

DRAFT

**Lansingburgh Central School District
Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, December 16, 2024
District Office – Board Conference Room**

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Andrea Fairhurst at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board of Education Members, Catherine Curtis, Michael Cusack, Andrea Fairhurst, Jillian Manupella, Daniella Richards, Jason Shover, Jessica Vartigian, and Thomas Zakrzewski were present. Talia Pallozzi was absent from the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Others present include Lindsey Gibson (on behalf of the LTA), Donny Miller, Linda Klime, Rebecca McGrouty, Dr. Antonio Abitabile and Christina Williams. There were no others present.

Ms. Fairhurst read the District’s Mission Statement:

MISSION

Our mission at the Lansingburgh Central School District is to create for all students a productive, challenging and safe educational environment. Our students will acquire civic values and learning skills and strategies through a dynamic partnership between the schools and community. These experiences will inspire a lifetime of learning and self-sufficiency.

Motion by Mr. Shover:

**RESO #1-12/16/2024
Approve Meeting
Agenda**

RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the meeting agenda for December 16, 2024.

Second: Ms. Richards

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Mr. Shover spoke on behalf of the Audit Committee. They met this evening with Heather Lewis of MMB & Co. to review the Special Area Testing Report and the Risk Assessment Report. The committee suggested facilities use as an area for auditing at the end of this school year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no other committee meetings held this evening.

DRAFT

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts the committee reports for December 16, 2024.

**RESO #2-12/16/2024
Accept Committee Reports**

Second: Ms. Richards

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion by Ms. Richards:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves the Treasurer’s Report, Budget Transfers and Monthly Financial Report submitted by the Audit Committee.

**RESO #3-12/16/2024
Approve Financial Reports**

Second: Mr. Zakrzewski

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Cusack:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 25, 2024 and the minutes of the special meeting held on December 9, 2024.

**RESO #4-12/16/2024
Approve Minutes**

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

PERSONNEL – CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the following resignations:

**RESO #5-12/16/2024
Accept Resignations**

Name	Position	Building	Action	Effective Date
Allison Jaillet	Science Teacher	KMS	Resignation	January 24, 2025
Abigail Belter	Teaching Assistant	TES	Resignation	January 6, 2025

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

DRAFT

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

**RESO #6-12/16/2024
Appoint Staff**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints the following instructional staff:

Name	Position	Building	Tenure Area	Appointment Type	Term	Salary Step
Jaydon Morales	Substitute Teacher	District	N/A	Temporary	12/2/24 - 6/30/25	\$125 daily uncertified sub rate
Silva Marquez	Teaching Assistant	KMS	Teaching Assistant	Probationary	12/9/24 - 12/8/28	Step 10 - \$25.78
Katlin Norton	Teaching Assistant	RPES	Teaching Assistant	Probationary	12/9/24 - 12/8/28	Step 8 - \$23.81
Lauren Whalen	Teaching Assistant	RPES	Teaching Assistant	Probationary	12/9/24 - 12/8/28	Step 7 - \$22.92
Michelle Kenyon	Long Term Substitute Teacher	KMS	N/A	Temporary	1/6/25 - 6/30/25	\$255.86/day

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

**RESO #7-12/16/2024
Approve Salary
Adjustments**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves a salary adjustment for the following staff:

Staff Member	Reason	Amount	Effective Date
Catherine Stockton	National Board Certification	\$5,000	12/20/2024
Gretchen Murphy	National Board Certification	\$5,000	12/20/2024

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

**RESO #8-12/16/2024
Approve Additional
Assignments**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the following additional assignments:

Name	Position / Purpose	Building	Appointment Type	Term	Compensation
Chris Corr	Varsity Girls Wrestling - Head Coach	KMS/LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Contractual Stipend
Dan Bechand	Varsity Boys Wrestling - Assistant Coach	KMS/LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Contractual Stipend

DRAFT

Ryan Davis	Junior Varsity Baseball - Head Coach	KMS/LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Contractual Stipend
Spencer McClellan	Varsity Boys Bowling - Volunteer Assistant Coach	KMS/LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Volunteer
Spencer McClellan	Varsity Girls Bowling - Volunteer Assistant Coach	KMS/LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Volunteer
Edward Classen	Morning Gym	KMS/LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30 Per Hour
Mary Legnard	PT Service Provider (for student awaiting placement)	TES	Temporary	10/01/2024 - TBD	\$30 Per Hour
Heather Ladd	Tutor (for student awaiting placement)	TES	Temporary	10/01/2024 - TBD	\$30 Per Hour
Trista Bugbee	Tutor (for student awaiting placement)	TES	Temporary	12/09/2024 - 12/20/2024	\$30 Per Hour
Diane Murray	Teaching Assistant	KMS/LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Hourly - 21st Century Grant

Motion Carried Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

PERSONNEL – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #9-12/16/2024
Appoint Staff

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints the following non-instructional staff:

Name	Position	Building	Appointment Type	Term	Salary Step	Effective Date
Niko Dinardo	Noon Aide	RPES	Annual	Temporary	\$17.04 Per Hour	12/2/2024

Motion Carried Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #10-12/16/2024
Accept Donations

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the following donations:

DRAFT

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #15-12/16/2024
Authorize Disposal of Asset

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board authorizes disposal of the following asset:

Tag # 212385, Motorola 6550 Radio, RPES Nurse Office

Second: Ms. Richards

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Shover:

RESO #16-12/16/2024
Approve First Reading of Policies

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the first reading of the following revised policies:

- 0120 – Formal Title IX Complaint Procedure
- 1130 – School District Records
- 8130 – School Safety Plans and Teams

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

TES Report by Mrs. Wysocki – See pages 8-10.

RPES Report by Mr. Lopez – See pages 11-12.

KMS Report by Ms. Phelan – See pages 13-14.

LHS Report by Mr. Van Dervoort – See pages 15-16.

Principal's Reports

By Dr. Abitabile:

Superintendent Report

- Our bi-annual health and safety drill is being conducted this week with the administration. Craig Hansen from Questar III BOCES will be assisting us with this table-top exercise.
- Governor Kathy Hochul today signed legislation to require that all school districts develop plans to mitigate extreme heat in classrooms. The law establishes 88 degrees as the maximum temperature in classrooms and support services spaces. It requires a plan for the removal of students and staff from these spaces where it is practical for the school district to do so. It also creates a definition of extreme heat condition days as well as a standard to measure room temperature. In addition to the above, school districts will be required to take action to relieve heat related discomfort when classroom temperatures reach 82 degrees. Such actions can include turning off overhead lights, pulling down shades or blinds, turning on fans, opening classroom doors and windows, turning off electronics, and providing water breaks.¹

¹ <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/keeping-kids-safe-governor-hochul-signs-legislation-protect-students-and-teachers-extreme-heat>

DRAFT

Motion by Mr. Cusack:

RESO #17-12/16/2024
Executive Session

Be it resolved that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session at 6:18 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation.

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

Motion by Ms. Richards:

RESO #18-12/16/2024
Adjourn

Be it resolved this meeting of the Board of Education hereby adjourns at 7:50 p.m.

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Manupella

Ayes – 8 Nays – 0

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Williams
Clerk to the Board of Education

DRAFT

TURNPIKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Turnpike Attendance		
Grade	December	YTD, 2024-2025
UPK	88.6%	91.3%
K	86.5%	90%
1	89.4%	90.5%
2	90.7%	92%
TES	88.8%	91%

District Goal	
SEL & TSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character Education Subcommittee: The character trait for November is Generosity. A "Take What You Need, Give What You Can" wall was created at the front entrance, allowing students and staff to take or contribute notes. Teachers received resources to support discussions and activities focused on generosity. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Subcommittee: Students are learning about Hanukkah and Kwanzaa this month. Teachers were provided with resources, including books, videos, and activities, to help teach about these holidays. Building Beautification Subcommittee: In collaboration with the DEI Subcommittee, plans are underway to add a Welcome Sign in multiple languages and display flags from different countries in the front vestibule to make all families feel welcome as they enter the building. Positive Behavior Intervention Supports Subcommittee: We continue to celebrate classes and students who follow our Bee Expectations. Teachers are encouraged to re-teach the expectations after the holiday break, with resources provided to support this effort.

DRAFT

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restorative Practices Subcommittee: Justin Simon is expanding his restorative work, offering office hours at Turnpike and starting to push into more classrooms. He is also implementing Attendance Circles for chronically absent first and second graders. The subcommittee is also sending out monthly tips to assist teachers in incorporating restorative practices in their classrooms.
<p>Family & Community Engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets Through a meaningful partnership with Transfiguration Parish and the YMCA, Turnpike provided 24 full Thanksgiving dinner baskets to families in need, benefiting not only Turnpike students but also families across the district. • December Initiatives: Generosity in Action This month, Turnpike is spotlighting the character trait of <i>generosity</i>. We are hosting a schoolwide food drive to support KMS/LHS Christmas Dinners. Each grade level is invited to contribute specific items, fostering a spirit of giving and community support. • Turnpike Holiday Shoppe The beloved Turnpike 'Holiday Shoppe' has returned! This initiative offers families an opportunity to choose toys, wrapping paper, tags, and bows for their children, ensuring that every student experiences the joy of the holiday season. This could not be done without the support of Jeff Pasinella and the Lansingburgh Football Team. • Holiday Sponsorships Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community partners, Turnpike is sponsoring 16 families for the holidays this year. We are deeply grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tameka Blair, Focus Master Fitness, Trinity Episcopal Church, The Bretons, Momentive, Pleasantdale Church, Ragone Incorporated, Sue Weiss & Friends, Cross Fit for The People NY, The Dolans & District Office Staff. • These collaborative efforts highlight Turnpike’s commitment to strengthening family and community ties, ensuring that every family feels supported during the holiday season.
<p>Data Collection and Implementation to Drive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We recently dedicated a full day to conducting comprehensive Instructional Support Team (IST) meetings to review student progress and evaluate the effectiveness of our tiered interventions. This focused

DRAFT

Curriculum and Instruction	<p>day allowed our team—comprising educators, specialists, and support staff—to thoroughly analyze student data, assess ongoing academic performance, and identify any emerging challenges. By taking this dedicated time, we were able to review each student's progress in detail, ensuring that the interventions in place are appropriately aligned with their individual needs. Using a tiered intervention model, we adjusted support strategies, ensuring that students receive the right level of assistance—ranging from general classroom strategies to more targeted, intensive interventions. This effort is part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring that all students have the resources and support needed to succeed academically, socially, and emotionally.</p>
----------------------------	---

DRAFT

RENSELAER PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Attendance

Grade	December, 2024	YTD, 2024-25
3rd	88.46%	91.4%
4th	87.34%	91.8%
5th	90.0%	92.0%
RPES	88.6%	91.7%

District Goal	
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The RPES Attendance Committee continues to meet on a regular basis to discuss students' attendance and tardiness, the effectiveness of any interventions that have been put into place to improve a student's attendance, and to brainstorm new strategies to implement.• As part of this week's parent/teacher conferences, teachers were asked to share with appropriate parents any concerns that they may have regarding a student's attendance and the impact on their learning. It is hoped that this aspect of the conference will encourage parents to be more diligent in sending their child to school in a more timely and consistent manner.• The decreases in the attendance of students in December are due to the increased instances of illness that occur with the start of the cold weather months.
SEL & TSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The SEL and TSS team have been unusually active in responding to the needs of students and their families during the holiday seasons. The support or interventions have been directed by input received from the faculty regarding any singular needs identified for students or families.• The character trait for December has been Self-Control. Faculty has discussed the trait with their students. This trait was reinforced at the assembly with student volunteers sharing examples of how they have utilized self-control in their lives. Students who have effectively demonstrated self-control were recognized by faculty with Golden Knight certificates.

DRAFT

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• REACH tickets continue to be distributed to students and faculty who have been identified by individuals for behaviors supportive of the goals of RPES.
Family & Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The RPES PTA held a Pizza Movie Night on 12/4 for the students and their families. In addition to the short movie holiday that was shown, refreshments and holiday crafts were available. The event was well attended by families and an impressive number of faculty members were in attendance to provide assistance.• With contributions from the RPES Faculty and Staff as well as local community resources over 1,400 toys have been donated and collected. Parents who find themselves in a challenging financial position have been invited to the school to select toys and games to serve as holiday gifts for their children• To recognize and support the multicultural aspect of our school, inside the Main Entrance to the school there are three displays that illustrate how the holidays are celebrated by those who celebrate Kwanzaa, Hanukkah or Christmas.
Data Collection and Implementation to Drive Curriculum and Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular data discussions are occurring between classroom teachers, special education teachers, AIS teachers and administration.• Faculty continues to work on collecting student data for the purpose of analyzing and responding to the students' achievement, attendance and behaviors.• The MTSS Data Team continue to focus and drive their recommendations based upon the student data and conclusions arrived at by teachers.

DRAFT

KNICKERBACKER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Building Goal	Action/Initiatives
Curriculum and Instruction	<p>ELA- Our professional developer for English Language Arts was here this week working with the Grade 8 teachers on planning and argumentative writing pieces. She also worked with English Language Arts teachers on increasing the pacing and rigor in their classrooms.</p> <p>Math- Math labs have been focusing on real life mathematical skills. For example, grade 6 math lab has students learning about debt. The student centered activity will encourage active inquiry, critical thinking as well as problem solving.</p> <p>Science- 6, 7 and 8th grade teachers have been working to create all unit assessments in Pear Assessment. Using this platform allows students to see assessments that are similar to the new 8th grade NYS science assessment. This will allow us to collect data and determine areas of need, whether it be content wise or technology assistance students may need.</p>
Data Collection	<p>The focus on data collection this month is to continue to use exit tickets to track progress, inform instruction and identify misconceptions. This for of assessment implements both short answer responses as well as student feedback.</p>
SEL/School Climate	<p>Student reset meetings were held after Thanksgiving Break. These meetings focused on the significance of being prepared, time management, character education and growth mindset.</p>
Chronic Absenteeism	<p>YTD</p> <p>6-89%</p> <p>7-93%</p> <p>8-90%</p> <p>Overall-90%</p> <p>In December there was a building wide push for attendance and to reach out to families of students who may have shown a decrease in attendance</p>

DRAFT

	<p>patterns. Students continue to be encouraged to be in school so that they can attend various extracurriculars including sports, drama club and 21st Century classes.</p>
Parent Engagement and Community Engagement	<p>The KMS Holiday Food Drive is underway. We will be delivering to families next week.</p> <p>Teams have spent the month of December holding parent conferences for students who have academic concerns. The meetings allow core teachers to partner with parents/guardians to work together to be sure students are receiving proper academic support to help them be successful for the remainder of the school year.</p>
21st Century Program	<p>21st Century continues to serve several middle school students as they engage in various classes and activities. The resilience cafe run by Mrs. Pelkey has become very popular with our middle school students.</p>

KMS Drama Club performed Merry Christmas Charlie Brown the first weekend of December. It was a hit and brought back a lot of 1980's cartoon classic nostalgia. The Drama Club performed play previews on Friday, December 6th for the middle and elementary buildings.

The Breton Family donated funds for two students from each team to receive any coats, clothing or items they may need as the cold weather approaches. Katie Secore organized this for all of the teams and students.

DRAFT

LANSINGBURGH HIGH SCHOOL

Attendance

Since last BOE meeting

9-84%

10- 82%

11-86%

12-83%

YTD-87%

*elementary half day dropped all high school grade levels down for since last BOE meeting (high school attendance on 12/13 was 76%)

PD

All departments continue working with PD developers and are aligning curriculum maps and all assignments in them to Next Gen Standards, as well as preparing the students for new Regents Exams.

ELA (Grade 11) will work with Questar to develop units of study and lessons that are aligned with the Next Gen Standards. Heavy focus continues to be on writing and vocabulary. The next date they meet is 2/5 and they will look at midterm data

New ELA regents June 2026

ALL 11th graders are taking the ELA Regents in January.

Math - Geo and Algebra II will work with Questar - Next Gen Standards - they will tweak assignments and units to drive instruction for the 24-25 school year and going forward.

GEO Regents June 2025

Science - Working with Liz Mirra on new science standards - new exams and investigations. Primary focus is BIO and Earth and Space Sciences.

Bio and Earth will be new this June.

Chemistry and Physics will work with Liz Mirra next year to begin the roll out for those new exams and standards.

DATA: Each department has used June 2024 regents data to track standards using specific assessments such as exit tickets, warm ups, benchmarks, etc. to show growth quarterly. They are using trackers to show growth with their assessments for the chosen standards.

DRAFT

SEL

Rebekah Magin - Began M-Power Program (10 week) with 9 graders in October. They will finish up this week

10th graders will do a six week program beginning in January and 12th graders will do 4 sessions throughout the year (seminar style).

Cell Phone Policy

Teachers are working hard to continue to implement the cell phone policy with students.