

# MINUTES

## BOARD OF EDUCATION VALLEY STREAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

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WORK SESSION  
6:45 PM

WILLIAM L. BUCK SCHOOL  
May 5, 2021

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

Others Present: Superintendent Don Sturz, Assistant Superintendent Jack Mitchell, Dr. Lisa Conte and School District Attorney Carrie-Anne Tondo. Also in attendance were Caitlyn Kempsey, Naomi Narain, Stephanie Shapiro, Vivian Ramirez, Lisa Bernstein, Johanne Gaddy and their guests.

Absent With Prior Notice: None

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

The Work Session 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 7:27 PM was made by Trustee Hernandez, seconded by Trustee Maier. Motion unanimously carried.

The Work Session was reconvened at 7:31 PM, at the William L. Buck School, by President Wheeler.

### **II. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:** None.

Salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Sturz spoke about the recent Universal Pre-K state funding grant and wanted to address some misinformation. He stated that Valley Stream School District cannot offer Universal Pre-K in district as there is no available space. RFP's will be sent to eligible community-based agencies to see if any are interested in partnering with the district. If an eligible community-based partnership can be found, the state grant only provides for 48 students. If more than the allowable number apply then students will be chosen by lottery. Dr. Sturz also stated that as this is a state grant funded program, sustainability over time is a concern.

### **III. ACTION ITEMS:**

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

**1. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Caitlyn Kempsey, effective September 1, 2021 as an Elementary Classroom Teacher holding a Certificate for Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2), Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Students with Disabilities (Birth – Grade 2), and Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6), for a 4 year probationary period. Her probation expiration will be August 31, 2025\*. 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.

\*To be eligible to receive tenure, the probationer must receive composite or overall APPR ratings of either effective or highly effective in at least three of the four preceding years, and if the probationer receives an ineffective composite or overall APPR rating in the final year of the probationary period she will not be eligible for tenure at that time.

Motion made by Vice-President Pellicane, 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 appoints Naomi Narain, effective September 1, 2021 as an Elementary Classroom Teacher holding a Certificate for

Early Childhood Education (Birth – Grade 2), Childhood Education (Grades 1 – 6), Students with Disabilities (Birth – Grade 2), and Students with Disabilities

(Grades 1 – 6), for a 4 year probationary period. Her probation expiration will be August 31, 2025\*. 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.

\*To be eligible to receive tenure, the probationer must receive composite or overall APPR ratings of either effective or highly effective in at least three of the four preceding years, and if the probationer receives an ineffective composite or overall APPR rating in the final year of the probationary period she will not be eligible for tenure at that time.

Motion made by Vice-President Pellicane, seconded by Trustee Maier, to move item #3 as listed. Motion unanimously carried.

**3. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Stephanie Shapiro, effective September 1, 2021 as an Elementary Classroom Teacher holding a Certificate for Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2), Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) and English to Speakers of Other Languages, for a 4 year probationary period. Her probation expiration will be August 31, 2025\*. 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.

\*To be eligible to receive tenure, the probationer must receive composite or overall APPR ratings of either effective or highly effective in at least three of the four preceding years, and if the probationer receives an ineffective composite or overall APPR rating in the final year of the probationary period she will not be eligible for tenure at that time.

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

**4. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Vivian Ramirez, effective September 1, 2021 as an ENL Teacher, holding a Certificate for English to

Speakers of Other Languages and Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), for a 4 year probationary period. Her probation expiration will be August 31, 2025\*.

Compensation will be at Step 2 MA in accordance with the current negotiated agreement between the Valley Stream Teachers' Association and the Board of Education.

\*To be eligible to receive tenure, the probationer must receive composite or overall APPR ratings of either effective or highly effective in at least three of the four preceding years, and if the probationer receives an ineffective composite or overall APPR rating in the final year of the probationary period she will not be eligible for tenure at that time.

Motion made by Vice-President Pellicane, seconded by Trustee Hernandez, to move item #5 as listed. Motion unanimously carried.

**5. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Lisa Bernstein, effective September 1, 2021 as a Reading Teacher, holding a Certificate in Early Childhood (Birth – Grade 2), Childhood Education (Grades 1 – 6), Students with Disabilities (Birth – Grade 2), Students with Disabilities (Grades 1 – 6), and Literacy (Birth – Grade 6), for a 4 year probationary period. Her probation expiration will be August 31, 2025\*. 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.

\*To be eligible to receive tenure, the probationer must receive composite or overall APPR ratings of either effective or highly effective in at least three of the four preceding years, and if the probationer receives an ineffective composite or overall APPR rating in the final year of the probationary period she will not be eligible for tenure at that time.

Motion made by Vice-President Pellicane, seconded by Trustee Maier, to move item #6 as listed. Motion unanimously carried.

**6. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Johanne Gaddy as Building Principal, effective July 1, 2021, for a 4 year probationary period. Her probation will expire on June 30, 2025. Ms. Gaddy has Certification as Permanent School

Administrator / Supervisor. Compensation will be in accordance with the current negotiated agreement with the Principals Association.

\*To be eligible to receive tenure, the probationer must receive composite or overall APPR ratings of either effective or highly effective in at least three of the four preceding years, and if the probationer receives an ineffective composite or overall APPR rating in the final year of probationary period she will not be eligible for tenure at that time.

Motion by Trustee Hernandez and seconded by Trustee Maier to adjourn the Work Session at 7:41 PM. Motion unanimously carried.

President Wheeler opened the Budget Hearing Presentation at 7:41 PM.

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

President Wheeler welcomed Assistant Superintendent Jack Mitchell to Present the Budget Hearing Presentation.

## **XII. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Dr. Sturz read and answered a question that was submitted from Aisha Darby, a Valley Stream School District 24 residents regarding the reimplementation of the Spanish program.

## **IV. MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

Motion by Trustee Maier and seconded by Trustee Hernandez to adjourn the entire meeting at 8:02 PM. Motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Jennifer Biscardi*

Jennifer Biscardi  
District Clerk