

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
ALBION CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ALBION, NEW YORK 14411  
December 01, 2025 SUMMARY  
OF A REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
6:00 pm**

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Board President, Mrs. Linda Weller, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**RECOGNITION**

**High School Student Awards**

Hanna Kumalac - Leadership Award  
Mickhale Meyer-Lane - Character Award

**Moment of Silence**

Board Member, Mr. Schmitt shared "We are saddened by the passing of retired Elementary School Teacher, Mrs. Patti Levandowski on November 20, 2025. Patti was a cherished member of our school community, whose impact on students, families, and colleagues was immeasurable.

Patti began her teaching career at Ronald L. Sodoma Elementary in 2005 and served as a first-grade teacher for 17 years, retiring in 2022. Not everyone may have had the chance to know her personally, but those who did remember her warmth, dedication, and the lasting impact she had on students and colleagues alike.

Her connection to our school started even earlier, when she volunteered in classrooms as her daughter Paige was a student. Though she initially did not work in education, Patti's love for working with students grew through helping in small groups, large group activities, and one-on-one support. Inspired by this experience, she pursued a teaching career and became a dedicated first-grade teacher, a role she embraced with passion and commitment.

Patti was a teacher who took her craft seriously. She wanted her students to have a strong foundation and to be prepared for future success. Her colleagues often described her as kind, respectful, and down-to-earth, with a gentle and calming presence that put everyone at ease. Parents and students alike recognized her talent, yet Patti always carried herself with humility, letting her work speak for itself.

Her quiet strength, her heart-centered approach to teaching, and her unwavering dedication to children are just a few of the qualities that will remain in our memories. Patti's legacy is not only in the lessons she taught but in the countless lives she touched along the way.

Please join me in a moment of silence to honor the dedication, strength, love and impact Mrs. Patti Levandowski shared with community, staff and students in our Purple Eagle Family. She will truly be missed!"

Board Member, Mr. Kast shared "We are saddened to learn that Joseph Sacco, Sr., former Transportation Director for the Albion Central School District, passed away on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

Mr. Sacco was appointed in August of 1976 as the Supervisor of Safety and Transportation after working on a part-time basis in the transportation program. His position was later reclassified by Civil Service in 1978 to Head Bus Driver where he remained until his retirement.

His obituary notes, 'Joe was a very devoted husband, father and grandfather and his family was his world. He was a 1955 graduate of Albion High School and furthered his education at Ithaca College and Eastman School of Music. Throughout his life he had many careers working for Brinks, the Albion Police Department, Transportation Director at Albion Central School District and Transportation Director for the Genesee County ARC. Joe also served his community as trustee and mayor. He was devoted to his community, advocating for upgraded local infrastructure and beautification projects. Joe was also an accomplished musician, starting The Joe Sacco Band and The Blue Notes. He played the clarinet, saxophone and piano and enjoyed singing at many events.'

Please join me in a moment of silence to honor the dedication and commitment Joseph Sacco, Sr. shared with community, staff and students in our Purple Eagle Family. He will be missed!"

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**BOARD APPROVED**

**2. PUBLIC FORUM - None**

**3. BUSINESS ITEMS**

- A. Minutes of November 03, 2025 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Treasurer's Report October 2025
- C. Extra-Classroom Activity Fund Report for October 2025
- D. CSE & CPSE Recommendations
- E. Building Use Requests
- F. Fundraiser Requests

G. Budget Transfer Requests - Information Only

- \$1,500 for Out of State Conference in February, 2025 for development with Leader in Me
- \$4,000 for cost of a new professional service agreement

## BOARD APPROVED

4. **CORRESPONDENCE** - None

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Orleans/Niagara BOCES Programs and Initiatives  
- Dr. Taweepon Farrar and Orleans/Niagara BOCES Leaders

Dr. Taweepon, District Superintendent of Orleans/Niagara BOCES introduced herself to the Board and expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to present. This is her second year in the region and she is excited to continue working closely with districts on Building BOCES Capacity. BOCES leadership accompanying Dr. Farrar included Mr. Wayne Wadhams, BOCES Board of Education President; Dr. Michael Weyrauch, Director of CTE and Adult Education and Mr. Tim Dunham, Executive Director of Human Resources.

BOCES stands for Board of Cooperative Educational Services and are regional organizations that provide a wide range of educational services to school districts. These services are designed to enhance student learning, support educators and improve efficiency.

Dr. Farrar shared the Orleans/Niagara BOCES Mission Statement; provided a District map of the thirteen component districts BOCES services; identified the members of the 2025-2026 BOCES Board of Education; and identified leadership for Educational Services, Special Programs, Career & Technical Education/Adult Ed., Business and Operational Services, Labor Relations and Human Resources and their staff members.

Dr. Michael Weyrauch, Director of Career & Technical Education and Adult Education shared with the Board that there are approximately 720 students at the Orleans Career and Technical Center in Medina and there are approximately 1,210 students at the Niagara Career and Technical Center in Sanborn. There are currently twenty-four NYS approved programs between the two centers. Jr. and Sr. High School students receive hands-on vocational training 2.5 hours a day that is focused around industry standards. In the 2025-2026 school year, a Career Exploration Program was expanded to sophomores. BOCES provides and coordinates career development services that includes connecting with parents, business/industry, post-secondary institutions and community organizations to support students' transition to post-secondary education and employment. Of the twenty-four programs offered, the Heating/Ventilation/Air Conditioning & Refrigeration (HVAC) and Emergency Medical

Services/Fire Science programs are expanding to include Orleans County as the industry trend data shows an uptick in this field.

Dr. Farrar shared information on the Workforce Training Centers together with Educational Services provided to students. The Special and Alternative Educational Programs/Services provide Special Programs for Classroom, Related Services and Ancillary Programs. The Niagara Academy in the Starpoint Central School District offers Middle and High alternative and Special Education. The Godfrey Learning Center in the Newfane Central School District provides secondary 6-12+ Special Education and the Orleans Learning Center in the Medina Central School District provides Secondary 7-12+ Special Education. The Royalton-Hartland Learning Center in the Royalton-Hartland School District provides Elementary Grades K-6 Special Education. The North Tonawanda Learning Center in the North Tonawanda Central School District and the Niagara Wheatfield Learning Center in the Niagara Wheatfield Central School District provide Elementary Grades K-6 Special Education.

Dr. Farrar shared that the Lease at the North Tonawanda Learning Center would be expiring and not be renewed. The 2026-2027 New Special Program Locations include Ransomville Learning Center, Tonawanda Creek Learning Center, Lew-Port Learning Center and expansion by one classroom at the Niagara-Wheatfield location. New Programs being added are a suspension classroom and Alt Ed Class 45/6 Grade.

Dr. Farrar shared with the Board that there will be a significant increase of 19.30% in the BOCES Annual Budget that districts vote on in April. The increase allows for the addition of another attorney, clerical positions, and increased space that is needed. More information will go out to Business Officials.

B. Academic Focus - Special Education Update -  
Mr. Brad Lehman, Director of Student  
Services

Mr. Brad Lehman, Director of Student Services, shared with the Board a Special Education Update presentation. He reviewed definitions with the Board for terms used in Special Education. Early Intervention (EI) covers children from twelve months to two years of age. Doctors refer them when milestones are not being reached. Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) covers children three to five years of age (Pre-K age). The school facilitates evaluation and providers for services but in rural areas there is often a shortage of providers. Committee on Special Education (CSE) covers children from Kindergarten to age twenty-two in and out of district. Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) reduces the number of students in special classes.

Mr. Lehman shared the number of CPSE and CSE students from the 2020-21 school year, and each year up to the current 2025-26 school year. These numbers are based on October BEDS data. He also shared the number of Out of District (CSE) students from 2020-21 to 2025-26. There has been a behavioral/mental health jump since COVID. Superintendent Edwards shared that the purpose of creating the

additional 8:1:3 classes was to assist with bringing kids back to the district.

Mr. Lehman shared that he meets with the building principals to work on comprehensive CPSE-12<sup>th</sup> Grade+ planning; Least Restrictive Environment Targeted Skills Group; Projection Planning Meetings for transitions; and Administration collaboration regarding programming.

## **6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Health and Safety Committee Report**

Superintendent Edwards reported that the committee met on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Some of the emergency lockdown drills have been held or are scheduled. The Orleans County Threat Assessment Team met at the school with representatives attending from the FBI, District Attorney's Office, local School Superintendents, SRO's and law enforcement. Our BOCES Safety Risk Specialist shared that fire inspections will start in the District beginning the week of December 15<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, she shared that administration, staff and students will be receiving training regarding the location and use of AED's as a result of Desha's Law. This training will be completed by January 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Theresa Osborn of Uconnect reported that they have been pushing into the sixth grade three days a week just before Eagle Time. During Red Ribbon Week, bulletin boards shared information with staff and students and the Middle School did some door decorating. In November a stall wall theme was put in the Middle School Cafeteria where each month there will be information shared on various topics with emphasis on how important it is to be kind and empathetic.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS - None**

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Resignations:**

#### **a. Jacob McEwen-Miller**

Position: Cleaner @ ES

Effective: 12/02/25 (end of work day and upon appointment to a full-time Custodial Worker position)

#### **b. Hannah Weese**

Position: Monitor @ ES

Effective: 12/02/25 (end of work day and upon appointment to a full-time Elementary School Teacher Aide Position)

- c. Mark Skurzewski  
 Position: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, ES Multi-Cultural Club Advisor and Assistant Varsity Track and Field Coach  
 Effective: 12/31/25
- d. Vincent Strollo  
 Position: Boys' Modified Basketball Coach  
 Effective: 11/18/25
- e. Hannah Weese  
 Position: Substitute Teacher Aide  
 Effective: 12/02/25

2. Retirements:

- a. Ann Sentiff  
 Position: Science Teacher @ HS  
 Effective: 01/23/26 (end of work day)
- b. Terri Monacelli  
 Position: Teacher Aide @ ES  
 Effective: 06/26/26

3. 2025-2026 Appointments:

- a. Jacob McEwen-Miller  
 Position: Custodial Worker  
 Start Date: 12/03/25  
 Civil Service Classification: Non-Competitive  
 Probationary Period: 12/03/25 - 12/02/26  
 Salary: \$33,743 plus \$900 stipend,  
 (prorated stipend  
 12/03/25 - 06/30/26)
- b. Hannah Weese  
 Position: Teacher Aide  
 Start Date: 12/03/25  
 Civil Service Classification: Non-Competitive  
 Probationary Period: 12/03/25 - 12/02/26  
 Salary: \$16.00/hr.

4. 2025-2026 Middle School After-School Advisory Position:

Event: Middle School After-School Advisory  
Individual(s): Brittani Messmer  
Rate: \$25.00 per hour  
Timeline: Tuesday and Thursday 2:35 pm - 3:35 pm  
 classroom intervention and 3:30 pm -  
 4:15 pm for supervision in the cafeteria  
 from December 2, 2025 - May 7, 2026

5. 2025-2026 Community School Program Club/Event Approval:

Event: Reading Club

Individual(s): Cathy Hryhorenko

Rate: \$25/hour

Timeline: December 2, 2025 - June 30, 2026

6. 2025-2026 Extra-Curricular Appointments:

a. Kyle Syck

Position: HS Technology Club Advisor

b. Valerie Pettit

Position: HS Spring Musical Technical Director

c. Clarissa Steier

Position: MS Musical Assistant Tech

7. 2025-2026 Extra-Curricular Appointments:

a. Vincent Strollo

Position: Modified Swimming Coach

b. Brennan Meakin

Position: Modified Boys' Basketball Coach

8. Substitutes:

Certified Substitute Teachers

- Carly Fox

Non-Certified Substitute Teachers

- Mallory Kozody
- Casey Winiecki

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

- Heather Johnston
- Jannel Lawrence
- Kaylee Wilston

10. 2025-2026 Extra-Curricular Athletic Appointment:

a. Jared Moreland

Position: Modified Wrestling Coach  
\*Pending all Coaching  
Certification requirements  
are met

- B. Reserve Plan
- C. 2024-2025 Control Cycle Audit - IT Department
- D. 2025-2026 Disposal/Auction Items
- E. 2025-2026 Revised District-Wide Safety Plan
- F. Inactive Extracurricular Club
- G. Donations:
  - Supplies to Ronald L. Sodoma Elementary School Health Office
  - Sneakers, undergarments, hats and gloves to the Albion Central School District Elementary, Middle and High School Health Offices
  - Donation of Halloween costumes to the Ronald L. Sodoma Elementary School
  - Monetary donation of \$287.00 to the Albion Central School District Drama Club
  - Monetary donation of \$500 to the Albion High School FFA

## **BOARD APPROVED,**

**New Business Items 8(A) Personnel; 8(B) Reserve Plan; 8(C) 2024-2025 Control Cycle Audit of IT Department and Corrective Action Plan; 8(D) 2025-2026 Disposal/Auction Items; 8(E) 2025-2026 Revised District-Wide Safety Plan provided for Information Only; 8(F) Inactive Extracurricular Club; and 8(G) Donation of supplies from the Emma Reid Webster Foundation to the Ronald L. Sodoma Elementary School Health Office with a value of \$310.35; Donation of sneakers, undergarments, hats and gloves to the Albion Central School District Health Offices from Ms. Noreen Dixon with an approximate value of \$150; Donation of Halloween Costumes from The Main Street Corner Thrift and Gifts Store with an approximate value of \$300; Monetary Donation of \$287 from Drama Club Parents to the Albion Central School District Drama Club; and Monetary Donation of \$500 from Leadership Orleans to the Albion Central School District High School FFA. Thank you letters for the donations will be sent to the donors on behalf of the Board of Education.**

### H. Volunteers

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

## **9. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS**

### A. BOE President Report

Board President, Mrs. Weller shared that she attended the National Technical Honor Society Induction.

Mrs. Weller also participated in the Mission, Vision and Value Committee meeting.

Mrs. Weller attended the Senior Tea and expressed admiration for the students' art work and ability to sing in front of parents, staff and fellow peers.

Mrs. Weller attended the Empire Games awards ceremony. She shared that there was much joy and excitement as student athletes and their partners were greeted by cheerleaders and music was provided by the Middle School Band.

Mrs. Weller participated in a Virtual Focus Group.

Mrs. Weller shared that she would be attending the Rural Schools Conference in Saratoga Springs later this week.

#### B. Building Principal Reports

Building Principal Reports were submitted for Board Members' review.

Mrs. Ashbery, High School Principal highlighted the Senior Portraits that Mickhale Meyer-Lane, the Character Award recipient for the High School, had taken of seniors. She shared that Mickhale is part of the Digital Arts Photography class. Students suggested starting a program that enables photography students to take senior photos of students after school on school property. There is no stigma attached and it is very celebrated. She shared some of the Senior Portraits taken by students in the class.

Mr. Pritchard, Middle School Principal, highlighted the perfect attendance and awesome attendance awards presented to students. In the first ten weeks of school there were 120 students achieving perfect attendance awards and 147 students achieving awesome attendance awards.

Mr. Pritchard thanked Board Member, Mr. Schmitt for attending the Middle School Veterans' Day event.

Mrs. Conway highlighted various events taking place at the Elementary School. She invited Board Members to attend the SOARing to Success Assembly scheduled on December 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 am.

#### C. Attendance Report

Board Members were provided with the Attendance Report for review.

#### D. Ex-Officio Student Board Member Report

Miss Phoebe Allen, student Board Member was absent from the meeting.

#### E. Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Report

Mrs. Manfreda shared how grateful she is for Brad Lehman and his work in collaborating with the principals. She shared with the Board the work that our Social Worker, Nicci Moore and Eric Christiansen have done for students to receive eye exams through the Flaum Eye

Institute. On November 18<sup>th</sup> there were twenty-eight students that received eye exams; eighteen of them needed glasses and received a free pair. On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Flaum will be back to continue examinations. The nurses are screening all age groups. Social Worker, Nicci Moore works with families to obtain their consent for the exams and refers more serious needs to the Batavia Flaum office. Parents have been very receptive to it. Reminders are sent to parents so that paperwork is returned consenting to the exam. Our social workers have done a phenomenal job with this program.

F. Athletic Director's Report

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

G. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Edwards shared that a tentative agreement has been reached in the ATA negotiations but it needs to be ratified by the ATA members. It could potentially be brought to the January Board Meeting for review in Executive Session.

**10. BOARD DATES**

<b>DAY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>TIME</b>
Monday	January 05, 2026	Regular Board of Education Meeting	6:00 pm
Tuesday	February 03, 2026	Finance & Audit Committee Meeting	6:00 pm
Monday	February 09, 2026 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday)	Regular Board of Education Meeting	6:00 pm
Monday	March 09, 2026 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday)	Regular Board of Education Meeting	6:00 pm
Tuesday	March 31, 2026	Finance and Audit Committee Meeting	6:00 pm

**BOARD APPROVED**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**BOARD APPROVED**