

MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION VALLEY STREAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

BUSINESS MEETING
December 13, 2023

WILLIAM L. BUCK SCHOOL
6:15 PM

Members Present: President LaRocco, Vice-President Hernandez, Trustees Herrera, Maier, Nunez, Wheeler and Wilson

Others Present: Superintendent Karakas, Dr. Jack Mitchell, Dr. Lisa Conte and School District Attorney

Absent With Prior Notice: N/A

I. CALL TO ORDER

Having a quorum, the Business Meeting was called to order at 6:20 pm by President LaRocco at the William L. Buck School.

A motion to enter Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. made by Trustee Maier and seconded by Trustee Wilson to discuss Personnel and Contractual Obligations. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion to exit Executive Session at 7:32 pm made by Trustee Maier and seconded by Trustee Wilson. Motion unanimously carried.

The Business Meeting was reconvened at 7:36 pm, at the William L. Buck School, by President LaRocco.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 29, 2023 - Motion to move the minutes made by Trustee Maier and seconded by Trustee Wilson. Motion unanimously carried.

IV. WELCOME TO VISITORS: President LaRocco welcomed all in attendance to the Business Meeting and further specified conditions of public comments/questions.

President LaRocco and fellow Board Members have been able to attend the winter concerts over the last two weeks and they were fabulous. Thank you to all that participated.

V. CORRESPONDENCE REPORT– MS. JENNIE L. PADILLA, DISTRICT CLERK

No Report.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – MR. UNAL KARAKAS

Good evening everyone. We are in the month of December, and this is a very festive month with a lot to celebrate.

First, I want to share how we are continuing our family forums this year. I had the honor of attending my first Family Forum this month at WLB. This forum was called, "Every Scholar Eats Rice." Recipes were shared by families on a Google document, and then families came together to eat. It was amazing to try the different rice dishes from different cultures and truly appreciate the diversity that is present here at VS 24. Thank you to our staff at William L. Buck School who helped out. I also thank Principal Gaddy, our parents, and our students for making this Family Forum a huge success! WLB plans to create a cookbook with all these rice recipes!

PARP- Which stands for Pick a Reading Partner kicked off at RWC last month and ended with an amazing assembly this month. Students celebrated their reading success with clappers that were handed out to them. Almost 80% of students completed a reading log during PARP month, which was up from 60% the year before. That is amazing! Kudos to our reading teachers, classroom teachers, staff, Principal Iacono, and the RWC PTA for making PARP Month a success.

Our holiday performances kicked off this month and ended just yesterday. Everyone is still talking about it. A big thank you to our music teachers Ms. Milanese, Ms. Wilkey, Mr. Garzetta, and Mr. Shmorhun for their hard work in preparing our students for the concerts and doing a wonderful job. And a huge thank you to our students for the incredible performances they put on!

We have one last holiday performance by our music department to share with everyone tonight. That is our District Band. I turn it over to Mr. Shmorhun, who will introduce our band members.

PRESENTATION:

Holiday Music Ensemble

VII. OTHER REPORTS:

A. VALLEY STREAM CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

There are three delegates from Valley Stream UFSD Twenty-Four on the Central High School Board of Education: Vice President Hernandez, Trustee Maier and Trustee Herrera.

No Report

Residency Hotlines:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Valley Stream School District | 516-872-5677 |
| Village of Valley Stream | 516-592-5140 |
| Town of Hempstead | 516-584-5000 |

B. LEGISLATION REPORT - TRUSTEE NUÑEZ

Advocacy Season is kicking off next month on January 25, 2024. N-SSBA will host the Advocacy Season Kickoff event. January 28th through January 29th, N-SSBA will host an Advocacy Institution in Washington, D.C. February 2, 2024, NYSSBA will host a Capital Conference, virtually. On February 7, 2024, NYSSBA will host its annual Lobby Day in Albany, NY. District 24 will do its best to schedule meetings with our legislators to highlight the district's success and build relationships for additional projects. Scheduling for both February dates open on December 18, 2023.

VIII. LIST OF ITEMS FOR ACTION:

A. PERSONNEL – VICE PRESIDENT HERNANDEZ

Motion made by Vice President Hernandez to move the entire agenda by consent. Seconded by Trustee Maier.

Vice President Hernandez 1st, to move A1-A7, Trustee Maier 2nd, 7-0-0

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints Lisa Sells-Asch, who possesses a District Administrator Permanent Certificate, to serve as the Interim Director of Pupil Services. This appointment is retroactive to December 7, 2023, and will continue on a per diem basis, concluding no later than June 30, 2024, in accordance with the terms and conditions outlined in the employment agreement dated December 13, 2023.

2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the permanent appointment of Kadeem McCarthy, as a Cleaner, effective January 2, 2024.

3. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following Teacher Aides to provide supervision after school with the Music Program effective January 23, 2024 through May 31, 2024. Compensation will be in accordance with the agreement between the Board and the agreement with the United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU) at an hourly rate of pay:

Amy Corke
Valeria Weiland

4. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following Substitute School Monitor to provide supervision after school with the Music Program, as needed, effective January 23, 2024 through May 31, 2024. Compensation will be in accordance with the agreement between the Board and the agreement with the United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU) at an hourly rate of pay:

Aneela Khan

5. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Abraham Cubas, School Monitor Part-Time, effective January 12, 2024.

6. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following additions to the per diem substitute list for the 2023-2024 School Year:

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

Daniel Smith (effective December 14, 2023)
Andrea Cannati (effective December 14, 2023)

SUBSTITUTE PART TIME MONITOR

Abraham Cubas (effective January 16, 2024)

7. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the revised date to appoint Daniel Smith, holding a Certificate in Music, as a Leave Replacement for Joanna Milanese, to be effective on or around January 22, 2024 in accordance with the Valley Stream Teachers Association (VSTA) Contract. The duration of this appointment will extend until the return of Joanna Milanese, but no later than June 26, 2024, or earlier at the discretion of the Board of Education. Compensation will be at Step 1 MA, consistent with the provisions outlined in the Valley Stream Teachers Association (VSTA) Contract.

Motion made by Vice President Hernandez to move the entire agenda by consent. Seconded by Trustee Maier.

Vice President Hernandez 1st, to move B1-B2, Trustee Maier 2nd, 7-0-0

B. EDUCATION – TRUSTEE WILSON

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accepts the confidential recommendations of the Committee on Pre-School Special Education previously approved by the Committee on Pre-School Special Education on 11/18/2023, 11/28/2023, 11/17/2023, 11/16/2023 and 11/09/2023, pertaining to students being considered for pre-school special education services as set forth in a schedule provided to the Board of Education and the Board of Education hereby approves and ratifies said recommendations of the Committee on Pre-School Special Education.

2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accepts the confidential recommendations of the Committee on Special Education previously approved by the Committee on Special Education on 11/07/2023, 11/16/2023, 11/21/2023, 11/13/2023, 11/16/2023, pertaining to students being considered for special education services as set forth in a schedule provided to the Board of Education and the Board of Education hereby approves and ratifies said recommendations of the Committee on Special Education.

C. FINANCE – TRUSTEE MAIER

Motion made by Vice President Hernandez to move the entire agenda by consent. Seconded by Trustee Maier.

Vice President Hernandez 1st, to move C1, Trustee Maier 2nd, 7-0-0

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby accepts the Treasurer's Report, Collateral Report, Claims Auditor's Report, Appropriation Status Report, Revenue Status Report, Trial Balance for October 31, 2023.

D. POLICY - TRUSTEE WHEELER

Motion made by Vice President Hernandez to move the entire agenda by consent. Seconded by Trustee Maier.

Vice President Hernandez 1st, to move D1-D2, Trustee Maier 2nd, 7-0-0

1. **WHEREAS**, Labor Law § 27-b was recently amended, effective January 4, 2024, to require school districts to adopt a Workplace Violence Prevention Policy and accompanying forms released by the Department of Labor including: Record and Policy Review; Evaluation of the Physical Environment; List of Risks and Mitigation Efforts; Workplace Violence Training Outline; and Workplace Violence Incident Report; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to implement the policy and accompanying forms to comply with applicable law.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby temporarily suspends all policies requiring a first and/or second reading prior to the adoption of the policy; and it is further

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby authorizes the adoption of Policy 4300 - Workplace Violence Prevention Policy and accompanying forms.

2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education reviews and adopts the following revised policy:

- o Policy 5148 – School Food Service Program (Lunch and Breakfast)

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS, IF ANY:

X. NEW BUSINESS:

Motion made by Vice President Hernandez to move the entire agenda by consent. Seconded by Trustee Maier.

Vice President Hernandez 1st, to move XI-X4, Trustee Maier 2nd, 7-0-0

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Valley Stream Teachers' Association (VSTA), Local 1633, pertaining to the utilization of long-term substitutes for AIS Services for the duration of the 2023-24 school year. This agreement, dated December 13, 2023, is effective until no later than June 30, 2024, in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the MOA.

2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the Agreement with Steam Management, Inc. to perform the work specified in the Agreement which includes, but is not limited to, retrofitting steam traps at Brooklyn Avenue School, Robert W. Carbonaro School, and William L. Buck School and authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute same.

3. **WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the School District to dispose of broken, surplus and/or obsolete equipment, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that such broken, surplus and/or obsolete equipment will be disposed of in a manner that services the best interest of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Twenty-Four, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Schools, or his designee is hereby authorized to proceed with the disposal of the following items:

| Barcode | Description |
|---------|--------------------|
| 002176 | Old MacBook |
| 002099 | Old MacBook |
| 002103 | Old MacBook |
| 002302 | Old Lab Cabby Cart |
| 002473 | Old Cart |
| 002499 | Old Cart |
| 002027 | Old Cart |

4. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the following Budget Transfers for the 2023-2024 School Year:

| BUDGET TRANSFER FOR BOARD APPROVAL | | | |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| DATE: December 13, 2023 | | | |
| CODE | DESCRIPTION | FROM | TO |
| A2110.120-2 | Teachers 1-6 Salaries-RWC | \$ 90,000.00 | |
| A5540.4 | Transportation Expenses | | \$ 90,000.00 |
| Cheese Bus-Old Mill Road School | | | |
| A2110.120-2 | Teachers 1-6 Salaries-RWC | \$ 24,100.00 | |
| A2815.4 | Health Services Expenses | | \$ 24,100.00 |
| 2023-2024 Health & Welfare Services | | | |
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| TOTALS | | \$ 114,100.00 | \$ 114,100.00 |

XI. DISCUSSION

XII. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Trustee Maier at 7:50 pm for a 10-minute recess and then to re-enter Executive Session to discuss certain Personnel and Contractual Obligations. Motion unanimously carried.

The Executive Session was reconvened at 8:00 pm by President LaRocco.

Motion to exit the Executive Session at 9:09 pm made by Trustee Maier and seconded by Trustee Wilson. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion to adjourn the Business meeting at 9:09 pm by Trustee Maier and seconded by Trustee Nunez. Motion unanimously carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennie L. Padilla

Jennie L. Padilla

District Clerk