WEST CANADA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026 ~ 6:00 PM

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

Others Present
Jeremy Siddon, Superintendent
Kelley Crossett, Business Manager
Daphne Raymo, District Clerk
Todd Hobin, Athletic Coordinator
Katherine Gorinshek, Ex-Officio Student Board Member
David Amendolare

THIS MEETING WAS LIVE-STREAMED THROUGH THE WEST CANADA VALLEY 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.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

RESOLVED, that the following consent agenda items be approved and/or accepted: minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 9, 2026, the warrant report, CSE/CPSE report, treasurer's report, budget report, claims audit report, and administrative reports (the athletic coordinator's report was given in person).

All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Mrs. Crocker and seconded by Mrs. Brewer to recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing the review and appointment of employees.

All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0 Entered Executive Session: 6:07 PM

EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

Motion made by Mrs. Crocker and seconded by Mrs. Northup-Lynch to exit executive session and return to public session.

All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0 Exited Executive Session: 7:28 PM Return to Public Session: 7:30 PM

ACTION ITEM: PERSONNEL – RESIGNATION

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mrs. Crocker and seconded by Mr. Schatzel to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to accept the letter of resignation from:

Name: **Susan Murphy**
Position: Custodian (full time)
Effective: February 17, 2026
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

ACTION ITEM: PERSONNEL – RETIREMENT

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Ms. Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Crocker to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to accept the letter of resignation, for retirement purposes, from:

Name: **Pamela Tomei**
Position: Teaching Assistant (elementary)
Effective: June 26, 2026
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0 Thank you for your years of service!

ACTION ITEM: PERSONNEL – RETIREMENT

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, motion was made by Mrs. Northup-Lynch and seconded by Ms. Lynch to approve the following resolution,
RESOLVED, to accept the letter of resignation, for retirement purposes, from:

Name: **Tina Sternberg**
Position: Account Clerk (elementary)
Effective: July 1, 2026
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0 Thank you for your years of service!

ACTION ITEMS: PERSONNEL – SUBSTITUTE APPOINTMENTS

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

Name: **Madison Szczesniak**
Substitute Positions: Teacher (non-certified), Teaching Assistant, Aide/Monitor (PreK-12)
Salary: Per the district-approved rate sheet and CSEA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: March 10, 2026 *(pending fingerprint clearance)*
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

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: **Bailey Chapin**
Substitute Positions: Teacher (certified), Teaching Assistant, Aide/Monitor (PreK-12)
Salary: Per the district-approved rate sheet and CSEA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: March 10, 2026
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

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

Name: **Jenise Polhamus**
Substitute Position: Custodian
Salary: Per the CSEA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: March 10, 2026
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

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

Name: **Tina Sternberg**
Substitute Positions: Teacher (uncertified), Teaching Assistant, Aide/Monitor (PreK-12), and Custodian
Salary: Per the district-approved rate sheet and CSEA Bargaining Agreement
Effective: July 2, 2026
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

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

Name: **Pamela Tomei**
Substitute Position: Teaching Assistant
Salary: Per the district-approved rate sheet
Effective: September 1, 2026
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

ACTION ITEM: PERSONNEL – SPRING COACHING 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: **David Amendolare**
Position: Volunteer Coach, Boys' Modified Baseball
Effective: March 10, 2026 for the 2025-26 School year
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

ACTION ITEM: PERSONNEL – SPRING COACHING APPOINTMENTS

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

Name: **Jason Januario**
Position: Volunteer Coach, Boys' and Girls' Outdoor Track
Effective: March 10, 2026 for the 2025-26 School year
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

ACTION ITEMS: PERSONNEL – FAMILY LEAVE REQUEST

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

Name: **Christopher DeNova**
Position: Choral Music Teacher (MS/HS, Elementary)
Beginning: On/about May 24, 2026, for approximately 15 school days (3 weeks)
Effective: March 10, 2026
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

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 Family Medical Leave;

Name: **Cristy Bernier**
Position: Bus Driver
Beginning: March 19, 2026; anticipated return to work date of June 18, 2026
Effective: March 10, 2026
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

ACTION ITEM: PERSONNEL – LEAVE OF ABSENCE EXTENSION REQUEST

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

Name: **Jacqueline Bray**
Position: Elementary Teacher
Request: To extend active 2025-26 school year unpaid leave of absence to include the 2026-27 school year, for a total of two years of unpaid leave, as outlined in the current WCVTA Bargaining Agreement
Initial Leave of Absence Request Dates: August 10, 2025 through August 9, 2026
Leave of Absence Extension End Date: June 30, 2027
Extension Effective: March 10, 2026
All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

ACTION ITEM: HFHO BOCES BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATE NOMINATION

This item was listed on the agenda but did not require action or discussion by the Board since the West Canada Valley CSD does not have an open seat on the HFHO BOCES Board of Education this year.

EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPTING RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT TRANSPORTATION PROPOSITION TO VOTERS

At a meeting of the Board of Education of the West Canada Valley Central School District, New York, duly held on the 9th day of March, 2026:

Present: Alisa Brewer; Shannon Crocker; Shauna Harrington (President); Roger Kemler; Janine Lynch (Vice President); Sarah Northup-Lynch; Edwin Schatzel

Absent: None

Mr. Schatzel presented the following resolution and moved that it be adopted:

RESOLUTION DATED MARCH 9, 2026 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE WEST CANADA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING A PROPOSITION TO BE PRESENTED TO THE VOTERS AT THE ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE WEST CANADA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (the "School District") that the following proposition be presented to the voters at the annual meeting of such voters to be to be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026:

> SHALL the Board of Education of the West Canada Valley Central School District be authorized to: (1) acquire three (3) large diesel-powered school buses and one (1) small handicapped accessible gas-powered school bus, at a cost not to exceed $641,287, which is estimated to be the maximum cost thereof; (2) expend such sum for such purpose; (3) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education in accordance with Section 416 of the Education Law, taking into account state aid and trade-in values; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds, notes and/or installment purchase contracts of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed $500,337, and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Clerk is hereby directed to include notice of such proposition in the notice of the annual meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

The Motion having been duly seconded by Ms. Lynch, it was adopted and the following votes were cast:

AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
7	0	0

EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPTING RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT'S PARTICIPATION IN OSWEGO COUNTY BOCES COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

At a meeting of the Board of Education of the West Canada Valley Central School District, New York, duly held on the 9th day of March, 2026:

Present: Alisa Brewer; Shannon Crocker; Shauna Harrington (President); Roger Kemler; Janine Lynch (Vice President); Sarah Northup-Lynch; Edwin Schatzel
Absent: None

Ms. Lynch presented the following resolution and moved that it be adopted:

RESOLUTION DATED MARCH 9, 2026 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE WEST CANADA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT'S PARTICPATION IN OSWEGO COUNTY BOCES' COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

WHEREAS,

The Cooperative Purchasing Service is a plan of a number of public school districts in the Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services Area in New York (known as the Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation [CiTi]), to bid jointly for water testing and sampling services, and

WHEREAS,

West Canada Valley Central School District (hereinafter the "Participant") is desirous of participating with Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi and other Boards of Cooperative Educational Services and public-school districts in the joint bidding of the services mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-o, and...

WHEREAS,

The participant wishes to appoint the Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi to advertise for bids, accept bids, tabulate bids and award bids on their behalf; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED,

The participant hereby appoints Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi to represent it in all matters relating above, and designates the Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi designated newspaper(s) as the legal publication(s) for all Cooperative Purchasing bid notifications, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

The participant authorizes the Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above-mentioned services, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

The participant agrees to (1) assume its equitable share of the costs of the Cooperative Bidding; (2) abide by majority decisions of the participating districts; (3) abide by the Award of the Oswego County Board of Cooperative Educational Services/CiTi; (4) and that after the award of the bid it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

The Motion having been duly seconded by Mrs. Northup-Lynch, it was adopted and the following votes were cast:

AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
7	0	0

EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPTING RESOLUTION OPTING-IN TO REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW § 487 EXEMPTION

WEST CANADA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION

At a meeting of the Board of Education of the West Canada Valley Central School District, New York, duly held on the 9th day of March, 2026:

Present: Alisa Brewer; Shannon Crocker; Shauna Harrington (President); Roger Kemler; Janine Lynch (Vice President); Sarah Northup-Lynch; Edwin Schatzel
Absent: None

Mr. Schatzel presented the following resolution and moved that it be adopted:

RESOLUTION DATED MARCH 9, 2026 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE WEST CANADA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING THE OPTING-IN TO REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW § 487 EXEMPTION

WHEREAS, Real Property Tax Law (RPTL) § 487(2) provides that real property which includes, among other things, a solar or wind energy system shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of any increase in the value thereof by reason of the inclusion of such solar or wind energy system for a period of fifteen years; and

WHEREAS, RPTL § 487(8)(A) provides that a school district may "opt out" of said exemption by adopting a Resolution providing that no such exemption shall be applicable within its jurisdiction with respect to any solar or wind energy system which begins construction subsequent to the effective date of such Resolution; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting of the District's Board of Education held on February 7, 2005, a Resolution was adopted providing that the tax exemption made available by RPTL § 487 shall not be applicable within the boundaries of the District with respect to any solar or wind energy system constructed subsequent to February 7, 2005; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Education to now offer the RPTL § 487 tax exemption with respect to solar and wind energy systems which begin construction subsequent to the effective date of this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the RPTL § 487 tax exemption shall be applicable to any solar or wind energy system which begins construction subsequent to the effective date of this Resolution; and it is further

RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective as of **March 9, 2026**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

The Motion having been duly seconded by Mrs. Brewer, it was adopted and the following votes were cast:

AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
7	0	0

EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPTING RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT NEWPORT LIBRARY TAX LEVY INCREASE PROPOSITION TO VOTERS

At a meeting of the Board of Education of the West Canada Valley Central School District, New York, duly held on the 9th day of March, 2026:

Present: Alisa Brewer; Shannon Crocker; Shauna Harrington (President); Roger Kemler; Janine Lynch (Vice President); Sarah Northup-Lynch; Edwin Schatzel
Absent: None

Ms. Lynch presented the following resolution and moved that it be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE WEST CANADA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (the "School District") that the following proposition be presented to the voters at the annual meeting of such voters to be to be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026:

> SHALL the Board of Education of the West Canada Valley Central School District be authorized to: (1) levy a tax increase in the amount of $5,000 for the Newport Free Library? This would increase the Library's annual budget allotment from $57,000 to $62,000. This shall be considered (2) an annual appropriation for the Newport Free Library until changed by further vote and (3) such tax shall be levied and collected yearly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Clerk is hereby directed to include notice of such proposition in the notice of the annual meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption on March 9, 2026.

The Motion having been duly seconded by Mrs. Brewer, it was adopted and the following votes were cast:

AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
7	0	0

ACTION ITEM: ADOPT 2026-2027 DISTRICT CALENDAR

Motion made by Mrs. Northup-Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Crocker to adopt the 2026-2027 District Calendar, as presented.

All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

ACTION ITEM: POLICY UPDATES – POLICIES PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL

Motion made by Mr. Schatzel and seconded by Ms. Lynch to adopt the eight (8) policies listed below (A. #6110 through #8540), as presented.

All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

A. Audited Policies Presented for **Approval** on March 9, 2026

1. 6110 - Code of Ethics for All District Personnel
2. 0011 - NEW - Gender Neutral Single-Occupancy Bathroom Facilities
3. 3421 - Title IX Grievance Process
4. 3420 Statement for Emergency Conditional or Conditional Appointment
5. 5692 - HIV Instructional and Employment Obligations
6. 0017 - NEW- Student Registration and Pre-Registration to Vote
7. 5640 - Tobacco, Nicotine , and E-Cigarette Use Prohibited
8. 6540 - Indemnification and Defense of School Employees

ACTION ITEM: POLICY UPDATES – POLICIES PRESENTED FOR DELETION

Motion made by Mr. Schatzel and seconded by Mrs. Crocker to delete the twelve (12) policies listed below (A. #3420 through #8211), as presented.

All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

B. Audited Policies Presented for **Deletion** on March 9, 2026:

1. 3420 - Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment in the School District
2. 3421 - Title IX and Sex Discrimination
3. 5640 - Smoking/Tobacco Use
4. 5692 - Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Related Illnesses
5. 6120 - Equal Employment Opportunity
6. 6540 - Defense and Indemnification of Board Members and Employees
7. 7550 - Dignity for All Students
8. 7551 - Sexual Harassment of Students
9. 7552 - Bullying: Peer Abuse in the Schools
10. 7553 - Hazing of Students
11. 8130 - Equal Educational Opportunities
12. 8211 - Prevention Instruction

POLICY UPDATES – POLICIES PRESENTED FOR SECOND READING (no action taken)

A. Audited Policies Presented for the **Second Reading**:

1. 1001 - Community Use of School Facilities
2. 1002 - Visitors to the School
3. 1003 - School Volunteers
4. 1004 - Use of Buses by Community Groups
5. 1006 - Service Animals
6. 1007 - Student Participation
7. 1008 - Parent-Teacher Organizations
8. 1009 - Booster Clubs/Parent/Teacher Organizations
9. 1010 - Operation of Motor-Driver Vehicles on District Property
10. 1100 - Records Management and Access
11. 1200 - Parent and Family Engagement in Title I Programs
12. 1300 - Handling and Disseminating Identifying Information Received Regarding Sex Offenders
13. 1301 - Advertising on District Property
14. 1303 - District Publications and News Media Relations
15. 1400 - Constitutionally Protected Prayer in the Schools
16. 8204 - Courses Including Dissection of Animals
17. 8702 - Animals in School (Therapy)

DISCUSSION ITEM: BUDGET WORKSHOP IV

Mr. Siddon provided budget workshop materials in the board packet for this month, including the Executive Budget Proposal, current district enrollment data, the District Rate Reference Chart, Transportation Replacement Plan, Athletic Uniform Replacement Plan, and the Equipment Replacement Plan. Further background into the upcoming budget, and new information, will be brought to the board members as it becomes available.

DISCUSSION ITEM: PRE-KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION AND PROGRAM/GRANT AUDIT

Mr. Siddon presented a report from Ms. Nofri which contained an update on the current pre-k registration process and enrollment numbers. A representative from the New York State Education Department (NYSED) visited our pre-k program recently to conduct the required yearly audit. The results of the audit were favorable and our faculty and staff continue to do great work.

DISCUSSION ITEM: DIGITAL REPORT CARDS VIA PARENTSQUARE

Second marking period report cards, for students in grades 7-12, were sent digitally to parents/guardians using the secure document delivery feature in ParentSquare, and paper copies were mailed home as well. The district will mail paper report cards one last time for the third marking period as the transition to full digital transmission becomes complete with the June 2026 report cards.

DISCUSSION ITEM: M&T BANK AND COLLECTION OF SCHOOL TAXES

Mr. Siddon and Ms. Crossett discussed the possibility of returning the school tax collection, which has been processed by M&T Bank for the last few years, back to the district for processing. M&T Bank is performing upgrades to their system and has advised that they will no longer print and mail school tax payment receipts back to our district residents.

DISCUSSION ITEM: 2026-2027 DISTRICT CALENDAR

Mr. Siddon explained that the academic calendar for the 2026-2027 school year begins later due to Labor Day occurring a week later, and the first day of classes being September 8, 2026. The calendar runs through the very end of June, and the tentative 2027-2028 academic calendar continues the same trend. Five “weather days” are built into the calendar along with several Superintendent Conference days throughout the year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments either in person, or by email.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- March 12 - Music in Our Schools Month All-Chorus Concert, 7:00 PM
- March 19-20 - Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences & UPK Registration
- March 20-21 - All County II at Frankfort-Schuyler CSD
- March 25 - Superintendent's Conference Day (No Students PreK-12)
- March 27-28 - WCV Drama Production *The Great Gatsby*, 7:00 PM
- April 2 (Thursday) - Special Board Meeting - Budget Presentation, 6:00 PM
- April 3 - Good Friday (Building and Offices Closed)
- April 6-10 - Spring Break - No Classes
- April 13 (Monday) - 2026-27 Budget Hearing, 6:00 PM; Board of Education Regular Mtg., 6:30 PM
- April 15 (Wednesday) - Special Board Meeting - BOE Votes for BOCES BOE Members
- April 20 (Monday) - School Board Candidate Petitions due by 5:00 PM

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mrs. Northup-Lynch and seconded by Mr. Kemler, to adjourn the meeting.

All voted in favor; motion carried 7:0

Meeting adjourned: 7:58 PM

_____ _____

President, Board of Education Clerk, Board of Education