

**Regular Meeting Board of Education**  
**Wallkill Senior High School Auditorium**  
**Wednesday, September 20, 2023**  
**7:00 p.m.**

1. Public Comment – Agenda #1

At 7:00 p.m. the floor was opened for public comment.

- *No public comments.*

2. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance – Agenda #2

At 7:01 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Vice President Thomas Frisbie in the Wallkill Senior High School Auditorium.

Members Present

Mrs. Anderson

Mr. Bartolone

Mr. Frisbie

Mr. Nafey

Mrs. McCartney

Mr. Palen

Ms. Alyssa Vega [Student Board Member]

Members Absent

Mrs. Crowley

Mr. LoCicero

Mr. Petrocelli

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

3. Approve Ex-Officio Student Board Member – Agenda #3

Mr. Bartolone moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **Alyssa Vega** to the position of Ex-Officio Student Board Member for the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion seconded by Mr. Palen and carried 6 – 0.

4. Administer Oath of Allegiance [Student Board Member] – Agenda #4

Ms. Kelli Corcoran, District Clerk, administered the Oath of Allegiance to **Alyssa Vega**, Ex-Officio Student Board Member.

Discussion:

*Mr. Frisbie welcomed Alyssa to the Board. Mr. Masopust indicated that Alyssa is an outstanding student who is not only smart, kind, and generous but is someone who goes the extra mile. She was voted in as class president by her peers, participates in multiple extra-curricular clubs, is a student-athlete and is involved in community service. He is proud of what she has already accomplished and looks forward to all that she has yet to do in the year ahead.*

5. Approve Minutes – [8/16/23 Regular Board Meeting] – Agenda #5

Mr. Bartolone moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the minutes of the August 16, 2023, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. Nafey and carried 6 – 0.

6. Board Committee Reports/Assignments 2023-2024 – Agenda #6

**Audit:**

*Mr. Devincenzi reported that the Audit committee is scheduled to meet on October 5, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office to review the draft external audit and meet with the internal auditors to review the state required internal audit for the 2023-2024 school year.*

**Budget:**

Mr. Devincenzi commented that the District will begin to review the 2024-2025 budget starting in October/November and will provide updates as we move forward in the school year.

**Buildings & Grounds:**

Mr. Frisbie reported that the Buildings and Grounds committee is scheduled to meet on October 2, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office. The committee will review the work that was completed this summer as well receive an update on the planned work to be completed in the summer of 2024. The work planned for the summer of 2023 has been completed with a few items remaining that will be addressed and coordinated by our construction manager. Additionally, Phase 2 work for the Capital Project is being reviewed by the New York State Education Facilities Department and the District awaits approval.

**CDEP:**

Mrs. Anderson reported that the first CDEP committee meeting date for the 2023-2024 school year is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on October 25, 2023, in the high school auditorium.

**Curriculum/TAG:**

Mrs. Anderson reported that the first Curriculum/TAG Committee meeting for the 2023-2024 school year is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on October 24, 2023, in high school room 102.

**Health & Safety:**

Mr. Palen reported that the Health and Safety Committee has not met since the last Board meeting but is scheduled to meet on October 5, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in high school room 104.

**Legislative:**

Mr. Castle indicated that there is no report at this time.

**Policy:**

Mr. Palen reported that the Policy Committee met on September 14, 2023, to review several policies. There are three (3) policies on the agenda this evening for first reading.

**Technology:**

Mr. Bartolone reported that the first Technology Committee meeting for the 2023-2024 school year is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on October 2, 2023, high school room 102.

**Wellness:**

Mr. Nafey reported that the Wellness Committee has not met since the last meeting but is scheduled to meet on October 3, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

**Student Rep:**

Alyssa stated that she is excited for the new school year and is honored to be the Student Board Representative. She reported the following:

- The library and student desk are now open with students signing up to go to the library during their lunch and study halls.
- The high school is transitioning the library into a new management system called Destiny, which will offer many new resources to students including an updated audiobook and eBook library, new databases, and advanced search features to locate books and other resources in a more interactive manner.
- Freshmen Library Orientation will begin on September 25<sup>th</sup> where students will visit the library during their English classes over a two-day period to learn about the library's digital resources from our librarian Mrs. Werlau. In addition, students will be able to participate in a special workshop on mental health resources presented by Prevention Services Social Worker Ms. Heeren.
- Students are excited to start the new American Sign Language II class; classes are currently full.
- The high school homework assistance lab program will resume on Monday, October 2, 2023.
- SAT Prep for both English and Math is taking place on a weekly basis starting October 2<sup>nd</sup> and the PSAT will be held on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.
- A Freshman class trip is planned to Ulster County Community College for the R.Y.A.N Youth Rally on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Clubs:

- *National Honor Society was involved at Freshman Orientation as well as Open House with many members helping the freshmen class and parents tour the school.*
- *Spanish Honor Society made a huge impact at their first appearance at Open House night. Members showed up in their red shirts to assist with translation services.*
- *Spanish Honor Society kicked off the start of Hispanic Heritage month on September 15<sup>th</sup> with their first bake sale where baked goods and empanadas were sold. The club continues to find creative ways to celebrate Hispanic Heritage month such as the use of posters made by students.*
- *SGA has had meetings regarding the October pep rally, our annual Powder Puff game, spirit week themes and homecoming dance. During the first week of school the first SGA Dunkin Donuts bake sale was a huge success.*
- *Be-YOU-tiful clubs first meeting will be on September 27<sup>th</sup>; they have started planning events with the varsity tennis and baseball team.*
- *Senior Jon Albanese completed an Eagle Scout project in the high school courtyard by constructing a giant chess board in conjunction with a courtyard improvement project that was initiated by the science club.*

### Athletics:

- *The Varsity Football team has a 2-1 record currently and this past week they won the battle of the helmets for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row against Valley Central and will take on Cornwall at an away game on Friday.*
- *The Varsity Volleyball team as well as the Boys Varsity Soccer team remain undefeated. Last week, the Varsity Boys Soccer team played our division rivals Our Lady of Lourdes and will be playing them again to see who will make the MHALS playoffs.*
- *Girls Varsity basketball player, Zoe Mesuch has committed to the U.S Naval Academy where she will play basketball.*
- *Varsity Football player, Chris Bartolone has committed to SUNY Cortland.*
- *Andie Psilopoulos, who will be going to Division 1 Duquesne, competed at worlds in Germany. She finished 7<sup>th</sup> and also received gold in the relay event. She has qualified to compete in Spain next year.*

### Music:

- *All music students are preparing for the Pops concert and the upcoming variety show.*
- *Music teachers are sending out resumes for possible applicants for Area All-State.*
- *The selected students for All-State that will take place during December in Rochester are as follows - Jono McLaughlin for chorus, Durward Entrekin for orchestra and Makayla Wynn as an alternate for Chorus.*

*Alyssa finished her reported by stating that student spirit is strong; students and teachers are excited to be back and are looking forward to a great school year.*

### Discussion:

*Mr. Castle commented that Alyssa did a great job with her report. He thanked the administration, faculty, and staff for preparing for the opening of school resulting in a smooth opening. He also stated he is pleased with the progress of the Capital Project. He is proud of all the work that has been completed and that there is still more work to be completed next Summer. He stated that several Open Houses have been held to date. The response from parents has been very positive.*

## 7. Consent Agenda

Mr. Palen moved items 7A through 7T and 8A through 8E be taken as consent agenda.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bartolone and carried 6 – 0.

### Accept Resignations – Non-Instructional – Agenda #7.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Janine Daly** from the position of Full-Time Special Education Teaching Assistant, effective August 31, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Naarai Mendez** from the position of Part-Time [0.97 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide, effective September 20, 2023, pending her appointment to the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Keller Mickle** from the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Supervisory Teacher Aide, effective September 20, 2023, pending his appointment to the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Attendance Office Clerk.

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

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Laura Patterson** from the position of Part-Time [0.97 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide, effective August 28, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Dana Peterson** from the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Attendance Clerk, effective August 22, 2023.

Approve Appointments – Non-Instructional – Agenda #7.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **Natalie Auer** to a 26-Week Probationary Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Tax Collector position, effective November 9, 2023, according to the Terms and Conditions for Tax Collector (attached to the minutes and placed on file with the District Clerk), at a salary of \$30,831 pro-rated (Grade 10, Step 3).

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the 26-Week Probationary appointment of **Evan Ghiorse** to a Part-Time [0.50 FTE] Custodial Worker position, effective September 21, 2023, at a salary of \$16,022 pro-rated [4.0 hours daily, (Grade 11, Step 3, of the CSEA Contract)].

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Provisional appointment of **Jamie Hoyt** to a Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Main Office Clerk position, effective September 21, 2023, at a salary of \$21,916.80, pro-rated [7.5 hours per day, (\$15.22 per hour, Step 3 of the CSEA Contract)].

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the 26-Week Probationary appointment of **Jeimy Martinez** to a Part-Time [0.97 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide position, effective September 26, 2023, at a salary of \$16.32 per hour (Step 3 of the CSEA Contract, 5.8 hours per day).

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the 26-Week Probationary appointment of **Lynea McKnight** to a Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Night Custodial Worker position, effective September 26, 2023, at a salary of \$33,246 pro-rated (Grade 11, Step 3, night differential based on the CSEA Contract).

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the 26-Week Probationary appointment of **Naarai Mendez** to a Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide position, effective September 21, 2023, at a salary of \$20,367.36 pro-rated [Step 3 of the CSEA Contract, \$16.32 per hour, (6.5 hours per day)].

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Provisional appointment of **Keller Mickle** to a Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Attendance Office Clerk position, effective September 21, 2023, at a salary of \$19,281.60, pro-rated [6.5 hours per day, (\$15.45 per hour, Step 5 of the CSEA Contract)].

Approve Appointment of District Officer – Agenda #7.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and appoint the following District Officer for the 2023-2024 school year:

Deputy Treasurer	<b>Mrs. Natalie Auer</b>	\$ 937 (pro-rated)
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Rescind Appointment – Instructional – Agenda #7.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and rescind the appointment (8/16/23 Board of Education Meeting) of **Sandra Bruno**, from the position of Permanent Per Diem Substitute Teacher assigned to Leptondale Elementary School, effective September 6, 2023. Ms. Bruno submitted a letter of resignation dated September 5, 2023.

Approve Appointments – 2023-2024 Grades K-8 After-School Academic Intervention Program – Agenda #7.E.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Instructional appointments of the following individuals for the 2023-2024 Grades K-8 After School Academic Intervention Program:

John G. Borden Middle School

Jaime LaPolla \$55.10 per hour

Leptondale Elementary School

Janelle Agunzo \$55.10 per hour

Lucille Murphy \$55.10 per hour

Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School

Sara Bender \$55.10 per hour

Kristine Boyle \$55.10 per hour

Plattekill Elementary School

Lily Jones-Guida \$55.10 per hour

Madison LoCicero \$55.10 per hour

Approve Appointments – Mentor/Peer Coach – Agenda #7.F.

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

Chelsea D’Addario	Mentor	\$1,500 [pro-rated]
Michelle Dunham	Peer Coach	\$650
Ryan Haver	Peer Coach	\$1,100 [2 Teachers]
Anita Hoyt	Mentor	\$1,500
Suzanne Hudson	Peer Coach	\$650
Adam Kuliszewski	Peer Coach	\$650
Diane Tanner	Peer Coach	\$650
Tanya Yuro-Clark	Peer Coach	\$650

Rescind Appointments – Coaching – Agenda #7.G.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and rescind the appointments (8/16/23 Board of Education Meeting) of **Danielle McGrath and Taylor Palen**, from the position of Unpaid Assistant Varsity Cheerleading Coach, for the 2023-2024 Fall sports season.

Accept Resignations – Coaching – Agenda #7.H.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Kara DeCarlo** from the position of Varsity Cheerleading Coach, effective September 5, 2023.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Rachel Rivera** from the position of Assistant Varsity Cheerleading Coach, effective September 8, 2023

Approve Appointments – Coaching – Agenda #7.I.

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

High School:

Rachel Rivera	Varsity Cheerleading Coach	\$2,245 [pro-rated]
Danielle McGrath	Assistant Varsity Cheerleading Coach	} \$1,694 shared [pro-rated]
Taylor Palen	Assistant Varsity Cheerleading Coach	
Frank Croce	Assistant Varsity Girls Soccer Coach	Unpaid
Glenn LaPolt	Assistant Varsity Swim Coach	Unpaid

Approve Proposed 2024 Varsity & Junior Varsity Baseball Athletic Trip – Agenda #7.J.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the proposed Varsity & Junior Varsity Baseball Athletic Trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, from March 24, 2024 through March 29, 2024.

Approve First Readings – Policy – Agenda #7.K.

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

1. Policy #1800 – Non-Discrimination (Employees)
2. Policy #7223 – Foreign Exchange Student Program
3. Policy #8500 – Programs for Students with Disabilities Under the IDEA and New York’s Education Law Article 89

Approve Resolution – Certification of LEAD Teacher Evaluator – Agenda #7.L.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and certify the following personnel as a Lead Teacher Evaluator for the 2023-2024 school year, after having successfully completed the training requirements prescribed in 8NYCRR §30-3.10. This certification is being issued in accordance with the process for certifying Lead Teacher Evaluator described in the District’s annual professional performance review plan.

**Alyssa Greany**

Approve Resolution – Certification of INDEPENDENT Teacher Evaluator – Agenda #7.M.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and certify the following personnel as an Independent Teacher Evaluator for the 2023-2024 school year, after having received appropriate training in accordance with the regulations of the Commissioner of Education §30-3.10 and such individual is being certified as a qualified Independent Teacher Evaluator for the purpose of conducting and completing evaluations.

**Alyssa Greany**

Approve Resolution – Recertification of LEAD Teacher Evaluators – Agenda #7.N.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following personnel as Lead Teacher Evaluators for the 2023-2024 school year after having received appropriate training in accordance with the regulations of the Commissioner of Education §30-3.10 and such individuals are hereby re-certified as qualified Lead Teacher Evaluators for the purpose of conducting and completing evaluations.

**Robert Albanese  
David Albert**

**Scott Brown  
Natalie Harjes**

**Monica Hasbrouck  
Brian Masopust**

**Nicole Parete  
Michael Redmond**

Approve Resolution – Recertification of INDEPENDENT Teacher Evaluators – Agenda #7.O.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following personnel as Independent Teacher Evaluators for the 2023-2024 school year after having received appropriate training in accordance with the regulations of the Commissioner of Education §30-3.10 and such individuals are hereby re-certified as qualified Independent Teacher Evaluators for the purpose of conducting and completing evaluations.

**Robert Albanese  
David Albert  
Scott Brown**

**Natalie Harjes  
Monica Hasbrouck  
Brian Masopust**

**Nicole Parete  
Michael Redmond**

**Tara Rounds  
Anthony White**

Approve Resolution – Recertification of LEAD Principal Evaluator – Agenda #7.P.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following personnel as a Lead Principal Evaluator for the 2023-2024 school year after having received appropriate training in accordance with the regulations of the Commissioner of Education §30-3.10 and such individual is hereby re-certified as a qualified Lead Principal Evaluator for the purpose of conducting and completing evaluations.

**Kevin Castle**

Approve Resolution – Recertification of INDEPENDENT Principal Evaluator – Agenda #7.Q.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following personnel as an Independent Principal Evaluator for the 2023-2024 school year after having received appropriate training in accordance with the regulations of the Commissioner of Education §30-3.10 and such individual is hereby re-certified as a qualified Independent Principal Evaluator for the purpose of conducting and completing evaluations.

**Kevin Castle**

Approve Substitutes Lists – Agenda #7.R.

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 #7.S.

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

Approve Special Education Placements – Agenda #7.T.

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

Approve Use of Facilities – Agenda #8.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the John G. Borden Middle School Gymnasium by **Wallkill Boys Basketball** [for a Basketball Clinic] as indicated below:

Tuesdays September 26, 2023 – November 14, 2023 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Plattekill, Leptondale, and Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School fields and gymnasiums [rain days] by **Wallkill Youth Football and Cheerleading** [for Football and Cheerleading Practice] as indicated below:

Plattekill Elementary School:

Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays October 2, 2023 – November 9, 2023 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Leptondale Elementary School:

Mondays – Thursdays October 2, 2023 – November 9, 2023 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Ostrander Elementary School:

Mondays – Thursdays October 2, 2023 – November 9, 2023 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the John G. Borden Middle School Gym [for Youth Lacrosse Clinics] by **Wallkill Youth Lacrosse** as indicated below:

Tuesdays November 28, 2023 – March 5, 2024\* 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

*\*Excluding December 26, 2023 & January 2, 2024*

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Plattekill Elementary School Gymnasium by **Wallkill Area Youth Soccer/SUFC** [for Indoor Soccer Practice] as indicated below:

Thursdays December 7, 2023 – March 7, 2024 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Wallkill Senior High School Auditorium and Music Rooms by **Take the Leap Dance Studio** [for Dance Recitals] as indicated below:

Friday December 8, 2023 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday	December 9, 2023	8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Sunday	December 10, 2023	8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Wallkill Senior High School Lobby, Auditorium, Band and Chorus Rooms by **New Paltz School of Ballet** [for Ballet Performances] as indicated below:

Thursday	May 30, 2024	2:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Friday	May 31, 2024	2:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Saturday	June 1, 2024	9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Sunday	June 2, 2024	11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Wallkill Senior High School Auditorium and Music Rooms by **Take the Leap Dance Studio** [for Dance Recitals] as indicated below:

Friday	June 7, 2024	3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday	June 8, 2024	8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Sunday	June 9, 2024	8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Accept Treasurer’s Report – Agenda #8.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education has reviewed and accepts the Treasurer's Reports as of August 31, 2023 and Revenues as of August 31, 2023.

Approve Mid-Hudson School Study Council Program Attendance – Agenda #8.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the attendance of Board Members at the Mid-Hudson School Study Council’s Annual Awards for Excellence Program on November 1, 2023, at The Barn at Villa Venezia in Middletown, New York.

Approve Agreement – Professional Development – Agenda #8.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Agreement between the Wallkill Central School District and **G&R Inclusive Group** to provide professional development services in the area of special education.

Approve Resolution – Guest Speaker – Agenda #8.E.

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

**WHEREAS**, the District seeks to use Eagles Talent Speakers Bureau to arrange a speaker for the District’s Superintendent’s Conference Day on November 22, 2023, in accordance with the terms of a Service Agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Wallkill Central School District does hereby approve of the contract with Eagles Talent Speakers Bureau to arrange a speaker for the District.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Wallkill Central School District does hereby authorize the Superintendent or the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services to execute a contract with Eagles Talent Speakers Bureau for a Superintendent’s Conference Day speaker.

8. Accept Donation – Agenda #8.F.

Mr. Bartolone moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the donation of \$500.83 from the Wallkill Class of 1983 to be used by the Class of 2024 for the all night graduation event.

Motion seconded by Mr. Palen and carried 6 – 0. [With Thanks].



**Discussion:**

*Mr. Castle indicated that Mr. White provided a tour of the high school to the Class of 1983. Mr. White stated that there were about 15 alumni who joined him. He said they were proud and excited to see the new additions that were not part of the school when they attended. They reminisced about the "glory days" and were ecstatic to learn more about the rest of the work being planned for the school.*

9. **Executive Session – Agenda #9**

At 7:21 p.m. Mr. Bartolone moved the Board enter Executive Session to discuss current litigation.

Motion seconded by Mrs. Anderson and carried 6 – 0.

The Board reconvened at 7:46 p.m.

10. **Close Meeting – Agenda #10**

At 7:47 p.m. Mr. Bartolone moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. Palen and carried 6 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Corcoran  
District Clerk