

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting
February 7, 2011

C. James Coffin, President
Large Group Instruction Room

Page 1

Board Members Present:

C. James Coffin, President
 Cheryl L. Dozier, Vice President
 Timothy E. Blow
 Kristine L. Gravino
 Lisa A. Henkel
 Gary A. Hubert
 Cynthia Monaghan

Board Members Absent:

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Teresa Snyder, Sarita Winchell, Imran Abbasi, Thomas Reardon, Michael Goyer, Frank Faber

OTHERS PRESENT:

Karen Conroy, Laurie Rothwein, Collin Patterson, George Bernhard, Doug Bernhard, Elaine Bernhard, Ken Roney, Susan Podgorski, Pat Flynt, Emily Vachula, Elizabeth Knight, Robert Denman, Kathy Fiero, Laura Minnick, Jim Minnick, Alex Minnick, Tommy Minnick, Mickey Knight, Pam Standish, Ed Hampston, 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 Dr. Gravino.

Call to Order:
 7:30 p.m.

Item 2: Presentation on Curriculum Mapping, K. Conroy

Ms. Conroy presented to the Board on curriculum mapping. She defined curriculum mapping as a process by which teachers record the content, skills, and assessments being delivered at each level in a school district. Maps provide a comprehensive look at a student's K-12 education experience. Each building has defined mapping goals for the next three years and a timeline to achieve the goals. The Board had an opportunity to see sample curriculum maps.

Presentation:
 Curriculum Mapping

Item 3: Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Ms. Monaghan and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of January 10, 2011 and the special budget meeting of January 24, 2011.

Approval of Minutes:
 01/10/11
 01/24/11

Item 4.1: Opportunity for students to address the Board

Alex Minnick and Ricky Knight addressed the Board, asking that the freshman boys' basketball team be added back into the 2011-2012 budget.

Opportunity for Students to Address the BOE

Item 4.2: Opportunity for the public to be heard

Laura Minnick and Doug Bernhard also addressed the Board regarding boys' basketball and asked the Board to consider this as a budget item next year, or allow the team to be self-funded. Mr. Blow responded that CYO would work to provide a team for these students if the school cannot support a team. It was also noted that many school are doing away with freshman teams causing limitations on playing other teams in the conference. Mr. Coffin asked Mrs. Minnick to submit a written proposal regarding the kind of program being sought and asked that she stay in contact with Mr. Blow. Mr. Blow and Mr. Sapienza will report to the Board with a resolution.

Opportunity for Public to be Heard:

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Ms. Monaghan 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:

Warrants

<i>Warrant:</i>	<i>Date:</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Multi-Fund Warrant #31:	January 7, 2011	\$ 68.00
Multi-fund Warrant #32:	January 7, 2011	\$ 514,669.28
Payroll Covering Warrant #33:	January 5, 2011	\$ 480,356.22
Multi-Fund Warrant #34:	January 18, 2011	\$ 148,979.35
Payroll Covering Warrant #35:	January 19, 2011	\$ 466,976.98
Capital Fund Warrant #5:	January 31, 2011	\$ 37,486.00

Resignations:

Item 5.2: Personnel Items

5.2.1: Resignations

Accepted the following resignations:

S. Podgorski

Susan Podgorski, English (Grade 8)
Effective: October 28, 2011
Reason: Retirement (27½ years of service)

J. Jackson

Jacqueline A. Jackson, Teaching Assistant
Effective: June 30, 2011
Reason: Retirement (18 years of service)

S. Vorse

Sandra Vorse, Health/Physical Education
Effective: June 30, 2011
Reason: Retirement (11 years of service)

P. Flynt

Patricia Flynt, Elementary Teacher
Effective: June 24, 2011
Reason: Retirement (24 years of service)

K. Wells

Kristen Defontes-Wells, MSHS Art Club Advisor
Effective: February 3, 2011
Reason: To assume advisorship for Elementary Art Club

Substitute Teacher:

5.2.2: Long-Term Substitute – Grade 5

E. Vachula

Approved the appointment of Emily H. Vachula as long-term substitute (Grade 5) effective February 28, 2011 – June 24, 2011. Ms. Vachula will replace Mrs. Riccio during her leave.

Salary: Step 1 (MA) of VTA Contract

Extracurricular Appointments

Item 5.3: Extracurricular Appointments: 2010-2011

Approved the following extracurricular appointments for the 2010-2011 school year:

<u>Kristen Defontes-Wells</u>	Elementary Art Club	Step 5
<u>Meghan Numrich</u>	MSHS Art Club	Step 1

Coaching Appointments

Item 5.4: Coaching Appointments: 2010-2011

Approved the following coaching appointments for the 2010-2011 school year:

<u>Robert Gula</u>	JV Lacrosse	Step 4
<u>Theodore Simons</u>	Varsity Track Assistant	Step 3

Substitute Teacher Appointments:
BOCES Registry

Item 5.5: BOCES Substitute Registry Appointment

Approved Capital Region BOCES Substitute Registry appointments for the 2010-2011 school year as presented in the enclosure folder.

CSE Recommendations

Item 5.6: CSE Recommendations

Approved the recommendations by the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at a meeting held on January 7, 2011. The Board designated the Superintendent as signatory for health service contracts related to special education students' IEPs.

2011-2012 School Calendar
[POSTPONED]

Item 5.7: 2011-2012 School Calendar [POSTPONED]

There was discussion about the 2011-2012 school calendar, specifically, the three parent-teacher conference days schedule in November. The concern is that three half-days for conferences, Veterans' Day, and the Thanksgiving Recess is too much time out of school. Mr. Coffin recommended that the administrative staff review the calendar to see if the conference days can be adjusted.

Surplus/Obsolete Items

Item 5.8: Declaration of Surplus/Obsolete Items - Textbooks

Declared 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.

Out-of-Town Student Field Trip

Item 5.9: Out-of-Town Student Trip

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

Grade 6 Science Trip

Destination: Liberty Science Center; Jersey City, NJ
Discovery Exhibition Center; New York City
Date: Thursday, May 26, 2011
Student Cost: \$58.00 per student
Requestor: Daniel Chaize

Item 5.10: Tax Warrant Adjustment

Approved the changes to the tax warrant in the amount of \$15,909,423.70 to \$15,908,419.67 (a reduction of \$1,004.03)

1. Article 7 – Town of New Scotland
 - a. American Tower Corporation
Consent Order by Albany County Supreme Court

Reduction in School taxes	\$ 941.71
Reduction in Library taxes	\$ 62.32*
Total: \$	1,004.03 (reduces warrant)

Tax Warrant
Adjustment

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Item 6.1: Elementary School Report, Thomas Reardon

- Mr. Reardon introduced Emily Vachula who will substitute for Mrs. Riccio during her leave.
- Displayed a small version of the new banner that is being displayed in the entryway at the grade school. The message says *You did a Great Job Today!* and is compiled of adjectives that represent the sentiments of the elementary students.
- The faculty met on February 3 with Laura Lehtonan for a critical thinking workshop.
- On April 12, math consultant, Gail Sobeleski will work with teachers on math mapping.
- Ms. Paulson and Mr. Reardon will lead a discussion on the book, “Boys and Girls Learn Differently” which deals with the issue of gender gaps.

ADMINISTRATIVE
REPORTS

T. Reardon

Item 6.2: Middle School Report, Brian Whitley

Mr. Whitley was not present.

B. Whitley

Item 6.3: High School Report, Imran Abbasi

- Recognized Kristen Heyde who was on the agenda to receive tenure.
- The first Electives Fair was held on January 25. Students in grade 8 met with 9th grade teachers to learn about elective courses in the high school.
- Three senior art students were selected to show their work at the Mohonasen High School Art Gallery in February.
- The first “Make a Difference Day” will be held on March 18. Students will engage in four-hour community service projects, and then return to school to take part in a letter writing campaign for St. Jude’s Hospital. Students are asked to send 25 letters to friends and relatives, explaining the work done by St. Jude’s and asking for donations. A number of local agencies have agreed to find community service jobs for the students.

I. Abbasi

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

- Mrs. Winchell’s report was given under Item 8.1 on the agenda, the 2011-2012 budget presentation.

S. Winchell

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

- The weather has been the focus of the operations & maintenance, and transportation departments during the month of January. Operations & maintenance has done a wonderful job of plowing and clearing snow. The drivers have faced a number of challenges with bad road conditions. The early dismissal last week went flawlessly.

M. Goyer

Item 6.6: Superintendent’s Report, Dr. Teresa Snyder

- Dr. Snyder said that in regard to the budget presentation, it is important to express that the decisions are not easy in very difficult times. There are very painful decisions to be made.

T. Snyder

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Item 7.1: Audit Committee

- Met this evening to review the draft response to the Comptroller regarding the recent audit.
- Reviewed the lunch program, which is running in the black.
- Reviewed and requested guidelines for extracurricular trips and expense reimbursements.

BOARD OF ED.
COMMITTEE
REPORTS

Audit

Item 7.2: Curriculum/Evaluation Committee

- Met on January 13 and heard from Karen Conroy.
- Will meet on February 8 with the administrative staff to review the goals for next year.

Curriculum

Item 7.3: Facilities Committee

- No report.

Facilities

Item 7.4: Policy & Governance Committee

- Met on February 1 to discuss the policy presented under New Business and to review the Board meeting agenda.
- Discussed the policy on Evaluation of the Superintendent and will meet with the full Board to discuss and revise the policy.

*Policy &
Governance*

Item 7.5: Update: Taskforce on Student Drug/Alcohol Use

The February 1 taskforce meeting was canceled due to the snowstorm. Another date will be determined in accordance with the schedules of Judges Adkins and Wukitsch.

*Taskforce on
Student
Drug/Alcohol Use*

Presentation:
2011-2012 Budget

Item 8.1: Budget Presentation

Mrs. Winchell discussed the Governor's budget proposal and how it will affect the 2011-2012 budget, especially the loss in aid. The impact is that budget to budget, we must decrease estimated revenues by \$145,000+ to adjust for loss of additional state aid assuming the legislature passes the Governor's budget. Mrs. Winchell said that since January 24, the administrative staff has reviewed the budget and discussed further reductions. The outcome of those discussions is the latest budget proposal of \$21,289,090, a decrease of \$368,304 (-1.7%) from the 2010-2011 budget. This would mean a tax levy increase of \$447,610 or 3.0%. Staffing reductions in the proposed budget were reviewed. She also discussed purchasing new school buses, presented to voters as a separate proposition.

Tenure Resolution:

Item 8.2: Tenure Resolution

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Dr. Dozier and carried unanimously, the following resolution was approved:

K. Heyde

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, Teresa Thayer Snyder, subject to New York State Education Law §3013, the following person is appointed to tenure effective February 11, 2011, in the stated tenure area:

Kristen Heyde
Guidance Counselor

Second Reading:
Policy 1740;
Textbook Policy
Including Nonpublic
Schools

Item 8.3: Board of Education Policy 1740 – Second Reading

On a motion by Dr. Henkel, seconded Ms. Monaghan and carried unanimously, the Board approved the second reading of Policy 1740, *Textbook Policy Including Nonpublic Schools*, as presented in the enclosure folder.

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

Acceptance of
Donation

Item 8.4: Acceptance of Donation

Gratefully accepted a donation from Voorheesville Blackbird Youth Lacrosse in the of \$6,944.00 for the JV Lacrosse athletic program.

Budget Amendment

Item 8.5: Budget Amendment – Gifts and Donations

Amended the 2010-2011 budget to allow for the expenditure of the following gift donation to the District in the amount of \$6,944.00, and to increase the revenue code A2705 to reflect the receipt of these funds.

Budget code to be amended is:

JV Lacrosse:

Athletic Salaries	\$ 1,922.00	A285515000000
Social Security Program	\$ 313.00	A9030800
Athletic Referees	\$ 1,136.00	A2855413020001
Garage Salaries Extra Pay	\$1,251.00	A55101610000000
Chaperone Athletic Salary	\$ 376.00	A28551600000000
Operations Salary	\$ 200.00	A16201600000000
Athletic Supplies/Uniforms	\$ 1,746.00	A28559902

Executive Session:

9:05 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Monaghan, seconded by Dr. Dozier and carried unanimously, the Board moved into Executive Session at 9:45 p.m. to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to article 14 of the Civil Service Law.

Return to Regular
Session:

10:55 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 10:55 p.m.

Adjournment:

10:57 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Mr. Hubert and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 p.m.

President, Board of Education

Clerk, Board of Education