



## CAZENOVIA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting  
Monday, November 18, 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

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### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by JoAnne Race, Board President, at 6:30 pm. She asked all to stand for the pledge of allegiance after a moment of silence was observed.

### 2. Presentation

- A. Diesel Bus Presentation by Leonard Bus Sales: Tom Finnerty introduced the presentation on diesel buses given by Christine Goussens, who presented misconceptions of diesel, gasoline, and propane. She answered questions about miles per gallon with diesel vs. gasoline buses; as well as electric bus availability.
- B. 10 Week Check Presentation: Kevin Linck presented data on AIMSWeb benchmarking, BIMAS testing, attendance, and comparative data.

### 3. Public Comments

JoAnne Race opened up the meeting to public comments and reviewed the guidelines.

Rachelann Copland, 6397 Nelson Road, Cazenovia: voiced concerns about lack of supervision on buses and playground, called for increased training of employees who supervise those areas.

### 4. Written Communications

JoAnne Race reported the board of education received written communication about the 2024 school board election; and about student supervision concerns.

### 5. Information and Reports

#### A. Board Committees

##### Board of Education Committees

- Finance & Audit: No update tonight; committee has not recently met.
- Policy: Judith reported this committee met on November 15th when they reviewed the rest of 6000s; on tonight's agenda are two policies for First Read, from Erie 1 BOCES's 2025 audit.

##### District Committees with Board Representatives

- Communications: No update tonight; committee will meet next on December 4th..
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI): No update tonight; committee last met on November 6th.
- Facilities: Ron Luteran reported this committee will meet the first week of December. Eric is

wrapping up details on the turf project (top of lighting poles are exposed, these are strings, not wires); and there seems to be some dimpling on the back of the new scoreboard.

- High School Action Team (HAT): No update tonight; committee has not recently met..
- B. Board President: JoAnne Race reported that she attended the UCAN summit at the Cazenovia Public Library on Saturday; Senator Rachel May said that NYS is rethinking the electric bus implementation timeline though no specific details were given, JoAnne suggested rethinking applying for grants as they've expanded to no longer focus on high-need districts.
- C. Superintendent of Schools: Chris DiFulvio reported working on the grant for the reorganization study; currently focusing on budget, reviewing student schedules, grade configurations, innovative internship opportunities through BOCES; most school districts are grappling with increasing special education costs; working to figure out a solution for the needed transportation center, Johnson lumber buildings would require stripping down to steel frames, which would drive up the cost to higher than new construction, the Facilities Committee will look at options they meet in December; working with M-E to see if a shared garage is a possibility.
- D. Assistant Superintendent for Business Administration: Tom Finnerty reported that NYSIR insurance's financial rating has been downgraded to C+, will be looking into new insurance options. Had planned a joint electric bus feasibility study presentation tonight, but is now planning for January's board meeting. Eric Benedict and Tom Finnerty put together a RFB for a plow truck, the lowest bid was \$80K so they decided not to commit that much money to this purchase at this time. Negotiation trends among other districts for teacher contracts appear that most districts are in the 3-4% range for next year. Tom handed out a report on the federal and state grants status report to show how much comes from federal funding. Judith Hight asked if the district looked into hiring a plowing service instead of purchasing a new truck.
- E. Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, Equity and Personnel: Kevin Linck reported that the district continues to struggle to find enough substitute teachers; continuing to work with the union, trying to hire more; feedback from subs is that the pay is too low compared to neighboring districts. With minimum wage increasing December 31, six groups of substitute employees will need pay adjustments to make sure we are in compliance.
- 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 October 15, 2024 Regular Meeting
- B. CSE Report for November 2024
- C. Financial Reports for September 2024
- D. Field Trip Request NYSSMA 10-12 Area All-State 2025

*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 Amended Ice Hockey Winter 2024-25 Sports Combination Request

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

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

- B. Resolution to Accept Canoe Donation

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

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

- C. Resolution to Approve the 2024-25 Tax Collector's Report

*Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Meghan Kelly to approve Agenda Item 7C.*

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

D. Resolution to Approve the 2025-2026 Proposed Budget Calendar

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

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

E. Resolution to Approve the 2023-24 Extraclassroom Activity Fund Audit - Corrective Action Plan

*Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Jennifer Parmalee to approve Agenda Item 7E.*

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

F. Resolution to Approve the RFP Award for Commissioning Agent/Testing-Adjusting-Balancing consultant (CxA-TAB) for the Phase 3 Building Project

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

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

## 8. Personnel Report

*Motion made by Judith Hight, seconded by Meghan Kelly to approve the Personnel Report and Supplemental Personnel Report*

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

## 9. Discussion Items

A. First Read: Revised Policy # 6550 | Leaves of Absence

- Next month: second read and adoption.

B. First Read: Revised Policy # 6560 | Determination of Employment Status: Employee or Independent Contractor

- Next month: second read and adoption.

C. Reorganization Discussion:

- M-E will put out an RFP, already has one quote (waiting for two other quotes). Roscoe and Livingston Manor schools recently merged; two other schools in NYS are doing a study to be completed in December.

D. Bus Garage and Zero-Emissions Buses:

- Travis Barr asked if the district knows the distance an electric bus can go on one charge. JoAnne Race commented that the district had a bus route analysis performed, which showed some routes can be completed (15, possibly); some cannot be completed (9). Jan Woodworth commented that winter will impact performance. Best claim is 120 miles, but reality is closer to 80-100 miles.

E. Communication of the new Career Recognition Policy:

- Judith Hight credited JoAnne Race for writing the new policy herself, a remarkable job. JoAnne Race asked if those who approached the district within the last year or two were aware of the new policy, Chris DiFulvio responded that he and Emily Ayres have reached out to all them..

## 10. Advance Planning

A. Future Agenda Items: None added tonight.

B. Future Meeting Dates: JoAnne Race asked Emily Ayres, District Clerk, to reach out to the Policy Committee to schedule the next meeting.

## 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 7:59 pm.

- Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Meghan Kelly to return to Public Session.*
- *Vote: 7 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

The Board returned to Public Session at 8:23 pm.

## **12. Adjournment**

- Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Jan Woodworth to adjourn the meeting.*
- *Vote: 7 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

JoAnne Race adjourned the meeting at 8:24 pm.

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Emily Ayres, District Clerk