



CAZENOVIA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 6:30 pm

31 Emory Ave | Cazenovia, NY 13035
Board of Education Conference Room, Cazenovia Middle School
Open to the Public and Streamed Live on GoogleMeet

Type of Meeting:	Regular
Board Members Present:	JoAnne Race, Meghan Kelly, Travis Barr, Judith Hight, Ron Luteran, Jennifer Parmalee, Jan Woodworth
Board Members Absent:	None
Administrators Present:	Christopher DiFulvio, Thomas Finnerty, Kevin Linck

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by JoAnne Race, Board President, at 6:31 pm. She asked all to stand for the pledge of allegiance after a moment of silence was observed.

2. Presentation

Annual Audit: Tom Finnerty introduced Courtney Pearsall from D'Arcangelo, who met with the Finance & Audit Committee tonight at 5:30pm to review the results of the annual independent external audit for FY23-24. She distributed copies of the report and highlighted that there were no instances of non-compliance or weaknesses. Chris DiFulvio complimented Tom, his team in the business office, and the administrators for the hard work that goes into getting a clean audit.

Board of Education Appreciation Week: Charlie Wilox (student) and Jason Hyatt (CTE teacher) presented key chains with the district's new vision statement "Discovering Tomorrow Together" that students made in CTE class for each member of the Board of Education. They explained the process to make them, and thanked the Board for all the support for our CTE programs.

Student Highlights: Kevin Linck introduced Kim Schug (high school math teacher and math department leader), Victoria Gilliland (middle school math teacher and math/science building leader) and Julie Kielbasinski (elementary school teacher and math/science building leader). Victoria and Julie spoke about the new math curriculum in PK-7, Eureka Squared, which works in partnership with the new ELA curriculum, Wit & Wisdom. Kim Schug spoke about the Next Generation Learning Standards for high school students that the district is in the process of moving toward, for which implementation was delayed due to Covid.

3. Public Comments

JoAnne Race opened up the meeting to public comments.

Juli Pace, 1296 Owahgena Road, Cazenovia: thanked Chris DiFulvio, Micael Speirs and Jenn Raux for attending the Disconnected conference, summarized the conference, and voiced concerns about the use of cellphones in schools.

4. Written Communications

The Board received an email from a community member about Columbus Day.

5. Information and Reports

A. Board Committees

Board of Education Committees

- Finance & Audit: Jan Woodworth reported that the committee met tonight at 5:30 pm to go over the annual audit in detail, as presented by Courtney Pearsall from D'Arcangelo.
- Policy: Judith Hight reported that the committee met on September 27th, and gave an overview of what was worked on. Next meeting will be held on November 15th at 7:30 am.

District Committees with Board Representatives

- Communications: Travis Barr reported that this committee did not meet.
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI): Meghan Kelly reported that this committee met last week and worked on Smart Goals for this coming year.
- Facilities: Ron Luteran reported that this committee will meet later this month; he will work with Eric Benedict on the agenda and send the invite to the whole Board. He complimented the Phase II Capital Project (Turf) ribbon cutting ceremony on October 5th and his joy seeing students using this new space after six years of work.
- High School Action Team (HAT): Jan Woodworth reported that this committee did not meet.

- B. Board President: JoAnne Race thanked everyone who came to the turf ribbon cutting ceremony on October 5. She expressed gratitude on behalf of the Board of Education for the gifts from the CTE students for Board appreciation week; and thanked the administration for their hard work starting off the new school year.
- C. Superintendent of Schools: Chris DiFulvio gave an update on electric buses, which the district would need to spend \$232,000 on each bus after all applicable refunds/grants. He recommended not applying for the grant due to the high cost that remains for the district. Karen Brouillette, Transportation Supervisor, would like to have two vendors present on diesel buses at the November and December Board meetings. Chris thanked Amy Getman-Herringshaw for her leadership as the Mental Health Coordinator; he reported that he and Kevin Linck recently met with our EAP coordinator at BOCES. Chris thanked Juli Pace for her summary of the Disconnected conference, and reported that he plans to meet with each principal to develop a plan to use existing district committees (like High School Action Team) to engage stakeholders on this topic, and bring back recommendations to the Board of Education. With regards to the merger study, we continue to struggle to find someone capable of doing one and getting funds from NYS to cover the associated expenses.
- D. Assistant Superintendent for Business Administration: Tom Finnerty reported that the business office has transitioned from focusing on the annual audit to completing the NYSED state aid reporting; the deadline for which is coming up this Friday. Budget season starts next month, and his goal is to prepare better forecasting and longer-term spending projections (beyond 2025-26).
- E. Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, Equity and Personnel: Kevin Linck thanked Julie, Victoria and Kim for their presentation tonight; he reported that last Friday was a staff development day with a focus on vertical alignment and priority standards.
- F. Director of Special Education: Micael Speirs submitted a written report in advance.
- G. Elementary School Principal: Cristina Knapp submitted a written report in advance.
- H. Middle School Principal: Amy Getman-Herringshaw submitted a written report in advance.
- I. High School Principal: Molly Hagan submitted a written report in advance.

6. Consent Agenda - Routine Matters

- A. Minutes for September 16, 2024 Regular Meeting & Public Hearing
- B. CSE Report for October 2024
- C. Financial Reports for August 2024

D. Budget Transfer Requests 3 and 4 (2024-25)

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Meghan Kelly to approve the Consent Agenda.

➤ *Vote: 7 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

7. New Business

A. Resolution to Approve the Revised Policy 7440 | Student Voter Registration and Pre-Registration

Motion made by Meghan Kelly, seconded by Jan Woodworth to approve Agenda Item 7A.

➤ *Vote: 7 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

B. Resolution to Approve the Winter 2024-25 Sports Combination Requests

Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Jan Woodworth to approve Agenda Item 7B.

➤ *Vote: 7 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

C. Resolution to Approve the Contract with CASA 2024-2027

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Ron Luteran to approve Agenda Item 7C.

➤ *Vote: 7 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

D. Resolution to Accept the Annual Audit

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Jennifer Parmalee to approve Agenda Item 7D.

➤ *Vote: 7 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

8. Personnel Report

JoAnne Race thanked Maggie Marsch for her years of service to the district and congratulated her on her retirement in January.

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Meghan Kelly to approve the Personnel Report.

➤ *Vote: 7 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

9. Discussion Items

A. Reorganization Discussion: Chris DiFulvio gave an update on the merger study process. JoAnne Race asked if finding someone to do the study and finding a way to pay for the study (with grants, etc) were happening simultaneously; Chris said yes.

B. Bus Garage and Zero-Emissions Buses: Ron Luteran reported that the district facilities committee is focusing on building a new transportation center with capability to fuel electric buses if or when the NYS law goes into effect. Chris DiFulvio spoke with Mike Johnson, from Johnson Lumber, earlier today to let him know the district has no updates at this time on purchasing the property.

10. Advance Planning

A. Future Agenda Items:

Meghan Kelly voiced interest in the aforementioned presentations on diesel buses and asked when that could happen; Chris DiFulvio said November and December, and said the shared services feasibility presentation is also planned to be presented to the Board in November.

Travis Barr mentioned that people in the community approach him about social issues. He asked what progress has been made in response to the public comments on racism that were made at the September Board meeting. Chris DiFulvio acknowledged that racism exists locally and globally, and that the district has been addressing reported acts of racism directly with students, and racism in

general proactively with the DEI committee and InterGroup Dialogue extracurricular club. The district continues to look for additional opportunities to partner with InterFaith Works and BOCES to address this critical issue. Nicole Littlepage, who started InterGroup Dialogue at our district, was in attendance, and was asked to give an overview of the program, what was piloted last year, and what is planned for this year.

B. Future Meeting Dates: no additional meetings were scheduled at this time.

11. Executive Session

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Meghan Kelly to move into Executive Session.

➤ *Vote: 7 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

The Board moved into Executive Session at 7:46 pm.

Motion made by Travis Barr, seconded by Ron Luteran to return to Public Session.

➤ *Vote: 7 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

The Board returned to Public Session at 9:56 pm.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Travis Barr to adjourn the meeting.

➤ *Vote: 7 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

JoAnne Race adjourned the meeting at 9:56 pm.

Emily Ayres, District Clerk