

## BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Date of Meeting: January 22, 2025  
 Type of Meeting: **REGULAR MEETING**  
 Location: School 18  
 Time: **6:00 PM Regular Meeting**

### I. Call to Order

#### A. Roll Call

1. Members Present:
 

Mrs. Ann Apicella	Mr. Donald Miller
Mr. Joshua Chiappone	Mrs. Elizabeth Poletto
Mr. Matthew Flowers, Jr.	Mrs. Ebony Pompey-Conway
Mrs. Diana Heckman	Mrs. Anne Wager-Rounds
Mr. Tom Mayo	
  
2. Others Present:
 

Mr. John Carmello, Superintendent
Dr. Donna Watson, Deputy Superintendent
Mr. Frank Barile, School Attorney

#### B. Public Session

At 6:00pm, Mrs. Wager-Rounds called the regular meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### C. Public Input on agenda and non-agenda items non-action items:

There was no public input.

### II. Non-Action Items

#### A. Kidz First Karate Demonstration

Mr. Carmello attended School 18's afterschool program a few weeks ago and participated in the Karate program. Mr. Carmello welcomes Mr. Tony Butler and his team, and students from School 18, School 16 and Carroll Hill Kidz First Karate program for their presentation.

#### B. School 18 Principal Presentation - V. DonVito-MacPhee

Ms. DonVito-MacPhee opened her presentation by thanking the Board and administration for their ongoing support of School 18. She also recognized her dedicated professional team for their tireless commitment to student success. Central to School 18's vision is providing equitable learning opportunities tailored to meet the diverse needs of every student. The school's instructional coaches meet with teachers weekly to conduct embedded coaching cycles and data meetings, ensuring staff become experts in all learning standards. These efforts have yielded tangible results: NYS assessment scores in both ELA and Math have risen steadily since 2015. Additionally, the district implemented iReady testing this year; after only two diagnostics, significant student growth is already evident. Beyond academics, School 18 prioritizes social-emotional health. The SEL team provides *Second Step* lessons and hosts monthly assemblies focused on attendance and character. Support structures also include lunch groups, daily check-ins, and collaboration with Rebekah Magin. Ms. Napolitano reported that the school's attendance rate is holding steady at 93%. Notably, the kindergarten cohort—which historically sees higher absenteeism—has recorded 91 fewer absences compared to last year. Ms. Napolitano credited Attendance Improvement Specialist Ms. Nadeau and the new home-visit vehicle for this success, noting

a 6.6% decrease in chronic absenteeism. To reduce referrals, the school is focusing on relationship-building and proactive communication with families to better understand and address individual student needs. Ms. DonVito-MacPhee outlined this year's equity goal: increasing academic proficiency for Black/African American students by 10% on NYS assessments. To achieve this, the school is expanding family engagement through community outreach, home visits, and after-school tutoring. Closing the presentation, Ms. DonVito-MacPhee thanks the Board for their continued support at School 18.

**C. November Financials - A. DiNovo**

Mr. DiNovo presented the November financial report, noting that all accounts have been successfully reconciled. He confirmed that W2 statements have been distributed and that 1099 forms were issued this week. Regarding the internal audit, Mr. DiNovo reported that the preliminary findings, which cover the 2022–2023 school year to the present, are favorable. The final report will be shared with the Board once it is completed.

**D. Unclassified Employee Transfers 2024-2025 School Year (For notification purposes only)**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM POSITION</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO POSITION</u>	<u>TO</u>
Christy Carpenter	Grade 1 Teacher	PS2	PreK Teacher	PS12

**III. Action Items**

**A. Approval of Minutes**

***Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve minutes from January 8, 2025.***

***Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway***

***Discussion: None***

***Carried: 9-0***

1. January 8, 2025

**B. Superintendent's Recommendations - Human Resources - Staff Matters - Unclassified and Classified**

*(Reviewed by D. Watson and I. Abbasi)*

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, NY, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following unclassified and classified personnel actions:

***Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Items 1-13 as a consent agenda.***

***Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway***

***Discussion: Mrs. Wager-Rounds shared that on behalf of the Board, they would like to congratulate Dr. Watson on her retirement as well as congratulating Samantha Brewer on her tenure.***

***Carried: 9-0***

**Unclassified Items 1-11 (within linked document)**

**12. Unclassified Employees - Intern/Student Teacher/Observation Hours (Unpaid)**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COLLEGE</u>	<u>AREA OF STUDY</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>SUPERVISOR</u>	<u>ASSIGN.</u>
Victoria Adams-Marchant	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/13/25-3/7/25	Jennifer Connors	PS2
Katlyn Bell	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Abby Haskin	PS14
Christain Beres	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	William Wendelken	PS14
Carolyn Bruchac	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Sydney Frese	PS14
Bailey Catlin	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Kaela Weatherwax	PS14
Joanna Chan	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Danielle Maresco	PS14
Kylee Church	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Siobhan Kelly	PS14
Noah Cordone	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Ashley Kenyon	PS14
Gabriella DeLucia	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Delilah Nadal	PS14
David Gerke	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Ann Marie Jabour	PS14

Dimitri Gogas	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Eileen Catlin	PS18
Kallie Hopkins	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Sabrina Durivage	PS18
Lydia Kern	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Sophia Hannigan	PS18
Sherwood Ludwig	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Kelsey Rivard	PS18
Emma Pitrulle	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Siovan Foust	PS18
Madelyn Rodrigue	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Madeline Benevento	PS18
Olivia Teta	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Emily Scheiba	PS18
Vincent Visconti	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Laurel Dunn	PS18
Emma Williams	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	1/30/25-5/8/25	Jonathan Modan	PS18

Unclassified Employee - Change in Substitute Teacher and Teaching Assistant Rates

13. **(Effective January 1, 2025)**

<u>Position</u>	<u>Old Rate</u>	<u>New Rate</u>
Teaching Assistant - Certified/Uncertified	\$105.00/Day	\$110.00/Day
Teacher - Uncertified	\$120.00/Day	\$125.00/Day
Teacher - Certified	\$130.00/Day	\$135.00/Day
Teacher - Retired (from TCSD)	\$155.00/Day	\$160.00/Day

**Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Items 1-3 as a consent agenda.**

**Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway**

**Discussion: None**

**Carried: 9-0**

**Classified Item 1-3 (within linked document)**

[Staff Matters \(Unclassified and Classified\)](#)

**C. Superintendent Recommendations - Programs**

*(Reviewed by D. Watson)*

**Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Items 1-2 as a consent agenda.**

**Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway**

**Discussion: None**

**Carried: 9-0**

1. Troy Savings Bank Music Hall (2025 Contract)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Troy Savings Bank Music Hall for after school programs from January 2025 through June 2025 at a cost not to exceed \$11,635.00 to be paid from the Stronger Connections grant funds.

[Troy Savings Bank Music Hall \(2025 Contract\)](#)

2. Out of State Conferences

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following out of state conference:

<u>Conference:</u>	<u>Attendees:</u>	<u>Cost/Paid By:</u>
a. 2025 New England Coach of the Year Clinic Windsor, CT February 20-22, 2025	Jordan Canzeri Ryan Job Albert Pasinella Michael Gabriel	\$120 per person Paid by General Funds

Michael Sunkes  
Jahlil Harris

b. Elevate  
Austin, TX  
July 7-9, 2025

Juli Currey

\$500 per person  
Paid by Title I Grant Funds

c. ASCA Annual Conference 2025  
Long Beach, CA  
July 12-15, 2025

Jen White  
Brad Kasper  
Kaitlyn Morhous  
Riley Long

\$449 per person  
Paid by Student Mental Health  
Grant Funds

#### **D. Superintendent Recommendations - Business Finance**

*(Reviewed by A. Hotaling)*

***Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Items 1-2 as a consent agenda.***

***Second: Mrs. Pompey-Conway***

***Discussion: None***

***Carried: 9-0***

##### 1. Change Order

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves the following change order:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>C/O #</u>	<u>Original Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
<a href="#">T. McElligott</a>	MC-01 (PS12)	\$661,600.00	(\$21,135.35)

##### 2. Donations

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby accepts the following donations:

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Kevin Huerter	THS Athletics - \$1000

#### **E. District Announcements**

1. Future BOE Meetings - All meetings will take place at 6:00pm.

- February 5, 2025 at TMS
- February 26, 2025 at Carroll Hill School

2. Good News

- Several Carroll Hill students had their artwork featured in the virtual New York State Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Student Art and Essay Exhibition.
- School 16 will again host Junior Achievement in a Day on January 24th.
- Next week, School 18 will host families for a PTA Family Paint Night led by art teacher Maria Goodwill.
- Last week, Seniors at Troy High heard from Glenn Marek from the NYS Laborers Union about careers in the trades.
- Our Modified Boys Basketball team is undefeated, with a record of 7-0 on the season.
- And, the CBA-Troy-Columbia Boys Swim team broke a 35-year pool record last night in their meet against Schenectady-Colonie. Congratulations!

#### **F. Adjourn**

At 7:04pm, Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Mrs. Pompey-Conway and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

*Theresa Kaniff*

District Clerk



**VII. Unclassified Employee Temporary Stipends**

**A. Coaching Sports**

	<u>Name</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Stipend</u>	<u>Position</u>
a.	Jeffrey S. Maxwell	1.0000	\$5583.00	Varsity Coach, Boys Swimming
b.	Emily C. Caboot	1.0000	\$4163.00	Assistant Coach, Boys Swimming

**B. Spring Musical**

	<u>Name</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Stipend</u>	<u>Position</u>
a.	Nicholas Harbacz	1.0000	\$2934.00	Director
b.	Nicholas Harbacz	0.5000	\$978.00	Set Construction/Stage Manager
c.	Emory P. Garber	0.5000	\$978.00	Set Construction/Stage Manager
d.	Jason M. Boemio	1.0000	\$1956.00	Music Director
e.	Tara L. Higgins-Pascucci	1.0000	\$1956.00	Vocal Director
f.	Christine Roe	1.0000	\$1304.00	Set Decoration/Graphic Art
g.	Christine Roe	1.0000	\$978.00	Lighting/Electrical
h.	Rhonda K. Hermance	1.0000	\$1467.00	Costumes
i.	Melissa L. Gardner	1.0000	\$652.00	Properties
j.	Amber Vogel	1.0000	\$978.00	Choreographer
k.	Christopher Edwards	1.0000	\$489.00	Box Office/House Manager/PR
l.	Elizabeth Hinkson	1.0000	\$489.00	Make-Up
m.	Jason Laz	1.0000	\$652.00	Audio/Sound Effects

**VIII. Unclassified Miscellaneous Employee Programs**

**A. Odyssey of the Mind**

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Location</u>
a.	Shannon Verbraska	\$33.00	Up to 100	PS16 ( <i>Replacing Stacey Stroble</i> )
b.	Marissa C. Vaughn	\$33.00	Up to 100	PS18
c.	Olivia R. Schroeder	\$33.00	Up to 100	PS18
d.	LuAnn E. Mariano	\$27.00	Up to 100	PS18

**B. Ticket Taker - Clock Operator - Scorekeeper  
\$50.00 per event**

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
a.	Sean Geisel	\$50.00 per Event

**C. Professional Development Hours**

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Hours</u>	Building
a.	Michela Snowden	\$33.00	Up to 7	PS2
b.	Gabrielle Panganiban	\$33.00	Up to 15	PS2
c.	Caterina Zogby	\$33.00	Up to 7	PS2

**IX. Unclassified Employee After School Program**

**A. After School Program**

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Hours Per Week</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Position</u>
a.	Kylee Mueller	\$33.00	Up to 8	PS2	Teacher
b.	Margaret A. Mulligan	\$33.00	Up to 6	CHS	Teacher
c.	Tracy L. Dowler	\$33.00	Up to 6	CHS	Teacher
d.	Allison L. DiScanio	\$33.00	Up to 6	CHS	Teacher
e.	Sara Rumrill	\$33.00	Up to 6	CHS	Teacher
f.	Dominick Zumbo	\$27.00	Up to 8	PS16	Teaching Assistant
g.	Brittany Vilardi	\$33.00	Up to 6	CHS	Teacher
h.	Emma Hayes	\$27.00	Up to 8	CHS	Teaching Assistant

**X. Unclassified Employee Substitutes**

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Daily Rate</u>	<u>Position</u>
a.	Kaleigh Canfield	\$110.00	Sub TA - Uncertified
b.	Rocco A. DeFazio	\$125.00	Sub Teacher - Uncertified

**XI. Unclassified Employee Tutors**

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
a.	Anika Krause	2	\$35.00

B. Staff Matters - Classified (reviewed by I. Abbasi)

I. Classified Employee Resignation

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Position</u>
a.	Abigail Escobales	01/14/2025	1.0000	THS	Typist
b.	Erica A. Jackson	01/17/2025	1.0000	PS16	Typist

II. Classified Employee Temporary Appointment

a. **Name:** Kyle Farley  
**FTE:** 1.0000      **Location:** District      **Position:** District Monitor Substitute  
**Effective:** 01/23/2025 through 06/30/2025      **Salary:** \$21.00 per hour  
*(Replacing Darcy Rockefeller)*

III. Classified Employee Substitutes

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Position</u>
a.	Kolten Farber	\$20.00	Sub Custodial
b.	Joseph P. Bilynsky	\$21.00	Sub Monitor