

# Ballston Spa Central School District

Board of Education

Regular Meeting    December 18, 2024

Location: High School Library

Time: 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Holly Barker-Flynn  
Matthew Dreher  
Jason Fernau  
Dr. Julia Routbort Baskin  
Fabrizia Rodriguez  
Lawrence Ryan  
Katie Whittemore

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dr. Gianleo Duca, Superintendent of Schools  
Brian Sirianni, Clerk of the Board

## CALL TO ORDER

Jason Fernau called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Fernau thanked everyone for their participation and efforts, and wished everyone a good holiday season and winter break.

## RECOGNITION

Dr. Duca announced that the Ballston Spa National Bank (BSNB) sponsored the High School Robotics Team, with a donation of \$6,000. He thanked BSNB for their contribution.

Mr. Ackroyd and the entire Robotics Team accepted the donation from BSNB. The team then thanked BSNB and shared how it has benefited from the donation.

A representative from BSNB thanked everyone for being a part of the Robotics program.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY Holly Barker-Flynn, seconded by Matthew Dreher that the Board of Education approve the November 20, 2024 regular meeting minutes.

Ayes all

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Mr. Dreher that the Board of Education approve the December 4, 2024 regular meeting minutes.

Ayes all

## **STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

None

## **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Jason LaMora, Director of Technology and Matthew Robinson, High School Principal presented on Artificial Intelligence (AI). Types of AI in education and its uses were discussed, and the team explained how AI supports schools and learning.

They then discussed a pilot program to test AI applications. The challenges of AI were shared, as well as how the AI pilot had been conducted throughout the 2023-2024 school year. The team shared key findings including benefits, challenges and takeaways for implementation. The guiding principles and the framework of the program were discussed. The next steps of the program were discussed.

Mr. Robinson reported on cell phone usage in the High School. He discussed the building rules and the processes in place to support the rules. He shared the successes during instructional time, and historical data for cell phone infractions.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Dr. Duca reported 7 correspondences with the District and shared the topics of each.

Mr. Fernau reported there had been no correspondence to the Board since the last meeting.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Kelly Delaney-Elliott announced the Gordon Creek, Dec 19<sup>th</sup> winter concert date. She reminded everyone winter break would be from December 23 – January 3, and classes will resume on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Delaney-Elliott also announced the dates for adult classes beginning in January and reminded everyone the next board meeting would be on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Resolution #309 - Budget Goals

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the Board of Education approves the budget goals, as presented by the Superintendent, for the 2025-2026 school year budget.

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MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Mr. Dreher that the Board of Education approve Resolution #309 – Budget Goals

Discussion

Mr. Fernau stated the resolution pertained to Dr. Duca's presentation, from the last meeting, on budget goals.

Ayes all

Resolution #310 - Board of Education Policy Manual File 2210 – Committees of the Board

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that Board of Education Policy Manual File 2210, Committees of the Board, having been tabled for the required 28-day period, be and is hereby approved.

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Mr. Dreher that the Board of Education approve Resolution #310 – Board of Education Policy Manual File 2210 – Committees of the Board

Ayes all

Resolution #311 - Payment In Lieu Of Taxes

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District hereby approves the proposed Payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreement to be entered into between the District and Bloomfield Solar, LLC, with respect to the solar energy system to be built and operated at 428 Mann Road, Ballston Spa, New York (Tax Map No. 215.-1-48.11), and hereby authorizes the Superintendent to execute same on behalf of the District.

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Mr. Dreher that the Board of Education approve Resolution #311 – Payment In Lieu Of Taxes

Ayes all

Resolution #312 - Acceptance of Donations

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the Hannaford Helps donations for the Milton Terrace Elementary School, in the amount of \$404.04 and the Wood Road Elementary School, in the amount of \$404.04 be and are hereby accepted.

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Mr. Dreher that the Board of Education approve Resolution #312 – Acceptance of Donations

Discussion

Mr. Fernau thanked Hannaford Helps for the donations.

Ayes all

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Resolution #313 - Agreement – Professional Services

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the agreement between Upstate Applied Behavior Analysis Services, PLLC and the District, to provide support and/or related services for certain students with disabilities, January 1 – June 30, 2025, be and is hereby approved.

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Mr. Dreher that the Board of Education approve Resolution #313 – Agreement – Professional Services

Ayes all

Resolution #314 - Agreement – Inter-Municipal

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, hereby approves the agreement between the Village of Ballston Spa and the District, be and is hereby approved.

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Mr. Dreher that the Board of Education approve Resolution #314 – Agreement Inter-Municipal

Discussion

Mr. Fernau stated this agreement pertains to the ice-skating rink at the BARC field.

Ayes all

Resolution #315 - Award of Bid

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, to award the bid for Portable Radio equipment for the 2024-2025 school year to the following vendor, be and is hereby approved:

Vendor

A1 Communications System  
103 North Clinton Street  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Mr. Dreher that the Board of Education approve Resolution #315 – Award of Bid

Ayes all

Resolution #316 - Placement of Students with Disabilities

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the said Board arrange placement of the following students as recommended by the District Committee on Special Education, effective December 18, 2024 be and are hereby approved:

Student #271562  
Student #279181

Student #275694  
Student #278231

Student #273883  
Student #277836

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|                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Student #276180 | Student #24536  | Student #280478 |
| Student #280052 | Student #278717 | Student #272870 |
| Student #279248 | Student #280041 | Student #280774 |
| Student #278943 | Student #272098 | Student #272229 |
| Student #277616 | Student #272548 | Student #279123 |
| Student #278265 | Student #278601 | Student #280379 |
| Student #280380 | Student #279636 | Student #277999 |
| Student #279751 | Student #280709 | Student #275559 |
| Student #279527 | Student #272976 | Student #280683 |
| Student #279703 | Student #277822 | Student #276057 |
| Student #273520 | Student #276492 | Student #279043 |
| Student #276520 | Student #275951 | Student #280205 |
| Student #275929 | Student #275714 |                 |

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Mr. Dreher that the Board of Education approve Resolution #316 – Placement of Students with Disabilities

Ayes all

Resolution #317 - Placement of Preschool Students with Disabilities

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the said Board arrange placement of the following students as recommended by the District Committee on Preschool Special Education, effective December 18, 2024 be and are hereby approved:

|                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Student #280761 | Student #278095 | Student #280409 |
| Student #280317 | Student #279476 | Student #280757 |
| Student #280758 | Student #280264 | Student #280733 |

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Mr. Dreher that the Board of Education approve Resolution #317 – Placement of Preschool Students with Disabilities

Ayes all

**Resolutions #318 - #334 are recognized as a consent agenda for the purpose of Board of Education action.**

Resolution #318 - Memorandum of Agreement Ballston Spa Association of Teaching Assistants

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the Memorandum of Agreement between the Ballston Spa Central School District and the Ballston Spa Association of Teaching Assistants, dated December 18, 2024, be and is hereby approved.

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Resolution #319 - Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the resignation for the purpose of retirement of the employee(s) listed below, with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved.

| <u>Name</u>          | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effective Date</u> |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Mary Ann Burek-Jones | Bus Driver      | 12/06/24              |

Resolution #320 - Resignation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of the employee(s) listed below, with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

| <u>Name</u>     | <u>Position</u>           | <u>Effective Date</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Eileen Gilbert  | Cleaner                   | 12/21/24              |
| Kristie Jones   | Special Education Aide    | 11/25/24              |
| Brittany Leece  | Special Education Teacher | 12/31/24              |
| Angela Lockwood | Special Education Aide    | 12/09/24              |

Resolution #321 - Rescission of Appointment

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the appointment of Sarah Herrick-Kaiser and Tessa McGinness, previously approved by the Board at their meeting held December 4, 2024, in Resolution #302, is hereby rescinded, be and is hereby approved.

Resolution #322 - Rescission of Appointment

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the appointment of Sandra Chamoun, previously approved by the Board at their meeting held November 20, 2024, in Resolution #286, is hereby rescinded, be and is hereby approved.

Resolution #323 - Amendment – Resignation

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following resignation previously approved on November 6, 2024 in Resolution #254 of the employee(s) listed below, be amended with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved.

| <u>Name</u>  | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effective Date</u> |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Wayne Culora | Bus Driver      | 12/19/24              |

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Resolution #324 - Appointment – Teaching Assistant

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to position(s) indicated below, with salary and effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

| <u>Name</u>       | <u>Tenure Area</u>    | <u>Certification Status</u>       | <u>Salary/Step</u>                    | <u>Effective Dates</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Branden Rasmussen | Teaching<br>Assistant | NYS Teaching<br>Assistant Level 1 | \$23,329/yr.<br>Step 1<br>(pro-rated) | 12/19/24-12/18/28      |

Resolution #325 - Permanent Appointment

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be granted permanent appointment to the position(s) indicated below with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

| <u>Name</u>  | <u>Position</u>        | <u>Effective Date</u> |
|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Ashley Nisen | Special Education Aide | 12/18/24              |

Resolution #326 - Appointment – Support Services

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be granted appointment to the probationary position(s) indicated below, with hours, rate and effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

| <u>Name</u>      | <u>Position</u> | <u>Max. Hrs./Wk.</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>Effective Dates</u> |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Krystel Brumagin | Bus Driver      | 25                   | \$25.52/hr. | 12/11/24-12/10/25      |
| Desiree Emerson  | Bus Driver      | 25                   | \$25.52/hr. | 12/20/24-12/19/25      |
| Byron Turner     | Bus Driver      | 25                   | \$25.52/hr. | 12/11/24-12/10/25      |

Resolution #327 - Appointment – Support Services

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the position(s) indicated below for the 2024-2025 school year, with hours and rate shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

| <u>Name</u>          | <u>Position</u>       | <u>Max Hrs./Wk.</u> | <u>Rate</u> |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Anastasia Brooks     | Substitute Cleaner    | 40                  | \$19.74/hr. |
| Mary Ann Burek-Jones | Substitute Bus Driver | 30                  | \$24.75/hr. |
| Madelyn DelGuercio   | Student Lifeguard     | 30                  | \$16.75/hr. |
| Desiree Emerson      | Substitute Bus Driver | 30                  | \$24.75/hr. |
| Mark Fitch           | Substitute Bus Driver | 30                  | \$24.75/hr. |
| James Hahn           | Driver In Training    | 40                  | \$22.00/hr. |

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Resolution #328 - Appointment – Increase in Hours – Support Services

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be granted an increase in hours to the position(s) indicated below with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

| <u>Name</u>       | <u>Position</u> | <u>Max Hrs./Wk.</u> | <u>Effective Date</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Jennifer Bailey   | Bus Driver      | 28.75               | 12/13/24              |
| William Breheny   | Bus Driver      | 31.25               | 12/13/24              |
| Thomas Cleland II | Bus Driver      | 28.75               | 12/13/24              |
| Dawn McGraw       | Bus Driver      | 30                  | 12/05/24              |
| Krystina Minett   | Bus Attendant   | 28.75               | 12/05/24              |

Resolution #329 - Appointment – Adult Education Instructors

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the following person(s) be appointed as Adult Education Instructor(s) with effective date(s) shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

| <u>Instructor Name</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>Effective Date</u> |
|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Jess Curiale           | \$25.31/hr. | 1/08/25-4/02/25       |
| Andrea Figueroa        | \$25.31/hr. | 1/08/25-5/14/25       |
| Sarah Kinney           | \$25.31/hr. | 1/07/25-5/15/25       |
| Vincent Rodriguez      | \$25.31/hr. | 1/07/25-4/01/25       |

Resolution #330 - Appointment – Co-Curricular Clubs and Activities

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the advisor position(s) to the following clubs and activities for the 2024-2025 school year, with stipend shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

| <u>Name</u>          | <u>Title, Location</u>                           | <u>Stipend</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Brian Bailey         | Troupe Drama Club (spring) Co-Tech Director, HS  | \$1,060.50     |
| Brannigan Bryant     | Intramurals (spring), GC                         | \$654          |
| Brannigan Bryant     | Intramurals (spring), MA                         | \$654          |
| Laura Chamberlain    | Troupe Drama Club (spring) Music Co-Director, HS | \$1,060.50     |
| Anne Cornell         | Intramurals (spring), MS                         | \$654          |
| Angelo D'Annibale    | Intramurals (spring), GC                         | \$654          |
| Peter DiStefano      | Intramurals (spring), MT                         | \$654          |
| Brad Fersch          | Intramurals (spring), WR                         | \$654          |
| Brad Fersch          | Intramurals (Archery), WR                        | \$654          |
| Michael Gatzendorfer | Troupe Drama Club (spring) Producer, HS          | \$2,121        |
| Matthew Germann      | Intramurals (spring), MS                         | \$654          |
| Patrick Greveling    | Intramurals (spring), MT                         | \$654          |
| Paul Gronau          | Intramurals (spring), WR                         | \$654          |
| Paul Gronau          | Intramurals (Archery), WR                        | \$654          |
| Sarah Kinney         | Troupe Drama Club (spring) Choreographer, HS     | \$978          |
| Stacie Livingston    | Troupe Drama Club (spring) Co-Tech Director, HS  | \$1,060.50     |
| Matthew Lopez        | Troupe Drama Club (spring) Director, HS          | \$2,121        |
| Marlene Michels      | Unified Basketball (intramurals), HS             | \$654          |

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|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Kelly Morgan       | Intramurals (spring), WR                         | \$654      |
| Kristin O'Connor   | Intramurals (spring), WR                         | \$654      |
| Carolyn Peck       | Intramurals (spring), MS                         | \$654      |
| Brian Retersdorf   | Troupe Drama Club (spring) Music Co-Director, HS | \$1,060.50 |
| Melinda Whisenhunt | Intramurals (spring), MS                         | \$654      |
| Tyler Williamson   | Intramurals (spring), MA                         | \$654      |

Resolution #331 - Appointment – Clubs and Activities Volunteer

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the advisor position(s) to the following clubs and activities for the 2024-2025 school year, with stipend shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

|             |                              |                |
|-------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| <u>Name</u> | <u>Title, Location</u>       | <u>Stipend</u> |
| Dawn Nolan  | Launching Pad Drama Club, MS | n/a            |

Resolution #332 - Appointment – Extra Duties

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the position(s) indicated below for the 2024-2025 school year, with rate shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

|                    |                                  |             |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| <u>Name</u>        | <u>Title, Location</u>           | <u>Rate</u> |
| Stephanie Gellatly | Aquatic Facilitator (spring), HS | \$2,207     |

Resolution #333 - Appointment - Interscholastic Sports Coaches

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the coaching position(s) indicated below for the 2024-2025 school year, with stipend shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

|                      |                                    |                |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| <u>Name</u>          | <u>Title</u>                       | <u>Stipend</u> |
| Jeffrey Armer        | Junior Varsity Boys Lacrosse       | \$4,950        |
| Gerald Costello      | Freshman Baseball                  | \$4,400        |
| TaraMarie Crisafulli | Varsity Track                      | \$6,050        |
| Thomas Dufort        | Varsity Assistant Baseball         | \$5,500        |
| Benjamin Eldridge    | Unified Basketball                 | \$3,850        |
| Amanda Fifield       | Varsity Softball                   | \$6,050        |
| Patricia Fitzgerald  | Modified Track                     | \$3,850        |
| Matthew Germann      | Varsity Assistant Track            | \$5,500        |
| Jennifer Haughey     | Junior Varsity Softball            | \$4,950        |
| Robert Immel         | Modified Track                     | \$3,850        |
| Christopher McNulty  | Modified Boys Lacrosse             | \$3,850        |
| Emily Micheller      | Varsity Girls Lacrosse             | \$6,050        |
| David Morse          | Varsity Boys Tennis                | \$6,050        |
| Timothy Moseman      | Varsity Assistant Track            | \$5,500        |
| Jessica Nevins       | Modified Softball                  | \$3,850        |
| Curtis Nobles        | Varsity Baseball                   | \$6,050        |
| Donald Nowc          | Strength and Conditioning (spring) | \$4,400        |
| Jason Ohnsman        | Varsity Assistant Boys Lacrosse    | \$5,500        |

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|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Tia Pelneau         | Varsity Assistant Girls Lacrosse | \$5,500 |
| Christopher Perrone | Modified 9 Softball              | \$3,850 |
| Theresa Rousseau    | Varsity Assistant Track          | \$5,500 |
| Lucas Snow          | Varsity Boys Lacrosse            | \$6,050 |
| Theodore Snyder     | Modified Track                   | \$3,850 |
| Lawrence Youngblood | Varsity Assistant Softball Coach | \$5,500 |

Resolution #334 - Appointment Interscholastic Sports Coach Volunteers

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person(s) be appointed to the coaching position(s) indicated below for the 2024-2025 school year, with stipend shown, be and is (are) hereby approved:

| <u>Name</u>      | <u>Title</u>  | <u>Stipend</u> |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Nicholas Brennan | Baseball      | n/a            |
| Kevin Dayton     | Boys Lacrosse | n/a            |
| Lauren Kersch    | Softball      | n/a            |
| Sean Ohnsman     | Boys Lacrosse | n/a            |
| Garry Preece     | Outdoor Track | n/a            |
| Derrick Raeder   | Boys Lacrosse | n/a            |
| Peter Vadney     | Boys Lacrosse | n/a            |

Ayes all

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Dr. Julia Routbort Baskin that the Board of Education approve Resolutions #318-334

Ayes all

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

None

**BSATA, BSTA, CSEA, and PTA**

Mr. Fernau shared PTA and PTSA news, past and upcoming events. He shared news on the Global Foundries grant money awarded to the Milton Terrace PTA for Super Science Saturday on March 1, 2025.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sean Ryan, a representative for a new solar project spoke and asked for a copy of the PILOT agreement for the Solar Farm.

Mr. Fernau stated the next meeting will be on January 8, 2025.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY Ms. Flynn-Barker, seconded by Dr. Routbort Baskin that the Board of Education adjourn to executive session to discuss the employment of a particular person and ongoing litigation at 7:51 p.m. not to return to the regular meeting.

Ayes all

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Sirianni  
Clerk of the Board