

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
UTICA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**REGULAR MEETING – TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.
Administration Building – 929 York Street – Kernan School**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Louis D. LaPolla, Presiding; Robert Cardillo, Donald Dawes, Joseph Hobika, Jr., Anthony LaPolla, Danielle Padula, Christopher Salatino

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Bruce Karam, Michele Albanese, Steve Falchi, Mike Ferraro, Don Gerace, Esq., Kathy Hughes, Michele LaGase, Haylee Lallier, Teresa Mathews, Paris Rich, Kim Van Duren

Public Comment to the Board of Education

President LaPolla called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Board Clerk Kathy Hughes conducted roll call. All members of the Board of Education were present.

Awards and Presentations

Educator of the Month – Jacques LaReaux, Special Education Teacher at Kernan School

Jacques is in his seventh year at Kernan Elementary. He has a very difficult job. He is a fabulous Special Education Teacher. He is mindful of what is best for his students. He truly cares about his students and it shows. His positivity and encouragement are an inspiration. His students say he is awesome and he always has snacks every day. Mr. LaReaux creates a learning environment that is certainly welcoming and safe for the students despite their various physical, emotional and academic needs. It is a real tough job as a Special Education Teacher. In his free time, he enjoys reading, exercising, and spending time with his wife, daughter and their dog. We are happy to announce the Educator of the Month to Jacques LaReaux.

Mr. LaReaux commented, "Thank you everybody, thank you for coming. I want to thank the Board for our time and appreciation. The truth is and if I'm being honest if you feel that I'm deserving of this reward in any capacity it is humbling and it's also due to a lot of outstanding teachers at Kernan who are always there to help, a great leader in Kim Van Duren. She makes that place run pretty smoothly. That's a tough job at Kernan. I do my best and I thank you all for your support and your appreciation."

Employee of the Month – Yelena Verenich, School Nurse at Kernan School

Yelena has worked as a School Nurse for the district for 4 years and all of the 4 years have been at Kernan School. She is an incredible School Nurse. She is very organized, very hardworking and she is dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of the students. When asked to describe her, colleagues state they are impressed by how she has repeatedly adapted her role to the ever-changing demands of the past two years all while keeping a smile on her face. She is always very cheerful; she is always very helpful. Students describe Mrs. Verenich as nice, caring and pretty. She goes above and beyond every day. She enjoys reading, gardening and spending time with her husband and 3 children. The Kernan faculty and staff is privileged to have her as a coworker.

Mrs. Verenich commented, "To Board Members, Superintendent, and Principal Kim Van Duren I would like to thank you for the honor of nominating me for Employee of the Month. I feel humbled and proud at the same time. I work with an outstanding team of people who I'm happy to call my coworkers at Kernan Elementary and Upstate Family

Health Clinic. As a nurse I do everything I saw everyone do their part to keep our school healthy and safe for all who enter our building. I am thankful and honored to be a part of this team. Thank you.”

Utica City School District Budget Presentation – Bruce Karam, Superintendent of Schools and Michele Albanese, School Business Official

Mr. Karam commented, “Good evening, Tonight, I will be presenting my school district budget for the 2022-2023 school year. The 2022-2023 school district budget marks a turning point in our long fight for the equitable distribution of state aid funding. As many of you remember, the Utica City School District has been plagued by the historic underfunding of state aid for many years. This directly led to massive layoffs of teachers, administrators, and support staff several years ago in order to balance annual budget deficits. For years, I, along with members of the Board of Education have lobbied aggressively with state and local government officials to obtain the necessary financial resources that our students deserve and are entitled to receive. I have also aggressively fought for these financial resources by testifying extensively for our school district, its students, parents, and teachers, as part of the Small Cities’ Lawsuit, in which the Utica City School District successfully made its case for the full funding of Foundation Aid for high needs school districts such as ours. Over the past several years, the district has made wise fiscal decisions, enabling it to restore many of the teaching and support staff positions that were lost several years ago. Adding back teachers and support staff were and still are a top priority, as they are the front-line personnel, charged with meeting the intricate academic and socio-emotional needs of our very diverse student population. A couple of years ago, the school district also deployed Special Patrol Officers to each one of our elementary schools in order to provide for the safety and wellbeing of our teachers, students, and staff at a cost of approximately \$260,000. This is in addition to the compliment of Utica Police officers who have been deployed to our middle schools and high school for the last several decades. Over the past couple of years, we spent over \$7 million dollars to outfit our students and teachers with brand new textbooks and instructional materials for each and every course and subject areas in grades K-12. This included the purchase of digital resources and electronic subscriptions which benefitted us greatly and put us ahead of many other school districts during remote learning as a result of the pandemic. In addition, the school district spent approximately \$5 million dollars for Chromebooks and mobile Wi-Fi devices in order to assure that students would have the necessary technology during any type of shutdown, such as what happened during the pandemic. In addition, our classrooms have been upgraded with approximately \$2.1 million dollars of instructional technology for our teachers, such as interactive smartboards and TVs which are installed in each and every classroom in the district. During the last ten years, the school district has overseen the successful completion of over \$200 million dollars in capital improvements. This includes a massive \$187 million dollar Capital Project that provided upgrades to each and every one of our school buildings, including technology upgrades designed to bring the schools into the 21st century. Projects also included the voter approved \$9.75 million dollar renovation of Kernan Elementary School with the addition of the wing to house the school district’s administrative offices, so that we no longer have to pay rent to a private landlord. Additionally, voters approved \$14.9 million dollars for comprehensive renovations and upgrades for all of our athletic facilities and fields across the district. This included the construction of a new field house at Proctor’s stadium equipped with locker rooms and showers for the athletes and public bathrooms and concessions for fans. As a result of this, our schools, athletic facilities, and fields are second to none in this area. Due to sound fiscal planning and oversight, all of these projects were completed on time, according to specs, within budget, and with a 0% tax increase to the property owners of the City of Utica. Most recently, the public voted overwhelmingly in support of the construction of a new \$17,995,000 Career and Technical Education (CTE) wing to be added onto Proctor High School, once again with no tax increase to the local property owners. In doing so, we will be able to better meet the needs of our large population of diverse learners and increase the opportunities for our students to participate in Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs such as Automotive Technology, Automotive Body and Repair, Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, Masonry, Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, Drone Technology, Cybersecurity, Early Childhood Education, Criminal Justice, and Certified Nursing Assistant, and they will all be offered right at Thomas R. Proctor High School. Finally, over the past several weeks, we have been able to successfully negotiate four (4) union contract agreements with our bargaining units. The agreements made were fair and reasonable to all parties while at the same time, being fiscally responsible in a way that enables the school district to have the resources necessary to devote to future important goals and objectives. The school district currently has one (1) remaining contract to settle, which is with the teachers’ union. We are currently working with them to reach a fair and reasonable contract agreement. All of this has been done to ensure that we are able to provide a high-quality education to our students in a fiscally responsible manner. Even through the past financial struggles, the Utica City School District has realized that the

financial burden could not be borne by the taxpayer, as they were also facing their own economic struggles and hardships. As a result, the last eight school district budgets were passed without any tax increases to the property owner. This year it's number 9. Although we were able to accomplish many of the important goals and objectives that I have described through sound budgeting, management, and oversight, we know that we could do so much more if the Utica City School District could be made financially whole, by being allocated the state dollars that we have been denied for so many years. Tonight, I am proud to announce that our voices are finally being heard, and all this hard work is finally beginning to pay off, with the Utica City School District set to receive \$18 million dollars in additional state aid for the 2022-2023 school year. This additional \$18 million dollars in state aid revenue will greatly help move the Utica City School District in the right direction, first and foremost by providing our schools the staffing resources that they truly need in order to operate much more effectively to better meet the academic and socio-emotional needs of our students. Resources which include additional classroom teachers to further reduce class sizes along with additional social workers and guidance counselors to help meet our student's socio-emotional and mental health needs. The budget provides for additional AIS Facilitators/Instructional Data Coaches to help teachers gather and use student performance data in order to improve student academic performance and additional Related Service Providers such as Psychologists and Therapists to meet the unique needs of our students with disabilities. This budget will also allow the school district to greatly enhance the safety and security of our teachers, staff, and students by deploying a Concealed Weapons Detection System in each and every one of our schools across the district. The budget will also enable the school district to deploy much needed administrative assistance in key areas that were lost during the very dark and difficult budget times, such as the Medical Department, Pupil Personnel Services, CSE Chairperson, and Athletics. In closing, this is truly a watershed moment for the Utica City School District. Meticulous budget planning has been a top priority since I became Superintendent of Schools. We have seen very difficult financial times, and it is my hope that this is the beginning of a new era where the children of the Utica City School District finally receive the sustainable and equitable funding that they deserve and are entitled to receive."

Miss Albanese, School Business Official presented the 2022-2023 Budget Presentation

Questions from Board Members:

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Excuse me Miss Albanese, I just had a point. I'd like to know when we get to discuss the decisions that were made in terms of adding positions. Are we asking questions and doing that while the presentation is going on or do you want to wait until afterwards?

President LaPolla: I would rather let them make the presentation then Joe you can ask questions.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: First of all, I think it's great that we got that extra \$18 million dollars. Is that a one offer or are we expecting that every year?

Miss Albanese: The \$18.2 million is in Foundation Aid so that will be every year.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok that's number one. Number two – I want to talk about the process by which we determined what positions to add to the budget. I'd like to know what process was followed when determining where we needed to add for example teaching positions. Let's start with that and then I'll move on to some other questions. Who was involved in the discussions? Did we include teachers and other administrators or was it just an idea that we replace something from before?

Mr. Falchi: Much of this came from listening to the building principals who are working each and every day. They are asking for support to reduce class size in the elementary schools; the secondary teachers a lot of the additions are in testing areas to reduce class sizes in the testing areas to help improve student performance.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: What are the testing areas?

Mr. Falchi: Science, Math, English Language Arts and Social Studies.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Those are testing areas?

Mr. Falchi: Those are all testing areas.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok, so you are saying the in the elementary schools the plan is that we are going to add teachers, right?

Mr. Falchi: Correct.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok, so every single time somebody has raised an issue about putting a program together or even if we had positions available, we were told as a Board that our schools were basically bursting at the seams. Where are we going to put these teachers because I think it's great that we are putting teachers there, but where are they going? My understanding is that we have gotten to the point where we've actually had to move some of the ancillary services out of their rooms and put everybody together in order to even use any space that might be available.

Mr. Falchi: That is true for a couple of the schools, but not all of the schools. We can fit additional teachers into schools, and we are going to have to go into a couple of the schools to look at the building space and create places for those classrooms.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: What schools are you saying has room to add teachers?

Mr. Falchi: The 2 schools that we have a problem adding teachers and we have had in the past are Albany School and Watson Williams School.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Those are the only 2 schools you're saying that we don't have available space? You're saying we have available space at Columbus?

Mr. Falchi: I've talked to the principal and there is available space to put a new classroom at Columbus School.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok, I'll go along with that. Now my next question is adding elementary AIS Facilitators – extra ones. So first of all, we've had 2 at-large AIS Facilitators that were coordinating the existing AIS Facilitators and my understanding is they stepped down from their positions and I'm not sure that we've even fulfilled that. My question is what benefit do additional AIS Facilitators serve rather than for example Instructional Coaches to support all of the new teachers that we are going to be bringing on board. They are not exactly the same thing as I understand it. So if you wouldn't mind explaining that to me, I would appreciate it.

Mrs. LaGase: That might be best answered by myself who used to be previously overseeing the facilitators.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Oh absolutely.

Mrs. LaGase: Those 10 positions right now, due to budget constraints we had content specific AIS people. We had a dedicated ELA person who had certification and specialty and those skill sets and a math person.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: That is the at-large that oversaw right?

Mrs. LaGase: No, that was in our buildings. We consolidated that and went back to one due to budget constraints with funding at the level. They had to had to be combined. We prefer those positions to remain content specialties because there are specific activities and requirements that when working with grade level teachers their content strengths are important, particularly with testing. We want to go back to having one ELA dedicated Facilitator and one Math dedicated Facilitator. The other pieces historically we were originally using federal funding on a few Instructional Coaches. That was not meeting the needs of our district globally, so we took all of our Facilitators and had them trained in the Instructional Coaching model so that they can serve in that capacity equally in every single one of our buildings. That is a combined role now. They've had specialized training in the Instructional Coaching model that we use to help close in performance gaps. Typically, those 10 assignments are more veteran skilled teachers that move from the classrooms. So those 10 positions we are anticipating for the most part are going to be 10 classroom teachers that apply for that. Those classrooms will now be vacant, and we will be putting in a new classroom teacher into their instructional classroom out of the 22.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I understand what you're saying, but we're just hiring AIS Facilitators, we're going to add 10 – so we are just going to have to replace them anyways. Now we are going to have a bunch of new teachers.

Mrs. LaGase: New grade level teachers.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: New grade level teachers that are going to need significant support.

Mrs. LaGase: Correct.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: So, you're saying that the AIS Facilitators are going to act as Academic Coaches as well?

Mrs. LaGase: They do that, that's part of their role. Obviously, we have mentoring programs, we have grade level teams, we have a variety of other support mechanisms for new teachers; but that is part of their role. It is also difficult for our classroom teachers to have the time that they need often to take student performance data and break that down. They don't have that in their planning periods because they are planning for instruction.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: If they get them.

Mrs. LaGase: Those AIS Facilitators have a dedicated time all day to work with our grade level teams to help provide some of that data analysis, to help look at assessments so that our grade level teachers aren't doing that independently during their instructional planning time. That was one of the main reasons too that we wanted to restore those positions. It's been very difficult for one person to serve in that role.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: So we're going to have 2 in each school?

Mrs. LaGase: Right – one ELA and one Math.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: And then who oversees to coordinate?

Mrs. LaGase: We still have the 2 positions down here. We have filled one of the two positions this year.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: With a veteran teacher?

Mrs. LaGase: She took a position outside of teaching. We have posted that. Obviously, many of our teachers were already in a classroom and didn't want to exit a classroom assignment so we are posting, interviewing, and hoping to have 2 people apply for those positions for the fall.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Would it be safe to say at this point that the academic achievement of our kids was significantly (the kids in the district in general) was impacted by COVID and also the remote learning?

Mrs. LaGase: Yes.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: And so that at some point is going to be reflected is it not in the test scores?

Mrs. LaGase: Yes.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok, knowing that there was a significant and I'm assuming it was a pretty significant impact for the majority of our students.

Mrs. LaGase: Depends on grade level.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok, but let's assume that we were struggling to get reading at grade level as kids moved up the grades. How is the addition of the AIS Facilitators, Instructional Coaches and additional teachers going to support the improvement or I guess the acceleration of improvement for the kids?

Mrs. LaGase: First and foremost, one of their main responsibilities is to facilitate and to help monitor the implementation of our Academic Intervention Services Plan which is required by law. That involves working with grade level teachers to schedule those students for services based on the criteria that they meet based on what the state issues us saying what level of service they get, how often, how much, also what instructional materials are being used.

They work with grade level teams to help prepare those to make sure it's consistent across classrooms. They are also working with looking at with our Curriculum Committees looking at our formative and summative assessments. They are also looking at our learning standards. We use a variety of programs to look at performance gaps, our kids making progress, if they are making progress are they making adequate grade level progress. They are meeting weekly with grade level teams to talk about instructional shifts, talk about modifications to lesson plans. They've also worked across grade levels because we want to ensure that we have some consistency when our 6th grade transitions to 7th, when our 8th grade transitions to 9th. Those content specific skills are very different between the secondary and elementary levels. They've also done a significant amount of professional development for our teachers; particularly if the elementary level math maybe an area where some of our elementary teachers might want more specified PD sessions as some of the math concepts have changed. Their roles are extensive.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I understand what you're saying, but my question is how are we are actually going to address the student's needs because a lot of them are going to be moving up in grade. They may have significant gaps in their learning curves.

Mrs. LaGase: We started that work when we returned for cohorts; we had already started to take a look at – what was taught, what standards they were performing well on with some initial assessments, what standards we thought needed to be revisited. And then we took a look this year at what modifications we had to make on our curriculum maps and our pacing guides to address that. We also took a look at some supplementary materials that we felt we were probably going to have to implement across the grade levels in order to address some of those gaps. I can tell you that since we've had school improvement grant money and we've had oversight from the state on how those programs have been implemented, we have taken some of the best practices that took us off the list at King. Mrs. Van Duren can speak to that and have replicated those things at Kernan and some of the other schools where we know those are the activities that if our teachers engage in in lesson planning and implementation assist our students in performance. So we are monitoring that very closely.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Thank you for answering that. Now I want to go to the Athletic Caretakers. What exactly are those?

Mr. Ferraro: They are part of the Teamsters Unit and they take care of the grounds of the schools. We have 3 now and 3 is not enough to take care of the fields that we've just modified and rehabbed.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: So you are adding 3 to the 3 we have?

Mr. Ferraro: Right. One guy to each building. One guy is not enough on a day-to-day basis to take care of the fields that we have now through the referendum. It is a tremendous amount of work involved now with upkeep of the turf fields, clay infields and field houses and all that stuff we have now that we've never had before.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok, thank you. My next question is about non-instructional monitors. What exactly is that?

Mr. Karam: Those are TA's that are going to be working in the office. Under their contract they have a title called non-instructional monitor. Those are the individuals that we can place in the office to assist in the office.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: So they are going to be extensively working doing what?

Mr. Karam: Doing the office work, assisting the secretary in the office.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: They are not really considered clerical?

Mr. Karam: No.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok, but they're not considered teaching assistants?

Mr. Karam: No, it's one of those strange kinds of titles that were in the contract probably prior to World War II.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok. My next question is Purchasing Agent. We are adding a Purchasing Agent? I thought that you were the Purchasing Agent and the Business Official. Why are we adding another one?

Miss Albanese: I am technically considered the Purchasing Agent, but with the amount of work and what really needs to be put in, we always had a Purchasing Agent up until the years that Mr. Karam spoke about with all the cuts and that position was cut. Part of my job could take 2 to 3 days out of my week just to review all the requisition. We will be going out to bid for all the Central Kitchen supplies, Buildings and Grounds supplies.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: So there is a requisition process that has to be followed with you as the Purchasing Agent.

Miss Albanese: Correct. If somebody in the building wants to order something, they have to fill out the requisition and send it down to our department or depending on what department it belongs to. If it's one of the buildings, it goes to Mr. Falchi for his approval and then to the Business Office.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok so once it's approved it goes to you and then whatever is purchased is purchased right?

Miss Albanese: Right. A copy of the purchase order goes to the vendor so that they know what they can ship us, and we will pay for it.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Is the Purchasing Agent responsible for inventory control?

Miss Albanese: They can be yes.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I'm asking you is that...

Miss Albanese: In the past yes they were.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Who is responsible for inventory control at the present time?

Miss Albanese: Right now it falls under me and my secretary is taking care of that.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok. What is Administrator for Pupil Personnel Services?

Mrs. LaGase: That's going to be an added position. Obviously COVID has had a significant impact on the socio-emotional well-being of many of our students and families. This is a dedicated administrator who has expertise in the area of pupil personnel services. They're going to be overseeing the Guidance Counselors, the Social Workers, our related service providers to ensure that they are providing programming in accordance with our goals. They have again the skill set in the areas of pupil personnel services to ensure our programming is being implemented district wide in the same manner in which the district has set goals for those services. That's going to be a specialized administrator who has experience in that area.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: So that person is basically going to be in charge of our mental health professionals?

Mrs. LaGase: Correct.

Mr. Karam: Yes.

Mrs. LaGase: And our related service providers.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I noticed that we are adding 10 elementary student activity club advisors. What is that?

Mr. Karam: Basically we're going to put a student activity club adviser in each one of our elementary buildings depending on what kind of club or activity they want to run and leave it for the kids to participate.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: It's my understanding that we already have clubs, correct?

Mr. Karam: Not at the elementary level.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I don't know if that's true.

Mr. Karam: No not at the elementary level.

Mr. Falchi: We do not have club advisors at the elementary level.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: We don't have advisors right, but we have some clubs.

Mr. Karam: Yes.

Mr. Falchi: This position will enable us to align the club activities and student activities in all the schools so they are consistent across the board.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I noticed that we have School Communications and Public Relations Specialist. Are we also adding money into the budget so that we can upgrade our website and other...

Mr. Karam: If we look at the line item, what page is the line-item Michele because we added significant amounts of money to several line items for Channel 3.

Miss Albanese: We're actually upgrading the website now.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Is it line item 2620-201-00000?

Miss Albanese: Yes.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: You put \$50,000 in the budget?

Miss Albanese: Right. There's actually A-262200 and 200.01 so there is a total of \$100,000 that they can spend on equipment.

Mr. Karam: Michele how much did we increase I think exponentially?

Miss Albanese: The equipment for the AV Studio went from \$5,000 to \$50,000 which is like a 900% increase. Then we added another account for the computer and media for the studio which went from \$30,000 to \$50,000 so that was about a 67% increase.

Mr. Karam: We did that to go along with Mr. Hobika the position there so whatever social media platforms we need to intensify.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: So one of the issues that I've been talking about for a number of years is actually getting somebody to increase the participation of our students at Proctor with the TV station. Did we actually create a position to make that happen?

Mr. Karam: The last time we talked about this I think it was a couple Board Meetings ago, we were reaching out I think Mr. Gifford (he is not here right now) was reaching out to Newhouse Communications out in Syracuse and they were setting up a meeting for that.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Yes, that's been going on for 3 months. We don't have a report on that at all.

Mr. Falchi: I can update you. I spoke to the Department Chair Mr. Gifford and I at the Newhouse School of Communications Chris Tuohey. They are excited about working with the Utica City School District. Right now, they are in the most difficult time of the semester wrapping up courses, but he would like to get a team of people together from the communications school to come and visit the district, visit the TV Studio and work with us on ways to enhance broadcasting. One of our goals would be to implement a dual credit college course for broadcast journalism to add to our portfolio of Syracuse credit courses that we have right now at Proctor High School. That's the goal and again he's waiting for this semester to wind down and we're hoping to get him here.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Awesome.

Mr. Karam: I also spoke with Dr. Van Wagoner the President up at M.V.C.C. and trying to work with him to get something even up the road so that we can work with both colleges. We are going to be working in a dual credit college class for that TV station also. We are in talks with M.V.C.C. right now.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Actually, I found it on that 2020 line, it's a 900% increase. It went from \$5,000 to \$50,000 so that's good. I just wanted to address the issue with the Charter School. I know we keep raising the issue. Now the school is not in Utica anymore. We have to figure something out because that's \$10 million dollars that comes out of our budget. I do have a couple of questions about contractual services. There were a number of (I can wait until Old Business, or I can do it now). I had asked a number of questions about contractual services and numbers and things like that. There are contractual expenses referred in here, but it's very hard to identify what a lot of these numbers are. We got this proposed budget on Friday and I know that the lateness of the state budget delayed this, but in order to really get a handle on what's going on here we really could use a budget workshop prior to passing a \$210 million dollar budget. I'm throwing some questions out there; they're chomping at the bit to ask some questions. I'm kind of wondering even if we had to have a special meeting. Maybe we out to think about tabling it so we can have a special meeting. This is my thought. I will yield the floor at this point.

Mrs. Padula: I do not see something about I ask about all the time – before and after care in the budget or some sort of programs for before and after care or working with an agency. Is it out of the question for us to have some sort of...

Mrs. LaGase: That will come through Federal Funds. We know that that's been something you've expressed.

Mrs. Padula: I was just wondering where that came from; ok perfect. I don't see anything – this might come from federal too in regard to the COVID like a budget for COVID. I don't know if it's increased cleaning supplies or tests or masks in the event something happens next year.

Mrs. LaGase: That was initially one of the main, I guess focuses (the Cares Act money). We have that money earmarked for all of those expenditures.

Mrs. Padula: I know that Joe touched upon this, but all this new staff. Do we have an updated pupil count for this year? Is that updated? Because the projected average class size is pretty similar to what we approved last year and the class sizes is a lot larger.

Mr. Falchi: So projecting for next year as we advance the kids to the next grade level and then we looked at the class sizes and right now they are ranging anywhere from 16.8 to 19.5 at the elementary. You are going to have a couple of larger classes.

Mrs. Padula: If you are taking the average of like 6th grade across 10 schools when there are schools that have 32 kids in 6th grade and some and some schools have 16 so I don't think it's fair, so I'm wondering the formula.

Mr. Falchi: With additional staff, we are looking to get all of those down. You're still going to have a couple of sections at Watson Williams or Cat olumbus where you might have 23 in a class.

Mrs. Padula: I think 6th grade this year there are a couple of 30's.

Mr. Falchi: That's why we want to implement the additional staff to get those numbers down.

Mrs. Padula: But if Albany has 30 people where is that staff going if we don't have room.

Mr. Falchi: We're looking to add a teacher to Albany to get that 6th grade down.

Mrs. Padula: But we don't have a room.

Mr. Falchi: We will find one.

Mrs. Padula: Ok, I love your ambition.

Mr. Falchi: We will find one.

Mrs. Padula: Ok, Art is still on a cart. This budget, we've talked about this before – the Magnet Program in redoing like the enrollment. Would that help offset our numbers at some of these schools because I feel like that's something we need to talk about especially with the busing and how crazy it is.

Mr. Karam: We could look at that afterwards. It doesn't necessarily have to be associated with this.

Mrs. Padula: It doesn't affect anything right within the budget?

Mr. Karam: No.

Mrs. Padula: I think maybe if we talk about reallocating or making the Magnet Program more competitive and smaller numbers it would really help boost up the neighborhood schools as well.

Mr. Karam: Sure.

Mrs. Padula: I see all these awesome positions. Is anybody helping in HR to oversee the hiring.

Mrs. LaGase: We've already started working on recruitment. I don't know how much correspondence you've seen. We're having a job fair this Saturday. We've been heavily advertising on that. We've also gotten a lot of "foot traffic" through our Town Square Media. Right now we have and I just updated Mr. Karam on the upcoming interview schedule which is extensive. We are working diligently as interests come in to set interviews up and secure people as soon as we can.

Mrs. Padula: In this budget is there support for you and your team with hiring 150 new positions.

Mrs. LaGase: Yes.

Mrs. Padula: Ok, just making sure.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: Regarding the HR, how many current positions do we have open?

Mrs. LaGase: Vacant right now we have 24. Of those 24 I have 7 employment offer letters that I'm waiting and hoping the candidates agree to. We are actively recruiting. There are still a few content areas that we are working to strengthen but I also have been enhancing our communications with all of the college preparation programs. I have scheduled events to go out and recruit and offer opportunities for May graduates. The colleges have been wonderful. They have extended me kind of a precursor to get in prior to graduation to try to recruit. The other thing is we've been lucky enough to have a significant number of student teachers who have been very successful. Mr. Falchi and I are working on interviewing those candidates and trying to get them positions within our district.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: Ok, I will go after Mr. Salatino for my further questions. Thank you.

Mrs. Padula: Are there going to be any assistant principals in elementary schools?

Mrs. LaGase: At this point we wanted to implement the socio-emotional support services that came as a predominant theme from the principals and more of a preventative approach. Considering that they are the point person for the any kind of disciplinary action anyway, they felt the support services was where they wanted their efforts placed, so that's what we did.

Mrs. Padula: Ok. Is there a marketing plan to hire these positions? Are we going to continue to work with Town Square?

Mrs. LaGase: That's one of the avenues. I'm exploring some of the other ones. We've tried to use handshake and some of the other platforms that many of our recent grads or newly entering personnel look through. We are trying as many recruitment options as possible.

Mrs. Padula: Ok. What is the criteria for the Medical Director? What would their background have to be?

Mrs. LaGase: They would be a physician.

Mrs. Padula: So it's not a position that's held; they wouldn't be a full time here it would be more consulting?

Mr. Karam: It depends on if we could find one that's retired.

Mrs. LaGase: It depends if we could find one that's willing.

Mrs. Padula: Because the salary – that's why I wasn't sure.

Mr. Karam: We just put like a ballpark in there. We'd have to see what it shook out to and then bring it back to the Board to see if they would agree.

Mrs. Padula: So for the 10 elementary schools that are getting activity club advisors will there be a fund set aside for the clubs or would each club do their own fundraising? How does that work because I know it's a club?

Mr. Falchi: They would do fundraising, and they could always contact Miss Albanese's department if they need assistance.

Mrs. Padula: When you meet with these principals for their requests, do you guys physically go to the buildings and do these or are they done at your principal meetings?

Mr. Falchi: They're done at principal's meetings for the most part, but we do visit the schools as well.

Mrs. Padula: Ok.

Mr. Salatino: First I would like to thank my colleague Mr. Hobika for some of the questions that he had regarding some of these positions. I think it goes to also show the depth and the knowledge and the research that goes into properly adding positions where it's necessary and needed. Joe, I just thanked you and I'll thank you again. Mrs. LaGase you've done an amazing job explaining it and having the knowledge and understanding of what we need and Mr. Falchi as well. I guess as I'm completing my 15th year on this Board, I feel compelled to comment on this year's budget. I'm sure you've all heard me comment in the past that what we went through and deciding whether or not to hire teachers, buy books, support staff, cutting directors and it just went on and on for so many years because we were so underfunded. It's almost like a breath of fresh air to see us be able to get back to replace what we've lost and to expound on the CTE for instance and some of the other things in technology and some of the upgrades we've done in the buildings. I've seen a complete transition in the district, but more importantly it is to really look at the teachers we have in our district who have done an amazing job more with less over the years and to give them the support they need is really important to this Board and me because I've watched the struggles over the years. It's great to see these changes happen and probably get the funding that we needed. We fought for years in Albany. We would go and fight for it and it's finally starting to come to fruition and that's put us in this position where we are and that's good fiscal management as well. You think about the small increase, even though the numbers are big, the small increase in what we have as far as the budget. But we're looking at cost of services and goods and everything else exponentially increase but yet we are still at 9%. If you look at the factors out there, it should have been considerably more. This is a well thought out and well supported budget especially because of our staff who's worked really hard. I understand this is crunch time for Michele Albanese because these are difficult times. There is a lot that goes into this, so I wanted to thank them as well. Like I said, it really is a fantastic budget. Just to take into consideration, the business climate like I had said – the utilities, supplies everything that we've seen increase and we have a balanced budget. But more importantly, no tax increase to the taxpayers of the city who are already feeling the same pinches we all are feeling. We are seeing inflation come in and this is important. So, to be able to balance a budget, not increase taxes, to increase staff (support staff) especially looking at some of the psychological services that we have and social workers and things. They were desperately needed in our buildings. We had one or two at the time over the years and I know we've talked about wanting to hire more people for each building to service our children. Remember this is what we are here for. We are here to service our children, to educate our children, to give them the opportunities that they need in order to be successful. I'm just glad that as this is my last year that we saw it come full circle and we are providing those services to our students. We've seen some increases in graduation rates. We've seen a lot of good things happen. We've watched our buildings get completely renovated on time and under budget. There's just so much that we've seen and this is a culmination I see it in this budget more particularly than anything else. I just wanted to thank everyone for their hard work because it's not an easy process to go through these line items over and over and over; but more importantly we've got to thank our teachers for doing such a great job over the years with so little. I only think that things are going to get better, and I think we continue to give them the support that they need and our children will receive the success that they deserve. I want to make that comment, and I want to thank all the teachers as well.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: Mrs. LaGase how many people do you have in your department?

Mrs. LaGase: Currently 5 support personnel plus myself.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: Plus yourself, so 6 total.

Mrs. LaGase: Yes.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: So you have day to day obligations that you work on within HR throughout the organization correct?

Mrs. LaGase: Yes.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: Let's say those 7 people accept those offers. You have a total of 169 positions to fill by the beginning of the school year.

Mrs. LaGase: I have a little leeway with some of the positions. Obviously with some of the CTE positions we want to secure; we want to give them time to work with our curriculum development process. But in terms of being needed physically in a classroom they are not going to be needed physically in a classroom in the fall. I've prioritized what our needs are. Obviously all of these positions are important, but we will continue to look at applications and prioritize interviews based on what we know needs to happen for fall of 2022.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: I know that this isn't a Board's role in hiring, that's not our duty. But if I could make any recommendations to you and to your team and to the entire school district is to utilize our current teachers and to utilize them for recruitment. Also looking at diversity, this is now our time to shine when it comes to that. We really need to improve in our diversity. Those are some things that we really need to look at. I'm really going to be looking at over the next year for the hiring because I want to ensure that one we are competitive, two we are utilizing our teachers throughout the district to speak on what we can offer especially new grads and I know you've been an educator for many years yourself as well as in administration. I think your best recruitment tool are your teachers.

Mrs. LaGase: I appreciate that and I just want you to know that that has been successful not only with our teachers, I can tell you for example we've been working diligently to increase the number of nurses that we have on staff and several of our nurses have assisted with recruitment. It's happening across the Board and we appreciate that.

Mrs. Padula: Is there like a referral, I'm sorry I don't mean to cut you off.

Mrs. LaGase: They have to go through the formal application process. I have heard from several applicants say to me Mrs. so and so or Mr. so and so told me about the job or I ask them questions and we will continue to do that.

Mrs. Padula: But there is no bonus or anything like that?

Mrs. LaGase: No, there is no bonus for that.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: In regard to the other things in the budget, it is fantastic that we've received that additional funding. When it comes down to federal funds, first and foremost where are we with our Grants Administrator?

Mrs. LaGase: I've been working closely with her to transition; it is a transition. We had all of our federal funding programs all approved. We have a significant amount of stimulus money that we've allocated for a variety of programming which you've seen throughout the approval process.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: Sure.

Mrs. LaGase: And we are currently preparing – this typically is the month that starts federal reapplications.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: For the following school year.

Mrs. LaGase: For the following school year.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: And what is an estimated amount of money that comes in; I know that was our general fund.

Mrs. LaGase: On average if you would say outside of federal stimulus money it's been about \$22 million.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: On top of our \$200 plus million, it would be additional.

Mrs. LaGase: Correct. Then when you add federal monies, obviously we ARP in other things. You've seen those dollar figures that we've been allocated.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Could I just ask a follow up to your question?

President LaPolla: A follow up to Anthony's question?

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Yes. I just wanted to ask a follow up to the question about federal funds and the Grant Administrator. So we have somebody in that position now?

Mrs. LaGase: Yes.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: And their responsibility is to basically apply for these grants?

Mrs. LaGase: Their responsibility is to apply for those. All of our federal awards require ongoing progress monitoring.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: In compliance?

Mrs. LaGase: In compliance. And there's a significant amount of paperwork associated with that, so that is also part of her responsibility.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: How many people are in that department?

Mrs. LaGase: Right now 4 people are working in that department.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: And how many people are trained people that work in compliance?

Mrs. LaGase: All 4 of those are and then I've been assisting the administrator through the transition.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Training her?

Mrs. LaGase: Just assisting her in terms of making sure that she understands the calendar, the requirements. Obviously I was originally the contact person so we've transitioned with our various reps so I can introduce her and let them know that she has now moved into that role.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok, thank you.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: One more question. I know Mr. Cardillo has questions as well. Actually more of a comment regarding the budget. I recognize how hard everybody has worked for it, but I do have to agree that I think I have questions regarding line items, and we definitely need to have either a Special Meeting or something to talk about the line items within the budget. That's my stance on that.

Mr. Cardillo: First of all, I want to thank my colleagues for their questions; you answered a lot of questions some of which I would have had, but I don't want to be redundant here. Secondly, I want to commend the administration for the cooperation obviously that you had with our principals and our teachers and all of those people that gave you the information in order to make these very well-informed decisions. Again, I commend you for that. In terms of purchasing, Miss Albanese I know as we have an issue in this country with the supply chain. Has that been an issue at all with any of the things that you've had to deal with in purchasing?

Miss Albanese: Actually there has been quite a few. There was an order that we placed with the company for I think it was actually like 2 new chairs or something and that was back in November. They have yet to be delivered.

Mr. Cardillo: I would think that having somebody dedicated as a Purchasing Agent will be helpful in terms of somebody having that as a full-time position because you're not doing that on full time basis obviously.

Miss Albanese: Correct.

Mr. Cardillo: I just wanted to ask that question. The other question I have for Mrs. LaGase. I taught at M.V.C.C. and I taught at the M.V.C.C. Oneonta Teachers Program; many of those students were in my classes. Also at Utica College. Are you reaching out to M.V.C.C. and Oneonta because a lot of them are local?

Mrs. LaGase: I've reached out to all of them. I'm working on establishing a working relationship with those institutions. I have onsite visits scheduled with some of them and I'm hoping this spring to make that an annual kind of a process where I go right on campus. Actually, it would be bi-annual because I would want to do that at both of the graduation points May and December. But yes, that's something that I know we need to strengthen. COVID put additional constraints so a lot of those institutions were waiting until later spring before they would do anything on campus with me.

Mr. Falchi: Just to add to that we are also maximizing opportunities for students from colleges to do field work experiences here in the district, student teaching experiences so we get to know who those people and then try and recruit them for positions.

Mr. Cardillo: Thank you. In my last comment is this. It's kind of a world view if you will. It's not a secret that the world in and of itself is going through a considerable turmoil. All we need to do is think about the Ukraine. I think that entire issue as our friend Mr. Putin continues to do what he's doing in the Ukraine is going to change considerably the way the federal government in particular which is going to affect state government and funding issues down the road because this country is going to probably wind up having to spend a hell a lot more money in the military complex in order to compete with what we've got to deal with on a world view. Having said that I think it's very important that the budgets have worked the way they are and again, I commend you all for a job well done and being cognizant of the fact that in the future it may not be this way depending upon the way funding sources go. I've worked in Washington, I've worked for administrations and when they start cutting particularly when you are in an environment the way we are in now in the world, it's something that we have to be concerned about as a Board, as a community. Again, I thank you for your efforts.

Mr. Dawes: I just want to follow on what Chris said earlier this evening. I thank all the people in the district – the teachers, the administrators, the directors. I was on this Board when we used to cut 150 positions. It sure is nice to be able to go home and not have to worry about young kids that were trying to start out in life and get married and have babies and buy homes; they call you up and ask you if you think there'd be a job for them next year. It really is nice to know that we're adding jobs. But I'm a little bit hesitant because I know what we've gone through lately trying to hire people. We need to hire the best people we possibly can and hopefully there is a workforce out there to hire from. The reason we're short now is because it's hard to find people to fill some of the positions. If anyone out there knows people that are looking for work, that are qualified, that want to dedicate themselves to the children of Utica please get a hold of Michele and let's get this thing in action. The jobs that are in there now are jobs we wished we could've had years ago to help the kids. I think coming off of the virus this is the time that's really going to make a big difference for our children. I'm really pleased to say thanks to the Superintendent and the staff for putting this budget together. They heard from everyone. I know when Mr. LaPolla and I went around the walk-throughs at the schools and Danielle (and Bobby came to) I always say to the principals give us what you need and give us what you're wishing for. I got to tell you I think the wish list got pretty much completed this year. We will keep our fingers crossed going forward because I know I'm here for the kids and I know the members of the Board are here for the kids and also the people in the district are here for the kids. Hopefully we are going to build ourselves into a great school district. Thank you Mr. Karam.

President LaPolla: I just had a couple of questions if someone could clarify this. In the additional positions for 2022-2023, there are 13 secondary teachers for the new CTE Program. That wing won't be built for a couple of years now. Why would we have to hire 13 secondary teachers now?

Mrs. LaGase: One Mr. LaPolla, those are specified certification areas so we need to recruit early because not everybody chooses that particular area to teach in. The other thing is we would like our teachers to be on board and

to be working in the curriculum development process prior to being in the classroom so that they have an opportunity to get everything they need prior to the physical presence of students. We've set a timeline where we think it's realistic to get people hired and have the opportunity they need.

President LaPolla: So these people that will be hired in the next budget will preform tasks related to education.

Mrs. LaGase: Yes in preparation for the opening of the program.

President LaPolla: There will be enough for them to do.

Mrs. LaGase: Correct. Building the curriculum, lesson plan development – all of that.

Mr. Falchi: Building the curriculum, right through the approval process.

President LaPolla: My second concern is the 22 elementary teachers. Are these new teachers or are they replacement filling in the ranks?

Mrs. LaGase: We anticipate 10 of them to be our current teachers that will most likely take an AIS job, so we will need 10 teachers to fill their vacant classroom. And then the additional 12 would be new teachers based on the enrollments and what we think we need to do with class size across the buildings.

President LaPolla: And that concerns me and I think Joe Hobika brought it up in regard to space. You talked about one of the buildings that don't have room – Albany or Watson. Yet, I don't know where we are going to find all the spaces for the new teachers. That's something that concerns me as an educator. There aren't too many educators on the Board or coming up on the Board, but you're always concerned about class size. When you talk about classes 19-21, that's a lot. I know we didn't have the money in the past, and I used to bring this up a few years ago that I was on the Board saying that we have to have smaller class sizes. Quality education at the lowest possible cost. Then we had to worry about the taxpayers, the property tax has been stretched to the limit. A few years ago, we didn't have the money that we have now. Really we need another elementary school, but its cost prohibited. We could never have the funds necessary to build an elementary school. But I always brought up the idea when the Catholic Schools actually closed. St. Stanislaus, Mt. Carmel, Holy Trinity, Lourdes now. We could utilize one of their buildings, renovate it and make it accessible to the handicapped and that would free a lot of classrooms. As an educator I'm concerned about the music and art people working off carts. It's just not an environment for children. You go into the kindergarten and the 1st grade and you see they're having an art class and she has to go cart to cart or music. She doesn't have anything even to play; they're just singing a song. Those are very important and maybe we should be looking at the possible renovation of one of these schools that are vacant today, whether it be Holy Trinity could take burden off of Watson Williams or Mt. Carmel could take the burden off Albany. You're not going to be able to have the necessary space for all of these elementary teachers. Certainly, that's a move that the next Board is going to have to continue. Chris and I have seen a lot and this is going to be our last Board presentation. As Don stated we've gone through tough times, we just didn't have the money. We fought the state for Foundation Aid and no one would ever listen. We thought we had it and then the Governor got banned – Spitzer at that time. We never really had the money and now we are bringing back positions because some of the administrators are basically overloaded. We did have a Purchasing Agent and Michele is doing the job now, but Sandy Zamorski was the Purchasing Agent for years. She did a lot of the purchasing and whenever we had bid proposals. We've gone through Covid, we've gone through a lot of concerns. I would hope that we involve the teachers even more. I think that's the key that they should be involved because they hear the problems. They hear them from the parents, and now today with the social media; they're listening to people. Some of these people you might think their ideas are way out, but they're a concern that we have to face the reality of the changing times that we are in. I think basically going through the budget yes, we have all this extra money but we have to use it for productive use. I think the Superintendent is doing the best he can with the things that we have.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Lou I want to follow up whenever you're done.

President LaPolla: Sure. I think the most important thing is that we should explore the idea of one of these elementary schools that were schools, they were neighborhood schools and they are vacant. A school like St. Agnes the building is just vacant, and Holy Trinity now Charter is moving and it's vacant. Those are classrooms. The excuse in past years was we didn't have the money to renovate it, to make them handicap accessible. If we did that, we

could have class sizes lower than 18 or 19 and we could have teachers with their classroom for art. We could have classrooms for music. Those are very important areas that children need. During Covid we were teaching gym in the classrooms. How do you do that? We've overcome a lot. Basically Chris and I and Don so to speak have weathered the times and it's tough coming up with a budget that's going to please everybody. You do the best you can with the dollars that you have available.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Lou I just want to say I'm going to miss you when you're gone.

President LaPolla: I'm sure you will Joe. It's just common sense sometimes. I think the friction and the disagreements have to end. This is a good Board. This Board asks questions that have to be asked and we give the answers that they have to have. I'm just in favor of us doing things different. Like I said the next Board you're going to have to try new innovative programs to ensure that there's accountability, ensure that the children that are going to school and seeing that teacher and teacher's aide are well equipped to do the job that their supposed to do. Just a side note, you're going to have the money – put it to good use and I think that's the most important thing.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I just want to go back to the teacher thing again. I see 22 new positions right? That's what it says, you're adding 22 new positions. Right now we really don't have really a full complement of teachers as I understand it right? So that's not 22 to what we have, that's 22 to what we're supposed to have. You're backing 10 out to be AIS Administrators if you can get someone to do it. The question is going to be that's going to make it 32 teachers plus which is going to be in addition to what we're supposed to have not what we have at the present time. Otherwise, the presentation about 22 new teachers it's just basically to whatever we have today and we're not really getting above the number of teachers that we started 2 years ago with.

Mrs. LaGase: I just want to clarify something though just so you are aware.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok then I will follow it up with 2 more things.

Mrs. LaGase: The vacancies I quoted earlier, of those only one of the vacancies is a general education elementary classroom. That has been filled by someone in the Superintendent's Report this evening. Those vacancies are not elementary classroom vacancies.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: They're secondary.

Mrs. LaGase: They're secondary or specific like Special Education.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Like special education, ok.

Mrs. LaGase: They are not elementary classrooms.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: And they could also be different types of specialty teachers, correct?

Mrs. LaGase: Correct.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok, but we're adding 22 teachers where?

Mrs. LaGase: Across the 10 elementary buildings.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: So 2.2 so to speak per school.

Mrs. LaGase: Correct. One of them would take one of the current classrooms that is occupied and then we have another classroom space.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: The other thing in terms of just the recruiting dollars I think we have what was it \$10,000 in the budget?

Mrs. LaGase: You approved for that last contract.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: No, I know we did.

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Mrs. LaGase: It was above that, so this is in addition to that what you already approved.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I know the program, but my question is like for example when are we going to take the step to try to get approval from State Ed to maybe get some waivers for out of state teachers? I mean at some point they have to figure out that there's a teacher shortage in the state and they are going to have to do something because nobody is overcoming it; that's number one. And then number two, are we going looking into trying to make arrangements for student loan forgiveness based on the fact that we have at risk students and are we advertising that?

Mrs. LaGase: Yes, and I can tell you that I process on average a week 25-35 student loan forgiveness documents on average.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: What are we doing, I guess the next question is do we have any money in our budget to actually create a situation so that new teachers can actually acclimate, feel supported, and comfortable as they take these positions? It seems like the morale is a little low.

Mrs. LaGase: Part of that comes through our Mentoring Program, our formal Mentoring Program. We have a Mentoring Coordinator who assists and works with the Utica Teachers Association.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Who picks the mentor for the person?

Mrs. LaGase: Right now there's contractual language regarding that. We attempt to assign that.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: And who is that?

Mrs. LaGase: Based on the building, based on their content area.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Does the administration pick who the mentor is or do the teachers pick who the mentor should be?

Mrs. LaGase: The Mentor Coordinator makes recommendations to Mr. Falchi's Office. Mr. Falchi's Office in turn sends them to the UTA President for clearance on that.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: What happens if there's a dispute over who is selected?

Mrs. LaGase: Thankfully we haven't had any, but that would be worked out between the district and the Utica Teachers Association.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok, thank you.

President LaPolla: I just want to add something Joe. There was a forgiveness of loan program when I first started teaching. There was a federal loan forgiveness program if you taught in an inner-city school like in Utica your loan was forgiven after 10 years.

Mrs. LaGase: Many of those programs are still in operation and they have made extensions for that, so many of our employees are getting their paperwork in so that they can qualify for that.

President LaPolla: That's important. My second question is, and I feel passionate about this. After we lower class size are we going to be able to have the art teachers and the music teachers in a room where they can teach what they're supposed to teach I mean instead of off the cart. How does a kid learn off of a cart?

Mr. Falchi: That's always the goal Mr. LaPolla.

President LaPolla: That's the goal, but the thing is after you fill all these positions is the space going to be there for the art teachers and the music teachers?

Mr. Falchi: It depends on the building. I mean I can't say yes because if it doesn't come to fruition then....

President LaPolla: That's why the next Board has got to think about looking at some of these elementary buildings that were run by churches. That would be a great idea. You could renovate it and you can have another building and then everybody is going to be happy because art and music and the teachers will be able to reduce class sizes.

Mrs. Padula: And then we can have another high school, but that's another story. My concern is and my children go to Albany so I know I'm always talking about Albany. But we went to the other schools and size was an issue. I know Mr. Falchi has been talking with Compassion about trying to find a closet and I'm looking at Albany and AIS is in a closet. I don't want to call it a closet, but I mean it is. There's art on a cart and music on a cart. When we went to all those buildings a huge concern we heard was AP because they are being bottlenecked with disciplinary action and testing and observations. These principals have a lot on their plates. I was hoping that we were going to see some APs from an elementary standpoint. That is a concern I have within the budget and then the spacing. I still don't understand how 2 teachers are going to bring these class sizes down. Maybe from 6th grade and you look at all 10 schools. If you look at Albany the average pupil size is – how many 6th grades are there 3?

Mr. Falchi: Three.

Mrs. Padula: And what are the numbers?

Mr. Falchi: Right now there are 3 and they are very high.

Mrs. Padula: So, what 30?

Mr. Falchi: 28, 28 and 29 right now.

Mrs. Padula: Ok.

Mr. Falchi: We are looking to add one to reduce that to 21, 21; I'm sorry I'm looking at next year. Next year we are looking at 28, 28 and 29 in 6th grade. That's where we want to add a teacher to bring that down to 21 per class.

Mrs. Padula: Where? I know you don't have the answer.

Mr. Falchi: I'm working with the principal to find a space.

Mrs. Padula: I know. And I know you guys are 100% bogged down in your offices because of the paperwork and manning your teams and you do a wonderful job. I just think a lot of time is not spent in the schools to actually see; and I know you've been in education, so you know day to day. You're in constant contact with the principals. I'm not discrediting that. My concern is that you don't even have the support staff. I think at one point we had a K-6 curriculum didn't we and then 7-12 just to even alleviate some. My concern is I don't think that enough people in this administration are in the schools; and I don't mean because you don't want to be. I think it's a time and a support thing, but we walked those schools and I think Hughes was maybe one of the only schools we saw with some empty classrooms. She was putting them to use, but if she had to, she could move things around. I don't remember walking through many buildings that had space and that's my concern. Last year was one of my first full years on the Board and we had these same numbers presented to us for projected average class sizes. Then we went on Buildings and Grounds and I don't think we were anywhere near these numbers.

Mr. Falchi: That's an average.

Mrs. Padula: It is an average but it's not accurate. I think our average should be done by school – not by straight average.

President LaPolla: This is not the first Board that has fought with class size. Years ago they used to come up let's have 3, 4, 5, buildings; 6, 7, 8. They made up numbers just to balance out the class sizes. That's not the answer, that's not the long-term answer. The long-term answer is you're actually going to need another building.

Mrs. Padula: What was the reason that 6th grade pulled out; what was it 2005 that the 6th grade was a JFK and Donovan?

President LaPolla: I think so, yes.

Mrs. Padula: What was the reason that they were brought back in elementary?

Mr. Karam: The academic bans, the testing bans. That's why from an academic standpoint, the decision was made back then to go K-6 again instead of 6-8. The 6th grade didn't belong with the 7th and 8th graders.

Mrs. Padula: I don't think they belong with Kindergartners and 1st graders. The dynamics of a 6th grader – we're talking about 6th graders that aren't even changing classrooms and then thrown into middle school. The social climate of these pre-teens and then being around kindergartners, I'm just saying is there any way to alleviate it or do those rules still stand? These 6th graders are stuck in a room. They're not even crossing with the kids across the hall and then they go into middle school and they are witnessing fights and just everything and then by the time they get to Proctor...so, my concern is if 6th grade can move out of the building that may open up some rooms. I know this is not as easy as that.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Listen, this is for another time I think at this point.

Mrs. Padula: What's that time.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Well, you're talking about the budget right now and you're talking about reconfiguring the schools. I think that is an issue that we need to deal with, but I don't think right now. I want to table the budget anyway just for the line items, but if you want to table and ask them to reconfigure this budget to reconfigure the schools and the make-up...

Mrs. Padula: I just don't think that 22 teachers are going to reduce our class sizes. That's why I was just talking through it. If this budget could support that and we could learn through it because the numbers aren't going to change.

Mr. Salatino: I guess the question becomes, what are we basing it on that we aren't going to reduce class size? Because the cohorts that they did will certainly demonstrate the fact that by adding more teachers and by opening up more classrooms we're going to reduce class size in those particular areas.

Mrs. Padula: With no rooms?

Mr. Salatino: It's ok, we will find classrooms for them. We will be able to do it, and they even mentioned that. At some point we have to look at this thing and say hey we're increasing the teachers; we will find the room for them; there's always room in these buildings. Believe me when I tell you. I've been in these buildings.

Mrs. Padula: Have you been in recently? I'm just asking.

Mr. Salatino: It doesn't matter; the buildings haven't changed.

Mrs. Padula: Have you seen the enrollment?

Mr. Salatino: Of course I do, I'm a Board Member. I've been on here for 15 years. I observe all of this including this and of course enrollment size, classroom sizes, graduation rates and all that. To challenge me on that, that's not necessary.

Mrs. Padula: I'm not challenging you.

Mr. Salatino: But what is necessary is the fact that we have 22 teachers that is going to reduce class size, yes it's going to happen. Unfortunately, yes we are spatially challenged, but we will find the means. We have done it in the past and we will continue to find a way.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Let me just point one thing out. I believe these 22 teachers as you said are going to be in the secondary schools correct? That's what you said when I asked you the question.

Mrs. LaGase: What I'm saying is we're not absent of 21 vacancies in the elementary. We have one elementary homeroom teacher vacant, and we will hire for that.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Then how many new teachers are we hiring for the elementary based on this budget proposal?

Mrs. LaGase: Based on this budget it would be 10 teachers who would go to a vacant classroom that is currently housed with a physical teacher, so it would be 12 new teachers.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: No, you're saying that these teachers that are in the elementary...

Mrs. LaGase: Are in a classroom.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I understand, but we are not adding anything to it. The coffee cup is still there whether it's cream and coffee or it's all coffee or it's all cream. All you're doing is moving those 10 teachers out to be AIS Facilitators and then you're just putting 10 back. So we didn't gain anything, all we did was refill the rooms.

Mrs. LaGase: Correct.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: The question I'm asking is how many new elementary teachers are we adding based on this budget?

Mrs. LaGase: You would physically need to hire 10 new replacement teachers...

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: No, those are replacements.

Mrs. LaGase: But they are physically 10 new hires.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok, let me say this, outside of the new replacements, how many additional teachers are you hiring?

Mrs. LaGase: 12.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: So we are going to hire 12?

Mrs. LaGase: 12.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: And we've looked at our schools at this particular time and we know that some schools may get no teachers because there's no room there, right? And some schools may get 4 teachers because there's 4 rooms available is that correct?

Mrs. LaGase: Barring the other factors that go into that because you have to remember we have to take a look as a whole how many special education classrooms are needed based on our students' needs.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I understand what you're saying.

Mrs. LaGase: How many ENL classrooms are needed.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: The hope is we are going to reduce class sizes in the elementary schools.

Mrs. LaGase: Correct.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: But the reality is it is not a foregone conclusion based on all the factors that you're talking about is that correct?

Mrs. LaGase: I can't say that with 100% certainty.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Is it a reasonable expectation?

Mrs. LaGase: It is a reasonable expectation that is the goal correct.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok. Then we are adding teachers at the secondary schools, and those are not replacement teachers correct?

Mrs. LaGase: Correct.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: You're adding new teachers to the secondary level and that will serve to reduce class sizes.

Mrs. LaGase: Correct. We will be able to offer additional sections of courses.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: So again when we are talking about adding new teachers at the elementary level, it may reduce class sizes at some schools. It may not reduce class sizes. We may end up having to shuffle the deck in order to achieve the reduction in class sizes, right? Because some buildings have them and again taking into account special factors blah, blah, blah. The hope is that we're going to have class size reduction but it's not a foregone guarantee.

Mrs. Padula: Yes, especially now that it's only 12; so it's basically one at each building.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Correct.

Mrs. Padula: Ok.

President LaPolla: I think every Board Member has had the opportunity to be heard. Is there a motion to approve and adopt the budget in the amount of \$213,512,562?

Mr. Dawes: So moved.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I'm moving to table it and I'd like to have a Special Meeting.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: I'm going to second that.

Mrs. Padula: And I will third it.

Mr. Salatino: There's a motion on the floor.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I want to table it.

Mr. Salatino: That's open for discussion.

President LaPolla: That's open for discussion because we had the motion first.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Ok I'm sorry. I jumped the gun, very excited.

President LaPolla: If it doesn't get the necessary votes, then we can table it etc.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Don't we get to table it first and then vote on the tabling?

Mr. Salatino: After discussion; we are in discussion now and then it goes to tabling.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Correct.

President LaPolla: Let's work on the tabling of the motion first. Can we have a voice vote on tabling it?

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: No, I think we should do it by roll call.

Mr. Salatino: We have to open it for discussion before we table it.

President LaPolla: We've had the discussion Chris.

Mr. Salatino: Maybe we want to discuss tabling it?

President LaPolla: We will do a roll call, if it doesn't achieve 4 votes it doesn't go. Is there a discussion of the tabling?

Mr. Salatino: I have basically a comment. This draft budget right here is exactly that, it's a budget. It's a living and breathing document. How many times throughout this last year in these Board Meetings has someone questioned the fact that well we've money from this section to this section, we've done this or that, we've eliminated things. This is a budget. Some people may spend some of the money in their departments, some people may not. What we have is basically that...a budget. We look at it and we try to fill in in each department where we need the appropriate funds. That will change throughout the year and it will continue to change. We can have all the discussions we want on this thing, but more importantly we have a budget that we need to pass. We have time periods. My thing is that we can have all the discussions we want, we can move things around at a later date. It's just a budget. We are voting on the bottom lines and the numbers and where we're doing it. We can move these things around any time we want. We've done it throughout the year, we've questioned it throughout the year. My opinion is that I'm going to vote to pass the budget. That's my question or comment.

Mr. Hobika, Jr. made the motion to table the 2022-2023 Budget; seconded by Mr. Anthony LaPolla.

Mr. Gerace: At this point you're taking a vote to table it.

President LaPolla – No
 Mr. Cardillo – No
 Mr. Dawes – No
 Mr. Hobika, Jr. – Yes
 Mr. Anthony LaPolla – Yes
 Mrs. Danielle Padula – Yes
 Mr. Christopher Salatino - No

There being no further discussions, motion to table the Budget failed (4-3).

Mr. Dawes made a motion to approve to adopt the Utica City School 2022-2023 Budget in the amount of \$213,512,562; seconded by Mr. Cardillo.

President LaPolla – Yes
 Mr. Cardillo – Yes
 Mr. Dawes – Yes
 Mr. Anthony LaPolla – No
 Mrs. Danielle Padula – No
 Mr. Christopher Salatino – Yes
 Mr. Hobika, Jr. – I'm torn, my issue is with...

Mr. Gerace: There's no discussion at this point, it's either yes or no; no offense. We've heard a lot of discussion.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Did we have a discussion on the vote?

Mrs. Padula: Yes, we did.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I would like to qualify my vote.

Mr. Gerace: You don't qualify, it's yes or no.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I can qualify my vote.

Mr. Gerace: That is not correct. Let's just get beyond this ok. Make whatever statements that you want to make in old or new business.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I can qualify my vote.

President LaPolla: He can qualify his vote.

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I'm going to qualify my vote. My issue is with the process. My issue is not necessarily with spending the money. I just feel that being handed a budget for \$213 million dollars – not that there's not a lot of worthy things in there and then being expected to vote on it without at least having a budget workshop so you could ask some questions. I think that's quite unfortunate. I got to ask a bunch of questions, but I never even got to the money side of this. I don't want to vote against the budget, I want to vote against the budget process and that's what I did when I voted to table it. I guess I have no choice but to vote against the budget, not for reasons that there's something wrong with the budget but it's the process. My issue is always the process, so I vote no.

Mrs. Hughes: Vote is 4 YES and 3 NO.

There being no further discussion, motion carried 4-3 (Mr. Hobika, Jr – No/Mr. Anthony LaPolla – No/Mrs. Padula – No.)

Announcements and Reports

PTO/PTA, Shared Decision-Making Committees, Student Councils, CSE Chairs, Title I, UTA, UAA, UTC, Teamsters Local 182, SEIU Local 200B, M.V. Buildings and Trades Council

Mr. Scott Rogowski, UTA Vice President provided UTA comments.

Questions from the Board Members:

None

Discussion

Capital Project Update – Jeffrey Kloetzer, Stieglitz Snyder Architect

Mr. Kloetzer, Stieglitz Snyder Architect, presented the Capital Project Update to the Board of Education for April 2022.

Questions from the Board Members:

None

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Karam presented his Superintendent's Report dated April 19, 2022 to the Board of Education for approval.

President LaPolla asked the Board Members if there were any items that needed clarification before a motion was made on the Consent Agenda. At this time, he polled Board Members:

Mr. Hobika, Jr.	Page 4	Memorandum of Understanding between the Utica City School District and Compassion Coalition
Mr. Anthony LaPolla	Page 10	Retirement

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**REGULAR MEETING****APRIL 19, 2022**

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FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. S – 71****SUBJECT:****Utica City School District 2022-2023 Budget Adoption**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to approve and adopt the Utica City School District 2022-2023 School Budget in the amount of \$213,512,562.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. S – 72****SUBJECT:****Creation of Positions**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create four (4) Science Teacher positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create four (4) Math Teacher positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create four (4) English Teacher positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create two (2) Social Studies Teacher positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create two (2) Technology Teacher positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Family and Consumer Science Teacher position, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create two (2) Physical Education Teacher positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Cosmetology Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Automotive Body and Repair Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Automotive Technology Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Construction Trades – Carpentry Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Construction Trades – Electrical Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Construction Trades – Plumbing Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Construction Trades – Masonry Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. S – 72 (cont'd)****SUBJECT:****Creation of Positions**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Certified Nursing Assistant Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Criminal Justice Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Culinary Arts Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Cybersecurity Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Early Childhood Education Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (Drone Technology) Teacher position for our new Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create two (2) Team Leader positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create twenty-two (22) Elementary Teacher positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create four (4) Special Education Teacher positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Orchestra Teacher position, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create six (6) Guidance Counselor positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create fourteen (14) Social Worker positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create ten (10) AIS Facilitator/Instructional Coach positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create two (2) Physical Therapist positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create two (2) Occupational Therapist positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create two (2) Speech and Language Pathologist positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create two (2) School Psychologist positions, effective July 1, 2022.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. S – 72 (cont'd)****SUBJECT:****Creation of Positions**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create eight (8) Parent Liaison positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create three (3) Athletic Caretaker positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Carpenter position, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create nine (9) Typist positions (12-months), effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Bookkeeper position, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create ten (10) Non-Instructional Monitor positions, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Purchasing Agent position, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create three (3) Assistant Principal positions (11-months), effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Administrator for Pupil Personnel Services position (12-months), effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Director of Athletics position (12-months), effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Director of Testing and Planning position (12-months), effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create two (2) Committee on Special Education (CSE) Chairperson positions (11-months), effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) Medical Director position (12-months), effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create one (1) School Communications and Public Relations Specialist (12-months) position, effective July 1, 2022.

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to create ten (10) Elementary Student Activity Club Advisor positions, effective July 1, 2022.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. S – 74****SUBJECT:****Service Agreement between the Utica City School District and Servomation Refreshments, Inc.**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to approve the Service Agreement between the Utica City School District and Servomation Refreshments, Inc., for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026.

April 19, 2022 -7:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

FOR ACTION:

Volume LVI

Report No. S – 75

SUBJECT:

**New York State Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB)
Supplemental Funds**

Authorization is requested to approve the New York State Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB) Supplemental Funds in the amount of \$5,600.

BUDGET:

<u>Personnel:</u>	\$ 3,696
<u>Teacher Salaries:</u>	
• Coordination Teacher Hours - 36 hrs. x \$28/hr. = <u>\$1,008</u>	
• Mentoring/Project Advisor Teacher Hours - 96 hrs. x \$28/hr. = <u>\$2,688</u>	
<u>Support Staff:</u>	\$ 500
• Academic Coach - Panel of Reviewers/Support - 25 hrs. x \$20/hr. = <u>\$500</u>	
<u>Purchased Services:</u>	\$ 600
<u>Consultant:</u>	
• Compass Services - Translation Support - 15 hrs. x \$40/hr. = <u>\$600</u>	
<u>Fringe Benefits:</u>	\$ 804
• Fringe – including FICA @ <u>\$321</u> ; Retirement @ <u>\$442</u> ; and Workers’ Compensation @ <u>\$41</u> = <u>\$804</u>	
TOTAL:	\$ 5,600

This budget is predicated on New York State Education Department’s program approval and may be modified based on funding.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. S – 76****SUBJECT:****American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School
Emergency Relief – Homeless Children and Youth
(ARP-HCY) Part 1 and Part 2 Funds**

Authorization is requested to approve the New York State American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief – Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) Part 1 and Part 2 Funds in the amount of \$190,991.

BUDGET: American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief – Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) – Part 1

Travel:	\$ 22,624
• Student Transportation - $\$292.88/\text{bus} + \$4/\text{mile} \times \# \text{ days needed} = \$22,624$	
TOTAL:	\$ 22,624

BUDGET: American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief – Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCY) – Part 2

Purchased Services:	\$ 121,500
• Safe Schools Mohawk Valley - Coordination/Training for Homeless Children - 1 FTE x $\$60,750 \times 2 \text{ Years} = \$121,500$	
Supplies:	\$ 46,867
• Kits 4 Kids - Elementary/Secondary Notebooks & Backpacks - $350 \times \$14.50 = \$5,075$	
• Kits 4 Kids - Elementary/Secondary School Supply Kits - $350 \times \$17.00 = \$5,950$	
• Kits 4 Kids - Child/Young Adult Hygiene Kits - $350 \times \$8.50 = \$2,975$	
• Kits 4 Kids - Young Adult Feminine Hygiene Kits - $180 \times \$14.00 = \$2,520$	
• Freight - Shipping & Handling = $\$4,956$	
• Personal Care Items - Socks/Under Garments - $710 \times \$10.00 = \$7,100$	
• MBE - ProfTech - Additional School Supplies (Notebooks, Backpacks, Pens, Pencils, Scientific Calculators) - $525 \times \$34.84 = \$18,291$	
TOTAL:	\$ 168,367
GRAND TOTAL: (ARP-HCY PART 1 AND PART 2)	\$ 190,991

This budget is predicated on New York State Education Department's program approval and may be modified based on funding.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. S – 77****SUBJECT:****Adoption of BOCES Resolutions**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to approve and adopt the following BOCES Resolutions:

RESOLUTION NO. 1

WHEREAS, the BOCES tentative administration budget is adopted by public resolution; and

WHEREAS, copies of the tentative administration, capital and program budgets were received March 24, 2022 and an information meeting was presented at Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES on April 6, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the tentative administration budget of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Sole Supervisory District of Oneida, Herkimer and Madison Counties, in the amount of \$3,936,838.70 for 2022-2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

WHEREAS, the election of Cooperative Board members is to occur by resolution, and

WHEREAS, notification was received March 31, 2022 of the slate of candidates, and an information meeting was presented at Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES on April 6, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education casts its vote(s) in the annual election of members of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Sole Supervisory District of Oneida, Herkimer and Madison Counties, for Timothy Thomas; Gary P. Nelson; Gary W. Porcelli, Ed.D.; and Russell Stewart.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. S – 78****SUBJECT:****Date Change for Approved Extended Field Trip**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to approve a date change for an approved Extended Field Trip from Friday, May 13, 2022 to Thursday, May 12, 2022 for forty-five (45) sixth grade students from King Elementary School to travel to Accelerate Sports Complex in Whitesboro, New York.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. S – 79****SUBJECT:****Application for Extended Field Trip**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to approve forty-seven (47) Proctor High School Physics students to travel to the 2022 Educational Events Science, Math & Physics Day at Six Flags-Darien Lake in Corfu, New York on Friday, June 3, 2022. The purpose of this trip is for the students to apply Physics content knowledge to real-world phenomena through hands-on lab experiences. The cost of the trip (including coach bus, park admission, breakfast, lunch, and dinner) is being paid for by the students.

Supervision of these students will be provided by Adam Lovecchio, Science Teacher, Jonathan Levin, Science Teacher, Cameron Jennings, Science Teacher, Kristin Sydoriw, Science Teacher, Heather Monroe, Science Teacher, Rebecca Nix, English Teacher, Michele Duncan, English Teacher, and Jessica Dubois, Business Teacher.

This trip was reviewed and approved by Joshua Gifford, Principal, Proctor High School, and Steven Falchi, Director of Curriculum & Instruction K-12.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. S – 80****SUBJECT:****Application for Extended Field Trip**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to approve thirty-six (36) Proctor High School NJROTC Program students with an 85% and above average to participate in a Blue and Gold Trip to Albany, New York and Lake George, New York from Thursday, May 5, 2022 through Saturday, May 7, 2022. The purpose of this trip is for the students to perform 50 hours of community service. They will be visiting the USS Slater Historical Museum, the Ulysses S. Grant Cottage, West Point, Fort William Henry, and Fort Ticonderoga. They will also be going horseback riding and taking a steamboat trip. The cost of the trip is being paid for by the ROTC Program.

Supervision of these students will be provided by Master Chief Mark Williamson, Chief Petty Officer Randi Hylton, Denise Herring, Technology Teacher, Heather Johnson, Special Education Teacher, Jackie Jackson, Special Education Teacher, and Tamara Egresits, Secretary.

This trip was reviewed and approved by Joshua Gifford, Principal, Proctor High School, and Steven Falchi, Director of Curriculum & Instruction K-12.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. S – 81****SUBJECT:****Application for Extended Field Trip**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to approve ten (10) Donovan Middle School Drama Club students to travel to the Stanley Theater in Utica, York on Tuesday, April 26, 2022. The purpose of this trip is for the students to watch a Broadway Theater League Performance and see the workings of a professional theater group. The cost of the trip (including tickets and bussing) is being paid for by the Woolheater Scholarship Fund.

Supervision of these students will be provided by Jennifer Tillotson, Music Teacher, Victoria Stutzenstein-Mankad, Technology Teacher, Suzan Wronka, Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher, and Jessica Kokoszki, English Teacher.

This trip was reviewed and approved by Ann Marie Palladino, Principal, Donovan Middle School, and Steven Falchi, Director of Curriculum & Instruction K-12.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. B – 30****SUBJECT:****Resolution: RAN****REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTE RESOLUTION
DATED APRIL 19, 2022**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$10,000,000 IN REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF UTICA, ONEIDA COUNTY, NEW YORK IN ANTICIPATION OF THE RECEIPT OF STATE AID TO BE RECEIVED DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023.

BE IT RESOLVED by a Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Utica, Oneida County, New York (the "School District") as follows:

Section 1. There are hereby authorized to be issued Revenue Anticipation Notes (the "Notes") of the School District in anticipation of the receipt of State Aid to be received by the School District in and for its fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 (the "Revenues").

Section 2. The amount of such Revenues estimated in the School District's 2022-2023 annual budget which is uncollected on the date of this resolution exceeds \$10,000,000.

Section 3. The maximum amount of Notes authorized to be issued is up to \$10,000,000.

Section 4. The Notes shall be of such amount, terms, form and content, and shall be sold in such manner as may be prescribed by the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer of the School District, consistent with the provisions of this resolution and the Local Finance Law.

Section 5. Pursuant to the authority delegated in this resolution, the President of the Board of Education may issue Notes during the School District's 2022-2023 fiscal year in an amount not in excess of the difference between the amount of uncollected or un-received Revenues and the amount of any outstanding revenue anticipation notes previously issued in anticipation of the collection or receipt of the Revenues.

Section 6. The period of maturity of the Notes shall not exceed one year. The Notes may be renewed from time to time, but each renewal shall be for a period not exceeding one year and in no event shall the Notes, or the renewals thereof, extend beyond the close of the second fiscal year succeeding the fiscal year in which the Notes are issued. The Notes shall not be renewed in an amount in excess of the difference between the amount of uncollected or un-received Revenues and the amount of any other outstanding revenue anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the collection or receipt of such Revenues.

Section 7. The faith and credit of the School District shall be and are hereby pledged for the punctual payment of the principal of and interest due on the Notes as the same shall become due and payable.

Section 8. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. B – 31****SUBJECT:****Disposal of Obsolete Computer Equipment**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to dispose of obsolete computer equipment located at Central Supply, Proctor High School, Hughes Elementary School, Jones Elementary School, and Kernan Elementary School.

<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Unpaid Leave of Absence	Academic Coach

It is recommended that the following unpaid leave of absence be approved:

Brenda Soto	Academic Coach Proctor High School From: May 9, 2022 To: May 20, 2022 Reason: Personal Notification Received: April 7, 2022
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<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Unpaid Leave of Absence	Food Service

It is recommended that the following unpaid leave of absence be approved:

Judith Spada	Food Monitor Donovan Middle School From: April 26, 2022 To: May 13, 2022 Reason: Medical Notification Received: April 6, 2022
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<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Changes of Assignment	Food Service/Monitor

It is recommended that the following changes of assignment be approved:

Evelyn George	From: Monitor-Breakfast Program – 5 hours per week and Team Leader Monitor-Lunch Program – Donovan Middle School – 15.00 hours per week To: Monitor-Breakfast and Lunch Program District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week Effective: Retroactively on March 28, 2022 Salary: \$15.93 per hour
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Rudelania Lora	From: Monitor-Breakfast Program – 3.75 hours per week and Monitor-Lunch Program – 13.75 hours per week – Proctor High School To: Monitor-Breakfast and Lunch Program District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week Effective: Retroactively on March 28, 2022 Salary: \$15.43 per hour
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<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Appointments	Homebound Instruction

It is recommended that the following appointments be approved:

David Carter	Kim Shackett
Frank Calhoun	Samantha Testa
Maria Comfort	Kelly Trexler
Sara Griffiths	Lauren Vollmer
Kristen Joy	Melissa Williams
Josephine Oliver	

Secondary Instruction – Minimum two (2) hours per day
 Elementary Instruction – Minimum one (1) hour per day
 Certified Instructors – \$28.00 per hour
 Non-Certified Instructors – \$15.00 per hour

<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Appointment	Teacher

It is recommended that the following appointment be approved:

Brittany M. Bohling 307 Stafford Circle North Clinton, NY 13323	Elementary Teacher (Probationary) Effective: April 20, 2022 Salary: C-3, MA+42 = \$39,828 (prorated) per UTA Contract Certification: Initial – Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) – pending Tenure Award Date: April 20, 2026 Education: M.A., Grand Canyon University, 5/21; B.A., SUNY Polytechnic Institute, 5/17 Experience: Substitute Teacher, Utica City School District, Utica, NY 4/18 to present
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<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Appointment	Teacher

It is recommended that the following appointment be approved:

Christiana R. Rowlands 9700 North Steuben Road Remsen, NY 13438	Occupational Therapist (Probationary) Effective: August 31, 2022 Salary: D-4, MS+30 = \$40,780, plus Occupational Therapist Stipend - \$1,600 = \$42,380 per UTA Contract Certification: Provisional – Occupational Therapist License Education: M.S., Nazareth College, 5/22; B.S., Nazareth College, 5/21 Experience: Substitute Teacher, Utica City School District Utica, NY 12/19 to present
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<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Appointment	Teacher

It is recommended that the following appointment be approved:

Arianna M. Wiater
4 Knoll Road
Utica, NY 13501

Elementary Teacher (Probationary)
Effective: April 20, 2022
Salary: D-4, BA = \$38,130 (Prorated) per UTA Contract
Certification: Initial – Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) – pending
Tenure Award Date: April 20, 2026
Education: B.S., Grand Canyon University, 1/22
Experience: Substitute Teacher, Utica City School District,
Utica, NY
9/19 to present

<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Appointment	
	Elementary Education Summer School Program Watson Williams Elementary School	

It is recommended that the following appointment be approved for the School Impact Grant (SIG 1003a) and Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV for the Extended Learning Time Program at Watson Williams Elementary School. All appointments are contingent on actual needs.

Effective Dates: June 27, 2022 – July 8, 2022
Funding: Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, SIG 1003a

Teacher: not to exceed 324 hours at \$28.00 per hour per UTA Contract
Deborah Miller

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. P – 19****SUBJECT:****Appointments****Teacher****Carl D. Perkins Vocational Career and Technical Education
(VTEA) Grant Program**

It is recommended that the following appointments be approved for the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Career and Technical Education (VTEA) Grant Program at Proctor High School for the 2022-2023 school year. All appointments are contingent on funding and actual needs.

CTE Program Coordinator: not to exceed 225 hours

James Giruzzi

Salary: \$28.00 per hour per UTA Contract

Work-based Learning Coordinators: not to exceed 360 hours

Carly Calogero
Alexis McKerrow
Carolyn Saugh

Salary: \$28.00 per hour per UTA Contract

Teachers and Counselors: not to exceed 3,500 total program hours

Elisha Abbe	Christopher Jennings
Carly Calogero	Richard Karam
Cassandra Carpenter	Ivan Kudelich
Tyler Carroll	John Lamb
Jessica Collis	Alexis McKerrow
Daniel Conte	Judith Nole-DeFina
Jessica DuBois	Deborah Pedersen
Maria Fielteau	James Raymer
James Giruzzi	Carolyn Saugh
Dennis Hahn	Stephen Szymanski
Denise Herring	

Salary: \$28.00 per hour per UTA Contract

Clerical: not to exceed 250 hours per contract

Lindsey Cortese

Salary: \$25.93 per hour

<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Appointment	License Practical Nurse

It is recommended that the following appointment be approved:

Enisa Topic 538 Cedarbrook Crescent Utica, NY 13502	Licensed Practical Nurse (10-months) (Probationary) District-Wide Effective: April 20, 2022 Salary: \$35,006 (prorated) Education: Utica BOCES, Licensed Practical Nursing, 10/17 Experience: Licensed Practical Nurse – Case Manager, Willow Park Assisted Living Facility, Utica, NY 10/21 to present
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<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Appointments	Security

It is recommended that the following appointments be approved:

Kevin J. Alexander 1121 Neilson Street Utica, NY 13501	Security Monitor District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week Effective: Retroactively on February 14, 2022 Salary: \$16.73 per hour Education: Graduate of DeWitt Clinton High School Experience: Safety and Risk Manager, Upstate Cerebral Palsy Utica, NY, 9/01-4/09; Pastor, Peter Spencer UAME Church, Utica, NY 4/09 to present
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Kimberly M. Hajjar 704 Wilbain Drive East Utica, NY 13502	Security Monitor District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week Effective: Retroactively on April 4, 2022 Salary: \$16.73 per hour Education: Graduate of Proctor High School Experience: Teacher Assistant (retired), Utica City School District, Utica, NY 9/97 to 6/17
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Brandon S. Teuscher 10601 Hulsen Road, Lot 191 Utica, NY 13501	Security Monitor District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week Effective: April 20, 2022 Salary: \$16.73 per hour Education: A.A.S., Herkimer County Community College Experience: Manager, Jonny's Pizza Utica, NY 1/15 to present
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<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Appointment	Security

It is recommended that the following appointment be approved:

Anthony Wnuk-Frank
1302 Elm Street, Apt. 2
Utica, NY 13501

Security Monitor
District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week
Effective: Retroactively on March 28, 2022
Salary: \$16.73 per hour
Education: A.S., USC the Business College
Experience: Personal Trainer, Accelerate Sports
Whitesboro, NY
4/21 to present

<u>FOR ACTION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 19
SUBJECT:	Appointments	Custodial/Maintenance

It is recommended that the following appointments be approved:

Michael L. Lacy
123 Gold Street
Utica, NY 13501

Cleaner *
District-Wide (Probationary)
Effective: May 2, 2022
Salary: \$15.21 per hour
Education: Graduate of Utica Free Academy
Experience: Delivery Driver, Utica Valley Electric (Express)
Utica, NY
6/21 to present

Norris Lacy
111 Pleasant Street
Utica, NY 13501

Cleaner *
District-Wide (Probationary)
Effective: May 2, 2022
Salary: \$15.21 per hour
Education: Graduate of Utica Free Academy
Experience: Warehouse Clerk, Utica Valley Electric
Utica, NY
8/19 to present

*Pending New York State Education Department fingerprint clearance

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. P – 19****SUBJECT:****Appointments****Food Service/Monitor**

It is recommended that the following appointments be approved:

Dina Desiato-Angotti
729 Mary Street
Utica, NY 13501

Monitor-Breakfast and Lunch Program
District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week
Effective: April 25, 2022
Salary: \$14.23 per hour
Education: Whitesboro High School, Graduated 1996
Experience: Self-Employed Hair Stylist, 2010-2021, Utica City School District, Sub Monitor-Breakfast and Lunch Program 1/31/22 to present

Shirell Gamble
2 Kennedy Plaza, 41B
Utica, NY 13502

Monitor-Breakfast and Lunch Program
District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week
Effective: April 25, 2022
Salary: \$14.23 per hour
Education: Madison BOCES, Graduated 2016; Mohawk Valley Community College, 2019
Experience: Child Care Provider, Oneida County, 2018-2020; Care Giver, Resource Center for Independent Living, Utica, NY, 2018-2020; Sub Monitor-Breakfast and Lunch Program Utica City School District, Utica, NY 4/12/21 to present

Lillian Montenez
724 Tracy Street
Utica, NY 13502

Monitor-Breakfast and Lunch Program
District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week
Effective: April 25, 2022
Salary: \$14.23 per hour
Education: Puerto Rico, Graduated 1983
Experience: Assembler, ConMed, 1992-1994; Nurse's Aide, Americare, 1998-1999; Sub Monitor-Breakfast and Lunch Program, Utica City School District, Utica, NY 1/31/22 to present

Antoinette Quinones
1736 Armory Drive, 64E
Utica, NY 13501

Food Service Worker-Breakfast and Lunch Program
District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week
Effective: April 25, 2022
Salary: \$14.51 per hour
Education, Bronx, New York, Graduated 1989
Experience: Care Giver, Resource Center for Independent Living, Utica, NY, 2011-present; Sub Food Service Worker-Breakfast and Lunch Program, Utica City School District, Utica, NY 1/12/22 to present

FOR ACTION:**Volume LVI****Report No. P – 19****SUBJECT:****Appointments****Food Service/Monitor**

It is recommended that the following appointments be approved:

Rayvonne Reyes
139 Pleasant Street
Utica, NY 13501

Food Service 1-Breakfast and Lunch Program
District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week
Effective: April 25, 2022
Salary: \$14.51 per hour
Education: New York City, NY, Graduated 2010
Experience: Front Desk, Oneida Center Nursing Home, Utica, NY, 2016-2021; Sub Monitor and Food Service, Utica City School District, Utica, NY
1/3/22 to present

Wilkauri Rosario
1502 Whitesboro Street
Utica, NY 13501

Food Service Worker 1-Breakfast and Lunch Program
District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week
Effective: April 25, 2022
Salary: \$14.51 per hour
Education: Proctor High School, GED 2015
Experience: Monitor, Birnie Bus, Utica, NY, 2019; Sub Monitor and Food Service, Utica City School District, Utica, NY
1/20/21 to present

Rusmira Tricic
1119 Hoover Avenue
Utica, NY 13501

Monitor-Breakfast and Lunch Program
District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week
Effective: April 25, 2022
Salary: \$14.23 per hour
Education: Cazin, Bosnia, Graduated 1987
Experience: Gilford Mills, 1998 to 2002; Machine Operator, Divine Brothers, Utica, NY, 2002-2010; Sub Monitor-Lunch, Utica City School District, Utica, NY
2/3/22 to present

FOR INFORMATION:**Volume LVI****Report No. CSE – 19****SUBJECT:****RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON
SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The Board of Education approves the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education for placement and related services in the Utica City School District and/or other approved programs as follows:

IR = Initial Eligibility Determination TR = Triennial (Re-evaluation) Review AR = Annual Review
RR = Requested Review AP = Administrative Placement PR = Program Review
AMN = Amendment No Meeting PR = Program Review Y = Yes No = No

Student code	Type of Meeting	Handicapping Condition	Recommended Program	Related Services	Results
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Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: November 16, 2021

BS12/1/05BM	PR	OHI	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Change Program
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Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: December 6, 2021

BL3/20/08GM	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Chg. Couns. to (ind.), Add SP consult.
WR3/20/08GM	AR	LD	15:1, ICT, 10 mo.	N	Chg. Program
JB4/19/08BM	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
WJ9/5/09BM	AR	VI	ICT, 10 mo.	Y	Change Program

Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: December 7, 2021

AD9/5/09MM	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
WL10/15/09GM	AR	AUT	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
BO7/29/09GF	AR	OHI	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
WB7/26/09KF	AR	OHI	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Stop Couns.
WJ9/28/08LM	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
AA9/21/09MM	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing

Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: December 8, 2021

BJ7/25/09MM	TR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Stop Couns.
BJ7/25/09MM	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
BD8/13/09CM	TR/AR	OHI	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
WJ10/1/09DM	AR	OHI	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
BL4/13/09FF	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
BA12/1/08FM	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Stop SP
BP8/3/08MM	AR	ED	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing

Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: December 16, 2021

BS10/12/09WF	AR	OHI	15:1, ICT, 10 mo.	N	Change Program
BM5/7/09WF	PR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	LOTE Exemption
BM5/7/09WF	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Stop Couns.
WC8/20/08RF	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Stop Couns.
WG1/20/08AF	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Stop Couns.
WG7/12/07DM	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
BM10/28/08HM	AR	LD	ICT, 10 mo.	N	Change Program

Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: December 17, 2021

BS10/2/08WF	TR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
BS10/2/08WF	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
BD6/15/07WF	TR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
BD6/15/07WF	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
MG7/4/08RF	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
WY3/26/08PM	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing

AE4/5/09WF	AR	LD	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
WE9/20/08RM	AR	AUT	15:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
BJ5/25/09BM	TR	OHI	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Chg. Couns. to 2x30 month
BJ5/25/09BM	AR	OHI	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: December 21, 2021					
BS12/1/05BM	AR	OHI	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: March 7, 2022					
BB9/10/15WM	AP	SLI	12:1:1, 12 mo.	Y	New Entry
Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: March 7, 2022					
WA2/22/09LF	AR	ED	6:1:2, 12 mo.	Y	Ongoing
WE5/17/07DM	AR	ED	6:1:2, 12 mo.	Y	Ongoing
WJ8/25/09FM	AR	OHI	6:1:2, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: March 8, 2022					
MM7/30/09FF	MD	OHI	3-5 After School	N	Change Program
WD5/12/04AM	AR	LD	6:1:2, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
WA1/1/15HF	AR	SLI	RS, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
BI8/3/08HF	AR	OHI	6:1:2, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
HE6/17/05BM	MD	LD	3-5 after school	Y	Change Program
BJ5/5/10FM	AR	ED	6:1:2, 12mo.	Y	Ongoing
BJ2/14/09BM	AR	OHI	6:1:2, 12mo.	Y	Ongoing
BL12/17/07TM	AR	LD	6:1:2, 12mo.	Y	Ongoing
Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: March 9, 2022					
HZ7/15/05EM	MD	LD	3-5 After School	N	Change Program
MA11/30/07SM	MD	ED	3-5 After School	Y	Change Program
WJ6/13/14EM	IR	LD	5:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
HZ7/15/05EM	AR	LD	5:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: March 11, 2022					
WM8/8/05DM	MD	OHI	HTUT	Y	Change Program
WD9/1/08MF	AR	None	Sect. 504	N	Ongoing
WM3/12/08CM	AR	None	Sect. 504	N	Ongoing
WM6/18/08WM	AR	None	Sect. 504	N	Ongoing
WK10/6/04SF	AR	None	Sect. 504	N	Ongoing
WK2/11/05TF	AR	None	Sect. 504	N	Ongoing
WJ11/01/06BM	AR	None	Sect. 504	N	Ongoing
WC7/7/07SM	AR	None	Sect. 504	Y	Ongoing
Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: March 14, 2022					
MT11/08/06CM	MD	LD	3-5 After School	N	Change Program
WM3/2/13DF	AR	SLI	RS, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
AT9/2/14MM	AR	SLI	5:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: March 15, 2022					
WA7/10/13NM	AR	SLI	RS, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
ID11/18/09DF	AR	SLI	RS, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
BR2/27/14OF	AR	SLI	RS, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: March 17, 2022					
AE7/17/15KM	AR	SLI	5:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
HM3/14/14BM	AR	SLI	5:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
HG8/2/12CM	AR	LD	5:1, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing
BK8/27/10GM	AR	LD	5:1, 10 mo.	N	Ongoing
Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: March 21, 2022					
WP12/7/05DM	AR	None	Sect. 504	Y	Ongoing
BZ8/3/09HF	AR	None	Sect. 504	N	Ongoing
AK5/29/09AF	AR	None	Sect. 504	N	Ongoing

BJ11/25/06TM	AR	None	Sect. 504	Y	Ongoing
WS12/09/05WM	AR	None	Sect. 504	Y	Ongoing

Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: March 28, 2022

HJ10/11/06RM	MD	LD	HTUT	N	Change Program
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Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: April 5, 2022

BA6/30/17IM	CSE Trans	SLI	12:1(3:1), 10 mo.	Y	Sp. 2x30 min./wk. (ind.); Sp. 1x30 min./wk. (sg.); OT 2x30 min./wk. (ind.); PT 2x30 min./wk. (ind.); small bus needed
BK9/20/17BCM	CSE Trans	SLI	8:1:1, 10 mo.	Y	Sp. 2x30 min./wk. (ind.); small bus needed
AV12/8/16HM	CSE Trans	SLI	12:1:1 BB, 10 mo.	Y	Sp. 2x30 min./wk. (ind.); Sp. 1x30 min./wk. (sg.); OT 1x30 min./wk. (ind.); OT 1x30 min./wk. (sg.); small bus needed
HL7/17/17GM	CSE Trans	SLI	12:1:1 BB, 10 mo.	Y	Sp. 2x30 min./wk. (ind.); OT 2x30 min./wk. (ind.); PT 1x30 min./wk. (ind.); PT 1x30 min./wk. (sg.) small bus needed
HN8/23/17TF	CSE Trans	SLI	12:1:1 BB, 10 mo.	Y	Sp. 1x30 min./wk. (ind.); Sp. 1x30 min./wk. (sg.); OT 1x30 min./wk. (ind.); OT 1x30 min./wk. (sg.); PT 1x30 min./wk. (ind.); PT 1x30 min./wk. (sg.) small bus needed

Committee on Special Education Meeting Date: April 7, 2022

BW9/9/17DM	CSE Trans	SLI	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Sp. 1x30 min./wk. (ind.); Sp. 1x30 min./wk. (sg.); small bus needed
BA12/20/16PF	CSE Trans	OHI	12:1(3:1), 10 mo.	Y	Sp. 2x30 min./wk. (ind.); OT 2x30 min./wk. (ind.); PT 2x30 min./wk. (ind.); small bus needed
HJ8/7/17AM	CSE Trans	SLI	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Sp. 1x30 min./wk. (ind.); Sp. 1x30 min./wk. (sg.); OT 1x30 min./wk. (ind.); OT 1x30 min./wk. (sg.); Order PT eval.
HE5/22/17PF	CSE Trans	SLI	15:1, 10 mo.	Y	Sp. 1x30 min./wk. (ind.); Sp. 2x30 min./wk. (sg.); OT 2x30 min./wk. (sg.); PT 1x30 min./wk. (ind.); PT 1x30 min./wk.(sg.)

FOR INFORMATION:**Volume LVI****Report No. CPSE – 20****SUBJECT:****RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON
PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The Board of Education approves the recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education for placement and related services in the Utica City School District and/or other approved programs as follows:

IR = Initial Eligibility Determination TR = Triennial (Re-evaluation) Review AR = Annual Review
 AP = Administrative Placement RR = Requested Review/Program Review
 AMN = Amendment No Meeting MD = Manifestation Determination Y = Yes N = No
 Transfer – PSWD w/current IEP entering from another District

Student code	Type of Meeting	Handicapping Condition	Recommended Program	Related Services	Results
Committee on Preschool Special Education Meeting Date: March 25, 2022					
WA3/19/19KM	IR	PSWD	SEIS, 12 mo.	Y	New Entry; Beg. Sept. 2022 change SEIS 2x60 min./wk. to 9:1+3 class 5 hrs. daily; Inc. Sp. from 2x30 min./wk. to 3x30 min./wk.
Committee on Preschool Special Education Meeting Date: March 29, 2022					
HA9/18/17GM	IR	PSWD	SEIS, 12 mo.	Y	New Entry; SEIS 2x60; Sp. 2x30 min./wk.; OT 2x30 min./wk.; PT 2x30 min./wk.; Add ESY
HS4/24/19MF	IR	PSWD	9:1+3, 10 mo.	Y	New Entry; EI continues through 8/22. Beg. 9/22: 9:1+3 class 5 hrs./day; Sp. 3x30 min./wk.; OT 2x30 min./wk.; and PT 2x30 min./wk.
HJ12/27/18MMM	PR	PSWD	SEIS, 10 mo.	Y	Add OT 2x30 min./wk.
HV2/1/17RM	PR	PSWD	9:1+3, 10 mo.	Y	Add OT 2x30 min./wk.
WM4/9/19FM	IR	PSWD	9:1+3, 10 mo.	Y	New Entry; EI continues through 8/22; Beg. 9/22: 9:1+3 class 5 hrs./day; Sp. 3x30 min./wk.; OT 2x30 min./wk. and PT 2x30 min./wk.
WL10/18/18MM	Transfer	PSWD	9:1+3, 10 mo.	Y	Transfer from Rome CSD; 9:1+3 class 5 hrs./day; Sp. 2x30 min./wk. and OT 2x30 min./wk.
WB8/20/17MM	PR	PSWD	RS, 10 mo.	Y	Discharge Sp. 1x30 min./wk.
WM4/29/18KF	PR	PSWD	6:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY
WC1/29/18GM	PR	PSWD	6:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY
WB9/22/17DM	IR				Ineligible

BA4/4/19PM	IR	PSWD	RS, 10 mo.	Y	New Entry; EI continues through 8/22; Beg. 9/22: SEIS 2x60 min./wk.; Sp. 2x30 min./wk.; OT 2x30 min./wk.; PT 2x30 min./wk.; Waitlist for 9:1+3
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Committee on Preschool Special Education Meeting Date: March 30, 2022

WA12/7/17BM	AR	PSWD	RS, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY: Sp. 2x30 min./wk.; Order OT & PT evals.
HA4/24/18RF	AR	PSWD	9:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY; decrease Sp. from 2x30 to 1x30 min./wk.; decrease PT from 2x30 to 1x30 min./wk.; Order OT eval.
WL9/8/17CM	PR	PSWD	9:1+3, 10 mo.	Y	Add PT 2x30 min./wk.
HJ12/3/18FIM	PR	PSWD	SEIS, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY SEIS 2x60 min./wk.; Sp. 1x30 min./wk.; OT 2x30 min./wk.; PT 2x30 min./wk. Beg. 9/22: 9:1+3 class w/Sp. 2x30 min./wk.; OT 2x30 min./wk.; and PT 2x30 min./wk.

Committee on Preschool Special Education Meeting Date: April 5, 2022

BA6/30/17IM	CPSE/CSE	PSWD	9:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY; Refer to CSE
BK9/20/17BCM	CPSE/CSE	PSWD	9:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY; Refer to CSE
AV12/8/16HM	CPSE/CSE	PSWD	9:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY; Refer to CSE
HL7/17/17GM	CPSE/CSE	PSWD	9:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY; Refer to CSE
HN8/23/17TF	CPSE/CSE	PSWD	9:1+3; 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY; Refer to CSE
WC2/21/17AM	CPSE/CSE	PSWD	9:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY; Refer to CSE
HL5/16/18LM	PR	PSWD	9:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY
WA11/8/18MF	Transfer	PSWD	6:1+3, 10 mo.	Y	Transfer from Owen D. Young; family has relocated to Rome CSD

Committee on Preschool Special Education Meeting Date: April 7, 2022

BW9/9/17DM	CPSE/CSE	PSWD	9:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY; Refer to CSE
BA12/20/16PF	CPSE/CSE	PSWD	9:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY; Refer to CSE
HJ8/7/17AM	CPSE/CSE	PSWD	9:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY; Refer to CSE
HE5/22/17PF	CPSE/CSE	PSWD	9:1+3, 12 mo.	Y	Add ESY; refer to CSE
BA3/7/17RM	AR	PSWD	RS, 10 mo.	Y	Ongoing; Order updated Psych. & Speech Evals.
WJ11/17/17EM	PR	PSWD	SEIS, 10 mo.	Y	Add OT 2x30 min./wk. (ind.); Add PT 2x30 min./wk. (ind.)

<u>FOR INFORMATION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 20
SUBJECT:	Resignation	Registered Nurse

It is recommended that the following resignation be accepted:

Baylea Tuttle
Registered Nurse (10-months) – Probationary
District-Wide
Effective: March 29, 2022
Reason: Accepted position outside the Utica City
School District
Notification Received: March 29, 2022

<u>FOR INFORMATION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P- 20
SUBJECT:	Resignation	Security

It is recommended that the following resignation be accepted:

Nicholas Marchitto
Security Monitor
District-Wide – not to exceed 29 hours per week
Effective: April 1, 2022
Reason: Personal
Notification Received: March 29, 2022

<u>FOR INFORMATION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 20
SUBJECT:	Resignation	Transportation

It is recommended that the following resignation be accepted:

Jeffrey Kirley
Bus Driver
29 hours per week
Effective: March 26, 2022
Reason: Medical
Notification Received: March 28, 2022

<u>FOR INFORMATION:</u>	Volume LVI	Report No. P – 20
SUBJECT:	Extended Unpaid Leave of Absence	Internal Auditor

It is recommended that the following extended unpaid leave of absence be approved:

Paris Rich
Internal Auditor
From: March 14, 2022
To: April 8, 2022
Reason: Medical
Notification Received: March 31, 2022

Mr. Cardillo made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and seconded by Mr. Salatino.

There being no further discussion; **motion carried 7-0.**

THIS CONCLUDED THE CONSENT AGENDA.

FOR ACTION: **Volume LVI** **Report No. S – 73**

SUBJECT: **Memorandum of Understanding between the Utica City School District and Compassion Coalition**

Authorization is requested of the Board of Education to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Utica City School District and Compassion Coalition dated April 20, 2022.

Moved by Mr. Salatino and seconded by Mr. Dawes.

There being no further discussion; **motion carried 6-0 (Mr. Hobika, Jr. – Abstain).**

FOR ACTION: **Volume LVI** **Report No. P – 19**

SUBJECT: **Retirement** **Teacher**

It is recommended that the following retirement be accepted:

Joseph N. Gentile	Special Education Teacher Proctor High School Effective: June 30, 2022 Years of Service: 40
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FOR ACTION: **Volume LVI** **Report No. P – 19**

SUBJECT: **Retirement** **Teacher Assistant**

It is recommended that the following retirement be accepted:

Maureen M. Furgal	Teacher Assistant – AIS Columbus Elementary School Effective: June 30, 2022 Years of Service: 25
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Moved by Mr. Salatino and seconded by Mr. Hobika, Jr.

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: I just wanted to make a comment on the 2 retirements – Mr. Joe Gentile and Mrs. Maureen Furgal who is a TA and Mr. Gentile is a Special Education Teacher with 40 years of service which is pretty remarkable. I just want to acknowledge and say thank you to Mr. Gentile who I knew back in Proctor days and then Mrs. Furgal back in elementary school days. I appreciate it, thank you.

There being no further discussion; **motion carried 7-0.**

THIS CONCLUDED THE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT.

Reports of Special Committees

BOCES Report – Joseph Hobika, Jr.

Mr. Hobika, Jr. reported, "We had the annual meeting at BOCES. Everyone look over to the right there. Those were the desserts that were made by the BOCES student chefs. If you look at that, there is a mold up on top and actually that whole thing there were 3 different departments at BOCES that participated in putting that display together. That sign on the top I think – was that sugar on the top Anthony?"

Mr. Anthony LaPolla: It was. It was like a fondant that they created out of a template which was really cool.

Mr. Hobika, Jr. continued, "By the way all of those desserts I've heard were really delicious and by the way they were all gluten free."

President LaPolla: All of those desserts were made by the students?

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: They were all made by the students, and they were beautiful. There is a charcuterie board that the students put together. The students made the board underneath and they actually made the crackers. It's really impressive; all different kinds of crackers and they were all gluten free as well. Really a tremendous presentation. I love to go to that and talk to all the kids when we have the opportunity. I just wanted to mention that. It was really impressive. I could wait until new business, but I want to acknowledge that 4 of our students made the Mohawk Valley All Star Teams. Kaitlyn Troung made it for girls bowling, Ayden Potter made it for boys bowling, Garrett Nanna made it for swimming and so did Arman Tresnjo (I'm sorry I am butchering his name) and I apologize. They all made the All-Star Team so they should be acknowledged at some point maybe. Maybe they can come to a meeting when we are giving acknowledgements next month.

Financial Report

Budget Status Report – Haylee Lallier, Treasurer

Ms. Lallier reported, "I have not yet received the April tax payment for payments to be received through the end of March. The current amount due with the balance for the 2019-2020 school year around \$273,000; for 2020-2021 school year around \$1,160,000 and for 2021-2022 around \$2,262,000. Any questions?"

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: I have some questions. I'm just waiting for the answers and I know that you were busy with the budget. But the questions that I asked at the last meeting, I'd like to get the answers to those questions. Thank you.

Internal Auditor Report – Paris Rich, Internal Auditor

Mr. Rich reported, "Just a couple things, does anyone have any questions underneath the current activities. You received this on Friday; are there any questions?"

Mr. Hobika, Jr.: Not that I want to ask on the floor, thank you.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Cardillo made a motion to approve the following minutes; seconded by Mr. Salatino.

- April 19, 2022 – Special Meeting
- April 19, 2022 – Regular Meeting

There being no further discussion; **motion carried 7-0.**

April 19, 2022 -7:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

Continuing Business

Mrs. Padula: I just want to ask for an update on the metal detectors. Will they be installed over the summer?

Mr. Karam: They are working on them right now.

Mr. Williams: When the people from Evolve were here, they told us that they were under construction right now. It could be anywhere from 6 to 8 weeks for completion of them.

Mrs. Padula: Thank you.

New Business

Mr. Dawes: I would like to request that we have Durham come in to give an end of the year summary on the busing. We haven't heard from them for a few meetings. I know it's going to be pretty much the same. I was trying to have them with the principals today, but of course because of the snow we didn't meet.

President LaPolla: For the next meeting?

Mr. Dawes: For our next meeting. I would like to know where we are. We seem to have been at that 75 number of drivers for an awful long time. I'd like to know if anything is better or worse because I don't want to start next year with the same nonsense that we went through for this whole year. Thank you.

Communication (None)

Adjournment

Mr. Salatino made a motion to adjourn the March 22, 2022 Regular Meeting; seconded by Mr. Cardillo.

There being no further discussion; motion carried 7-0.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully transcribed and submitted,

DEBORAH L. VENNERO
Board Recorder