

*American Sign Language Class Presentation by  
Mrs. Mourges and Students*

1. Public Comment – Agenda #1

At 7:14 p.m. the floor was opened for public comment.

- *No public comments.*

2. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance – Agenda #1

At 7:15 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Joseph LoCicero in the Plattekill Elementary All-Purpose Room.

Members Present

Mrs. Anderson  
Mr. Bartolone  
Mrs. Crowley  
Mr. Frisbie  
Mr. Hecht  
Mr. LoCicero  
Mrs. McCartney  
Mr. Nafey  
Mr. Palen  
Mr. Liam McCarthy [Student Board Member]

Members Absent

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

3. Approve Minutes – [10/16/24 Regular Board Meeting] – Agenda #3

Mr. Bartolone moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the minutes of the October 16, 2024, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. Nafey and carried 9 – 0.

4. Board Committee Reports 2024-2025 – Agenda #5

**Audit:**

*Mrs. Crowley reported that the Audit committee has not met since the last meeting. The Internal auditors were in the District the week of November 4<sup>th</sup> to perform the risk assessment. The next committee meeting will be scheduled once the District receives notification from the internal auditors that the draft risk assessment is complete.*

**Budget:**

*Mr. Devincenzi reported that this evening the Board was provided a draft budget calendar for the upcoming budget process. In December building allocations will be sent to administrators, in January we will review the roll-over budget, the end of January we will review the preliminary State Aid numbers released as part of the Governor budget proposal. In addition, on tonight's agenda is a recommendation to approve the tax warrant. A summary sheet of the taxes collected has been provided to the Board. Finally, the CPI that will be used in the tax cap calculation will be 2%.*

**Buildings & Grounds:**

Mr. Frisbie reported that the Buildings and Grounds committee met on November 6, 2024. At the meeting, the committee reviewed the bid for work to be completed at Plattekill in the summer of 2025. In addition, the committee reviewed current and potential air conditioning at all buildings including how rooms are set up. The committee reviewed putting a water port at Ostrander to allow the District to be able to utilize a water tanker if needed to feed the building with water. Finally, the committee reviewed potential additional items for contract work to be completed with the already scheduled capital work in the summer of 2025. Mr. Frisbie also stated that there are Capital Project change orders on the agenda this evening.

Mr. Castle commented on the previous situation with the water main break in town affecting Ostrander Elementary School as a follow up to Mr. Frisbie's statement about putting in a port at Ostrander. He also spoke about the drought conditions affecting Plattekill Elementary School since it's on a well. In addition, the building principals are reminding teachers about the process for remote learning if needed in the future. Mr. LoCicero asked about the possibility of installing ports for all the schools. Mr. Castle indicated that it is a good idea as long as there is money left over from the Capital Project.

**CDEP:**

Mrs. Anderson reported that the CDEP Committee met on November 19, 2024, and reviewed the grade 3-8 New York State Assessment results, Regents results and Graduation rates for the 2023-2024 school year. Members of the Comprehensive School Counseling Plan committee reviewed the goals for elementary, middle, and high schools for the 2024-2025 school year. Ms. Rounds provided an update on the MTSS committee work that has been completed and implemented as well as the next steps for the District. Mr. White provided curriculum and instructional updates for the District. He also reviewed the Framework for data review that is set up in the District. The building principals shared what that looks like in each of their schools. In the afternoon, the School Improvement Teams (SIT) reviewed their 2024-2025 school improvement plans. They highlighted the progress towards each of their goals. To conclude the day each SIT team presented their information to the entire CDEP committee. The next CDEP meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the High School Auditorium.

**Curriculum/TAG:**

Mrs. Anderson reported that the Curriculum/TAG Committee met on October 22, 2024. The committee received an update on the TAG program for the 2024-2025 school year. Mrs. Werlau provided an overview of the Talented and Gifted (TAG) program for the 2024-2025 school year. She shared information about enrollment. She also reviewed the activities scheduled for the current school year, such as Author's Day, visits from George Steele, Lego League, and Odyssey of the Minds competitions. Mr. Albanese reviewed the credit recovery data for the 2023-2024 school year. In addition to the credit recovery data Mr. Albanese presented data on the 2024 Grade 7-12 Summer Program. Mrs. Salisbury presented data on the 2024 Elementary Summer School Program for grades K-6 as well as the Summer Reading Program. Ms. Rounds provided an update on the MTSS committee work that has been completed and implemented as well as the next steps for the District. Lastly, Mr. White provided an update on the K-12 District Comprehensive School Counseling Plan. The next committee meeting is scheduled for December 10, 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 meeting. The next committee meeting is scheduled for December 5, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in high school room 104.

**Legislative:**

Mr. Hecht stated that Mr. Castle was invited to a childcare provider meeting on November 12, 2024, sponsored by Assemblyman Hevesi and Assemblyman Maher. Also, in attendance were daycare representatives. Topics included, but not limited to, New York State childcare inequities, Universal Pre-K (UPK) inequities, staffing challenges, recruitment and subsidies, Office of Children and Family Services licensing challenges, and childcare industry financial challenges. There are no daycare providers in our District that are able to provide UPK. Therefore, we utilize two (2) providers outside of the District.

Mr. Hecht also stated that we are waiting on feedback from the Rockefeller Institute Study on recommendations to make improvements to the Foundation Aid formula. We will be meeting with our legislators in the new year.

Mr. Frisbie mentioned an article he read regarding Regionalization that suggested a potential link to Foundation Aid. Mr. Castle briefly stated that Mr. Devincenzi, Ms. Rounds, Mr. Masopust, and Mr. White gathered data for the regionalization study that was submitted to the State. The purpose of the study is focused on shared services, which we do through BOCES.

**Policy:**

Mr. Palen reported that the Policy Committee has not met since the last meeting. There are two (2) policies that are on the agenda this evening for second reading.

**Technology:**

Mr. Bartolone reported that the Technology Committee met on November 4, 2024. Mr. Hein presented updates on technology infrastructure; the District updated its wireless access points and the District's firewall. For cyber security, the committee reviewed Center for Internet Security (CIS) control number 10 and 11. CIS control number 10 focuses on Malware defenses. Mr. Hein reviewed what the District has in place to protect our computers and computer network against malicious software. CIS control number 11 focuses on data recovery. Mr. Hein explained what the District has in place to back-up data and how it would be recovered. The next committee meeting is scheduled for December 9, 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 meeting. The next committee meeting is scheduled for January 7, 2025, at 3:45 p.m. in high school room 102.

**Student Rep:**

Mr. Liam McCarthy reported:

- Our Spanish 6 classes took a trip to Plattekill Elementary School to present vocabulary lessons to students in Spanish.
- Over 160 parents attended Financial Aid Night as our School Counselors and Representatives from SUNY Ulster reviewed the college application process and financial aid opportunities.
- Our Annual Instant Admissions event was held at the high school last week from 11/12/24-11/14/24; 52 students applied with an 88% acceptance rate and 30 colleges came out to evaluate student transcripts and provide admissions decisions.
- Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Tuesday, November 26, 2024. Parents are signing up using the "pickAtime" application.
- The school counseling office is planning a series of college application workshops to be offered to students in the coming weeks.

**Clubs:**

- NHS recently conducted a pickleball tournament to gather money for the American Cancer Society. They raised exactly \$500 in a very successful and exciting tournament where student Mason Franklin and Coach Avila came out victorious.
- NHS is planning to donate approximately 40 full Thanksgiving meals to the Loaves and Fishes Pantry at the Wallkill Reformed Church for families in our community.
- So far this year, NHS has had an excellent turnout in the Panther Cub Mentoring Program, recording the most participants they've ever had.
- Spanish Honor Society is planning to take a trip to the Christmas Wishes organization located in Kingston where they will be wrapping gifts, unloading cars, and assisting families by contributing to the giving of gifts to people in need.
- The Science Club is currently hosting a ping-pong tournament to spread interest in our science classes such as Physics.
- LEO club concluded their "Socktober" fundraiser which ran through the month of October. They sorted and organized all the socks they received at their last meeting totaling 586 donations. They are also participating in multiple volunteer opportunities such as Leptondale Elementary School Craft Night and Ostrander Elementary School Parent Teacher Conferences.
- SGA has organized their annual coat drive. They are currently accepting donations as the winter season approaches.

**Athletics:**

- Nearing the end of the fall season, both soccer teams secured a playoff win before losing tough battles.
- Wallkill High School hosted the finals for the Girls' Varsity Soccer Sectional Tournament.
- In the Section 9 Class B Cross Country Championships, Caitlyn Murphy placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, Nate Diemoz placed 3<sup>rd</sup> and Mario Verruto placed 5<sup>th</sup>. Caitlin placed 6<sup>th</sup> overall at the State Championships.
- Zoe Mesuch solidified her Navy commitment with a signing ceremony which was held in the High School Auditorium.

- After much success, the fall season has come to an end. The winter sports season began on November 18<sup>th</sup> and athletes are enthusiastic to be back.

**Music:**

- The high school winter concert is scheduled for December 19, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

5. **Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Anderson moved items 5A through 5L and 6A through 6G be taken as consent agenda.

Motion seconded by Mrs. McCartney and carried 9 – 0.

**Accept Resignations – Non-Instructional – Agenda #5.A.**

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Melissa Michaud** from the position of Full-Time [1.0 FTE, 7.5 Hours] Main Office Clerk, effective close of business on November 6, 2024.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Chelsea VanDeMark** from the position of Part-Time [0.97 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide, effective close of business on November 20, 2024, pending her appointment to a Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide.

**Approve Appointments – Non-Instructional – Agenda #5.B.**

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Provisional appointment of **Timothy Santiago** to a [Newly Created 8/20/24] Part-Time [.97 FTE] Security Guard position, effective December 2, 2024, at a salary of \$31,413.96 pro-rated [Step 3, Grade 18 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 **Taisha Sharpe** to a Part-Time [0.97 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide position, effective November 21, 2024, at a salary of \$16.76 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 **Chelsea VanDeMark** to a Full-Time [1.0 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide position, effective November 21, 2024, at a salary of \$20,916.48 pro-rated [Step 3 of the CSEA Contract, \$16.76 per hour, (6.5 hours per day)].

**Accept Resignation – Co-Curricular – Agenda #5.C.**

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Jennifer Ippolito** from the Co-Curricular position of Clare F. Ostrander Elementary Television Studio Advisor, effective close of business on October 30, 2024.

**Approve Appointments – Co-Curricular – Agenda #5.D.**

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of the following individual to the Co-Curricular positions for the 2024-2025 school year.

**Ostrander Elementary School:**

<b>Stephen Cabarcas</b>	Television Studio Advisor	\$769 pro-rated [shared]
<b>Karen Bayer</b>	Television Studio Advisor	\$769 pro-rated [shared]

**Award Tenure - Administration – Agenda #5.E.**

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Anthony White** in the area of Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services, effective February 1, 2025.

**Approve Second Readings – Policy – Agenda #5.F.**

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

1. Policy #3300 – Access to Public Records
2. Policy #8204 – Evacuation Lockdown and Emergency Dismissal Drills

Approve Substitutes Lists – Agenda #5.G.

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 #5.H.

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

Approve Special Education Placements – Agenda #5.I.

The Board approve the placement of Special Education students as recommended by the Committee on Special Education.

Approve Use of Facilities – Agenda #6.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Plattekill Elementary School Gymnasium by the **Rotary of Southern Ulster** [for a Basketball & Volleyball Program] as indicated below:

Boys and Girls Basketball:

Mondays	December 2, 2024 – March 17, 2025*	5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
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Girls Volleyball:

Tuesdays	December 3, 2024 – March 18, 2025*	5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
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*\*Excluding December 23 & 24 and 30 & 31, 2024; January 20, 2025 and February 17, 2025*

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Clare F. Ostrander Elementary All-Purpose Room by **Wallkill Area Little League** [for Practice] as indicated below:

Mondays and Wednesdays	February 3, 2025 – March 17, 2025	6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
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*\*Excluding February 17, 2025*

Accept Treasurer's Report – Agenda #6.B.

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

Approve Resolution – Cooperative Bidding – Agenda #6.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Cooperative Bidding Resolution with NY/Island Cooperative Bid (Purchasing Group) for the 2025-2026 school year. This Resolution shall be attached to the minutes and on file with the District Clerk.

Approve School Tax Report – 2024-2025 – Agenda #6.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the School Tax Report for the 2024-2025 school year.

Approve Resolution – Purchase Agreement – Agenda #6.E.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Wallkill Central School District ("Board" or "District") authorizes Ulster County Board of Cooperative Educational Services ("Ulster County BOCES") to enter into an Installment Purchase Agreement on the District's behalf for the acquisition and installation of technology equipment for a period not to exceed forty-eight (48) months for a cost not to exceed \$70,753.10, to commence upon the satisfactory receipt of all equipment on a properly authorized District Purchase Order issued for this purpose.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President is authorized to execute an Agreement with Ulster County BOCES in the attached form, and any other documents in furtherance of this resolution.

Award Bid – Capital Improvement Project – Agenda #6.F.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award the following bid for the Capital Improvement Project Phase 2B as indicated below to:

Plumbing Contract Work PC-1:

*Songer Contracting, LLC dba PK Songer Plumbing*  
343 Beamer Road  
Walden, NY 12586

Base Bid Amount: \$363,450

Alternate No.1: \$ 24,500

**SUGGESTED CONTRACT AWARD:** **\$387,950**

Approve Change Orders – Capital Improvement Project – Agenda #6.G.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following Change Orders:

<b>Profex, Inc.:</b>	GC-17	\$ 3,542.92
	GC-18	\$ 5,696.64
	GC-19	\$ 5,655.69
	GC-20	(\$ 8,563.65)
<b>Renu Contracting &amp; Restoration, Inc.:</b>	GC-2-05	\$ 5,901.16
<b>RLJ Electric Corporation:</b>	EC-17	\$27,879.25
	EC-18	\$ 2,874.05
	EC-19	\$ 2,874.05
	EC-20	\$ 2,874.04
	EC-21	(\$ 5,955.28)
<b>S &amp; O Construction Services, Inc.:</b>	MC-10	\$ 441.38
	MC-11	\$ 1,990.54
	MC-12	\$ 5,950.45
	MC-13	\$ 1,607.00
	MC-14	\$101,618.00
<b>Whispering Pines Development Corp:</b>	SC-1-23	\$29,431.38

6. Presentation

*Mr. Castle presented School Board Recognition certificates to Thomas Frisbie and Erin McCartney for their dedicated leadership in public education and continuing service to the children of this community.*

7. Close Meeting – Agenda #8

At 7:39 p.m. Mr. Palen moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bartolone and carried 9 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Corcoran  
District Clerk