

# DRAFT

**Lansingburgh Central School District  
Minutes of the  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
Monday, February 22, 2020**

**This meeting was held remotely and recorded.  
The recording can be found on the District website at:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HnrGnOCWx09pmEurPjtRAFjuEXYpWNU1/view>

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Jason Shover at 6:05 p.m. **CALL TO ORDER**

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PLEDGE OF  
ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Shover read the District Mission Statement:

**MISSION**

*Our mission at the Lansingburgh Central School District is to provide a safe and nurturing educational environment where high expectations, rigor, life-long learning and civic responsibility are developed and encouraged.*

Board of Education Members, Kelley Bristol, Marie Cole, Michael Cusack, Rob Morris, Daniella Richards, Jason Shover, James Spear, Michele Speanburg, and Jeffrey White were present.

**ROLL CALL**

Others present include Bob Schongar, Matt Van Dervoort, Greg Rashford, Carrie Phelan, Rebecca McGrouty, Ian Knox, Joe Otter, Linda Klime, Lisa Kyer, Dr. Antonio Abitabile and Christina Williams. There was a total of 52 participants.

Andrea Fairhurst asked when the decision was made to not have a basketball season. Dr. Abitabile indicated the Board was polled regarding a High Risk Sports Plan and there was not enough support of the Board to put a plan up for a vote.

**VISITORS ADDRESS  
THE BOARD**

Ms. Fairhurst asked if basketball was a subject that should be discussed in executive session. Dr. Abitabile stated that the executive session was called for because it involved a personnel matter. The poll was taken regarding the High Risk Sports Plan and it was determined that we not pursue the plan due to personnel, safety and the budget.

Ms. Fairhurst indicated she could not find minutes from the last few board meetings posted on the website and the minutes on the website

# DRAFT

did not include minutes taken during executive session. Mr. Shover stated that minutes are typically not posted on the website until they have been approved by the Board. Minutes from the last 3 meetings are being approved tonight. Mrs. Williams added that minutes are not taken during executive session unless action will be taken by the Board. As the District Clerk, I do not attend executive sessions unless the Board specifically asks for me to be in attendance.

Dr. Abitabile made all aware that there is an addendum to tonight's agenda for the appointment of the Varsity and JV soccer coaches.

## **ADDENDUM**

Mrs. Bristol gave a brief report for the Audit Committee. There is not much going on with the budget at the time of year. We are basically in the same position that we were in last month. We will see a big change next month as our largest State Aid payment is due.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Ms. Cusack indicated the Parent and Family Engagement Committee did not meet this month.

Motion by Mrs. Bristol:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves the Treasurer's Report, Budget Transfers and Monthly Financial Report submitted by the Audit Committee.

## **RESO #1-02/22/2021 Approve Financial Reports**

Second: Mr. White

Ayes – 9      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves the consent agenda for February 22, 2021.

## **RESO #2-02/22/2021 Approve Consent Agenda**

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 25, 2021 and Special Meetings held on February 1, 2021 and February 8, 2021.

## **RESO #3-02/22/2021 Approve Minutes**

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

# DRAFT

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Alyssa Campbell, Teaching Assistant at Rensselaer Park Elementary School, effective February 9, 2021.

**RESO #4-02/22/2021**  
**Accept Resignation –**  
**Alyssa Campbell**

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Kenneth Mayfield, Teaching Assistant at Turnpike Elementary School, effective February 10, 2021.

**RESO #5-02/22/2021**  
**Accept Resignation –**  
**Kenneth Mayfield**

Second Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Jamie Chiesa to a probationary position at the Turnpike Elementary School in the Teaching Assistant tenure area, pending clearance by New York State and the Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation in accordance with the CSEA Teaching Assistant Contract as set forth below:

**RESO #6-02/22/2021**  
**Appoint Teaching**  
**Assistant – Jamie**  
**Chiesa**

Commencement of Probationary Service – February 23, 2021  
Expiration of Probationary Service – February 22, 2025  
Certification Status – Teaching Assistant, Level I (pending)  
Salary – Step 1 - \$17.06 per hour

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Jenna Retell to a probationary position at the Knickerbacker Middle School in the Teaching Assistant tenure area, pending clearance by New York State and the Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, with compensation in accordance with the CSEA Teaching Assistant Contract as set forth below:

**RESO #7-02/22/2021**  
**Appoint Teaching**  
**Assistant – Jenna**  
**Retell**



# DRAFT

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Suzette Wood, Teaching Assistant at Lansingburgh High School, for an unpaid leave of absence beginning February 10, 2021 through February 28, 2021.

**RESO #11-02/22/2021  
Approve Unpaid Leave  
of Absence – Suzette  
Wood**

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Jamie Chiesa, teacher aide at Turnpike Elementary School, effective February 2, 2021.

**RESO #12-02/22/2021  
Accept Resignation –  
Jamie Chiesa**

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Dante Carr, teacher aide at Rensselaer Park Elementary School, effective February 2, 2021.

**RESO #13-02/22/2021  
Accept Resignation –  
Dante Carr**

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Nickolas King, custodial worker, effective February 8, 2021.

**RESO #14-02/22/2021  
Accept Resignation –  
Nickolas King**

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Fred Potter, Noon Aide at Knickerbacker Middle School, effective February 4, 2021.

**RESO #15-02/22/2021  
Accept Resignation –  
Fred Potter**

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously



# DRAFT

at Rensselaer Park Elementary School with terms in accordance with the CSEA contract as set forth below:

Commencement of Service: March 1, 2021

Step 1 - \$21.95 per hour + \$0.50 differential / 8-hour workday / 12-months

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Keith Natalie, from the Rensselaer County Civil Service list of eligible candidates, as a custodian at Knickerbacker Middle School with terms in accordance with the CSEA contract as set forth below:

**RESO #21-02/22/2021**  
**Appoint Custodian –**  
**Keith Natalie**

Commencement of Service: March 1, 2021

Step 1 - \$21.95 per hour + \$0.50 differential / 8-hour workday / 12-months

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Michelle Canning, from the Rensselaer County Civil Service list of eligible candidates, as a 10-month typist at Turnpike Elementary School with terms in accordance with the CSEA contract as set forth below:

**RESO #22-02/22/2021**  
**Appoint Typist –**  
**Michelle Canning**

Commencement of Service: February 24, 2021

Step 1 - \$19.18 per hour / 7.5-hour workday / 10-months

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints the following non-instructional staff as set forth below:

**RESO #23-02/22/2021**  
**Appoint Non-**  
**Instructional Staff**

Brenda Chenaille – Breakfast/Noon Aide at RPES  
Effective 02/22/2021 – 06/30/2021

Carolyn MacDonald – Breakfast/Noon Aide at RPES  
Effective 02/22/2021 – 06/30/2021

# DRAFT

Leigh-Ann Brunick - Breakfast/Noon Aide at RPES  
Effective 02/22/2021 – 06/30/2021

Amanda Bailey - Breakfast/Noon Aide at RPES  
Effective 03/15/2021 – 06/30/2021

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

**RESO #24-02/22/2021**  
**Abolish Positions**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves abolishing the following non-instructional positions:

- Two (2) Secretaries
- One (1) Executive Secretary

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

**RESO #25-02/22/2021**  
**Create Positions**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the creation of following non-instructional positions:

- One (1) Secretary 1
- One (1) Human Resources Manager

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

**RESO #26-02/22/2021**  
**Adopt Job Description**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby adopts the Human Resources Manager job description dated February 22, 2021.

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mrs. Speanburg:

**RESO #27-02/22/2021**  
**Appoint Varsity**  
**Soccer Coach –**  
**Zachary Frese**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Zachary Frese as the Varsity Soccer Coach effective February 23, 2021 at a stipend as per the negotiated agreement between the LTA and the LCSD,



# DRAFT

contingent upon meeting all New York State coaching requirements.

Second: Mr. White

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Matthew Loatman as the JV Soccer Coach effective February 23, 2021 at a stipend as per the negotiated agreement between the LTA and the LCSD, contingent upon meeting all New York State coaching requirements.

**RESO #28-02/22/2021**  
**Appoint JV Soccer**  
**Coach – Matthew**  
**Loatman**

Second: Mr. Cusack

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

## ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the following donations:

**RESO #29-02/22/2021**  
**Accept Donations**

In Memory of Ayshawn Davis

A. Abitabile / LCSD Hat Sale	865.00	LCSD Anything is Possible Scholarship
Cynthia Zadoorian	100.00	LCSD Anything is Possible Scholarship

Second: Mr. Cusack

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and after review and approval by the School Attorneys and School Physician, the Board hereby adopts the Lansingburgh Central School District Fall II Sports Plan (dated 02/10/2021) for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

**RESO #30-02/22/2021**  
**Adopt LCSD Fall II**  
**Sports Plan**

Second: Mr. Spear

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the following non-resident tuition rates for the 2020-2021 school year:

**RESO #31-02/22/2021**  
**Approve Non-Resident**  
**Tuition Rates**

# DRAFT

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>2019-20 Rates</u>	<u>2020-21 Rates</u>
Handicapped K-6	\$18,422	\$14,712.28
Handicapped 7-12	\$21,615	\$17,138.62
Full Day K-6	\$ 4,886	\$ 7,842.40
Full Day 7-12	\$ 8,079	\$10,268.73

Second: Mrs. Speanburg

Ayes – 9      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Mr. Spear asked why the rates dropped for Special Education students. Mrs. Klime indicated there was a larger number of Special Education students to add to the calculation so the rates dropped.

Motion by Mrs. Speanburg:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the first reading of revised Policy #3230-E – Organizational Chart Exhibit.

**RESO #32-02/22/2021**  
**Approve First Reading**  
**– Policy #3230-E**

Second: Mr. Cusack

Ayes – 9      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Motion by Mr. White:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the first reading of revised Policy #5152 – Non-resident Tuition.

**RESO #33-02/22/2021**  
**Approve First Reading**  
**– Policy #5152**

Second: Mrs. Bristol

Ayes – 9      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

LHS Update by Mr. Van Dervoort – see page 13.

KMS Update by Ms. Phelan – see page 14-16.

TES Update by Mr. Knox – see page 17.

**PRINCIPAL**  
**REPORTS**

By Mrs. McGrouty:

**ASSISTANT**  
**SUPERINTENDENT**  
**REPORT**

<b>Professional Development</b>	<p>Planning our March 18 and 19 PD day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ELA staff developers at TES, RPES, KMS</li> <li>• PE staff development on transition to new PE standards</li> <li>• Support staff - TSS training and de-escalation</li> <li>• Concurrent teaching training for special areas and TAs</li> <li>• LHS and KMS - curriculum mapping updates, ensuring that priority standards are in place for in-person learning</li> </ul>
---------------------------------	---

# DRAFT

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENL - preparing for NYSESLAT or another form of assessment in that is not administered</li> <li>• All Special Education and Related Service providers - Assistive Technology training with Melissa Macaluso</li> </ul>
<b>Assessments</b>	Classrooms have been working with data from iReady and the most recent Fountas and Pinnell assessments in order to drive instruction in small groups and within their intervention blocks.
<b>Integration of Technology as an Instructional Tool</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concurrent Teacher training took place over the last few weeks</li> </ul>

By Dr. Abitabile:

## SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Rensselaer Park reopening was a great start to our week. Students and staff are happy to be back.
- I received the first draft of the budget which includes no reductions in staff or programming and includes the HR Manager position and the additional cleaner needed at Rensselaer Park. It is a total of \$1.3 million increase. With the tax cap set at 0.09%, that would be an 8.83% tax levy increase. We will need to see where we can make some reductions. More details will be in my Friday notes that will include this first draft of the budget.
- The tax abatement PILOT got approved.
- Dr. Abitabile asked Mr. White if the leadership chart looks okay. Mr. White indicated it was perfect.
- We received the approved Questar III school calendar for the 21-22 school year. I have a draft of our calendar and will meet with the union officials next Thursday for a review. There is not much play in the calendar. The calendar will be put on the March agenda for Board approval.
- Mr. Shover asked Ms. Kyer when the Board will have to adopt the budget by. Ms. Kyer indicated the budget must be adopted by mid-April.
- Mr. Shover asked Mrs. Williams when petitions for open seats on the Board will be available. Mrs. Williams indicated there are still some unknowns at this point. We are awaiting action by the Governor as to whether we should use the number of voters from last year’s election or the year prior. The number of voters will determine how many signatures are required for the petition. It is either 25 signatures or 2% of the voters from the last election, whichever is greater. She will be participating in a webinar being put on by ASBO and some others by NYS

# DRAFT

School Boards Association in hopes of receiving more information.

Motion by Mr. :

**RESO #34-02/22/2021  
Executive Session**

Be it resolved that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

Second: Mr.

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Return to regular session at 8:06 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Bristol:

**RESO #35-02/22/2021  
Adjourn**

Be it resolved this meeting of the Board of Education hereby adjourns at 8:06 p.m.

Second: Mr. Morris

Ayes – 9

Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Williams  
Clerk to the Board of Education

# DRAFT

## **Lansingburgh High School Update by Mr. Van Dervoort:**

- The majority of February was spent preparing for the reopening of school.
- The Q&A with parents and students went well. We spoke with additional parents and students who called with additional questions.
- Greg Rashford is working hard on our Social Distancing Plan.
- We continue looking at schedules to determine which students could be scheduled for early arrival or early dismissal.
- Each period is being cut by 2 minutes. 7:40 is the first bell and dismissal will be 1:45-1:50.
- Currently 28% of the students will remain with remote instruction.
- Guidance Counselors are reaching out to the non-responders to the survey.
- Teachers returned to the building the Friday before break. It was very emotional.

# DRAFT

## KMS SCEP GOALS Benchmark Results

Goal	Benchmark Target	2020-2021 Benchmark Results	End of the Year Target
<b>Chronic Absenteeism</b>	20% or less of KMS students will be chronically absent in January 2021.	<p><b>DID NOT MEET GOAL</b> At the January 2021 benchmark, KMS had 30% of students chronically absent.</p> <p>Next Steps: Invite a teacher from each grade level to attendance meeting to assist with ideas/input for CA students. Intervention plans in place for in person learning. Have each counselor and team focus on 5%-9% students.</p>	During the 2020-2021 school year, school leaders and the attendance committee will formalize current protocols in writing to track and address chronic absenteeism to under 23%.
<b>Social Emotional Learning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “There is a teacher, counselor, or other staff member that I can talk to at school about any problem.”</li> </ul>	85% of students will agree	<p><b>DID NOT MEET GOAL</b> 82% of KMS students agreed or strongly agreed that there is a teacher, staff member or counselor that they can talk to at school about a problem.</p> <p>Next Steps: TSS Committee will begin grade level lunches for students to check in. Once students return in person, reach out targeted students who may be struggling. Continue KMS Student Focus Groups to gather possible reasons students may not feel comfortable.</p>	By June 2021 the goal is for 90% of the student’s respond yes to the statement “There is a teacher, counselor, or other staff member that I can talk to at school about any problem.”
<b>Parent Engagement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Staff members seek my input on how best to meet my child’s needs.”</li> </ul>	77% of parents will agree	<p><b>DID NOT MEET GOAL</b> 39% of KMS parents/guardian agreed or strongly agreed that staff members seek their input about their child’s needs.</p> <p>Next steps: Share mid-year survey results with families at FAC meeting. Discuss other alternatives of how we can create a cohesive partnership with families. Hold our marking</p>	80% of parents will agree

**DRAFT**

		period 2 parent focus group as planned.	
<b>ELA</b>	68% of grade 6-8 students will score a 70% or higher on the January Common Grade Level Benchmark	<p><b>DID NOT MEET GOAL</b> Overall 60% of 6-8th graders scored a 70% or higher.</p> <p>6th: 67.5% 7th: 62.9% 8th: 49.5%</p> <p>Next Steps: Department will analyze the benchmark results based on standards to determine the deficits and priority standards. Adjust upcoming units to focus on priority standards and assess deficits to monitor progress.</p> <p><b>Common Unit Assessments:</b> 6th Grade Influences on Character/Text Evidence 73% passed 27% Failed</p> <p>7th Grade: Intro to Writing 70% Passed 30% failed</p> <p>Narrative Reading: 72% passed 28% failed</p> <p>8th Grade: Narrative Reading 75% passed 25% failed</p>	In 2020-2021 the school will achieve an ELA Academic Achievement Index of 95.1.
<b>Math</b>	<b>60% of students in grades 6, 7, and 8, will achieve an overall score of 70% or higher on the common grade level benchmark.</b>	<p><b>DID NOT MEET GOAL</b></p> <p><b>Benchmark Results</b> Overall, 35% of 6-8 graders scored a 70% or higher on the common grade level benchmark.</p> <p>6th grade: 49.2% 7th grade :32% 8th grade: 24%</p>	In 2020-2021, the school will achieve a Math Academic Achievement Index of 79.9.

# DRAFT

		<p>Next Steps: Continue to Inquiry Based Learning PD with Brian Rayman. Begin to incorporate inquiry based learning within units in order to gain a deeper understanding of concepts. Begin to assess whether skills are transferred from one unit to another.</p> <p><b>Common Unit Assessments:</b></p> <p>8th Grade: Graphing Linear Equations 61% passed 39% failed</p> <p>7th Grade: Equations and Inequalities 60% passed 40% failed</p> <p>6th Grade: Inequalities and Order of Operations 67% passed 33% failed</p> <p>Exponents, Evaluating Expressions and Substitution for Variables 59% passed 41% failed</p>	
--	--	---	--



# DRAFT

## Turnpike Elementary School Update by Mr. Knox

First, just take a quick second to thank all of the teachers and staff at TES for having a great day back after break. So great seeing kids in the building today.

### Attendance:

1. UPK: 82.51%
2. K: 79.51%
3. 1: 83.47%
4. 2: 81.98%
5. Overall: 81.83%

Attendance committee is still meeting regularly.

Remote numbers are 123 remote for K-2 students. We started at 195 students and our enrollment hasn't fluctuated. We have been able to get

### Curriculum and Instruction

1. Continuing Professional Development with Kim Inglee and Melissa Macalusso this week.
  - Streaming into classroom and debriefing afterwards
2. Taking a look at our reading data and adjusting some of our approaches to our reading blocks. The goal is to continue the momentum for a lot of students towards grade level expectations while keeping in mind that our students are still surviving a pandemic right now.
  - Our mindset needs to continue to be that students aren't behind, they are surviving a pandemic.
3. Shout out to our PE teachers for getting donations for sleds and snow shoes. Our students have been having an incredible time outside for PE.
4. Black History Month Presentation - Link provided in notes  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2lh1IdP56rc&feature=youtu.be>

### Social and Emotional Learning

1. Self-Care challenge in the month of February
2. Character Trait for the month is Kindness

### School Leadership

1. Working collaboratively with the PTA to offer a few safe events in the spring
2. Chromebook redistribution back to TES will begin later this week
  - Starting with PreK
3. We will miss the self-contained programs from RPES, KMS and LHS. They were a wonderful addition to our school.
  - Big thank you to all of the administrators for their help in getting off the ground and especially Mrs. McGrouty who still comes outside every day at 8:30am to help unload students from their cars.