

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
ALBION CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ALBION, NEW YORK 14411  
October 07, 2024 SUMMARY  
OF A REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
7:00 pm**

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Board President, Mr. Wayne Wadhams, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

Board Member, Mr. Kurt Schmitt read the Board Meeting Norms; "The Board Will: Be Respectful and Professional - Be Prepared - Honor Confidentiality - Follow the Chain of Command - Avoid Surprises - Assume Positivity."

**RECOGNITION**

**Elementary School Student Awards**

Jaxson Stefaniak - Character Award  
Gabriella Pritchard - Leadership Award

**New York State School Board Recognition Week  
October 14-18, 2024**

<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>YEARS OF SERVICE</b>	<b>MEMBER SINCE</b>
WAYNE WADHAMS	Beginning 8 <sup>th</sup> year (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)	2017
LINDA WELLER	Beginning 6 <sup>th</sup> year (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)	2019
JOHN KAST	Beginning 5 <sup>th</sup> year (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	2020
CHRISTOPHER KINTER	Beginning 5 <sup>th</sup> year (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	2020
KURT SCHMITT	Beginning 4 <sup>th</sup> year (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	2021
TRELLIS PORE	Beginning 4 <sup>th</sup> year (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	2021
OCIE BENNETT JR.	Beginning 3 <sup>rd</sup> year (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	2022
PORSCHÉ TAYLOR	Beginning 2 <sup>nd</sup> year (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	2023
KELLY KIRBY	Beginning 1 <sup>st</sup> year (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	2024

Superintendent Edwards shared that during School Board Recognition Week, Boards of Education are recognized for their dedication, commitment and service to their respective school districts. He shared that The New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) notes that "School board members take on one of the most important citizen responsibilities: overseeing the education of the community's youth. Boards of Education guide their local school systems and ensure public schools are flexible and responsive to the needs of the community. School Boards are comprised of volunteers, most of whom do not receive any compensation for their service. They are individuals within the community who dedicate their time to improving public education. With school children their primary focus is to:

- Create a shared vision for the future of education
- Set the direction of the school district to achieve the highest student performance
- Provide accountability for student achievement results
- Develop a budget and present it to the community
- Align district resources to improve achievement
- Support a healthy school district culture in which to work and to learn
- And so much more!"

Superintendent Edwards thanked the Board on behalf of the staff, students and community of the Albion Central School District for their continued support of our Mission - "Achievement, Character and Success for Life."

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**BOARD APPROVED**

**2. PUBLIC FORUM - None**

**3. BUSINESS ITEMS**

- A. Minutes of September 09, 2024 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Quarterly Revenue and Expenditure Reports
- C. Extra-Classroom Activity Fund Report for August 2024
- D. CSE & CPSE Recommendations
- E. Building Use Requests
- F. Fundraiser Requests
- G. Budget Transfer Request:
  - \$ 12,779.72 - for administrative salaries

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- H. Budget Transfer Request:
  - \$ 4,410.00 - for Institute Services for  
Member districts in the Genesee  
Valley School Boards Association  
(for information only)

Board President, Mr. Wayne Wadhams indicated Business Item 2(H) is for information only.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

A thank you letter from the family of Coach Richard Diminuco was provided for Board Members' review.

## 5. PRESENTATIONS

### A. Strategic Plan Presentation - Dr. Marla Iverson (Zoom)

Superintendent, Mickey Edwards introduced Dr. Marla Iverson to the Board. Dr. Iverson works with the Warner Center for Professional Development and Education Reform and will present an overview of the strategic planning process.

Dr. Iverson shared the quote "If a man knows not what harbor he seeks, any wind is the right wind," (Ancient Roman Philosopher Seneca) indicating that districts aren't always sure of where they want to be. It is important to understand the definition of strategic planning; to consider a rationale for engaging in this type of planning; be introduced to a research-based model for planning; understand the customization of the process based on the size and needs of the district; consider the participatory nature of a process focused on data collection as it defines a timeline and see how the plan ties all efforts, goals and decisions together.

Dr. Iverson shared that the strategic planning process honors the voice of all stakeholders including members of the Board of Education; students, teachers, administrators, support staff and community members. The data that is collected includes quantitative (surveys and charts), qualitative (interviews and focus groups) and artifact data. It is collected, reviewed and analyzed to turn the data into reports that are the basis for identifying priorities. A writing committee of about twenty stakeholders identify the district priorities for the next three to five years. The writing committee identifies four to six priority areas to complete a five-year plan that is responsive and data-driven with an implementation grid that includes all district members' goals attached to the plan.

The Strategic Plan will include the district's Vision, Mission, Big Rocks, Initiatives and Objectives (Implementation).

Superintendent Edwards thanked Mrs. Iverson and indicated to the Board that more information will be shared on the Strategic Planning process.

### B. Building Goals - Mrs. Jennifer Ashbery Mr. Brad Pritchard Mrs. Angela Conway

Mrs. Angela Conway, Elementary School Principal shared the 2024-2025 Building Goals for the Elementary School with the Board.

Social-Emotional Learning - By June 2025, the Leader in Me framework will be established in the elementary building as evidence by the creation of the Lighthouse and Action Teams, all staff being introduced to the Core Paradigms, and the implementation of the curriculum in all grade levels Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Mrs. Conway shared that at each faculty meeting staff are working on the Social-Emotional Learning: Leader in Me Framework, learning the paradigms; how to best implement them; how to build leadership, culture and academics in the building and achieve measurable results.

Writing - By June 2025, all teachers in grade Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, will enhance student response to texts through writing as evidenced by the creation of monthly writing tasks, the use of a writing progression checklist to inform instruction, and continuous progress monitoring of student work.

Mrs. Conway shared a Writing: 2-credit response rubric providing the features of a 2-credit and 1-credit response as well as a Writing: Essay evaluation rubric for grades 4-5.

Reporting - By June 2025, the new grading system will be fully implemented and understood as evidenced by all teachers being trained in standards-based evidence collection and families receiving continuous communication regarding the transition to standards-based grading.

Mrs. Conway provided a sample of the Standards-Based Report card indicating that trimester reporting will be provided to parents. This report card provides information on social growth and an overview of the subjects/skills students are working on. Parent conferences are held in December. Parent Square Google Meets are planned to explain the process to parents with a question and answer period. These will be recorded and available on the website.

Mr. Pritchard, Middle School Principal shared the 2024-2025 Building Goals for the Middle School with the Board.

Reading - By June 2025, Albion Middle School students will meet or exceed the expected growth proficiency beyond national norms (35%-65%) as measured by the STAR Assessment.

Mr. Pritchard shared that they want to maintain and surpass the reading growth.

Writing - By June 2025, Albion Middle School will increase the percentage of students receiving full credit on 2 pt. questions based on NYS ELA writing benchmarks.

Mr. Pritchard shared that this area is typically not that strong in the Middle School. There will be a building initiative for all areas, not just ELA. Data will be collected on all students in the categories of capitalization, complete sentences, valid inferences and citing two sources of evidence. This data will be entered into a spreadsheet and used to target student needs in the classroom and intervention classes.

Social-Emotional Learning - The Albion Middle School will begin the implementation of Leader in Me by completing the following throughout the 2024-25 school year:

- Survey (staff, students, parents)
- Establish a Lighthouse Team
- Training Implementation
- Action Plan Established
- Core One Training

Mr. Pritchard shared that Middle School staff will be working full speed in March on the Leader in Me Framework. A survey will be provided to students, staff and parents looking for data; it will be geared to the grade level and provide baseline data. A Lighthouse Team of counselors, administrators and grade-level staff members will be selected.

Mrs. Ashbery, High School Principal shared the 2024-2025 Building Goals for the High School with the Board.

Writing - By June 30, 2025, high school students will strengthen their written response to texts as demonstrated by an increase in student performance from the October 2024 pre-assessment to the June 2025 post-assessment.

Mrs. Ashbery shared that there will be a hard focus on this goal as writing is embedded in all subject areas. Staff will use a brief written response with a central idea, pull evidence and identify areas of need, general trends and student specifics.

Instruction - By June 30, 2025, all high school teachers will be trained in and implementing elements of Explicit Instruction as measured by lesson plan review and informal observations during building walkthroughs.

Mrs. Ashbery shared the Explicit Teaching Gradual Release of Responsibility Model. This is a method of teaching that clearly explains and demonstrates content and specific skills. Over the four years of high school, some courses build on each other.

Social-Emotional Learning - By June 30, 2025, high school staff will strengthen their understanding of the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. This will include:

- Developing proficiency with the 7 Habits/LIM vocabulary
- Deepen understanding of the 7 Habits through training on the practices associated with each habit

Mrs. Ashbery explained to the Board that the Elementary School leads in the Leader in Me work with staff; the Middle School comes in second and High School staff are one step back in the process working on the 7 Habits and will be working on the next deeper layer learning the practices with each habit along with the vocabulary.

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Health and Safety Committee

Board Member, Mr. Kurt Schmitt, shared that the Health and Safety Committee held their first meeting in September. There has been a change in drills. They will now be preannounced one week ahead of when they will be held with no specifics as to day or time. The drills are going well with fire drills being held as they always have been. The capital project has provided many safety enhancements including sally ports on main doors that prevent entry without properly signing in. Every door is locked at all times. If doors are left open more than thirty seconds, administrators are alerted. Many doors are being fine-tuned and in process with 97% of all doors Uconnect/GCASA indicated that parents are parking in their lot, often blocking entrances, which shouldn't be done. The Albion Police Department will assist in ensuring this is handled.

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

A. 2024-2025 Fall Field Placement and Student Teacher Notifications

Board members were provided with an updated list of the 2024-2025 Fall Field Placement and Student Teacher Notifications.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Memorandum of Agreement

**BOARD APPROVED**

B. Personnel

1. Resignations:

- a. Giovaneth Kirsch
  - Position: Teacher Aide @ ES
  - Effective: 09/09/24
- b. William Nice
  - Position: Cleaner @ MS
  - Effective: 10/07/24 (end of work day)

2. Retirements:

- a. Michael Thaine
  - Position: Instrumental Music Teacher @ HS
  - Effective: 06/30/25
- b. Theresa Christopher
  - Position: Spanish Teacher @ MS
  - Effective: 06/30/25



5. 2024-2025 Community Schools Program Club/Event and Advisors:

Event: Middle School Multicultural Event

Individual(s): Heather Krahel  
Kyra Burgess  
Lisa Castricone  
Theresa Christopher  
Casey Flynn  
Aracely Hernandez  
Josefino Paz  
Wynter Dumont  
Kamie Feder  
Marcella Quintana  
Sarah McCormick  
Jill Scharping  
Alicia Wigmore

Rate: \$25/hour  
(up to six hours each to include the event and set up/clean up)

Timeline: October 15, 2024 - November 1, 2024

6. 2024-2025 Extra-Curricular Athletic Appointments:

a. Cassidy Wolcott

Position: JV Girls' Basketball Coach  
\*Pending all requirements are met for First Aid, CPR and AED

b. Brittany Barleben

Position: Modified Girls' Basketball Coach  
\*Pending all requirements are met for First Aid, CPR and AED

7. Leave Request Extension:

a. Amanda Flagler

Position: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher @ ES  
Leave: Child-Rearing Leave (follows Maternity Leave - unpaid)  
Dates: 11/01/24 - 01/03/25  
(return on Monday, 01/06/25)

8. Substitutes:

Certified Substitute Teachers

- Mary Jane Klips
- Ian Wagner

Non-Certified Substitute Teachers

- None

Non-Instructional: Clerical, Teacher Aide,  
Monitor and Cleaner Substitutes

- Susan Dick

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C. 2024-25 Transportation Routes - Confidential

**BOARD APPROVED**

D. 2024-2025 School Year Tax Corrections

**BOARD APPROVED**

E. Capital Improvements Reserve Fund

**BOARD APPROVED**

F. Fully Fund Capital Improvements Reserve Fund

**BOARD APPROVED**

G. Transportation Reserve Fund

**BOARD APPROVED**

H. 2024-2025 Electric Bid

**BOARD APPROVED**

I. 2024-2025 Parent Transportation Contract

**BOARD APPROVED**

J. 2024-2025 Surplus Items for Auction

- 23 Chairs
- 14 Desks
- 165 Combo Desks (chair attached to desk from HS)
- C-Reader Pens (items no longer hold charge)

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K. 2024-2025 Albion High School Clay Target Team -  
Agreement and Release

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L. Approval of TIF Participant(s) - Fall 2024

**BOARD APPROVED, Ms. Kylie Ames as a Teacher Immersion Fellows Program (TIF) Participant for the Elementary School for the fall 2024; and approved the 2024-2025 rate at \$115 per day worked, plus \$15.50 per hour for professional development.**

M. Donations:

- Donation of backpacks and school supplies for the Elementary, Middle and High School students
- School Supplies from to the Albion Central School District
- Bookbags filled with school supplies to the Students of the Ronald L. Sodoma Elementary School

## BOARD APPROVED

N. Albion High School FFA Trip Change

Board Members were provided with a date change for the Albion High School FFA Trip previously approved at the July 2024 Board Meeting. The Albion High School FFA Winter Leadership Retreat was approved for November 22-24, 2024. However, due to a scheduling conflict at Camp Oswegatchie, the dates have been changed to November 15-17, 2024. All other details of the trip will remain the same.

O. Volunteers

A list of volunteers was submitted for Board Members' information.

## 9. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS

A. BOE President Report

Board President, Mr. Wadhams shared that he attended the dedication of the sports complex.

Mr. Wadhams met in Pavilion with the Genesee Valley School Boards Association. Topics of discussion included regionalization, electric buses and foundation aid. Their Legislative Breakfast is being planned for January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Wadhams attended a Zoom meeting with Niagara Orleans School Boards Association and discussed upcoming events. Their Legislative Breakfast is being planned for January 25<sup>th</sup> or February 1<sup>st</sup>; there is a holiday or early winter mixer being planned but no date was available; and the Prospective Board Candidate Forum which is generally held in late March. Mr. Wadhams shared a flyer for the Dr. Rick Timbs program that is being held on October 17<sup>th</sup> for any Board member interested in attending. He shared that he is not planning to attend.

Mr. Wadhams met with Dr. Farrar, the Orleans/Niagara BOCES Superintendent this morning. They had a long discussion on many things that are happening so far which include the settling of two

unsettled BOCES Contracts. She is spot on and doing a very good job.

Mr. Wadhams shared that at 4:00 pm today he attended the ribbon cutting for the new Book Vending Machine. He was very impressed and requested a thank you letter be sent to the PTA for their work in obtaining this for our students.

Mr. Wadhams shared that he will be attending the NYSSBA Annual Meeting on Thursday. He welcomed input from the Board and indicated he would do his best to represent ACS.

Superintendent Edwards added that the settling of the BOCES Contract is good for our students. He offered a shout out to Mrs. Ashbery and her team as we celebrate nine students being inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.

#### B. Building Principal Reports

Building Principal Reports were submitted for Board Members' review.

Mrs. Ashbery shared that at the last Board meeting, first approval was given for planning to begin for the Band Trip to Chicago. The cost for the bus is an issue as it is excessively high traveling to Chicago. There may be a change in location that will be less expensive for families. More information will be shared at the November Board meeting.

Mrs. Ashbery also shared a short presentation that Mrs. Tina Burgett's photography class had put together featuring Senior Portrait Sessions. Students came up with the idea to offer senior portrait sessions for those who may not be able to get senior pictures taken. Once the information was put out to students, responses started coming in. The photos were edited here, free of charge and were advertised by posters students made and put up. The presentation provided some of the portrait sessions that had been done.

Mr. Pritchard shared that in addition to the information provided in the Community Outreach portion of his report that Mr. Archer and his students were interviewed and appeared on Channel 7 News. The National News picked up the article and are interviewing next week.

#### C. Enrollment in Lieu of Attendance Report

Board Members were provided with the Enrollment in Lieu of Attendance Report for review.

#### D. Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Report

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Mrs. Rebecca Manfreda shared Parent Square information with the Board. The District is starting the second year with Parent Square. The platform allows us to easily communicate with families. A lot of positive feedback has been received from parents/guardians and teachers. With Parent Square, teachers and families are able to receive all

school/district and classroom communication via email, text or app;

view and download photos; view the school and classroom calendar and RSVP for events; easily sign up to volunteer and/or bring items; sign up for parent/teacher conferences; securely receive important student documents and communications; and use preferred languages to receive communication in. Parent Square can be used on any device and there is also a free mobile app for iOS or Android. There is also an easy to use desktop version (parentsquare.com). We are working to ensure all parents and guardian information is up to date and there is no break in communication.

#### E. Athletic Director's Report

The Athletic Director's Report was submitted for Board Members' review.

#### F. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Edwards shared with the Board that he is encouraged by the positive, good stuff that is happening in the District. He offered thanks to the team and to the Board of Education.

Superintendent Edwards shared the 2022 Capital Improvement Project Progress Report #17 with the Board. The project is almost done but there is a significant punch list that will be reviewed with the architect and construction manager. The only exception will be the locker rooms; plumbers, electricians and tile need to be done one after the other. A meeting is scheduled this week with Campus Management as well as the architect to review the timeline for completion.

Superintendent Edwards shared information he received on the Blue Ribbon Commission Update as follows:

#### **Transformation #1** - Adopt the NYS Portrait of a Graduate

- This will become the framework for future diploma requirements. This portrait will include: critical thinking skills, global citizenship, effective communication, social emotional competence, cultural competence, literate across content areas, and innovative problem solver.

#### **Transformation #2** - Redefine Credits

- This will add new requirements for CTE and financial literacy.
- It will expand ways to show evidence of proficiency in the learning standards (i.e. Capstone Projects, Internships, etc.)

#### **Transformation #3** - Sunset Diploma Assessment Requirements

- Students would no longer be required to pass 5 Regents - though there are still ESSA requirements that will need to be worked through for ELA, Math and Science.

#### **Transformation #4 - Move to One Diploma**

- Advanced designations would become seals of endorsement (i.e. civic readiness, etc.)
- Cannot use local requirements to short circuit a student's pathway to a diploma (i.e. community service hours)
- Districts must confer diplomas to students who satisfy SED requirements.

#### **Implementation**

- Forums were/will be held between June 2024-October 2024 to engage stakeholders' feedback and identify potential budgetary considerations.
- Full plan will be presented to the Board of Regents in November
- Roll out plans will include timelines, affected regulations, etc.

#### **State and Assembly Education Committee Update**

- Cell phones - there is a suspicion that the Governor will at some point issue a total ban on cell phones (bell to bell). It appears to legislators that she will make this issue a centerpiece of her administration.
- EV Buses - not going away. The implementation will be the negotiable piece. Legislators feel they need to control the costs.
- Curriculum Mandates - legislators will push to upgrade holocaust and anti-Semitic curriculums, as well as 9/11 and health curriculums.

#### **Foundational Aid Update**

- Study is due to the Governor by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Any changes will be implemented over multiple years and include poverty count, English Language Learner numbers, the Sparsity Index, the Regional Cost Index, SWD, Reserve Funds, etc.

#### **Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) Update**

- Guidelines should be coming out in November - but will not be approved by the Board of Regents until March. Must post for at least 60 days for public comment
- Must be collectively bargained then approved by the State Education Department
- Must use multiple measures (i.e. observations, instructional planning, collaborations, etc.)
- Will contain NO student performance measures
- Will have a 4-level rating system, but will not use the HEDI language (Highly Effective, Effective, Developing, Ineffective)

10. BOARD DATES

<b>DAY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>TIME</b>
Monday	October 7, 2024	Regular Board of Education Meeting	7:00 pm
Tuesday	October 22, 2024	Finance and Audit Committee Meeting	6:00 pm
Monday	November 4, 2024	Regular Board of Education Meeting	7:00 pm
Monday	December 2, 2024	Regular Board of Education Meeting	7:00 pm
Monday	January 6, 2025	Regular Board of Education Meeting	7:00 pm

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13. ADJOURNMENT

**BOARD APPROVED**