TROY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes

Date of Meeting:	October 7, 2026
Type of Meeting:	**REGULAR MEETING**
Location:	Troy Middle School
Time:	**6:00 PM Regular Meeting**

I. Call to Order

A. Roll Call

1. Members Present: Mrs. Diana Heckman, Mr. Tom Mayo, Ms. Davina Mayo-Dunham, Mr. Matthew Flowers, Mr. Joshua Chiappone, Mr. Nathanael Wootten

2. Members Absent: Mrs. Ebony Pompey-Conway, Mr. Donald Miller

3. Others Present: Mr. John Carmello, Superintendent; Mr. Roy Stiles, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Adam Hotaling, Assistant Superintendent for Business; Ms. Juli Currey, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Ms. Erin O'Grady-Parent, School Attorney

B. Public Session

1. At 6:00pm, Mrs. Heckman 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. Audit Discussion - EFPR Group

Michael Prentice from the EFPR Group presented the 2025–2026 Audit. The audit included a risk assessment, a review of internal controls, and testing of significant audit areas. Mr. Prentice expects to issue unmodified opinions on the financial statements, federal grant compliance, and extraclassroom activity funds. No instances of noncompliance or other reportable matters were identified under Government Auditing Standards. The Child Nutrition Cluster was the major program tested. Mr. Prentice ensures that the Troy District is following the various federal and state guidelines. It was noted that we have a strong reserve and fund balance. He opened up to questions and there were none. Mr. Carmello thanked Mr. Prentice and Mr. Hotaling for their hard work. Mr. Hotaling thanked everyone from the Business Office and acknowledged that Mr. Dinovo spearheaded the audit. He stated that they have been working together for 2 years now and have good systems in place to work on the audits together.

B. Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent Update - J. Carmello & R. Stiles

Mr. Carmello shared a presentation about the 2025-2026 Assessment Results & Instructional Priorities, highlighting the district's continued commitment to its mission of preparing all students for college and careers. He expressed pride in the district's accomplishments and overall academic progress.

Mr. Carmello reported that math proficiency increased by 3.5%, compared to the 2% increase statewide, while ELA proficiency declined by 3.8%, compared to the 5% decline statewide. Looking at data since 2019, both math and ELA proficiency have increased, exceeding statewide gains.

Mr. Carmello explained the district's goal which focuses on increasing student proficiency, stating that the district aims for 25% of students performing at Levels 1 and 2 to advance to high proficiency levels annually. In math, the district exceeded both targets, with 27% of Level 1 students and 34% of Level 2 students demonstrating improvement. In ELA, 24% of Level students and 19% of Level 2 students improved. Mr. Carmello noted that the proficiency rates at Troy Middle School increased in both ELA & math. Specifically, 8th Grade math out performed the State proficiency by 9%.

District Goal #4 is to Improve Attendance - the percentage of students who are chronically absent (missing 10% of the year = 18+ days) will decrease district-wide by 2 percentage points each year for the next 5 years. Schools 16 & 14 had a decent drop in absenteeism but the district as a whole didn't have a drop of 2% this year.

Mr. Stiles outlined strategies to build on the district's successes and address areas for continued growth to build on our success and continue to approve.

For math, we will be adding Math Catalyst to Eureka Math Squared that we have been using. In ELA, UFLI and Heggerty will be incorporated alongside the existing Units of Study curriculum and a committee will be established to further evaluate the district's ELA program.

Mr. Chiappone asked how we select the curriculum. Mr. Carmello explained that he consults with other districts and evaluates programs for alignments with its curriculum as well as instructional needs.

Additional priorities include strengthening instructional alignment, supporting the District Literacy Committee, continuing meaningful summer curriculum development, providing targeted academic interventions and enrichment opportunities. The district will also continue to focus on Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), attendance and student engagement initiatives, and data-informed decision-making.

Mr. Stiles emphasized the importance of maintaining a culture of continuous improvement through instructional coaching, professional development, teacher leadership, and strategic leadership. All of these priorities will help the district make gains in proficiency. Both Mr. Carmello and Mr. Stiles thanked the Board for their continued support of all of these priorities.

C. August Financials - A. DiNovo

Mr. Dinovo shared the August financials. He is still working on closing the 831 Grants. Revenues, expenses & all funds are comparable to the same time last year. In the next coming weeks he will be running payroll projections to start preparing for next year's budget. Intent to build foster letters will be going out in November to the financial responsible school districts. The ST3 has been submitted and certified. There were no questions.

D. Classified Employee Transfers 2026-2027 School Year (For notification purposes only)

NAME	FROM POSITION	FROM	TO POSITION	TO
Jordan Miner	Typist	Transportation	Typist	PS18 ***(Effective 10/21/26)***

III. Action Items

A. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Heckman made a motion to approve Item 1 as listed.
Second: Mr. Mayo
Discussion: None
Carried: 6-0

1. September 23, 2026

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

(Reviewed by R. Stiles and J. Currey)

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. Heckman made a motion to approve Items 1-11 as a consent agenda.
Second: Mr. Mayo
Discussion: None
Carried: 6-0

Unclassified Items 1-10 (within linked document)

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

NAME	COLLEGE	AREA OF STUDY	DATES	SUPERVISOR	ASSIGN.
Katelyn Mooney	Russell Sage	Psychology	10/8/26-12/23/26	Beth Willson	THS
Lilly Toulze	HVCC	Childhood Ed.	10/8/26-12/23/26	Mark Osganian	THS
Sarah Baldwin	SUNY Albany	Childhood Ed./SPED	10/8/26-12/23/26	Desiree Elfner	CHS
Erik Chapman	SUNY Albany	Childhood Ed./SPED	10/8/26-12/23/26	Margaret Morrissey	CHS
Charisma Hardy	SUNY Albany	Childhood Ed./SPED	10/8/26-12/23/26	Lia Casale	CHS
Jessica Haverly	SUNY Albany	Childhood Ed./SPED	10/8/26-12/23/26	Katie England-Lawler	PS2
Haley Kaflowitz	SUNY Albany	Childhood Ed./SPED	10/8/26-12/23/26	Emily Davenport	PS2
RJ Kocan	SUNY Albany	Childhood Ed./SPED	10/8/26-12/23/26	Jennifer Connors	PS2
Jill Pritchard	SUNY Albany	Childhood Ed./SPED	10/8/26-12/23/26	Sophia Hannigan	PS18
Andrea Roberts	SUNY Albany	Childhood Ed./SPED	10/8/26-12/23/26	Sara Dugan	PS18
Nicholas Romanofsky	SUNY Albany	Childhood Ed./SPED	10/8/26-12/23/26	Ryan Losanno	PS18
Kiley Smith	SUNY Albany	Childhood Ed./SPED	10/8/26-12/23/26	Emily Scheiba	PS18
Adrianna Chaplin	Russell Sage	Psychology	10/8/26-12/23/26	Lyn Walsh	TMS
Bella Polaro	Siena	Childhood Ed.	10/8/26-5/31/27	Matthew Trudeau	PS18
Kaden Warren	Russell Sage	Childhood Ed.	10/8/26-12/23/26	Jack Castagna/ Sam Burton	TMS

Mrs. Heckman made a motion to approve Items 1-6 as a consent agenda.
Second: Mr. Mayo
Discussion: None
Carried: 6-0

Classified Items 1-6 (within linked document)

Staff Matters (Unclassified and Classified)

C. Superintendent Recommendations - Programs *(Reviewed by R. Stiles)*

Mrs. Heckman made a motion to approve Items 1-4 as a consent agenda.
Second: Mr. Mayo
Discussion: None
Carried: 6-0

1. Special Education Placements

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Committee on Special Education has submitted to the Board of Education students having the registration numbers as listed in 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 classes for students with special needs.

2025-2026 Special Education Placements
2026-2027 Special Education Placements

2. Synonia, Inc. dba Higher Ground Farm

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 Synonia, Inc. dba Higher Ground Farm for Equine Assisted Programming for the Troy Community School for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost not to exceed $18,200.00 to be paid from the Title IV Funds.

Synonia, Inc. dba Higher Ground Farm

3. Boys & Girls Clubs of the Capital Area (2026-2027)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, NY hereby approves the following agreement and payment for services in conjunction with the building use agreement with the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Capital Area from September 1, 2026 through August 31, 2027.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Capital Area (2026-2027)

4. Out of State Field Trip

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves the following out of state field trip:

Field Trip:	Attendees:	Paid By:
Walking Tours/Museums Salem, MA November 10, 2026	THS 11th & 12 Grade Students & Nicole Case	Students and Families

D. Superintendent Recommendations - Business Finance *(Reviewed by A. Hotaling)*

Mrs. Heckman made a motion to approve Items 1-2 as a consent agenda.
Second: Mr. Mayo
Discussion: None
Carried: 6-0

1. Donations

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

Donors	Purpose
Hotworx North Greenbush	CHS - School supplies - approximately $250

2. Change Orders

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

Contractor	C/O #	Previous Amount	Change
American Evergreen Inc.	SC-01	$451,700.00	-$745.00

E. Board Resolutions

Mrs. Heckman made a motion to approve Items 1-3 as a consent agenda.
Second: Mr. Mayo
Discussion: None
Carried: 6-0

1. Adoption of Policies

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the adoption of the following policies:

   a. 8121.2 Automated External Defibrillators
   b. 5151-R Students in Temporary Housing Regulation
   c. 4321.12R Timeout and Physical Restraint
   d. 9620.E1 Child Abuse in an Educational Setting Exhibit

2. CSEA MOA

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy hereby ratifies the Memorandum of Agreement executed by the Superintendent of Schools and the President of the CSEA Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Unit #8261, on September 29, 2026, for a new collective bargaining agreement covering the period July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2031, which includes as Exhibit A, a Memorandum of Agreement regarding attendance and retention incentives.

3. Appointment of Impartial Hearing Officer (IHO)

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Troy City School District ratifies the appointment of Dora Lassinger in a special education impartial hearing pursuant to the Board's compensation policy and pursuant to the Regulations of the Commissioner of the New York State Education Department Section 200.5(j)(3)(ii).

F. District Announcements

1. Future BOE Meetings - All meetings will take place at TMS at 6:00pm.
   a. ****Tuesday****, October 20, 2026 - School 14 Principal Presentation
   b. November 4, 2026
   c. November 18, 2026 - School 16 Principal Presentation

2. Troy Triumphs

   a. Every student at Carroll Hill will receive a brand-new winter coat this Friday, thanks to Operation Warm, sponsored by Highmark Blue Shield. Operation Warm is a national non-profit that partners with community organizations to provide brand-new apparel to children. This is the second year the program has been sponsored locally. Thank you to Highmark and Operation Warm for supporting our students!

   b. School 18's PTA will host a paint night tomorrow evening at 5:30. Families are also asked to bring a small food donation for the School 18 food pantry.

   c. The Hudson Valley Guarantee program returns to Troy High next week - where all of the Class of 2027 will be officially accepted for next fall should they choose to attend. The program also provides ongoing assistance to help students and their families navigate financial aid and the overall college enrollment process. The program aims to encourage students to consider starting their college journey close to home.

   d. Troy High School has launched a new Athlete of the Month award to celebrate our outstanding student-athletes. Peter Ryan and Addison Harkin received the inaugural award in September. Peter was nominated after winning the Individual Colonial Council Golf Championship on September 24, shooting a 70 over the full 18-hole course. Senior Addison Harkin was selected for her incredibly strong start to the volleyball season and her character and commitment on the court and in the classroom. Each month, the winners will also be featured in a segment on the THS News.

e. May RPI national manufacturing day - Black hawk helicopter

G. Adjourn

At 6:55pm, Mrs. Heckman made a motion to adjourn the public session. This was seconded by Mr. Mayo and carried by a vote of 6-0.