Contract

Substitute Appointments:

S. Skotarczak

Christine Allard, Substitute Bus Driver

Effective: November 2, 2009

Salary: Board approved substitute rate for retired employees

C. Allard

Leave Request -
Amended
C. Nowik**Item 5.4: Leave Request - Amended**

Extended the original leave request of Carrie Nowik (October 13, 2009 – November 6, 2009) through December 23, 2009 and included FMLA coverage, where applicable.

Extracurricular
Appointments**Item 5.5: Extracurricular Appointments: 2009-2010**

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

<u>Erin Upson</u>	MSHS Art Club Advisor	Step 1
<u>Jean MacKay</u>	Odyssey of the Mind Advisor	Step 1

BOCES Substitute
Registry**Item 5.6: 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.

CSE
Recommendations**Item 5.7: CSE Recommendations**

Approved the following recommendations by the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at the meetings held on September 23, 2009, September 24, 2009, October 1, 2009, October 14, 2009, October 23, 2009, and October 29, 2009. Also, designated the Superintendent as signatory for health service contracts related to special education students' IEPs.

Non-Public School
Transportation
Request**Item 5.8: Approval of Request for Non-Public School Transportation**

Approved a request for non-public school transportation for one (1) additional student to private school for the 2009-2010 school year. The district currently transports other students to this location. (*Note: We will be transporting a total of 71 students to private schools*)

Christ the King School	1 Student – Grade 2
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2010 Budget
Calendar**Item 5.9 2010 Budget Calendar**

Approved the 2010 Budget Calendar as proposed in the enclosure

Establishment of MS
Drama Club
Director**Item 5.10: Establishment of Extracurricular Position – Middle School Drama Club Director**

Approved the establishment of a Middle School Drama Club Director as an extracurricular position.

Technology
Donations**Item 5.11: Acceptance of Technology Donations**

Gratefully accepted the following donations from Darryl Carl to be received by the Technology Department:

Item	Serial #	Estimated Value	
HP Monitor	MY92946850	None	
HP Monitor	CN14537623	\$25.00	
HP Monitor	MY92946847	None	
HP Monitor	CN14538012	\$50.00	
HP Monitor	MY92320604	\$25.00	
HP Monitor	SN14538013	\$25.00	
HP Monitor	CN14537994	\$25.00	
HP Monitor	MY92320604	None	
HP Monitor	MY92946848	None	
HP Monitor	MY93266873	None	
SEANIX Monitor	B9838000029	\$15.00	
SEANIX Monitor	B9838000036	\$15.00	
Dell Monitor E770	MY-02010V-47603-142-BDKH	\$30.00	
Dell Monitor	04036A7BCYC6	\$25.00	
Compaq Monitor	852CF19KP212	\$20.00	
Compaq Monitor	405052773C620	\$20.00	
KDS Monitor	382026177	None	
Gateway Monitor	BEJCS592	\$10.00	
AOC Monitor	ARSCM350S	None	
Link Monitor	15119800393	None	
Optquest Monitor	705002707185	None	
Optquest Monitor	705002707184	None	
Brother Intellifax	U56577A2J992150	\$10.00	
Brother Intellifax	U56755A2J992104	\$10.00	
Brother Intellifax	U56577D2J252377	\$10.00	
HP Vectra VL PCU	US94166232	None	
HP Vectra VL PCU	US94211662	None	
HP Vectra VL PCU	US94211690	None	
HP Vectra VL PCU	US94210489	None	
HP Vectra VL PCU	US94211442	None	
Dell Poweredge 600SC PCU	HOSOL21	\$200.00	
SEANIX PCU	661263	None	
SEANIX PCU	629777	None	
	TOTAL		\$515.00

Item 5.12: New York State School Boards Association Membership

Approved membership in the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) for calendar year 2010.

Annual Dues: \$7,365

NYSSBA
Membership for
2010

Item 5.13: Contract with Advanced Therapy – OT Services

Approved the contract with Advanced Therapy, One Rapp Road, Albany, NY, for therapy services from November 10, 2009 – March 30, 2010, at a cost of \$6,600, and authorized Superintendent Teresa Snyder to sign the contract.

Contract:
Advance Therapy

Item 5.14: Out-of-Town Conference Requests

Approved the following out-of-town conference requests:

Out-of-Town
Conference
Requests

72nd Annual NYS Assn. for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance Conference

Destination: Turning Stone Resort & Casino, Verona, NY
Date: Wednesday, November 18 – Saturday, November 21, 2009
Cost: Registration \$160.00/person
Lodging \$119.00/night
Requestors: Sandra Vorse, Theresa Luyckx

44th Annual NYS Assn. for Computers & Technologies in Education Conference

Destination: Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, NY
Date: Sunday, November 22 – Monday, November 23, 2009
Cost: Registration \$165.00/person
Lodging \$112.00/night
Requestors: Thomas Gladd, Brian Stumbaugh, Mary Anne Milano, Timothy Mattison

Item 5.15: Tax Warrant Adjustments

Approved the following tax warrant adjustments to amend the tax warrant in the amount of \$14,147,618.85 to \$14,147,350.60 (a reduction of \$134.90).

Tax Warrant
Adjustments

1. Pennies adjustment to bills \$ 2.71
2. Clerical error by Town of Guilderland Assessor for tax billing year 2008-2009
 - a. National Grid – Correcting Equalization Rate from Assessor
Reduction in school taxes \$ 170.29
Reduction in library taxes 11.02 Total: \$ 181.31 (reduces warrant)
3. Clerical errors by Town of New Scotland Assessor for tax billing year 2008-2009
 - a. Harold & Hazel Flansburg – Senior with Limited Income exemption was not applied
Reduction in school taxes \$ 971.65
Reduction in library taxes \$ 62.87 Total: \$1,034.52 (reduces warrant)
 - b. Nicholas Iarossi, Jr. – Correcting Land Value Assessment
Reduction in school taxes \$ 305.41
Reduction in library taxes \$ 19.76 Total: \$ 325.17 (reduces warrant)
 - c. Spencer Flansburg – Correcting Parcel Value Assessment
Reduction in school taxes \$ 125.25
Reduction in library taxes \$ 8.10 Total: \$ 133.35 (reduces warrant)
4. Small Claims – Town of New Scotland
 - a. Michael Marinello – Excessive Assessment
Reduction in school taxes \$ 591.95
Reduction in library taxes \$ 38.30 Total: \$ 630.25 (reduces warrant)
 - b. David & Dawn Hopper – Excessive Assessment
Reduction in school taxes \$ 1,708.93
Reduction in library taxes \$ 110.57 Total: \$1,819.50 (reduces warrant)
5. Stipulation of Settlement and Order
 - a. Manning Family – Excessive Assessment
Reduction in school taxes \$ 700.04
Reduction in library taxes \$ 45.30 Total: \$ 745.34 (reduces warrant)
6. Pro-Rated
Hazen, Robert & Alicia \$ 1,393.60 *
Robinson, Donald & Liz \$ 225.58 *
Ryan, Michael & Christine \$ 1,548.25 *
Sisson, Spencer \$ 1,433.76
Total Pro-Rated to be collected: \$4,609.19 (increases warrant)

* Collected

Coaching
Appointment:

Item 5.16: Coaching Appointments: 2009-2010

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

James Duncan Varsity Bowling Step 8

ES Substitute
Appointment –
Extended

Item 5.17: Substitute Elementary Teacher Appointment – Extended

Extended the appointment of Tracy Stryker as substitute elementary teacher (Grade 1) effective November 9, 2009 through December 23, 2009. Ms. Stryker will continue as a substitute for Mrs. Nowik during her extended leave.

T. Stryker

Salary: Step 1 (MA) of the VTA Contract (pro-rated)

Tax Collector's
Report for 2009-
2010

Item 5.18: Acceptance of Tax Collector's Report

Accepted the Tax Collector's report for the 2009-2010 school year as presented.

ES Secretary I:

Item 5.19: Elementary School Secretary I

Approved the appointment of Michelle Moss as Secretary I, effective November 30, 2009.

M. Moss

Salary: Step 8 of the UEV Contract

ADMINISTRATIVE
REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

T. Reardon

Item 6.1: Elementary School Report, Thomas Reardon

- Forty-one candidates applied for the elementary school secretarial job to fill the vacancy due to the resignation of Kristy Therrien. Mr. Reardon was pleased to recommend Michelle Moss for the position.
- The Spirit Assembly held on October 30 was a wonderful event for the students based on the importance of keeping one's bucket filled with positive thoughts and comments. The students participated in spirit-building work sessions.
- The elementary school will have three half-days this month for parent-teacher conferences.
- Grades are being entered in preparation for report cards being sent home next week.

B. Whitley

Item 6.2: Middle School Report, Brian Whitley

- The middle school book fair was very successful. A nice selection of books was available and sales were good.
- The first middle school teen night on October 23 went smoothly with 135 students in attendance. There were many activities available to the students. The next teen night is scheduled for this Friday; however, chaperones are needed.
- The Mandarin Chinese program began on October 26. Fifteen students are participating.
- First quarter report cards will be going home next week.
- The annual emergency "go home early" drill will be conducted tomorrow. Students will be dismissed 15 minutes early.

M. Diefendorf

Item 6.3: High School Report, Mark Diefendorf

- The substitute nurse, Patricia Vorees, has been doing a great job in the midst of a high absentee rate due to the flu.
- The boys' varsity soccer team lost the Section II Class CC/C playoff game to Waterford; Conor Cashin won the Class C title in the cross-country sectionals; the golf team has won the title of Class C champions.

S. Winchell

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

- Mrs. Winchell discussed the option of changing the CDPHP health plan from an HMO (Health Maintenance Organization) platform to an EPO (Exclusive Provider Organization) platform. CDPHP will lock in the rate until June 2011 at 4%. The unions are in favor of this plan and Mrs. Winchell recommended that the Board move forward with this option. She will secure sign offs from the unions and bring a resolution to the Board in December for formal approval. The Board was in favor of the EPO option and asked Mrs. Winchell to move ahead with implementing the arrangement.
- Reported that NYSUT will not give a written endorsement of the CanaRx plan. The general preference of the Board is to hold this matter in abeyance until the legal issues are clarified.
- Discussed the drop in our transportation aid ratio from .592 to .547 due to the District's declining enrollment. Aid for transportation decreased from \$731,156 in 2008-2009 to \$679,915 or a decrease of \$51,241. Mrs. Winchell does not yet have the final numbers for High Cost Aid.

M. Goyer

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

- The new 60-passenger bus will be delivered on Thursday.
- Mr. Goyer gave special recognition to bus mechanic, Kevin McDermott who has done a great job in keeping the bus garage running smoothly during Ken Lee's medical leave.
- The O & M staff is preparing for winter. Corrective work will be done on the elementary school air conditioning units. This work is covered under warranty.

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

- Thanked Tom Reardon and Karen Conroy for continued work on professional development initiatives.
- The first meeting for the Getting to Great program was held on October 28. The faculty and administrators in attendance created prototypes with goals for the upcoming school year.
- In addition to Dr. Snyder, 12 teachers and administrators will be attending five Leadership for Student Achievement events over the course of the year.
- Commended Sarita Winchell for her hard work with the health issues.
- The fall sports teams had a great season. Dr. Snyder commended the behavior of the athletes and spectators at the games.

Dr. Snyder

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Item 7.1: Facilities Committee

The committee will meet on December 2 and report to the Board at the December 14 meeting.

Facilities

Item 7.2: Curriculum Committee

The committee will meet on Thursday, November 12.

Curriculum

Item 7.3: Policy & Governance Committee

The committee met on November 3 to review the policies that will be presented under Item 8.2 on the agenda. The committee also reviewed the agenda for this evening's meeting.

Policy &
Governance

Item 7.4: Audit Committee

The committee will be meeting in December with Marvin & Company to review the risk assessment document.

Audit

Item 7.5: Evaluation Committee

The committee has worked on the process for evaluating the superintendent. They will meet with the full Board in executive session after the regular business meeting.

Evaluation

Item 7.6: Communications Task Force

The task force will meet before the December Board meeting – the date to be determined.

Communications

Item 8.1: Board of Education Goals: 2009-2010

This item was tabled. The Board agreed that a small committee would meet with Dr. Snyder to clarify the goals based on the suggestions from the Board. Mr. Gibson and Dr. Dozier volunteered to meet with Dr. Snyder.

BOE Goals:
2009-2010
TABLED

Item 8.2.1: BOE Policies – First Reading

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

Policy 4526.1	Internet Safety
Policy 5710	Violent and Disruptive Incident Reporting
Policy 9240	Recruiting and Hiring

BOE Policies –
First & Second
Readings

Item 8.2.2: BOE Policy – Second Reading

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

Policy 0320	Evaluation of Superintendent
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Item 9.1: Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

There were no comments

Opportunity for
the Public to be
Heard

Item 9.2: Opportunity for the Board to be Heard

- Mr. Blow asked if it would make sense to have a drug testing program in Voorheesville. Dr. Snyder said she would investigate and report to the Board in December.
- Mr. Blow requested a report regarding the guidance program and whether they do career/aptitude testing for students in grades 9-11. Mr. Diefendorf will report in December.

Opportunity for
the Board to be
Heard

Item 10: Miscellaneous

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

Item 11: Executive Session

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Kroencke and carried unanimously, the Board moved into executive session at 10:05 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.

Executive Session:
10:05 p.m.

Return to Regular
Session:
11:25 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 11:25 p.m.

Adjournment:
11:26 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Coffin, seconded by Mr. Blow and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 11:26 p.m.

President, Board of Education

Clerk, Board of Education