

*Walk-Through Tour  
Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School @ 6:15 p.m.*

*Mr. Masopust, Mr. Redmond, Mrs. Parete and  
Ms. Salisbury provided an overview of their  
2025-2026 School Improvement Plans*

1. Public Comment – Agenda #1

At 7:20 p.m. the floor was opened for public comment.

- No public comments.

2. Call to Order – Agenda #2

At 7:21 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Vice President Thomas Frisbie in the Clare F. Ostrander Elementary All-Purpose Room.

Members Present

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

Members Absent

Mr. LoCicero

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

3. Approve Minutes – [2/19/25 Regular Board Meeting] – Agenda #3

Mr. Bartolone moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the minutes of the February 19, 2025, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Motion seconded by Mr. Nafey and carried 8 – 0.

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

***Audit:***

*Mrs. Crowley reported that the Audit Committee has not met since the last Board meeting.*

***Budget:***

*Mr. Devincenzi reported that since the last board meeting, the District received the final health insurance rates as well as BOCES costs which allowed us to lower the working budget. The last piece we are waiting for is our final State Aid numbers which if the State Budget is on time we should have our final State Aid numbers by the end of the month.*

Mr. Castle commented that we are in great shape and are able to maintain K-12 class sizes, extra-curricular activities, and intervention services due to the planning and support of the Board of Education. Our goal is to have a tax levy of 1.99% in order to ensure we are addressing the needs of both the students and our taxpayers. We are also balancing our budget with reserves and fund balance. We are just waiting for the April 1<sup>st</sup> State Budget to finalize the tax levy.

#### **Buildings & Grounds:**

Mr. Frisbie reported that the Buildings and Grounds Committee has not met since the last meeting. The committee did a building walk through this evening. Mr. Frisbie thanked Principal Alyssa Greany as well as Steve Rossi and his staff.

#### **CDEP:**

Mrs. Anderson reported that the CDEP committee met on February 26, 2025. The elementary principals provided an update on the work that is being done to improve the math scores in grade 5. Theresa Billington, Assistant Commissioner from the Office of Accountability shared information regarding the new accountability system, specifically about attendance. The School Improvement Teams (SIT) met and discussed the progress towards their 2024-2025 goals and developed goals for the 2025-2026 school year. Each team reported out to the whole committee on the goals that were developed for the 2025-2026 school year. The middle school, high school and special education teams presented their school improvement goals tonight. The elementary schools will present their school improvement goals at the April BOE meeting. The committee is not scheduled to meet for the remainder of the school year.

- Mr. White was able to secure the Assistant Commissioner for NYSED and her team to participate in our CDEP meeting via Zoom. Mr. White stated that the information she shared was meaningful. He also shared that she was appreciative of the invitation and the opportunity to talk to the CDEP committee.

#### **Curriculum/TAG:**

Mrs. Anderson reported that the Curriculum/TAG Committee met on March 11, 2025. Mrs. Werlau explained the Renzulli Learning System to the committee. This platform supports talent development and independent research for our Talented and Gifted students. Each elementary principal provided an update on the work that is being done to improve the math scores in grade 5. Mr. Masopust and a high school student shared that they would explore an Agricultural Science elective and the possibility of a Future Farmers of America (FFA) club during the 2025-2026 school year, with plans to implement them in the 2026-2027 school year. The next committee meeting is scheduled for April 29, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

#### **Health & Safety:**

Mr. Palen reported that the Health and Safety Committee met on March 6, 2024. The committee discussed and reviewed a draft of the 2025-2026 District-Wide Safety Plan. The next committee meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2025 in high school room 104.

#### **Legislative:**

Mr. Hecht addressed Foundation Aid. He stated that the Governor is proposing a 2% increase, the Senate is proposing a 3% increase, and the Assembly is proposing a percentage a little less than the Senate. He mentioned how Mr. Castle had previously advocated for a 3% increase (with rational) to our county legislators. Mr. Castle indicated that if we were to get the additional aid increase, it would help us get closer to our goal of a 1.99% tax levy. Mr. Hecht also mentioned he attended the UCSBA meeting on March 13, 2025, where updates on graduation measures and the Rockefeller Study were discussed.

#### **Policy:**

Mr. Palen reported that the Policy Committee met on March 11, 2025, and discussed a potential policy. The next committee meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2025.

#### **Technology:**

Mr. Bartolone reported that the Technology Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next committee meeting is scheduled for April 28, 2025, 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 April 8, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. in high school room 102.

**Student Rep:**

Mr. Liam McCarthy reported:

- Earlier this month, the top 10 students of the class of 2025 were celebrated with a lunch in the library media center. Additionally, their pictures including fields of study and college commitments were on display for all to see. These students will be formally recognized at the April BOE Meeting.
- The annual March Madness Chess Tournament is currently underway. Students have been entered in a bracketed tournament and have begun to play during their free periods.
- The Addams Family is being shown at select times from March 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>: 7:30 pm on Friday, 1:30 p.m. and 7:30p.m. on Saturday, and 1:30 p.m. on Sunday.
- Yesterday, Mr. Vegliando hosted a class wide "Project in a Day" for the 10<sup>th</sup> grade class. It included a full day of speakers and activities centered around the people, events, and themes of World War II.
- Ms. Perry hosted a Progressive Era Party for her US History classes in the library where students and staff dressed up as iconic figures from the Gilded Age tasked with solving a historical mystery.

**Clubs:**

- The Spanish Honor Society (SHS) Induction Ceremony was held on March 12<sup>th</sup>. It was a huge success with approximately 50 new members pledging to continue their journey in learning the Spanish language.
- The LEO Club successfully created decorations for the Lions Club float which will be used in this Sunday's St. Patrick's Day Parade.
- National Honor Society (NHS) applications are due this week, and the annual induction ceremony is scheduled for April 30, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium.
- NHS and SHS recently assisted in running Plattekill Elementary School's STEAM night. There was an excellent turnout and students and parents alike enjoyed the nights festivities.
- Athletes Helping Athletes visited elementary schools this week to speak with sixth grade students about the importance of sportsmanship and making good decisions.

**Athletics:**

- Spring sports officially began on Monday.
- Last Thursday the Wallkill community celebrated 9 student-athletes who will be continuing their sports in college with an honorary signing day. The students represented were Mayah Simon, Conner Griffin, Devin Strother, Brent DeCoeur, Kaitlyn Bonner, John Post, Brianna Merrill, Maria Morales, and Mario Verruto.
- Nate Diemoz and Mario Verruto recently competed at the Track and Field State Championships where Mario ran a 4:35 mile and Nate Diemoz ran lead off for the Section IX relay team, winning gold, and becoming the first Wallkill State Champion since 2000.
- This past week, the Cheer program put on a great performance during their Program Day. They also celebrated their seniors: Taylor Santoro, Tessa Loupe, and Marilyn Velazquez.
- The Girls Basketball Team fell to a strong Warwick team in a hard-fought Sectional Championship game with the final score being 35-31.

**Music:**

- March is Music in Our Schools Month. This year's theme is "United in Music," and the high school music program held their Music in our Schools Month Concert on March 5, 2025. In addition to outstanding performances, Assemblyman Maher celebrated several musicians who earned All-State accolades. Students represented were, Jono McLaughlin, Zamirah Gottfried, Naomi Groth, and Ryan Cambell.

**5. Consent Agenda**

Mr. Bartolone moved items 5A through 5M and 6A through 6D be taken as consent agenda.

Motion seconded by Mr. Palen and carried 8 – 0.

Approve Appointments – Non-Instructional – Agenda #5.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the 26-Week Probationary appointment of **Gabrielle Leavitt** to a Part-Time [0.97 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide position, effective March 20, 2025, 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 **Marianne Marcantonio** to a Part-Time [0.97 FTE] Special Education Teacher Aide position, effective March 20, 2025, 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 **Carol Santiago** to a Part-Time [0.97 FTE] Supervisory Teacher Aide position, effective March 20, 2025, at a salary of \$15.50 per hour [Step 3 of the CSEA Contract, (5.8 hours per day)].

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **Samantha Smith** to a Permanent Per Diem Substitute Teacher Aide position, assigned to the Special Education Department, for the 2024-2025 school year, at a salary of \$15.50 per hour, effective March 20, 2025.

Accept Resignation – Instructional – Agenda #5.B.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the resignation of **Rebecca DiGiacomo** from the Wallkill Central School District [Full-Time (1.0 FTE) Special Education Teacher], effective close of business on August 31, 2025.

Approve Appointment – 2024-2025 SAT Math Prep – Instructional – Agenda #5.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of **Stephanie Barnes** to the position of SAT Mathematics Prep Teacher at the Senior High School, at a stipend of \$7,746, pro-rated, effective January 2, 2025, through a date to be determined by administration.

Approve Appointment – 2024-2025 High School Grades 9-12 After-School Homework Assistance Lab – Agenda #5.D.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the Instructional appointment of the following individual for the 2024-2025 High School Grades 9-12 After-School Homework Assistance Lab:

<b>Brian Vegliando</b>	Social Studies	\$65.84 per session
------------------------	----------------	---------------------

Approve Appointments – 2024-2025 Regent’s Review – Instructional – Agenda #5.E.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the appointment of the following individuals as Regent’s Review Teachers, effective April 1, 2025, at a rate of \$55.79 per hour, contingent upon student enrollment to support these positions.

Algebra I:	<b>Kara DeCarlo</b>	<b>Colleen Keesler</b>	<b>Nicholas Thompson</b>
	<b>Melissa Tierney</b>		
Algebra II:	<b>Kimberly Earl</b>		
Chemistry:	<b>Valeria Ramos Avila</b>		
Earth Science:	<b>Jordan Taylor</b>		
English 11:	<b>Jeanne Chun</b>	<b>Karen DeKoskie</b>	<b>Yaddo Hagar</b>
Geometry:	<b>Kara DeCarlo</b>	<b>Keri Donahue</b>	<b>Gary Tuttle</b>
Global 10:	<b>Michael Farruggio</b>		

Living Environment:

**Sharon Ellis**  
**Nicholas Malgieri**

**Kyle Ferraiolo**

**Ryan Haver**

US History:

**Gabrielle Mancuso**

Award Tenure – Administrative – Agenda #5.F.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Brian Masopust** in the area of Secondary Principal, effective July 1, 2025.

Award Tenure – Instructional – Agenda #5.G.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Christine Benken** in the area of Speech, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Shannon Corcoran** in the area of Elementary Education, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Kimberly Crespín** in the area of English as a Second Language, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Kara DeCarlo** in the area of Mathematics, effective September 11, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Vicely Devos** in the area of Reading, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Marissa Dore** in the area of Elementary Education, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Kevin Falk** in the area of Physical Education and Recreation, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Amanda Grogan** in the area of Special Education, effective October 6, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Alexandra Hahn** in the area of School Social Worker, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Kristina Heeren** in the area of School Social Worker, effective September 20, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Maya Hull** in the area of Elementary Education, effective September 22, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Donald Lappe** in the area of Special Education, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Melissa Mourges** in the area of World Languages, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Michael Pascucci** in the area of School Psychologist, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Jacqueline Petrie** in the area of Science, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Rachel Rivera** in the area of English as a Second Language, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Erin Ruiz** in the area of Reading, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Rachel Siegel** in the area of Elementary Education, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Melissa Velázquez** in the area of Social Studies, effective September 1, 2025.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and award tenure to **Caitlin Zapata** in the area of Elementary Education, effective September 29, 2025.

Approve 2025 Biennial Review of Shared Decision Making – Agenda #5.H.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and adopt the 2025 Biennial Review of Shared Decision Making CR100.11.

Approve Appointments – Coaching – Agenda #5.I.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the following appointments for the Spring 2024-2025 school year season:

HIGH SCHOOL

<b>John Zinko</b>	Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach	Unpaid
<b>Shayna Norton</b>	Assistant Varsity Softball Coach	Unpaid
<b>Michael Moran</b>	Assistant Varsity Track and Field Coach	Unpaid

MIDDLE SCHOOL

<b>Mark Iorlano</b>	Assistant Modified Baseball Coach	Unpaid
---------------------	-----------------------------------	--------

Approve Substitutes Lists – Agenda #5.J.

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.K.

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.L.

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

Approve Resolution – Unused Emergency/Snow Days – Agenda #5.M.

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 authorizes all 11-Month and 12-month employees paid leave days on Friday, April 11, 2025, Friday, May 23, 2025, Tuesday, May 27, 2025 and Wednesday, May 28, 2025, based upon the fact that the District has four remaining unused emergency/snow days for the 2024-2025 school year.

Approve Use of Facilities – Agenda #6.A.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Leptondale Elementary School, Plattekill Elementary School and Clare F. Ostrander Elementary School Gymnasiums by **Girls on the Run** [for a Youth Development Program] as indicated below:

Leptondale Elementary School:

Mondays & Wednesdays	March 19, 2025 – May 21, 2025	3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
----------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------

Plattekill Elementary School:

Tuesdays and Thursdays	April 1, 2025 – June 5, 2025*	3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
------------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------

Clare F. Ostrander School:

Wednesdays and Fridays	April 2, 2025 – June 6, 2025*	3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
------------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------

*\*Excluding April 11, 2025, May 23, 27 & 28, 2025*

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the John G. Borden Middle School Gymnasium by **Wallkill Youth Football and Cheerleading** [for Football and Cheerleading Practice] as indicated below:

Thursdays	March 27, 2025-May 8, 2025	7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
-----------	----------------------------	------------------------

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Senior High School Classrooms and Hallway by **Wallkill Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Inc.** [for a NYS EMT Class-Practical Exam] as indicated below:

Saturday	May 10, 2025	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
----------	--------------	------------------------

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the use of the Wallkill Senior High School Auditorium, Band Room and Light Booth, by the **Footworks Dance Center** [for a Dance Recital] as indicated below:

Sunday	June 15, 2025	9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
--------	---------------	------------------------

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 February 28, 2025 and Revenues as of February 28, 2025.

Approve Legal Fees [2025-2026 School Year] – Agenda #6.C.

The Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the hourly rate for legal fees to be \$250 per hour [for attorneys] effective July 1, 2025, and to be \$125 per hour [for paralegal services] effective July 1, 2025, for Thomas, Drohan, Waxman, Petigrow and Mayle, LLP.

Approve Memorandum of Agreement – Wallkill Teachers' Association – Agenda #6.D.

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 hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement by and between the Wallkill Central School District, and the Wallkill Teachers' Association, dated February 10, 2025, covering the period from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029.

6. Accept Donation – Agenda #6.E.

Mr. Nafey moved the Board accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and accept the donation of \$3,500 from the Renaissance Charitable Foundation to be used by the Senior High School.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bartolone and carried 8 – 0. [With Thanks]

7. Proposed Executive Session – Agenda #7

At 7:37 p.m. Mrs. Anderson moved the Board enter Executive Session to discuss an impartial hearing.

Motion seconded by Mr. Bartolone and carried 8 – 0.

The Board reconvened at 7:54 p.m.

8. Close Meeting – Agenda #8

At 7:55 p.m. Mr. Bartolone moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded by Mrs. McCartney and carried 8 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Corcoran  
District Clerk