CAZENOVIA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting
Monday, July 13, 2026 at 6:30 pm

31 Emory Ave | Cazenovia, NY 13035
High School Library
Open to the Public and Livestreamed on GoogleMeet

Type of Meeting:	Public Hearing; Organizational
Board Members Present:	Jeffrey Dewan, Judith Hight, Ron Luteran, Sasha Rasmussen, Emily Wiemers, Jan Woodworth (arriving at 6:44 pm), Brooklyn Benson (Ex Officio, Student Member)
Administrators Present:	Kevin Linck, Jennifer Raux, Amy Getman-Herringshaw, Steven Montemarano

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1. **Public Hearing for the Revised School Safety Plan (SAVE)**

   District Clerk, Emily Ayres, announced the commencement of the 30-day public comment period for the revised SAVE Plan. Comments may be sent by email to the Board of Education. The revised plan is expected to be presented to the Board of Education for approval at the August 17, 2026 regular meeting.

2. **Call to Order**

   The meeting was called to order by Emily Ayres, District Clerk, at 6:31 pm. She asked all to stand for the pledge of allegiance after a moment of silence was observed.

3. **Appointments of Student Members to the Board of Education**

   A. Resolution to Appoint Brooklyn Benson as Ex Officio Student Member to the Term: July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027
   Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Emily Wiemers to approve Agenda Item 3A.
   Vote: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent (J. Woodworth)
   Motion passed.

   B. Resolution to Appoint Landis Colby as Alternate Ex Officio Student Member to the Term: July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027
   Motion made by Jeffrey Dewan, seconded by Emily Wiemers to approve Agenda Item 3B.
   Vote: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent (J. Woodworth)
   Motion passed.

4. **Oaths of Office for Board Members**

   A. Oaths of Office for Emily Wiemers, Brooklyn Benson, Landis Colby were administered to each by the District Clerk.

5. **Election of the President**

   Before making a nomination for the office of President, Ron Luteran reflected on having listened to community feedback, while balancing what he considered the most frustrating part of serving on the board for the past eight years: being unable to publicly defend the actions or silence of the board when contentious issues arise.

A. The nomination of Judith Hight to the office of President of the Cazenovia Central School District Board of Education for 2026-27 was made by Ron Luteran and seconded by Emily Wiemers.
Vote: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent (J. Woodworth)
Motion passed.

B. The Oaths of Office for Judith Hight as President was administered by the District Clerk.

6. Election of the Vice President

A. The nomination of Ron Luteran to the office of Vice President of the Cazenovia Central School District Board of Education for 2026-27 was made by Jeffrey Dewan and seconded by Emily Wiemers.
Vote: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent (J. Woodworth)
Motion passed.

B. The Oaths of Office for Ron Luteran as Vice President was administered by the District Clerk.

7. Public Comments

Judith Hight read a statement to the public, a copy of which is hereby incorporated by reference into the minutes of this meeting. Judith then proceeded to read the district policy on public comments and opened up the floor to those in attendance.

1. Vince Taylor, Ridge Road – spoke about the limitations of the board, both in comments and actions, which are often unknown to members of the community; thanked the board for their conduct in following the law and limiting the district's exposure to lawsuits. Also called for the conflating of LGBTQ and pedophelia in our community to stop.

2. Ken Stratton, Thomas Road – spoke about damage to the trust in board leadership over the last year, and called for those who voted to adopt the NYSSBA Code of Ethics in 2024 to resign.

3. Emily Prial, Burton Street – spoke about her gratitude to the board for providing as much transparency as possible during a horrible experience; thanked them for volunteering to serve on the board, and sending regular updates while navigating an unprecedented situation.

4. Sondra Mott, Stanley Road – spoke about her appreciation for this community and school district, especially with how hard it's been for everyone with the events over the last few weeks, but expressed concerns with understanding legal advice surrounding free speech rights when a former board member in drag identified said character as a member of the board of education.

8. Written Communications

Judith Hight reported that the Board received numerous written communications since the last regular meeting, all of which have been shared with the entire board. Responses to which are in process.

9. Information and Reports

a. Board of Education Committees
   i. Finance & Audit: Jan Woodworth – did not meet
   ii. Policy: Judith Hight – did not met

   District Committees with Board Representatives
   iii. Facilities: Ron Luteran – turned his report over to Kevin Linck to speak on during his Superintendent's Report.
   iv. High School Action Team (HAT): Jeffrey Dewan – did not meet.

b. Student Member: Brooklyn Benson reported on all of the wonderful opportunities our students are participating in this summer, including working, camps, etc.

c. Superintendent of Schools: Kevin Linck reported on tonight being the first meeting for our newly appointed student board member, Brooklyn Benson; showed aerial photos from our commencement ceremony on June 26; and reported on the recent facilities meeting, where proposals from the A&E RFP were reviewed (5) and narrowed down to 3 for interviews in the next few weeks (in anticipation of a new transportation center). He also reported that the district will focus on three district-level committees in 2026-27, those being communications, safety, and wellness (a survey will be sent out later this summer asking for those interested in participating on such committees to sign up); as well as the success of our students on AP exams in May, when 308 AP exams were administered with an 88% passing rate (11 AP courses are currently offered in the high school).

10. Annual Appointments, Authorizations, and Designations

A. Annual Appointments List

Resolution to Approve the Annual Appointments List
Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Ron Luteran to approve Agenda Items 10A.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

B. Annual Authorizations List

Resolution to Approve the Annual Authorizations List
Motion made by Emily Wiemers, seconded by Ron Luteran to approve Agenda Items 10B.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

C. Annual Designations List

Resolution to Approve the Annual Designations List
Motion made by Jeffrey Dewan, seconded by Jan Woodworth to approve Agenda Items 10C.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

11. Consent Agenda – Annual Matters

A. Re-Adoption of All Policies
B. Establish Mileage Reimbursement Rate
C. Authorize Superintendent to Approve Attendance of Staff to Conferences
D. Authorize Superintendent to Make Budget Transfers
E. Authorize Superintendent to Apply for Grants in Aid (State and Federal)
F. Designation of Signatures of Checks
G. Authorize Superintendent to Approve Building Project Change Orders up to $35,000
H. Emergency Appointments
I. Building Use Rates

Resolution to Approve the Consent Agenda – Annual Matters
Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Emily Wiemers to approve Agenda Items 11A-11I.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

12. Consent Agenda – Routine Matters

a. Minutes from the June 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
b. Minutes from the June 22, 2026 Special Board Meeting

c. Financial Reports for June 2026
d. CSE Report for July 2026
e. Overnight Field Trip Request FFA July 2026
f. Textbook Approval for Environment: the Science Behind the Stories

Resolution to Approve the Consent Agenda – Routine Matters
Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Jeffrey Dewan to approve Agenda Items 12A-12F.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

13. New Business

a. Resolution to Approve the 2026-27 Committee(s) on Special Education
Motion made by Emily Wiemers, seconded by Jan Woodworth to approve Agenda Item 13A.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

b. Resolution to Approve the Addition of One Extracurricular Club at Burton Street
Motion made by Emily Wiemers, seconded by Jeffrey Dewan to approve Agenda Item 13B.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

c. Resolution to Approve the Additional Educational Advisory Committee (EAC) Recommended Summer 2026 Grants
Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Jan Woodworth to approve Agenda Item 13C.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

d. Resolution to Approve District Participation with the CNYRIC One Risk Operations Center
Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Ron Luteran to approve Agenda Item 13D.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

e. Resolution to Approve the Adjusted Sale Price of District Property (2016) Dodge Grand Caravan at the Transportation Center
Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Jan Woodworth to approve Agenda Item 13E.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

f. Resolution to Approve a Monetary Donation from Hazel's Hope
Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Emily Wiemers to approve Agenda Item 13F.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

14. Personnel Report

A. Resolution to Approve the Personnel Report for July 2026
Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Jeffrey Dewan to approve the Personnel Report.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

15. Discussion Items

A. Formation of BOE Committees

In 2026-27, the following Board of Education Committees will be: Facilities (Ron Luteran, Jan

Woodworth); Finance/Audit (Emily Wiemers, Jan Woodworth); Policy (Judith Hight, Sasha Rasmussen, Jeffrey Dewan).

B. Vacancy on the Board of Education

Ron Luteran expressed needing to listen to the public comments about having a special election (instead of appointing) despite the cost and that the term ends in less than a year. Judith Hight will reach out to the League of Women Voters to ask if they will facilitate a candidate forum; Emily Wiemers commented on the importance of establishing the date for that in advance of the nominating petition deadline, as trying to schedule it with input from the candidates who submitted nominating petitions for the May 2026 election was too difficult and ultimately did not happen (a meet and greet was hosted by the district instead). A resolution was presented for board consideration, a copy of which is hereby incorporated by reference into the minutes of this meeting.

A motion was made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Ron Luteran to add a resolution to the agenda to call a Special Meeting to Fill a Vacancy on the Board of Education.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

i. Resolution to Call a Special Meeting to Fill a Vacancy on the Board of Education
Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Ron Luteran to approve Agenda Item 15Bi.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.

C. Water Quality Update: Kevin Linck reported that the work continues; our district is not unique in having this issue, and reiterated that NYS will be reimbursing the district for the cost of remediation.

D. Reorganization (Merger) Feasibility Study Update: Kevin Linck reported he and Judith Hight had a meeting last week with the Morrisville-Eaton superintendent and board president, and the merger study consultants. The study has not yet been submitted to NYSED, intended for a mid to late June submission, so currently behind schedule by a few weeks. They also discussed using Syntax, a communications group out of Long Island. At the June board meeting it was decided that invitations to podcasts would not be accepted or declined until the results come back from NYSED (which is now estimated to be around late August or early September. M-E does want to continue with the merger study in the interest of finding out what is most beneficial to kids in both communities.

E. Recording BOE Meetings: Judith Hight reported on the requests from a few community members to not only livestream, but now record the board meetings. The board discussed pros/cons, concerns. Emily Wiemers suggested piloting this for a few months and finding out a ballpark estimate of the cost of doing this to be able to make an informed decision; she explained that other districts in the region use YouTube.

F. What Did We Do For Kids: approved sending kids to FFA camp, approved two new great student BOE members, approved appointments of teachers and coaches, approved the creation of a new 4th grade leadership club, approved the donation of funds to purchase an adaptive tricycle. Kevin Linck expressed gratitude on behalf of the board and district to the Shaw Family and Hazel's Hope for the donation that will allow the district to purchase the adaptive tricycle.

16. Advance Planning

a. Future Agenda Items: recording board meetings, water quality update, merger study update
b. Future Meeting Dates: a special election on September 15, 2026 was approved to fill the board vacancy. No other meetings were scheduled; all meeting dates are on the school website.

17. Executive Session

Motion made by Jan Woodworth, seconded by Ron Luteran to move into Executive Session to discuss negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law; and the employment history of a particular person.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.
The Board moved into Executive Session at 7:38 pm.

Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Jeffrey Dewan to return to Public Session.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.
The Board returned to Public Session at 9:24 pm.

18. Adjournment

Motion made by Ron Luteran, seconded by Jan Woodworth to adjourn the meeting.
Vote: 6 ayes; 0 nays
Motion passed.
Judith Hight adjourned the meeting at 9:24 pm.

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Emily Ayres, District Clerk