WEST CANADA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION - REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2025, 6:00 PM

Board Members Present
Shannon Crocker
Shauna Harrington
Roger Kemler
Janine Lynch
Sara Northup-Lynch
Edwin Schatzel

Board Members Absent
Alisa Brewer

Ex-Officio Student Board Member Present
Katherine Gorinshek

Others Present
Jeremy Siddon, Superintendent
Kelley Crossett, Business Manager
Daphne Raymo, District Clerk
Christine Nofri, Elementary Principal
Glenn Broadbent, MS/HS Principal
Dennis Lynch, Director of Facilities
Shelby Butler, Food Services Director
Daniel Ressue, ELA Teacher (7-12)
Ashley Potter, Teaching Assistant (7-12)
Kayla Chapin, RTI Specialist (K-6)
Mitchell Werenczak, Building Maintenance Mechanic

THIS MEETING WAS LIVE-STREAMED THROUGH THE WEST CANADA VALLEY CSD WEBSITE

CALL TO ORDER

Board President Shauna Harrington called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EX-OFFICIO STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Siddon introduced the District's second new Ex-Officio Student Board Member, Ms. Katherine Gorinshek (in attendance), and Ms. Olivia Broadbent (not in attendance) to the group. As previously noted in the September 8, 2025 minutes, Ms. Gorinshek and Ms. Olivia Broadbent are seniors in the Class of 2026. Both students will alternate their attendance at the West Canada Valley Board meetings, in accordance with the new requirement, effective July 1, 2025, that all BOCES and school districts with a high school in New York state must have at least one ex-officio, non-voting, student board member.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS & NEW STAFF

Mr. Siddon recognized the WCV Board Members for School Board Recognition week, October 13-17, 2025, thanking them for all they do to support the students and staff at our school. Several new staff members were also introduced to the Board and each person spoke briefly about their background and their experience at WCV thus far.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A motion made by Ms. Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Northup-Lynch to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the following consent agenda items be approved and/or accepted: meeting minutes from the September 8, 2025 Regular Meeting, administrative reports (the administrative reports are given in person rather than written reports), warrants, CSE/CPSE, treasurer, budget and claims audit reports.

All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

BRIEF PAUSE FOR BOARD MEMBER AND NEW STAFF REFRESHMENTS

The group paused from 6:16 to 6:27 pm for a brief recognition of Board Members and new staff with refreshments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Ms. Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Crocker to enter executive session for appointment of personnel matters including review and appointment of employees and contract negotiations.

All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0 **Entered Executive Session: 6:28 pm** **Exited Executive Session: 7:52 pm**

ACTION ITEM: STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mrs. Crocker and seconded by Mr. Schatzel to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **Megan Lamphere**
Position: Part-time (10-month) Food Service Helper
Salary: Per the CSEA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

ACTION ITEM: STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mrs. Crocker and seconded by Mrs. Northup-Lynch to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **Susan Murphy**
Position: Custodian (full-time, 12-month, provisional appointment)
Salary: Per the CSEA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025 (pending successful fingerprint clearance)
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

ACTION ITEM: SUBSTITUTE APPOINTMENTS

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Ms. Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Northup-Lynch to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **Carissa Lyon**
Position: Long-term Substitute Teacher, First Grade (Non-certified)
Salary: Per the District Approved Rate Sheet
Effective: October 15, 2025
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mrs. Crocker seconded by Ms. Lynch to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **Joyce Visconti**
Position: Substitute Food Service Helper
Salary: Per the CSEA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mr. Schatzel seconded by Ms. Lynch to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **Linda Dalmata**
Position: Substitute Food Service Helper
Salary: Per the CSEA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mrs. Northup-Lynch seconded by Mr. Schatzel to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **Andrea Renodin**
Position: Substitute Food Service Helper
Salary: Per the CSEA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

ACTION ITEM: WINTER COACHING APPOINTMENTS

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mr. Schatzel and seconded by Ms. Lynch to accept the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **James Healy**
Position: Head Coach, Varsity Boys' Basketball
Salary: Step 5 of the extracurricular index of the WCVTA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mr. Schatzel and seconded by Mrs. Crocker to accept the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **Todd Hobin**
Position: Head Coach, Boys Modified Basketball (Grades 7-8)
Salary: Step 5 of the extracurricular index of the WCVTA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

ACTION ITEM: WINTER COACHING APPOINTMENTS

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mrs. Northup-Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Crocker to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to approve;

Name: **Theresa Synakowski**
Position: Head Coach, Varsity Girls' Basketball
Salary: Step 5 of the WCVTA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mrs. Crocker and seconded by Ms. Lynch to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to approve;

Name: **Shelly Hazard**
Position: Volunteer Assistant, Varsity Girls' Basketball
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 School Year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Ms. Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Crocker to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to approve;

Name: **Kaylin FitzSimons**
Position: Volunteer Assistant, Varsity Girls' Basketball
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 School Year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mr. Schatzel and seconded by Mrs. Crocker to accept the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **Whitney Reddington**
Position: Head Coach, Girls' JV Basketball
Salary: Step 5 of the extracurricular index of the WCVTA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mr. Schatzel and seconded by Mrs. Northup-Lynch to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to approve;

Name: **Taylor Butler**
Position: Volunteer Assistant, Girls' JV Basketball
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 School Year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mrs. Crocker and seconded by Mr. Schatzel to accept the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **Dustin Cool**
Position: Head Coach, Girls' Modified Basketball (Grades 7-8)
Salary: Step 5 of the extracurricular index of the WCVTA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Ms. Lynch and seconded by Mr. Schatzel to accept the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **Kelly Gauthier**
Position: Head Coach, Varsity Winter Competition Cheerleading
Salary: Step 2 of the extracurricular index of the WCVTA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Ms. Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Northup-Lynch to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to approve;

Name: **Corey Youngs**
Position: Head Coach, Boys' Bowling
Salary: Step 5 of the extracurricular index of the WCVTA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

ACTION ITEM: WINTER COACHING APPOINTMENTS

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Ms. Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Northup-Lynch to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to approve;

Name: **Corey Youngs**
Position: Head Coach, Girls' Bowling
Salary: Step 5 of the extracurricular index of the WCVTA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mr. Schatzel and seconded by Mrs. Northup-Lynch to accept the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to appoint;

Name: **Ference Sarus**
Position: Head Coach, Indoor Track
Salary: Step 5 of the extracurricular index of the WCVTA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mr. Schatzel and seconded by Mrs. Crocker to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to approve;

Name: **Todd Hobin**
Position: Volunteer Assistant, Indoor Track
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 School Year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mrs. Crocker and seconded by Ms. Lynch to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to approve;

Name: **Kyle Swiecki**
Position: Volunteer Assistant, Indoor Track
Effective: October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 School Year
All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

ACTION ITEM – AUDIT COMMITTEE: APPROVE 2024-2025 EXTERNAL AUDIT

Motion made by Mrs. Northup-Lynch and seconded by Mr. Schatzel to approve the External Audit and Corrective Action plan, as presented by Ms. Amy Pedrick, from West and Company, for the year ending June 30, 2025.

All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

ACTION ITEM: APPROVE APPR 3012-D RECERTIFICATIONS

Motion made by Ms. Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Crocker to approve the APPR 3012-D recertification for the District Administrator as follows;

Emily Looman, Teacher Evaluator, as achieved on September 15, 2025

All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

ACTION ITEM: APPROVE COMBINED WCV AND POLAND BOWLING TEAMS

Motion made by Mrs. Northup-Lynch and seconded by Mr. Schatzel to approve the combined West Canada Valley Central School District and Poland Central School bowling teams for the 2025-2026 school year.

All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

ACTION ITEM: ADOPT REVISED DISTRICT SAFETY PLAN

This Action Item will be tabled until the November 10, 2025 meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEM: UPDATE ON PARTIAL OUTDOOR BLEACHER REPLACEMENT

Mr. Siddon advised the Board that some of the outdoor bleachers are showing some bubbling on the film that covers the aluminum. The District is working with the company to have the affected parts replaced under warranty with no cost to the District. The project is tentatively scheduled for the second week in November, after the fall sports have ended, and should take approximately one week to complete. As the project progresses, Mr. Siddon will update the Board with information.

DISCUSSION ITEM: FIRST READING OF REVISED CODE OF CONDUCT

Mr. Siddon spoke about the revised Code of Conduct and explained that a few parents and guardians voiced their concerns with the current document version and the student attendance policy that is outlined. Mr. Siddon noted that students are getting to school on time and there are less students coming in late or leaving early throughout the day. It was also noted by Mr. Siddon that bereavement days and one tardy arrival per marking period would be available for all students. The Code of Conduct will be posted to the District website and open for public comment for 30 days. Comments and concerns should be emailed to DRaymo@westcanada.org.

DISCUSSION ITEM: FIRST READING OF REVISED DISTRICT WIDE SAFETY PLAN

The current version of the 2025-2026 District-Wide Safety Plan needs to be revised to include language pertaining to the recent Desha's Law requirements which were introduced in August 2025, after the District had adopted the Plan for the 2025-2026 school year. The District has a wide variety of employees who have been trained in CPR and AED usage. This document has been posted to the District website and will be open for public comment for 30 days. Comments and concerns should be emailed to DRaymo@westcanada.org.

DISCUSSION ITEM: TOWN OF FAIRFIELD SOLAR PILOT

Mr. Siddon advised that the District has been approached by the Town of Fairfield to gauge the District's interest in a solar project PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) project. The Board has agreed to listen to a presentation by the Fairfield Town Supervisor at the next Board meeting scheduled for November 10, 2025. The Board will decide the next steps after hearing the presentation.

DISCUSSION ITEM: HERKIMER BOCES – SALE OF LAND

Mr. Siddon advised that Herkimer BOCES has been contacted by Herkimer County representatives in regard to a parcel of land located behind the current Remington Education Complex, in Ilion, that the County would like to purchase to build a children's center. If the project is to move forward, this item would be placed on the May 2026-2027 budget vote for Herkimer BOCES and would be voted on by all ten component districts.

COMMENTS FROM EX-OFFICIO STUDENT BOARD MEMBER

Ms. Gorinshek advised that the start of the school year is going well and that she has noticed that students are more focused and are participating more in class since the new cell phone policy has gone into effect. Mr. Schatzel asked Ms. Gorinshek if she is of the opinion that student feedback about the cell phone policy seems positive. Ms. Gorinshek said it's not necessarily all positive, but the kids have found loopholes around the policy that makes it "a little more bearable." Ms. Gorinshek said that there are less class absences and issues and that the policy is working for the classroom, but it could be a little more lenient when needed for times outside of the classroom because kids are still going to find the loopholes to get around the ban.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Saturday, October 18 - Homecoming Dance 6:00 - 9:00 pm**
- **Wednesday, October 22 - Early Release/Superintendent's Half Conference Day**
- **Wednesday, October 22 - Trunk or Treat 4:30-6:00 PM**
- **Friday, November 7 - All County I at Dolgeville CSD (Elem/HS Chorus/Jr. Band)**
- **Saturday, November 8 - All County Concert 3:00 PM at Dolgeville CSD**
- **Monday, November 10 - Next BOE Meeting 6:00 PM**
- **Tuesday, November 11 - Veterans Day, School and Offices Closed**
- **Friday/Saturday November 14 & 15 - Musical Performance: *Disaster!* 7:00 PM**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Gregory Lang, a Newport resident, greeted the group and complimented our ex-officio student board member, Ms. Gorinshek, on doing a nice job representing the senior class at the Board meeting. Mr. Lang then addressed the group, asking if there were any updates on the electric bus mandate. Mr. Siddon replied that the district is waiting on a preferred list with NYSERDA to have an energy study conducted, and that there are two separate, two-year waivers that the school may be able to apply for to hold off the mandate. Mr. Lang also gave his perspective of the Code of Conduct and student attendance policy therein. Mr. Lang stated he is happy to hear the number of students that are tardy to school has gone down, and is interested in learning how the goal of the policy to improve academic responsibility and maintain the integrity of extracurricular involvement will be measured and what the outcome is as we go forward.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Schatzel and seconded by Ms. Lynch to adjourn the meeting.

All voted in favor; motion carried 6:0

Meeting adjourned: 8:26 pm

_____ _____

President, Board of Education Clerk, Board of Education