

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Regular Meeting

June 21, 2016

auditorium

Members Present: Kazmierczak, Frank, Cizdziel, Kowalski, Jackson-McCarty, Fleischman

Absent: Frascella

Others Present: Amodeo, Lawton O'Brien, Boberg, John and Tom Seltzer, Lori and Troy Smith, Christian Gover, Jacque and Richard Conrad, Carol Kruse, Stephanie Hansen, Brook, Becca and Emma Smith, Kay and Bob Conrad, Kim Lewis, Jim and Ethan Boberg, John Zerfas, Jennifer, Dan and Kelsi Belz, Emily Clark, Connie Jo and Emily Kazmierczak, Sandy Clark, Robert and Lisa Green, Alex and Rachel Gentner, Polly McCauley, Linda Lund, Suzanne Ciminesi, Angela Ghani, Amy Butler, Dana Lembke, Steve Wedvik, Madison Fleischman, Bryan Hansen, April Preston, Shawna Gugino, Tim Ploetz, Rich Place

I. CALL TO ORDER

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:02pm with Kazmierczak presiding.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to the UNITED STATES FLAG

III. ADOPT AGENDA

Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Cizdziel to approve the amended agenda as listed below:

Additions: under presentation add Carol Kruse as community member and correct spelling of the name Kelsi. Under NB item (F) fill in amounts. This will be discussed during discussion part of this motion.

Deletions: under consent agenda delete April Treasurer's report, budget status, revenue status, extra classroom activities, April Warrants, April Bank reconciliations.

Changes: under NB item (E) time from 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Ann discussed with the BOE (3) options for them to choose from for Budgeted Real Property Taxes and Total Budgeted Revenues for 2016-2017 Contingent Budget –
(1) assumes estimated reduction in tax levy of \$250,000 as was originally proposed for the 2016-2017 budget

(2) assumes estimated tax levy to stay the same as last year

or

(3) an amount between option 1 & 2

Board agreed to go with option (1) and the amounts are filled in under NB item (F) to vote on during that portion of the agenda.

6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

IV. Correspondence/BOE information

Michael Frascella was unable to attend the meeting but he asked Eric to read the following:

“To my friends on the school board, the administration, teachers, staff and the West Valley Community,

Thank You for allowing me to be a part of such a wonderful School District. I am blessed to have had the opportunity to work with all of you. It has been an invaluable experience and one I would not trade for the world. I love this district and this community and I have always tried to do what I thought was in the best interest of our kids and this community. That effort will continue long after long after my term is up!!

Some advice:

For my school board friends: Stick to what you believe in! Make sure you have all the facts before you make a decision. Remember that your decisions affect these kids and our community. Make sure your decisions are viable and will have a long term success. Pressure and anger never lead to a good decision!

To the Administration, Teachers and staff:

Keep doing what you are doing. Work to make things better every day. Our kids are getting a great education because of the hard work of each and every one of you. Please know that there are plenty of people in this community who love what you are doing! Me being one of your biggest fans.

To the community:

Work with your school! We still need to educate these kids. Advocate for whatever cause you believe in, but make sure it is not at the detriment of these kids. Hard decisions will have to be made at some point soon. Actions have consequences! The recent vote did not help the district move forward. Feasibility will win out over hope every time.

Thank you for allowing me to serve this community, Love my Wildcats”.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kay Conrad wanted to thank the BOE and Administration for providing our students with the wonderful instrumental program that we have here at West Valley. Her family appreciates Mr. Vincent Venitelli and the work he does with our students. The students had a great performance at the pageant of bands and the final concert was wonderful. There are annexation talks, the recent budget was voted down but Ellicottville has no marching band. She thanked the BOE and staff and stated that West Valley is second to none.

John Zerfas states that the study will bring out the facts. He thanked the board for the opportunity to speak at the meeting.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

Wildcat Way Above and Beyond Award

Daniel Amodeo, Principal and George Kazmierczak Board of Education member presented an award to the following recipients:

Top 10 Seniors

- **Alexandra Marie Gentner*
- **Emily Louise Clark*
- **Madison M. Fleischman*
- **Elizabeth M. Dusterhus*
- **Robert Conrad*
- **Justin Summers*
- **Emily Jean Kazmierczak*
- **Christian L. Gover*
- **Brook J. Elaine Smith*
- **Ethan J. E. Boberg*

Wildcat Way Above and Beyond Award

Eric Lawton, Superintendent and George Kazmierczak Board of Education member presented an award to the following recipients

West Valley Student

**Kelsi Belz* who studied first aid in her physical education class from Mrs. Preston then turned around and used those newly learned skills to save her sister from choking. A real heroic act is the reason that we are awarding the wildcat way above and beyond award to her

Community Members

**Richard Conrad* building the rock pillars to hold the Welcome to West Valley signs
**Carol Kruse* has been an institution here at school for many years. She earned the respect and love of her students in the cafeteria.....both in the kitchen and also as a monitor. We wish her all the best in retirement.

Staff

**Gerald Stead* and **Bryan Hansen* deserve the award for all their hard work for community day. They not only spear headed our committee and got things rolling but did so much prep work before that day on their own time. We wouldn't have gotten everything done without their knowledge and organization skills to complete all the tasks. They made sure everyone had a job and equipment was provided. Most of all their positive attitudes through it all even when things got tough, they carried forward with pride for the school, staff and community.

**April Preston* steps up as a leader amongst the staff. She had to adopt the Dean position, help with AD and the sports transition, plus all the things she did for Keith's arrangements and making that adjustment.

**Angela Ghani* has been outstanding in her role as a substitute teacher getting to know the children and paying close attention to the workings of the classroom. Her positive spirit is contagious with our students and there is always a big cheer when students in my class know she is coming. Mrs. Ghani has also played a positive role in the PTO always thinking of our students first and foremost. I know I am leaving my class in good hands as Mrs. Ghani is a natural educator and her professionalism is much appreciated by all.

**Troy Smith's* role as coach changed when our sports program was merged, his involvement did not. Mr. Smith was in attendance at almost all the Basketball games both home and away this season!!! He has always been a big supporter of our student athletes but how awesome that continued even when he wasn't the coach. Thank you Mr. Smith for your passion for seeing our students succeed!!

**Suzanne Ciminesi* our 5th grade teacher the last two years, is well-deserving of the Wildcat Way Award. She has been an inspiration to our elementary team of teachers with her enthusiasm for teaching, her commitment to the growth and welfare of her students, and her desire to become better at her profession every day. For students, she co-led after school enrichment clubs for Chess and Computer Coding, which were highly participated in and enjoyed by students. She committed her lunch period to having girl's lunch buddy time, which was highly valuable to those young ladies. They clearly adored and admired their teacher. And at least three to four days a week, she kept students after school for additional; academic help in math, writing and reading. She also served on the Honor Roll Academic Awards Committee for the Middle School and High School bringing creativity and fun to those award programs. For our elementary team, she initiated an after-school professional development book study/discussion group. We read and discussed "What Really Matters for Struggling Readers". As a team, we were able to study the research results of best practices for developing "readers" and the proven methods for improving reading comprehension in students. It was extremely valuable time for all of us, professionally and personally as we shared together our challenges and successes in this area. She is the epitome of excellence in teaching, professional inspiration and wonderful friend.

VII. REPORTS

A. Superintendent, Eric Lawton reports on the pageant of bands this year. The band finished 1st in its division, only three out of the 10 competing bands scored higher than our group. Not only that, the two music judges also scored West Valley higher than every single band that performed in the parade! That includes bands that are from schools at least 8 times our size. The BOE meeting on July 5th, if we move the meeting back to 7:30pm more BOE members can attend.

B. Principal, Daniel Amodeo introduced Kelly Pirson as our new Elementary teacher for the upcoming school year and her appointment for approval is on the agenda. Introduced Dana Lembke as our new Social Studies/Special Education for the upcoming school year and her appointment for approval is on the agenda. The district

has provided summer reading for the last several years and invited students to participate in a 4 week Summer Reading program with Mrs. Vacanti. We have received many acceptances to this program and transportation will be provided if needed. We are still looking into the possibility of Summer School for students however without having final grades at this point it is difficult for us to determine exactly who would benefit from this opportunity. His is projecting 10 or fewer students that would be able to benefit from Summer School. Regents' exam results to date-our students have done an outstanding job so far and hope the trend continues.

C. Business Official, Ann O'Brien reports a list of budget transfers are included in your packet and will be under the consent agenda for approval. In June we typically adopt a resolution to recognize that we will transfer excess funds over 4% to our reserves. Before the yearly audit is complete there will be another resolution to formalize the amount going into reserves. Our auditor, Ken Frank will be in on June 27th to do some preliminary testing. The District's audit is scheduled to begin on August 15th. We will be scheduling an audit committee meeting that morning. It is a requirement that our auditor meet with the audit committee prior to the beginning of the audit.

VIII. **CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Moved by Kowalski, Seconded by Fleischman to approve the unofficial minutes from the May 9, 2016 Annual Budget Hearing, May 9, 2016 regular meeting, May 17, 2016 regular meeting and May 25, 2016 special meeting, March Treasurer's reports, budget status, revenue status, extra classroom activities, March Warrants, March Bank Reconciliations, budget transfers. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

IV. **PERSONNEL**

A. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Frank to approve April Preston as the teacher mentor for Ryan Winchip which started on 2/22/2016.
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

B. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Cizdziel to approve Joshua Howe as a substitute cleaner, working throughout the summer and an on call basis during the 2016-17 school year, at the Board approved wage of \$0.25 above minimum wage. Fingerprint clearance not necessary – student. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

C. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Kowalski to approve Alyssa Przywara as a substitute cleaner, working throughout the summer and an on call basis during the 2016-17 school year, at the Board approved wage of \$0.25 above minimum wage. Fingerprint clearance not necessary – student. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

D. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Frank to appoint Kelly Pirson, who holds a Professional New York State Teaching Certificate permitting her to teach in Childhood Education 1-6th and a Professional New York State Teaching Certificate permitting her to teach in Early Childhood Birth - 2nd certification area, is hereby

conditionally appointed to the position of 1.0 FTE Elementary Education teacher in the Elementary tenure area for a probationary period of four (4) years, to commence on 9/1/16 and to end on 6/30/20. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on Kelly Pirson receiving APPR ratings of Effective or Highly Effective in 3 of 4 preceding years and no Ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year. The salary during the first year of this appointment will be paid in accordance with the salary schedule as outlined in the Teachers' Collective Bargaining Agreement.
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

E. Moved by Kowalski, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to appoint Dana Lembke, who holds an Initial New York State Teaching Certificate permitting him to teach in the Social Studies 7-12 and an Initial New York State Teaching Certificate permitting him to teach in the Students w/Disabilities 7-12 certification area, is hereby conditionally appointed to the combined position of 1.0 FTE Social Studies and Special Education teacher in the Social Studies tenure area for a probationary period of four (4) years, to commence on 9/1/16 and to end on 6/30/20. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on Dana Lembke receiving APPR ratings of Effective or Highly Effective in 3 of 4 preceding years and no Ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year. The salary during the first year of this appointment will be paid in accordance with the salary schedule as outlined in the Teachers' Collective Bargaining Agreement. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

V: **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Fleischman to approve CSE recommendations. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

B Moved by Kowalski, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve a facility use request by Connie Jo Kazmierczak for the Baccalaureate Dinner to be held on June 23, 2016 from 7pm-9pm, for up to 200 participants to use the cafeteria and kitchen.
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

C. Moved by Kowalski, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve a facility use request by Stephen Howe to participate in the 48 hour film event and use the whole school and grounds while producing a film, from August 19-21, 2016.
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

D. Moved by Frank, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve a facility use request by Michelle Enser for the PTO to hold a meeting in the library on August 25, 2016 at 7pm, for up to 20 people. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

E. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Cizdziel to approve setting the Annual School District Reorganizational meeting and Regular Board of Education meeting to follow on Tuesday July 5, 2016 at 7:30pm in the library conference room
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

F. Moved by Kowalski, Seconded by Frank to approve the 2016-2017 budgeted real property taxes in the amount of \$3,003,939 and the total budgeted 2016-2017 revenues in the amount of 8,313,214. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

G. Moved by Fleischman, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve the transfer of any excess reserves over 4%, for the year ending June 30, 2016 to one or more of the following: Retirement Contribution Reserve, Workers Compensation Reserve, Unemployment Reserve, or Capital Reserve for the purpose of funding future obligations, as recommended by the Superintendent. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

H. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded Cizdziel to approve offering an elementary summer reading program to be held here at West Valley Central School. Transportation will be offered, and pay will be according to the WVCS/WVTA contract. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

VI. **OLD BUSINESS:**

none

Moved by Kowalski, Seconded by Frank to go into Executive session at 7:55pm for the purpose of contract negotiations with no business afterwards.
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted.

Moved by Frank, Seconded by Cizdziel to come out of Executive session at 8:23pm
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted.

VII: Moved by Frank, Seconded by Cizdziel to **ADJOURN** at 8:24pm
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

District Clerk