

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 27, 2020.

<u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>
Trustee Cavaliere		Superintendent Evelyn
Trustee Chiachiere*		Asst. Supt. for Bus. & HR Antoine
Trustee Farrell		Asst. Supt. for Spec. Svcs. Sells-Asch
Trustee Oliveri		Asst. Supt. for Curr. LaRocca
Trustee Pomerantz*		Dir. of Tech. & Innov. DiMango
Trustee Stris		School District Attorney Sheahan
Trustee Vicente		School District Attorney Shishko
		District Clerk Rosamilia
		Approx. 5 visitors via zoom

*via zoom

Convening CONVENING
The meeting was convened at 7:20 p.m. by President Vicente.

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

Executive Session EXECUTIVE SESSION
The Board immediately moved into Executive Session on a motion made by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Oliveri and carried unanimously to discuss the personnel of a particular person. The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent for Business and HR, and School District Attorneys were invited to attend.

Reconvening RECONVENING
The meeting was reconvened at 8:00 p.m. by President Vicente.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

Correspondence
There is no correspondence this month.

Approval of the Minutes MINUTES OF 8/18/20 BOE
To approve the minutes of the August 18, 2020 Board of Education Meeting, MTG., 9/14/20 SPEC. MTG.,
September 14, 2020 Special Meeting, September 22, 2020 Committee & 9/22/20 COMM. & SPEC. MTG.,
Special Meeting, September 29, 2020 Board of Education Meeting, 9/29/20 BOE MTG.
Moved by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Farrell and carried unanimously.

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

Learning Models and Teacher Professional Development [Dr. J. LaRocca]
Superintendent Evelyn introduced Assistant Superintendent LaRocca, Technology Coach Alvarado and Math Instructional Coach DeSimone who presented a power point on a review of Learning Models and Professional Development and how we are progressing.

Board Appreciation Presentation [Dr. C. Evelyn]
Superintendent Evelyn presented a power point for Board Appreciation month to thank our school board members for their support which enables the students of Valley Stream Thirteen to learn and grow in a new, creative way this year. Superintendent Evelyn thanked the Board for the many hours of time that they dedicate to the service of board member.

Committee Reports

EDUCATION COMMITTEE [F. Chiachiere, Chairperson; G. Cavaliere]

Tenure Granted – Teaching Assistant D. GISONDA TENURE
After reviewing the recommendation of the Building Principal, the Superintendent GRANTED
recommends Deanna Gisonda, Teaching Assistant assigned to Willow Road School,
be granted tenure effective October 1, 2020.

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

Tenure Granted – Social Worker

After reviewing the recommendation of the Building Principal, the Superintendent recommends Debra Kornfeld, Social Worker assigned to James A. Dever School, be granted tenure effective September 1, 2020.

D. KORNFIELD TENURE
GRANTED

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

Leave of Absence

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves a leave for health to the employee listed on Confidential Schedule “A” pursuant to the terms of the collective bargaining agreement between the District and the Valley Stream Teachers’ Association.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE
APPROVED

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

Appointment of Part-Time Speech Teacher

To appoint Jennifer Martin as a Part-Time (.5) Speech Teacher on Step 1MA (\$72,173), prorated for the number of hours worked, effective October 28, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and unless sooner terminated.

J. MARTIN EMPLOYED AS
PART-TIME SPEECH
TEACHER

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

Appointment of Noon-Hour Supervisors

To appoint Imani Tutt as a Noon-Hour Supervisor assigned to the Willow Road School at \$40 per hour for 2 hours and 40 minutes per day, effective October 28, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and unless sooner terminated.

I. TUTT EMPLOYED AS
NOON-HOUR SUPERVISOR
WRS

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Oliveri and carried unanimously.

To appoint Regla Belizaire as a Noon-Hour Supervisor assigned to the James A. Dever School at \$40 per hour for 2 hours and 40 minutes per day, effective October 28, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and unless sooner terminated.

R. BELIZAIRE EMPLOYED
AS NOON-HOUR
SUPERVISOR - JAD

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Oliveri and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Classroom Aide

To appoint Deanna Bartolomeo as a Classroom Aide assigned to the Willow Road School on Step 1 (\$17,468) effective October 28, 2020, pending civil service approval and unless sooner terminated.

D. BARTOLOMEO
EMPLOYED AS CLASS
ROOM AIDE - WRS

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Oliveri and carried unanimously.

Amendment of Resolution

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby increases the position of Orchestra Teacher Jeremy Arndt from .6 to 1.0 on Step 1 MA (\$70,576), on four years’ probation commencing on October 28, 2020 and expiring on October 27, 2024. (*See note below)

J. ARNDT AMENDMENT
OF RESOLUTION APPROVED

Amendment of Resolution with corrected salary

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby increases the position of Orchestra Teacher Jeremy Arndt from .6 to 1.0 on Step 1 MA (\$72,173), on four years’ probation commencing on October 28, 2020 and expiring on October 27, 2024. (*See note below)

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

Appointment of Part-Time Remote Librarian

To appoint Heather Meditz as a Part-Time (.2) Remote Librarian on Step 1MA (\$72,173), prorated for the number of hours worked, effective October 27, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and unless sooner terminated.

H. MEDITZ EMPLOYED AS
PART-TIME REMOTE
LIBRARIAN

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Oliveri and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Part-Time Remote Physical Education Teacher

To appoint Mert Sonmez as a Part-Time (.4) Remote Physical Education Teacher on Step 1BA (\$62,058), prorated for the number of hours worked, effective October 27, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and unless sooner terminated.

M. SONMEZ EMPLOYED AS
PART-TIME REMOTE PHYS.
ED. TEACHER

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

Appointment of Part-Time Art Teacher

To appoint David Zukas as a Part-Time (.2) Remote Art Teacher on Step 1MA (\$72,173), prorated for the number of hours worked, effective October 27, 2020 through June 30,2021 and unless sooner terminated.

D. ZUKAS EMPLOYED AS
PART-TIME REMOTE ART
TEACHER

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Oliveri and carried unanimously.

Termination of Employee

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby terminates the employee identified on confidential schedule "B" effective October 30, 2020.

TERMINATION OF
EMPLOYEE APPROVED

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

**In order to be eligible for tenure, an individual receiving a probationary appointment as a classroom/special education teacher must receive annual composite or overall APPR ratings of H or E in at least three of the four preceding years, and if the individual receives a rate of I in the final year of the probationary period, he or she will not be eligible for tenure at that time.*

CONSENT AGENDA (Agenda items 12-16)

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Resignation of Classroom Aide

To accept the resignation of Randi Carcione, Classroom Aide at the Willow Road School effective September 30, 2020, letter dated September 30, 2020.

R. CARCIONE RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

Resignation of Classroom Aide

To accept the resignation of Jaclyn Sobiesiak, Classroom Aide at the Willow Road School effective October 16, 2020, letter dated October 16, 2020.

J. SOBIESIAK RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

Resignation of Noon Hour Aide

To accept the resignation of Kubra Caravan, Noon Hour Aide at the James A. Dever School effective October 5, 2020, letter dated October 6, 2020.

K. CARAVAN RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

Resignation of Noon Hour Supervisor

To accept the resignation of Ellen Guzman, Noon Hour Supervisor at the James A. Dever School effective October 17, 2020, letter dated October 9, 2020.

E. GUZMAN RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

Resignation of Teaching Assistant

To accept the resignation of Kristina Lepkowski, Teaching Assistant at the James A. Dever School effective October 26, 2020, letter dated October 15, 2020.

K. LEPKOWSKI RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED

END CONSENT AGENDA – EDUCATION COMMITTEE

BUSINESS COMMITTEE [P. Farrell, Chairperson; J. Oliveri]

Treasurer’s Report

To approve the Treasurer’s Report for August 2020.

TREASURER’S REPORT
8/31/20 APPROVED

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

Budget Transfer

To approve the following transfers effective October 28, 2020

BUDGET TRANSFERS
APPROVED

From:

A2250.501-01 Special Ed. Testing Supplies \$ 1,000.00

To:

A2250.420-01 Independent Consultants \$ 1,000.00

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

POLICY COMMITTEE [W. Stris, Chairperson; J. Oliveri]

Policies for 2nd Reading and Adoption

- 0115-R Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention Regulation
- 1120 School District Records
- 4526-R Computer Network and Internet Acceptable Use Regulation
- 5100 Student Attendance
- 5151 Homeless Children
- 5151-R Homeless Children Regulation
- 5500 Student Records
- 5500-R Student Records Regulation
- 5710 Violent or Disruptive Incident Reporting
- 6740 Payroll Procedures
- 8210.1 Use of Surveillance Cameras on School Property

POLICIES FOR 2ND READING
ADOPTED

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

FACILITIES COMMITTEE [T. Pomerantz, Chairperson; W. Stris; G. Cavaliere]

Trustee Pomerantz reported that the Facilities Committee met this evening. Discussion items were the completion of the punch list in all four buildings. Director of Facilities Bortzfield reported that excellent headway has been made. One art room and a few other rooms still need new cabinet doors and will be installed shortly. The hand sanitizers and bags were delivered earlier than anticipated and will be installed on November 3rd. The next Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for November 24th at 5:45 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE [Vice President P. Farrell]

Speech Pathology Student Clinician

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves an affiliation agreement with St. John’s University to provide student teacher clinical experience for students who are enrolled in the University’s Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Master’s program and hereby authorizes the Board President to execute same.

SPEECH PATHOLOGY
STUDENT CLINICIAN
AGREEMENT APPROVED

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

MOA for Temporary Speech Teaching

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby ratifies the attached memorandum of agreement with the Valley Stream Teachers’ Association to provide a stipend for temporary speech services.

MOA – VSTA TEMPORARY
SPEECH SVCS. APPROVED

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

Rate of Pay Increase for Sub Nurses

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby establishes the rate of pay for Substitute Nurses at \$165 per day effective October 28, 2020.

RATE IF PAY – SUB NURSES
APPROVED

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

CONSENT AGENDA (Item #4-8)

CONSENT AGENDA (Agenda items 4-8)

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

CONSENT AGENDA

NYS Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) Report for the Proposed Bond Projects

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Valley Stream UFSD #13 accepts the Environmental Conservation Law report prepared by Envirosience Consultants, Inc. determining that the proposed improvements for RTU/HVAC Enhancement for Howell Road Elementary School are Type II actions under SEQRA regulations. These actions represent routine activities of educational institutions that do not have significant adverse effects on the environment in accordance with 6NYCRR 617.5(c)(8).

SEQRA – PROPOSED BOND
PROJECTS APPROVED

Acceptance of Donation

To accept one check in the amount of \$1,141.86 from Stop & Shop Supermarkets to the Willow Road School. The check will be used for general school supplies.

DONATION ACCEPTED

Acceptance of Donation

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby accepts, with gratitude, a donation of 100 turkeys with trimmings to the Wheeler Avenue School from Carlos Beltre, Spanish Campus Pastor, Bethlehem Assembly of God with an estimated value of \$3,000.

DONATION ACCEPTED

Committee on Special Education Reviews

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Special Education Reviews dated 9/22, 9/29, 10/2, 10/6, 10/7, 10/8, 10/9, 10/14, and 10/15/20.

CSE REVIEWS ADOPTED

Committee on Pre-school Special Education Reviews

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Pre-school Education Reviews dated 9/25/20.

CPSE REVIEWS ADOPTED

END CONSENT AGENDA – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accommodation Request Appeal

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby denies the appeal submitted by the employee listed on Confidential Schedule “C”.

DENIAL OF ACCOMODATION
REQUEST APPEAL APPROVED

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

Report of the Attorney

School District Attorney reported that they were successful in defending their client against a federal discrimination lawsuit filed by its former employee. The plaintiff, a tenured school psychologist, filed various legal challenges after she was terminated following a disciplinary proceeding. The employee had been found to be mentally unfit to continue her duties following an evaluation by a psychiatrist. She initially appealed the decision to the Supreme Court in Suffolk County. The court upheld her termination. She then filed a complaint in Federal Court alleging that her termination was discriminatory under federal law. She alleged that the building where she worked had been making her sick, and that she was terminated in retaliation for filing complaints about the building. She also claimed that she was discriminated against based on her disability. The Eastern District Court dismissed the case by granting summary judgement. The Court found that the employee had not stated a claim and rejected those claims which had previously been litigated in the Suffolk County Supreme Court. The court also declined to “re-open” the disciplinary hearing after finding that the school district provided her with a full and fair opportunity to participate in the disciplinary hearing. Thus, the Court dismissed each of the employees claims against the school district.

High School Report

Trustee Pomerantz reported that the HS board met on October 13th. South High School senior Amrit Pabla recently had her science research project regarding liver biopsy published in the international open access journal named Diagnostics. Memorial Junior High School held their in-person and remote 7th grade “Meet and Greet” over the course of three days. Students connected with other 7th graders and class advisors. It was held outside on the field where proper safety precautions were implemented. World language classes at Central High School participated virtual mock college interviews in Spanish and in French. Students taking Italian will complete their virtual interviews in late October. The next High School committee meeting is scheduled for November 3rd at 8:00 p.m. and the next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for November 10th at 8:00 p.m. Both will be held in cafeteria B at Memorial Junior High School.

Old Business

There is no old business to report.

New Business

There is no new business to report.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Oliveri and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

MaryAnn Rosamilia

MaryAnn Rosamilia
District Clerk