

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Leptondale Elementary School
Wednesday, December 20, 2023
6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order – Agenda #1

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Joseph LoCicero in the Leptondale Elementary All-Purpose Room.

Members Present

Mrs. Anderson
Mrs. Crowley
Mr. Frisbie
Mr. Hecht
Mr. LoCicero
Mrs. McCartney (*arrived 6:01 p.m.*)
Mr. Nafey
Mr. Palen

Members Absent

Mr. Bartolone
Ms. Alyssa Vega [Student Board Member]

Also present were Superintendent Castle and Assistant Superintendents Devincenzi, Rounds and White. Administrators Albanese, Albert, Greany, Hasbrouck, Masopust, Parete and Redmond arrived at 7:00 p.m.

2. Executive Session – Agenda #2

At 6:01 p.m. Mr. Palen moved the Board enter Executive Session to interview a prospective candidate for the position of Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School Principal.

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

The Board reconvened at 7:06 p.m.

3. Regular Session recalled to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

At 7:07 p.m. the meeting was recalled to order by President Joseph LoCicero.

4. Public Comment – Agenda #3

At 7:08 p.m. the floor was opened for public comment.

➤ No public comments.

5. Approve Minutes – [11/15/23 Special Goals Board Meeting] – Agenda #4

Mr. Nafey moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the minutes of the November 15, 2023, Special Goals Board of Education Meeting.

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

6. Approve Minutes – [11/15/23 Regular Board Meeting] – Agenda #5

Mr. Nafey moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the minutes of the November 15, 2023, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

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

7. Approve Minutes – [11/20/23 Special Board Meeting] – Agenda #6

Mr. Frisbie moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the minutes of the November 20, 2023, Special Board of Education Meeting.

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

8. Board Committee Reports 2023-2024 – Agenda #7

Audit:

Mrs. Crowley reported that the Audit Committee has not met since the last meeting.

Budget:

Mrs. Crowley reported that as was stated at the last meeting, the 2024-25 budget process has begun and the rollover budget will be presented to the Board in January to be followed by meetings in March and April as well as updates throughout the budget development. Elementary class sizes will be reviewed in the beginning of February. On December 21, 2023, building allocations of per pupil expenditures will be provided to all departments and building administrators.

Buildings & Grounds:

Mr. Frisbie reported that the Buildings and Grounds Committee has not met since the last meeting. The committee is looking to schedule a meeting for early January.

CDEP:

Mrs. Anderson reported that the CDEP committee has not met since our last board of education meeting. The committee is scheduled to meet on February 28, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the high school auditorium.

Curriculum/TAG:

Mrs. Anderson reported that the Curriculum/TAG Committee met on December 5, 2023. Mr. Masopust and Mr. Lappe presented a proposal for an interactive simulation program for the Participation in Government classes. Mr. Masopust shared an update regarding possible new dual enrollment courses that the high school would offer for the 2024-2025 school year. The committee received an update on how the ELA +1 model is working in grade 4 from Mrs. Jennings, Mrs. Warren and Mrs. DeAgostino. Mr. White gave an update on the author's day activities and dates. He also provided an update on computer-based testing for the 3-8 State Assessments. The next meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

➤ Mr. Castle commented that Mr. Masopust is developing a new course for the high school on Financial Literacy. It is important that our students learn real life skills such as savings, checking, investing, tax returns and budgeting.

Health & Safety:

Mr. Palen reported that the Health and Safety Committee met on December 7, 2023, and discussed safety drills that were completed for the first semester. In addition, the committee reviewed the new regulation regarding the creation of a Workplace Violence Program. The next committee meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in high school room 104.

Legislative:

Mr. Hecht reported that the Legislative Committee met on December 20th. Along with Mr. Castle, Mr. Devincenzi and Mr. White, he met with Senator Oberacker via Zoom. Mr. Hecht indicated it was a great meeting with good conversation on topics such as Foundation Aid, school nutrition, UPK funding, and the impact the electric bus requirement will have on taxpayers. Senator Oberacker expressed his support in all of these areas. Mr. Hecht indicated that Mr. Castle did a great job advocating for our District and has a good relationship with our legislators. Meetings have also been scheduled with Senator Rolison on January 11, 2024, Senator Hinchey on January 18, 2024, Assemblyman Maher on January 25, 2024, and Assemblyman Jacobson on January 26, 2024.

Policy:

Mr. Palen reported that the Policy Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. There are there are two (2) policies on the agenda for second reading. The next committee meeting will be held on January 8, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at District Office.

Technology:

Mr. White reported that the Technology Committee met on December 11, 2023. Mr. Hein provided an update about Critical Security Control (CIS Control) number 6, which is about Account Control Management and managing authorized user accounts for the District. He discussed the cybersecurity information shared by guest speaker Antoinette King during the November Superintendent's Conference Day to staff. He also shared a potential service the district may be able to access which is provided through the Department of Homeland Security. They would work with the District to build a more secure and resilient infrastructure. Lastly, Mr. Hein shared that the website would need to be migrated to a new platform by January 2025. The next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

Wellness:

Mr. Nafey reported that the Wellness Committee has not met since the last board meeting. The next committee meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2024, at 3:45 p.m. in high school room 102.

Student Rep:

Mr. Hecht reported on behalf of Alyssa Vega:

Library and PBIS Committee:

- Holiday Ornament Making workshops have taken place all week in the High School Library.
- Students participated in a holiday-themed LEGO design competition this past week.
- Two seniors have been using the library to develop their Senior Capstone projects: Satara Stephenson has been teaching students how to crochet stuffed animals during their free periods and Carly Wohlrab will be facilitating a book discussion group beginning in January.
- The library has been very busy with classes this past month. Some class activities include Economics class debates, an AP Psychology research and video project, an Escape Room activity with all clues in Spanish, and multiple classes coming in to work on research projects.
- The PBIS committee hosted its first ever video game tournament where 14 students competed in a "win and move on" super smash brothers Nintendo experience! Danny Zayas was crowned the first ever champ! Future PBIS gaming events will be held in the coming months as there was a lot of positive feedback!

Clubs:

- The Leo club has contributed a lot of time to community service projects this past month. Students helped distribute meals for Thanksgiving in town, they have helped with Holidays in the Hamlet and holiday events at Plattekill and Ostrander elementary schools. This weekend they helped the Lions with the installation of the town ice rink. As a group they have collected over 850 pairs of socks to donate to "Fearless Hudson Valley", an organization that assists local victims of domestic violence. They continue to provide childcare at PTA meetings and made cards for veterans that were donated to Orange/Sullivan Hospice.
- The National Honor Society donated 30 full meals to the Wallkill Loaves and Fishes Pantry in town for Thanksgiving. Additionally, over 100 students were "rented" as part of the annual Holiday Helper Fundraiser. They are also partnering with SGA to collect needed food items for the food pantry at halftime of all the boys' basketball games.
- The Science Club has finished building tables and benches as part of the school courtyard project. This project has taken 3 years from when it was first envisioned by students in 2020 during remote learning. The club collaborated with senior Jon Albanese to add a life size-chessboard as well. The club is grateful to the school administration for their support for this project. She invited the Board to visit the high school this Spring in the courtyard.
- Spanish Honor Society will be having their gift-wrapping event for the collaboration with Project My Day in January when students get back from break. Spanish Honor Society students will be wrapping gifts for foster children.
- SGA Holiday Spirit Week: Friday 12/15 - Ugly Sweater Day; Monday 12/18- PJ and Holiday Gear Day; Tuesday 12/19 - Flannel/Lumberjack Day; Wednesday 12/20 - The Grinch Who Stole Christmas Day; Thursday 12/21 - Grade Wars (Freshmen: Snowmen, Sophomore: Reindeer, Juniors: Elves, Seniors: Santa)

Athletics:

- The New York State Public High School Athletic Association recognized Wallkill for the 5 varsity teams that worked with the Be-YOU-Tiful Club this year, helping to create an awesome experience for all our students.
- Overall grade point average is 87% for quarter 1 athletes (Fall sports)
- 19 student-athletes were selected as all section and all league for the fall sports season.
- Winter sports are underway, with all of our teams competing and representing our school well.

Music:

- *The Winter concert was held on December 13, 2023, as the various high school ensembles performed a variety of holiday favorites, including a grand finale where over 100 students performed a holiday medley on stage together.*
 - *The Spring Variety Show will be held on February 1st at 6:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. All proceeds from ticket sales and raffles fund music Senior Scholarships. This event is sponsored by S.O.M.E. (Supporters of Music Education).*
 - *The All-County Jazz Festival (for middle & high school students) will take place at Highland on January 26th & 27th.*
 - *Mrs. Amthor's quest for the 2024 GRAMMY Music Educator of the Year has ended. Her semi-finalist status earns a \$500 award for the school music department, and a \$500 award for Mrs. Amthor. Of the more than 2,000 music educators who were originally nominated for this award, she finishes in the top 25 from across the United States; 15 of those finish as semi-finalists, while 10 go to the final round. The winner will be announced in January.*
- *The high school is extremely appreciative of everyone that pours support into our programs, and we wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday break!*
- *Mr. Castle commented that the level of participation by our student musicians is amazing along with the community members and parents who attended these concerts. The high school and middle school auditoriums were packed, and the elementary school seats were filled. He enjoyed the community sing-along at the elementary concerts. He thanked the administrators and teachers for a great job with our students as well as Board member, Kathryn Anderson who personally performed at two of the concerts.*

9. Consent Agenda

Mr. Frisbie moved items 8A through 8K and 9A through 9E be taken as consent agenda.

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

Accept Resignations – Non-Instructional – Agenda #8.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Pamela Banse** from the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide, effective December 8, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Kristin Carlson** from the position of Permanent Per Diem Substitute Aide, assigned to the Plattekill Elementary School, effective December 8, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Jennifer Kane** from the position of Part-Time [0.97 FTE] Supervisory Teacher Aide, effective December 21, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Jeffrey Morris** from the position of Full-Time [1.00 FTE] Night Custodial Worker, effective December 26, 2023, pending his appointment to a Full-Time [1.00 FTE] Custodial Worker.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Lisa Newkirk** from the position of Part-Time [0.50 FTE] Custodial Worker, effective November 18, 2023.

Approve Appointments – Non-Instructional – Agenda #8.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the 26-Week Probationary appointment of **Nichole Conklin** to a Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Supervisory Teacher Aide position, effective January 2, 2024, at a salary of \$17,280.00 pro-rated [Step 3 of the CSEA Contract, \$15.00 per hour, (6.0 hours per day)].

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **Jeffrey Morris** to a Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Custodial Worker position, effective December 27, 2023, at a salary of \$50,957 pro-rated [Grade 11, Step 15, of the CSEA Contract, (8.0 hours per day)].

Approve Appointments – Mentor – Agenda #8.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointments of the following individuals as Mentors for the 2023-2024 school year:

Kimberly Jennings	Mentor	\$1,500 [pro-rated]
Glenn LaPolt	Mentor	\$1,500 [pro-rated]

Accept Resignation – Co-Curricular – Agenda #8.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Kyle Ferraiolo** from the Co-Curricular positions of Winter Weightlifting Intramurals Advisor and Spring Weightlifting Intramurals Advisor, effective December 5, 2023.

Approve Appointments – Co-Curricular – Agenda #8.E.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of the following individual to the Co-Curricular positions for the 2023-2024 school year.

HIGH SCHOOL:

Joseph Pillitteri	Winter Weightlifting Intramurals Advisor	\$1,380 [pro-rated]
Joseph Pillitteri	Spring Weightlifting Intramurals Advisor	\$1,035

Approve Second Readings – Policy – Agenda #8.F.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the second reading of the following policies:

1. Policy #1621 – Student Voter Registration and Pre-Registration
2. Policy #6195 – Workplace Violence Prevention Program

Approve Appointments – Coaching – Agenda #8.G.

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

High School:

Kelly Dutka	Assistant Varsity Cheerleading Coach	Unpaid
Joseph Reed	Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach	Unpaid

Approve Appointments – CSE and CPSE Committees Volunteer Parent Members – Agenda #8.H.

The Board approve the following appointments of volunteer parent members of the Committee of Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) and the Committee of Special Education (CSE) for the 2023-2024 school year:

Kathleen Harrington Jean Poirier

Approve Substitutes Lists – Agenda #8.I.

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 #8.J.

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

Approve Special Education Placements – Agenda #8.K.

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

Approve Use of Facilities – Agenda #9.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Senior High School Gymnasium by **Funky Panda Wrestling Club** [for a Wrestling Clinic] as indicated below:

Tuesdays and Thursdays December 21, 2023 – March 21, 2024* 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

***Excluding December 26 & 28, 2023*

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Senior High School Gymnasium [for a Tournament] by **Basketball Coaches Association of New York (BCANY)** as indicated below:

Saturday January 6, 2024 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Senior High School Gymnasium by **Wallkill Girls Basketball** [for a Basketball Clinic] as indicated below:

Mondays January 8 & 22, 2024 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Clare F. Ostrander Elementary Gymnasium by **Wallkill Varsity Gymnastics** [for a Clinic] as indicated below:

Tuesday January 23, 2024 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday January 24, 2024 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Accept Treasurer's Report – Agenda #9.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education has reviewed and accepts the Treasurer's Reports as of November 30, 2023 and Revenues as of November 30, 2023.

Approve Appropriation – 2024 Senior Celebration – Agenda #9.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve an appropriation of \$1,500 in support of the **2024 Senior Celebration**.

Approve Agreement – Professional Development – Agenda #9.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Agreement between the Wallkill Central School District and Denise Alterio, Inc. to provide professional development services for the Wallkill Central School District during the 2023-2024 school year.

Approve Creation of Unified Sports-Basketball Program and Memorandum of Agreement – WTA – Agenda #9.E.

The Board approve the creation of the Unified Sports-Basketball program and approve the Memorandum of Agreement by and between the Wallkill Central School District and the Wallkill Teachers' Association, dated December 1, 2023, which establishes a stipend.

10. Executive Session – Agenda #10

At 7:27 p.m. Mr. Frisbie moved the Board enter Executive Session to discuss the employment history of particular persons.

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

The Board reconvened at 8:36 p.m.

11. Add Item to Agenda

Mr. Nafey moved item, Approve Resolution – Separation Agreement and Release and Last Chance Agreement be added to the Agenda.

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

12. Approve Resolution – Separation Agreement and Release and Last Chance Agreement

Mr. Palen moved the Board approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approve the Separation Agreement and Release and Last Chance Agreement, dated December 12, 2023, by and between the Wallkill Central School District and Employee #12202023.

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

13. Add Item to Agenda

Mr. Palen moved item, Approve Memorandum of Agreement – Wallkill Administrators’ Association be added to the Agenda.

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

14. Approve Memorandum of Agreement – Wallkill Administrators’ Association

Mrs. McCartney moved the Board approve the Memorandum of Agreement by and between the Wallkill Central School District and the Wallkill Administrators’ Association, dated December 20, 2023.

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

15. Add Item to the Agenda

Mr. Palen moved item, Accept Resignation – Administration be added to the Agenda.

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

16. Accept Resignation – Administration

Mr. Frisbie moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Alyssa Greany** from the position of Wallkill Senior High School Assistant Principal, effective February 4, 2024, pending her appointment to a Four-Year Probationary Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School Principal.

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

17. Add Item to the Agenda

Mr. Palen moved item, Approve Appointment – Administration be added to the Agenda.

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

18. Approve Appointment - Administration

Mr. Frisbie moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **Alyssa Greany**, certified in School District Leader and School Building Leader, to a Four-Year Probationary period in the Elementary Principal tenure area, commencing February 5, 2024 and ending February 4, 2028. To the extent applicable under Education Law Section 3012-d and the accompanying Commissioner’s Regulations, in order to be considered for tenure, Mrs. Greany must have received an APPR rating of effective or highly effective in three of the four probationary years and must not receive an ineffective in the fourth year. Effective February 5, 2024, Mrs. Greany’s annual salary will be \$123,000, which shall be pro-rated for the 2023-2024 school year.

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

19. Close Meeting – Agenda #11

At 8:40 p.m. Mr. Hecht moved to adjourn the meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Corcoran
District Clerk