

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Leptondale Elementary School
Tuesday, April 16, 2024
7:00 p.m.

Walk-Through Tour
Leptondale Elementary School @ 5:15 p.m.

Mr. Brown, Mrs. Greany and Mrs. Hasbrouck
provided an overview of the 2024-2025
Elementary School Improvement Plans

1. Commendations – Agenda #1
The Board recognized various individuals for their outstanding achievements who were awarded tenure during the course of the 2023-2024 school year and the Wallkill Senior High School Top Ten Students, including Valedictorian and Salutatorian for the Class of 2024.

2. Public Comment – Agenda #2
At 7:30 p.m. the floor was opened for public comment.

➤ No public comments.

3. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance – Agenda #3
At 7:31 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Joseph LoCicero in the Leptondale Elementary All-Purpose Room.

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>
Mrs. Anderson	Mrs. Crowley
Mr. Bartolone	
Mr. Frisbie (<i>arrived 7:20 p.m.</i>)	
Mr. Hecht	
Mr. LoCicero	
Mrs. McCartney	
Mr. Nafey	
Mr. Palen	
Ms. Alyssa Vega [Student Board Member]	

Also present were Superintendent Castle and Assistant Superintendents Devincenzi, Rounds and White and administrators Albanese, Brown, Greany, Hasbrouck, Masopust, Napoli, and Redmond.

4. Approve Minutes – [3/20/24 Regular Board Meeting] – Agenda #4
Mr. Bartolone moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the minutes of the March 20, 2024, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

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

5. **Board Committee Reports – Agenda #5**

Audit:

Mr. Devincenzi reported that the Committee met on March 21, 2024, to review the draft report of the state required internal audit. The committee reviewed and discussed the draft audit report as well as the corrective action plan. The Board received a copy of the audit report as well as the corrective action plan this evening. The next committee meeting will be set once the internal auditors complete their work and issue a draft report of the agreed upon tested areas.

Budget:

Mr. Devincenzi reported that the 2024-2025 budget presentations are as follows:

- May 6th – Leptondale PTO presentation at 7:00 p.m.
- May 7th – Ostrander PTO presentation at 7:00 p.m.
- May 9th – Public Budget Hearing at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Library (will be livestreamed)
- May 13th – Plattekill PTA presentation at 7:00 p.m.

In addition, the budget vote is on May 21, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. with polling sites at the Leptondale Elementary School, Plattekill Elementary School, and the Senior High School.

Buildings & Grounds:

Mr. Frisbie reported that the Buildings and Grounds Committee has not met since the last meeting. On the agenda this evening for approval is the Field Maintenance Bid.

CDEP:

Mrs. Anderson reported that the CDEP committee is not scheduled to meet again until the 2024-2025 school year.

Curriculum/TAG:

Mrs. Anderson reported that the Curriculum/TAG Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

Health & Safety:

Mr. Palen reported that the Health and Safety Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next committee meeting will be scheduled shortly for some time in May.

Legislative:

Mr. Hecht indicated the State has not yet approved a budget, therefore a special Board of Education meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, to approve the District's budget. Mr. Hecht mentioned a NYSSBA On Board article regarding a proposal on how teachers are evaluated and the need for a new APPR approach that would decouple student test scores from ratings. It would give more local control and flexibility to the districts. This is a topic that the District has discussed with our legislators. Mr. Castle reiterated that we have been advocating for more local control.

Policy:

Mr. Palen reported that the Policy Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next committee meeting is scheduled to meet May 9, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in high school room 102.

Technology:

Mr. Bartolone reported that the Technology Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

Wellness:

Mr. Nafey reported that the Wellness Committee met on April 9, 2024. At the meeting the following was discussed:

- The District continues to see increased participation in the food service program at all buildings.
- Smoothies were tested at the high school and were popular so they will be added to the breakfast menu.

- The student committees in all buildings created a lunch menu option which was featured on building menus. Marilyn, Food Service Director, is looking to set up meetings with the building committees in the near future to look at potential menu options for the future.
- The High School had a successful blood drive and is looking to schedule another one before the end of the school year. The health fair will be rescheduled due to minimal vendor availability.
- Fitness testing is happening in PE at the middle school and is continuing to use the announcements to discuss wellness.
- At the elementary schools they focused on Heart Healthy month in February. In March, all the schools looked to create fun activity days with a focus on movement and wellness (i.e. unplug days). Ostrander Elementary had a Jump for Health day on March 13th that was very well attended. Field Days will be held in June. Finally, a tasting will take place, coinciding with Earth Day where students can test spinach, giving students exposure to new foods.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

Student Rep:

Ms. Alyssa Vega reported the following:

- April is National School Library Month and National Poetry Month, with lots of events taking place! Students have helped set up poetry displays in the library.
- On April 12th, local author Ish Martinez (Wallkill Alumni) spoke to the English 12 classes about the history of Las Villas in Ulster County. Students are now researching other local stories and legends and presenting their findings.
- April 15th was Authors Day in the high school and middle school. Author Alyssa Wishingrad conducted a writing workshop in both buildings. She will visit the elementary schools later this week and in May for grade level assemblies.
- On April 23rd there will be a poetry share workshop in the library facilitated by student Laila Brestovansky and Literary Club Advisor Ms. Lugo.
- Student Christian Lemus painted and donated a landscape painting to the library and student Catherine Badu is in the process of painting a bookshelf mural for the library entrance.
- Regent's review has started afterschool Monday-Thursday with the schedule being posted on our school website.
- Senior standout Trevor Strano has won our school wide chess tournament, additionally he was accepted into prestigious Yale university and will be attending in the fall.

Clubs:

- Members of the science club will collaborate with the Global Change Biology class at SUNY New Paltz to create a display at the Earth Day fair at Huguenot Street in New Paltz on April 20th. This display will have all the flags of all nations of the world and the per capita carbon emissions data for each country.
- NHS and SHS officer applications have been opened for anyone apart of each society that would like to become a leader for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year!
- The Drama club is excited for the showing of "Something Rotten" with opening night on Friday, April 19th at 7:30 p.m. The schedule is posted online, and tickets are available there or in person at the show.
- The senior trip to Disney World is coming up and is scheduled for Friday April 26th-29th.

Athletics:

- Spring sports are well underway. All our teams are doing well and off to a good start. We are looking forward to many afternoons of competition on our fields for the next several weeks.
- Winter accolades are still coming in. Our boys' basketball team won the sportsmanship award given by league referees. This is in recognition of how our boys carried themselves throughout the season. Coach Higby and Zoe Mesuch won Coach of the Year and Player of the Year.

Music:

- Our annual music trip was a success as over 60 panther musicians traveled to NYC to perform at the Festivals of Music Competition this past weekend. Their awards were as follows:
 - Symphonic Band-1st Place, Excellent Rating; Symphonic Band Sight Reading-Excellent Rating; String Orchestra-1st Place, Superior Rating; String Orchestra Sight Reading-Superior Rating; Chamber Orchestra -1st Place, Superior Rating; Overall Orchestra-String Orchestra; Treble Choir- 1st Place, Excellent Rating; Mixed Choir-1st Place, Excellent Rating; Mixed Choir Sight Reading-Superior Rating; Hand Chime Ensemble-1st Place, Excellent Rating; Madrigal Choir-1st Place, Excellent Rating; Overall Concert Choir-Treble Choir; Overall Specialty Choir-Madrigal

Choir; Overall Vocalist- Jaslyn Ramos; Esprit De Corps Award (Exemplary Attitude of Positive Support and Outstanding Personal Behavior)-Wallkill Senior High School.

- The High School Spring Concert is scheduled for May 8th.
- On behalf of everyone that attended this trip they would like to thank the Board of Education, the Administration and S.O.M.E (Supporters of Music Education) for your continued support and assistance in planning this trip.
- Alyssa congratulated the Top 10 Seniors for their outstanding achievements and for setting an outstanding example for our learning community.
- Mr. Castle, Mr. Masopust, and Mr. LoCicero commented on the amazing job the student musicians did at the music competition.

6. Consent Agenda

Mr. Nafey moved items 6A through 6H and 7A through 7E be taken as consent agenda.

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

Accept Resignations – Non-Instructional – Agenda #6.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Wendi Bean** from the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Registered Nurse, effective April 5, 2024.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Erica Mills** from the position of Part-Time [.97 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide, effective March 29, 2024.

Approve Child Rearing Leave – Agenda #6.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Child Rearing Leave as requested by **Ruby Sabillón-Estrada**, effective September 3, 2024 through June 27, 2025.

Approve Appointment – Coaching – Agenda #6.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following appointment for the 2023-2024 school year Spring season:

High School:

Rachael Colombo	Assistant Varsity Girls Lacrosse Coach	Unpaid
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Approve 2024-2025 District Calendar – Agenda #6.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the proposed District Calendar for the 2024-2025 school year.

Approve Resolution – Appointment of Chairman and Inspectors of Election – 2024 Annual Budget Vote and Election – Agenda #6.E.

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

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Wallkill Central School District, Orange and Ulster Counties, New York, has called the 2024 annual meeting of the qualified voters of said School District; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to provide for the appointment of a permanent chairman and inspectors of election for said annual district meeting; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, By the Board of Education of the Wallkill Central School District, Orange and Ulster Counties, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The following duly qualified voter of said School District is hereby appointed as the permanent chairman of the annual district meeting referred to in the preambles hereof:

Joseph LoCicero

Section 2. The following named are hereby appointed to act as inspectors of election at said annual district meeting as Certified Machine Inspectors, of said annual district meeting, to serve in each Election District as follows:

ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 1:

Gillian Batchasingh
John Doyle

ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 2:

Carol Graham
Linda Schoonmaker

ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 3:

Tammy Henry
Charlotte Magliato

Section 3. The following named are hereby appointed to act as inspectors of election at said annual district meeting as Ballot Masters, of said annual district meeting, to serve in each Election District as follows:

ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 1:

Sherry Palen
Catherine Siano
Gail Thompson
April Zoutis

ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 2:

Paula Cook
Linda Palkovic

ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 3:

Elizabeth Patsey
Carmela O'Donnell
Linda Sullivan

Section 4. Each inspector of election appointed for said annual district meeting, as herein provided, shall be entitled to compensation at the rate of \$150 for each day actually and necessarily spent on the duties of his/her office. The Clerk of said School District is hereby authorized and directed to give written notice of appointment to the persons herein respectively appointed as permanent chairman and inspectors of election for said annual district meeting.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approve Substitutes Lists – Agenda #6.F.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the lists for individuals for teaching and non-teaching substitute positions.

Approve Pre-School Special Education Placements – Agenda #6.G.

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

Approve Special Education Placements – Agenda #6.H.

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

Accept Treasurer's Report – Agenda #7.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education has reviewed and accepts the Treasurer's Reports as of March 31, 2024 and Revenues as of March 31, 2024.

Elect Ulster BOCES Board Members – Agenda #7.B.

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

RESOLVED, that the Highland [three-year term] board seat be filled by nominee, **Susan Gilmore**.

RESOLVED, that the Onteora [three-year term] board seat be filled by nominee, **Valarie Storey**.

RESOLVED, that the Rondout Valley [one-year unexpired term] board seat be filled by nominee, **Lucy VanSickle**.

RESOLVED, that the Wallkill [three-year term] board seat be filled by nominee, **William Hecht**.

RESOLVED, that the "At-Large" [three-year term] board seat be filled by nominee, **Steven Spicer** [Kingston].

Approve Ulster BOCES 2024-2025 Administrative Proposed Budget – Agenda #7.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the proposed 2024-2025 Ulster County Board of Cooperative Administrative Budget in the amount of \$6,850,277.

Approve Resolution – Cooperative Bidding – Agenda #7.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following Blanket Resolution for Cooperative Bidding from Ulster County BOCES:

WHEREAS it is the desire of the participating school districts of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Ulster County, adopting this resolution to jointly request bids for certain commodities to be determined by the Superintendent of this school district from time to time for the 2024-2025 school year,

NOW, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the Wallkill Central School District hereby agrees to participate with other school districts of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Ulster County, New York, in the joint bidding of commodities to be requested by the school district Purchasing Agent and approved by the Superintendent; and be it further

RESOLVED that the specifications as prepared by the Steering Committee of participating school districts and presented to this Board of Education will be used and that this Board, if it desires to purchase these commodities agrees to purchase said commodities at the lowest bid price recommended by the Steering Committee of the joint school districts; provided, however, that each participating Board of Education in exercising its legal responsibilities, has the right to reject and/or modify the recommendation of the Steering Committee in the awarding of the bid; and be it further

RESOLVED that the invitation to bid will be advertised by BOCES in the *Kingston Daily Freeman*, the *Middletown Times Herald Record* and the *Poughkeepsie Journal* in accordance with the provisions of Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

Award Bid – Field Maintenance (Grass Fields) – Agenda #7.E.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award the Field Maintenance Contract for the Wallkill Senior High School Soccer, Baseball, Softball, Lacrosse and Practice Football Fields for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years as indicated below to:

Landscape Impressions

13 Filomena Drive
New Hampton, New York 10958

Total Cost per Year: \$11,110.00

7. Accept Donation – Agenda #7.F.

Mr. Bartolone moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the donation of \$300 from Stewart’s Foundation Holiday Match Program for the orchestra program at the elementary schools.

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

8. Close Meeting – Agenda #9

At 7:48 p.m. Mr. Bartolone moved to adjourn the meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Kelli Corcoran
District Clerk