

MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION VALLEY STREAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

BUSINESS MEETING
July 1, 2025

WILLIAM L. BUCK SCHOOL
8:00 PM

Members Present: President Herrera, Vice President Wilson, Trustee Clark, Trustee Hernandez, Trustee Maier, Trustee Matthew, and Trustee Nunez

Others Present: Superintendent Karakas, Dr. Christopher Keogh, Dr. Jack Mitchell, and School District Attorney

Absent With Prior Notice: N/A

I. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM & CALL TO ORDER – PRESIDENT HERRERA**

The Business Meeting was called to order at 8:19 pm by President Herrera at the William L Buck School.

II. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** June 4, 2025 and June 11, 2025. Motion to approve the Minutes made by Vice President Wilson and seconded by Trustee Maier. Motion unanimously carried.

IV. **WELCOME TO VISITORS:** At this time the Board of Education welcomes questions or comments relative to the items on tonight's agenda.

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

I have nothing to report at this time.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – DR. UNAL KARAKAS

Today officially starts the 2025-2026 school year. Even though we are in summer break, July 1st is the official beginning of the new school year. This year starts my third year as the Superintendent of our district.

Our extended-hour summer school program starts July 7th and continues until July 31st.

We had wonderful graduation ceremonies for all three schools for our sixth-grade graduates. We are very proud of them and know that we have built a strong foundation for them here at Valley Stream 24.

Additionally, last week, we had a ribbon cutting ceremony for an inclusive and sensory playground. This was thanks to the \$500,000 grant from Assemblywoman Solages. The grant also funded our two new water bottle filtration systems in each school.

We are looking forward to welcoming all our students back to school on September 3rd. Wishing our community a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

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: President Herrera, Vice President Wilson, and Trustee Maier.

Residency Hotlines:

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

Trustee Maier:

The high school also concluded all its graduations. It was a great turn out down at the Tilles Center. Thankfully it was inside this year because the weather was extremely hot outside. It was hot inside the Tilles Center but much better than being outside. Their Reorg Meeting is next Tuesday. That's it. Enjoy your Summer.

B. LEGISLATION REPORT – TRUSTEE NUNEZ

We are looking forward to an upcoming legislative season where we will be working with our local elected officials to try and secure additional grants. We are working in partnership with the Board of Education and the Superintendent to share the necessities and wish lists to provide to the local legislator. We will have more to come in September. Thank you.

VIII. LIST OF ITEMS FOR ACTION:

A. PERSONNEL – VICE PRESIDENT WILSON

V.P. Wilson 1st, to move item A1-A10, as listed Trustee Hernandez 2nd 7-0 motion unanimously carried.

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the attached Wage and Benefits Agreement between the District and Angela Liatto, effective July 1, 2025, and authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute said Agreement subject to review by counsel.

2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Grace Riordan, effective August 29, 2025, as a Probationary Elementary Classroom Teacher holding Certificates in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) and Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2), for a 4-year probationary period, pending documentation review. Their probation expiration will be August 28, 2029. Compensation will be at Step 1, BA in accordance with the current negotiated agreement between the Valley Stream Teachers' Association and the Board of Education.

3. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Marlene Cazales-St. Jean, effective August 29, 2025, as a Probationary Elementary Classroom Teacher holding a Certificate in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) for a 4-year probationary period, pending documentation review. Their probation expiration will be August 28, 2029. Compensation will be at Step 1, MA in accordance with the current negotiated agreement between the Valley Stream Teachers' Association and the Board of Education.

4. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Jessica Caracciola, Special Education Teacher, effective June 30, 2025.

5. **BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education hereby amends the resolution adopted on June 4, 2025, to accept the attached wage and benefits agreement between the District and Karolyn Currie and hereby authorizes the Board President to execute same.

6. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following to work as Aides/Monitors – Summer Assistance for updating records for incoming 3rd and 5th grade students for the 2025/2026 school year, at the appropriate rate of pay, as per the agreement between the Valley Stream School District 24 and the United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU):

William L. Buck School

-Mary Cubas
-Karen Motta

Robert W. Carbonaro School

-Erica Posligua
-Francine Casey

Brooklyn Avenue School

-Kathleen Neske

-Sultana Baloch

7. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Number 24/72820 hereby establishes the following standard work days for these titles and will report the officials to the New York State and Local Employee's Retirement System based on their record of activities:

Title- District Treasurer

Standard Work Day (Hrs/Day)- 7.0

Name- Brian Cleary

Social Security Number (last 4 digits)- xxxx

NYSLRS- xxxxxxxx

Current Term Begin and End Date- July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026

Record of Activities Result 1.84

Not submitted: (Check only if official did not submit Record of Activities)

N/A

8. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby amends the resolution dated June 11, 2025 to read as follows: **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves to appoint Grace Riordan, holding a Certificate in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), as Leave Replacement for Ariana Arnone, to be effective June 2, 2025. The duration of this appointment will extend until the return of Ariana Arnone, but no later than June 27, 2025. Compensation will be at Step 1 BA, consistent with the provisions outlined in the Valley Stream Teachers Association (VSTA) Contract.

9. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following, pending civil service and fingerprint clearance, to be assigned as custodial summer helpers for the 2025-2026 school year, at the appropriate rate/scale of pay according to salary set by Board of Education:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Clarence Darby	July 2, 2025
Alexis Navarro	July 2, 2025

10. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Carolina Mendoz Molina, School Monitor Part-Time, effective June 12, 2025.

B. EDUCATION – TRUSTEE NUNEZ

Trustee Nunez 1st, to move item B1-B2, as listed Trustee Maier 2nd 7-0 motion unanimously carried.

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 6/12 and 6/10 for the 2025/2026 School Year, 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 4/23, 5/19, 5/12, 5/14, 4/8, 5/19, 4/28, 6/10, 5/22, 6/5, 4/23, 4/7, 5/16, 4/11, 6/12, 5/13, 3/4, 6/3, 5/2, 6/9, 5/16, 4/11, 5/28, 5/19, 4/11, 5/28, 4/9, 6/5, 4/11, 4/22, 5/12, 5/16, 5/13, 5/2, 5/30, 6/4, 4/28, 5/2, 5/23, 6/3, and 5/20 for the 2025/2026 School Year, 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 MATTHEW

Trustee Matthew 1st, to move item C1, as listed Trustee Hernandez 2nd 7-0 motion unanimously carried.

1. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby accepts the Treasurer's Report, Collateral Report, Appropriation Status Report, Revenue Status Report, Trial Balance, and Claims Auditor Report for May 2025.

D. POLICY - TRUSTEE CLARK

Trustee Clark 1st, to move item D1, as listed Trustee Maier 2nd 7-0 motion unanimously carried.

1. BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby temporarily suspends any and all policies which would require a first reading of a policy in order to establish a policy within the timeframe required by law, and it is further

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby adopts the attached policy # 5100 Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices effective August 1, 2025.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS, IF ANY: N/A

X. NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Hernandez 1st, to move item X1-X16, as listed Trustee Maier 2nd 7-0 motion unanimously carried.

- 1. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes the District to enter into an agreement with Management Advisory Group Special Services, Inc. for consultant services for the 2025-2026 school year, and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said Agreement.
- 2. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the agreement between the District and Trusting Hands Homecare Agency for special education services 2025-2026 School Year and further authorizes the President of the

Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate same on behalf of the Board of Education.

3. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the agreement between the District and Carle Place UFSD for special education services the 2025-2026 School Year and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate same on behalf of the Board of Education.
4. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the agreement between the District and Martin De Porres for special education services the 2025-2026 School Year and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate same on behalf of the Board of Education.
5. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the agreement between the District and Health Source Group, Inc. for special education services the 2025-2026 School Year and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate same on behalf of the Board of Education.
6. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the agreement between the District and Variety Child Learning Center for special education services the 2025-2026 School Year and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate same on behalf of the Board of Education.
7. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the agreement between the District and Blue Sea Educational Consultant, Inc. for special education services the 2025-2026 School Year and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate same on behalf of the Board of Education.

8. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the agreement between the District and White Glove Community Care for special education services the

2025-2026 School Year and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate same on behalf of the Board of Education.

10. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the agreement between the District and The Hagedorn Little Village School, Jack Joel Center for Special Children for special education services the 2025-2026 School Year and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate same on behalf of the Board of Education.

11. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the agreement between the District and Valley Stream UFSD 30 for special education services the 2025-2026 School Year and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate same on behalf of the Board of Education.

12. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby sets the Tax Levy for 2025-2026 school year at the amount of \$48,781,622. \$25,291,945 of this amount is levied upon the Valley Stream High School District.

13. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the agreement between the District and Access 7 for special education services the 2025-2026 School Year and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate same on behalf of the Board of Education.

14. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the agreement between the District and North Merrick UFSD for special

education services the 2025-2026 School Year and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate same on behalf of the Board of Education.

15. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes the following Budget Transfers for the 2024-2025 School Year.

[illegible]

16. **BE IT RESOLVED**, Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the agreement between Kelly Services and

the Valley Stream Central High School District for use at Valley Stream District 24, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029.

XI. DISCUSSION

-Public Hearing of District Safety Plan

XII. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to re-enter Executive Session at 8:24 pm and seconded by Trustee Hernandez. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion to exit Executive Session by Trustee Maier at 9:29 pm and seconded by Vice President Wilson. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion to adjourn the Business Meeting at 9:30 pm by Trustee Maier and seconded by Vice President Wilson. Motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennie L. Padilla

Jennie L. Padilla
District Clerk