

# MINUTES

## BOARD OF EDUCATION VALLEY STREAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

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BUSINESS MEETING

WILLIAM L. BUCK SCHOOL  
JANUARY 25, 2023

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 Nunez, Hernandez, Herrera, Wheeler, and Wilson

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

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

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Motion to enter Executive Session at 6:45 PM by Vice President LaRocco seconded by Trustee Hernandez to discuss Personnel and Contractual Obligations. Motion unanimously carried.

Executive Session concluded at 7:40 PM by Vice President LaRocco seconded by Trustee Hernandez. Motion unanimously carried. The Business Meeting was called to order at 7:43 PM, at the William L. Buck School, by President John Maier.

**II. Salute to Flag**

**III. Approval of Minutes-** minutes for 12/14/2022, 12/22/2022, and 1/11/2023 were tabled by Trustee Hernandez seconded by Trustee Wheeler.

**IV. Welcome to Visitors:** President Maier welcomed all in attendance to the Business Meeting and further specified conditions of public comments/ questions. Library Media Presentation made by teachers and students.

**V. Correspondence Report –** No Correspondence Report.

**VI. Superintendent Report-** Dr. Sturz spoke about the Scripps National Spelling Bee, the Valley Stream 24 Hockey Tournament, and expressed birthday wishes to BAS Principal Dr. Comis, and WLB Principal Mrs. Gaddy.

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

**A. PERSONNEL –TRUSTEE MARKUS WILSON** – Trustee Hernandez asked for a motion for a consent agenda for all items under A. Personnel. Motion by Vice President LaRocco seconded by Trustee Wheeler.

**1. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve unpaid leave for Kristen Seiger, effective January 11, 2023 until her return, but no later than June 30, 2023.

**2. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints Karina Lorenzo as a Leave Replacement for Kristen Seiger, effective January 12, 2023, until the return of Karina Lorenzo but no later than June 30, 2023. Compensation will be at Step 1 MA in accordance with the agreement between the District and Valley Stream teachers Association (VSTA).

**3. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following Salary Changes, effective February 1, 2023:

Ariana Arnone – Step 3 MA+45

Linda Biley - Step 19 MA+60

Kathleen Murray – Step 18 EDD

Julia Sollin - Step 4 BA+30

Ashley Wilkey – Step 12 MA+60

**4. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following Teacher Aides: Amy Corke and Christine Pagan to provide supervision after school with the Music Program and Elizabeth Smyth will be a substitute effective retroactive to January 17, 2023, until May 31, 2023. 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.

**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:



**C. FINANCE – VICE PRESIDENT DONNA LAROCCO** – Trustee Hernandez asked for a motion for a consent agenda for all items under C. Finance. Motion by Vice President LaRocco seconded by Trustee Wheeler.

**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 2022.

**VIII. 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

**Residency Hotlines:**

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

**B. LEGAL REPORT:** Representative from the law firm, Guercio & Guercio, LLP:

**Attorney Report**  
**January 2023**

In a recent matter, our office obtained a favorable decision from the Supreme Court of Westchester County in which the judge found a district’s FOIL appeal determination extending its response time by eight months was reasonable and did not amount to constructive denial of the Petitioner’s FOIL request. In this matter, the Petitioner served a Freedom of Information Law (“FOIL”) request on the district seeking voluminous material initially amounting to more than 10,000 potentially relevant documents. The district subsequently asked Petitioner to tailor their request for a more expedited response, warning the response could take several months. In response, Petitioner filed a supplemental FOIL request to include an itemized list of its original request while broadening the search parameters. The district did not deny the request, but rather responded by extending its response time to a date eight months in advance, citing the volume of material and reiterating its request for a more clarified response. Petitioner appealed, alleging the district’s response failed to provide a reasonable period within which the request would be granted and thus amounted to a constructive denial. The district denied the appeal as premature, responding that in the absence of greater clarification, more time was needed to review the over 30,000 records identified between Petitioner’s initial request and subsequent appeal as necessary to determine

disclosure. The judge found the district's response did not constitute a constructive denial, citing extensions up to nine months as reasonable depending on the circumstances. This decision demonstrates that a time extension for a FOIL request is neither arbitrary nor capricious and not a constructive denial when the district specifically explains its reasoning and cites a reasonable date certain for such extension in its determination communications with the requester.

### **C. LEGISLATION REPORT: TRUSTEE ARMANDO HERNANDEZ**

**D. POLICY COMMITTEE: TRUSTEE KIMBERLY WHEELER** - Trustee Hernandez asked for a motion for a consent agenda for all items under, D. Policy Committee. Motion by Vice President LaRocco seconded by Trustee Wheeler.

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

1. Policy 3710, now Policy 8233- Meals and Refreshments
2. Policy 5148- School Food Service Program (Lunch and Breakfast)
3. Policy 8231- Attendance by Board Members at Conferences, Conventions and Workshops
4. Policy 8250- Board Member, School District Officers and Employee Code of Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

### **IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS, IF ANY:**

**X. NEW BUSINESS:** - Trustee Hernandez asked for a motion for a consent agenda for all items under X. New Business. Motion by Vice President LaRocco seconded by Trustee Wheeler.

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Twenty-Four hereby approves a Memorandum of Agreement with Nancy Jakobsen and the Valley Stream Association of Educational Office Personnel concerning a stipend for providing clerical/secretarial services to the Superintendent of School for the period of January 3, 2023 through June 30, 2023, and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute same.

2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education (Audit Committee) accepts the Single Audit Report for the 2021-2022 school year.
3. **RESOLVED**, the Board of Education hereby approves the appointment of District Wise Search Consultants to assist the Board of Education in its search for a Superintendent of Schools for the Valley Stream Union Free School District Twenty-Four, effective January 25, 2023

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon review by counsel, the President of the Board of Education is authorized to execute an Agreement setting forth the terms and conditions of the appointment and which indicates that the cost of the service shall not exceed \$23,000, plus reasonable expenses as set forth therein.

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

<b>BUDGET TRANSFER FOR BOARD APPROVAL</b>			
<b>DATE: January 25, 2023</b>			
<b>CODE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
A9020.8	Teachers Retirement	\$ 24,000.00	
A2815.4	Health Services Expenses		\$ 24,000.00
	<b>Health Services Paid to Other Districts</b>		
A2110.12	Teachers 1-6 Salaries	\$ 25,000.00	
A1010.4	Board of Ed Expenses		\$ 25,000.00
	<b>Search Firm</b>		
A2630.2	Computer Equipment	\$ 2,500.00	
A2630.45	Computer Supplies		\$ 2,500.00
	<b>District Charging Cables &amp; Ink</b>		
A9060.85	Dental Insurance	\$ 20,000.00	
A9050.8	Unemployment Insurance	\$ 10,000.00	
A9901.93	Transfer to School Fund	\$ 10,000.00	
A9030.8	Social Security	\$ 40,000.00	
A9010.8	Employee Retirement	\$ 17,696.00	
A2250.477	Special Ed-Tuition		\$ 97,696.00
	<b>New Special Ed Entrants</b>		
A2110.12	Teachers 1-6 Salaries	\$ 375,567.54	
A1310.16	Business Office Salaries		\$ 8,514.82
A2020.160-1	Buildg Office Salaries-BAS		\$ 4,543.50
A2020.160-2	Buildg Office Salaries-RWC		\$ 6,142.66
A2020.160-3	Buildg Office Salaries-WLB		\$ 5,801.75
A2110.123	After School Programs		\$ 10,757.00
A2110.123-1	After School Programs-BAS		\$ 2,318.50
A2110.123-2	After School Programs-RWC		\$ 1,995.57
A2110.123-3	After School Programs-WLB		\$ 2,631.50
A2110.124-1	Support Services Salaries-BAS		\$ 179,637.55
A2110.124-2	Support Services Salaries-RWC		\$ 87,517.00
A2110.124-3	Support Services Salaries-WLB		\$ 60,600.69
A2250.16	CSE Office Salaries		\$ 5,107.00
A2110.120-3	Teachers 1-6 Salaries-WLB	\$ 22,268.01	
A2110.120-1	Teachers 1-6 Salaries-BAS		\$ 22,268.01
A2110.121	Kindergarten Teachers Salaries	\$ 5,548.00	
A2110.121-2	Kindergarten Teachers Salaries-RWC		\$ 2,241.00



A2110.121-3	Kindergarten Teachers Salaries-WLB		\$ 3,307.00
A2250.151-1	Inclusion Teachers Salaries-BAS	\$ 180,355.60	
A2250.151-2	Inclusion Teachers Salaries-RWC	\$ 549,082.28	
A2250.150-1	RR/Speech/CID Salaries-BAS		\$ 40,223.63
A2250.150-2	RR/Speech/CID Salaries-RWC		\$ 334,061.83
A2250.150-3	RR/Speech/CID Salaries-WLB		\$ 80,216.91
A2250.161	Inclusion Aides Salaries		\$ 62,284.72
A2250.161-1	Inclusion Aides Salaries-BAS		\$ 26,455.23
A2250.161-2	Inclusion Aides Salaries-RWC		\$ 85,280.63
A2250.161-3	Inclusion Aides Salaries-WLB		\$ 100,914.93
A2610.150-3	Library Salaries-WLB	\$ 2,762.00	
A2110.12	Teachers 1-6 Salaries	\$ 1,163.50	
A2610.150-1	Library Salaries-BAS		\$ 3,453.00
A2610.150-2	Library Salaries-RWC		\$ 472.50
A2110.12	Teachers 1-6 Salaries	\$ 38,572.20	
A2630.12	Computer Salary		\$ 38,572.20
A2110.121	Kindergarten Teachers Salaries	\$ 33,536.73	
A2630.120-2	Computer Salary-RWC		\$ 33,536.73
A2815.160-1	School Nurses Salaries-BAS	\$ 5,686.10	
A2815.160-2	School Nurses Salaries-RWC	\$ 10,643.00	
A2815.160-3	School Nurses Salaries-WLB	\$ 2,437.90	
A2815.16	School Nurses Salaries		\$ 18,767.00
A2110.12	Teachers 1-6 Salaries	\$ 7,853.00	
A2820.151-71	Instructional Salaries-Psychologist-BAS		\$ 2,435.00
A2820.151-72	Instructional Salaries-Psychologist-RWC		\$ 2,439.00
A2820.151-73	Instructional Salaries-Psychologist-WLB		\$ 2,979.00
A2825.150-3	Social Worker Salaries-WLB	\$ 64,397.00	
A2825.150-1	Social Worker Salaries-BAS		\$ 64,397.00
A1620.160-1	Custodial Salaries-BAS	\$ 3,110.80	
A1620.160-2	Custodial Salaries-RWC	\$ 6,280.96	
A1620.16	Custodial Salaries		\$ 8,200.41
A1620.160-3	Custodial Salaries-WLB		\$ 1,191.35
A1621.161-2	Maintenance Overtime Salaries-RWC	\$ 1,150.00	
A1621.16	Maintenance Salaries		\$ 1,150.00
A2110.140-3	Sub Teachers Salaries-WLB	\$ 33,763.56	
A2110.140-1	Sub Teachers Salaries-BAS		\$ 20,000.00
A2110.140-3	Sub Teachers Salaries-RWC		\$ 13,763.56
A1240.4	Supt Office Expense	\$ 500.00	
A1240.45	Supt Office Supplies	\$ 428.00	
A1240.2	Supt. Equipment	\$ 1,500.00	
A1240.15	Central Admin Salary		\$ 2,428.00
	<b>Reallocation of Salaries</b>		

H2001.201-92-0	2019-20 Closed Loop Geothermal Design & Construction - SED# 28-02-24-02-0-013-002	\$ 53,122.85	
H1621.200-22-648	Turf Replacment & Irrigation Installation-BAS- DASNY Project# 22648		\$ 32,419.07
H1621.200-17-052	Field Renovations – RWC/WLB-DASNY Project# 17052		\$ 20,703.78
	<b>BAS/WLB Field Renovations</b>		
H2001.201-92-0	2019-20 Closed Loop Geothermal Design & Construction - SED# 28-02-24-02-0-013-002	\$ 2,550.00	
H1620.293-22-01	2022-23 – Brooklyn Avenue School HVAC Upgrades <b>BAS HVAC Upgrades</b>		\$ 2,550.00
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 1,551,475.03</b>	<b>\$ 1,551,475.03</b>

**XI. DISCUSSION**

**XII. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

President Maier requests for a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn the Business meeting at 7:47 PM made by Trustee Hernandez, seconded by Trustee Wheeler.

Motion to enter Executive Session at 7:56 PM by Trustee Hernandez seconded by Trustee Wheeler to discuss Personnel and Contractual Obligations. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion to adjourn the Executive Session at 9:52 PM by Trustee Hernandez seconded by Trustee Wheeler. Motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Elizabeth Fleurimond*  
Elizabeth Fleurimond  
District Clerk

