

VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
944 State Route 17K
Montgomery, New York

September 23, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order in the Administration Building at 6:32 p.m. by President Joseph Bond.

PRESENT: Mr. Bond, Ms. McKnight, Mrs. Messing, Mrs. Fox-Pizzonia, Mrs. Revoir, Mrs. Samuelson and Mrs. Terralavoro (entered at 6:31 p.m.)

ABSENT: Ms. Avila and Mrs. Mojica

Also Present: Mr. Conklin, Mr. Tolentino, Ms. McGoldrick, Student Representatives Ms. Gutierrez and Ms. Guncay, and approximately fifteen faculty, staff, students and community members in the audience

Also Absent: Media (WVT/THR)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bond called for a motion to convene in Executive Session to discuss the employment of a particular personnel and a student matter.

Mrs. Messing moved, Ms. McKnight seconded that the Board convene in Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. Voting YES: Unanimous [6:0]

Mrs. Messing moved, Ms. McKnight seconded that the Board come out of Executive Session at 6:32 p.m. Voting YES: Unanimous [6:0]

PLEDGE TO FLAG

Following the Pledge, Mr. Bond made the regular announcements regarding emergency egress, no smoking, public comment, and video streaming/recording of the meeting. He made available a copy of the opening statement/ guidelines for public comment for those wishing to speak.

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Bond introduced this year's student representatives –Harmony Gutierrez and Jennifer Guncay and invited them to share some information about themselves, which they did.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMENDATIONS

Mr. Conklin and Mr. Bond reviewed the attached correspondence and commendations.

PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item and called for a motion.

Ms. McKnight moved, Mrs. Revoir seconded that the following Consent Agenda be approved, as amended, listed and/or attached:

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- A. District Safety Plan Public Hearing Minutes dated 9/9/24
- B. Regular Meeting Minutes dated 9/9/24

FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Acceptance of Treasurer’s Report for August
- B. Acceptance of Expenditure Budget Status Report for August
- C. Acceptance of Revenue Budget Status Report for August
- D. Acceptance of Record of Claims for August
- E. Acceptance of Extraclassroom Reports for July/August
- F. Acceptance of Investment Report for August
- G. Approval of General Fund Budget Transfer for August

RECOMMENDATIONS OF CSE/CPSE

FOR APPROVAL

- A. Valley Central School District Strategic Plan 2024-2029
- B. Intermunicipal Agreement between Valley Central School District and Pine Bush Central School District
- C. Acceptance of Donation:
Valley Central Middle School – Pets in the Classroom Grant
Petco
- D. Overnight Trip Request:
All-State NYSSMA Conference – High School
- E. Anticipated Overnight Trip Requests:
 - 1. Valley Central High School – Music Department (Three)
 - 2. Valley Central High School – Science Olympiad
 - 3. Valley Central High School – Math League
 - 4. Valley Central High School – Freshman Class
 - 5. Valley Central High School – Sophomore Class
 - 6. Valley Central High School – JROTC
 - 7. Valley Central High School – Science Research (Two)
 - 8. Valley Central High School – National Art Honor Society
 - 9. Valley Central High School – Gradus Honoris
 - 10. Valley Central Middle School – NYSBDA Competition
 - 11. Valley Central Middle School – FCCLA Conferences
 - 12. Valley Central Middle School – Odyssey of the Mind Conferences

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Acceptance of Resignations:

Instructional

Name	Position/Building Assignment	Effective Date
1. Sonya Berger (Retirement Purposes)	Science Teacher/MS	June 30, 2025

Noninstructional

Name	Position/Building Assignment	Effective Date
1. Matthew Thompson (Resignation)	Custodial Worker/HS	September 10, 2024
2. Corrine Riccardi (Resignation)	1:1 Paraprofessional/Harmony Christian School	August 21, 2024
3. Samantha Victor (Resignation)	Special Education Paraprofessional/WES	September 30, 2024
4. Stacey McCaffrey (Resignation)	Special Education Paraprofessional/BES	September 23, 2024
5. Debbie Moakley (Resignation)	1:1 Paraprofessional/BES	September 17, 2024
6. Kerry Kras (Resignation)	Paraprofessional/EC	October 4, 2024

B. Approval of Appointments:

Instructional –Annual

Name	Position/Building Assignment	Salary Schedule/Step	Effective Date
1. Grace Chase	Grade 3 Team Leader/WES	Cat. E, Step 1	2024 - 2025 School Year
2. Nicole Speranzo	Evening High School/English Teacher	\$50.00 per hour + 25% prep time	2024 - 2025 School Year
3. Alisa Podgorskaya	Evening High School/Substitute Counselor	\$50.00 per hour + 25% prep time	2024 - 2025 School Year
4. Rachel DeBenedictus	Kindergarten Team Leader/BES	Cat. E, Step 5	2024 - 2025 School Year
5. Tracy Addington	Grade 1 Team Leader/BES	Cat. E, Step 4	2024 - 2025 School Year
6. Dawn Rubino	Grade 2 Team Leader/BES	Cat. E, Step 4	2024 - 2025 School Year
7. Lisa Orszewski	Grade 3 Team Leader/BES	Cat. E, Step 6	2024 - 2025 School Year
8. Barbara Cook	Grade 4 Team Leader/BES	Cat. E, Step 6	2024 - 2025 School Year
9. Kiera Abbruscato	Grade 5 Team Leader/BES	Cat. E, Step 6	2024 - 2025 School Year
10. Kimberly Kedzielawa	Special Education Team Leader/BES	Cat. E, Step 3	2024 - 2025 School Year
11. Hussain Hasan	Home Tutor/District	\$48.00 per hour	2024 – 2025 School Year
12. Travis Contreras 13. Jack Harris 14. Hussain Hasan 15. Adriana Torres 16. Lisa Variara	Non-Certified Substitute Teachers/District	\$110.00 per day	2024 – 2025 School Year

Noninstructional

Name	Position/Building Assignment	Salary Schedule/Step	Effective Date
1. Rosina Gray (Resignation Rep.)	Supervisory Paraprofessional/EC	Para/Step 3	September 24, 2024
2. Katherine Chavarria (New Position)	1:2 Paraprofessional/EC	Para/Step 4	September 24, 2024
3. Kristina Castaldo (New Position)	1:1 Paraprofessional/WES	Para/Step 2	September 24, 2024
4. Taneasa Green (Resignation Rep.)	Food Service Helper/HS	FSH/Step 1	September 24, 2024
5. Amanda Hadden (Transfer Rep.)	1:1 Paraprofessional/BES	Para/Step 1	September 24, 2024
6. Khateline Veras (New Position)	1:2 Paraprofessional/BES	Para/Step 2	September 24, 2024
7. Veda Ruhl (New Position)	1:1 Paraprofessional/WES	Para/Step 1	September 24, 2024

Noninstructional - Annual

Name	Position/Building Assignment	Salary Schedule/Step	Effective Date
1. Jack Harris 2. Savannah Garey 3. Lisa Variara 4. Christine Calvaruso	Substitute Paraprofessionals/ District	\$15.00 per hour	2024 -2025 School Year
5. Rebecca Thomas 6. Lisa Variara	Food Service Helper/District	\$15.92 per hour	2024 -2025 School Year

Cocurricular Appointments

Name	Position/Building Assignment	Salary Schedule/Step	Effective Date
1. Dan Osekavage 2. Lucas Daubel	Aquatic Staff-Student Lifeguards/District	\$15.00 per hour	2024 -2025 School Year
3. Gerri Rosiecki 4. Russel Gulamerian 5. Robin Sinclair- Scott 6. Jeff Schaper 7. Sophie Steger 8. Lenore Felix 9. Mark Iorlano 10. Michael Gonzalez	Events Personnel/District	Home Rate of Pay \$60.00/Per Event Away Rate of Pay \$70/Per Event	2024 -2025 School Year

Voting YES: Unanimous [7:0]

REPORTS

A. Student Representatives

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item and invited the students to offer their report. Ms. Guncay and Ms. Gutierrez spoke about the students return to school for 2024-2025 and commented on activities and events including sports, extracurricular clubs, open house, participation in the General Montgomery Day Parade and plans for Hispanic Heritage month.

The student representatives were thanked for their report and left the meeting at this time.

B. Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Avila was not able to attend tonight’s meeting. Mr. Conklin provided Superintendent Avila’s report in her absence. Information on the Walden Building Committee survey, open houses, assemblies at the High School and National Hispanic Heritage Month was shared.

C. Assistant Superintendent for Business

Following introduction of this Agenda item by Mr. Bond, Mr. Conklin provided an update on the Capital Project construction at the High School. He also expressed his appreciation to the Town of Montgomery Police Department for their assistance with the social media threats that were reported last week.

D. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

Mrs. Mojica was not able to attend tonight’s meeting.

E. Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item. Mr. Tolentino shared information the work of the Human Resources Department.

F. Enrollment – September 18, 2024

Following introduction of this Agenda item by Mr. Bond, Mr. Conklin provided a review of the current enrollment.

G. Presentation of End-of-Year Reports:

- 1. Food Service**
- 2. Buildings & Grounds**

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item and invited Ms. Eleanore Mills, School Lunch Manager, to make her End-of-Year Food Service presentation.

Ms. Mills reviewed the school lunch program for the 2023-2024 school year. She shared information on the free and reduced lunch program and reviewed the number of meals served by her department since the District qualified for Community Eligibility Participation, which allows all student to eat at no cost to them for both breakfast and lunch.

Mr. Bond then introduced Mr. Ryan Schmidt, Director of Facilities. Mr. Schmidt reviewed his End-of-Year Report, highlighting the projects completed by the department over the course of the 2023-2024 school year.

H. Community Participation

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item. Board members commented on events that they had participated in or attended recently, including athletic events, a Valley Central Education Foundation meeting, a senior parent meeting, open houses, and a Walden Building Committee meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was one request for public comment this evening:

Becky Pearson

OLD BUSINESS

A. External Audit Presentation – The Bonadio Group

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item. Mr. Conklin noted that Alan Walther from The Bonadio Group will join the meeting via Zoom to provide information on the District's External Audit for the Board and those in the audience. The External Audit and the District's Corrective Action Plan are on the agenda under New Business for consideration this evening.

Following the presentation, Mr. Walther invited questions from the Board; there were none. He was thanked for his presentation and he left the meeting at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Acceptance of External Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 – The Bonadio Group

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item, referenced the Audit Report provided to the Board members, and called for a motion.

Mrs. Samuelson moved, Mrs. Fox-Pizzonia seconded that the Board accept the External Audit Report for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2024, as presented and attached. Voting YES: Unanimous [7:0]

B. Acceptance of Corrective Action Plan – External Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 – The Bonadio Group

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item, referenced the Corrective Action Plan provided to the Board members, and called for a motion.

Mrs. Messing moved, Mrs. Samuelson seconded that the Board accept the Corrective Action Plan for the External Audit Report for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2024, as presented and attached. Voting YES: Unanimous [7:0]

C. Adoption of District School Safety Plan 2024-2025

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item, referenced the proposed District Safety Plan, and called for a motion.

Mrs. Revoir moved, Mrs. Messing seconded that the Board adopt the 2024-2025 District Safety Plan, as presented and attached. Voting YES: Unanimous [7:0]

D. Approval of Agreement between Valley Central School District and Isa Marrs Speech Language Pathology, PC

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item, referenced the agreement, and called for a motion.

Mrs. Messing moved, Mrs. Terralavoro seconded that the Board approve the agreement between Valley Central School District and Isa Marrs Speech Language Pathology, as attached. Voting YES: Unanimous [7:0]

E. Approval of Agreement between Valley Central School District and Wraparound Services of the Hudson Valley

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item, referenced the agreement, and called for a motion.

Mrs. Fox-Pizzonia moved, Mrs. Terralavoro seconded that the Board approve the agreement between Valley Central School District and Wraparound Services of the Hudson Valley, as attached. Voting YES: Unanimous [7:0]

F. Approval of Agreement between Valley Central School District and Trane US, Inc.

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item, referenced memorandum from Mr. Conklin and the proposed agreement, and called for a motion.

Mrs. Revoir moved, Ms. McKnight seconded that the Board approve the agreement between Valley Central School District and Trane US, Inc., as attached. Voting YES: Unanimous [7:0]

G. Approval of Agreement between Valley Central School District and Frank Stevens & Sons Roofing, Inc.

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item, referenced memorandum from Mr. Conklin and the proposed agreement, and called for a motion.

Mrs. Messing moved, Mrs. Fox-Pizzonia seconded that the Board approve the agreement between Valley Central School District and Frank Stevens & Sons Roofing, Inc., as attached. Voting YES: Unanimous [7:0]

H. Approval of Agreement between Valley Central School District and Jorrey Excavating, Inc.

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item, referenced memorandum from Mr. Conklin and the proposed agreement, and called for a motion.

Ms. McKnight moved, Mrs. Messing seconded that the Board approve the agreement between Valley Central School District and Jorrey Excavating, Inc., as attached. Voting YES: Unanimous [7:0]

I. Approval of Consultant Proposals:

- 1. Higher Heights Youth Empowerment Program, Inc.**
- 2. Gess LeBlanc, Ph.D.**
- 3. ALU Coaching & Consulting, LLC**

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item, referenced the consultant proposals, and called for a motion.

Mrs. Samuelson moved, Mrs. Fox-Pizzonia seconded that the Board approve the agreements between Valley Central School District and Higher Heights Youth Empowerment Program, Inc., Gess LeBlanc, Ph.D. and ALU Coaching & Consulting, LLC, as attached. Voting YES: Unanimous [7:0]

J. Review of Middle School Program Development:

- 1. Heritage Months Program - Announcements**
- 2. Heritage Months Program – English Language Arts**
- 3. Heritage Months Program – Social Studies**

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item and noted that these program plans have been provided to the Board of Education for review and will be placed on the October 15, 2024 Board Agenda for consideration.

K. NYSSBA 2024 Resolutions Discussion

Mr. Bond introduced this Agenda item. The Board members discussed this year’s proposed resolutions and provided feedback for NYSSBA Delegate Mrs. Terralavoro, who will vote on the Board’s behalf at NYSSBA’s Annual Board meeting on Thursday, October 10th.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bond called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mrs. Revoir moved, Mrs. Messing seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Voting YES: Unanimous [7:0]

Mr. Bond adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen T. McGoldrick
District Clerk

/em