

*Mr. Brown, Mrs. Harjes and Mrs. Hasbrouck
provided an overview of the 2023-2024
Elementary School Improvement Plans*

1. Public Comment – Agenda #1

At 7:14 p.m. the floor was opened for public comment.

- *No public comments.*

2. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance – Agenda #2

At 7:15 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Joseph LoCicero in the Clare F. Ostrander Elementary All-Purpose Room.

Members Present

Mr. Bartolone
Mrs. Crowley
Mr. Frisbie
Mr. LoCicero
Mr. Nafey (*arrived 7:05 p.m.*)
Mr. Palen
Mr. Petrocelli

Members Absent

Mrs. Anderson
Mrs. McCartney
Mr. Marco Martini [Student Board Member]

Also present were Superintendent Castle and Assistant Superintendents Devincenzi, Rounds and White and administrators Albanese, Albert, Brown, Harjes, Hasbrouck, Masopust, Parete and Redmond.

3. Approve Minutes – [2/15/23 Regular Board Meeting] – Agenda #3

Mr. Petrocelli moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the minutes of the February 15, 2023, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. Nafey and carried 7 – 0.

4. Board Committee Reports 2022-2023 – Agenda #4

Audit:

Mrs. Crowley reported that the Audit committee met on February 21, 2023, and reviewed the draft internal audit report. The Board received a copy of the report as well as the Corrective Action Plan for the audit. The internal auditors were in District on March 13, 2023, to begin their work on the agreed upon risk assessment. The next committee meeting will be set up when the internal auditors have completed their work and have a draft report for the District.

Budget:

Mr. Devincenzi reported that the District received the final health insurance rates which will assist the District in balancing our budget. Assuming that the State budget is on time we should have our final State Aid numbers by the end of the month. A Special Budget meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Library to further discuss the development of the 2023-2024 budget.

Mr. Castle stated that he is optimistic about the District's proposed 2023-2024 budget since the Assembly and Senate accepted the Governor's increase in Foundation Aid. This will help keep the tax levy at or below the tax cap which will benefit the taxpayers. The District will continue to maintain programs that are conducive to learning while also addressing mental health needs of our students.

Mr. Petrocelli asked Mr. Castle what other cohort Districts are doing to address student mental health issues. Mr. Castle shared that other districts are facing the same challenges and are doing the same things to address the mental health challenges of students. He mentioned that he recently read an article in NYSSBA's On Board about a survey the CDC did on the mental health challenges of our youth and that it's a nationwide problem. Mr. Castle feels that part of the problem facing students today is the "noise" created by social media and Mr. LoCicero commented that they have no time for decompression. The District will be hosting a forum on March 27, 2023, that includes a presentation by trooper Watt on the dangers of social media. He encouraged parents to attend.

Buildings & Grounds:

Mr. Frisbie reported that the Buildings and Grounds Committee has not met since the last meeting. The District opened bids on March 14th and they are being analyzed by our construction manager and the District's architect and engineering firm. The District anticipates awarding bids at the Special Board meeting on Wednesday, March 22, 2023. The next committee meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at District Office.

Mr. Castle indicated that the bids will be discussed at this meeting and the challenges facing the industry to find workers. He commented that there weren't many bids due to a diminished workforce available to perform the jobs.

CDEP:

Mr. White reported that the CDEP Committee met on February 22, 2023. In the morning, Mr. White shared the plan for the District's remote instruction for emergency conditions. This plan will be included in the District-Wide School Safety Plan. The District plan is to use all emergency days first prior to using remote instruction, unless it is needed for extenuating circumstances, (example, water main break, no heat in a building, etc.).

The elementary principals (Mrs. Harjes, Mr. Brown and Mrs. Hasbrouck) presented on the exploration of English Language Arts (ELA) plus one (1) for grade 4. We currently use this model in grades 5 and 6. They shared the rationale for the change, the benefits and barriers, and the communication plan to implement the model for grade 4 in the 2023-2024 school year.

Ms. Rounds presented an update to the work that the RTI/MTSS (response to intervention/multi-tiered system of supports) Committee is completing. Mr. White shared how the District is exploring the implementation of Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) for the 2023-2024 school year. He explained the options being explored for UPK and a timeline.

In the afternoon, each School Improvement Team (SIT) reported out on the progress of their 2022-2023 School Improvement Plans and shared the School Improvement Plans developed for the 2023-2024 school year. The elementary School Improvement Plans were presented to the Board at the March 15th Board of Education and a copy of the plans were provided. The High School Middle School and Special Education School Improvement Plans will be presented and shared with the Board at the April 18th Board of Education meeting.

The CDEP committee is not scheduled to meet until the 2023-2024 school year.

Curriculum/TAG:

Mr. White reported that the Curriculum/TAG Committee was scheduled to meet on March 14, 2023; however, due to a snow day the Curriculum/TAG committee meeting has been rescheduled for March 28, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

Health & Safety:

Mr. Palen reported that the Health and Safety Committee met on March 9, 2023. The committee discussed and reviewed a draft of the 2023-2024 District-Wide Safety Plan. The next committee meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in high school room 104.

Legislative:

Mr. Petrocelli reported that the Legislative Committee has not met since the last meeting.

Policy:

Mr. Palen reported that the Policy Committee met on March 9, 2023 and reviewed several policies. There are eight (8) policies on the March 15th Agenda for first reading. The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in high school room 102.

Technology:

Mr. Bartolone reported that the Technology Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next committee meeting is scheduled for April 24, 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 is scheduled for April 18, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

Student Rep:

Mr. Palen on behalf of Marco Martini reported the following:

➤ **Clubs/Etc.:**

- A special congratulations to the Top 10 of the Class of 2023. They are very talented and hardworking athletes, musicians, and panthers who have been heavily involved at Wallkill and the community. Colin McCartney is Valedictorian and JJ Wagner is Salutatorian. Rounding out the top ten in order of rank are: Mia Ferrante, Lily Glembocki, Kiran Simon, Marco Martini, Charlie Price, Edwin Herrera, Jordan Marwin, and Matthew Swider. The Top 10 have high expectations and goals. Many are already committed to and awaiting to hear back from schools such as Cornell, Dartmouth, University of Chicago, Johns Hopkins, West Point Military Academy, and Yale!
- The State tournament bound girls' basketball team spent an afternoon working on basketball skills with the Be-You-Tiful Club

➤ **Athletics:**

- Girls Basketball: Took home both the MHALS and Sectional trophies. Unfortunately, their winning streak ended in the regional game on March 11th against Walter Panas. A special congratulations to sophomore Zoe Mesuch who joined the 1,000-point scorer club. Not only is this an incredible feat but she was also the youngest Panther to achieve this feat!
- With the conclusion of the Winter season, comes the start of the Spring season of sports which started on March 13th.

➤ **Performing Arts/Music:**

- All three music ensembles prepared an amazing concert on March 1st for Music in Our Schools Month.
- The Wallkill's Panther Drama Club finished their auditions and have selected a cast with Isabelle Polchinski selected as the lead for the play, Mamma Mia.

5. Consent Agenda

Mr. Bartolone moved items 5A through 5N and 6A through 6D be taken as consent agenda.

Motion seconded by Mr. Frisbie and carried 7 – 0.

Accept Resignations – Non-Instructional – Agenda #5.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Maria Formisano** from the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Senior Account Clerk and Purchasing Agent, effective February 22, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Lisa Sipperly** from the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Tax Collector and Deputy Treasurer, effective March 15, 2023, pending her appointment to a Full-Time Senior Account Clerk.

Approve Appointment – Non-Instructional – Agenda #5.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the provisional appointment of **Lisa Sipperly** to a Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Senior Account Clerk position, effective March 16, 2023, at a salary of \$54,556 pro-rated [Grade 12, Step 20 of the CSEA Contract].

Approve Appointment/Authorization Purchasing Agent/Open Bids – Agenda #5.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and appoint **Lisa Sipperly** to the position of Purchasing Agent at a stipend of \$4,141 pro-rated and authorize her to open bids effective March 16, 2023.

Accept Resignation – Instructional – Agenda #5.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Alex Danon** from the Wallkill Central School District [Full-Time (1.0 FTE) School Guidance Counselor], effective April 7, 2023.

Award Tenure – Instructional – Agenda #5.E.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Valerie Andryshak** in the area of Mathematics, effective September 1, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Lori Creeden** in the area of Special Education, effective September 1, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Rebecca DiGiacomo** in the area of Special Education, effective September 1, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Ellen Landivar** in the area of Special Education, effective September 1, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Karen Regino** in the area of Special Education, effective September 1, 2023.

Rescind Appointment – Coaching – Agenda #5.F.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and rescind the appointment (2/15/23 Board of Education Meeting) of **Gabriel Carbone** from the position of Modified Boys Lacrosse Coach, for the Spring 2022-2023 school year season.

Accept Resignations – Coaching – Agenda #5.G.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Alex Danon** from the position of Varsity Boys Lacrosse Coach, effective February 24, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Jordan Taylor** from the position of Assistant Varsity Boys Lacrosse Coach, effective February 24, 2023.

Approve Appointments – Coaching – Agenda #5.H.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following appointments for the Spring 2022-2023 school year season:

HIGH SCHOOL:

Jordan Taylor	Varsity Boys Lacrosse Coach	\$4,329
Gabriel Carbone	Assistant Varsity Boys Lacrosse Coach	\$3,296

Approve First Readings – Policy – Agenda #5.I.

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

1. Policy #1332 – Duties of the School District Treasurer
2. Policy #1333 – Duties of the Tax Collector
3. Policy #1334 – Duties of the Independent Auditor
4. Policy #1336 – Duties of the Extraclassroom Activity Fund Central Treasurer
5. Policy #1338 – Duties of the School Medical Director
6. Policy #1340 – Methods of Operation
7. Policy #7400.4 – Athletic Code of Conduct
8. Policy #8433 – Overnight Field Trips (Non-Athletic)

Nominate Ulster BOCES Board Representative – Agenda #5.I.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and nominate **Donald Greene** to a three-year term representing the Wallkill Central School District on the Ulster County BOCES Board of Education.

Approve 2023 Biennial Review of Shared Decision Making – Agenda #5.K.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and adopt the 2023 Biennial Review of Shared Decision Making CR100.11.

Approve Substitutes Lists – Agenda #5.L.

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 #5.M.

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

Approve Special Education Placements – Agenda #5.N.

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

Accept Treasurer's Report – Agenda #6.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education has reviewed and accepts the Treasurer's Reports as of February 28, 2023 and Revenues as of February 28, 2023.

Approve Use of Facilities – Agenda #6.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School Gymnasium by **UC Takeoff** [for Basketball Practice] as indicated below:

Tuesdays	March 21, 2023 – June 13, 2023	7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Fridays	March 17, 2023 – June 16, 2023	7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School and Leptondale Elementary School Gymnasiums by **Let Me Run** [for a Youth Development Program] as indicated below:

Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School:

Tuesdays & Fridays	March 28, 2023 – May 19, 2023	3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
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Leptondale Elementary School:

Tuesdays & Thursdays	March 28, 2023 – May 18, 2023	3:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
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The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Senior High School Gymnasium by **Wallkill Varsity Volleyball** [for a Volleyball Clinic] as indicated below:

Mondays	April 17, 2023 – May 15, 2023	5:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
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The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Senior High School Multi-Purpose Field by **Wallkill Varsity Football** [for a Football Youth Camp] as indicated below:

Wednesday	June 14, 2023	5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
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Approve Agreements – Professional Development – Agenda #6.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Agreement between the Wallkill Central School District and **Curiale Achievement, LLC** to provide professional development services for Superintendent's Conference Day on May 5, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Agreement between the Wallkill Central School District and **Renaissance Learning, Inc.** to provide professional development services for Superintendent's Conference Day on May 5, 2023, and professional development services for building principals.

Approve Legal Fees [2023-2024 School Year] – Agenda #6.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the hourly rate for legal fees to be \$230 per hour [for attorneys] effective July 1, 2023, and to be \$115 per hour [for paralegal services] effective July 1, 2023, for Thomas, Drohan, Waxman, Petigrow and Mayle, LLP.

6. Accept Donation – Agenda #6.E.

Mr. Frisbie moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the donation of \$250 from Stewart's Foundation Holiday Match Program for the orchestra program at the elementary schools.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bartolone and carried 7 – 0. [With Thanks].

7. Executive Session – Agenda #7

At 7:31 p.m. Mr. Bartolone moved the Board enter Executive Session to discuss a current impartial hearing.

Motion seconded by Mr. Nafey and carried 7 – 0.

The Board reconvened at 8:42 p.m.

8. Close Meeting – Agenda #8

At 8:43 p.m. Mr. Frisbie moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. Nafey and carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Corcoran
District Clerk