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**Lansingburgh Central School District
Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Monday, March 24, 2025
Turnpike Elementary School - Cafeteria**

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 Andrea Fairhurst, Jillian Manupella, Daniella Richards, Jason Shover, Jessica Vartigian, and Thomas Zakrzewski were present. Catherine Curtis and Talia Pallozzi were absent from the meeting. Michael Cusack was absent at roll call and arrived at 6:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Others present include Angela Mauriello (on behalf of the LTA), Carrie Phelan, Joseph Lopez, Tiffany Wysocki, 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 Mrs. Manupella:

**RESO #1-03/24/2025
Approve Meeting
Agenda**

RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the meeting agenda for March 24, 2025.

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 6 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Mr. Shover spoke on behalf of the Audit Committee.

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

- We have seen a 25% increase in our electricity bill. We are considering an efficiency audit.
- Next month we will be receiving state aid payments.
- Medicaid reimbursement is still behind.
- Our expenses are in line.

Mr. Cusack arrived at 6:04. The Troy Planning Board Meeting is on Friday so he will report on this next month .

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Motion by Ms. Richards:

The Board of Education hereby accepts the committee reports.

Second: Mrs. Manupella

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

**RESO #2-03/24/2025
Accept Reports**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mrs. Vartigian:

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

Second: Mr. Zakrzewski

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

**RESO #3-03/24/2025
Approve Financial Reports**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Cusack:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 24, 2025, and the Special Meeting held on March 10, 2025.

Second: Ms. Richards

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

**RESO #4-03/24/2025
Approve Minutes**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

PERSONNEL – CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

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

Name	Position	Building	Action	Effective Date
Kiran Chaudry	Teaching Assistant	RPES	Resignation	March 11, 2025
Safiya Obercon	Teaching Assistant	TES	Resignation	March 12, 2025

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

**RESO #5-03/24/2025
Accept Resignations**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

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

**RESO #6-03/24/2025
Appoint Instructional Staff**

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Name	Position	Building	Tenure Area	Appointment Type	Term	Salary Step
Ryan Mahunik	Substitute Teacher (uncertified)	District	N/A	Temporary	SY 2024 - 2025	\$125 daily uncertified sub rate
Connor VanEpps	Substitute Teacher (uncertified)	District	N/A	Temporary	SY 2024 - 2025	\$125 daily uncertified sub rate
Amelia Cassidy	Substitute Teacher (uncertified)	District	N/A	Temporary	SY 2024 - 2025	\$125 daily uncertified sub rate
Olivia Hepp	Substitute Teacher (uncertified)	District	N/A	Temporary	SY 2024 - 2025	\$125 daily uncertified sub rate

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves a Memorandum of Agreement with employee #1740 effective immediately.

RESO #7-03/24/2025
Approve MOA

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves a Memorandum of Agreement with employee #1727 effective immediately.

RESO #8-03/24/2025
Approve MOA

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the March 2025 Inservice Salary Increment Report; and further authorize salary adjustments effective February 1, 2025.

RESO #9-03/24/2025
Approve Salary
Increment Report and
Authorize Salary
Adjustments

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

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PERSONNEL – NON- INSTRUCTIONAL

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #10-03/24/2025

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

**Appoint Non-
Instructional Staff**

Name	Position	Building	Appointment Type	Term	Salary Step	Effective Date
Riley Bulmer	Substitute Nurse (RN)	District	Annual	SY 2024 - 2025	Step 4 - \$33.89	3/6/2025
Ceira (Ace) Varin	Long-term Substitute (Aide)	RPES	Temporary	SY 2024 - 2025	Step 2 - \$19.57/hr.	3/17/2025

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #11-03/24/2025

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

**Approve Additional
Assignments**

Name	Position / Purpose	Building	Appointment Type	Term	Compensation
Nick Foglia	Tutor (for student with medical condition)	LHS	Temporary	03/18/2025 - 05/15/2025	\$30/hr..
Schlane Borthwick	Tutor (for student with medical condition)	LHS	Temporary	03/18/2025 - 05/15/2025	\$30/hr..
Jessica Sisti	SY 2024 - 2025 All County Festivals	KMS/LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Contractual Stipend - \$550 per festival (limit of 2)
Anna Zibro	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through SIG funding
Linda Lockrow	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Hourly rate paid through SIG funding
Emma Closson	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through SIG funding

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Kimberly LaJoy	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through SIG funding
Kennedy Teta	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Hourly rate paid through SIG funding
Rachel Barber	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through SIG funding
Kristen Pasinella	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Hourly rate paid through SIG funding
Colleen Moak	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Hourly rate paid through SIG funding
Kelly Juliano	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through SIG funding
Dave Hamilton	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through SIG funding
Mary Hadock	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through SIG funding
Annette Hopkins	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through SIG funding
Emily O'Brien	Afterschool Bootcamp	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through SIG funding
Debra Tietjen	Sub for Clubs	RPES	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Hourly rate paid through SIG funding
Shaye Gardinier	Afterschool Bootcamp	KMS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through 21st CCLC funding
Cortlandt Tisch	Afterschool Bootcamp	KMS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through 21st CCLC funding
Angela Mauriello	Afterschool Bootcamp	KMS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through 21st CCLC funding
Heather McFarlane	Afterschool Bootcamp	KMS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through 21st CCLC funding

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Megan Washock	Afterschool Bootcamp	KMS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through 21st CCLC funding
Alaina Lange	Afterschool Bootcamp	KMS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid through 21st CCLC funding
Carly Betts	Assistant Coach - Varsity Boys Outdoor Track	LHS/KMS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Contractual Stipend
David Merrill	Senior in Trouble Bootcamp	LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr.
Derek Shuttleworth	Senior in Trouble Bootcamp	LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr.
Nicholas Foglia	Senior in Trouble Bootcamp	LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr.
Dorianne Usher	Senior in Trouble Bootcamp	LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr.
Dana Mahoney	Senior in Trouble Bootcamp (substitute as needed)	LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr.
Schlane Borthwick	Senior in Trouble Bootcamp (substitute as needed)	LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr.
John Pelletier	Senior in Trouble Bootcamp (substitute as needed)	LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Hourly rate
Brendan Hughes	Up to 30 extra hours for accompanying SpEd student to extracurricular events	LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	Hourly rate
David DeMarco	Up to 64 hours of tutoring as ENL Teacher	District	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid from Title III
Isabella Fanning	Up to 64 hours of tutoring as ENL Teacher	District	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid from Title III

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Amanda Balsamo	Up to 64 hours of tutoring as ENL Teacher	District	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid from Title III
Tracy Krom	Up to 64 hours of tutoring as ENL Teacher	District	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr. paid from Title III
Alexandra Nelson	Elementary Summer School Principal	TES	Annual	Summer 2025	\$8,568 (split stipend)
Kelly DeLeon					
Andrew Sheehan	Secondary Summer School Principal	LHS	Annual	Summer 2025	\$8,568 (split stipend)
Erica McGowan					
Gina Fusco	Summer School Substitute Principal	TES / LHS	Annual	Summer 2025	Daily rate
Alaina Lange	21st Century Teacher	KMS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr.
Megan Washock	21st Century Teacher	KMS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$30/hr.
Chris Retell	Track and Field Coach for Special Education Students	KMS/LHS	Annual	2024-2025 School Year	\$2,200 stipend

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #12-03/24/2025
Appoint Election
Inspectors

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints the following Election Inspectors for the School Budget Vote and Board Member Election scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, 2025, with compensation at the daily rate of \$200.00 with an additional \$25.00 for those selected as Chief Inspectors:

Allen Macey, LHS Chief Inspector
Eileen Schmitt
Carol Schongar (partial day)

Mary Munhall, TES Chief Inspector
Barbara Smollin
Beverly Cottrell

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #13-03/24/2025
Approve Election
Inspector Assignment

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the following staff be assigned as Election Inspector for the

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School Budget Vote and Board Member Election scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, 2025, with compensation as follows:

Lynne Dolan (4:30-8:30 pm) with compensation at current hourly rate

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #14-03/24/2025
Approve
Compensation for
Training

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves compensation of \$25 for the purpose of training (date to be determined) for the School Budget Vote and Board Member Election for the following Election Inspectors:

Allan Macey
Mary Munhall

Carol Schongar
Barbara Smollin

Eileen Schmitt
Beverly Cottrell

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #15-03/24/2025
Reappoint Board of
Registration

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board reappoints the following staff members as the Board of Registration for the 2024-2025 school year:

Lynne Dolan
Tammy Fruscio

Darwin Carr
Donna Welcome

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #16-03/24/2025
Accept Donations

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

<u>From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Stewart's Holiday Match Grant	\$1500.00	Dress a Knight

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Ms. Richards

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

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Motion by Mr. Shover:

RESO #17-03/24/2025
Approve Opt-In Agreement

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves the Amendment to the Opt-In Agreement between Buspatrol America, LLC and Lansingburgh Central School District and Rensselaer County to participate in the Rensselaer County, NY School Bus Stop Arm Enforcement Program, to sunset on December 1, 2029; and authorize the Superintendent to sign the Amendment.

Second: Mrs. Manupella

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Shover:

RESO #18-03/24/2025
Accept Single Audit Findings and Approve CAP

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby accepts the Single Audit for Financial Statement Findings (a.k.a. Section II) and Major Federal Program Findings (a.k.a. Section III) conducted by Bonadio & Co., LLC, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and

Be it further resolved that the Board of Education approves the Corrective Action Plan in response to the recommendations from the 2023-2024 Single Audit Report.

Second: Mr. Zakrzewski

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #19-03/24/2025
Approve Change Order FSC-001

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Change Order FSC-001 with a credit of \$1,200.00 for accepting alternate kitchen equipment.

Second: Mrs. Vartigian

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Shover:

RESO #20-03/24/2025
Approve First Reading of Policies

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

- 0111 – Sexual Harassment Grievances Under Title IX
- 0111-E – Sexual Harassment Grievances Under Title IX Exhibit - Definitions
- 1120-R – School District Records Regulation
- 2245 – Ex Officio Student Member of the Board
- 8113 – Extreme Heat Condition Days

Second: Mr. Zakrzewski

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

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TES Report by Ms. Wysocki – See page 12-14.

RPES Report by Mr. Lopez – See page 15-17.

KMS Report by Ms. Phelan – See page 18-19

Principal's Reports

By Mrs. McGrouty:

Assistant Superintendent Report

ELA Curriculum Review:

- Gathered a team and asked them to send a list of non-negotiables.
- Gathered samples online and created template for teachers to track notes.
- Met on 3/14 to review.

By Dr. Abitabile:

Superintendent Report

- Budget: The State Budget has not yet been adopted. We may see a bit more funding, but do not expect much. We do not have another draft for the Board to review.
- Cell Phone Ban: Governor Hochul is still pushing for this. School Districts are hoping for local control. Pouches were shared with the Board Members from Vendor #3. We like these the best so far. They are from the U.K. They are the best in quality and the most affordable at \$20 each.
- NYSED – A Regents Exam exemption was created for students having a life event. The paperwork would flow from the Superintendent to the District Superintendent to the Commissioner, however there is no clear definition of 'life event'.
- The 2024-2025 Calendar was reviewed to determine the emergency closure give backs. The Board of Education would normally approve the calendar change prior to notifying parents, but we want to give back April 11. A notification to students, staff and parents will be sent out indicating the emergency closure give backs are April 11, May 23, May 27 and June 6. The Board will approve the revised calendar at the next meeting.
- The next workshop is scheduled for April 7, 2025 at 6pm in the Board Conference Room at the District Office.
- A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be held on the Softball Field at 4:30 p.m. on April 7, 2025.

Motion by Mrs. Manupella:

RESO #21-03/24/2025 Executive Session

Be it resolved that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session at 6:47 p.m. to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

Second: Mr. Shover

Ayes – 7 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

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Motion by Mr. Shover:

**RESO #22-03/24/2025
Adjourn**

Be it resolved this meeting of the Board of Education hereby adjourns at
7:43 p.m.

Second: Mrs. Manupella

Ayes – 7

Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Williams
Clerk to the Board of Education

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TURNPIKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Turnpike Attendance		
Grade	March	YTD, 2024-2025
UPK	89%	90.1%
K	89%	89%
1	89%	89.4%
2	91%	91%
TES	89.3%	90%

District Goal	
Attendance	School Is The Place To Bee! Second grade attendance initiative. Second grade classrooms with the highest attendance average from March 17th - April 11th will receive Stewart's Ice Cream cards donated from the Bretons/The Mary Fund.
SEL & TSS	<p>As part of our building and district goals centered on Social Emotional Learning and Trauma-Sensitive Schools, we continue to implement initiatives that foster a supportive and inclusive environment for our students, staff, and families. Below are updates from our subcommittees:</p> <p>Character Education Subcommittee</p> <p>The character trait for March is Determination, and teachers have been provided with resources to help students explore and practice perseverance in their daily lives. To keep this theme visible, we've created a Wall of Determination outside the main office, featuring inspirational quotes to encourage students and staff to reflect on resilience. Last month, we celebrated Kindness at our Character Education assembly, recognizing Ms. Covello's class for their leadership. This month, we're excited to continue the tradition by honoring students who exemplify Determination at our next assembly on Friday, March 28th.</p>

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	<p>Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity (DEI) Subcommittee</p> <p>The DEI Subcommittee is actively developing the next set of resources to support teachers in seamlessly integrating diversity, equity, and inclusivity topics into classroom instruction. These resources will continue to enhance our commitment to fostering an environment where all students feel valued and represented.</p> <p>Building Beautification Subcommittee</p> <p>All materials for the vestibule enhancement project have arrived! Our goal is to create a welcoming and inclusive entryway that reflects our excitement in having ALL families as part of the Turnpike Knights community. We look forward to unveiling this space and reinforcing the message that every family belongs here.</p> <p>Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Subcommittee</p> <p>We continue to emphasize the importance of following common area expectations and recognizing students for making positive choices. To further support this, we will be incorporating Behavior-Specific Praise into an upcoming faculty meeting’s professional development. This will ensure staff members are equipped to provide meaningful, specific feedback that reinforces positive behaviors.</p> <p>Restorative Practices Subcommittee</p> <p>Our weekly Restorative Practices Newsletter remains a valuable tool in promoting relationship-building and a strong sense of community. These newsletters provide ongoing inspiration and practical reminders of the importance of fostering connections to support a positive school climate.</p> <p>We are excited about the continued progress in these areas and appreciate the ongoing support of the Board of Education as we work toward our goals of social-emotional learning and a trauma-sensitive school environment.</p>
Family & Community Engagement	<p>At the end of February, we wrapped up another successful Skate Knight at Guptill’s, where hundreds of students and families from both Turnpike and Rensselaer Park Elementary joined in on the fun. Then, on March 13th, we made history with our first-ever Turnpike’s Got Talent Show, where our talented students and staff wowed us with their incredible performances. A special shout out to the PTA, Ms. McLaughlin, and Ms. Horner for making this unforgettable night possible!</p> <p>On March 14th, we participated in the 12th annual PTA auction, and we’re thrilled to share that we raised over \$3,000 for the Turnpike Elementary School</p>

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	<p>PTA! A huge thank you to everyone who came out and supported this event—we are so grateful for your generosity.</p> <p>Last week, students had their Spring Pictures, and we couldn't have done it without our amazing PTA volunteers who helped the day run smoothly. This week, we're keeping the excitement going with our Book Fair, which ties into our upcoming Literacy Knight on March 27th —another fantastic opportunity for families to engage in the love of reading together.</p> <p>Family engagement is a key part of our school's success, and none of this would be possible without the incredible support of our PTA. Thank you for all that you do to make Turnpike a place where students and families feel connected, valued, and excited to be a part of our school community!</p>
<p>Data Collection and Implementation to Drive Curriculum and Instruction</p>	<p>As we close out Trimester 2, our reading and classroom teachers are diligently assessing students on several key literacy skills. These assessments focus on high-frequency words, phonics, and phonemic awareness, which are foundational to reading development. Teachers are also evaluating students' fluency to ensure they are progressing in their ability to read smoothly and with understanding. The data gathered from these assessments will help guide future instruction and provide insight into areas where additional support may be needed.</p> <p>In addition, our math teachers are utilizing the Equip assessments to identify specific math skills that need to be pre-taught before starting new modules. This targeted approach allows for more effective instruction and ensures that students are better prepared for upcoming learning challenges.</p>

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RENSELAEER PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Rensselaer Park Attendance

Grade	March, 2025	YTD, 2024-25
3rd	90.5%	90.5%
4th	92.7%	91.5%
5th	89.4%	90.6%
RPES	90.5%	90.6%

District Goal	
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Attendance numbers at school have followed what could be best described as a “roller coaster” pattern. There are good days, and we have reached the school’s goal of 92% students in attendance three times. However, the flu and other illnesses have continued to affect the students, often leading to multi-day absences.The SST Attendance Committee and the faculty are continuing to encourage students to come to school.
SEL & TSS	<p>Social Emotional Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">All classrooms continue to receive weekly SEL lessons with the Second Step curriculum.The focus has been on a positive growth mindset, emotion management, empathy/kindness and problem solving.This year we added lessons regarding digital responsibility, healthy habits and career exploration.Full school assemblies continue to be held in support of the monthly focus.

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	<p>Trauma Sensitive Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The focus continues to be on maintaining calming corners in all classrooms/offices, with supplies, flexible seating, etc. We have added a visual “Toy vs Tool” activity to help kids understand the purpose of these items such as fidgets. In addition, “I statement” posters/cards are available to help students communicate when there are problems.• Cafeteria staff have participated in training on trauma informed strategies designed to help them to interact and de-escalate situations with students.• There have been monthly displays in the library, holiday decor in the main entrance, and explanations of different holidays/celebrations in the classrooms. Most recently, Ms. Krom set up an area in the library so that students who were fasting for Ramadan had an alternative location to go to during lunch rather than the cafeteria.
Family & Community Engagement	<p>PARP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under the leadership of Ms. Juliano, this year’s Pick a Reading Partner Program (PARP) has gone well with themed weeks beginning with the 60’s and 70’s.• Teachers and their students have decorated the hallways with information from an assigned decade.• The students have been actively participating in weekly dress-up days that were associated with the different decades. The students have enjoyed seeing how the members of the faculty have dressed to represent the decades.• Students have been keeping track of the amount of time that they have spent reading independently or with their families and have been submitting their totals weekly.• In class activities and most recently a <i>Family Reading Night</i> at school continue to support the importance of reading as a family, no matter what the materials are that are being read.• A <i>Knight in the Eras</i> evening event is scheduled for March 27th with activities for the entire family.
Data Collection and Implementation to Drive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utilizing student data from mid-year assessments to identify eligible students, both the after school ELA and Math Boot Camps are up and running with positive student participation.

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Curriculum and Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teachers are following the guidelines recommended by Mrs. Haydock to maintain an instructional focus on skills that will be covered on the NYS Assessments in May and that the students have demonstrated a weakness.
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Knickerbacker Middle School

Building Goal	Action/Initiatives
Curriculum and Instruction	<p>All PD for ELA, Science and Math has come to a close for the year and will begin again in September 2025. ELA, Math and Science are currently working through the final 2-3 units before they begin review for state testing.. Teachers are utilizing data from midterms to focus on skills to target.</p>
SEL/School Climate	<p>Ms. Sacco continues to push-in this month during 1st period tutorial with 6th graders to discuss emotion management strategies and how emotions can affect our decisions.</p> <p>Knickerbacker Middle School recognized 235 students with positive referrals in the month of February. Knight Way Award winners gathered in the cafe' for donuts and presentation of their certificates.</p> <p>March Ally meetings are taking place this week. Students have the opportunity to meet and chat with their ally during lunch or a different designated time that works for them.</p>
Chronic Absenteeism	<p>Attendance YTD Grade 6-88% Grade 7-92% Grade 8-89%</p> <p>Overall-89%</p> <p>Mrs. Dixon and Mr. Simon have started attendance circles. This is another intervention to address chronic absenteeism at the middle school. Mrs. Dixon utilized data from the support meetings to targets students who would benefit from this proactive approach.</p>
Parent Engagement and Community Engagement	<p>Student Council hosted a bowling night at Hilltop Bowling Alley on February 28th, bringing together approximately 30 participants for a night of fun and friendly competition.</p> <p>The third and final Family Advisory Council meeting will take place Wednesday, March 26th virtually. KMS and LHS will share hold the meeting together.</p>

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21st Century Program

The 21st Century Program continues to grow both with student enrollment and club offerings. Students have had the opportunity to participate in the following new after school clubs:

- Girls Soccer Club
- Music Production Club (with Troy Savings Bank Music Hall)
- ELA and Math Bootcamp
- Photography Club (Art Center of the Capital Region)
- Mixed Medium (Arts Center of the Capital Region)
- Cartooning/Illustrations (Troy Savings Bank Music Hall)

The program is working to gather community partners and resources to provide information to students and families during the KMS Cultural Night in May.

Currently, we are at 96% for our target enrollment having 192 students (out of 200 students) attending 15 or more hours of program.