

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Leptondale Elementary School

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

6:45 p.m. (Executive Session) / 7:00 p.m. (Regular Session)

*Holiday Song Performed by the  
Leptondale Elementary School Chorus*

1. Call to Order

At 6:45 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Joseph LoCicero in the Leptondale Elementary All-Purpose Room.

Members Present

Mrs. Anderson  
Mr. Bartolone  
Mrs. Crowley  
Mr. Frisbie  
Mr. LoCicero  
Mrs. McCartney – *sworn in @ 7:02 p.m.*  
Mr. Nafey  
Mr. Palen  
Mr. Petrocelli

Members Absent

Mr. Marco Martini [Student Board Member]

Also present were Superintendent Castle and Assistant Superintendents Devincenzi, Rounds and White.

Administrators Albert, Brown, Harjes, Masopust, Parete and Redmond arrived at 7:00 p.m.

2. Executive Session – Agenda #1

At 6:45 p.m. Mr. Petrocelli moved the Board enter Executive Session to interview a prospective candidate for the position on the Board of Education vacated by Ursula Petricek.

Motion seconded by Mr. Palen and carried 8 – 0.

The Board reconvened at 6:59 p.m.

3. Regular Session recalled to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

At 7:00 p.m. the meeting was recalled to order by President Joseph LoCicero.

4. Add Item to Agenda

Mr. Frisbie moved item, Fill Vacancy/Appoint Board of Education Member be added to the Agenda.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bartolone and carried 8 – 0.

5. Fill Vacancy/Appoint Board of Education Member

Mr. Frisbie moved the Board accept the following resolution:

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approve the appointment of **Erin McCartney** as a member of the Board of Education to fill the vacancy that was created when Mrs. Ursula Petricek resigned her seat. The appointment will be until the Annual Election held on May 16, 2023.

Motion seconded by Mr. Nafey and carried 8 – 0.

6. Administer Oath of Allegiance

Ms. Kelli Corcoran, District Clerk, administered the Oath of Allegiance to **Erin McCartney** (filling the seat vacated by Ursula Petricek, effective September 22, 2022).

7. Commendation – Agenda #2

The Board recognized Jennifer Gravelle for receiving the New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (NYS AHPERD) 2022 Adapted Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award.

8. Approve Minutes – [11/16/22 Regular Board Meeting] – Agenda #5

Mr. Palen moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the minutes of the November 16, 2022, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. Frisbie and carried 9 – 0.

9. Board Committee Reports 2022-2023 – Agenda #6

**Audit:**

Mrs. Crowley reported that the Audit Committee has not met since the last meeting.

**Budget:**

Mrs. Crowley reported as was stated at the last meeting the 2023-2024 budget process has begun, and the rollover budget will be presented to the Board in January to be followed by meetings in March and April as well as updates throughout the budget development. A meeting was held on December 1, 2022, with the elementary principals and special education department to review preliminary class sizes. We will meet again to review class sizes in the beginning of February. On December 22, 2022 building allocations of per pupil expenditures will be provided to all departments and building administrators.

**Buildings & Grounds:**

Mr. Frisbie reported that the Buildings and Grounds Committee has not met since the last board meeting. As an update, bollards and barriers have been installed at all buildings. There is a recommendation on the December 21<sup>st</sup> agenda to approve the emergency procurement, as well as a recommendation to approve Commissioning Services as part of the Capital Project Phase I and the recommendation to approve the Natural Gas Supply. Review of items for Phase I of the Capital Project has begun by State Ed and we are awaiting SED approval. Finally, the committee is looking to schedule a meeting for early January.

- Mrs. Crowley asked if the bollards would be covered by insurance and Mr. Castle indicated that the District would attempt to get reimbursement from the insurance company.

**CDEP:**

Mrs. Anderson reported that the CDEP Committee has not met since the last board meeting. The next committee meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the high school auditorium.

**Curriculum/TAG:**

Mrs. Anderson reported that the first Curriculum/TAG Committee meeting was held on December 6, 2022. Mr. White gave an update on Computer Based Testing (CBT). He stated that the New York State Education Department (NYSED) announced that beginning Spring of 2026, CBT will be required for the state assessments in grade 3-8. He shared the timeline to implement CBT in Wallkill. The Math AIS teachers gave the committee an update on the elementary Math AIS program for the 2022-2023 school year. Mr. Masopust reported on the work of the Regents Grade Calculation Committee. The committee is recommending that Regents need to be calculated in the student's GPA; however, they are recommending that it be reduced from 20% to 10%. This includes all final exams as well. Mrs. Werlau provided the committee an update on the TAG activities for the 2022-2023 school year. The next Curriculum/TAG committee meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

- Mr. Castle stated that the policy will need to be reviewed at the next policy meeting with regards to the proposed change to the calculation of final averages at the secondary level. The revised policy will go for first reading at the January 18<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting.

**Health & Safety:**

Mr. Palen reported that the Health and Safety Committee met on December 8, 2022. The committee discussed safety drills that were completed for the first semester. In addition, there was a discussion about the recent training that staff had on Superintendent's Conference Day on threat assessment as well as the continued trainings our buildings teams have been going through as part of grant through Ulster BOCES.

**Legislative:**

Mr. Petrocelli commented on an article from NYSSBA's On Board regarding a proposal by the Board of Regents that calls for \$3.4 billion increase in school aid for the 2023-2024 school year, which would be used mainly to fund the foundation aid phase in plan. This proposal will need to be negotiated between the legislators and Governor. Mr. Petrocelli asked Mr. Castle if he knew how many times the Board of Regents made proposals to our legislators and Governor that didn't get approved. Mr. Castle clarified that the Board of Regents advocates for monies and programs to our legislators for them to consider when preparing the State budget. He doubts that it has ever been a 100% match. We hope to find out from the Governor what our estimated State Aid will be near the end of January and hopefully be shared with the Board by the next board meeting.

**Policy:**

Mr. Palen reported that the Policy Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next committee meeting will be held on January 10, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in high school room 102.

**Technology:**

Mr. Bartolone reported that the Technology Committee met on December 19, 2022. Mr. Hein updated the committee with recent infrastructure upgrades, such as, replacing servers, Storage Area Network and Core Edge Switches. He also shared that he is meeting with a vendor to update our cyber security. He shared the staff updates within the department with everyone's responsibilities. Lastly, he shared that our current website vendor, Blackboard has been acquired by FinalSite and that we have until December 31, 2025, to convert to one of their templates. The next committee meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

**Wellness:**

Mr. Nafey reported that the Wellness Committee has not met since the last board meeting. The next committee meeting will be held on January 10, 2023, at 3:45 p.m. in high school room 102.

**Student Rep:**

On behalf of Marco Martini, Mrs. McCartney reported the following:

College Acceptances:

- Congratulations to Jordan Marwin for his appetite to Ivy League Cornell University's College of Engineering. Marco Martini was also accepted to Cornell's School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

Clubs:

- NHS hosted their annual Holiday Helper Day on December 21<sup>st</sup>.
- NHS continues to pair tutors with students in need of tutoring help whether it be Math, English, or Chemistry.
- SGA had a very successful Spirit Week including Pajama Day, Holiday Gear Day, Flannel Day, and Ugly Sweater Day. Additionally, they sold holiday candy grams.

Athletics:

- The Wallkill Wrestling Team had a big win over Middletown and took home the team titles at the Clarkstown North Tournament and Bethlehem Tournament.
- The Boys Basketball Team fought hard in overtime wins over Saugerties and FDR.

Music/Drama:

- All three music ensembles gave an amazing performance at the Winter concert last week with an especially special combined piece of Let it Snow.
- On December 4<sup>th</sup>, Durward Entrekin on trombone and Oliva Moussot on french horn performed at the All-State Festival in Rochester. Additionally, Durward was selected to perform at the NAFME All Eastern Honors Ensemble in April.
- Wallkill's Panther Drama Club have started the preparations for the musical Mamma Mia.

**Comment:**

➤ Mr. Castle commented on the amazing holiday Spirit in our schools. He indicated that it was great seeing our elementary students decorate and do crafts to bring home to their parents. The Winter concerts were incredible, and the gymnasiums and auditoriums were packed. He stated that we have a great community, and it is amazing how we come together to celebrate the holidays and one another; it's a real good feeling. Mr. Castle thanked the administrators for supporting these activities and the faculty and staff for their involvement.

10. **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Palen moved items 7A through 7I and 8A through 8I be taken as consent agenda.

Motion seconded by Mr. Nafey and carried 9 – 0.

**Approve Appointments – Administration – Agenda #7.A.**

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointments of **Brian Masopust and Michael Redmond**, to the position of Co-Athletic Directors at a stipend of \$4,666 each, effective March 6, 2023 through June 30, 2023.

**Accept Resignation – Non-Instructional – Agenda #7.B.**

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Kailee LoSavio** from the position of Part-Time [0.97 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide, effective December 21, 2022, pending her appointment to the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide.

**Approve Appointment – Non-Instructional – Agenda #7.C.**

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **Kailee LoSavio** to a 90-Day Probationary Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide position, effective December 22, 2022, at a salary of \$19,918.08 pro-rated [Step 3 of the CSEA Contract, \$15.96 per hour, (6.5 hours per day)].

**Award Tenure – Administration – Agenda #7.D.**

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Nicole Parete** in the area of Coordinator of Special Education, effective March 11, 2023.

**Approve Second Readings – Policy – Agenda #7.E.**

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the second reading of the following policies:

1. Policy #1335 – Appointment and Duties of the Internal Claims Auditor
2. Policy #6190 – Sexual Harassment: Employees - Workplace
3. Policy #7222 – Education of Homeless Children and Youth
4. Policy #8500 – Programs for Students with Disabilities Under the IDEA and New York's Education Law Article 89

**Approve Appointments – CSE and CPSE Committees Volunteer Parent Members – Agenda #7.F.**

The Board approve the following appointments of volunteer parent members of the Committee of Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) and the Committee of Special Education (CSE) for the 2022-2023 school year:

**Helen Edgar**

**Kathleen Harrington**

**Jean Poirier**

**Approve Substitutes Lists – Agenda #7.G.**

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the lists for individuals for teaching and non-teaching substitute positions.

**Approve Pre-School Special Education Placements – Agenda #7.H.**

The Board approve the placement of Pre-School Special Education students as recommended by the Committee on Special Education in its November minutes.

Approve Special Education Placements – Agenda #7.I.

The Board approve the placement of Special Education students as recommended by the Committee on Special Education in its November minutes.

Approve Use of Facilities – Agenda #8.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Senior High School Gymnasium, Auditorium, Cafeteria and Classrooms by **Wallkill Varsity Gymnastics and Wallkill Varsity Cheerleading** [for a Clinic and Co-Rec] as indicated below:

Friday February 17, 2023 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Wallkill Senior High School Auditorium, Band Room and Light Booth, by the **Footworks Dance Center** [for a Dance Recital] as indicated below:

Friday	June 16, 2023	3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday	June 17, 2023	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday	June 18, 2023	12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Accept Treasurer’s Report – Agenda #8.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education has reviewed and accepts the Treasurer's Reports as of November 30, 2022 and Revenues as of November 30, 2022.

Approve Appropriation – 2023 Senior Celebration – Agenda #8.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve an appropriation of \$1,500 in support of the **2023 Senior Celebration**.

Approve Resolution – Emergency Procurement – Agenda #8.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, on or around November 21, 2022, a vehicle caused extensive damage to: (i) the front porch, steps, and retaining wall of the District Office located at 1500 Route 208, PO Box 310, Wallkill, New York, 12589; (ii) the entry way of the High School located at 90 Robinson Drive, Wallkill, New York 12589; and (iii) the entry way of the John G. Borden Middle School located at 109 Bona Ventura Avenue Wallkill, NY 12589 (hereinafter the “Incident”);

**WHEREAS**, in response to incident the District has identified the need to install steel bollards at the locations listed above as well as: Leptondale Elementary School, located at 48 Mill Street Wallkill, NY 12589; Ostrander Elementary School, located at 137 Viola Street Wallkill, NY 12589; and Plattekill Elementary School located at 1270 Route 32 Plattekill, NY 12568.

**WHEREAS**, the District, pursuant to Section 103(4) of the General Municipal Law, has determined that the damage caused by the Incident as well as the installation of steel bollards at the locations listed above constitutes a public emergency arising out of an accident or other unforeseen occurrence requiring immediate action which cannot await competitive bidding;

**WHEREAS**, the District has engaged a number of contractors (hereinafter the “Contractors”) to provide services to repair the damage caused by the Incident and to install the steel bollards. The Contractors are Barone Construction Group, Inc., Green Meadows Enterprises, Inc., Kardel Construction, the J&N Stafford Corporation of New York, the John Herbert Company, and Day Automation;

**WHEREAS**, the costs of the required repairs and installations are set forth in the purchase orders, invoices, and price estimates, copies of which are attached hereto as Appendix “A;”

**WHEREAS**, as of the time of this resolution, the District has not received pricing information from Day Automation for the repair of its building access systems;

**WHEREAS**, upon receipt by the District of Day Automation's pricing information, such information shall be automatically incorporated into Appendix "A";

**WHEREAS**, there exists excess monies not anticipated to be used in the health insurance budget code;

**WHEREAS**, the expenditures set forth herein are ordinary and contingent expenses as such repairs and installations are necessary to safeguard health and safety and to preserve District property; and

**WHEREAS**, the costs set forth in this resolution will be offset in whole or in part by the District's insurance coverage.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Wallkill Central School District ratifies and approves the procurement of services from the Contractors to make emergency repairs to the District Office, the High School, and the Middle School required as a result of the Incident;

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED**, that the costs of the aforementioned emergency repairs are ordinary and contingent expenses necessary to safeguard health and safety and to preserve District property;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education ratifies and approves the procurement of services with respect to the installation of steel bollards at all of the locations referenced herein;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education ratifies and approves the funds either expended or apportioned to pay for the emergency repairs and installations consistent with the purchase orders, invoices, and price estimates set forth in Appendix "A;" and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the transfer of all funds needed to cover the expenditures set forth above from the health insurance budget code to the maintenance code within the 2022-2023 general fund budget.

Approve Memorandum of Agreement – CSEA – Agenda #8.E.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following resolution:

The Board of Education of the Wallkill Central School District hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement by and between the Wallkill Central School District and the Civil Service Employees Association, Inc., AFSCME, Local 1000, dated November 21, 2022, pertaining to translation services during parent/teacher conferences.

Approve Agreement – Professional Development – Agenda #8.F.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Agreement between the Wallkill Central School District and **G&R Inclusive Group** to provide professional development services in the area of Inclusion.

Approve Resolution – Impartial Hearing – Agenda #8.G.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby authorizes the commencement of an impartial hearing by the District with regard to a dispute over the recommendation for an educational placement by the Committee on Special Education for Student No. 12142022.

Approve Resolution – Natural Gas Supply with Direct Energy Business – Agenda #8.H.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, in accordance with the General Municipal Law §103, Subdivision 16, the Wallkill Board of Education approve the contract for Natural Gas Supply, with **Direct Energy Business** which was bid and awarded by Genesee County on November 30, 2020.

Award Bid – Capital Improvement Project – Agenda #8.I.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award the following bid for “Commissioning Services” for the Capital Improvement Project Phase I as indicated below to:

**Guth DeConzo Consulting Engineers, PC**  
**433 River Street, Suite 6004**  
**Troy, NY 12180**

Base Bid Amount: \$34,325  
Additional Services as needed: \$1,040/day

11. Close Meeting – Agenda #10

At 7:28 p.m. Mr. Frisbie moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. Nafey and carried 9 – 0.

**Comment:**

➤ *Mr. LoCicero wished everyone Happy Holidays.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Corcoran  
District Clerk