CAZENOVIA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Monday, August 11, 2025 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:	Travis Barr, Jeffrey Dewan, Judith Hight, Ron Luteran, JoAnne Race, Jan Woodworth
Board Members Absent:	Jennifer Parmalee
Administrators Present:	Christopher DiFulvio, Thomas Finnerty, Kevin Linck

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1. **Call to Order**

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

2. **Executive Session**

   Motion made by JoAnne Race, seconded by Ron Luteran to move into Executive Session to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation to a vacant seat on the Board of Education.
   - *Vote: 5 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

   The Board moved into Executive Session at 6:31 pm.

   Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Travis Barr to return to Public Session.
   - *Vote: 5 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

   The Board returned to Public Session at 6:36 pm.

3. **Motion to Add the Resolution to Appoint a New Member to the Board of Education to the Agenda**

   Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Ron Luteran to add a resolution to the agenda.
   - *Vote: 5 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

4. **Resolution to Approve the Appointment to the Board of Education**

   Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by JoAnne Race to approve the resolution to appoint Jeffrey Dewan to the Board of Education for the vacant term expiring June 30, 2026.
   - *Vote: 5 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

5. **Oaths of Office for Appointed Board Member**

   District Clerk, Emily Ayres, administered the Oath of Office to the appointed Board member Jeffrey Dewan.

6. **Presentation**

   A. Presentation of check from Caz Pride for Haven Club and Sanctuary Club 2025-26: Caz Pride presented a check and read a statement dedicating the donation for Haven Club and Sanctuary Club

to former Cazenovia CSD school nurse, Linda Siracuse.

B. End of Year Check - Demographic Information/Summary: Kevin Linck presented data on student enrollment, gender distribution, socioeconomic status, ethnic/racial composition, ELL, special education, attendance and graduation rates, and academic performance over the last six years.

C. Administrative Goals Presentation: Chris DiFulvio presentation the 2025-26 goals of the administrative team, including review and revision of the strategic plan, staff surveys and parent surveys, focusing on vision statement (Discovering Tomorrow Together); would like to revise the strategic plan to align with the reality of the financial constraints due to budget cuts (strategic staffing and resource allocation); hoping to present again to the board at the January 2026 meeting before the budget season begins for the May 2026 vote.

7. Public Comments

Judith Hight opened it up to public comments; hearing none, moved on.

8. Written Communications

Chris DiFulvio reported receiving a letter from NYS Department of State awarding Cazenovia CSD a $40,000 grant for a merger feasibility study, which he will discuss in more depth later in the meeting.

9. Information and Reports

A. Board Committees

Board of Education Committees

- Finance & Audit: has not met
- Policy: has not met

District Committees with Board Representatives

- Communications: has not met
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI): has not met
- Facilities: the district has received an invitation from Ashley McGraw Architects to visit the new bus garage at Harpursville CSD, date TBD.
- High School Action Team (HAT): has not met

B. Board President: Judith Hight spoke about the applications and interviews pertaining to the board vacancy, remarked on the talented pool of applicants, and the board's delight to invite Jeff Dewan to serve the remainder of the vacant term. She also spoke about the remarkable funding from Al Stirpe's office, noting all of the work that Chris DiFulvio has done to advocate for the school district.

C. Superintendent of Schools: Chris DiFulvio reported on revisiting the strategic planning process, updates to the facilities, financial planning, budget updates, free breakfast and lunch for all students from NYS, and the merger feasibility study RFP. He extended a huge thank you to Bouley Associates, Inc. for their work to complete Hazel's Path at the Burton Street playground.

D. Assistant Superintendent for Business Administration: Thomas Finnerty reported on Phase III project progress, projected to underspend by $422K working with Fiscal Advisors to maximize the savings and put toward the future bus garage. He also reported on federal grants, the annual audit which is underway, the business office closing out last FY and ramping up for the new school year in September. The Finance & Audit Committee will need to meet in October, Tom reported that finances are trending in the right direction due to a concerted effort of underspending and recent unexpected overearnings in interest; he expects the district to be in a better spot financially than previously anticipated.

E. Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, Equity and Personnel: Kevin Linck reported that summer school is ending this week, and thanked Christina New, the Summer School Administrative Intern, for all of her hard work. The district will be offering TCIS training this week, and is two weeks away from new staff orientation on August 26th. Superintendent conference days will be September 2nd and 3rd, and the first day back for students will be September 4th.

F. Director of Special Education: Amy Bailey submitted a written report in advance.

10. Consent Agenda – Routine Matters

A. Minutes from the July 1, 2025 Organizational Meeting & Public Hearing
B. Minutes from the August 4, 2025 Special Meeting
C. Financial Reports for June 2025
D. CSE Report for August 2025
E. Overnight Field Trip Request to Costa Rica March 2026 (Spanish Trip)
F. Overnight Field Trip Request to France March 2026 (French Trip)

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Ron Luteran to approve the Consent Agenda – Routine Matters.

➢ *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

11. New Business

A. Resolution to Accept a Donation from Cazenovia Pride to fund two Extracurricular Clubs in 2025-26: Sanctuary Club, and Haven Club

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Travis Barr to approve Agenda Item 7A.

➢ *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

B. Resolution to Accept a Donation from Cazenovia Foundation for Pickleball Nets

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Travis Barr to approve Agenda Item 7B.

➢ *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

C. Resolution to Approve Fall and Winter Sports Combination Requests for 2025-26

Motion made by JoAnne Race, seconded by Travis Barr to approve Agenda Item 7C.

➢ *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

D. Resolution to Approve New Policy #5685 | Maximum Temperature for School Buildings and Indoor Facilities

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

➢ *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

E. Resolution to Approve the District Safety Plan (SAVE)

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Travis Barr to approve Agenda Item 7E.

➢ *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

F. Resolution to Approve the Building Level Emergency Response Plans (BLERPS)

Motion made by Travis Barr, seconded by JoAnne Race to approve Agenda Item 7F.

➢ *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

G. Resolution to Approve Application of Pesticide and Herbicide

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Travis Barr to approve Agenda Item 7G.

➢ *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

H. Resolution to Approve the Confirmation of Tax Rolls

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

➢ *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

I. Resolution to Approve the Tax Warrant

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Travis Barr to approve Agenda Item 7I.

- *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

12. Executive Session

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Ron Luteran to move into Executive Session to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

- *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

The Board moved into Executive Session at 8:04 pm.

Motion made by JoAnne Race, seconded by Ron Luteran to return to Public Session.

- *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

The Board returned to Public Session at 8:07 pm.

13. Personnel Report

Motion made by Travis Barr, seconded by Jan Woodworth to approve the Separation Agreement.

- *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

Motion made by JoAnne Race, seconded by Jan Woodworth to approve the Personnel Report.

- *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

14. Discussion Items

A. SAMS Grant: Chris DiFulvio spoke about purchase of vehicles, tennis courts, Hazel's Path (already touched on this earlier in his update).
B. Merger Study Grant and BOCES CoSer: Chris DiFulvio spoke about this earlier in his update, reiterated his intention to inform the Morrisville-Eaton Superintendent of Cazenovia's plan to move forward with the MO BOCES CoSer (assuming there's still interest from both school districts to perform a merger feasibility study); Chris said ultimately it's the decision of both communities whether a merger goes through, this grant is only for a feasibility study.
C. Bullet Aid and Meeting Schedule: bullet aid refers to one-time funds from Assemblyman Al Stirpe's office, donations from the community, plus voluntary temporary employment reductions. Chris plans to call together the administrative team tomorrow to put together a plan to present to the board at a special meeting this week on how these funds should be spent in 2025-26, which needs to be done ASAP because of athletics starting next week, academic scheduling, and potential faculty retention.

15. Advance Planning

A. Future Agenda Items:
B. Future Meeting Dates: The board will convene a special meeting, with two public comment periods, to decide how to use the temporary funds and bullet aid, on Wednesday, August 13, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

16. Executive Session

Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Travis Barr to move into Executive Session to discuss proposed, pending or current litigation; matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

- *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

The Board moved into Executive Session at 8:39 pm.

Motion made by JoAnne Race, seconded by Jan Woodworth to return to Public Session.

- *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

The Board returned to Public Session at 8:58 pm.

17. Adjournment

Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Jan Woodworth to adjourn the meeting.

- *Vote: 6 (in favor) 0 (opposed) Motion passed.*

Judith Hight adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

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Emily Ayres, District Clerk