

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
ALBION CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALBION, NEW YORK 14411
March 05, 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

RECOGNITION

High School Student Awards

Hanna Kumalac - Leadership Award
Neveya Barnes - Character Award

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

BOARD APPROVED, with corrections as follows; under Business Item 3 (A), correcting paragraph numbering in the February 05, 2024 Board Minutes; under Personnel Item 8, 1(b) correcting the effective date of resignation for Louis DiRienzo, Substitute Cleaner to 02/16/24; under Item 6 Committee Reports, adding (C) Audit and Finance Committee and under Item 9 (C) correcting the Attendance Report to reflect December 2023.

2. PUBLIC FORUM - None

3. BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. Minutes of February 05, 2024 Regular Board Meeting
- B. Treasurer's Report January 2024
- C. Extra Classroom Activity Fund Report January 2024
- D. CSE & CPSE Recommendations
- E. Committee on Special Education Referral Information
- F. Fundraiser Requests
- G. Budget Transfer Request:
 - \$ 6,000 - Audio Visual Equipment Purchase

BOARD APPROVED

- H. Budget Transfer:
 - \$ 1,200 - Installation of Fuel Tank Electric Lines
(for Information Only)

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

4. **CORRESPONDENCE** - None

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

A. School Resource Officer - Deputy Matthew Prawel

School Resource Officer, Deputy Matthew Prawel introduced himself to the Board, indicated that he is in his second year as Albion's SRO and thanked Superintendent Edwards for the opportunity to present to the Board as he felt it important to fill members in on his role on campus.

Deputy Prawel shared that he participated in an SRO class for one week in the summer to become certified as an SRO and additionally attended the School Safety Conference in Saratoga, New York. He provided the Board with a handout summarizing the ACS Campus Safety Update.

Deputy Prawel's daily and weekly constants include rounds throughout the buildings to ensure all doors are secure; he is present at both arrivals and dismissals; he attends weekly District Leadership Team meetings and monthly Safety Committee meetings and collaborates with outside support groups such as Probation, DSS, etc.; and helps with the facilitation of emergency drills in all buildings. There has been heavy emphasis on emergency drills and familiarizing outside law enforcement agencies with the schools.

Deputy Prawel has been working on various new initiatives that include revamping the District's Threat Assessment Policy and Form, working closely with administrators and counseling offices to create a new fillable pdf form; reviving the High School Parking Permit Program enforcing parking regulations through written warnings, increasing the number of passes sold from 31 in 2022-2023 to 79 in 2023-2024, creating greater accountability for students driving and parking on campus with all proceeds from the program going to the High School Student Council and keeping the SRO role in the process as positive as possible; reconfiguration of campus cameras assisting in identifying locations in need of increased camera coverage and in renaming cameras throughout the district to make the program easier to navigate; assisting with the Capital Project District Wayfinding and parallel projects; and working with all school districts in the county, along with their SRO's, on the beginning stages of a county-wide emergency plan for schools.

Deputy Prawel has also participated in Student Engagement Opportunities including arrangement of a visit from Deputy Jeff Cole and K9 Otto from the Orleans County Sheriff's Office to the Middle and Elementary Schools for a K9 demo during Red Ribbon Week in October. He has presented to High School English classes regarding preparation for college and dealing with roommate conflicts, using his experience as a Resident Assistant in college. He assisted in sixth grade health classes with their unit on alcohol and brought in

the Sheriff's Office impairment goggles for a demonstration, opening the door for future presentations. He has started a quarterly "swearing-in ceremony," for the fifth-grade students participating in safety patrol.

Deputy Prawel shared that upcoming events include the Annual DWI Crash Simulation in June for the Senior Class; attendance at the Sheriff's Booth at the Middle School Literacy Night on March 20th; and he is working on plans for further DWI education with the Sheriff's Office equipment in Middle School Health classes. Additionally, he is in the early stages of planning trips to the Public Safety Building to provide students with a tour of the facility.

He thanked the Board and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as the school's SRO.

B. FFA Competition Presentation - High School

Mr. Scott Oldenburg, High School Agriculture Teacher and FFA Advisor together with the Albion FFA Ag Issues Team Members, Oliver Beach, Kaitlynn Basinait, Kaitlin Bennett and Abigail Ferris shared their FFA Competition Presentation with the Board.

Mr. Oldenburg indicated that participants in the Agricultural Issues Forum Leadership Development Event (LDE) research the pros and cons of an agricultural issue and present their findings to a panel of judges. It challenges students to investigate a variety of current local, state, national and international issues facing agriculture through classroom instruction. Students then demonstrate through portfolio, presentation and questioning an understanding of the principles and fundamentals of agricultural issue analysis. Communication, leadership and teamwork skills are critical to the success of the event. The event connects agriculture students with professionals in the industry as they research, present and understand complicated issues facing the agricultural landscape, making it attractive to students having an interest in agricultural policy, law and international relations.

On February 3rd, the Albion FFA Ag Issues Team traveled to Springville, New York to compete against other FFA members at the District 9 LDE competition. Albion's team finished strong in 5th place earning the right to move on to the Sub-State Competition that will be held on March 16th. An FFA chapter must have a minimum of five high-quality public forums presentations prior to their state qualifying event to receive the maximum of 15 points. Albion's FFA Ag Issues Team presented their topic to the District's Leadership Team and tomorrow will present to three different agriculture groups together with the presentation to the Board.

The Albion FFA Ag Issues Team presented "What are the top input costs for farmers?" which included Seeds, Fertilizer, Machinery, Minimum Wage and Overtime Threshold.

Each of the student members presented on how costs have increased for each of the five areas selected; the pros and cons of each area and then responded to questions asked by Board members which reinforced their knowledge of their presentation topic.

C. Academic Focus - Elementary School Reading
Mrs. Angela Conway

Elementary School Principal, Mrs. Angela Conway, shared with the Board that during last month's meeting she provided mid-year data reporting on the STAR reading results. Through a slide presentation, she shared a repeat slide comparing progress between the beginning and middle of the school year. At the beginning of the year, 47% of students were at or above grade level which increased to 57% at the middle of the year. While she is not satisfied with the 57%, she is happy with the progress that has been made.

In the fall of 2021, only 26% of Kindergarten through fifth grade students were reading at or above grade level. Those needing urgent intervention at this point were a higher percentage than those at or above reading at or above grade level. That school ended with 52% of the Kindergarten through fifth grade students reading at or above grade level. The reading results at the beginning of the next two school years indicate a summer slide which happens when students have been out of school for two months. Mrs. Conway believed that if progress follows this particular trend, there should be 60% to 62% of students reading at or above grade level at the end of the 2024 school year and with continued progress, the 2028 school year could have 70% or higher reading at or above grade level. Mrs. Conway indicated that there are factors that affect making change in reading results such as students moving in and out of the district, students with disabilities and English Language Learners along with actual instruction.

Cohort data was provided highlighting second through fifth grade. Students currently in Second grade increased the percentage of students reading at or above grade level from 37% in the fall to 54% in the winter; and third grade increased from 49% to 62%. Fourth grade saw a slight decrease from 56% in the fall to 53% in the winter. Fourth grade was the cohort that was hardest hit by COVID when almost 50% of the students needed urgent intervention in the fall of 2021. The number of fourth grade students needing urgent intervention decreased from 23% in the fall of 2023 to 16% in the winter of 2024 which shows good progress. Fifth grade students increased students reading at or above grade level from 47% in the fall of 2023 to 53% in the winter of 2024.

Slides were shared indicating how data is looked at using data points and trend lines with examples from January 2022 to January 2024 for a student reading at or above benchmark; for a student with data points indicating shifts between intervention, being on watch and progress toward being at or above benchmark; for a student primarily needing urgent intervention and another student moving between intervention and urgent intervention.

Mrs. Conway shared a slide posing the question; "What have we been doing differently?" The Response to Intervention process has been revamped to include an intervention teacher being assigned to each grade level; through WIN (What I Need), all students receive targeted support to 30 to 40 minutes each day; the Student Support Team monitors progress to provide Tier 3 academic services; and related services/CSE referral process have been streamlined. New ELA programs for grades K-5 have been implemented and aligned to include Amplify CKLA, Really Great Reading and Heggerty. Additionally, an Assessment Calendar has been developed and maintained to include STAR - Early Literacy Skills, Reading and Math; Really Great Reading - Grouping Matrix - Foundational Skills; DIBELS - Fluency Level and New Entrants - tested and placed immediately.

Mrs. Conway shared next steps which include Curriculum Maps/Scope and Sequence; Standards-Based Report Cards; Skills vs. Knowledge and Science of Reading - Writing.

(Mr. Bennett left the meeting at 8:02 pm)

(Mr. Bennett returned to the meeting at 8:03 pm)

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Health & Safety Committee

Board Member, Mr. Schmitt, shared that the Health & Safety Committee met briefly. Work continues on the Workplace Violence Prevention Program which came out years ago but at that time, schools were not included. This has since changed to include schools and work is being done to implement a program to document and identify threats, problems and issues in each of the buildings on campus.

B. Board Policy, Process and Protocol Committee

Superintendent Edwards shared that the Board Policy, Process and Protocol Committee met and reviewed eleven policies that are part of this evening's Board Packet for first read. He noted that Erie 1 BOCES Policy Services provides the district with revisions to required policies and recommended changes to existing policies when Education Law, Labor Law and the Commissioner of Education's regulations change. The Policies submitted for first read are part of the 2024 Annual Policy Audit, a service the district subscribes to.

Mrs. Weller, Chairperson of the Board Policy, Process and Protocol Committee noted that using the Erie 1 Policy Services has made the process for reviewing policies much better than before. The Policies are provided clearly marked in color where language has been changed, moved within the Policy and/or deleted. The Committee reviews and essentially performs the first read allowing for second read to be waived and the policies to be adopted.

C. Finance and Audit Committee

Mr. Kast, Chairperson of the Finance and Audit Committee shared that a meeting was held on February 13th. The Committee continues to work through the budget process reviewing building budgets and where we stand so far. Appreciation was expressed to administration and their staff for the work they've done on the budget. Committee members looked over the fuel comparison included in this evening's meeting which indicates Kurk offers the best pricing. Discussion was also held regarding the possible change to the budget vote location. There were originally two meetings scheduled to be held in March; however, one meeting will be held on March 26th when more complete information will be available for review by the Committee.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Fuel Comparison (Fuel Farm vs. Kurk)

Board President, Mr. Wadhams, shared that the information fuel comparison provided in the packet was voted on and approved at the last Board meeting.

Mr. Recckio was thanked for providing the comparisons and usage cost.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Personnel

1. Resignations:

b. Louis DiRienzo

Position: Substitute Cleaner
Effective: 02/16/24

2. 2023-2024 Appointment:

a. Eddie English

Position: Monitor @ ES
Start Date: TBD
Civil Service Classification: Non-Competitive
Probationary Period: TBD, *pending Drug
Testing, Physical and
TB Test
Salary: \$15.00/hr.

3. Fifth Block Global Studies Appointment:

a. Matthew Brooks

Position: Fifth Block Global Instructor
Dates: 20 Sessions 03/06/24 - 06/13/24
Time: 2:40 pm - 4:40 pm
Salary: \$30 per hour plus ½ hour planning
for each session

4. 2023-2024 High School After-School Advisory Positions, appointed to provide supervision during the after-school sports study hall at a rate of \$25 per hour, from March 11, 2024 to the end of the spring athletic season:

- a. Keith Akers
- b. Jessica Allen
- c. Jennifer Burden
- d. William Dambra
- e. Michael Fahy
- f. Rich Gannon
- g. Sara Koppenhaver
- h. Chad Owen
- i. Kristin Roche

5. 2024 Adult Pit Orchestra Musician Appointments: for instrumental services in the 2024 High School spring production pit orchestra to be compensated at \$150 each:

- a. Lindsey Almeter
- b. Joseph Condoluci
- c. Shannon Vanderlaan
- d. Gary Simboli
- e. Denise Thomas
- f. Cayla Hutteman

6. 2023-2024 Extra-Curricular Athletic Appointments:

- a. Gregory Bennett
Position: Volunteer Baseball Coach,
**pending all coaching certification requirements are met for a temporary coaching license
- b. Daniel Ward
Position: Volunteer Baseball Coach,
**pending all coaching certification requirements are met for a temporary coaching license
- c. Kristen Vilinsky
Modified Softball Coach
**pending recertification in First Aid, CPR, AED
- d. Jessica Grimes
Volunteer Softball Coach
**pending all coaching certification requirements are met for a temporary coaching license

7. Leave Request (Retroactive):

- a. Rachael Dixson
Position: 1st Grade Special Education
Teacher @ ES
Leave: Child-Rearing Leave (follows
Maternity Leave)
Dates: 11/28/23 - 03/05/24

8. Substitutes:

Certified Substitute Teachers

- None

Non-Certified Substitute Teachers

- Peter Kemblowski

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

- None

BOARD APPROVED

B. Budget Vote Location

BOARD APPROVED

C. 2024 Albion High School Band Trip - Toronto
May 10-12, 2024 - Final Approval

BOARD APPROVED

- D. Revised Policy 3420 Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment
In the District-First Read
- E. Revised Policy 5630 Facilities: Inspection, Operation,
And Maintenance-First Read
- F. Revised Policy 6121 Sexual Harassment in the Workplace-
First Read
- G. Revised Policy 6130 Evaluation of Personnel-First Read
- H. Revised Policy 6550 Leaves of Absence-First Read
- I. Revised Policy 7350 Timeout and Physical Restraint-First
Read
- J. Revised Policy 7420 Sports and the Athletic Program-First
Read
- K. Revised Policy 7512 Student Physicals-First Read
- L. Revised Policy 7670 Due Process Complaints: Selection and
Board Appointment of Impartial Hearing
Officers-First Read
- M. Revised Policy 8240 Instruction in Certain Subjects-First
Read
- N. Revised Policy 8450 Home, Hospital or Institutional
Instruction (Homebound Instruction)
- First Read

**BOARD APPROVED, waiver of the second reading of Items 8(D)-(N),
Revised Policies 3420, 5630, 6121, 6130, 6550, 7350, 7420, 7512,**

7670, 8240 and 8450 listed above pursuant to the terms of Policy 1410 regarding Policy and Administrative Regulations.

BOARD APPROVED, and adopted Items 8(D)-(N), Revised Policies 3420, 5630, 6121, 6130, 6550, 7350, 7420, 7512, 7670, 8240 and 8450, as a block.

O. Title I - Middle School Literacy Night Event Approval

Event: Middle School Literacy Night - Spring 2024

Individuals: Sarah McCormick Lisa Castricone
Lee Sheehan Allyson DeBoard
Bruce Pritchett Danielle Huff
Brittany Barleben Josefino Paz
Jill Scharping Karen Conn
Sara Koppenhaver Julie McGrath
Kamie Feder Heather Krahel
Theresa Christopher Barb Wesolowski
Kateri Moskaluk Chris Keller
Julie Keller Jennifer Moreland

Rate: \$25/hour (up to four hours)

Timeline: Wednesday, March 20, 2024

BOARD APPROVED

P. 2023-2024 School Year Programming Approval Through Title III

Event: Before/After School Learning Opportunities
For students, specifically English Language
Learners

Individuals: Marcella Quintana

Rate: \$30 per hour

BOARD APPROVED

Q. 2023-2024 Programming Approval Through ARP Grant

The following individuals are recommended to be approved as teachers and/or substitute teachers for programming:

Before & After School 2023-2024:

- Allyson DeBoard (program/ see rate below)
- Josefino Paz (program/ event/ see rate below)
- Kamie Feder (program/ see rate below)
- Mike Jones (program/ \$25/ hour)
- Tina Burgett (program/ see rate below)
- Dr. Athena Nichols (program/ see rate below)

- Bruce Pritchett (program/ see rate below)
 - Janice Scott (program/ see rate below)
 - Julie Keller (program/ see rate below)
 - Brooke Beatty (program/ see rate below)
 - Joan Mrzywka (program/ see rate below)
 - Jaime Beach (program/ see rate below)
 - Kelly Kovaleski (program/ see rate below)
 - Cheryl Rightmyer (program/ see rate below)
 - Meghan Kania (program/ see rate below)
 - Benjamin DeJonge (program/see rate below)
 - Sheryl LeBaron (program/see rate below)
 - Amber Sidari (program/see rate below)
 - Cathy Hryhorenko (program/see rate below)
 - **Allison Howard (program/see rate below)**
 - **Desiree Barber (program/see rate below)**
 - **Wynter Dumont (program/see rate below)**
-

Historical information:

For before/ after school work - teachers are paid at a rate of \$30 per hour plus a half hour of planning (equaling \$15) for every day a session is held.

For summer work - teachers are paid \$500 per week (4 hours per day and 4 days per week), or at a rate of \$125/ day.

BOARD APPROVED

R. Middle School Enrichment Class Request to Donate

BOARD APPROVED, the request of the Middle School Enrichment Class to donate 60 Boxes of Chalk (12 pack boxes); 18 Chalkboard Erasers; 21 Old (Diadora brand) Albion soccer uniforms; and 2 Old Soccer Balls (no longer in use) to Mr. Tim Archer to take to children in Malawi on his upcoming service trip.

S. Donation(s):

- Donation of a flute to the Ronald L. Sodoma Elementary School
- Donation of bottled water to the Albion Central School District

BOARD APPROVED

T. Volunteers

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

9. BOE PRESIDENT AND ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS

A. BOE President Report

Board President, Mr. Wayne Wadhams, shared with the Board that the Niagara Orleans School Boards Association had reached out to provide potential training sessions they offer. A sign-up sheet was being circulated around the table so members could express the sessions they might be interested in and Mr. Wadhams would report the results to NOSBA for next steps in planning.

Mr. Wadhams shared that he and Superintendent Edwards would be participating in a Zoom meeting tomorrow with Ms. Marla Iverson.

Mr. Wadhams shared that NOSBA is going to be holding a Prospective School Board Member Workshop on Saturday, March 16th at 9:00 am in North Tonawanda. He asked members to share the information with anyone they know who may be interested in running for a Board seat.

Superintendent Edwards added that typically these workshops are held in Niagara County at locations that Orleans County residents may not attend. Monroe 2 BOCES is experiencing the same issue. The area Superintendents have discussed the possibility of a workshop being hosted by the five of them in Orleans County. This would be something planned for next year.

Mr. Wadhams shared that on Tuesday, February 27th, he attended a Capital Project meeting. There is a good rapport between the trades' contractors and the project is progressing well.

Mr. Wadhams shared a notification he received from the Iroquois Job Corps Center inviting him to attend a "Next Step" Transition Fair on Wednesday, April 10th from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Mr. Wadhams indicated he may attend on behalf of Albion Central School.

Mr. Wadhams reminded the Board that he had discussed some time ago a Hall of Fame for Alumni of Distinction to highlight anyone who has done extraordinary things since graduating from the district. Work could be done with the Alumni Association to schedule dates to discuss this further. Committee participation will be available.

Superintendent Edwards indicated he has reached out to other districts who have done this to obtain more information.

Mr. Wadhams shared he will be attending a BOCES Board Consultant Meeting regarding the BOCES Superintendent's Search. The current BOCES Superintendent has held the position for 30 years and the Labor Relations Attorney has been with BOCES for 20 years. Both will be retiring at the end of June. It will be challenging to fill both positions.

B. Building Principal Reports

Building Principal Reports were submitted for Board Members' review.

C. Attendance Report

The Attendance Report for January 2024 was provided for Board Members' review.

D. Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Report

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Mrs. Rebecca Manfreda shared that faculty and staff will have a Staff Development Day on March 11th. The Professional Development Committee, in conjunction with the building and district administration, has planned for faculty to continue the development of course scope and sequence documents and curriculum maps. A scope and sequence is a summary of what is to be taught, the sequence in which it will be taught and the outcomes that may be addressed in the intended learning. A curriculum map is a deeper dive into each unit and a process for reviewing curriculum to ensure they are aligned to state standards and assessments.

The district is in year two of three in its plan to have all curriculum areas and courses utilizing the same format for documentation. These documents are accessible digitally, which enables all administrators to review and work with teachers on their curriculum, as well as ease of accessibility for when teachers change grade levels and/or courses, long-term substitutes and new hires. This process allows the ability to globally see how skills and content building across subjects and vertically through grade levels and provide targeted support to departments and teams on curriculum development, alignment and assessments. Orleans Niagara BOCES and Genesee Valley BOCES have been instrumental in helping support this process. These documents are living, breathing documents; even after there's a solid plan in writing, the practice is to continually revisit and revise based on the new students we have each year, changing state standards/initiatives, adjustments in assessments, changing demographics, etc.

E. Athletic Director's Report

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

Board President, Mr. Wadhams, congratulated the Boys' Swimming Team on the championship win; "Keep a going!"

Mrs. Weller expressed appreciation for the photographs the Athletic Director includes in her Report.

F. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Edwards shared the 2022 Capital Improvement Project Progress Report #12 with the Board. The Executive Summary provides information on Doors, Frames and Hardware; Hot Water Service Lines for Building Heat; Electrical Renovations; HVAC Renovations; Security Controls, Clocks & Public Address and Project Scope Enhancements. Pictures are also provided of progress on the project.

Superintendent Edwards advised the Facilities Committee that he would need to see them briefly at the end of the meeting.

Superintendent Edwards shared that he had just returned from the NYSCOSS Winter Institute he attended in Albany. The Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation Measures was part of the discussion. As previously provided in material shared with the Board, there are twelve recommendations being made by the Commission. One of the recommendations is seeking to replace the three diploma types (local, Regents and Regents with Advanced Designation), applying seals and endorsements to one or more diploma types (e.g. Seal of Biliteracy, Seal of Civic Readiness, Mastery in Mathematics), reorganizing credit requirements, reducing diploma assessments and offering more pathways. This would require revising the New York State learning standards. As additional information becomes available, it will be shared with the Board.

Superintendent Edwards also shared that one focus of discussion at the NYSCOSS Winter Institute was electric buses. Districts are beginning to express concern over the 2027 transition requirement. Feasibility studies will need to be done to determine whether or not buses can be charged enough to complete district routes. Purchasing costs for electric buses together with adequate space for each bus to be stored and charged presents challenges for school districts. The NYS Education Department has reached out to the Governor's office to discuss these issues but no response has been received.

10. BOARD DATES

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME
Monday	March 25, 2024	Bus Drivers' Breakfast HS Café	10:00 am
Tuesday	March 26, 2024	Finance and Audit Committee Meeting	6:00 pm
Tuesday	April 09, 2024 (2 nd Tuesday)	Regular Board of Education Meeting	7:00 pm
Tuesday	April 23, 2024	Annual BOCES Budget Vote & Election	TBD

Board President, Mr. Wadhams, reminded members that the Bus Drivers' Breakfast is scheduled on Monday, March 25th at 10:00 am in the High School cafeteria. This annual event is a way to express appreciation to the drivers. All members were invited to attend if they were available.

Mr. Wadhams reminded members that the next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled on Tuesday, April 9th and the Annual BOCES Budget Vote & Election is scheduled on Tuesday, April 23rd and is typically held at 7:00 am. There would need to be five Board members available for this meeting.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT

BOARD APPROVED

12. OPEN SESSION

BOARD APPROVED

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Personnel

1. Resignation:

a. Rachel Patten

Position: Clerk @ DO

Effective: 02/06/24

BOARD APPROVED

13. ADJOURNMENT

BOARD APPROVED