

MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION VALLEY STREAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

VIRTUAL MEETING

BUSINESS MEETING
7:30 PM

WILLIAM L. BUCK SCHOOL
JANUARY 27, 2021

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

Others Present: Superintendent Don Sturz, Assistant Superintendent Jack Mitchell, School District Attorney Carrie-Anne Tondo and Supervisor of School Facilities and Operations Charles Brocher.

Absent With Prior Notice: None

The Business Meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM, at the William L. Buck School, by President Wheeler.

Motion to enter Executive Session at 6:45 PM was made by Trustee Maier, seconded by Trustee LaRocco to discuss Personnel and Contractual obligations. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion made to Adjourn Executive Session at 7:40 PM was made by Trustee Maier, seconded by Vice-President Pellicane. Motion unanimously carried.

The Business Meeting was reconvened at 7:44 PM, at the William L. Buck School, by President Wheeler.

Salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Trustee Hernandez, seconded by Trustee Maier to approve the minutes of December 15, 2020 and January 16, 2021. Motion unanimously carried.

Welcome to Visitors: President Wheeler welcomed all in attendance to the Business Meeting and further specified conditions of public comment/questions within Policy 9400.

Public Hearing – Districtwide Safety Plan

President Wheeler then opened the Public Hearing on the Districtwide Safety Plan indicating: this is a public hearing announcing a 30-day public comment period on the updated District Safety Plan, including Labor Law Section 27C (Pandemic Plan). The updated District Safety Plan may be accessed on the District website at: www.valleystreamschooldistrict24.org/school-safety-plan. Please submit all public comments to: Jack Mitchell, Assistant Superintendent for Business at jmitchell@vs24.org. The public comment period will remain open through February 26, 2021.

Correspondence Report from the District Clerk: None

Superintendents Report: Welcomed all in attendance.

Dr. Sturz gave an overview of the DEI Committee and shared the names of the members from our Board of Education, District Administration, Staff, PTA and the community who are all volunteering. Dr. Sturz acknowledged the passion and commitment the committee members have shown.

Dr. Sturz talked about the Budget planning process. Dr. Sturz also spoke about the recent reduction in COVID-19 positive cases in the schools. He stated that we can thank our staff, students and parents the continued practicing of precautions and that we should be all be very proud of how we have minimized the spread within our schools. In addition, Dr. Sturz discussed COVID-19 vaccinations and the support being provided to facilitate our staff accessing the vaccinations.

In conclusion, Dr. Sturz welcomed Architect, Chris Hunt.

PROGRAM:

Presentation of Building Condition Survey – Chris Hunt, Architect

President Wheeler asked if there were any questions received regarding items on the Agenda. Dr. Sturz indicated that questions were received from Valley Stream School District 24 residents regarding the Conflicts of Interest policy. The School District Attorney explained the multi-step process for review and adoption of policies and reviewed the background and consolidation of the Conflicts of Interest and Code of Ethics policies included on the agenda.

I. LIST OF ITEMS FOR ACTION:

A. PERSONNEL –MS. LISA PELLICANE

Motion made by Vice-President Pellicane, seconded by Trustee Maier to move item A.1 as listed. Motion unanimously carried.

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the First Amendment to the Superintendent’s contract between the Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Donald Sturz, in the form attached hereto; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the Board President to execute said First Amendment on behalf of the Board of Education.

Motion made by Vice-President Pellicane, seconded by Trustee Hernandez to move item A.2 as listed. Motion unanimously carried.

2. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints Shanese Orr as a School Monitor Part-time, effective January 28, 2021, pending Civil Service and fingerprint clearance. Compensation for this appointment will be at Step 1 in accordance with the agreement between the District and the United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU).

Motion made by Vice-President Pellicane, seconded by Trustee Maier to move item A.3 as listed. Motion carried by President Wheeler, Vice-President Pellicane, Trustees Herrera, LaRocco, Maier and Wilson. Trustee Hernandez recused himself from the vote.

3. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education hereby approves the appointment of Saundra Hernandez, as Principal Account Clerk, under Nassau County Civil Service Exam No. 73-341B, effective January 28, 2021; compensation shall be at the lateral rate of compensation in accordance with the Agreement between the Valley Stream School District 24 and the Valley Stream Association of Educational Office Personnel.

Motion made by Vice-President Pellicane, seconded by Trustee Maier to move item A.4 as listed. Motion unanimously carried.

4. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following as per diem substitutes for the 2020-2021 School Year:

Teacher:
Karina Lorenzo

School Monitor Part-Time Sub:
Lisa Nieves

B. EDUCATION – MRS. DONNA LA ROCCO

Motion made by Trustee LaRocco, seconded by Trustee Hernandez to move item B.1 as listed. 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 11/5/20, 12/16/20, 12/16/20 and 1/4/2, 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.

Motion made by Trustee LaRocco, seconded by Trustee Maier to move item B.2 as listed. Motion unanimously carried.

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 12/7/20, 12/9/20, 12/11/20, 12/15/20, 1/4/21, 1/11/21 and 1/12/21, 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 – MR. JOHN MAIER

Motion made by Trustee Maier, seconded by Trustee Hernandez to move item C.1 as listed. 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, Claims Auditor's Report, Appropriation Status Report, Revenue Status Report, Trial Balance for November, 2020.

II. 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, Mr. Hernandez, Mr. Maier and Mrs. Pellicane.

Residency Hotlines:

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

Trustee Maier reported that the Central High School District sent a letter regarding COVID-19 testing in the schools. Trustee Maier also reported that the next committee meeting is February 2, 2021.

B. LEGAL REPORT – Representative from the law firm, Ingerman Smith, LLP. No legal report.

C. LEGISLATION REPORT - MR. ARMANDO HERNANDEZ –

Trustee Hernandez reported that the Board attended the Nassau / Suffolk Annual Board Association Conference.

D. POLICY COMMITTEE – MRS. DONNA LAROCCO

Motion made by Trustee LaRocco, seconded by Trustee Maier to adopt the first reading of the following Policies listed in D.1. Motion unanimously carried.

1. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education reviews for a 1st Reading of the following Policies:

Policy 0130	DISTRICT COMPLAINT PROCEDURES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS
Policy 1109	SMOKING AND OTHER TOBACCO USE ON SCHOOL PREMISES
Policy 6123	EQUIVALENCE IN INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF AND MATERIALS
Policy 6160	ACADEMIC PROGRESS OF STUDENTS
Policy 6190	ANIMALS IN THE SCHOOLS (INSTRUCTIONAL PURPOSES)
Policy 6200	VIOLENT AND DISRUPTIVE INCIDENT REPORTING

Motion made by Trustee LaRocco, seconded by Trustee Hernandez to adopt the following Policies listed in D.2. Motion unanimously carried.

2. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education adopts the following revised policies:

Policy 8250	BOARD MEMBERS, SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEE CODE OF ETHICS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
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Policy 9100 SCHOOL BOARD LEGAL STATUS AND OBLIGATIONS

Motion made by Trustee LaRocco, seconded by Trustee Maier to abolish the following Policies listed in D.3. Motion unanimously carried.

3. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education abolishes the following policies:

Policy 1242 PARENT AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Policy 8400 SOLICITING FUNDS FROM AND BY SCHOOL PERSONNEL

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

1. N/A

Motion made by Trustee Herrera, seconded by Trustee Maier to move item 2-as listed. Motion unanimously carried.

2. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes the following Budget Transfer for the 2020-2021 School year:

BUDGET TRANSFER FOR BOARD APPROVAL			
DATE: January 27, 2021			
CODE	DESCRIPTION	FROM	TO
A1621.407-0	Repairs General	\$ 8,400.00	
A1621.406-8	Heating/Cooling Expense		\$ 8,400.00
	BAS Cafeteria & WLB Classroom Heating System Issues		
A2250.161	Inclusion Aides Salaries	\$ 79,615.97	
A2250.161-3	Inclusion Aides Salaries-WLB		\$ 31,720.08
A2250.161-2	Inclusion Aides Salaries-RWC		\$ 47,895.89
A1620.16	Custodial Salaries	\$ 105,598.16	
A1620.160-1	Custodial Salaries-BAS		\$ 54,932.61
A1620.160-2	Custodial Salaries-RWC		\$ 30,619.71
A1620.160-3	Custodial Salaries-WLB		\$ 20,045.84
	Recoding for Building Spending		
A2630.2	Computer Equipment	\$ 3,000.00	
A2630.45	Computer Supplies		\$ 3,000.00
	Supplies for Connectivity and Office Ink		
	TOTALS	\$ 196,614.13	\$ 196,614.13

X. DISCUSSION

XI. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Dr. Sturz read and answered a question that was submitted from a Valley Stream School District 24 resident regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by President Wheeler, seconded by Vice-President Pellicane to enter back into Executive Session at 8:12 PM to discuss personnel and contractual obligations. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion to come out of Executive Session concluded at 8:30 PM. Motion made by Trustee Maier, seconded by Hernandez. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion to adjourn the Business Meeting at 8:30 PM was made by Trustee Maier, seconded by Trustee Hernandez. Motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Biscardi
Jennifer Biscardi
District Clerk