

Vestal Central School District  
Vestal, New York

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

PRESENT:

Mark Browning  
Linda Daino  
John Hroncich  
Lynne Majewski  
Dinno Nistico  
Mario Nunes  
Christina Pierce  
Sylvia Place  
Tony Turnbull

ALSO PRESENT:

Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey Ahearn  
Asst Supt for Finance, Operations & Personnel Cliff Kasson  
Asst Superintendent for Instruction Laura Lamash  
School Attorney Michael Sherwood  
School Business Executive Matthew Bechtel  
District Clerk Kay Ellis

About 6 Visitors

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:03PM by Board President Mario Nunes in the Board Conference Room of the Administration Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#333-20  
Call to Order and Pledge of  
Allegiance

On motion by Dinno Nistico, second by Sylvia Place, the Board voted 9 to 0 to adjourn immediately into Executive Session to discuss the recommendations from the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Pre-School Special Education; also the employment status of 13 staff members

#334-20  
Executive Session

The Board returned to open session at 6:22PM.

On motion by Linda Daino, second by Lynne Majewski, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 25, 2020 as written.

#335 -20  
Approval of Minutes

None.

#336-20  
Public Comment on Agenda Items

Student Government Representative Claire Lee reported on the following:

--the cheerleaders placed 8<sup>th</sup> in the state competition  
--parent night tonight for junior colleges  
--indoor track did well at the state competition  
--Running of the Bears 5K race/walk is March 28  
--this weekend is the Talent Fest at the high school

#337-20  
Reports

Board President Mario Nunes reported on the following:

--Liaisons: Irish dancers will visit VH on 3/17, a cultural collage will be held 3/19, the Blaze pizza fundraiser netted \$170. TH had 135 students participate in the afterschool programs; the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade recorder concert is 3/30. Fifth graders will view the movie "Like". CA will have student art displayed at the Vestal Museum.  
--42<sup>nd</sup> Street was performed last weekend, the show was a huge success  
-- the administrative budget and rates for next year were approved at the Health Insurance Consortium meeting

Superintendent Jeffrey Ahearn reported on the following:

--Capital Project: the change order resolution is for additional work bid on for Phase 1; the first section of classrooms being renovated at VMS will be complete by spring break and the next section started. Electrical and duct work will be done in the basement to not interrupt instruction. Dark room and office space will be demoed at the high school. The work on secure vestibules at CA and TH will be starting; plan to be completed by September. Plans are being drawn up for an elevator at CA to access the basement rooms.

--the French student trip to France in April was canceled. At the parent meeting last week all options were presented and the parents voted to cancel.  
 --CORONAVIRUS: the district is working with information from the Department of Health, SED, BOCES, CDC and NYS. NYS declared a state of emergency to access funding. There are no reports of any infection in the area. An informational letter was sent to staff and parents last week. Another letter is being drafted to go out this week; there is nothing new to report but we are keeping in communication with stakeholders. This information is also on our website. All student trips and staff conferences are being reviewed; some are being canceled or postponed. The media has a lot of misinformation out there. Our staff is following all cleaning protocol. Parents can opt out of letting their child use hand sanitizers. Area administrators are meeting to ensure they all have the same information.  
 --ELA assessment for grades 6-8 will be computer based; elementary will use paper  
 --the rates of students opting out of testing is down significantly from years past  
 --Odyssey of the Mind competition will be held Saturday  
 --the movie "Like" is being shown Thursday night  
 --Preliminary budget report: the District does not anticipate much, if any, of an increase in the projected State Aid. The revenue projection is \$80,102,286; reflecting a 2.17% increase in the levy. The expenditures are projected at \$80,423,859; a 2.6% increase. This leaves a \$321,573 gap. The breakdown of revenues and expenses were reviewed. Updated figures will be presented at the next meeting.

On motion by Sylvia Place, second by Dinno Nistico, the Board voted 9 to 0 to accept Schedule E-Enrollment February 2020, Schedule F Travel & Conference; and approve Schedule P - Personnel.

#338-20  
 Acceptance of Schedule E, F and  
 Approval of Schedule P

Under Schedule P the following changes were made:

**SCHEDULE IP 2**

**RETIREMENTS: INSTRUCTIONAL**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends the APPROVAL of the following INSTRUCTIONAL RETIREMENTS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>TENURE AREA</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Strano, Carol	Special Education Teacher	Special Subject Area: Gen Spec Ed	7/1/20

**SCHEDULE IP 4A**

**TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: INSTRUCTIONAL SUBSTITUTES**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends the APPROVAL of the following INSTRUCTIONAL TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS (SUBSTITUTES):

<u>NAME</u>	<u>INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL</u>	<u>CERTIF</u>	<u>DEGREE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Dutcher, Christopher	Social Studies	Initial	BS	3/11/20	
Heath, Barbara	Elementary/Spec Ed	Permanent	MSED	3/11/20	
O'Flanagan, Melissa	Special Education	Permanent	MSED	9/1/20	
Passante-Vu, Tuyet	Elementary	None	BS	3/11/20	
Tokos, Anne	Science	None	BS	3/11/20	

**SCHEDULE IP 4B**

**TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS: ABOVE CONTRACT**

Attached please find pages 3 and 4 of a master list of above contract positions for the 2019-20 school year. We are asking for approval for the person, position and stipend that is underlined and in bold print. Board Meeting: **March 10, 2020.**

<u>AREA OF APPOINTMENT</u>	<u>AREA/BLDG</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>	<u>POSTED</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>APPROVED</u>
<b>INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC POSITIONS</b>					
<b><u>Baseball: JV VOLUNTEER</u></b>	<b><u>Spring Season</u></b>			<b><u>Nardocci, Dylan</u></b>	<b><u>3/10/20</u></b>
<b><u>Lacrosse: Girls VOLUNTEER</u></b>	<b><u>Spring Season</u></b>			<b><u>Mansfield, John Todd</u></b>	<b><u>3/10/20</u></b>
<b><u>Lacrosse: JV G VOLUNTEER</u></b>	<b><u>Spring Season</u></b>			<b><u>Leska, Kevin</u></b>	<b><u>3/10/20</u></b>
<b>INTRAMURALS</b>					
<b><u>High School</u></b>	<b><u>Spring</u></b>	<b><u>\$500</u></b>		<b><u>Policare, Anthony</u></b>	<b><u>3/10/20</u></b>

**SCHEDULE NIP 1**

**RESIGNATIONS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends the APPROVAL of the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL RESIGNATIONS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SHIFT/SCHOOL</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Delgado, Thomas	Automotive Mechanic	Transportation	3/9/20	3/10/20

**SCHEDULE NIP 2**

**RETIREMENTS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends the APPROVAL of the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL RETIREMENTS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SHIFT/SCHOOL</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Galati-Grate, Mary Ann	Teacher Aide	High School	9/10/20	

**SCHEDULE NIP 4**

**PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends the APPROVAL of the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SHIFT/SCHOOL</u>	<u>PROBATION PERIOD</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Brand, Fred	Automotive Mechanic	Transportation	3/11/20-3/10/21	\$30,273	52 wk probation period
Weseman, Emma	Teacher Aide	Vestal Hills	3/11/20-5/18/21	\$17,318	52 wk probation period

**SCHEDULE NIP 8A**

**TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS/SUBSTITUTES: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends the APPROVAL of the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS SUBSTITUTES:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Davis, Diane	Teacher Aide PT/S	9/1/20	
Galati-Grate, Mary Ann	Teacher Aide PT/S	9/14/20	
Hidock, Holly	Teacher Aide PT/S	3/11/20	

**SCHEDULE NIP 9B**

**PART TIME NON-COMPETITIVE APPOINTMENTS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends the APPROVAL of the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL PART TIME NON-COMPETITIVE APPOINTMENTS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SHIFT/SCHOOL</u>	<u>PROBATION</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Kahn, Md	Bus Attendant (DIT)	Transportation	3/11/20-3/23/21	\$11.80/hr	52 wk probation period

**SCHEDULE NIP 10**

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends the APPROVAL of the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SHIFT/SCHOOL</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>	<u>REASON</u>
Finn, Heather	Teacher Aide (monitor) PT	African Road	1/8/20-2/6/20	Medical reasons

**SCHEDULE NIP 11**

**CHANGES IN STATUS: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends the APPROVAL of the following NON-INSTRUCTIONAL CHANGES IN STATUS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SHIFT/SCHOOL</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>REASON</u>
Finn, Heather	Teacher Aide (Monitor) PT	African Road	Change probation period from 10/15/19-12/21/20 to 10/15/19-1/26/21		Unpaid LOA
Smith, Dorothy	Food Service Helper 3.0 hrs/day	District	To: Food Service Helper 4.5 hrs/day African Road	3/11/20	

On motion by John Hroncich, second by Linda Daino, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education give permission for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to take a class trip to Dorney Park in Allentown, PA on May 29, 2020.

#339-20  
Extended Field Trip – Grade 8 to Dorney Park, PA

On motion by Dinno Nistico, second by Sylvia Place, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following resolution:

#340-20  
Extended Field Trip – Track students to Staten Island, NY

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education give permission for approximately 2 high school Track students for a trip to Staten Island participate in the state track tournament at the Ocean Breeze Athletic Center March 6-7, 2020. This approval is retroactive.

On motion by Lynne Majewski, second by Sylvia Place, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education give permission for approximately 23 high school cheerleading students for a trip to Rochester, NY to participate in the state competition at Rochester Institute of Technology March 6-7, 2020. This approval is retroactive.

#341-20  
Extended Field Trip –  
Cheerleaders to Rochester, NY

On motion by Mark Browning, second by Lynne Majewski, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education give permission for approximately 15 FIRST Robotic students for a trip to Pittsburg, PA to participate in the California University FIRST Robotics Competition on March 18-21, 2020.

#342-20  
Extended Field Trip – Robotics  
Team to Pittsburg, PA

On motion by Christina Pierce, second by John Hroncich, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education give permission for approximately 5 Middle School Math students for a trip to Troy, NY to participate in the Math Counts State Competition at RPI on March 7, 2020. This approval is retroactive.

#343-20  
Extended Field Trip – VMS Math  
students to Troy, NY

On motion by Tony Turnbull, second by Christina Pierce, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Assistant Director of Facilities & Operations, declare the equipment from Maintenance Department listed on the attachment as obsolete and authorize the disposition of these items in accordance with Board Policy 5250.

#344-20  
Declaration of Obsolete  
Equipment - Maintenance

On motion by Lynne Majewski, second by Dinno Nistico, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education pursuant to its authority under Section 1709 (12) of the Education Law hereby accepts the following gifts:

Description	Approx. Value	Donor	Recipient
Cash Donation for	\$250.00	Coleman & Daniels	Vestal Central
Hall of Fame expenses		Funeral Home LLC	School District

#345-20  
Acceptance of Donations – Hall  
of Fame (Coleman & Daniels)

On motion by Linda Daino, second by Christina Pierce, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve Change Order 002 AF MC-1 for J&K Plumbing and Heating Co., Inc. for the removal of 8 (eight) existing air handling units and installation of 9 (nine) roof top units for the middle school gym building in the amount of \$132,000.00.

#346-20  
Capital Improvement Project  
Change Order – J&K Plumbing  
002 AF MC-1

On motion by Dinno Nistico, second by Mark Browning, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the President or Vice President of the Board of Education be authorized to sign an agreement with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Broome County to provide services for staff on Superintendent’s Conference Day on March 12, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$300.00.

#347-20  
Sup’t Conference Day 3/12/20  
Contract with Cornell Cooperative  
Extension of Broome County

Shoba Agneshwar, Stonehedge Drive, Vestal, asked for clarification regarding the BOCES buget.

#348-20  
Voice of the Public

FUTURE MEETINGS:

**Tuesday, March 24, 2020 @ 7:00PM Regular Meeting**

Board Conference Room – Administration Building

**MONDAY, April 20, 2020 - @ 6:00PM Regular Meeting**

Board Conference Room – Administration Building

#349-20  
Future Meetings

**Tuesday, May 5, 2020 @ 7:00PM Regular Meeting/Public Hearing**

Auditorium – Clayton Avenue Elementary School

**Tuesday, May 19, 2020 ANNUAL VOTE**

Board Conference Room – Administration Building

On motion by Sylvia Place, second by Dinno Nistico, the Board voted 9 to 0 to adjourn immediately.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40PM.

#350-20  
Adjournment

---

Kay Ellis  
District Clerk

VESTAL CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Vestal, New York

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
EXECUTIVE SESSION  
Tuesday, March 10, 2020

PRESENT:

Mark Browning  
Linda Daino  
John Hroncich  
Lynne Majewski  
Dinno Nistico  
Mario Nunes  
Christina Pierce  
Sylvia Place  
Tony Turnbull

ALSO PRESENT:

Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey Ahearn  
Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Cliff Kasson  
Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Laura Lamash  
  
School District Attorney Michael Sherwood  
District Clerk Kay Ellis  
School Business Executive Matthew Bechtel  
Director of Special Education Rosalie Sullivan – ABSENT

Executive Session commenced at 6:06PM in the Small Conference Room of the Administration Building.

Recommendations and annual reviews of the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education were on the agenda. Board members had information for each student made available to them prior to the meeting for review. Board members gave due consideration to each case before voting.

On motion by Dinno Nistico, second by Linda Daino, the Board voted 9 to 0 to accept the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education for all students considered.

The Board was updated on the employment status of 13 staff members.

On motion by Dinno Nistico, second by John Hroncich, the Board voted 9 to 0 to adjourn Executive Session and return to open session immediately.

Executive Session was adjourned at 6:20PM.

---

Kay Ellis  
District Clerk