

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting
March 14, 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, Brian Whitley, Michael Goyer, Joseph Sapienza

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sara Hotopp, Chris Allard, Jennifer Hotaling, Ed Hampston, Pat Conway, Martha Mackey, Gene Grasso, Pam Standish, Anne Plummer, Brenda Zeh, Shara Biernacki, Cindy Abelseth, Kathy Fiero, Dorothea Pfliederer

Mr. Coffin called the meeting to order at 7:38 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:
 7:38 p.m.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Dr. Gravino and carried unanimously, the Board approved the minutes of the regular meeting of February 7, 2011.

Approval of Minutes:
 02/07/11

Item 3.1: Opportunity for students to address the Board

There were no comments.

Opportunity for Students to Address the BOE

Item 3.2: Opportunity for the public to be heard

Jennifer Hotaling addressed the Board regarding the elementary school librarian. She said it is important to have a library media specialist to ensure that students are grounded in technology skills. She asked the Board to reconsider the decision to cut this position. Dr. Snyder responded that the process will not be completed until April 11, when the Board will approve the 2011-2012 budget; however, at this point in time, the library media specialist position will be retained.

Opportunity for Public to be Heard:

On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Dr. Dozier carried unanimously, the Board approved the following items (with the exception of Item 4.8):

Item 4.1.1: Treasurer's Report

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

Treasurer's Report

Item 4.1.2: Warrants

The following warrants were accepted:

Warrants

Warrant:	Date:	Amount
Multi-Fund Warrant #36:	January 31, 2011	\$ 259,106.70
Multi-fund Warrant #37:	February 1, 201	\$ 444,344.11
Payroll Covering Warrant #38:	February 15, 2011	\$ 324,134.01
Multi-Fund Warrant #39:	February 15, 2011	\$ 483,108.14
Payroll Covering Warrant #40:	February 28, 2011	\$ 359,908.43
Capital Fund Warrant #6:	February 28, 2011	\$ 19,686.00

Item 4.2: Personnel Item

Substitute Custodial Worker Appointment
 Approved the appointment of Guy Losavio as substitute custodial worker effective March 15, 2011.
 Salary: Step 1 of the UEV Contract

Substitute Custodian:

G. Losavio

Item 4.3: BOCES Substitute Registry Appointment

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

Substitute Teacher Appointments:
 BOCES Registry

Item 4.4: CSE Recommendations

Approved the recommendations by the *Committee on Special Education* as outlined at meetings held on January 13, 2011, January 26, 2011, January 28, 2011, February 8, 2011, February 14, 2011, and February 18, 2011. The Board designated the Superintendent as signatory for health service contracts related to special education students' IEPs.

CSE Recommendations

Non-Resident
Student Admission
Requests

Item 4.5: Non-Resident Student Admission Requests

Approved the following requests for admission of non-resident students for the 2011-2012 school year:

<i>Student</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Requestor</i>
<u>Ryan Beardsley</u>	Grade 3	Christina Menetti
<u>Meaghan Conley</u>	Grade 8	Christine Conley
<u>Amanda Conley</u>	Grade 5	Christine Conley
<u>Timothy Conley</u>	Grade 3	Christine Conley
<u>Madeline Conroy</u>	Grade 8	Karen Conroy
<u>Julia Conroy</u>	Grade 5	Karen Conroy
<u>Francesca Coppola</u>	Grade 3	Marie Coppola
<u>Sawyer Cresap</u>	Grade 12	Robin Jacob
<u>Shawn Goyer</u>	Grade 10	Michael Goyer
<u>Kathryn Hammes</u>	Grade 1	Tammy Hammes
<u>Camryn Kelley</u>	Grade 8	Timothy Kelley
<u>Alicia Kelley</u>	Grade 5	Timothy Kelley
<u>Jayden Kelley</u>	Grade 5	Timothy Kelley
<u>Ella Kelly</u>	Grade 2	Lynn Kelly
<u>Cara Kelly</u>	Grade 12	Mary E. Kelly
<u>Erin Kelly</u>	Grade 10	Mary E. Kelly
<u>Armine Kurkjian</u>	Grade 12	Thomas Kurkjian
<u>Brianna Nicole Lee</u>	Grade 12	Deborah Lee
<u>Noah Robinson</u>	Grade 7	Lorraine Farrell
<u>Troy Tracey</u>	Grade 8	Lauren Tracey
<u>Tyler Tracey</u>	Grade 3	Lauren Tracey
<u>Sydney Worthley</u>	Grade 4	Shauna Worthley
<u>Austin Zielinski</u>	Grade 9	Judith Zielinski

2011-2012 Kids'
Club Agreement

Item 4.6: 2011-2012 Kids' Club Agreement

Approved the agreement with Kids' Club in the amount of \$10,500 for rental of space at the Voorheesville Elementary School for the 2011-2012 school year as outlined in the proposed contract.

Special Board of Ed.
Meeting

Item 4.7: Special Board of Education Meeting – Wednesday, April 27, 2011

Approved the date of Wednesday, April 27, 2011, for a special meeting for the purpose of conducting an election for BOCES Board members and to vote on the BOCES Administrative Budget: **7:30 a.m.**

School Calendar
POSTPONED

Item 4.8: 2011-2012 School Calendar

This item was removed from the agenda and postponed until a later meeting.

Out-of-Town
Student Field Trip
Request

Item 4.9: Out-of-Town Student Field Trip

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

Varsity Baseball Team Trip
Destination: Huntington High School; Huntington, NY (Long Island)
Date: Friday, March 18 – Saturday, March 19, 2011
Student Cost: \$35.00 per student
Requestor: Kyle Turski, Varsity Baseball Coach

Coaching
Appointment

Item 4.10: Coaching Appointment: 2010-2011

Approved the appointment of James Duncan as Girls' Modified Softball coach for the 2010-2011 school year.

Salary: Step 1 of the VTA Coaching Schedule

ADMINISTRATIVE
REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

T. Reardon

Item 5.1: Elementary School Report, Thomas Reardon

- Teachers at each grade level continue to map the math curriculum in preparation for a half-day workshop with Laura Lehtonen on April 5. On April 12, math consultant, Gail Sobeleski will work with teachers on math mapping.
- The parent book group will be discussing Boys and Girls Learn Differently, which deals with the difference in learning style between boys and girls. Ten families are participating in the group.
- The "Go Beyond" series will be exploring languages, Arabic and Japanese.
- Class lists for the 2011-2012 school year are being formulated.
- A spirit assembly, entitled The Show of Love, will be held on March 18 at 9:00 a.m.

Item 5.2: Middle School Report, Brian Whitley

- The Blackbird Television station premiered on February 11. Approximately 40 students are involved and have shown great creativity in their broadcasts. The middle school students have responded very well to hearing the morning announcements in this format.
- Seventh grade student, Laura DiVirgilio won first place in the National Museum of Racing's annual art show.
- The middle school Odyssey of the Mind team placed first in the regional tournament on March 5. Seventy-three teams from thirty-five schools competed. The team will go on to compete in the State tournament at SUNY Binghamton on March 26.
- March 2 was a half-day for staff development. Teachers worked on curriculum mapping, and each teacher will have a semester of work fully mapped before the end of the year.
- The Middle School Jazz Ensemble will perform during middle school lunch on March 17.

B. Whitley

Item 5.3: High School Report, Imran Abbasi

- The Purple Hearts exhibit documenting the return of 17 soldiers from the Iraq War is on display in the lobby of the PAC.
- The Performing Arts Center was dedicated to Lydia C. Tobler last Thursday. It was a great event for the school and Mrs. Tobler's family.
- The Girls' Varsity Basketball team won the Section II Class C Championship on March 5 and the regional tournament on March 12. They will play in the semi-finals on Saturday, March 19. Mr. Abbasi congratulated the team on being great representatives of the school district.
- Mr. Simons' physics class participated in the 2nd Annual Winter Wave on February 18. Students worked in small groups to build boats of cardboard and duct tape. The boats were sailed two lengths of the pool. The students had fun while receiving a great lesson in physics.
- The half-day on March 2 was spent looking at how to respond when students do not learn. Teachers also experimented with the Parent Portal. The district is hoping to have all teacher grade books online next year for parent review.
- On Friday, March 11, the entire 9th grade class visited various local colleges, including Union, RPI, Siena, and SUNY Albany. During the visits, students were provided a brief informational meeting with a member of the school's admissions office and campus tours. Upon returning to school the students broke up into discussion groups to talk about what they experienced on the trip. The trip was intended to promote enthusiasm about college and motivate students academically.

I. Abbasi

Item 5.4: Assistant to the Superintendent for Business Report, S. Winchell

- Mrs. Winchell's report was given under Item 7.1 on the agenda.

S. Winchell

Item 5.5: Operations, Maintenance, and Transportation Report, M. Goyer

- DMV auditors were in the District last week to review bus driver records. They found four items that need attention; otherwise, the records are in great shape.
- The passing of school buses by motor vehicles is on the rise. Mr. Goyer has been touch with Doug Miller and Captain Reilly with a list of "hot spots" where this frequently occurs, and asked them to be on the alert.
- The parking lot at the elementary school continues to be a problem with parents who are not following rules when dropping their children off at school. Mr. Goyer and Mr. Reardon have been working to keep the flow of traffic moving and students safe.

M. Goyer

Item 5.6: Superintendent's Report, Dr. Teresa Snyder

- Dr. Snyder and her administrative staff have been working on the budget daily.
- Interviews have been conducted for Mrs. Winchell's replacement: initial interviews on March 8, Board interviews on March 14, prior to the meeting.
- The dedication of the PAC was a wonderful ceremony. Dr. Snyder praised Mr. Jantson and the Voorheesville Friends of Music for the excellent job they did in coordinating the evening. She also noted that the chorus and band performances were phenomenal.

T. Snyder

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

**BOARD OF ED.
COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

Item 6.1: Audit Committee

- No report.

Audit

Item 6.2: Curriculum/Evaluation Committee

- The committee will meet on April 14 to plan next year's goals and objectives.

Curriculum

Item 6.3: Facilities Committee

- Mrs. Winchell would like to schedule a meeting during the first week in April to meet with the architects and discuss the five-year capital plan.

Facilities

Item 6.4: Policy & Governance Committee

- Met on March 8 to update and revise the policies under New Business, review the Board meeting agenda, and discuss the budget.

*Policy &
Governance*

Discussion: **Item 7.1: Budget Discussion**

2011-2012 Budget

Mrs. Winchell said she did not have any revisions to the budget presented on March 7. She is attending a State Aid meeting on March 15 and hopes to hear more information on the Assembly and Senate bills for a sense of what is happening with the State budget. For now, the District is looking at a budget decrease of \$348,084 (-1.61%) and a tax levy of \$431,830 (2.89%) for a budget total of \$21,309,310. The taxpayers will also be presented with a bus proposition for the purchase of one 60-passenger bus, two 20-passenger buses, and one used suburban for a total cost of \$216,000. Mrs. Winchell should have more information at the March 28 budget meeting.

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

Proposition: **Item 7.2: Proposition re: Purchase of Buses**

Purchase of Buses

Approved the following resolution for the purchase of buses:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Voorheesville Central School District is hereby authorized to pay the cost of the purchase of school buses, including incidental expenses, as a maximum estimated cost of **\$216,000**, and that said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.

Acceptance of NYS Comptroller's Audit Report **Item 7.3: Acceptance of NYS Comptroller's Audit Report**

07/01/08 – 05/04/10

Accepted the audit report by the New York State Comptroller for the period July 1, 2008 through May 4, 2010. Acceptance of receipt of this report is required by law.

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

BOE Policy Revisions **Item 7.4: Board of Education Policies**

7.4.1: Revisions

Approved revisions to the following policies:

Policy 0320-E: Evaluation of the Superintendent (Exhibit)
Policy 4311.1-R: Display of the Flag (Regulation)
Policy 6600: Fiscal Accounting and Reporting

7.4.2: First Reading

Approved the first reading of Policy 6660, *Independent / External Audits*, as presented.

Audit Committee Charter Revision **Item 7.5: Audit Committee Charter - Revision**

Approved the revisions to the Audit Committee Charter as presented.

Opportunity for Public to be Heard **Item 8.1: Opportunity for the Public to be Heard**

There were no comments

Opportunity for Board to be Heard **Item 8.2: Opportunity for the Board to be Heard**

Mr. Blow asked Mr. Sapienza to address the Board on the freshman basketball program. Mr. Sapienza said we are currently in a holding pattern while assessing the status of other school district teams. Whether the athletic program will include freshman basketball in 2011-2012 is as much a program decision as a financial one. The program could be very limited if other Class C schools do not offer freshman basketball; therefore, other options are being explored. Mr. Sapienza hopes to have an answer by the April 11 Board meeting. Mr. Blow agreed that the issue is more about the level of competition than finances. He added that CYO will do whatever is necessary to see that freshman students have a program and a place to play.

Executive Session:
8:30 p.m.
On a motion by Ms. Monaghan, seconded by Dr. Gravino and carried unanimously, the Board moved into Executive Session at 8:30 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 returned to regular session at 10:45 p.m.

Adjournment:
10:47 p.m.
On a motion by Mr. Blow, seconded by Mr. Hubert and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 p.m.

President, Board of Education

Clerk, Board of Education