

Regular meeting of the Board of Education of Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen held in the Auditorium of the James A. Dever School Tuesday, October 22, 2019.

<u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>
Trustee Chiachiere Trustee Farrell Trustee Pomerantz Trustee Stris Trustee Vicente	Trustee Pandit	Superintendent Evelyn Asst. Supt. for Curr. LaRocca Asst. Supt. for Spec. Svcs. Sells-Asch Dir. of Tech. and Innov. DiMango Principal Ambrosio Principal Frias Principal Gruen Principal Huplosky School District Attorney Shishko Approximately 50 Visitors

Convening
The meeting was convened at 7:15 p.m. by President Chiachiere. CONVENING

Quorum
Five members being present, a quorum was determined. QUORUM

Executive Session
The Board immediately moved into Executive Session on a motion made by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Pomerantz and carried unanimously to discuss legal matters regarding board member comments on social media. The Superintendent and School District Attorney were invited to attend. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Reconvening
The meeting was reconvened at 8:01 p.m. by President Chiachiere. RECONVENING

Quorum
Five members being present, a quorum was determined. QUORUM

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

Approval of the Minutes
To approve the minutes of the June 12, 2019 Committee and Special Meeting and June 18, 2019 Board of Education Meeting. MINUTES OF 6/12/19 COMM. & SPEC. MTG. AND 6/18/19 BOE MTG. APPROVED

Moved by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

Correspondence
There was no correspondence this month. CORRESPONDENCE

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

Board Recognition
Superintendent Evelyn recognized the Board of Education’s hard work and stated that our board members have worked tirelessly for many years to serve the community and we are happy to express our gratitude for their many years of service and continued spirit of volunteerism. Superintendent Evelyn invited students from our schools to come up and present the Board of Education with their artwork, essays and poems in honor of Board Recognition Week.

Science & Social Studies Curriculum Update
Asst. Superintendent LaRocca reported on our Science and Social Studies Curriculum update which included Science and Engineering Practices (how students learn), Crosscutting Concepts (what students look for) and Disciplinary Core Ideas (what students learn), NYS K-12 Social Studies Framework and District Curriculum.

New Business

President Chiachiere read the following resolution:
Board Member Statement on Social Media
WHEREAS, Board member Vinny Pandit made derogatory statements on October 11, 2019 regarding the Hispanic/Latino community; and BOARD MEMBER RESOLUTION APPROVED

WHEREAS, Board member Vinny Pandit exhibited poor judgement in making such statements; and

WHEREAS, the actions and deportment of members of the Valley Stream Union Free School District 13 Board of Education are expected to be above reproach in all dealings relating to the carrying out of Board responsibilities and authorities,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED

- a) That the statements of Board member Vinny Pandit on October 11, 2019 are deemed as improper and representative of poor judgement,
- b) That it is expected that Board members will exhibit the appropriate conduct and judgement warranted in all matters relating to School District or Board of Education affairs, and it is further
- c) RESOLVED that the Board is of the opinion that the resignation of Trustee Pandit would be appropriate.

Moved by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Vicente and carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

EDUCATION COMMITTEE [M. Vicente, Chairperson; F. Chiachiere]

Employment of Mentor Teacher

To employ Kevin Olsen for Jeremy Arndt (Music Teacher at Howell Road School) as a mentor teacher effective September 25, 2019 at a rate of \$54.48 per hour for no more than 30 hours.

K. OLSEN EMPLOYED
AS MUSIC TEACHER
HRS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Classroom Aide

To appoint Kristen Carter as a Classroom Aide assigned to the Willow Road School on Step 1 (\$17,320) effective October 23, 2019 pending civil service approval and unless sooner terminated.

K. CARTER EMPLOYED
AS CLASSROOM AIDE
WRS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Teaching Assistant

To appoint Dulfay Quintero as a Teaching Assistant assigned to the Willow Road School effective October 23, 2019 on four years probation and unless sooner terminated, at an annual salary of \$28,998 in accordance with the VSTA-TA Contract in effect on the date of employment.

D. QUINTERO EMPLOYED
AS TEACHING ASST.
WRS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Classroom Aide

To appoint Ioana Bletsas as a Classroom Aide assigned to the Wheeler Avenue School on Step 1 (\$17,320) effective October 23, 2019 pending civil service approval and unless sooner terminated.

I. BLETSAS EMPLOYED
AS CLASSROOM AIDE
WAS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Permanent Substitute Teacher

To appoint Christina Drago Botti as a Permanent Substitute Teacher assigned to the Wheeler Avenue School effective October 23, 2019 through June 30, 2020 at a rate of \$125 per day.

C. DRAGO EMPLOYED
AS PERM. SUB. TEACHER
WAS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Permanent Substitute Teacher

To appoint Nathalie Mayard as a Permanent Substitute Teacher assigned to the Willow Road School effective October 23, 2019 through June 30, 2020 at a rate of \$125 per day.

N. MAYARD EMPLOYED
AS PERM. SUB. TEACHER
WRS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Noon-Hour Aide

To appoint Hemat Jagnanan as a Noon-Hour Aide assigned to the Wheeler Avenue School at a rate of \$12.25 per hour effective October 23, 2019 pending civil service approval and unless sooner terminated.

H. JAGNANAN EMPLOYED
AS NOON-HOUR AIDE
WAS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Noon-Hour Aide

To appoint Tasneem Samad as a Noon-Hour Aide assigned to the Willow Road School at a rate of \$12.25 per hour effective October 23, 2019 pending civil service approval and unless sooner terminated.

T. SAMAD EMPLOYED
AS NOON-HOUR AIDE
WRS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Noon-Hour Aide

To appoint Erika Ospina as a Noon-Hour Aide assigned to the Howell Road School at a rate of \$12.25 per hour effective October 23, 2019 pending civil service approval and unless sooner terminated.

E. OSPINA EMPLOYED
AS NOON-HOUR AIDE
HRS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Safety Escort

To appoint Hemat Jagnanan as a Safety Escort at the Wheeler Avenue School, effective October 23, 2019.

H. JAGNANAN EMPLOYED
AS SAFETY ESCORT
WAS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

Appointment of District Coordinator of Fine Arts

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby appoints Christine Di Dio as the District Coordinator of Fine Arts for the 2019-2020 school year effective October 16, 2019 with a stipend of \$2,500 prorated for the number of hours worked.

C. DIDIO APPOINTED
DISTRICT COOR. OF FINE
ARTS 2019/20 SY

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Part-Time Physical Education Teacher

To appoint Elias Gaston as a Part-Time (.85) Physical Education Teacher at the Willow Road School, on Step 1MA (\$70,576), prorated for the number of hours worked, effective October 23, 2019 through June 30, 2020 and unless sooner terminated.

E. GASTON EMPLOYED
AS PART-TIME (.85)
PHYS. ED. TEACHER
WRS

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Pomerantz and carried unanimously.

Music Stipends for Clubs

In accordance with Section 5.6 of the VSTA Contract, listed below is the music teacher assignment for extra pay for extra services for the 2019-2020 school year:

MUSIC STIPENDS 2019/20
APPROVED

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>School/Group</u>	<u>Club/Step</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Jeremy Arndt	Howell Road Orchestra	B-Step I	\$2,820

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

Approval of Clubs for 2019-2020

To approve the clubs for the 2019-2020 school year as listed below:

CLUBS FOR 2019/20 SY
APPROVED

<u>Faculty Member/School</u>	<u>Club Name</u>	<u>Type/Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Donna Geidel/WRS	Art Club	C/2a	\$1,755.00
Christine Coryell/WRS	Community Club	C/3	/2 \$ 963.50
Michelle Lepe/WRS		C/2	/2 \$ 791.00
Matt Costantino/WRS	Continental Math League	C/3	\$1,927.00
Karen Higgins/WRS	Digital Leaders	C/1	\$1,283.00
Amanda Agosta/WRS	Innovation Lab	C/2	\$1,582.00
Carole Anne Weik/WRS	Safety Patrol	C/3	\$1,927.00
Peter Gatto/WRS	Sports Club	C/1	\$1,283.00
Carole Anne Weik/WRS	Student Council	C/3	/2 \$ 963.50
Karen Higgins/WRS		C/3	/2 \$ 963.50
Kevin Olsen/HRS	Sports	C/1	\$1,283.00
Kevin Olsen HRS	Sports	C/2a	\$1,755.00
Maria Teh-Bradley/HRS	Scrabble	C/3	\$1,927.00
Nicole Boyle/HRS	Instrumental	C3	\$1,927.00
Corinne Cortes/HRS	Safety Patrol	B1	\$2,820.00
Maria Teh-Bradley/HRS	Continental Math	C3	\$1,927.00
Elizabeth Sweeny/HRS	Reader's Theatre	C3	\$1,927.00
Nicole Boyle/HRS	Jazz Band	C3	\$1,927.00
Matthew Stashin/HRS	Math Olympiads	C3	\$1,927.00
Susana Sousa/HRS	New Horizons Club	C2a	\$1,755.00
SheMeika Charles/HRS	Maker Space Club	C2a	\$1,755.00
Shareen Best/HRS	Book Club	C1	\$1,283.00
Jeremy Arndt/HRS	Chamber Orchestra	C1	\$1,283.00
Shareen Best/HRS	Student Council	C2	\$ 527.00
Aleksandra Rance/HRS		C2	\$ 527.00
Maria Teh-Bradley/HRS		C2	\$ 527.00
Robert Primeggia/WAS	Sports Club (2)	B3	\$7,014.00
Ruth Peets-Butcher/WAS	Wheeler Garden Club	C1	\$1,283.00
Deborah Hastings/WAS	Student Council	C3	\$ 963.50
Valerie Cassano/WAS		C1	\$ 641.50
Kevin Mayer/WAS	Continental Math League	C1	\$1,283.00
Will Shelley/WAS	Jazz Ensemble/Jr. Band	B3	\$3,507.00
Jennifer Leest/WAS	Safety Patrol	C2	/2 \$ 791.00
Janet Miller/WAS		C2	/2 \$ 791.00

Christine Di Dio/WAS	Wheeler Art League	C2a	\$1,755.00
Janet Miller/WAS	Circus Arts Club	C2a	\$1,755.00
Denise Phillips/JAD	Safety Patrol	B3	\$3,507.00
Denise DeMeo/JAD	Student Council	B3	\$3,507.00
Glenn Guidone/JAD	Jazz/Wind Ensemble	B3	\$3,507.00
Roxanne MacDonald/JAD	Scrabble	C3	\$1,927.00
Kimberly Ward/JAD	Continental Math League	C2a	\$1,755.00
Annemarie Gunn/JAD	Book Club	C2	\$1,582.00

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

Amendment of Resolution

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby increases the position of James Cundari as a part time Physical Education Teacher from .7 to .85 on Step 2MA (\$72,928), prorated for the number of hours worked, commencing on September 3, 2019 through June 30, 2020 and unless sooner terminated.

J. CUNDARI EMPLOYMENT
AMENDMENT APPROVED

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA (Agenda items 16 to 27)

The following items were approved on a motion for a Consent Agenda by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Substitute List

To approve the Substitute Teacher List for 2019-2020.

2019/20 SUB. TEACHER
LIST APPROVED

Resignation of Safety Escort & Noon Hour Aide

To accept the resignation of Jeanine Pulsifer, Safety Escort and Noon Hour Aide at the Wheeler Avenue School effective September 13, 2019, letter dated September 23, 2019.

J. PULSIFER RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

Resignation of Part-time Physical Education Teacher

To accept the resignation of James Cundari, Part-time Physical Education Teacher at the Willow Road School effective October 4, 2019, letter dated September 27, 2019.

J. CUNDARI RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

Resignation of Teaching Assistant

To accept the resignation of Janine Di Verde, Teaching Assistant at the Willow Road School effective October 31, 2019, letter dated October 1, 2019.

J. DIVERDE RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

Resignation of Noon Hour Aide

To accept the resignation of Robne Peterson, Noon Hour Aide at the Howell Road School effective September 25, 2019, letter dated October 2, 2019.

R. PETERSON RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

Resignation of Classroom Aide

To accept the resignation of Stephanie Catanzaro, Classroom Aide at the James A. Dever School effective October 11, 2019, letter dated October 2, 2019.

S. CATANZARO
RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

Resignation of Classroom Aide

To accept the resignation of Dulfay Quintero, Classroom Aide at the Willow Road School effective October 22, 2019, letter dated September 26, 2019.

D. QUINTERO RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

Resignation of Classroom Aide

To accept the resignation of Aisha Mohammed, Classroom Aide at the Wheeler Avenue School effective September 23, 2019, letter dated September 23, 2019.

A. MOHAMMED
RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

Resignation of District Coordinator of Fine Arts

To accept the resignation of Karen Martorana, District Coordinator of Fine Arts effective October 15, 2019, letter dated October 15, 2019.

K. MARTORANA
RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

Resignation of Long-Term Substitute

To accept the resignation of Teresa McNaughton, Long-Term Substitute at the Wheeler Avenue School in place of Alyssa Gress effective October 11, 2019, letter dated October 11, 2019.

T. MCNAUGHTON
RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

Resignation of Math AIS Long-Term Substitute

To accept the resignation of Keri Imbriale, Long-Term Math AIS Substitute at the Willow Road School in place of Lauren Cassidy effective September 27, 2019, letter dated September 22, 2019.

K. IMBRIALE
RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

Resignation of Permanent Substitute

To accept the resignation of Maegan Bitler, Permanent Substitute at the Willow Road School effective September 27, 2019, letter dated September 27, 2019.

M. BITLER RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

**In order to be granted tenure, the teacher must have received composite or overall APPR ratings pursuant to Education Law §3012-c and/or 3012-d of either "effective" or "highly effective" in at least three ("3") of the four*

(“4”) preceding years, and, if the classroom teacher receives an “ineffective” composite or overall APPR rating in the final year of the probationary period, he or she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.

END CONSENT AGENDA – EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Appointment of Long-Term Substitute Teacher

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby appoints Amanda Silverman as a Long Term Substitute Teacher in place of Alyssa Gress at a rate of \$140 per day, effective October 28, 2019, for a period not to exceed 60 days unless otherwise extended by the Board of Education.

A. SILVERMAN EMPLOYED AS LONG TERM SUB. TEACHER

Moved by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Pomerantz and carried unanimously.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE [P. Farrell, Chairperson]

CONSENT AGENDA (Agenda items 1 to 2)

The following items were approved on a motion for a Consent Agenda by Trustee Farrell, seconded by Trustee Stris and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Treasurer’s Report

To approve the Treasurer’s Report for September 2019.

TREASURER’S REPORT SEPT. 2019 APPROVED

Sealed Bid Award for Air Conditioner Installation Opened on October 16, 2019

To approve the bid as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications: JDGC General Contracting Corp.
Installation (per unit) \$390

JDGC SEALED BID AWARD APPROVED

END CONSENT AGENDA – BUSINESS COMMITTEE

POLICY COMMITTEE [W. Stris, Chairperson; V. Pandit]

Policies for 2nd Reading & Adoption

- 6110 Budget Planning
- 6110-R Budget Planning Regulation
- 6600 Fiscal Accounting and Reporting
- 8332 Staff Use of Cellular Phones
- 8332-R Staff Use of Cellular Phones Regulation

POLICIES FOR 2nd READING ADOPTED

Moved by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Vicente and carried unanimously.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE [T. Pomerantz, Chairperson; F. Chiachiere]

The Facilities Committee met on October 22, 2019 at 7:15 p.m. Items discussed were the bond work going on in the District. The work projected for the end of this month is electrical service at the Willow Road School and the James A. Dever School. All countertops and window sills in all classrooms will be complete by the end of October. The next meeting of the Facilities Committee is scheduled for November 26, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE [Vice President M. Vicente]

CONSENT AGENDA (Agenda items 1 to 8)

The following items were approved on a motion for a Consent Agenda by Trustee Vicente, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Appointment of a Hearing Officer for Student Discipline Hearings

To appoint Jean Lucasey 617 to serve as a Hearing Officer for Student Discipline hearings pursuant to Ed Law 3214 at \$100 per hour for the 2019-2020 school year.

J. LUCASEY APPOINTED HEARING OFFICER FOR STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Crossroads Farm at Grossmann’s Agreement

To approve the Agreement between Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen Board of Education and Nassau Land Trust, Inc. to provide educational resources, training, materials and instruction at Crossroads Farm at Grossmann’s in Malverne, New York for the 2019-2020 school year not to exceed \$9,700.

CROSSROADS FARM/NLT AGREEMENT APPROVED

Emergency Transportation Agreement

To enter into an Emergency Transportation Agreement with the Elmont School District to transport a Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen Pre-K student to the Mill Neck School for the Deaf for the 2019-2020 school year at a cost of \$1,626 per month.

ELMONT SCHOOL DIST. EMER. TRANS. AGR. APPROVED

Transportation Agreement

To enter into an Assignment of Contract Agreement with CHEESE BUS, INC. to assume the Rivlab Transportation contract for Our Lady of Lourdes School effective November 1, 2019, due to the dissolution of Rivlab’s operations.

CHEESE BUS TRANS. AGR. APPROVED

Acceptance of Donation

DONATION ACCEPTED

To accept a donation of a library cabinet for Wheeler Avenue Elementary School from the 6th grade Graduation Committee Members for 2018-2019 (Laura Alvarez, Lisa Burke and Veronica Amirazodi) with an estimated value of \$700.

Acceptance of Donation

DONATION ACCEPTED

To accept a donation in the amount of \$200 from the Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen Educational Foundation to be distributed equally among the schools for use in purchasing materials to support the school’s social work program.

Committee on Special Education Reviews

CSE REVIEWS ADOPTED

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Special Education Reviews dated 10/2, 10/3, 10/4, 10/7, and 10/15/19.

Committee on Pre-school Special Education Reviews

CPSE REVIEWS ADOPTED

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Pre-school Education Reviews dated 9/24/19.

END CONSENT AGENDA – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Report of the Attorney

School District Attorney Shishko reported on a Valley Stream Central High School District residency appeal in a recent decision from the Commissioner of Education. In appeal of N.H., a student was excluded from school after the student’s parents relocated to a residence outside of the district. The parent alleged that the student should be permitted to remain in school during their search for a residence within the District. In addition, the parent claimed that the student’s emotional and educational well-being would be harmed as the result of being excluded from school. The Commissioner found that the parent had improperly commenced the proceeding and, thus found that the matter should be dismissed. However, the Commissioner nonetheless analyzed the merits of the case and ruled that residence is established by physical presence and intent to remain. Therefore, an intention to move back into a district is insufficient to establish residency. Furthermore, the Commissioner ruled that considerations such as a student’s emotional or educational well-being are not determinative in a residency matter.

High School Report

Trustee Pomerantz reported that the High School meeting was October 10, 2019 in Memorial Junior High School cafeteria. Approximately 200 visitors were in attendance. It was a celebratory occasion. 380 of our High School students throughout the district were honored for their advanced placement accomplishments.

Old Business

There is no old business to report.

Recognition of Visitors

Several members of the community addressed the Board regarding Board Members comments on social media.

Executive Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:01 p.m. a motion for Executive Session was made by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Vicente and carried unanimously to discuss legal matters pertaining to a Board Member. The Superintendent and Attorney were invited to attend.

Reconvening

RECONVENING

The meeting was reconvened at 9:39 p.m. by President Chiachiere

Quorum

QUORUM

Trustee Chiachiere read the following resolution:

Board of Education Special Counsel Resolution

BD. OF ED. SPECIAL
COUNSEL RESOLUTION
APPROVED

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby appoints special counsel to be selected by the Board President at the same hourly rate as its general counsel to conduct an investigation into allegations of misconduct of a member of the Board of Education.

Moved by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

Executive Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:40 p.m. a motion for Executive Session was made by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously to discuss legal matters regarding Board Member comments on social media. The Superintendent and Attorney were invited to attend.

Reconvening

RECONVENING

The meeting was reconvened at 10:20 p.m. by President Chiachiere

Quorum

QUORUM

Five members being present, a quorum was determined.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Trustee Pomerantz, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Sells-Asch

Lisa Sells-Asch
Acting District Clerk