

# MINUTES

## BOARD OF EDUCATION VALLEY STREAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

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BUSINESS MEETING  
June 7, 2023

WILLIAM L. BUCK SCHOOL

6:45 PM It is anticipated that the Board of Education will immediately consider a motion to enter executive session for purposes of discussing a personnel matter and contract matters and reconvene the public portion of the Business Meeting at 7:30 PM.

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

**Others Present:** Superintendent Dr. Sturz, Dr. Jack Mitchell, School District Attorney

**Absent With Prior Notice:** N/A

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### I. CALL TO ORDER

Having a quorum, the Business Meeting was called to order at 6:45 pm by President Maier at the William L. Buck School. A motion to enter Executive Session at 6:45 p.m. was made by Trustee Hernandez and seconded by Vice President LaRocco to discuss Personnel and Contractual Obligations. Motion unanimously carried.

Executive Session concluded at 7:26 pm by Trustee Hernandez and seconded by Trustee Wilson. Motion unanimously carried.

The Business Meeting was reconvened at 7:30 PM, at the William L. Buck School, by President Maier.

## **II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**III. MINUTES:** May 23, 2023 and May 24, 2023. Motion to move the minutes was made by Trustee Hernandez and seconded by Vice President LaRocco. Motion unanimously carried.

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

**V. CORRESPONDENCE REPORT – LOURDES ONESTO, DISTRICT CLERK**  
– Nothing to report.

**VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – DR. STURZ** – Upcoming elementary school graduations will be held at Memorial High School, from Monday June 12, 2023, to Wednesday June 14, 2023, under the big tent. June 23, 2023 is the last day of school.

### **PRESENTATION:**

RECOGNITION OF PRESIDENTIAL AWARD WINNERS

RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

## **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 Maier, Trustee Herrera, and Trustee Hernandez.

Trustee Herrera announced that the Central High School District will continue its summer bridge program, that helps incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders transition into the high school system with a two-week program centered on team building, communication skills, project-based learning, and orientation activities. It's a great 0-cost opportunity, and all those who are interested should fill out the online forms found on the Valley Stream Central High School webpage. In conjunction, the Central High School District will also be offering its summer conditioning program, which can also be found on the Valley Stream Central High School webpage.

#### **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 Hernandez** – Nothing to report.

**VIII. LIST OF ITEMS FOR ACTION:**

**A. EDUCATION – Trustee Herrera** - Motion made by Trustee Herrera to move items 1 and 2 and seconded by Trustee Wilson. 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 05/12/2023, 05/18/2023, 05/18/2023, 05/19/2023, 04/25/2023, 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 04/28/2023, 05/17/2023, 05/01/2023, 05/15/2023, 04/25/2023, 04/04/2023, 05/05/2023, 05/26/2023, 04/25/2023, 04/28/2023, 05/01/2023, 05/05/2023, 04/04/2023, 02/03/2023, 02/09/2023, 02/09/2023, 02/13/2023, 02/13/2023, 05/23/2023, 05/18/2023, 04/17/2023, 04/18/2023, 02/28/2023, 02/28/2023, 05/15/2023, 02/02/2023, 02/03/2023, 02/15/2023, 02/17/2023 and 02/02/2023, 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.

**B. FINANCE – VICE PRESIDENT LAROCCO** - Motion made by Vice President LaRocco to move item 1 and seconded by Trustee Hernandez. 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 April 30, 2023.

**C. POLICY: TRUSTEE WHEELER** – Nothing to report.

**D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nothing to discuss**

**E. NEW BUSINESS:** - Motion made by Trustee Hernandez to move items 1 through 10 and seconded by Trustee Nunez. Motion unanimously carried.

1. **WHEREAS**, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (“IDEA”) and the New York State Education Law require local education agencies to sub-allocate federal IDEA flow-through funds in connection with IDEA Part B, Section 611 and Section 619, and American Rescue Plan IDEA Supplemental Grants to eligible approved special education programs; and

**WHEREAS** it is necessary for the District and an approved special education program to enter into agreements to facilitate the aforesaid sub-allocation of federal IDEA flow-through funds for the 2023-2024 program year; and

**WHEREAS**, the following programs are approved special education programs registered with the State Education Department and are authorized to establish, conduct, operate and maintain an educational program for school-aged children placed in such program for the provision of special education services consistent with the IDEA:

- -Brookville Center for Children’s Services
- -Hebrew Academy for Special Children (HASC)
- -Henry Viscardi School
- -Kidz Therapy Services, LLC
- -Martin De Porres School for Exceptional Children, Inc.
- -Nassau BOCES
- -QSAC, Inc.
- -The Hagedorn Little Village School
- -Tiegerman School
- -United Cerebral palsy Association of Nasau County, Inc. - The Children's Learning Center
- -Variety Child Learning Center

**WHEREAS** each above listed ASEP is currently providing a program of educational instruction pursuant to the laws of the State of New York and the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, to resident school-aged children placed therein by the District for the provision of special education services pursuant to an Individual Education Plan consistent with the IDEA.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District #24 hereby approves the Agreements between the District and the listed programs above to facilitate the sub-allocation of federal IDEA flow-through funds in connection with the IDEA Part B, Section 611 and Section 619, and American Rescue Plan IDEA Supplemental Grants for the 2023-2024

program year in the form of agreements attached hereto;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said Agreements with each of the above listed entities/programs on behalf of the Board of Education.

**2. 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 Michele Tritschler, M.A., SLP for related services for the 2023-2024 school year, and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said Agreement.

**3. 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 The 13th Child Autism & Behavioral Coaching, Inc. for related services for the 2023-2024 school year, and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said Agreement.

**4. 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 Dr. Sepideh Homayoonfar for neuropsychological evaluations for the 2023-2024 school year, and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said Agreement.

**5. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the recommendation from H2M Architects for the award of bid SED Nos. 28-02-24-02-0-001-026, 28-02-24-02-0-004-028, 2802-24-02-0-002-028, for Contracts G1, G2, G3 and Alternates WB-2, RC-1, for District-Wide Flooring Replacements at the William L. Buck School, Robert W. Carbonaro School, Brooklyn Avenue School, to Milburn Flooring, Copiague, New York for the total amount of \$150,185.

**6. WHEREAS**, Public Contract Code Section 20118 authorizes school districts to utilize other public agency competitively bid contracts; and

**WHEREAS**; Suffolk County awarded a competitively bid contract to Commercial Instrumentation Services (CIS) at competitive prices; and

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County has made their contract available to the Valley Stream Union Free School District 24.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** and ordered the Valley

Stream Union Free School District 24 Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the District to award a contract to CIS pursuant to Suffolk County contract #BBRSNC110118 - BOILER BREECHING REPAIR, SERVICE, AND NEW CONSTRUCTION, valid thru October 31, 2023, for HVAC upgrades as specified under the terms and condition of the contracted award.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the proposal for the HVAC upgrades project, to CIS, of Deer Park, New York, for the total bid amount of \$144,500.

**7. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby awards the Transportation Contract beginning on July 1, 2023 through August 18, 2023, set forth in the Schedule attached hereto;

BUS COMPANY	SCHOOL	# OF STUDENTS	SUMMER COST/DAILY	MATRON COST/DAILY	TOTAL SUMMER COST
FIRST STUDENT	Hagedorn Little Village	2	\$264.06 pppd, \$158.39 add'l student + CPI x 30 days	\$179.65 + CPI x 30 days	
	Variety Children's Learning Ctr	2	\$193.47 pppd, \$193.47 add'l student + CPI x 29 days	\$179.65 + CPI x 29 days	
	Cherry Lane School	4	\$140 pppd, \$140 add'l student + CPI x 29 days	\$175 + CPI x 29 days	
	Clearstream School	1	\$215 pppd + CPI x 29 days	\$175 + CPI x 29 days	
	Martin Avenue School	0	\$140 pppd + CPI	\$175 + CPI	\$1.00

	John H. West	0	\$140 pppd + CPI	\$175 + CPI	\$1.00
INDEPEPENDE NT COACH (new bid)	Waverly Park	2	\$200 pppd, \$50 add'l student x 29 days	\$110 x 29 days	\$7,250.0 0
	William L. Buck	2	\$212.60 pppd, \$212.60 add'l student + CPI x 18 days		
SUBURBAN BUC COMPANY	Children's Learning Center- UCPA	1	\$241.30 + CPI x 28 days	\$170.80 + CPI x 28 days	
WE TRANSPORT, INC	Henry Viscardi	1	\$239.17 + CPI x 30 days	\$180.71 + CPI x 30 days	
(new bid)	Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf	1	\$395 pppd, \$100 add'l st. x 28 days	\$200 x 28 days	\$11,060 + \$5,600 = \$16,660. 00
BOCES	Carmen Road School	2	\$2,363.00 x 2 = \$4,726.00	\$4,742 matron, \$4,742 1:1 matron	\$14,210. 00
	Children's Readiness Center	3	\$1,120.00 x 3 = \$3,360	\$4,742 group matron	\$8,102.0 0
	Jerusalem Avenue	4	\$1,120.00 x 4 = \$4,480.00	\$4,742 group matron, \$4,742 1:1	\$13,964. 00

				matron	
	Willet Avenue School	3	\$1,120.00 x 3 = \$3,360	\$4,742 group matron	\$8,102.00
Parent Mileage Reimbursement Contract	Children's Readiness Center	1	\$.655 x 42.1 miles per day = \$27.55 x 29 days = \$798.95		\$798.95

**8. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the disposal of the Grades K-6 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Go Math Program materials that are now obsolete.

**9. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the disposal of the wooden ballot boxes, previously used for the school budget and election vote, that are now obsolete.

**10. BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the following Budget Transfer for the 2022-2023 School year:



VALLEY STREAM UFSD #24

TRANSFER BUDGET CODES  
OVER \$ 5,000

<b>BUDGET TRANSFER FOR BOARD APPROVAL</b>			
<b>DATE: June 7, 2023</b>			
<b>CODE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
A2020.15	Building Principals Salaries	\$ 7,000.00	
A1420.4	Attorney Fees		\$ 7,000.00
	<b>Attorney Fees-Special Counsel - McGivney</b>		
A2610.451	Library Books-BAS	\$ 450.00	
A2610.452	Library Books-RWC	\$ 450.00	
A2610.45	Library Supplies		\$ 900.00
	<b>HNOM State Aid Alotment for Library Materials 22/23</b>		
A1930.4	Claims/Judgment	\$ 600.00	
A2110.456	District Workbooks	\$ 10,000.00	
A2110.484	Math Textbooks	\$ 10,000.00	
A2110.450-4	Math Supplies	\$ 4,700.00	
A1680.490-1	BOCES Data Warehousing		\$ 25,300.00
	<b>Lower Cost Estimates</b>		
A2250.477	Special Ed-Tuition	\$ 8,000.00	
A2110.492-9	ESL		\$ 8,000.00
	<b>BOCES English as a New Language</b>		
A9010.8	Employee Retirement	\$ 38,800.00	
A2630.49	Computer		\$ 38,800.00
	<b>Increased Costs &amp; Additional Replacements Needed</b>		
A9010.8	Employee Retirement	\$ 15,400.00	
A5581.49	BOCES Transportation		\$ 15,400.00
	<b>Transportation</b>		
A2250.477	Special Ed-Tuition	\$ 25,000.00	
A2250.4	Special Ed Expenses		\$ 25,000.00
	<b>Related Services</b>		
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 120,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 120,400.00</b>
<b>APPROVED</b> _____		<b>DATE</b> _____	
Assistant Superintendent for Business			
<b>APPROVED</b> _____		<b>DATE</b> _____	
Superintendent			

**F. PERSONNEL – TRUSTEE WILSON -**

Motion made by Trustee Wilson to move Item 1 and seconded by Trustee Wheeler. Motion unanimously carried.

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education hereby approves the attached employment agreement between the District and Unal Karakas to serve as Superintendent of Schools for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026 and hereby authorizes the Board President to execute same.

Motion made by Trustee Wilson to move items 2 through 10 and seconded by Trustee Hernandez. Motion unanimously carried.

2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education hereby approves the attached First Addendum to the employment agreement with Lourdes Onesto relative to a stipend for the Annual Budget Vote and authorizes the Board President to execute same.

3. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Ellen Galluzo as a Full-time Teacher Aide, pending civil service clearance. Compensation for this appointment will be at Step 1 in accordance with the agreement between the United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU) and the Valley Stream School District 24.

4. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of Kadeem McCarty, as a Cleaner, effective July 1, 2023, pending fingerprint clearance. Compensation for this appointment will be at Step 1, in accordance with the agreement between the Board of Education and Local 74 United Service Worker's Union (USWU). This will be a 26 week probationary appointment, said probationary period to expire on January 1, 2024.

5. **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 2022-2023 School Year:

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS:**

Hannah Johnston  
Ciara Byrne

6. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of School, the Board of Education approves the following to be assigned as custodial summer helpers effective June 26, 2023, at the appropriate rate/scale of pay according to salary set by Board of Education:

Sean Lengyel  
Dylan Kinzer  
Sean Mylan (pending Civil Service & Fingerprint Clearance)  
Jake Mylan (pending Civil Service & Fingerprint Clearance)  
Joseph Casey (pending Civil Service & Fingerprint Clearance)  
Michael Hopkins (pending Civil Service & Fingerprint Clearance)  
Ryan Sciretta (pending Civil Service & Fingerprint Clearance)  
Liam Gattis (pending Civil Service & Fingerprint Clearance)

**7. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of School, the Board of Education approves the following to be assigned as custodial summer helpers effective July 1, 2023, at the appropriate rate/scale of pay according to salary set by Board of Education:

John Mignott

**8. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of School, the Board of Education approves the following to work as a Summer School Aide (security desk) 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):

Corliss Danas  
Margaret Sommella  
Marijo Sensale (Substitute)

**9. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Octavia James, Teacher's Aide, Full-Time, effective May 23, 2023.

**10. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Michael Whelan, Physical Education Teacher, Part-Time (.5), effective June 23, 2023.

Motion made by Trustee Wilson to move item 11 and seconded by Trustee Hernandez.  
Motion unanimously carried.

**11. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Allison Smithwick, Classroom Teacher, Full-Time, effective June 23, 2023.

Motion made by Trustee Wilson to move item 12 and seconded by Trustee Hernandez.  
Motion unanimously carried.

**12. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves unpaid leave for Deanna Fichtelberg for the 2023/2024 school year.

## **XI. DISCUSSION**

## **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the Business Meeting by Trustee Hernandez at 8:25 p.m. and seconded by Trustee Wilson. Motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Lourdes Onesto*

Lourdes Onesto  
District Clerk