

Ballston Spa Central School District

Board of Education

Regular Meeting February 5, 2025

Location: High School Library

Time: 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Holly Barker-Flynn
Matthew Dreher - Absent
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.

RECOGNITION

Dr. Duca recognized Launching Pad, and Mr. Shaver.

Joe Shaver introduced some of the members and announced the dates and times for the Middle School's Launching Pad production of Beetle Juice, JR.

Students shared their feelings about being a part of Launching Pad.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY, Holly Barker-Flynn seconded by Dr. Julia Routbort Baskin that the Board of Education approve the January 22, 2025 regular meeting minutes.

Abstained - Lawrence Ryan – was not at the last meeting
All others – Aye

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student Government announced that they will be attending the Suburban Leadership Conference at Proctors Theater in Schenectady, NY. The results of the "Speak Out" had been discussed with administration. An upcoming fund-raising opportunity was announced. Dr. Duca was thanked in advance for calling a snow day tomorrow.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Brian Sirianni gave a presentation of the upcoming 2025-26 budget. He shared the Governor’s State Aid proposal, and the 2% Foundation Aid increase of \$521,567. He shared graphs of the District’s State Aid and the Consumer Price Index vs Tax Cap Growth Factor from 2012 through 2025. He also discussed the District Tap Cap vs the Actual Levy from 2017 through 2025.

Mr. Sirianni shared the Tax Base Growth Factor figures, and explained the concept. He shared the Global PILOT Assessment Schedule from 2019 through 2029, and explained the process and upcoming possibilities and challenges. He discussed each of the functional areas of debt service and how these items impact the budget. He shared the impact of interest rates and student transportation on the District.

Mr. Sirianni announced that the next meeting, on March 5th, will have an additional expense review and revenue updates.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Lawrence Ryan reported the Audit Committee had met with the internal auditor. He announced that there were no issues with annual risk assessment. He explained that the internal audit focus chosen this year is payroll function. He stated the Committee had reviewed the monthly financial report.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dr. Duca reported 6 correspondences with the District and shared the topics of each.

Mr. Fernau reported there had been 3 correspondences to the Board since the last meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kelly Delaney-Elliott announced dates and times for upcoming events, and reminded everyone there would be no school February 17th through the 21st.

Ms. Delaney-Elliott stated the next Board Meeting would be held on March 5th.

Mr. Ryan shared the upcoming BACC events, and stated the information was also available on the BACC website.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Fernau discussed an article in the NYSSBA newsletter regarding a new requirement to include student board members.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #369 - Readoption 2024-2025 Board of Education Meeting Schedule

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the Board of Education meeting schedule for the 2024-2025 school year be modified and readopted, be and is hereby approved.

MOTION BY Holly Barker-Flynn, seconded by Dr. Julia Routbort Baskin that the Board of Education approve Resolution #369

Discussion

Mr. Sirianni explained the need to change the Board Meeting Schedule.

Mr. Fernau reiterated Brian's explanation and explained the BOCES vote timeframe.

Ayes all

Resolution #370 - Field Trip- Music Department

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, to grant permission for the Music Department to travel to Philadelphia and Hershey, PA, April 11-12, 2025, be and is hereby granted.

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Dr. Routbort Baskin that the Board of Education approve Resolution #337 – Field Trip – Music Department

Ayes all

Resolution #371 - Field Trip- Indoor Track

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, to grant permission for the Indoor Track team to travel to Staten Island, NY March 7-8, 2025, be and is hereby granted.

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Dr. Routbort Baskin that the Board of Education approve Resolution #338 – Field Trip - Indoor Track

Ayes all

Resolution #372 - Agreement – Professional Services

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the agreement between Saratoga Hospital and the District, to provide Occupational Medicine Services, for the 2024-2025 school year, be and is hereby approved.

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MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Dr. Routbort Baskin that the Board of Education approve Resolution #339 – Agreement – Professional Services

Ayes all

Resolution #373 - Universal Prekindergarten Providers

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District, that the Universal Prekindergarten RFP responses have been reviewed and accepted from the following organizations, starting with 2025-2026 school year:

Advanced Therapy 71 Rowland Street Ballston Spa, NY 12020	Ballston Area Community Center 20 Malta Avenue Ballston Spa, NY 12020	Childtime Learning Center 3459R Galway Road Ballston Spa, NY 12020
Childtime Learning Center 2381 Route 9 Bldg. 5 Mechanicville, NY 12118	Jumper Bean Daycare & Preschool 441 Geyser Road Ballston Spa, NY 12020	LifeWorks Community Action Head Start PO Box 169 Ballston Spa, NY 12020
Little Achievers Child Care and Learning Center 2443 State Route 9 Suite 101 Malta, NY 12020		

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Dr. Routbort Baskin that the Board of Education approve Resolution #340 – Universal Prekindergarten Providers

Discussion

Dr. Routbort Baskin asked if this would result in more Pre-K student spots. Dr. Duca responded there would be 65 additional spots.

Mr. Fernau explained that this allows to have more spots for those in the community. He thanked the new and the old providers.

Ayes all

Resolution #374 - 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 February 5, 2025 be and are hereby approved:

Student #278822
Student #275470

Student #274278
Student #279037

Student #279041
Student #276828

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Student #280348	Student #25277	Student #280478
Student #272129	Student #280053	Student #279687
Student #275984	Student #275998	Student #276087
Student #273731	Student #274956	Student #279068
Student #275023	Student #277724	Student #277733
Student #279541	Student #280068	Student #278896
Student #274643	Student #280184	Student #279638
Student #279636	Student #280831	Student #25526
Student #278434	Student #275523	Student #279703
Student #276070	Student #275306	Student #24497
Student #277073	Student #272402	Student #279314
Student #280142	Student #25981	Student #278146
Student #274065	Student #280627	Student #274509
Student #274941		

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Dr. Routbort Baskin that the Board of Education approve Resolution #341 – Placement of Students with Disabilities

Ayes all

Resolution #375 - 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 February 5, 2025 be and are hereby approved:

Student #278095	Student #280809	Student # 280508
Student #280789	Student #280663	Student #280286

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Dr. Routbort Baskin that the Board of Education approve Resolution #342 – Placement of Preschool Students with Disabilities

Ayes all

Resolutions #376 - #386 are recognized as a consent agenda for the purpose of Board of Education action.

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Resolution #376 - 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>
Christine Laing	Teaching Assistant	6/30/25
Barbara McCune	Special Education Aide	6/28/25
Dawn Nolan	Teaching Assistant	6/28/25
Barbara Prehoda	Teaching Assistant	6/30/25

Resolution #377 - 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>
James Belcastro	Teacher	2/28/25
Darcy Benuscak	School Aide	2/05/25
Racheal Cichy Curry	Teaching Assistant	2/06/25
Linda McDonald	School Aide	1/31/25

Resolution #378 - Termination

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District hereby approves the termination 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>
William Roner	Bus Driver	2/06/25

Resolution #379 - Tenure Appointment

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following persons be awarded tenure, be and are hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tenure Area</u>	<u>Commencement Date</u>
Stephanie Church	Special Education	2/26/25
Karen Piscitelli	Teaching Assistant	4/14/25
Mary Ann Priest	Teaching Assistant	2/11/25

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Resolution #380 - Appointment – Instructional Long-Term Substitute

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

<u>Name / Position</u>	<u>Certification Status</u>	<u>Salary / Step</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Shannon Cocurullo/Teacher	NYS Initial, Childhood Ed 1-6, SWD 1-6	\$57,261/yr. Step 5+53 (pro-rated)	2/10/25-6/30/25

Resolution #381 - 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>
Natalee Stevenson	Teaching Assistant	NYS Teaching Assistant, Level 3	\$33,039/yr. Step 14 (pro-rated)	2/24/25-2/23/29

Resolution #382 - 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>
Deborah Kreis	Special Education Aide	3/07/25
Melissa Lamb	Special Education Aide	2/12/25
Katie Pieniazek	Cleaner	3/07/25
Deane Sherman	Special Education Aide	3/07/25
Brittany Warfield	School Nurse	10/05/24

Resolution #383 - 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>
Leeanne Campion	Special Education Aide	33.75	\$19.81/hr.	2/06/25-2/05/26
Ashlee Testo	School Aide	22.5	\$17.20/hr.	2/06/25-2/05/26
Christy Weiss	Cleaner	40	\$20.35/hr.	2/06/25-2/05/26

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Resolution #384 - Appointment – Support Services

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ballston Spa Central School District that the following person be appointed to the provisional position indicated below, with effective date, hours and rate shown, and hereby approves the agreement, be and is hereby approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Max. Hrs./ Wk.</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Darcy Benuscak	Receptionist	37.5	\$20.66/hr.	2/06/25

Resolution #385 - 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>
Lindsey Kerby	Substitute Bus Attendant	30	\$17.69/hr.
James Prochilo	Driver In Training	40	\$22.00/hr.
Rachel Slade	Substitute Bus Attendant	30	\$17.69/hr.

Resolution #386 - 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>
Emily Baker	Junior Varsity Girls Lacrosse	\$3,402
Lindsay Madigan	Modified Girls Lacrosse	\$2,660

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

None

BSATA, BSTA, CSEA, and PTA

Mr. Fernau shared updates and upcoming PTSA and PTA events. He shared contact information for volunteer and donation opportunities.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Timothy Turbiak, Ballston Spa, urged the board to support students.

Mr. Fernau announced that the next meeting will be on March 5th.

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ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Ms. Barker-Flynn, seconded by Dr. Routbort Baskin that the Board of Education adjourn at 7:58 p.m.

Ayes all

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Sirianni
Clerk of the Board