

DRAFT

**Lansingburgh Central School District
Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, August 14, 2023
Turnpike Elementary School - LGI**

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Andrea Fairhurst at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board of Education Members, Andrea Fairhurst, Jillian Manupella, Daniella Richards, Jason Shover, James Spear, Jessica Vartigian, and Thomas Zakrzewski were present. Michael Cusack and Talia Pallozzi were absent from the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Others present include Lindsey Gibson (on behalf of the LTA), Linda Klime, Rebecca McGrouty, Dr. Antonio Abitabile and Christina Williams. Visitors include Thomas Murley (incoming Athletic Director) and Margaret Jarem (retired teacher). There were no others present.

Ms. Fairhurst read the District's Mission Statement:

MISSION

Our mission at the Lansingburgh Central School District is to create for all students a productive, challenging and safe educational environment. Our students will acquire civic values and learning skills and strategies through a dynamic partnership between the schools and community. These experiences will inspire a lifetime of learning and self-sufficiency.

The Public Hearing for the Code of Conduct was opened. Dr. Abitabile gave a brief overview of the suggested changes to the Code of Conduct that were reviewed by the Policy Committee. A Public Hearing is required anytime changes are made.

PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Richards stated that there is mention of a committee in the policy so we will need to look at generating members to serve on the committee for annual review of the policy.

No other comments were made.

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Margaret Jarem addressed the Board. Ms. Jarem retired from the District in 2018 as a High School English Teacher, and is also a resident of Lansingburgh. She stated that she is very proud of the District and our community and the work we continue to do to make improvements. Dr. Abitabile and Mr. Shover thanked her for her comments.

Visitors Address the Board

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the revised meeting agenda for August 14, 2023.

**RESO #1-08/14/2023
Approve Meeting Agenda**

Second: Ms. Richards

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Dr, Abitabile and Ms. Fairhurst welcomed the incoming Athletic Director, Thomas Murley, to the District. Mr. Murley stated that he is happy to be here and anxious to get started. Although his official start date is September 1, 2023, he will be working with us for the next few weeks to transition into the position. Dr. Abitabile thanked Angelina Maloney, Superintendent of Brunswick School District, for her cooperation with this.

Motion by Mr. Shover:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Thomas Murley to a probationary position as Athletic Director, in the tenure area of School District Leader, pending clearance by the New York State and Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation in accordance with the LAA contract as set forth below:

**RESO #2-08/14/2023
Appoint Athletic Director – Thomas Murley**

Commencement of Service – September 1, 2023
Expiration of Probationary Service – August 31, 2027
Certification Status – School District Leader, Transitional D (pending)
Salary - \$86,000

Second: Mrs. Manupella

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 31, 2023.

**RESO #3-08/14/2023
Approve Minutes**

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

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PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTIONAL

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the resignation of Colleen Marro, Elementary Teacher at Rensselaer Park Elementary School, effective August 31, 2023.

RESO #4-08/14/2023
Accept Resignation –
Colleen Marro

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the resignation of Ashley Giaquinto, Elementary Teacher at Rensselaer Park Elementary School, effective September 9, 2023.

RESO #5-08/14/2023
Accept Resignation –
Ashley Giaquinto

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the resignation of Antonia Lazzara, Special Education Teacher at Knickerbacker Middle School, effective August 3, 2023.

RESO #6-08/14/2023
Accept Resignation –
Antonia Lazzara

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Bethany Spencer to a probationary teaching position at Knickerbacker Middle School, in the tenure area Special Education, pending clearance by the New York State and Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation in accordance with the LTA contract as set forth in below:

RESO #7-08/14/2023
Appoint Special
Education Teacher –
Bethany Spencer

Commencement of Service – November 14, 2022

Expiration of Probationary Service – November 13, 2026

Certification Status – SWD Grades 7-12 Generalist,
Transitional B

Salary – Step C \$49,798

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18 Credits $\frac{750}{\$50,548}$

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Erika Applebaum to a probationary teaching position at Turnpike Elementary School, in the tenure area Elementary Education, pending clearance by the New York State and Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation in accordance with the LTA contract as set forth in below:

RESO #8-08/14/2023
Appoint Elementary
Teacher – Erika
Applebaum

Commencement of Service – September 1, 2023
Expiration of Probationary Service – August 31, 2027
Certification Status – Childhood Education Grades 1-6, Initial
Salary – Step D \$51,403
27 Credits $\frac{1,125}{\$52,528}$

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Kaitlyn Gunsel to a probationary teaching position at Rensselaer Park Elementary School, in the tenure area Elementary Education, pending clearance by the New York State and Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation in accordance with the LTA contract as set forth in below:

RESO #9-08/14/2023
Appoint Elementary
Teacher – Kaitlyn
Gunsel

Commencement of Service – September 1, 2023
Expiration of Probationary Service – August 31, 2027
Certification Status – Childhood Education Grades 1-6, Initial
Salary – Step D \$51,403
Masters 450
30 Credits $\frac{1,250}{\$53,103}$

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

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Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Isabella Fanning to a probationary teaching position at Turnpike Elementary School, in the tenure area Elementary Education, pending clearance by the New York State and Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation in accordance with the LTA contract as set forth in below:

Commencement of Service – September 1, 2023
Expiration of Probationary Service – August 31, 2027
Certification Status – Childhood Education Grades 1-6, Initial
Salary – Step C \$49,798

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

RESO #10-08/14/2023
Appoint Elementary
Teacher – Isabella
Fanning

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Samantha Craven to a probationary position at Knickerbacker Middle School, in the tenure area Teaching Assistant, pending clearance by the New York State and Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation in accordance with the CSEA Instructional contract as set forth in below:

Commencement of Service – September 1, 2023
Expiration of Probationary Service – August 31, 2027
Certification Status – Level I
Salary – Step 9 \$24.06 per hour

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

RESO #11-08/14/2023
Appoint Teaching
Assistant – Samantha
Craven

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Courtney Degnan to a probationary position at Turnpike Elementary School, in the tenure area Teaching Assistant, pending clearance by the New York State and Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation in accordance with the CSEA Instructional contract as set forth in below:

Commencement of Service – September 1, 2023
Expiration of Probationary Service – August 31, 2027

RESO #12-08/14/2023
Appoint Teaching
Assistant – Courtney
Degnan

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Certification Status – Childhood Education Grades 1-6,
Professional
Salary – Step 13 \$28.15 per hour
30 Grad Credits - \$500

Second: Mrs. Vartigian Ayes – 7 Nays – 0 Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent,
the Board appoints Trista Bugbee to a one-year Special
Education teaching position at Turnpike Elementary School,
pending clearance by the New York State and the Federal
Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation as
set forth below:

RESO #13-08/14/2023
Appoint Special
Education Teacher –
Trista Bugbee

Commencement of Service – September 1, 2023
Expiration of Service – June 30, 2024
Certification Status – TA, Continuing
Students w/Disabilities 1-6, Initial (pending)
Salary - Step B \$48,193

Second: Mrs. Vartigian Ayes – 7 Nays – 0 Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent,
the Board appoints Kelly Borden to a one-year art teaching
position at Turnpike Elementary School, pending clearance by
the New York State and the Federal Government per the Project
SAVE Law, with compensation as set forth below:

RESO #14-08/14/2023
Appoint Art Teacher
– Kelly Borden

Commencement of Service – September 1, 2023
Expiration of Service – June 30, 2024
Certification Status – Teaching Assistant Level III
Salary - Step B \$48,193

Second: Mrs. Vartigian Ayes – 7 Nays – 0 Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent,
the Board of Education hereby confers tenure upon the
following teaching assistant, who has successfully completed
the required probationary period:

RESO #15-08/14/2023
Grant Tenure –
Jennifer Lastrup

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Jennifer Laustrup Effective 06/12/2023 TA, RPES

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESO #16-08/14/2023
Appoint Elementary
Teacher

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Lisa Kentris to a probationary teaching position at Rensselaer Park Elementary School, in the tenure area Elementary Education, pending clearance by the New York State and Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation in accordance with the LTA contract as set forth in below:

Commencement of Service – September 1, 2023
Expiration of Probationary Service – August 31, 2027
Certification Status – Childhood Education Grades 1-6, Initial
Salary – Step G \$56,217
Masters 450
46 Grad Credits 1,875
\$58,542

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESO #17-08/14/2023
Appoint Elementary
Teacher – Michelle
Dolan

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Michelle Dolan to a probationary teaching position at Rensselaer Park Elementary School, in the tenure area Elementary Education, pending clearance by the New York State and Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation in accordance with the LTA contract as set forth in below:

Commencement of Service – September 1, 2023
Expiration of Probationary Service – August 31, 2027
Certification Status – Childhood Education Grades 1-6, Initial
Salary – Step C \$49,798
Masters 450
48 Grad Credits 2,000
\$52,248

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

DRAFT

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves an Agreement for employee #1861, effective August 3, 2023.

**RESO #18-08/14/2023
Approve Employee Agreement**

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the request of Justina Harris, English Teacher at Knickerbacker Middle School, for a one-year unpaid leave of absence beginning September 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024.

**RESO #19-08/14/2023
Approve Unpaid Leave of Absence – Justina Harris**

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves 6 summer hours for UPK Orientation for the following staff, paid through the SUFDPK Grant at their contractual rate:

**RESO #20-08/14/2023
Approve Summer Hours**

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Samantha Mahoney | Kacey Ray |
| Stacey Paolino | Kelly Patricelli |
| Susan Weiss | Cara Isabella |
| Jennifer Ravalli | Courtney Degnan |
| Denise Mooney | Colleen McGuirk |
| Margaret McLaughlin | Patricia Stinson |

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves 6 summer hours for Kindergarten Orientation for the following staff, paid through the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Grant at their contractual rate:

**RESO #21-08/14/2023
Approve Summer Hours**

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Ashley Burke | Kaitlyn Speta |
| Bianca Covello | Megan Nolan |
| Maryanne Denault | Lynne Miles |
| Aliza Fane | Katie Kuykendall |

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Staci Fisher
Jill Flannery

Maggie Higgins

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves 2 summer hours for Third Grade Orientation for the following staff, paid through the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Grant at their contractual rate:

RESO #22-08/14/2023
Approve Summer
Hours

Emma Closson
Dave Hamilton
Olivia Williams
Meghan D’Adamo
Elizabeth Hanna
Darlene Walzer
Anna Zibro
Megan Hupfl
Emily Tergliafera

Robin Delaney
Elizabeth Jamison
Michelle Foster
Kim Ellison
Jamie Byrne
Mary Haydock
Kim LaJoy
Lisa Strubel
Emily LaBella
Tracy Krom

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints the following summer school staff for the purpose of proctoring and grading exams on August 16 and 17, 2023:

RESO #23-08/14/2023
Appoint 2023
Summer School Staff

Regina Felio
Ashley Snyder
Jonathan Baxter

Christina Penman
Kevin Sheehan
Katherine Rice

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints David DeMarco as 2023 summer school staff with a stipend of \$1,900 plus one half sick day.

RESO #24-08/14/2023
Appoint Summer
School Staff

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

DRAFT

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Lori Filarecki as 2023 summer school substitute administrator for up to 3 days at her contractual daily rate.

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

RESO #25-08/14/2023
Appoint 2023
Summer School
Substitute
Administrator – Lori
Filarecki
 Motion Carried
 Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves summer hours for the following staff:

RESO #26-08/14/2023
Approve Summer
Hours

	Staff	Purpose	# Days	Rate	Funding Source
District	Tiffany Ainsworth Karryn Bohely Lindsey Gibson Elizabeth Jamison Tracy Krom Stephanie Moryl Sara Plummer Rachel Walkuski Robert White	IDEAL Meeting and Planning for 2023-2024	up to 6 hours	\$30/hour	Title I
District	Nikki Santiago	IDEAL Meeting and Planning for 2023-2024	3 hours	contractual rate	Title I
RPES	Jamie Komoroske	Eureka2 Training	1 day (6 hours)	\$30/Hour	Title I
RPES/ KMS	Camille Amedo	SS/ELA Curriculum	2 days (10 hours)	\$30/Hour	Title I
SpEd	Briana Brady Trista Bugbee Daniella Micallef Emily Ascioti Emily LaBella Samantha Kulzer Katie Baril	TouchMath Training	3 hours	\$30/hour	Title I
SpEd	Chris Retell	Progress Monitoring Data and parent reports for KMS 8:1:2 ESY program	4 hours	\$30/Hour	Title I
	Molly Fryer	Burgh Summer U - Special	up to 5 hours	\$30/Hour	Title II

DRAFT

		Education Workshop			
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Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

**PERSONNEL –
NON-
INSTRUCTIONAL**

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the resignation of Kevin Keefer, custodial worker, effective August 7, 2023.

**RESO #27-08/14/2023
Accept Resignation –
Kevin Keefer**

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the resignation of Merideth Lopiano, teacher aide at Turnpike Elementary School, effective June 30, 2023.

**RESO #28-08/14/2023
Accept Resignation –
Merideth Lopiano**

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Zachary Kane as Custodial Worker (District-wide) effective August 14, 2023, with salary and benefits in accordance with the CSEA Non-Instructional Contract, pending clearance by the New York State and the Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation as set forth below:

**RESO #29-08/14/2023
Appoint Custodial
Worker – Zachary
Cane**

Step 1 - \$23.99 per hour / \$0.50 differential for second shift
12-month / 8-hours per day
6-month Probationary Period

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

DRAFT

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves an Agreement for employee #1984, effective August 7, 2023.

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

RESO #30-08/14/2023
Approve Employee Agreement

Motion Carried
Unanimously

ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board authorizes the Purchasing Agent to surplus and dispose of 50 sets of football jerseys due to their age and poor condition.

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

RESO #31-08/14/2023
Authorize Surplus Disposal

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Spear:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the first reading of the following revised policy:

- 5300 Code of Conduct

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

RESO #32-08/14/2023
Approve First Reading

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Dr. Abitabile:

- Through Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education) Program, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,263,667 to Rensselaer City School District for use over the next five years. Rensselaer Superintendent Joe Kardash, reached out to me to partner with Lansingburgh. Joe Otter and Rebecca McGrouty met with Rensselaer staff to discuss the partnership. We are very happy to have these counseling services available to our families.
- I attended a public hearing last week regarding the former CCHS building. The new owner has two proposed PILOTs with very vast differences. You will receive updates as this progresses.

Superintendent Report

DRAFT

- August Regents Exams are being administered this week. We may have some August graduates. We will hold a graduation for those students at the August 28 Board Meeting.
- Matt Van Dervoort, Greg Rashford, Rebecca McGrouty and I met with HVCC last week to discuss course offerings to align with new graduation pathways. This could lead to exciting opportunities for our students.
- The School Safety and Educational Climate report was distributed to the Board Members and reviewed. This is the former VADIR Report that gets sent to the State Education Department every year.
- Now that the Board of Education has authorized the Veterans Tex Exemption, we continue working with the State and County on the formalities of notifying the public so that Veterans can apply for the exemption. Details will follow in the coming months.

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #33-08/14/2023
Adjourn

Be it resolved this meeting of the Board of Education hereby adjourns at 6:36 p.m.

Second: Mr. Zakrzewski

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Williams
Clerk to the Board of Education