

**VICTOR CENTRAL SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Approved Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 10, 2021
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

- CALL TO ORDER** President Kristin Elliott called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.
- Members Present** Karen Ballard, Tim DeLucia, Chris Eckhardt, Kristin Elliott, Christopher Parks, Trisha Turner, Michael Vetter
- EXECUTIVE SESSION** A motion was made by C. Parks, seconded by C. Eckhardt, to enter executive session at 5:35 PM to discuss the employment history of specific individuals. The motion was carried. 7 yes 0 no
- REGULAR SESSION** A motion was made by C. Parks, seconded by T. Turner, to return to regular session at 7:15 PM. The motion was carried. 7 yes 0 no
- APPROVE AGENDA** A motion was made by T. Turner, seconded by K. Ballard, to approve the agenda for the meeting. The motion was carried. 7 yes 0 no
- SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE** Dr. Terranova provided an update on the advocacy around reopening. He said he understands that reopening is important to the community and he understands the challenges that everyone is going through. He clarified the guidelines. Public schools must abide by the federal, state and county guidance relative to COVID-19 policies. This guidance is not a suggestion, but rather, a requirement placed upon public schools by government entities. The entities are Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at the federal level, New York State Education Department (NYSED) and New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) at the state level and Ontario County Public Health Department at the county level. In September the Governor created an executive order authorizing schools statewide to be open for instruction, effective September 1, 2020 "subject to adherence to Department of Health issued guidance and directives". Dr. Terranova said there are two important areas of guidance, the CDC on social distancing and the more specific NYSDOH guidance. The CDC says social distancing means keeping a safe space between yourself and other people who are not from your household. The NYSDOH social distancing guidance says responsible parties must maintain protocols and procedures for students, faculty, and staff to ensure and appropriate social distancing to protect against the transmission of the COVID-19 virus when on school grounds and in school facilities. Specifically, appropriate social distancing means six feet of space in all directions between individuals. Ontario County Department of Health is still saying to maintain social distancing. Dr. Terranova said there are people out there who feel like he can make the decision to reduce social distancing in the schools and bring everyone back. He said there is merit to that statement, however it would be inadvisable based upon the guidelines around social distancing and the District has always followed those guidelines. He talked about other schools opening up and how they are able to do that and Victor is not. He said when other schools are opening they are able to maintain the

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SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE Continued

social distancing of six feet because they have the ability to spread their kids out across the district. They have also been able to stagger transportation times and use a variety of venues to eat lunch in. Because of space needs, it is not possible for Victor to bring back all students at one time and consistently maintain six feet of space between students and staff. Even with trying to utilize all large group venues, we do not have this space. In order to bring back all students at one time we need the NYSDOH to decrease the social distancing requirement. Superintendent Terranova then went over the COVID case history in the District since the end of November. He said even with the addition of high risk sports and the additional events that have been going on there has been no transmission from students during those events. The entire staff has had the opportunity to become vaccinated. This doesn't mean that everyone has been, however they have had the opportunity to be. Those that want to be vaccinated should be fully vaccinated by the end of March. He said in a perfect world we would get guidance to bring kids back. The Teachers' Union has been a partner in all of this. They have been a huge support and forward thinking on ways to get kids back fulltime. We need to continue to focus on advocacy in terms of guidance from the state and the expectations to lower the social distancing. Mrs. Elliott talked about the letter that was sent to Governor Cuomo, Senator Brouk, Senator Helming and Assemblyman Gallahan signed by Dr. Terranova and herself, on behalf of the Board of Education, advocating for clarity on the guidelines. Dr. Parks formally asked Dr. Terranova if he and the District could look at the metrics we would need to reopen. He said Dr. Terranova has been formally leading the charge the Board requested in December and the conversations with the legislators have been very informative. Mr. Vetter said, as Dr. Terranova described, if we received the guidance to reduce the social distancing requirements what kind of activities would take place over the next two or three weeks to get the kids back? Dr. Terranova said one is practical, moving furniture and equipment back and making sure they are spread out. The second would be to make sure transportation schedules are set-up correctly. The third is at the secondary level where some student rescheduling will have to take place. Counselors are looking at balancing classes. Lastly would be looking at lunch periods and how that will work. Dr. Parks said to Dr. Terranova's point, lunch will be a challenge. Dr. Terranova said there will be unexpected challenges along the way. Mr. DeLucia said in terms of facilities, classroom ventilation and enclosures are there any plans around classroom ventilation improvements and some enclosures. Dr. Terranova said a tremendous amount of work was done this summer on ventilation to make sure we were ready to open up. Mrs. Turner asked what the social distancing requirement would be to come back to five days. Dr. Terranova said three feet or less. Mrs. Elliott said that some students who are fully remote might want to stay fully remote. It might help with transportation and with the numbers in the classroom. Dr. Terranova said allowing students to remain remote would be up to the state. Mr. Eckhardt said it continues to be our top priority to bring all of the students back five days a week.

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RECOGNITIONS

None at this time.

**PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION**

Due to the virtual meeting, there will be no live public participation. Please feel free to email any thoughts or comments to the Board of Education President at elliottk@victorschools.org. The entire Board and Superintendent will receive all thoughts and comments submitted.

CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by C. Eckhardt, seconded by T. Turner to approve, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, the following consent items:

MINUTES

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on February 11, 2021 and the special meeting of February 25, 2021;

**FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

Treasurer’s Report for the month ending January 31, 2021;

PERSONNEL

The following personnel items:

All appointments on these pages are made in compliance with New York State Education Law relating to criminal history background clearances for new employees. Conditional clearances under that law have been requested for all new employees.

Instructional

**Probationary
Appointments:**

The probationary appointment of **Amanda Moon**, who is certified as School Building Leader, School District Leader, Childhood Education Grades 1-6, Literacy Birth-Grade 6, Literacy Grades 5-12, and Students with Disabilities Grades 1-6, to a probationary position as Primary School Assistant Principal, effective April 12, 2021, at a prorated annual salary of \$76,000, leading towards tenure as Primary School Assistant Principal.

Appointments:

The appointment of **Timothy DiSanto**, Primary School Interim Assistant Principal, effective February 10, 2021 through April 5, 2021, at a daily rate of \$206.

**Long Term
Substitute
Appointments:**

The extended appointment of **Denise DiMarzo**, who has certifications in Childhood Education Grades 1-6, Business and Distribution Education, and School District Administrator, to a long term substitute position as an Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021, at an annual salary of \$55,800 (Step 11M+44).

Leaves of Absence:

The granting of a maternity and subsequent childcare leave of absence for **Megan Steger**, Elementary Teacher, approximately effective March 19, 2021, and extending to June 30, 2022.

The granting of an unpaid discretionary leave of absence for **Dana Zink**, Elementary Teacher, effective March 5, 2021, through April 30, 2021.

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The granting of a maternity and subsequent childcare leave of absence for **Allison Fricano**, Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2021, and extending to June 30, 2022.

Resignations:

The resignation, due to retirement, of **Mark Cain**, Social Studies Teacher, effective June 30, 2021.

The resignation of **Jennifer Geartz**, Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2021.

The resignation of **Kimberly O'Rourke**, Mathematics Teacher/Mathematics Standards Leader, effective March 26, 2021.

The resignation of **Michaela Borg**, .8FTE Art Teacher, effective March 26, 2021.

Per Diem Substitutes:

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Area of Certification</u>
Patrick Barrow	Uncertified
Olivia Whitmarsh	Uncertified
Miranda Colon	Uncertified
Mary Beth Lombard	Uncertified
Andrew Chen	Uncertified
Casey Hatzimanuel	Elementary
Brianna Fernandez	Uncertified
Kasey Hosken	Uncertified
Marc Posner	School Counselor/Phys. Ed.
Erika Rowley	Uncertified
Zachary Simmons	Uncertified

Non-Instructional

Appointments:

The appointment of **Konstantin Avramoski**, Night Cleaner, effective February 11, 2021, at an hourly rate of \$12.98.

The appointment of **Anaely Paniagua Cardona**, Night Cleaner, effective February 8, 2021, at an hourly rate of \$12.98.

The appointment of **Alma Solis Pizarro**, Night Cleaner, effective February 16, 2021, at an hourly rate of \$12.98.

The appointment of **Andrew Habecker**, Part Time Teacher Aide, effective February 22, 2021, at an hourly rate of \$12.50.

The appointment of **Terry Caldwell**, from Substitute Cleaner to Part Time Cleaner, effective March 1, 2021, at an hourly rate of \$12.98.

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The appointment of **Wendy Dattilo**, from Substitute Teacher Aide to Part Time Teacher Aide, effective March 1, 2021, at an hourly rate of \$12.50.

The appointment of **Adriana Rudy**, from Substitute Teacher Aide to Part Time Teacher Aide, effective March 1, 2021, at an hourly rate of \$12.50.

The appointment of **Justin Renkert**, Full Time Cleaner, effective March 9, 2021, at an hourly rate of \$12.98.

Resignations: The resignation of **William Thibodeau**, Cleaner, effective February 28, 2021.

The resignation of **Marcia Gardner**, School Bus Monitor, effective February 25, 2021.

The resignation of **Sandra Allen**, Full Time Teacher Aide, effective February 26, 2021.

Leave of Absence: The granting of an extension of the unpaid discretionary leave of absence for **Carly Walters**, Full Time Teacher Aide, effective November 30, 2020, through March 12, 2021.

The granting of an extension of the unpaid discretionary leave of absence for **Gerald Waite**, Full Time Teacher Aide, effective February 13, 2021, through June 30, 2021.

Deceased: The passing of **Carolyn Strahs**, Typist, February 20, 2021.

**Per Diem and
Substitute Positions:**

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Position</u>
Shea McClelland	Teacher Aide
Gerald Waite	Teacher Aide
Michael Cortash	School Bus Driver

Dr. Terranova welcomed Amanda Moon as the new Assistant Principal of the Primary School.

CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS Recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from the meetings of January 20, 21, 2021, February 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25, 2021, and March 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 2021 and from the Committee on Preschool Special Education from the meeting of February 9, 23, 26, 2021 and March 2, 2021;

BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE MEETINGS Board members to attend standing committee meetings;

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DONATIONS

The following donations:

- \$1,842.04 from the Victor Central Schools Educational Foundation to the Intermediate School Music Department;
- \$1,440.00 from the Victor Ice Hockey Booster Club to the Victor Central School District to support Varsity Media Live Streaming Services;
- \$1,094.42 from PTSA to the Victor Central School District Art Department;
- \$800.00 from PTSA to the Early Childhood School to fund Tom Knight, puppeteer;

Mrs. Elliott thanked the community for the generous donations to the District.

SAFETY PLAN

The revised District-wide School Safety Plan as submitted;

DIGNITY ACT COORDINATORS

The following Dignity Act Coordinators:

- Danny Dehm for the Primary School
- Staci Thibodeau for the Intermediate School

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

The 2021-2022 School Year Calendar as submitted;

EXTRACLASS ACCOUNT

Change the name of the Tri-M Honor Society ExtraClass Account at the Senior High School to the Victor Music Society effective immediately;

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS BY-LAWS

The revised Visual and Performing Arts By-laws as submitted;

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME BY-LAWS

The Athletic Hall of Fame By-laws as submitted;

RESOLUTION FOR SCHOOL BUS PURCHASES

RESOLVED, that, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, the Bus Purchase Proposition for the May 18, 2021 vote be approved as submitted, for a total sum not to exceed \$977,036, subject to approval by the qualified voters of the District at the Annual Vote and Election on May 18, 2021.

2021 CAPITAL RESERVE RESOLUTION

Resolved, the Board of Education of the Victor Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a capital reserve fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law to be designated, "2021 Capital Reserve Fund" created to defray the cost of the construction and reconstruction of School District buildings and facilities, including original equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, furnishings and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, and to defray the cost of, in whole or in part, and in order to

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accomplish the same, the Board is hereby authorized to establish the ultimate amount of such reserve fund to Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000) inclusive of accrued interest and other investment earnings, with a probable term of ten (10) years. The Board of Education is hereby authorized to pay funds from the available fund balance, state aid reimbursement to the School District on account of capital projects, such other monies as the voters may direct, and/or other legally available funds of the School District to such reserve fund in an amount determined by the Board of Education up to the maximum authorized amount.

**2021 TECHNOLOGY
CAPITAL RESERVE
RESOLUTION**

Resolved, the Board of Education of the Victor Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a capital reserve fund to be designated, “2021 Technology Capital Reserve Fund” to be used to finance in whole or part the cost of equipment, including computer equipment (i.e. hardware, software, related devices, networking equipment, apparatus and peripherals such as printers, modems, file servers, communication devices, including infrastructure incidental thereto) in accordance with Education Law section 3651, and in order to accomplish the same, the Board is hereby authorized to establish the ultimate amount of such reserve fund to Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000) inclusive of accrued interest and other investment earnings, with a probable term of five (5) years. The Board of Education is hereby authorized to pay funds from the available fund balance, state aid reimbursement to the School District on account of capital projects, such other monies as the voters may direct, and/or other legally available funds of the School District to such reserve fund in an amount determined by the Board of Education up to the maximum authorized amount.

Mrs. Ballard asked for clarification on the increase in the limit of the Technology Reserve. Originally there was a limit of \$500,000, which was talked about in the budget presentation. Dr. Terranova said based on the fact that the Board of Education approved two of the four reserve propositions, the Capital and the Technology, Mr. Vallese felt like the \$750,000 was the appropriate number to increase it to. Mr. Vallese said it does not mean it will be funded this year. This is just setting the parameter for the reserve. Mrs. Elliott referred back to Mr. DeLucia’s analogy of just opening a savings account.

**ANNUAL VOTE AND
ELECTION LEGAL
NOTICE**

Approve the legal notice for the May 4, 2021 public hearing on the budget and the May 18, 2021 annual vote and election of Board members as submitted.

The motion to accept the foregoing consent items was carried.
7 yes 0 no *(end of consent items)*

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CAMPUS NEWS

VCS administrators summarized campus news and events at this time.

STATE ASSESSMENTS

Kristin Swann, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, presented on the upcoming state assessments. In February New York State Education Department (NYSED) requested an assessment waiver from the United States Department of Education (USDE). The assessment waiver was based on assessments not being safely, equitably and fairly administered to all students across the state. There were also significant equity concerns as to how the pandemic is impacting delivery of instruction. NYSED believes that the school instructional time would be best focused on supporting students' academic and social emotional well-being. On March 2nd the USDE said they would not approve a blanket waiver for the state assessments so the NYSED announced that it will propose a series of regulatory amendments. One amendment is that Regents Exams would not be required to meet graduation requirements. The other amendment is to cancel a Regents Exam that is not required by USDE. The Board of Regents is meeting on March 15th and Mrs. Swann said she expects there will be a proposal to cancel exams that are not federally required. There is also a proposal to cancel all Regents in August 2021. The federally required assessments include Algebra I, English Language Arts (ELA), Living Environment and Earth Science. They fulfill the federal requirement to test students at least once in Math, ELA and Science. The 3-8 assessments are still scheduled as well as the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) and the New York State Alternative Assessment (NYSAA). The federal government decided to separate these assessments from any accountability measures. Without the accountability schools will not be penalized in any way for test results. The District will continue to prepare for assessments until we hear otherwise. Additional administration guidance will be provided to administrators and teachers. Additional guidance will be provided on diploma requirements. Data management and accountability systems will be prepared to be flexible. Mr. Eckhardt thanked Mrs. Swann for the information. He said he can see in a normal year testing is one component or measure of how students are mastering material. He asked where Mrs. Swann feels our kids would be at in trying to measure in some way for Victor. Mrs. Swann said a survey came out last night from the state asking how we are measuring where our students are at. Our District is using a variety of assessments in terms of learning and assessing the growth they are having. We continue to deliver local assessments. Teachers are focusing on formative assessments "in the moment" assessments. There are a lot of ways in which we are measuring progress. The state has asked us to submit the information so they can compile it and put it out to the federal government. Mr. Eckhardt said he thinks for sure the best way to measure this year is to measure locally. He would assume for kids who are not currently five days in school they would probably be more challenged than normal by

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STATE ASSESSMENTS Continued

taking state assessments. Mrs. Swann said she would agree with that. She said there has been so much variability in our own District as well as across the State of New York. It really makes the tests invalid. Senior High School Principal Brian Siesto said he had some discussion this week with teachers at the secondary level as well as parents on how we are measuring the gaps that have emerged due to the pandemic. This year, whether or not we have Regents Exams, several teachers are rethinking what a local final assessment could look like to identify gaps as students move forward. Mrs. Elliott said this has been very confusing to teachers as well as parents and putting kids through anxiety. We should put a collective voice together and advocate to the state. Mrs. Turner said this is another time for advocacy. It has been a trying time for everyone and it exhausts everyone. It's time to advocate for what is right and realistic. Dr. Parks said advocacy will continue to be that we want students back fulltime and as early as possible.

CAPITOL PROJECT UPDATE

A motion was made by T. Delucia, seconded by C. Parks, to approve the following Capital Construction Awards as the lowest responsible bidders as submitted:

- Contract 101 – Sitework to DiPasquale Construction, Inc.
- Contract 102 – General Trades to Javen Construction Co., Inc.
- Contract 104 – Mechanical Contract to Lloyd Mechanical Co., LLC
- Contract 105 – Electrical Contract to Blackmon Farrell Electric, Inc.
- Contract 106 – Plumbing Contract to Unified Mechanical Contractors, Inc.

George Spinaris from Campus Construction and Dave Phelps from SWBR Architects provided an update on the Capital Project. Mr. Spinaris said it was a successful bidding process. Typically they see 3-4 bidders per bid and they saw between 5-9. The bids came in lower than anticipated. He then discussed project milestone dates including bid approval, kick off meetings and when the work would begin. Mr. Spinaris talked about the scope of work in each area. Mr. Phelps went over the renderings of all of the areas. Mr. Eckhardt asked to go back to the team room rendering. He said he was trying to see if there was a bathroom in the team room. Mr. Phelps said there was not a bathroom in the team room. Mr. Eckhardt said he has never been in a team room without a bathroom in it. Director of Facilities Chris Marshall said the process they went through to have the renderings approved were funneled through the Director of Athletics and the District has approved it. Dr. Parks said as a coach it is unusual there isn't a toilet room as part of or in the proximity of the team room. Mr. Phelps said they would look into that and get back to the Board. Superintendent Terranova said they would check with the Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics, Duey Weimer and get back to the Board. Mr. Spinaris talked about the change orders and the procedures. When a change is identified Campus Construction Management the design team (architect/engineer)

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CAPITOL PROJECT UPDATE Continued

will request a quote from the contractor(s). The Change Order Request will contain details and a possible sketch identifying the change requested. Campus Construction and the design team will review it. Once it is deemed fair and equitable, the Change Order Request will be presented to the District for approval. The change order may be approved by the Superintendent if it is under \$50,000. This was approved by the Board of Education on August 13, 2020. This procedure enables the construction team to effectively manage the schedule with minimal delays. If the dollar value of a change order exceeds the Superintendent's allowance a special session with the Board may be requested for approval.

The motion to approved the Capital Construction Awards as presented was carried. 7 yes 0 no

HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE

Superintendent Terranova and Director of Facilities Chris Marshall presented a Health and Safety Update to the Board of Education. Dr. Terranova talked about the incredible work the facilities staff did in the fall to get the schools ready. He said they continue to do an amazing job cleaning the facilities for health and safety purposes. Mr. Marshall said the presentation will focus mostly on cleaning and disinfecting. He said he first wanted to answer Mr. DeLucia's question on ventilation. The existing buildings are currently providing all of the ventilation code that is required in the occupied spaces. Filters have been updated in the air handlers to the highest Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) level that the systems can handle. The District is in a really good ventilation standpoint. There are some replacements that will take place this summer like five or six large air handlers that are 25 plus years old at the high school. Mr. DeLucia said and that would be compliant with requirements for getting students back full time. Mr. Marshall said yes, the code has not changed. The quantity of fresh air per student has not changed and we currently provide that. Mr. Marshall said before COVID-19 general cleaning took place throughout the school with disinfecting taking place in the nurse's offices, locker rooms, showers and restrooms. Prior to COVID-19 we cleaned more than we disinfected. As of September 2020 there was a whole new cleaning process. CDC reopening guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting surfaces had to be followed, making sure we are using off of the EPA approved disinfectants. In addition, we were required to train and provide all of the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required to staff when they're using this product. The teachers were a great help cleaning desks in-between changing of classes. Cleaning protocols have been put in place to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces every single night. Approximately 15 part-time cleaners that disinfected frequently touched services throughout the day were added. Not only did this help from a disinfecting standpoint, it provided an environment where staff saw that facilities was providing cleaning like has never been done in the past. All of the cleaning complaints are being tracked on a daily

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HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE Continued

basis. This allows issued to be addressed as soon as possible. Mr. Marshall said the one worry he has is that he really needs to add some staff in certain areas. His recommendation is to add some staff to help maintain cleaning levels that have been established during COVID-19 in addition to maintaining the daytime cleanliness. Mr. Marshall said he is frequently asked by cleaners, teachers and other administration to advocate for additional cleaning staff. Dr. Terranova said just to be clear, you are not talking additional staff for this year's group but to the year before, which is where our budget is set from. Mr. Marshall said that is correct. Dr. Terranova said so we added 15 staff members for COVID purposes that were not in the budget. Fund balance monies were used to support those additions. He thanked Mr. Marshall for his incredible leadership around this. He said when he started in February 2020 Mr. Marshall was one of the first one to talk about the cleanliness of the buildings. Dr. Terranova said he definitely heard it from staff and students as well. It is not because of the lack of cleanliness or because people were not doing their job, there just weren't enough people.

BUDGET UPDATE

Superintendent Terranova, Assistant Superintendent for Business Derek Vallese and Assistant Superintendent for Personnel Dorothy DiAngelo presented a budget update. He reminded everyone of the message he sent out after the June 2020 vote. The Victor Central School District budget situation is not solved. We continue to be in a perilous financial situation that has been building for years. We will need the collective wisdom of this community to continue to move forward. The District needs to develop a multi-year, strategic financial plan, needs to stabilize spending throughout the year and to end budget modifications mid-year. There is significant concern over lack of reserves and built-in fund balance. The District faces revenue challenges in state aid, sales tax and local taxes. The philosophy is to offer a high quality, comprehensive education to all children comparable to surrounding districts while balancing the financial needs of our community. Staffing is 75% of the budget. Dr. Terranova said they will be talking about some shifts in certain staffing areas. They will be balancing the needs of the incredible staff and the ability to potentially reduce spending in areas, which then allows the District to maintain that financial stability moving forward. Mr. Vallese went over where they left off after the last budget meeting. As of right now the budget is just over \$82 million, a \$1.5 million deficit. Overall there is a 5.16% increase in spending, not taxes. There is an increase in state aid, so not 100% of increase in the budget will be absorbed by the local community. Mr. Eckhardt asked for clarification on the state aid number. He said the state aid number that is presented is the proposed number from the last presentation and that number has not changed as of today. Mr. Vallese said to Mr. Eckhardt if he is referring to the possible additional stimulus money he doesn't have a number for that yet. That number is subject to change in the governor's proposal for the April 1 deadline. Mr. Eckhardt said so the COVID stimulus money that is already on the executive budget proposal is what is being referred

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BUDGET UPDATE Continued

to. Mr. Vallese said there was a belief that in the next round there will be money coming to local governments and schools. We haven't increased or changed that state aid number from the last time as it's based off of a projection. Mr. Eckhardt said he wanted to make sure they were talking about the same thing. He was not referring to what was just passed in the house he is referring to the January executive budget proposal, the COVID stimulus. He said when he sees a budget gap and the District could be receiving additional COVID stimulus money is there any thought to using it to close that gap. Mr. Vallese said it could be possible that that money is earmarked for a two-year period. There are many districts that have concerns of budgeting that money because of a possible fiscal cliff. If the money ran out we would be facing a larger deficit and the local taxpayers would not be able to consume that. Mr. Vallese said to your point it is not factored into it because you don't want to build a budget on non-sustainable revenues. Our goal is if that money does get received like it's projected we could possibly use it to fund reserves or to replace some appropriating of reserves down the road. Dr. Terranova said if you look at the District's history we had a pretty big discussion on that in the last two meetings around the budget. We are definitely concerned about using federal stimulus money that is potentially one time aid on sustainable revenue purposes. We thought it was a safe bet, and we discussed this with all the Board, to use the actual state aid received for this year as the number for next year and not to use any federal money as part of the state aid. The reason is because of the significant concern that we would then face a cliff, which could be another gap elimination. Mr. Eckhardt said he understood and appreciates being conservative around using unsustainable revenues. Mr. Eckhardt said he's not proposing to necessarily use all of the stimulus but thinking about it as an option to close the budget gap using a portion of it. Dr. Terranova said he's just going to speak for his own philosophy as Superintendent and that he would not advocate for using one time revenue to fill gaps of sustainable expenses. He thinks it's a dangerous precedent and could lead the District back to where they were a couple of years ago. Mr. Eckhardt said he was just simply trying to get at it if there is any consideration, especially when we know that we are going to be getting additional money from the Federal Government to schools. Dr. Terranova said but it is a one time revenue and it is not sustainable. Mr. Eckhardt said he is looking at a \$1.4 million budget gap and trying to determine how to close it. Dr. Terranova said it's not a \$1.4 million gap at this point once they get through the rest of the presentation. Mr. Eckhardt said so there is no consideration to look at the stimulus number. Dr. Terranova said he can only give his recommendation at this time, however the Board can certainly decide to do something differently with state aid. Mrs. DiAngelo presented on the personnel expenses for 2021-2022. She said the importance is to preserve essential programming while at the same time aligning staffing numbers with enrollment and the overarching needs of the District. Enrollment in K-12 has declined by 107 students. However, there are

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BUDGET UPDATE Continued

anomalies in enrollment this year that we believe have occurred due to the pandemic. Those were taken into consideration while planning for sectioning next year. Enrollment in K-8 has decreased by 80 students this year, however the number of homeschooled students at the elementary level as well as the number of parents who have chosen to delay their child's enrollment in Kindergarten has added to that. Mrs. DiAngelo then went through all of the sectioning and average class sizes. In grades K-6 there will be a staffing reduction of 4 full time equivalent (FTE) teachers which will be taken care of through attrition. In grades 7-12 the staffing reducing will be 4.6 FTE. Of the 4.6 FTE 3 FTE will be taken care of through attrition and a staffing adjustment of 1.6 remains. There will be a .2 FTE reduction in K-6 art, .2 FTE in K-6 music and .3 FTE in K-6 physical education that remains. Dr. Terranova reminded the Board they are not looking to cut programming, however they are trying to find ways to reasonably shift staff around. It is a very delicate balance. The vast majority of staffing reductions will be covered through retirements. Mrs. Ballard said during a regular school year increasing class sizes would be difficult for teachers. Coming off of a pandemic and increasing class sizes she is concerned with not having enough academic and social emotional support for the teachers who have done a phenomenal job but have struggled this year. She said she is concerned about their support. Dr. Terranova said he does not disagree with that. At the elementary level the class sizes will range between 19-21 with the exception of 6th grade which will be at 23. At the secondary level the class sizes will be between 24-25. The class sizes are comparable to other districts around. Dr. Terranova said he agrees with Mrs. Ballard and does have some concern and that will certainly be something they will have to really look at carefully. Mr. Eckhardt said maybe we are going to go over some more of this, however with reductions or possibly layoffs or efficiencies and increased class sizes without increasing the social emotional element it seems as though that is how the budget gap is being eliminated. Dr. Terranova said leadership was asked to look at what is currently being done and is there any room to shift some things that will serve our kids and be as efficient as possible. When we talk to the experts among us and look at the class sizes while looking at structures of student services and support we are reducing the gap but trying to do it in a way that is manageable. Mr. Eckhardt said so it isn't about just money it is righting. Dr. Terranova said he can only speak to the timeframe since he has been here and that has been since February 2020. One of the things he has been accustomed to is staffing and making sure the District has the staff in the right places and how it relates financially. Dr. Terranova said he thinks it is a good process but everyone's concerns are valid and they have to be monitored closely. Mr. Eckhardt said for the mental health portion, there is no addition for this in the 2021-2022 budget it will be status quo is that correct? Dr. Terranova said primarily correct. The District has come up with some unique mental health outsourcing that will be discussed on March 25th. From a staffing piece we are not reducing the

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psychologist or social worker support and we have to be ready to increase it in the fall. Mr. Vetter said if we have an expectation that social distancing requirement will be reduced to 3 feet and if we assume it could remain that way the beginning of the next school year, can our 9-12 classrooms at 3 feet distancing support 25 students in a room. Dr. Terranova said it would be somewhere between 24 and 25 students. That would have to be revisited. Dr. Parks said that is a large concern from the standpoint that if it's not 3 feet or less and then we have to revisit it when the metrics change. If we increase the class sizes that could be a problem. Dr. Parks said from the moment Dr. Terranova came into the District strategic planning was at the forefront. From looking at the class sizes in the younger grades we are recognizing that students have dealt with more social and emotional issues along with academic gaps. With the gaps I think we are on the precipus of the efficiencies not impacting programming but it does impact the efficiency of the faculty and staff being taxed more. Dr. Parks said he worries about the social and emotional well-being of the staff. Mrs. DiAngelo provided an update on the Pre-K program. The full day Pre-K is fully funded by grant dollars, \$360,000. The requirement is that the District provide programming for 36 students. The half day program is not fully funded and the District has to provide programming for 63 students or they reduce the funding. The total funding has never increased so as a result the amount of local tax dollars to support the half day Pre-K has increased annually. In order to reduce the local share of the funding for the half day program the number of sections will be reduced from four to three. It would still require that we utilize money from the budget to pay for Pre-K. We would go from using \$144,986 to \$66,117 District monies, not including the grant money still being used. The program is valued however we need to rely less on the budget for general funding. Mrs. Elliott asked if there is something preventing us from asking the community to pay for what they want. Are there any guidelines about a tuition based UPK Program. Mrs. DiAngelo said previous to the District receiving the grant money there was the Good Start Program and the parents did pay a tuition. The District then learned there could not be a charge for the program. She said there has always been a consistent wait list for Pre-K or Good Start. There will be a proposed reduction of a 1.0 FTE enrichment position that will be taken care of through attrition. The District is exploring alternative ways to provide enrichment opportunities. Mrs. DiAngelo spoke about the automated sub calling system through BOCES for 2021-2022. This is a much more efficient system. It can keep autodialing until they get a sub to pick-up. Dr. Terranova talked about the addition of cleaning staff. He said there is no way the staffing can be left at the level it was two years ago. They are looking at 3-5 full time cleaners during the day. Mrs. Turner asked Mrs. DiAngelo for clarification on the automated sub calling system. Mrs. Ballard said the inquiry program has been there for a long time. Not filling one of the positions is a huge loss to the District. She said she

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feels if Doug Schmidt had not retired it would not be a discussion. Dr. Terranova said it is not reducing the enrichment experiences for kids but looking at different ways to do it. There is no doubt kids need to be challenged. Mrs. DiAngelo said there will not be a reduction in Academic Intervention Services (AIS) or special education based on enrollment. Dr. Terranova said there will be an instructional leadership update at the April Board meeting. These areas may have a neutral budget impact. Mr. Vetter said last year as a new Board member he met with the Leanne Gmeindl from Special Education. She described the situation where students are currently being sent out of the District we incur a pretty significant cost and there was a stated goal to continue to look at opportunities to repatriate the students back into the District and provide those services in house. The statement was made at that time the District could do a better job of that and provide better support to those students at a lower cost. For every student we could bring back it could provide a significant win, win. Has there been any other talk about that? Dr. Terranova said they will be discussing that at the March 25th Budget Workshop. He said they are looking to bring back students appropriately. Mr. Vetter said he is looking forward to hearing about it. Mrs. DiAngelo talked about the additional needs of the Technology Department. Working through Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES next year the District is looking to add a .6 FTE Network Analyst Level 1, a .4 FTE Computer Service Assistant and a .6 FTE Technology Integration Specialist. Along with staffing the Technology Department has budgeted \$100,000 on hardware and software. Mr. Vallese went over the financial implications of the staffing projections to the budget. He discussed the increase to salaries, support and benefits and just natural contractual agreements and the increases in health insurance. A large amount of the tax levy increase is going directly to salaries and benefits. At the beginning of the presentation there was a \$1.4 million gap. With the change in personnel the District is saving \$623,730. The budget shortfall now stands at \$847,732. Mr. Vallese said this is a much more manageable shortfall to be made up by appropriating reserves. Any surplus that we experience at the end of the school year will be used to fund the \$847,732. Mr. Eckhardt said he has an overarching thought. He has listened and seen the numbers. He had heard and appreciates the explanations, however he said he heard layoffs, cuts, efficiencies and has seen the class sizes go up and the flat mental health funding. This is a challenge we need to continue to work on between now and March 25th and April 15th. Mr. Eckhardt said he was part of a Board that proposed to override the Tax Cap and we were very fortunate the community heard us. During a pandemic, now we don't have kids in school, we sure hope they get back soon, but he said he's quite sure we are going to have challenges that we cannot completely foresee. In some of the presentations he has seen there will be extra funding at the end of the year from that override so he strongly encourages everyone to look between now and March 25th at the revenue budget, at the appropriation budget and at the class sizes and efficiencies, cuts or layoffs as hard as

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they can. He said he knows how the District got to this place and it did not happen overnight and it cannot be fixed overnight. This may not be the year, in a short term circumstance, where we have a reserve plan and we are trying to build them. We are in a unique circumstance and Mr. Eckhardt said he has some real concern on everything he has seen and heard tonight and he looks forward to the continued discussion. Dr. Terranova then went over the next steps. There will be another Budget Workshop on March 25th where there will be an update on Special Education and AIS. There will also be an update on revenue and expenses (personnel). The next regular Board Meeting will take place on April 15th. There will be a presentation on the Instructional Leadership Staff structure and the Board will adopt the 2021-2022 budget.

POLICY REVIEW First Reading

The following policy was brought to the Board as a first read:

- Code of Conduct; Policy 5300

Second and Final Reading

A motion was made by K. Ballard, seconded by C. Parks, to approve the following policy:

- Records Management; Policy 8630

The motion was carried. 7 yes 0 no

MEETING REPORTS Monroe County School Board Association Committee Reports (MCSBA)

Mr. DeLucia reported on the Monroe County School Boards Association Legislative Committee Meeting that took place on March 3rd. They met with the newly elected legislators. The consensus from the committee was that the newly elected legislators are all energetic and have education as a priority.

MCSBA members met also met with senior legislators. There was agreement about not using federal dollars to supplant foundation aid. There were varying degrees of awareness regarding the pressure Board members have been under to fully reopen the schools.

Mrs. Elliott attended an Executive Meeting for Monroe County School Board Presidents and Vice Presidents. She said there were some of the same concerns around the advocacy to open but maintaining a healthy and safety first response to the community.

|Standing Committee Updates

Dr. Parks said the Visual and Performing Arts Hall of Fame Committee met. There were no new nominations. There was a desire to move forward with a virtual ceremony to celebrate the three recipients two from last year and one from 2019.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Due to the virtual meeting, there will be no live public participation. Please feel free to email any thoughts or comments to the Board of Education President at elliottk@victorschools.org. The entire Board and Superintendent will receive all thoughts and comments submitted.

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UPCOMING EVENTS
Budget Workshop

There will be a Budget Workshop on Thursday, March 25, 2021 from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

Next Regular Board Meeting

The next regular Board meeting will take place on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 7:15 PM.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by K. Ballard, seconded by T. Turner, to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 PM. The motion was carried. 7 yes 0 no

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen A. Goodberlet
District Clerk