

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Wallkill Senior High School Auditorium
Wednesday, May 19, 2021
7:00 p.m.

The following are the Superintendent's recommendations:

1. Commendations – Agenda #1
 - The Board recognized Elizabeth Werlau for receiving the Mid-Hudson School Study Council Teaching Excellence Award.
 - The Board recognized the JV Football Team for a kind deed to an opposing player with special needs at one of their home games on April 10, 2021.

2. Public Comment – Agenda #2

At 7:13 p.m. the floor was opened for public comment. No comment.

3. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance – Agenda #3

At 7:14 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Joseph LoCicero in the Senior High School Auditorium.

Members Present

Mrs. Anderson
Mr. Bartolone
Mrs. Crowley
Mr. Frisbie
Mr. LoCicero
Mr. Palen
Mr. Petrocelli
Mr. Spencer
Mr. Conor Warren [Student Board Member]

Members Absent

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

4. Approve Minutes – [4/21/21 Regular Board Meeting] – Agenda #4

Mr. Petrocelli moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the minutes of the April 21, 2021, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

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

5. Canvass Vote [5/18/21] – Agenda #5

Mr. Frisbie moved the Board accept the vote of May 18, 2021, including absentee and contested votes on one proposition and three candidate positions on the Board of Education as follows:

PROPOSITION I – BUDGET **581 YES 219 NO**

CANDIDATES:

Kris Psilopoulos	<u>321</u>
Donna Crowley	<u>513</u>
Thomas Frisbie	<u>437</u>
Michael Rose	<u>295</u>
Thomas Nafey	<u>354</u>
Damon Alberts	<u>250</u>

WRITE-INS: Jose Delgado, Ed Detemple, Devin Egan, Ian Napoli, Tim Quinn and James Rizza

Motion seconded by Mr. Bartolone and carried 8 – 0. [Mr. LoCicero thanked everyone for supporting the 2021-2022 budget.]

Board Committee Reports – Agenda #6

Audit:

Mrs. Crowley reported that the Audit Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The Committee is scheduled to meet on May 26, 2021, via Zoom, to review the draft risk assessment report performed by the internal auditors. Additionally, the committee will be meeting with the external auditors, Nugent and Haeussler to review the required yearly external audit scheduled for July.

Budget:

Mr. Devincenzi thanked the Board of Education for their support of a fiscally responsible 2021-2022 budget, the administrative team for their hard work in helping to develop the 2021-2022 budget and the community for their support of the programs and extra-curricular activities provided for in the 2021-2022 budget. Mr. Castle commented that the District is now working on the next phase of putting together a preliminary plan on how to utilize the \$7 million in federal monies the District received over a period of 3-4 years on primarily non-recurring expenses. He already met with Mr. Devincenzi and Mrs. Herrington and plans on meeting with the administrators, who will meet with their school improvement teams. The plan will be posted on the website for public comment. The plan needs to be posted by July 1st.

Buildings & Grounds:

Mr. Frisbie reported that the Buildings and Grounds Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The District will be sending out a bid for seal coating work at all the schools this Summer. If pricing comes in favorably, we anticipate bringing a recommendation to the June 16th Board meeting. In addition, Steve Rossi is identifying additional work to be prioritized over the Summer at the John G. Borden Middle School and Plattekill Elementary School.

CDEP:

Mrs. Anderson reported that the CDEP committee has completed their work for this year and will reconvene in the Fall.

Curriculum/TAG:

Mrs. Anderson reported that the Curriculum/TAG Committee met on April 27, 2021. This was the last scheduled meeting for the school year. At the meeting, Mrs. Werlau provided the committee with information about the programming this year and explained that the students will be presenting their Renzulli research project virtually on May 28, 2021. She also gave the committee an overview of the spring workshops that George Steele has been hosting in each elementary building May-June.

Mrs. Herrington presented the New York State revised timeline for the implementation of the Next Generation Learning Standards. The District has been mapping grades K-8 ELA, Math, Social Studies, and Science curriculum aligned to the new standards. This work is ongoing, and the District will continue to work with BOCES content specialists to revise the maps as needed. The High School Social Studies department has developed maps which are aligned to the new framework in preparation for the updated Regents exams. Other departments have been working on aligning their curriculum to the Next Generation Standards as well.

Mrs. Herrington gave the committee information about this year's State testing requirements. Grades 3-8 ELA and Math assessments were shortened to part I only and are being administered this spring. Grades 4 and 8 Science tests will not have a hands-on component when given in June. Remote only students who want to take the assessments must take the exam in school. At the high school level, the State is offering only four (4) Regents exams: ELA, Algebra, Living Environment, and Earth Science. There will be no August exams offered. Students are not required to take the exams and may choose to be exempt, yet they will receive credit if they pass the course. Student scores will not be included in their GPA or Course Grade if they choose to sit for the exam.

This year's summer school programming for Grades K-12 was discussed:

- Grades K-8 will attend in-person classes and there will not be a remote option
- Grades 9-12 will be held remotely, and teachers will teach classes via Zoom
- The District is exploring the option to offer a Grades K-3 Reading Tutoring Program this Summer

Mrs. Herrington also provided the committee with information about this year's Spring concerts:

- Elementary schools will be hosting virtual concerts as they did in the Winter
- The middle school will be performing live with no audience in attendance due to social distancing constraints; the concert will be livestreamed, and the recording will be posted on our website

- *The high school will be performing live and parents of seniors only will be in attendance during their child's performance due to social distancing constraints; the concert will be livestreamed, and the recording will be posted on our website*

Mr. Albanese outlined for the committee the structure of the Credit Recovery Program that was implemented this Spring to assist students with additional opportunities to complete work needed for credit. The program is running four (4) days a week after-school and our enrollment has increased.

Mr. Salamone explained to the committee that a business teaching position being vacated due to a retirement was not being filled due to low enrollment in business courses over the past three years and that as a result some electives will not be offered next year. He also advised the committee that the college Business Law course will no longer be offered through Ulster County Community College, it will be through St. Rose College.

Health & Safety:

Mr. Palen reported that the District Committee met on May 4, 2021, via Zoom. The Committee discussed the draft of the 2021-2022 District-Wide Safety Plan and discussed a recap of the meetings for the year. The next committee meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2021, at 4:00 pm unless a meeting is required prior.

Legislative:

Mr. Petrocelli commented that the committee has not met since the last Board meeting and asked Mr. Castle to speak. Mr. Castle commented that there is a bill to waive the APPR requirements for the 2020-2021 school year. He also stated that starting May 19, 2021, New York State waived mask requirements under certain circumstances, however school guidance has not changed for the rest of the school year. Therefore, masks are still required in schools. The CDC clarified their announcement but intend to review the guidance over the Summer. What is still unknown at this point is whether the District will be required to offer remote learning for the 2021-2022 school year. A decision may be made mid-July/mid-Summer by the State. Mr. Castle stated that he understands that New Jersey has already announced that there would be no remote learning for the next school year. New York and New Jersey have followed similar paths in the past so the District will need to wait for further guidance. Once the District has more information, it will be shared with the community.

Policy:

Mr. Palen reported that the Policy Committee met on May 6, 2021. This was the last scheduled meeting for the year unless another meeting is required.

Technology:

Mr. Spencer reported that the Technology Committee has not met since the last Board meeting and another meeting is not anticipated until next year.

Wellness:

Mr. Bartolone reported that the Wellness Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next committee meeting is scheduled to meet at 3:30 p.m. on June 8, 2021.

Student Rep:

Mr. Conor Warren reported the following:

➤ *In Sports:*

- *Varsity Boy's Lacrosse has been dominant with an undefeated record of 6 – 0*
- *Girl's Lacrosse has a record of 0 – 6*
- *Varsity Baseball and Varsity Softball have records of 5 – 3*
- *On May 14th, senior Louis Martinez vaulted himself into the Section IX record book with an excellent performance at Kingston. Martinez pole vaulted 16 feet and 6 inches, breaking the Section IX record. In coming meets, Louis has his eyes on the outdoor state record of 16 feet and 8 ¾ inches, his ultimate goal being 18 feet.*
- *Rylee Thomas and Sera Goering have been named Class A Section IX All-Stars for volleyball*
- *Eric Blackshear and Ty Crowley have been named Section IX All-Stars for football.*

- SGA:
 - The first spirit week of the academic year welcomed participation from all students in grades 9 through 12; another spirit week planned for the start of June to let the Class of 2021 in particular show off its school spirit.
 - The second spirit week will lead up to a prom-like event on June 4th. Rather than holding a traditional prom at a venue, a modified version will be held outdoors at the high school. Students are encouraged to dress comfortably and within the boundaries of the dress code.
- Music
 - The concert that students in the music department have been preparing for will now be an in-person event in the gym! Every senior performing in the concert is allowed two guests; they will only be welcomed in at the time of their student's performance.
- The Wallkill Lions Club plans to host a dinner at Popps Pavilion for high school Leo Club members. The group has done great work all-year round, despite the challenges of the pandemic.
- Since our last Board meeting, the schedule at the high school has advanced to four days of in-person instruction. As a student, Conor commented that it is nice to see more activity and liveliness in the hallways and classrooms.

6. Consent Agenda

Mr. Spencer moved items 7A through 7P and 8A be taken as consent agenda.

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

Eliminate Positions – Non-Instructional – Agenda # 7.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the elimination of the following non-instructional position:

1	1.0 FTE	Computer Teacher Aide
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Create Positions – Non-Instructional – Agenda #7.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and create the following non-instructional positions for the 2021-2022 school year:

1	1.0 FTE	Field Service Technician
2	0.97 FTE	Special Education Teacher Aide

Approve Resolution – Eliminate Instructional Position – Agenda #7.C.

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

RESOLVED: that one (1) instructional [1.0 FTE] position in the following tenure area shall be eliminated as per the 2021-2022 Wallkill Central School District budget and that the Superintendent shall be directed to advise the least senior person in that tenure area, if applicable.

1	1.0 FTE	Business Education
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Create Positions – Instructional – Agenda #7.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and create the following instructional positions* for the 2021-2022 school year:

1	1.0 FTE	English to Speakers of Other Languages Teacher [ENL/TESOL]
1	1.0 FTE	School Social Worker K-12

**These positions are being created utilizing a Federal Grant, the American Rescue Act of 2021. All funds pertaining to the positions will be recorded in the Special Aid Fund throughout the term of the grant.*

Create Program – Grades K-3 Summer Reading Tutoring Program – Agenda #7.E.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and create the following program*:

Grades K-3 Summer Reading Tutoring Program

**This program is being created utilizing a Federal Grant, the American Rescue Act of 2021 to fund the positions, materials, and professional development for teachers. All funds pertaining to the program will be recorded in the Special Aid Fund throughout the term of the grant.*

Create Program – Grades K-6 Summer Learning Academy – Agenda #7.F.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and create the following program*:

Grades K-6 Summer Learning Academy

**This program is being created utilizing a Federal Grant, the American Rescue Act of 2021 to fund the positions, materials, professional development for teachers and transportation for students. All funds pertaining to the program will be recorded in the Special Aid Fund throughout the term of the grant.*

Create Program – Grades 7-8 Summer Learning Academy – Agenda #7.G.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and create the following program*:

Grades 7-8 Summer Learning Academy

**This program is being created utilizing a Federal Grant, the American Rescue Act of 2021 to fund the positions, materials, and professional development for teachers. All funds pertaining to the program will be recorded in the Special Aid Fund throughout the term of the grant.*

Create Program – Grades K-8 After School Academic Intervention Program – Agenda #7.H.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and create the following program*:

Grades K-8 After School Academic Intervention Program

**This program is being created utilizing a Federal Grant, the American Rescue Act of 2021 to fund the positions, materials, and professional development for teachers. All funds pertaining to the program will be recorded in the Special Aid Fund throughout the term of the grant.*

Create Program – High School Credit Recovery Program – Agenda #7.I.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and create the following program*:

High School Credit Recovery Program

**This program is being created utilizing a Federal Grant, the American Rescue Act of 2021 to fund the positions, materials, and professional development for teachers. All funds pertaining to the program will be recorded in the Special Aid Fund throughout the term of the grant.*

Accept Retirements/Resignations – Non-Instructional – Agenda #7.J.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **James Burriss** from the position of Permanent Per Diem Teacher Aide, assigned to the Senior High School, effective April 19, 2021.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation for retirement purposes of **Audrey J. Connor** from the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Computer Teacher Aide, effective June 30, 2021.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation for retirement purposes of **Gilberto Leal** from the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Night Custodial Worker, effective June 23, 2021.

Approve Appointment – 2021 Secondary Summer School Principal – Agenda #7.K.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **David Albert** to the position of 2021 Secondary Summer School Principal at a salary of \$7,994 (includes set-up fee) effective May 20, 2021. In the event that a third period is necessary, Mr. Albert's salary will be \$10,659.

Approve Child Rearing Leave Extension – Agenda #7.L.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the request of **Stephanie Cartica** to extend her Child Rearing Leave through June 24, 2022, instead of June 25, 2021, [previously approved at the October 21, 2020 Board of Education Meeting].

Set Board of Education Meeting Dates – July, August, September 2021 – Agenda #7.M.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and set the following dates for the Reorganization July, Regular August, and Regular September Board of Education Meetings, to be held at 7:00 p.m., in the Wallkill Senior High School.

Thursday, July 1, 2021

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Approve Substitutes Lists – Agenda #7.N.

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.O.

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

Approve Special Education Placements – Agenda #7.P.

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

Accept Treasurer's Report – Agenda #8.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education has reviewed and accepts the Treasurer's Reports as of April 30, 2021 and Revenues as of April 30, 2021.

8. Accept Donation – Agenda #8.B.

Mr. Frisbie moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the donation of \$750 from the Wallkill Valley Federal Savings and Loan to purchase "kinderboxes" for incoming kindergartners at the Plattekill Elementary School.

Motion seconded by Mr. Palen and carried 8 – 0. [With Thanks].

9. Public Comment – Agenda #9

At 7:38 p.m. the floor was opened for public comment. No comment.

10. Executive Session – Agenda #10

At 7:39 p.m. Mr. Spencer moved the Board enter Executive Session to discuss current litigation and personnel.

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

The Board reconvened 8:40 p.m.

11. Add Item to Agenda

Mr. Frisbie moved item, Accept Resignations – Administration, be added to the Agenda.

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

12. Accept Resignations – Administration

Mr. Spencer moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Joseph Salamone** from the position of Wallkill Senior High School Principal, effective June 30, 2021.

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

Mr. Frisbie moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Brian Masopust** from the position of Wallkill Senior High School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director, effective June 30, 2021, pending his appointment to a Four-Year Probationary Wallkill Senior High School Principal.

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

13. Add Item to Agenda

Mr. Palen moved item, Approve Appointment – Administration be added to the Agenda.

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

14. Approve Appointment – Administration

Mr. Palen moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **Brian Masopust**, certified in School Building Leader and School District Leader, to a Four-Year Probationary period in the Secondary Principal tenure area, commencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2025. To the extent applicable under Education Law Section 3012-d and the accompanying Commissioner's Regulations, in order to be considered for tenure, Mr. Masopust must have received an APPR rating of effective or highly effective in three of the four probationary years and must not receive an ineffective in the fourth year. Effective July 1, 2021, Mr. Masopust's salary will \$132,000 replacing Joseph Salamone, who has resigned.

Motion seconded by Mrs. Anderson and carried 8 – 0.

15. Close Meeting – Agenda #11

At 8:45 p.m. Mr. Spencer moved to adjourn the meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Corcoran
District Clerk