

Board of Education

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
August 31st, 2023, @ 7:00 PM
Gardner-Dickinson School Library Media Center
Draft **Minutes**

1.0 Call to Order and The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

1.1 Call to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Mr. Lanesey called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

1.2 Record of Attendance

Mr. Lanesey	Present
Mrs. Hurbanek	Absent
Mr. Strang	Absent
Mrs. Castle	Present
Mrs. Mack	Present

1.3 Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a. Regular BOE Meeting July 5th, 2023
- b. Organizational Meeting July 5th, 2023

Mrs. Mack made a motion to approve the previous minutes.

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion approved 3/0.

1.4 Acceptance of Financial Reports

- a. Internal Claims Auditor's Report July 2023
- b. Monthly Treasurer's Report with Budget Transfers June 2023
Quarterly Revenue Report 6/30/2023
Monthly Treasurer's Report with Budget Transfers July 2023

Mrs. Mack made a motion to approve the financial reports.

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion approved 3/0.

1.5 Visitors and Communications

- a. Communications to the Board of Education
 - i. Chief Keevern, North Greenbush Police

Mr. Lanesey noted that as a public official requesting his letter be posted, he will attach it to the minutes.

■ Letter to School Board.pdf

b. Policy Committee Update

- i. **First Reading -**
0000 Mission Statement,
0300 Accountability
5710 Violent and Disruptive Incident Reporting
Therapy Dogs

c. Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

Ms. Dinan - Commented about resignations on the agenda for tonight. She praised Mrs. Delaney's impact on students. GD draws people to the area by bringing people into a building that feels like a family.

2.0 **Reports to the Board of Education**

2.1 Board of Education Reports & Updates

Nothing at this time.

2.2 District/Superintendent Program Report

Dr. Yodis delivered her Superintendent report and touched on a variety of topics, including:

- Ms. Toomey has done amazing work this summer and we were thankful to have the time together to plan and connect at a retreat for women last month.
- Everyone is experiencing the same difficulties we are with declining enrollments, loss of staff and vacant positions and the mental health crisis in schools across the country.
- Dr. Yodis and Ms. Toomey had great discussions and developed a plan to focus on building relationships and communications with and between our staff, students and families.
- Dr. Yodis welcomed three new staff members to GD this year, Ms. Victoria Kohan (Social Worker), Mrs. de Rosier (ELA) and Ms. Biondo (Spanish) and is very excited to have them start.
- COMPASS with Kristen Wilcox is rescheduled to September. We have a team of several new teachers on the team who will work to add specific action steps to our goal.
- Many teachers and staff members engaged in PD training and grading workshops over the summer.
- Dr. Yodis commends the hard work that Rocco Mazzarello and Bob Koberger have done over the summer to make the building look amazing!
- Dr. Yodis gives a big shoutout to the middle school teachers for their assistance in getting the middle school ready for the transition from last year.
- Stacey Giordano will be coming to present to the board the new changes and updates to the Science Standards. She is helping to strengthen our science curriculum and find enrichment opportunities for our small school. We have a couple of students who may be taking a Regents Biology class online independently.

2.3 Principal's Report

Ms. Toomey presented her Principal's report.

- She has been working with various people over the summer to get the master schedule up and running.
- Worked hard on communication within our building this summer and will continue to do so throughout the school year.
- Ms. Toomey gives a big thank you to the summer staff, including Rocco and Bob for getting the building ready, Kathy Fazioli in the main office for handling all new student registrations and contact changes, Amy Murphy for working hard in SchoolTool loading classes and schedules.
- GD is onboarding ParentSquare, a communication tool that enables us to better communicate with specific groups, individuals, and with the whole school.
- GD will be opening up "Parent Portal" access to the whole school rather than just the middle school, it will allow parents to see their children(s) schedule, bus info, contact information, etc.

- Teachers have been working very hard to prepare for the school year, getting their classrooms ready, and everyone seems very excited for the year to begin!
- Many forms and processes in our building are being updated to become digitized in a way to modernize certain procedures.
- Thank you to NextStep FCU for bringing in backpacks full of supplies to students in need!
- An empty classroom in the K-2 wing has been made into a science lab for K-2 so teachers can set up science materials and create an awesome science lab for their students!
- Expectation signs have been created that will soon be set up all over the school, including classrooms, bus, hallways, cafeteria, bathrooms and playground!
- Open House will be held on the second week of school. Details will be sent out shortly.
- Met with John Yerry, SRO, and he is incredibly excited to begin working with students and being a mentor and role model for students!
- We are working on a recycling initiative!

2.4 Building, Grounds & Transportation

BGT BOE Report 2023

2.5 PTA/SEPTA Update

PTA - There will be a holiday craft fair on November 18th! A flyer has been sent out and vendors are currently signing up. It looks to be a great fundraiser for the PTA! There will also be a back to school celebration on Sept 5th, with a bounce house, food, face painting and more! Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help, and thank you to Stewarts Shops for donating 300 sundaes!

SEPTA - New officers were sworn in on Monday, welcome! Will host an anxiety in school zoom talk to discuss what parents can do to help children who suffer from anxiety in school. 9/25 at 7pm.

3.0 Appointments and Authorizations

Consent Agenda 3.1 - 3.26

- 3.1 Approve CSE/CPSE Recommendations as per attached.
- 3.2 Approve the 2023-24 District-Wide School Safety Plan.
- 3.3 Approval of the Adult Breakfast/Lunch prices for the 2023-2024 school year:
Adult Breakfast: \$2.39 + tax = \$2.58 Adult Lunch: \$4.78 + tax = \$5.16
- 3.4 Appoint Victoria Kohan as full-time social worker at step 8 as per WTA contract (pending fingerprints)
- 3.5 Accept a donation of a large scale printer from Erik Denny
- 3.6 Approve up to 50 hours of summer work or as needed per the Superintendent for Teresa McClain, retroactive to July 18th, 2023.
- 3.7 Approve James Brown as a substitute custodian at a rate of \$100/day, retroactive to July 24th,

2023.

3.8 Accept the letter of resignation from Rebecca Delaney as middle school english teacher, effective July 28th, 2023.

3.9 Accept the letter of resignation from Kristen Martone as a teacher aide, effective August 11, 2023.

3.10 Approve Noah Garvey as a building volunteer for the 2023-24 school year.

3.11 Appoint Stefanie Ryan as a full-time teacher aide effective September 5th, 2023 at a rate of \$18.81/hr.

3.12 Accept the letter of resignation from Bethany Wallace as AIS teacher, effective August 16th, 2023

3.13 Approve Pat and Dom Martino as recess volunteers for the 2023-24 school year.

3.14 Approve Contract for Professional Services Between Wynantskill UFSD and Valorie Falco, Professional Consultant at a rate of \$500.00 per day not to exceed \$12,000.00 by June 30, 2024

3.15 Appoint Meleigha Kugler as a full-time teacher aide effective September 5th, 2023 at a rate of \$17.73/hr.

3.16 Appoint the following substitutes for the 2023-24 school year:

Rose Church	Substitute Aide
James Trofa	Non-Certified Substitute Teacher
Terri Goodspeed	Certified Substitute Teacher
Stephen McClain	Non-Certified Substitute Teacher
Erin Mahar	Non-Certified Substitute Teacher
Vincent Pettiti	Non-Certified Substitute Teacher
Kyle Audi	Non-Certified Substitute Teacher
Jennifer Pratt	Substitute Aide
Tanith Brown	Non-Certified Substitute Teacher

Christina Gribben	Certified Substitute Teacher
Jeffrey Pierre-Louis	Non-Certified Substitute Teacher
Michael Klein	Certified Substitute Teacher
Logan Simonian	Non-Certified Substitute Teacher
Kyra Weatherwax (pending fingerprints)	Non-Certified Substitute Teacher
Maddi Akots	Substitute Nurse
Carol Crucetti	Substitute Nurse
Katie Glanton	Substitute Nurse
Ariane Seifert (pending fingerprints)	Non-Certified Substitute Teacher
Thomas Zakrzewski (pending fingerprints)	Non-Certified Substitute Teacher
Susan Gallagher	Certified Substitute Teacher
Emily Niro	Certified Substitute Teacher

3.17 Appoint the following as part-time building aides for the 2023-24 school year:

Michelle Eisenhandler
Christina Plath
Nicole Manzer
Kathy Laverdiere
Rose Palasz

3.18 Appoint Charles Claus as a bus aide for the 2023-24 school year at a rate of \$33.03/hr.

3.19 Approve contract with Cornice Technology regarding Electric School Buses at \$120/hr not to exceed \$10,000.

3.20 Approve Sal Scechitano as a substitute bus driver at a rate of \$25/hr.

3.21 Approve Daniel Calhoun as assistant boys soccer coach for the 2023-24 season (pending fingerprints)

3.22 Approve the following as surplus:

Non-functioning laminator (barcode F00028) - will be disposed of
Bus 69 - taken out of service due to poor engine performance, cracked body stringers, and frame rust. A 2013 - 65 passenger school bus with 77,824 miles on it. Will go to auction.

3.23 Approve Bob Cushing up to work an extra 2 hours per day to fulfill additional transportation duties as needed and directed by Rocco Mazzarello.

3.24 Approve MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE WYNANTSKILL UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE WYNANTSKILL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION regarding CSE Chairperson.

3.25 Approve MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE WYNANTSKILL UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE WYNANTSKILL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION regarding Annual Professional Performance Review.

3.26 Accept the letter of resignation from Keli Pautler as an elementary teacher effective August 31st, 2023

Mrs. Castle made a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Mrs. Mack seconded the motion.

Dr. Yodis wish the absolute best for all the staff members who are leaving the district. We are very excited to welcome new staff and faces who are incredibly excited to join the team! With the increase in mental health crisis, we welcome a full time social worker with a great deal of experience.

Motion approved 3/0.

3.27 Whereas the Board of Education of Wynantskill Union Free School District has been authorized by the voters at the Annual District Meeting to raise for the current budget of the 2023-2024 school year a sum not to exceed \$5,905,402. Therefore, be it resolved, that the board fix the equalized tax rates by towns and confirm the extension of taxes as they appear on the following tax roll:

Town	Total Assessed Levy Value	Equalization Rate	2023-2024 Tax Rate	2023-2024 School Levy by Town
------	---------------------------	-------------------	--------------------	-------------------------------

Brunswick	\$2,900	19.25%	\$92.079860	\$267.03
North Greenbush	\$63,997,170	19.25%	\$92.079860	\$5,899,573.28
Poestenkill	\$55,600	17.72%	\$100.030322	\$5,561.69
Total	\$64,055,670			\$5,905,402

Mrs. Castle made a motion to approve the item 3.27
Mrs. Mack seconded the motion.

Mrs. Angrisano mentions NERIC assists with bills and the county before any taxes are decided upon.
Motion approved 3/0.

3.28 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Wynantskill Union Free School District hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint Tania de Rosier to a term position in the English Language Arts tenure area, for the maximum period September 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, subject to earlier termination by the Board of Education or as extended by mutual agreement by both parties. Provided Ms. de Rosier obtains certification in the area of ELA during this time period, she shall be considered for an immediate probationary appointment in the ELA tenure area. No term of employment is conferred by this resolution, unless and until a probationary appointment is subsequently granted by the Board of Education. It is specifically acknowledged that Ms. de Rosier has agreed to waive any rights she may have to a probationary appointment during this time period and consideration for tenure and such agreement is evidenced by a writing signed by both parties.

Mrs. Mack made a motion to approve item 3.28.
Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Dr. Yodis is incredibly excited to have Ms. de Rosier join the staff! She has worked very diligently to finish working with the state to complete her certification after working in a private school for many years. Her enthusiasm and expertise is a great tool to bring to the district.

Motion approved 3/0.

3.29 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Wynantskill Union Free School District hereby appoints and employs Sarah Friday to a term position as a Special Education Teacher, for the maximum period September 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, subject to earlier termination by the Board of Education. This is a term appointment and is not a probationary appointment. It is

specifically acknowledged that Ms. Friday has agreed to waive any rights he/she may have to a probationary appointment and consideration for tenure and such agreement is evidenced by a writing signed by both parties. Ms. Friday will receive salary and benefits as outlined in the Letter Agreement by and between Ms. Friday and the Superintendent of Schools

Mrs. Castle made a motion to approve item 3.29.

Mrs. Mack seconded the motion.

Dr. Yodis says this is the same agreement as last year, Ms. Friday will continue to work with St. Jude's as a special education and AIS teacher.

Motion approved 3/0.

4.0 Informational

4.1 Regular BOE Meeting September 21st, 2023 @ 7 pm

4.2 Opportunity for the Public to be Heard.

No one at this time.

5.0 Request for Executive Session

Recommended Action: That the Board of Education adjourns into Executive Session, if needed, for the purpose of discussing one or more of the following subjects:

1. _____ Matters that will imperil the public safety if disclosed.
2. _____ Any matter that may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer.
3. _____ Information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed.
4. _____ Discussion involving proposed, pending, or current litigation.
5. _____ Collective negotiations pursuant to article 14 of the Civil Service Law.
6. The medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.
7. _____ The preparation, grading, or administration of exams.
8. _____ The proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition, sale, or exchange of securities, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value of these things (Pub. Off. Law § 105(a-h)).

Mrs. Mack made a motion to enter into executive session at

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

6.0 Return to Open Session

Mrs. Mack made a motion to return to open session at 9:16pm

Mrs. Castle seconded the motion.

Motion approved 3/0.

7.0 Adjournment

Mrs. Castle made a motion to adjourn at 9:17pm.

Mrs. Mack seconded the motion.

Motion approved 3/0.

Our Mission:

Every one • Every Day • In Every Way • Together