

Vestal Central School District  
Vestal, New York

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

**THIS MEETING WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.**

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  
Director of Special Education Rosalie Sullivan\*  
  
About 0 Visitors

**\*BOARD MEMBERS/STAFF ATTENDED VIA ZOOM**

**THIS MEETING WAS HELD DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. BY AN EXECUTIVE ORDER ISSUED BY THE GOVERNOR ON MARCH 13, 2020, A PORTION OF THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW WAS WAIVED. SPECIFICALLY:**

***“Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed.”***

This meeting was also streamed live on YouTube: [https://youtu.be/uCWQ\\_Xjp3eU](https://youtu.be/uCWQ_Xjp3eU)

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:01PM by Board President Mario Nunes in the South Conference Room of the Administration Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#399-20  
Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

Board President Mario Nunes opened the public hearing for changes to the student Code of Conduct. It was explained that the definition of what a weapon could be was the only change in the document. There were no other comments. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:03pm.

#400 -20  
Public Hearing on Code of Conduct

On motion by Dinno Nistico, second by Christina Pierce, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the minutes of the regular meeting April 24, 2020 as written.

#401 -20  
Approval of Minutes

None.

#402-20  
Public Comment on Agenda Items

Student Government Representative Claire Lee reported the following: None.

#403 -20  
Reports

Board President Mario Nunes reported the following:

--Board members were reminded to make sure they have submitted their evaluation information of the Superintendent to the Board President as soon as possible. The formal evaluation will be during executive session at the May 19, 2020 meeting.  
--the Academic Awards presentation will take place remotely on 5/11/20. The Board will be emailed an invitation to the Zoom event.

Superintendent Jeffrey Ahearn reported the following:

--this is Teacher Appreciation Week; they were thanked for the exceptional work being done during this challenging time keeping in touch with students and continuing instruction

--Food Service personnel have distributed over 28,000 meals since March. The pick up location at Clayton Avenue will move to the high school next week to accommodate work planned for Clayton Avenue.

--Capital Project: High School - Project Lead the Way rooms in the basement are being completed. Brick work on the roof by the auditorium and pool gym is being done. Existing water fountains are being replaced with those that can also fill water bottles. ARE Complex – classrooms are being fitted with interactive TVs, flanked by white boards. Windows on the hallway side of classrooms were removed and replaced with fire rated walls. Family/Consumer Science rooms are being completed remodeled and reconfigured. Classroom renovations continue. The basement was excavated for concrete work to support the new air handlers. The continued closure has helped to increase some of the planned construction work.

CLOSURE: On May 1, 2020 the Governor closed all schools in the State through the end of the academic year.

--Building principals are making plans to allow staff/students to collect personal belongings that were left when schools closed. Details on how to safely access our buildings will be announced in the next couple of weeks.

--Reopening plans are on hold until more guidance is received from the State. We will need clarification regarding social distancing, cleaning, busing and it is too soon to move forward.

--So far 1061 Chromebooks have been distributed to students/staff

--Direction was received regarding the annual vote/election of Board members. The May 19<sup>th</sup> vote will now take place June 9<sup>th</sup> by absentee ballots only. No minimum number of names will be required on petitions but they need to be submitted by May 11<sup>th</sup>. Candidates will be on the ballot in alphabetical order. We plan on mailing ballots around May 28<sup>th</sup> but still are looking for more details regarding some of the procedures required for this vote. We are asking for a special board meeting May 12<sup>th</sup> to adopt the 2020-21 budget.

--Budget 20-21: we will have a balanced budget for 2020-21. The public hearing is scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup>, held remotely. The tax levy increase is 2.17% - the maximum allowable levy we can go out at. We are using \$736,000 from the ERS reserve fund and have increased the amount allotted for unemployment claims due to the COVID pandemic. BOCES revenue is projected to increase. The total budget amount of \$80,582,859 is 70% salary and benefits. No changes in the budget are planned at this time but we are looking ahead to prepare in case State Aid is cut during the fiscal year. The bus proposition is for \$920,150 to replace 6 buses, including 2 that are wheelchair accessible. The cost per bus has increased because we are ordering them with the safety and security features instead of installing equipment after delivery which slows them getting into service. Also the new buses will have air conditioning to accommodate IEPs and special education student needs. Our obsolete buses sent to auction continually bring in very good prices since we maintain the fleet very well. Board members were encouraged to call administration with any budget questions.

--Year End: Options for celebrations are being discussed. Prom, graduation, senior trip etc will not be happening as years past. Suggestions are being looked at and administrators are meeting to decide how we can make things special for the students.

--Five of our schools were named Recognition Schools.

--Out of 51 students participating in the local Seal of Bi-Literacy event, 16 were from Vestal. All cleared the first round and now will move on to the written exam.

--a revision to the Zearn contract previously approved by the Board will be a walk-in tonight. This revision will make it compliant with Ed Law 2-d.

--grading procedures are being discussed at the secondary level to ensure students are not penalized due to circumstance beyond their control.

--the VTA made a monetary contribution to the CHOW food pantry

--communications will continue to staff and parents

On motion by Dinno Nistico, second by Linda Daino, the Board voted 9 to 0 to accept Schedule E Enrollment April 2020; and approve Schedule P - Personnel.

Under Schedule P the following changes were made:

**SCHEDULE IP 3**

**PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: INSTRUCTIONAL**

The Superintendent of Schools hereby recommends the APPROVAL of the following INSTRUCTIONAL PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>TENURE AREA</u>	<u>CERTIF</u>	<u>PROBATION DATE</u>	<u>TENURE DATE</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
Heslin, Laura	Math Teacher	Academic Area: Mathematics	Pending Certification	9/1/20-6/30/24	9/1/24	\$55723
Johnsen, Annika	Science Teacher	Academic Area: Gen Science	Initial	9/1/20-6/30/24	9/1/24	\$55723
Lomonaco, Ashley	Physical Education Teacher	Academic Area: Physical Education	Initial	9/1/20-6/30/24	9/1/24	\$58096
Milunich, Gregory	Special Education Teacher	Special Subject Area: Gen Spec Ed	Professional	9/1/20-6/30/23*	9/1/23	\$63524
Zwolinksi, Richard	Math Teacher	Academic Area: Math	Pending	9/1/20-6/30/24	9/1/24	\$63502

\*Previous NYS tenure

To the extent required by the applicable provisions of Education Law 2509, 2573, 3212 and 3014, in order to be granted tenure the classroom teacher or building principal shall have received composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Education Law 3012-c and/or 3012/d of either effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years. If the classroom teacher or building principal received an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period he or she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time. For purposes of this subdivision, classroom teacher and building principal mean a classroom teacher or building principal as such terms are defined in Sections 30-2.2 and 30-3.2 of this Part.

**SCHEDULE IP 4B**

**TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS: ABOVE CONTRACT**

Attached please find pages 3 of a master list of above contract positions for the 2020-21 school year. We are asking for approval for the person, position and stipend that is underlined and in bold print. Board Meeting: **May 5, 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>Cheerleading: Varsity</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$5389</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Schultz, Erin</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Cheerleading: JV</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$3684</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Morris, Kim</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Cross Country: Varsity B&amp;G</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$5389</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Marcin, Stephen</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Cross Country: Modified</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$3409</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>O'Shea, Ronald</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Football: Varsity Asst</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$5288</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Anderson, John</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Football: Varsity Asst</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$6006</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Cerra, James</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Football: Varsity Asst</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$5288</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Carr, Robert</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Football: JV Head</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$5288</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Donlin, Brian</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Football: Modified Head</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$4889</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Crunden, James</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Football: Modified Asst</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$4512</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Dutkowsky, Christopher</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Field Hockey: Varsity</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$5389</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Sax, Vickie</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Golf: Varsity</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$5389</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Yesensky, Jodi</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Soccer: Varsity Boys</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$6652</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Barr, David</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Soccer: Varsity Girls</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$6652</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Baldwin Gina</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Soccer: JV Boys</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$4526</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Daino, Jeremy</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Soccer: JV Girls</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$4526</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Stepanovsky, William</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Soccer: Modified Boys</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$4199</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Osinski, David</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Swimming: Varsity Girls</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$6652</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Tallon, Bobbi-Jo</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Swimming: Varsity Asst Girls</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$4526</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Minde, Katelyn</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Swimming: Modified Girls</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$5389</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Harnan, Patrick</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Tennis: Varsity Girls</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$5389</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Troidl, Alan</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Volleyball: JV Girls</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$4526</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Uhrlass, Howard</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Volleyball: Modified Girls</u></b>	<b><u>Fall Season</u></b>	<b><u>\$4199</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Siegrist, Valery</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>
<b><u>Athletic Events Manager</u></b>	<b><u>Annual</u></b>	<b><u>\$7051</u></b>	<b><u>3/2/20</u></b>	<b><u>Schramm, Rebecca</u></b>	<b><u>5/5/20</u></b>

**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>
Harrington, Donna	Senior Typist	High School	11/30/20	

**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>
Carey, Tyler	Bus Attendant	Transportation	3/23/20-4/30/20	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>
Darrah, Steven	Automotive Mechanic	Transportation	To: Head Mechanic	7/1/19	
Santucci, James	Head Automotive Mechanic	Transportation	To: Automotive Mechanic	3/31/20	

The following employees have achieved satisfactory completion of District probation period:

Losier, Jennifer	Monitor PT	Tioga Hills	5/20/20
Segalini, Esen	Monitor PT	Glenwood	5/13/20

On motion by Lynne Majewski, second by Christina Pierce, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following motion:  
 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the change in the May 5, 2020 meeting agenda to include a revised contract with Zearn Inc. as an additional resolution.

#405-20  
 Amendment to Agenda

On motion by Christina Pierce, second by Dinno Nistico, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following motion:  
 RESOLVED, that the President or Vice President of the Board of Education be authorized to sign a service agreement with Marie Sorensen to provide English Language Arts tutoring for English Language Learners and Immigrant students at Ross Corners Christian Academy, in accordance with terms outlined in the attached agreement, through August 31, 2020.

#406-20  
 Contract with Marie Sorensen-  
 Services at Ross Corners

On motion by Tony Turnbull, second by Sylvia Place, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following motion:  
 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education President or Vice-President be authorized to sign an agreement with Cub Care Children’s Center, Inc. to provide prekindergarten services for the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) grant, in accordance with the terms outlined in the agreement, for the 2020-21 academic year.

#407-20  
 2020-21 UPK Agreement with  
 Cub Care Children’s Center

On motion by Dinno Nistico, second by Sylvia Place, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following motion:  
 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following school administrators are hereby certified as Qualified Lead Evaluator of teachers having successfully completed the training requirements prescribed in 8 NYCRR §30-2.9(b):

#408-20  
 Certification of Lead Evaluators  
 of Teacher 2019-20

- |                    |                    |                  |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Andrew Blaine      | Jane Hashey        | Andrea Miller    |
| Bradley Bruce      | Merry Jones        | Meghan Stenta    |
| Patrick Clarke III | Laura Lamash, Ed.D | Rosalie Sullivan |
| Hayley Crimmins    | Ann Marie Loose    | Melissa Williams |
| Richard Dutko      | Therese Mastro     | Dawn Young       |
| Amber Dennis       | Ashley McKenna     | Annamary Zappia  |
| Joshua Gannon      | Doreen McSain      |                  |

On motion by Dinno Nistico, second by Tony Turnbull, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following school administrators are hereby certified as Qualified Lead Evaluator of principals having successfully completed the training requirements prescribed in 8 NYCRR §30-2.9(b):

Jeffrey Ahearn, Superintendent  
Laura Lamash, Ed.D, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

#409-20  
Certification of Lead Evaluators  
of Principals 2019-20

On motion by Linda Daino, second by Dinno Nistico, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following motion:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education President or Vice-President be authorized to sign an agreement with Jewish Community Center. to provide prekindergarten services for the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) grant, in accordance with the terms outlined in the agreement, for the 2020-21 academic year.

#410-20  
2020-21 UPK Agreement with  
Jewish Community Center

On motion by John Hroncich, second by Dinno Nistico, the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the following motion:

RESOLVED, that the President or Vice-President of the Board of Education be authorized to sign a revised agreement with Zearn, Inc. for a subscription for a school account and on-demand professional development services through June 20, 2021.

#411-20  
Revised Contract with Zearn Inc.

The following policies were available for first reading:

- Policy 3150 School Volunteers
- Policy 5731 Idling School Buses on School Grounds
- Policy 6121 Sexual Harassment
- Policy 6560 Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
- Policy 7210 Student Evaluation, Promotion and Placement
- Policy 7512 Student Physicals
- Policy 7310 Code of Conduct

First Reading of 7 Policies

FUTURE MEETINGS:

**Tuesday, May 12, 2020 @ 6:00PM SPECIAL MEETING**

South Conference Room and via Zoom, You.Tube

**Tuesday, May 19, 2020 @ 7:00PM Regular Meeting**

South Conference Room and via Zoom, You.Tube

**Tuesday, May 26, 2020 @ 7:00PM SPECIAL MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING**

South Conference Room and via Zoom, You.Tube

**Tuesday, June 9, 2020 @ 6:00PM Regular Meeting**

South Conference Room and via Zoom, You.Tube

**Tuesday, June 23, 2020 @ 6:00PM Regular Meeting**

South Conference Room and via Zoom, You.Tube

#412-20  
Future Meetings

On motion by Linda Daino, second by Christina Pierce, the Board voted 9 to 0 to adjourn immediately into Executive Session to discuss the recommendations from the Committee on Special Education and an update on a student legal matter.

#413-20  
Executive Session

On motion by Linda Daino, second by John Hroncich, the Board voted 9 to 0 to adjourn immediately.

#414-20  
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.

Kay Ellis  
District Clerk

VESTAL CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Vestal, New York

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
EXECUTIVE SESSION  
Tuesday, May 5, 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\* – dismissed 7:35 pm

**\*BOARD MEMBERS/STAFF ATTENDED VIA ZOOM**

Executive Session commenced at 7:29PM in the South Conference Room of the Administration Building.

Recommendations and annual reviews of the Committee on 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 Tony Turnbull, second by Sylvia Place, the Board voted 9 to 0 to accept the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education for all students considered.

The Board was updated on the status of an on-going student legal matter.

On motion by Sylvia Place, second by Christina Pierce, the Board voted 9 to 0 to adjourn Executive Session and return to open session immediately.

Executive Session was adjourned at 8:15PM.

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Kay Ellis  
District Clerk