

Vestal Central Schools
Vestal, New York

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Summer Workshop

MONDAY, August 21, 2017

PRESENT:

Rick Bray
Linda Daino
Jerry Etingoff
David Hanson
John Hroncich – ABSENT
Mario Nunes
Sylvia Place
Michon Stuart
Tony Turnbull

ALSO PRESENT:

Superintendent Jeffrey Ahearn
Asst Superintendent for Instruction Laura Lamash
Interim Administrator Lorraine Paushter
School Attorney Michael Sherwood – ABSENT
School Business Executive Matthew Bechtel
District Clerk Kay Ellis
About 16 Visitors

The Board meeting was called to order at 9:15am by Board President Michon Stuart in the Staff Development Room of the Administration Building.

#076-18
Call to Order

Superintendent Ahearn welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda for the workshop. He also mentioned that the corrective action plan for the Comptroller's audit has been completed; the proceeding regarding tax collection is being finalized and talked about a legal gram that discusses the need for transparency of reserve funds.

#077-18
Workshop- Morning Session

The Board President reviewed the Board's Code of Conduct. A modification will be made to the cell phone and electronic device section to clarify usage.

Kathy Blackman, CBO Controller, related to the Board that the District is in excellent financial condition, supported by the Moody's rating and fiscal stress rating. She reviewed long range projections using assumptions for expenditures and historical data for revenue information.

School Business Executive Matthew Bechtel went over the general budget time line and explained the various reserve funds.

The Board took a short break from 10:45-11:05am.

Director of Special Education Rosalie Sullivan reviewed the field advisory from NYS, focusing specifically on the need for schools to provide high quality inclusive programs. Historical data shows we are not meeting some of the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) indicators. The Special Education department is looking at the continuum of services, BOCES enrollment, program needs, data collection; along with the transitions from elementary to middle school, middle school to high school and staff development opportunities.

The Board returned took a break for lunch 11:55am-12:55pm.

Assistant Superintendent Laura Lamash explained the need for the District to establish an electronic device usage protocol, to help promote a focused learning environment. The Personal Device Task Force, consisting of administrators, teachers, students, parents and staff, created the Personal Device Protocol. This protocol was developed to be age-appropriate and will be communicated to all through student orientations, assemblies, faculty meetings, mailings, curriculum nights and parent group meetings. The date of implementation is October 10, 2017. The parameters include "Power Off, Attention On" meaning no usage in classrooms unless directed by the teacher and "Respective Use Allowed" indicating designated areas where students could access electronic devices. Consequences for violations of the protocol will be reviewed with

#078-18
Workshop – Afternoon Session

students and enforced. This will be effective K-12, modeled by staff and supported by the Code of Conduct.

The Board was then invited outside to view the solar eclipse.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:

Tuesday, August 22, 2017 – Regular Meeting 7:00P:M

Board Conference Room –Administration Building

On motion by David Hanson, second by Sylvia Place, the Board voted 8 to 0 to adjourn immediately.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15PM.

#079-17
Future Meetings

#080-17
Adjournment

Kay Ellis
District Clerk