

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

Date of Meeting: January 3, 2024
Type of Meeting: **REGULAR MEETING**
Location: Troy Middle School
Time: 5:30 PM Executive Session
6:00 PM Regular Meeting

I. Call to Order

A. Roll Call

1. Members Present: Mrs. Ann Apicella Mr. Donald Miller
Mr. Matthew Flowers, Jr. Mrs. Ebony Pompey-Conway
Mrs. Diana Heckman Mrs. Anne Wager-Rounds
Mr. Tom Mayo

2. Members Absent: Mrs. Elizabeth Poletto

3. Others Present: Mr. John Carmello, Superintendent
Dr. Donna Watson, Deputy Superintendent
Mr. Adam Hotaling, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Imran Abbasi, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Mr. Anthony Fasano, School Attorney

B. Executive Session

At 5:30pm, Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the employment of a particular person. Invited in was Mr. Carmello, Dr. Watson, Mr. Hotaling, Mr. Abbasi, Mr. Fasano and Mr. Barile. This was seconded by Mrs. Pompey-Conway and carried 5-0.

C. Public Session

At 6:04pm, Mrs. Wager-Rounds called the regular meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Miller did not attend the public meeting.

D. Public Input on agenda and non-agenda items non-action items:

There was no input.

II. Non-Action Items

A. State Assessment Update - J. Carmello and D. Watson

Mr. Carmello begins the update explaining that this year's update comes much later than previous years because the State had embargoed the data until a few weeks ago. He reviews the District's pre-pandemic ELA and Math assessment data which has been making steady, sustained progress for the last seven years. The State's post-pandemic proficiency for ELA shows a modest improvement, while the Math scores show a higher increase than the ELA. The Troy specific data for both ELA and Math results are both higher than the State's results as well as outperforming similar needs districts. Mr. Carmello said that it goes without saying that the support the Board gave to us during Covid by adding co-teachers, social workers, and many more have all helped to make

these results happen. He thanks the Board for their continued support and commitment in all of these initiatives. Mr. Carmello also explains that our high school graduation rates have been constantly increasing and we are very proud of these numbers. Troy's rates are above the State's graduation rates. He says that he is so proud to be a Superintendent of a District working so hard for kids so they can achieve at their maximum and promises that we won't lose our momentum and keep improving.

Dr. Watson continues the presentation explaining how we will keep the momentum moving forward with a focus on the 2023-2024 DCIP priorities: meeting social-emotional developmental health needs of students and families, prioritizing instruction, intervention and support to meet the demonstrated needs of the students; and prioritizing improving equity in opportunities and outcomes for all students. The student's social emotional health is being supported by counselors, social workers, psychologists, as well as embedded classroom management. The canine and equine therapy program has been expanded for PreK through Grade 12 are also areas of supporting social emotional health of our students. The second priority of instruction encompasses deep dives for specially-designed instruction, Data Liaisons are trained to lead the work, Instructional Coaches have refined focus on expert practice for our teachers. Embedded professional development with partners like TCRWP, Eureka Math, BOCES and special education consultants have really shown so much growth in our state results. Dr. Watson explains that a curriculum management cycle has been in place since 2014, so that every curriculum area is comprehensively reviewed every four years. The third priority focus is on equity with equity improvement cycles in each building, which are all measured through improving engagement, relevancy and cultural responsiveness, using attendance specialists to help engage families as partners as well as district survey revisions. She goes on to say that none of this would be possible without the Board's support which is much appreciated. Dr. Watson ends by saying the District will not stop until we are at 100% graduation rate and our students are all at level of proficiency.

III. Action Items

A. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Item 1 as listed.

Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway

Discussion: None

Carried: 6-0

1. December 20, 2023

B. Superintendent's Recommendations - Human Resources - Staff Matters - Unclassified and Classified

(Reviewed by D. Watson and I. Abbasi)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, NY, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following unclassified and classified personnel actions:

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Items 1-7 as a consent agenda.

Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway

Discussion: None

Carried: 6-0

Unclassified Items 1-5 (within linked document)

6. Unclassified Employees - Intern/Student Teacher/Observation Hours (Unpaid)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COLLEGE</u>	<u>AREA OF STUDY</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATES</u>	<u>SUPERVISOR</u>	<u>ASSIGN.</u>
Kelsie Adams	Maria College	Nursing	1/16/24-5/31/24	Lisa Markowski / Nicole Davin	THS
Jada Akars	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Christy Carpenter	PS2
Madison Albanese	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Christy Carpenter	PS2

Mercedes Celclia-Story	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Katherine Harmon	PS2
Madelyn Cotterill	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Liliana Battibulli	PS2
Rosemary Cruz	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Liliana Battibulli	PS2
Isabella Gould	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Hope Seymour	PS2
Olivia Hayes	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Hope Seymour	PS2
Ryley Houle	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Mackenzie LaBate	PS2
Andrew Kaulfuss	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Isabella Rulison	PS2
Julie Kolodzie	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Jennifer Connors	PS2
Evan Kwasniewski	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Jennifer Connors	PS2
Mara Little	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Kerry DeBruce	PS2
Melana Mcgivern	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Kerry DeBruce	PS2
Carmela Morano	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Amanda Eggink	PS2
Samantha Pivacek	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Amanda Eggink	PS2
Kye Rose	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Victoria Savallo	PS2
Natalie Selig	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Victoria Savallo	PS2
Madalynn Walsh	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Michaela Snowden	PS2
Karena Weinpahl	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Michaela Snowden	PS2
Lynia Williams	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Ashley Greene	PS2
Emily Wood	Russell Sage	Elementary Ed.	1/25/24-4/25/24	Ashley Greene	PS2

7. Unclassified Employee - Change in Substitute Teacher and Teaching Assistant Rates (Effective January 1, 2024)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Old Rate</u>	<u>New Rate</u>
Teaching Assistant - Certified/Uncertified	\$100.00/Day	\$105.00/Day
Teacher - Uncertified	\$115.00/Day	\$120.00/Day
Teacher - Certified	\$125.00/Day	\$130.00/Day
Teacher - Retired (from TCSD)	\$150.00/Day	\$155.00/Day

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Items 1-6 as a consent agenda.

Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway

Discussion: None

Carried: 6-0

Classified Items 1-5 (within linked document)

6. Classified Employees - Volunteers

RPI

Parisa Nori

Alina Pica

[Staff Matters \(Unclassified and Classified\)](#)

C. Superintendent Recommendations - Programs

(Reviewed by D. Watson)

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Items 1-7 as a consent agenda.

Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway

Discussion: None

Carried: 6-0

1. Special Education Placements

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Special Education has submitted to the Board of Education students having the registration numbers as listed in 2023-2024 classes for students with special needs.

[2023-2024 Special Education Placements](#)

2. [Northeast Parent and Child Society \(2023 Summer Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Northeast Parent and Child Society for special education services from July 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023 at a rate of \$7,104.00 for 2 months per student to be paid from the Special Education grant funds.

[Northeast Parent and Child Society \(2023 Summer Contract\)](#)

3. [Northeast Parent and Child Society \(2023-2024 Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Northeast Parent and Child Society for special education services from September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 at a rate of \$46,626.00 for 10 months per student to be paid from the Special Education grant funds.

[Northeast Parent and Child Society \(2023-2024 Contract\)](#)

4. [Parsons Child and Family Center \(2023 Summer Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Parsons Child and Family Center for special education services from July 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023 at a rate of \$6,992.00 for 2 months per student to be paid from the Special Education grant funds.

[Parsons Child and Family Center \(2023 Summer Contract\)](#)

5. [Parsons Child and Family Center \(2023-2024 Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Parsons Child and Family Center for special education services from September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 at a rate of \$41,954.00 for 10 months per student to be paid from the Special Education grant funds.

[Parsons Child and Family Center \(2023-2024 Contract\)](#)

6. [Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County \(2024 Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County for LEGO WeDo Robotics, Upcycle and Redesign and Coding services for the afterschool program from January 3, 2024 through June 30, 2024 at a cost not to exceed \$1,050.00 to be paid from the ARP grant funds.

[Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County \(2024 Contract\)](#)

7. [Community Care Physicians, PLLC \(2024 Contract\)](#)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Community Care Physicians, PLLC for district-wide medical and developmental consultation services from January 2024 through June 2024 at a cost

not to exceed \$4,656.00 per month to be paid from the Student Mental Health grant funds.

[Community Care Physicians, PLLC \(2024 Contract\)](#)

D. District Announcements

1. Future BOE Meetings - All meetings will take place at 6:00pm.
 - a. January 17, 2024 at CHS
 - b. February 7, 2024 at TMS

2. Good News
 - a. We were so glad to welcome back our students and staff this morning after the holiday recess. Everyone has returned full of energy and excitement for all that is to come. We are looking forward to a productive and successful rest of the year, and we are confident that with everyone's hard work and dedication, we will continue to see our students achieve great things.

 - b. On Friday, School 16 will hold Junior Achievement's "J-A in a Day" for all students in grades K-5. Volunteers from General Electric and National Grid will be in each classroom to help students develop financial literacy, work and career readiness and entrepreneurship skills. Junior Achievement is the nation's largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to plan for their future and make smart academic and economic choices.

 - c. Later this month, Troy Middle School will host the Rensselaer County School Music Association Winter All-County Music Festival. Students from schools across the county will rehearse together and perform a concert for families, friends and the community on Saturday, January 27. We are excited for the opportunity to open our doors to showcase the musical talents not only of our students but all those in Rensselaer County.

 - d. Troy High students in Ms. Buckley's HVCC Government class, members of the THS Student Council and National Honor Society got to witness history in the Collar City over the holiday break - they attended the inauguration of Mayor Carmella Mantello, the City of Troy's first female mayor on January 1 at Franklin Plaza. Our students enjoyed being part of this historic moment in our city!

 - e. Mrs. Wager-Rounds and Mr. Mayo both congratulated Joe Mariano on his new job and wished him well. They also thanked him for all he has done for Troy.

E. Adjourn

At 6:44pm, Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to adjourn the public session. This was seconded by Mrs. Pompey-Conway and carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted by,



Theresa Kaniff
District Clerk

A. Staff Matters - Unclassified

(reviewed by D. Watson)

I. Unclassified Employee Resignation

	<u>Name</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Tenure Area</u>
a.	Antonio Vindell	1.0000	TMS	01/18/2024	Teacher Not Tenure Eligible

II. Unclassified Employee End Stipend

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>
a.	Kerry J. DeBruce	01/01/2024	Teacher Mentor - Yr. 1	M. Malatesta Resigned

III. Unclassified Miscellaneous Employee Programs

A.	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Location</u>
a.	Christina N. Mamone	\$33.00	Up to 50	CHS

IV. Unclassified Employee Substitutes

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Daily Rate</u>	<u>Position</u>
a.	Haley Starzec	\$100.00	Sub TA - Uncertified
b.	Sydney Brooks	\$115.00	Sub Teacher - Uncertified
c.	Sydney Brooks	\$100.00	Sub TA - Uncertified
d.	Merle O'Connor	\$115.00	Sub Teacher - Uncertified

V. Unclassified Employee Tutors

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
a.	Alexandria Cremo	1	\$40.00

B. Staff Matters - Classified

(reviewed by I. Abbasi)

I. Classified Employee Resignation

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Position</u>
a.	Patti A. Mott	01/12/2024	1.0000	TMS	Attendance Aide

II. Classified Employee Probationary Appointment

- a. **Name:** Andre Latimer
 FTE: 1.0000 Position: School Monitor/Secondary
 Location: TMS Probationary Period: 01/04/2024 - 09/03/2024
 Annual Salary: \$33489.00 (S-1, G-3N)
(Resignation - DeAngelo Barbosa)

III. Classified Employee Provisional Appointment

- a. **Name:** Craig Williams
 FTE: 1.0000 Position: Typist
 Location: Facilities Effective Date: 01/04/2024
 Annual Salary: \$44538.00 (S-1, G-11A)
- b. **Name:** Felicia Fink
 FTE: 1.0000 Position: Typist
 Location: THS Effective Date: 01/04/2024
 Annual Salary: \$44538.00 (S-1, G-11A)
- c. **Name:** Ashley Mahler
 FTE: 1.0000 Position: Typist
 Location: PPS Effective Date: 01/04/2024
 Annual Salary: \$44538.00 (S-1, G-11A)
- d. **Name:** Jordan Miner
 FTE: 1.0000 Position: Typist
 Location: THS Effective Date: 01/04/2024
 Annual Salary: \$45873.00 (S-3, G-11A)

III. Classified Employee Provisional Appointment

- e. **Name:** Shaakira Pfitz
 FTE: 1.0000 Position: Typist
 Location: THS Effective Date: 01/04/2024
 Annual Salary: \$45873.00 (S-3, G-11A)
- f. **Name:** Patricia C. Smith
 FTE: 1.0000 Position: Typist
 Location: PS16 Effective Date: 01/04/2024
 Annual Salary: \$44538.00 (S-1, G-11A)

IV. Classified Employee After School Program

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Hours/Week</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Position</u>
a.	Kacey M. Grubb-Robinson	\$27.80	Up to	TMS	Nurse

V. Classified Employee Substitutes

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Position</u>
a.	Jadah Robinson	\$21.00	Sub Monitor
b.	Erin C. Moran	\$20.00	Sub Custodial
c.	Sylvia Savoia	\$21.00	Sub Monitor