

DATE: April 3, 2025
KIND OF MEETING: **BRS**
PLACE: Board of Education Board Room
AGENDA REVIEW: A Board Review Session was held at 5:30 p.m.
CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Mr. Petrozzi at 5:34 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Bass (entered 5:56 p.m.), Mr. Bilson, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Petrozzi

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Mr. Cancemi, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn , Mr. Paretto, Mr. Vilardo

Other staff in attendance: Ms. Massaro, Mrs. Holody, Mrs. Jacklin, Mr. Schwertfager, Mr. Smeal, Mr. Carella, Mr. Smeal, Mr. Granieri, Mrs. Glaser. Attorney Mr. Massaro.

Mr. Laurrie wished safe travels to Board members who are attending National School Boards Convention and wished better health to Mr. Paretto, who is under the weather.

The contractors have been outstanding partners.

Capital Projects Mr. Smeal BBC: Antonio Miceli; Stu Lowe; Chris Dowling; Joe Aramini; Joe Mannarino; Bill Zografos. CPL: Brian Trott.

Mr. Miceli is leaving BCC and Mr. Aramini is his replacement on our job. Mr. Laurrie thanked Mr. Miceli for his work over the years; he will be missed. Mr. Laurrie has worked with Mr. Miceli on \$150 million dollars worth of capital projects over 12 years.

Mr. Lowe shared that the ABOFA Project is going very well, on time and well within budget.

Much of the secured vestibule work has been done or near completion, more will be done in the coming months, spring break and wrapping all up this summer.

At the request of the District, branding graphics were added on and above the new fire doors at the High School. Four locations, both sides. No matter what state the doors are in (open or closed) logos will be visible.

Work is continuing on the greenhouse construction at Bloneva Bond. Finish work, doors and hardware remain.

At Gaskill Prep, HVAC upgrades continue. Start-ups and commissioning have begun on ground units, remaining work is waiting until power upgrades are completed. Chillers are in place and piped, working on insulation and controls. Extraordinary amount of piping for both the chilled water system and the refrigeration for the VRF system has been done. LaSalle Prep is undergoing the same work on the time line.

At Cataract, new boilers have been installed; owner training has taken place.

Remaining work includes:

Vestibules at Hyde Park, Maple Avenue, LaSalle, GJ Mann, and NF High School
Electrical Services Completion at Gaskill & LaSalle work has started, with
estimated completion by end of May 2025.

HVAC Start-up and Commissioning at Gaskill and LaSalle: Equipment start-ups
and commissioning have begun, remaining systems are waiting on new power
feeds to be completed.

Greenhouse at Bloneva Bond: Finish work, doors & hardware remain with
completion expected early to mid-May 2025.

Walk of Fame at NF High School:

Stainless Steel Plaque Placement.

Commissioning of Cameras, Security & Fire Alarm. Mr. Laurrie has concerns
about one wall; the manufacturer has been contacted to rectify it.

The District greenhouse at Bond is one of the only greenhouses attached to a
school in NYS. NF one of the rare districts statewide in which all schools have
air conditioning.

Greater Niagara Mechanical has been excellent to work with.

New manner of tracking fire alarms: new fire dialers are now being used, as
hard wiring is not reliable. All alarms will go through to a call center, the same
on the security alarms go through. One call center will handle all calls.

Nuisance Alarms will be in place at 30 second alarm if a door is propped open.

Owner requested change order will be voted on next week to remediate a
situation at Abate. This will address a “cut-through” near Eleventh Street, which
was impacted by a water break in 2023. The underlayment of the east portion
was severely damaged. It is now a safety issue, which hopefully will be
addressed during spring break.

The team has led contractors to complete work far in advance of the deadline.
Finance can they process paperwork to secure the 98% reimbursement from the
State. Remaining funds will reduce debt service. Less than one day has been lost
during the project due to injury.

Mr. Laurrie concluded the presentation by extoling Mr. Miceli’s work and
wishing him well in Charlotte, NC. He is a professional who gets things done.

Mr. Miceli commented that he has enjoyed his time in Niagara Falls and
appreciated District leadership during his time here.

2025-2026 General Fund Budget– *Mr. Laurrie/Mrs. Holody/Mrs. Jacklin*

There will be a resolution to vote on the budget next week. The only number
that could increase is the Foundation Aid, but the District is not counting on
that. If there is an increase, fewer reserve funds will be used.

The Superintendent’s recommended budget is \$202,840,136.00.

The gap has been eliminated by use of the following reserves:

WORKERS COMPENSATION	\$250,000
EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT	\$450,000
TEACHER RETIREMENT	\$850,000
EBLARS	\$600,000
USE OF FUND BALANCE	\$1,614,241

Mr. Laurie explained that expiring grants increased by \$150,000 for Head Start, as we anticipate a reduction in funding from the Federal government. There is an assumption that McKinney Vento will not be funded.

The District will consider a thought exchange regarding the proposed state cell phone ban and perhaps a town hall meeting. Funding for this ban is not in the budget. Phone pouches would possibly be necessary to implement such a ban.

The property tax report card will also be an item voted on next week.

Tomorrow, we will receive a draft of the Bonadio internal audit. The auditors found one confirmatory in the month of February after reviewing \$14,772,219 worth of expenditures and two in the last four months. The District anticipates one or two findings, having to do with paperwork not funds, for example, a missing date on a form from 1998.

A review of the agenda was held.

COMMENTS:

Our annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King celebration will be held on Tuesday, April 8th at Bond Primary School at 6 p.m. We have a guest speaker this year named Lisa McNair. Her sister was killed in the Birmingham, Alabama church bombings. We will honor NFHS student Julissa Hernandez with a young adult civil rights award, Ms. Karen Howard with the Tiffany Nalls Award and Mr. Eric Fields Sr. with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Award Civil Rights award. Great music, speakers and tremendous honorees.

Next Saturday, April 5, 2025 at 6p.m. at NFHS, the Meat Raffle will be held and benefits Black Excellence and the District-wide Parent Committee.

On April 8, 2025, students will go to the Maryland area to tour Historically Black Colleges and Universities; Mr. Bass will again join them.

On April 9, 2025, a PTECH Pathway Choice Night for grade eight students will take place at NFHS.

Foreign language high school students are currently on a trip in London, England.

Grade nine students at North Tonawanda and Niagara Falls high schools participated in a program at the Culinary Institute to hear a speaker from Ingram Micro who discussed PTECH and jobs.

Tuesday, April 7, 2025, students in grades three through eight will take the NYS ELA assessment, which will be administered over two to three days. Mr. Laurrie wishes them well and is confident that they will do fine.

Mr. Bass questioned why it takes so long to get test results back from NYS. Mr. Carella answered that, in part, it is because the State needs time to establish the cut scores to place students into one of four categories. Results are sometimes not available to the District before six months, limiting the usefulness of the results for the specific students sitting for those tests.

DATE: April 10, 2025
KIND OF MEETING: **ARS**
PLACE: Board of Education Board Room
AGENDA REVIEW: A Board Review Session was held at 5:30 p.m.
CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Mr. Petrozzi at 5:30 p.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT: **Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, , Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo**
MEMBERS ABSENT: **Mr. Bass, Mr. Cancemi, Mr. McLeod (excused).**

Internal Audit Report Mr. Laurrie, Mrs. Holody and Mrs. Jacklin, explained the result of the internal audit by Bonadio. Accounts payable and grants were audited.

Two findings on the internal audit one involved missing initials on three packets, the other is a paid price that does not match the NVision price. At the end of the transaction, we paid the correct amount.

Item 1: The claims auditor failed to initial a report in three instances. The District has a strong process place. Going forward, she will also be able to approve electronically, in addition to the current fashion of approval.

Item 2: One final cost report item showed a discrepancy with NVision, although the total paid matched. The discrepancy appears to be a typo.

The Board has a resolution before it tonight to accept the Corrective Action Plan.

In all, 1408 packets were reviewed totaling \$31,966,937.00. Of these, only found two exceptions were found totaling \$700.

2025-2026 General Fund Budget – Mr. Laurrie/Mrs. Holody/Mrs. Jacklin

The Superintendent's recommended budget is \$202,840,136.

Projected Revenues of \$198,010,340, plus the use of reserves in the amount of \$1,764,241, will make up those funds. It has an increase of 4.18% year over year.

New York State has yet to pass a budget. There is no tax increase or loss of staff.

Mrs. Jacklin reviewed the tax report card.

Mr. Laurrie introduced Ms. McCreary, a member of staff in attendance.

A review of the agenda was held.

Mr. Carella reviewed summer programs.

The District will offer the following:

Elementary

Extended Learning Program (ELP)

July 14 – August 1

Monday – Friday (15 days) 8:45 – 3:00 79th Street Elementary School Pre-K – 5

Full-day program designed to engage students in Language Arts and Math activities in the morning, followed by recreation and extension activities in the afternoon.

Children in attendance will receive a morning snack and lunch.

Busing will be provided to all eligible students. Application available on the District website.

ENL Summer Program

August 11 - 15

Monday - Friday 8:45-11:30 GJ Mann Elementary School Kindergarten to 5 Half-day program designed to foster literacy skills acquisition while providing students with cultural experiences that celebrate both their native as well as American cultures. Students will be participating in project-based activities that integrate the program goals and will end with a family showcase celebration.

Prep / High School Summer Sports & Enrichment Program

July 15 – August 14, Monday – Thursday

*Program begins Tuesday, July 15 11:45 - 3:00 NFHS

Fieldhouse/ Hyde Park Ice Pavillion/Bowl-O-Drome

Entering grades 7 – 11

An afternoon program designed to engage students in sports and enrichment opportunities. Sports include: cheerleading, football, track, ice hockey, boys' basketball, girls' volleyball, boys' and girls' lacrosse, bowling and wrestling. The 2025 Enrichment programs are: F-Bites Culinary, Visual Arts and Entrepreneurship.

The program will run Monday-Thursday from 11:45-3:00. Busing will be provided to all eligible students. Students will receive a free lunch. There is no charge for this program. Application is available on the district website.

Camp Wolverine Sr.

July 14 – August 14, Monday – Thursday
(20 days) 8:45 - 11:45 NFHS AGES:
13-21 A half-day program designed to help secondary-level students enrolled in Functional Life Skills classes maintain their level of academic, vocational, social-emotional and behavioral functioning.
Program will run on Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs; Bussing provided
Application available on the District website. A brief review of the agenda was held.

Camp Wolverine Jr.

July 14 – August 1 Monday – Friday (15 days) 8:45 - 11:45
79th Street Elementary School AGES: 5-12 A half-day program designed to help primary-level students enrolled in Functional Life Skills classes maintain their level of academic, vocational, social-emotional and behavioral functioning. Program will run on Monday to Friday; Bussing provided
Application available on the District website.

Elementary Extended School Year Program July 7 – August 15

Monday - Friday 8:45 – 11:45 Henry J. Kalfas Primary
School AGES: 5-21 NFCSD students with 12-month IEP's attend this extended school – year program which focuses on maintaining skills/goals from the students' IEP.

NFHS Summer Credit Recovery Program

July 14 – August 14 Monday – Thursday
August Regents Exams: August 19 & 20 9:00 –12:00 NFHS Grades 9-12
Online/in-person, or hybrid instruction. Option to enter the high school Academic Support Center for tutoring and other assistance. Note: Regents exams will be administered on August 19 and 20.

Prep Summer Credit Recovery

Programs July 15 – August 15
Monday – Thursday
Each school will run its own programs 8:15-11:45 Gaskill Prep and LaSalle Prep Grades 7 and 8 pupils. Credit Recovery and Orientation/Bridge Programs targeted for various student needs. Each school will run its own customized program to serve a variety of student needs. Dates/times and other details will be publicized by each school to parents and students.

An extensive list of professional development opportunities also was shared.

Mr. Laurrie discussed the Science of Reading; the District is meeting all requirements. The Board will see the attestation the District must sign for the State in June.

REGULAR MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

Reflection

Roll Call

Mr. Bilson ,Mr. Cancemi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Bass, Mr. Capizzi, Mr. McCleod. (all excused)

Letters and Communications

Oral Communications - Public Comment on Agenda Items

Written Communications – None.

Recommended Actions from the Superintendent of Schools - Routine Matters

The following were approved on a motion by Anthony F Paretto, second by Nicholas Vilardo.

MINUTES – March 2025 (SG 4)

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following were approved on a motion by Anthony F Paretto, second by Nicholas Vilardo.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFER - #9 (SG 3)

The vote was as follows:

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

Approval of the Bids – (SG 3)

The following were received and filed:

TREASURER'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2025 (SG 3)

BUDGET STATUS REPORT – MARCH 2025 (SG 3)

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Paretto seconded by Mr. Vilardo.

PERSONNEL REPORT – CERTIFICATED (SG 2) (Attached).

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo.

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto.

PERSONNEL REPORT - CLASSIFIED (SG 2) (Attached).

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following were approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Bilson.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION (SG 1)

RECOMMENDATION:

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

Carried.

The following were approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Bilson.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION (SG 1)

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

SHORT-TERM CONTRACTS (SG 1) None.

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Paretto seconded by Mr. Bilson.

HEAD START REPORTS Attached.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Paretto seconded by Mr. Vilardo.

6.01 Approval of Nomination of David Lowrey for Placement on the Ballot for the Election of Member of the New York State School Boards Association Board of Directors From Area I (SG 4)

WHEREAS, In the structure of the New York State School Boards Association, the State is divided into 12 geographic areas, and

WHEREAS, Area I includes most school districts in the Western New York Area, and

WHEREAS, A representative from each of these 12 districts serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the New York State School Boards Association, and

WHEREAS, David Lowery, seeks to serve as NYSSBA Area I Director to serve the needs and interests of all the School Boards in the five counties of

Area I, and is requesting (see attachment) to be nominated for placement on the ballot for the election of Area I Director, and

WHEREAS, Nominations are due to Mary Metheny, Executive Assistant of the New York School Boards Association, on school district stationery no later than July 31, 2025, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That David Lowery be nominated by the Niagara Falls Board of Education and that the School District Clerk be authorized and directed to forward her name as the Board of Education's nominee.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto.

6.02 Approval of Filing of Proposed District Code of Conduct, as Amended, for Public Comment and Notice of Public Hearing (May 8, 2025) (SG 1)

WHEREAS, the Board of Education in compliance with the laws and regulations did formulate, adopt and file a Code of Conduct for the District; and

WHEREAS, a Committee appointed by the District reviewed and amended the Code of Conduct in accordance with the laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Code of Conduct, as amended, is to be made available for public comment for a period of at least 30 days prior to formal adoption by the Board; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed Code of Conduct, as amended, is required for the participation of personnel, parents, students and other interested parties prior to its adoption; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Education receive the Code of Conduct, as amended, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Code of Conduct, as amended, be filed in the District Clerk's office for public comment on April 11, 2025, and remain on file for at least 30 days prior to approval by the Board; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held on May 8, 2025 at the District Administration Building, 630-66th Street, Niagara Falls, New York, immediately prior to the regular scheduled Board meeting for participation of school personnel, parents, students, and other interested parties, provided such public hearing could be held in accordance with all the Emergency Declarations of the President of the United States and/or the Governor of New York, otherwise such public hearing will be dispensed with to the extent permitted by the law and/or Emergency Declarations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President of the Board and the District Clerk are hereby directed to prepare such notice(s) as required and necessary to advise the public of the availability of the proposed Code of Conduct in the District Clerk's office as of April 11, 2025, for public comment for a period of at least 30 days prior to its adoption and the public hearing as required by law scheduled for May 8, 2025, all as provided in this Resolution; and

to do any and all actions necessary to effectuate the purpose of this Resolution.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto.

6.03 Approval of Filing of Summary of Building-Level School Safety Plans as Amended, for Public Comment and Notice of Public Hearing (May 8, 2025) (SG 1)

WHEREAS, the State of New York enacted a Safe Schools Against Violence in Education Act (SAVE), a component of which requires Boards of Education within the State to adopt and annually amend, if necessary, Building-Level School Safety Plans that address crisis intervention and prevention, emergency response and management; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education in compliance with the laws and regulation adopted and filed Building-Level Safety Plans for District Schools annually as required; and

WHEREAS, Building-Level School Safety Teams appointed pursuant to the law and regulations for each school within the District, reviewed and amended the Building-Level School Safety Plan for their respective school; and

WHEREAS, a summary of each Building-Level School Safety Plan as amended, is to be made available for public comment for a period of at least 30 days prior to formal adoption by the Board; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the Building-Level School Safety Plans, as amended, is required for the participation of personnel, parents, students and other interested parties prior to its adoption; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Education accept the Building-Level School Safety Plans, as amended, and submitted by the Building-Level School Safety Teams for the respective schools, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a summary of the Building-Level School Safety Plans, as amended, be filed in the District Clerk's office for public comment on April 11, 2025, and remain on file for at least 30 days prior to approval by the Board; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held on May 8, 2025 at the District Administration Building, 630-66th Street, Niagara Falls, New York, immediately prior to the regular scheduled Board meeting for participation of school personnel, parents, students, and other interested parties; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President of the Board and the District Clerk are hereby directed to prepare such notice(s) as required and necessary to advise the public of the availability of the Summary of the Building-Level School Safety Plans, as amended, in the District Clerk's office as of April 11, 2025, for public comment for a period of at least 30 days prior to its adoption and the public hearing as required by law scheduled for May 8, 2025, all as provided in this

Resolution; and to do any and all actions necessary to effectuate the purpose of this Resolution.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto.

6.04 Approval of Filing of Proposed Comprehensive District- Wide School Safety Plan, As Amended, for Public Comment and Notice of Public Hearing (May 8, 2025) (SG 1)

WHEREAS, the State of New York enacted a Safe Schools Against Violence in Education Act (SAVE), a component of which requires Boards of Education within the State to adopt and annually amend, if necessary, a Comprehensive District-Wide School Safety Plan that addresses crisis intervention and prevention, emergency response and management; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education in compliance with the laws and regulations did formulate, adopt and file a Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, a District-Wide School Safety Team appointed by the District, reviewed and amended the Comprehensive District-Wide School safety Plan for the Niagara Falls City School District in accordance with the laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive District-Wide School Safety Plan as amended, is to be made available for public comment for a period of at least 30 days prior to formal adoption by the Board; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed Comprehensive District-Wide School Safety Plan, as amended, is required for the participation of personnel, parents, students and other interested parties prior to its adoption; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Education receive the Comprehensive District-Wide School Safety Plan, as amended, anticipated to be filed by the District-Wide School Safety team, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comprehensive District-Wide School Safety Plan, as amended, be filed in the District Clerk's office for public comment on April 11, 2025, and remain on file for at least 30 days prior to approval by the Board; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held on May 8, 2025 at the District Administration Building, 630-66th Street, Niagara Falls, New York, immediately prior to the regular scheduled Board meeting for participation of school personnel, parents, students, and other interested parties; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President of the Board and the District Clerk are hereby directed to prepare such notice(s) as required and necessary to advise the public of the availability of the proposed Comprehensive District-Wide School Safety Plan, as amended, in the District Clerk's office as of April 11, 2025, for public comment for a period of at least 30 days prior to its adoption and the public hearing as required by law scheduled

for May 8, 2025, all as provided in this Resolution; and to do any and all actions necessary to effectuate the purpose of this Resolution.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto.

6.05 Approval of 2024-2025 Health Service Fees for Non-Resident Private and Parochial School Students (SG 4)

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Paretto seconded by Mr. Bilson .

6.06 Approval of Revision to the Continuation Application for the 2025/2026 Head Start/Early Head Start Grant (SG 1)

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto.

6.07 A Motion for Approval of Resolution for the Repair of a Failed Boiler Plant at the Central office Building Resulting in a Condition that Could Affect the Health and Safety of a Publicly Owned Building and Its Occupants (SG 1)

WHEREAS, in December 2024 a failed boiler condition was discovered at the Central Office building at 630 66th Street Niagara Falls New York caused by cracks in the building's boiler #1 housing. This condition resulted in the compromised operation of the boiler plant which could cause harm to both the building structure and the health of the buildings occupants; and

WHEREAS, the failed boiler and the resulting compromised operation could cause harm to the building and its occupants; and

WHEREAS, To remediate this condition, appropriate contractors and other personnel will be hired and engaged by the Superintendent to undertake any actions and operations necessary to prevent any potential injury to persons and/or further damage to property; therefore be it

RESOLVED, the above described occurrences and the condition thereby created constituted a condition that may affect a public building, public property or the life, health, safety or property of the inhabitants of the School District building thereon; and further

RESOLVED, all contracts and engagements heretofore made by or on behalf of this School District for the repair and remediation of the

conditions created by the said condition are hereby in all respects confirmed, ratified and approved; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Administrator for School Business Services is hereby authorized and directed to secure informal quotations from qualified contractors to perform such work and furnish such labor and materials as shall be necessary to fully secure the buildings and occupants from damage resulting from the condition above described; and be it further

RESOLVED, by reason of such condition any and all contracts heretofore or hereafter made for the above-mentioned purposes require prior public competitive bidding and may be made and awarded by the Superintendent of Schools and/or the Administrator for School Business Services subject to the ratification and approval of this Board of Education; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the President of the Board of Education and/or the Superintendent be and they hereby are authorized to execute any contract hereinbefore or hereinafter made for the replacement of the boiler and remediation of the condition created at the Central Office Building; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Clerk is authorized to obtain the signature of the President and/or Superintendent as may be required on any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purpose of this resolution.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto.

6.08 Approval of Use of Pesticide on the Grounds of Niagara Falls High School for the Control of Ticks [\(SG 3\)](#)

WHEREAS, the District considers the health and safety of students and staff of the utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, NYS Chapter 85 of the Laws of 2010 require the Board of Education to approve the application of pesticides on school grounds; and

WHEREAS, under NYS Education Law, Section 409-H, requires the District to provide 48-hour prior notification to all persons on the District's prior notification list as well as to post signage around the affected grounds warning of the use of pesticide; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the use of pesticide for the control of ticks on school grounds at Niagara Falls High School; and

RESOLVED that the Board directs the Administrator for School Business Services provide at least 48-hour prior notification to all required and appropriate parties; and further

RESOLVED the Director of Facilities prepare the appropriate notifications and signage and he is hereby directed to post such signage around the affected grounds warning of the use of pesticide.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto.

6.09 Approval of Standardization Purchase of Ford Motor Company Vehicles for All District Vehicles (SG 3)

District vehicles.

WHEREAS, The Niagara Falls City School District has consistently invested in the equipment and technology necessary for the in-house repair and maintenance of the fleet, which currently contains more than (20) twenty Ford Motor Company vehicles, to enhance the efficiency and economy of the maintenance operations, while providing a safe and comfortable transportation of District employees; and

WHEREAS, The purchase of these vehicles will replace aged and failing Ford vehicles currently in the District's fleet; and

WHEREAS, The purchase of the Ford Motor Company vehicles will provide for continued common professional development; avoid the necessity of retraining District support staff already trained in the repair and maintenance of Ford Motor Company vehicles; avoid the necessity and expense of maintaining parts for two or more manufacturers, all at a considerable cost savings to the District and with greater efficiency in its operation; and

WHEREAS, The District is of the opinion that the standardization of purchasing the Ford Motor Company vehicles would result in maintaining efficiency and economy to the District; and

WHEREAS, The District will comply with all provisions of General Municipal Law Section 103 in purchasing of Ford Motor Company vehicles; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby approves the standardization for the purchase of Ford Motor Company vehicles in accordance with all applicable provisions of General Municipal Law Section 103 for the safe transportation of District goods and employees.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto.

6.10 Superintendent's Recommended General Fund Budget for School Year 2025-2026 (SG 1, 2, 3)

WHEREAS, To assist the Board of Education in the preparation of its proposed budget, the Superintendent has met with the staff/schools

and reviewed budget requirements of various departments/schools for the 2025-2026 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Based on information received, the Superintendent prepared his recommendation for the 2025-2026 budget in the amount of \$202,840,136 which are herewith submitted to the Board for its action; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Superintendent's recommendation for the proposed General Fund Budget for school year 2025-2026 in the amount of \$202,840,136, herewith submitted is received and filed by this Board.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto.

6.11 Acceptance and Approval of The Real Property Tax Report Card for 2025-2026 (SG 3)

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accepts and approves the real property tax report card (attached) prepared from the budget approved for 2025-2026 in the total amount of \$202,840,136 and directs the Budget Manager to submit this report card to SED by the close of business tomorrow, April 11, 2025.

Property Tax Report Card
Form Due - April 28, 2025

	Budgeted 2024-25 (A)	Proposed Budget 2025- 26 (B)	Percent Change (C)
Total Budgeted Amount, not including Separate Propositions	190,992,049	202,840,136	6.20%
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount ¹	25,828,989	25,828,989	
B. Tax Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	-	-	
C. Tax Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable ²	-	-	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy, if applicable	-	-	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A+B+C-D)	25,828,989	25,828,989	0.00%
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	0	825,864	

G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions³	24,361,773	26,424,894	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, <u>Excluding</u> Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E-B-F+D)	25,828,989	25,003,125	
I. Difference: (G-H);(negative value requires 60.0% voter approval)²	(1,467,216)	1,421,769	
Public School Enrollment	6,901	6,830	-1.03%
Consumer Price Index			2.95%

¹ Include any prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

² Tax levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion under the School Tax Levy Limit and may affect voter approval requirements.

³ For 2025-26, includes any carryover from 2024-25 and excludes any tax levy for library debt or prior year reserve for excess tax levy, including interest.

	Actual 2024-25 (D)	Estimated 2025-26 (E)
Adjusted Restricted Fund Balance	40,991,496	40,407,051
Assigned Appropriated Fund Balance	1,867,410	1,764,241
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance	7,639,682	8,113,605
Adjusted Unrestricted Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	4.00%	4.00%

Schedule of Reserve Funds

Reserve Type	Reserve Name	Reserve Description *	3/31/25 Actual Balance	6/30/25 Estimated Ending Balance	Intended Use of the Reserve in the 2025- 26 School Year (Limit 200 Characters)**
Capital		For the cost of any object or purpose for which bonds may be issued.			
Repair		For the cost of repairs to capital improvements or equipment.			
Workers Compensation	Reserve for Workers Compensation	For self-insured Workers Compensation and benefits.	7,145,113	7,145,113	\$250,000 of the reserve will be utilized in the 2025-26 school year.
Unemployment Insurance		For reimbursement to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund.			
Reserve for Tax Reduction		For the gradual use of the proceeds of the sale of school district real property.			

Mandatory Reserve for Debt Service	Reserve for Debt	For proceeds from the sale of district capital assets or improvement, restricted to debt service.	3,778,750	3,028,750	\$915,555 of the reserve will be utilized in the 2025-26 school year.
Insurance		For liability, casualty, and other types of uninsured losses.			
Property Loss		To cover property loss.			
Liability		To cover incurred liability claims.			
Tax Certiorari		For tax certiorari settlements.			
Reserve for Insurance Recoveries		For unexpended proceeds of insurance recoveries at fiscal year end.			
Employee Benefit Accrued Liability	Reserve for EBLARS	For accrued 'employee benefits' due to employees upon termination of service.	12,076,880	12,076,880	\$600,000 of the reserve will be utilized in the 2025-26 school year.
Retirement Contribution	Reserve for Retirement (ERS)	For employer retirement contributions to the State and Local Employees' Retirement System.	12,012,766	12,012,766	\$450,000 of the reserve will be utilized in the 2025-26 school year.
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes		For unpaid taxes due certain city school districts not reimbursed by their city/county until the following fiscal year.			
Single Other Reserve	Reserve for Retirement (TRS)	For employer retirement contributions to the Teachers' Retirement System.	6,143,542	6,143,542	\$850,000 of the reserve will be utilized in the 2025-26 school year.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto.

6.12 Approval of The Corrective Action Plan (CAP) In Response to the District Internal Audit Report for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (SG 3)

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

WHEREAS, The District is subject to an annual independent internal audit, and

WHEREAS, The District is required to respond to any findings and / or recommendations in such audits in the form of a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to acknowledge the results of the audit and present actions to be taken in response to the noted findings and / or recommendations; and

WHEREAS, The CAP requires the approval of the governing body of the District, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education affirm and approve the CAP attached hereto, and

RESOLVED, that said CAP be forwarded to the NYSED.

Niagara Falls City School District

April

10, 2025

Bonadio & Company, LLP

Review of Accounts Payable and Grant Administration and Management

Independent Internal Audit Report

Corrective Action Plan

Review of the Accounts Payable Process:

Policies and Procedures Related to the District's Accounts Payable

Process:

Bonadio obtained and reviewed the District's documented policies and procedures to determine

- if they were clear, comprehensive, and could be followed
- If there were any gaps between policies and procedures

Exceptions Observed:

No exceptions noted

Testing of Cash Disbursements:

Bonadio selected and reviewed 25 transactions and supporting documentation for the following attributes.

- Purchase Order (PO) was created and dated prior to the transaction invoice
- The PO is signed and approved by the Purchasing Agent
- There is acknowledgement that items have been received or services rendered in the District's software
- The price per the invoice matched that of the check amount and the amount recorded in the District's software
- The PO was approved by the District's Claims Auditor
- The check issued was approved by the District Claims Auditor and the warrant was signed timely
- The District follows all applicable internal and state policies and procedures

Exceptions Observed:

Bonadio identified the following exception

1. Three Purchase Orders lacked initials by the Claims Auditor signifying they reviewed them in the supporting packet. While the warrant report certification noted these transactions were approved, signed, and dated by the Auditor, the underlying PO's pertaining to the specific

transactions are expected under the District's operating procedures to be signed off and initialed as well showing review and approval.

Recommendations:

1. Ensure that the Claims Auditor is reviewing all required support and documents their review in each support packet such that it is visible and traceable by future auditors.

Implementation of Corrective Actions(s) for Recommendation # 1:

- Reviewing check packets for completeness, including Claims Auditor initials documenting the review and approval of the payment to be made, is part of the current Accounts Payable process. To strengthen the process, the District will implement electronic Claims Auditor approval in its nVision financial software as well. This will not be to replace the initialing of packets by the Claims Auditor, but rather will be a supplemental method of documenting Claims Auditor's approval.

Person(s) Responsible for Implementation Plan:

Administrator for School Business Services, Budget Manager.

Targeted Start Date:

07/2025.

Review of District Grant Activities

Policies and Procedures Related to the District's Grant Administration and Reporting Process:

Bonadio obtained and reviewed the District's documented policies and procedures regarding grants to determine

- if they were clear, comprehensive, and could be followed
- the policies and procedures are reviewed regularly
- there were not any gaps in our review of the policies and procedures

Exceptions Observed:

No exceptions noted

FS-10 to FS-10F Budget Establishment Review:

Bonadio selected 5 FS-10F forms and reviewed their initial FS-10 and any associated FS-10As for the following attributes:

- FS-10 was filed timely and was completed prior to award period
- An appropriate budget was established and approved detailing with relative accuracy what the intended expenditures of the grant would be.
- If any FS-10As were filed, that they were completed while the grant was being administered and were appropriately documenting expected changes to spending present on the final cost report
- FS-10F forms were filled out timely after conclusion of the grant's award period

- Variances between the final costs reported on the FS-10F and the final amended budgets from the FS-10 and FS-10As regarding each of the final cost reports for the 10 reporting codes is within reasonable tolerances

Exceptions Observed:

No exceptions noted

Reconciliation of Grant Revenues to Audited Financial Statements:
Bonadio reviewed the District's audited Financial Statements for fiscal year 2023-2024 and reconciled Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards to the District's accounting information.

Exceptions Observed:

No exceptions noted

Budget to Actual Variance Review:

Bonadio reviewed the final cost reports of the reviewed 5 FS-10Fs to determine:

- The budget was properly adhered to
- FS-10As were filed appropriately when substantial budget to actual differences were expected to be reported
- If the budgets were underspent that unused funds were requested to be rolled forward
- If budgets were overspent the District had sufficient documentation explaining the source and means of correcting the budget override

Exceptions Observed:

No exceptions noted

Professional and Support Salaries Review:

Bonadio selected 10 employees from the final FS-10F reports to determine:

- The selected employee is not counted as more than 1 FTE across grants for that period
- Employee salary, stipend, or hourly equivalency matches the approved budgeted amount
- Employees I9s are filed properly

Exceptions Observed:

No exceptions noted

Approved Expenditure Review:

Bonadio selected 10 expenditures from the final FS-10F reports to determine:

- Amounts reported agreed to the general ledger
- Invoice packet, expenditure type, and funding source all agree to the final cost reporting

- Adherence to District purchasing policies regarding required approvals and quotes
- Exceptions Observed:

Our procedures noted one instance in which the amount recorded in the District's financial software did not agree to the FS-10F

Recommendations:

2. The District should perform extra due diligence upon preparing FS-10F forms and other final cost reports to ensure all purchases, reimbursements, and salaries paid accurately reflect the expenditures made by the District using grant funds.

Implementation of Corrective Actions(s) for Recommendation # 2:

- The District Accountant currently records all grant expenditures after each accounts payable check issuance and verifies amount recorded is correct in the financial software. The District will enhance its procedures for preparing final reports, including FS-10Fs, to include a documented reconciliation of completed forms to the expenditures in the financial software prior to submission.

Person(s) Responsible for Implementation Plan:

Administrator for School Business Services, Accountant.

Targeted Start Date:

07/2025.

These plans were approved by the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Niagara Falls at their meeting of April 10, 2025

Signed:

Rebecca Holody

Date

Administrator for School Business Services

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Bilson, second by Mr. Paretto.

6.13 Approval of Change Order No. Scc-13 for the A Breath of Fresh Air Capital Improvement Project [\(SG 3\)](#)

WHEREAS, This change order is needed to amend the original contract; and

WHEREAS, Clark Patterson Lee, Project Architect, and Buffalo Construction Consultants, Project Construction Manager, have recommended that the Niagara Falls Board of Education approve a change order for this purpose; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby approves Change Order No. SCC-13 for \$28,501.80 to Scrufari Construction Company 3295 Hyde Park Blvd Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Paretto seconded by Mr. Bilson.

6.14 Approval of Payment No. 12 to Scrufari Construction Co. Inc. for General Contracting Work for the A Breath of Fresh Air (ABOFA) Capital Improvement Project (CIP) [\(SG 3\)](#)

WHEREAS, The Board of Education executed a Contract dated January 25, 2024, with Scrufari Construction Company for General Contracting work for the A Breath of Fresh Air Capital Improvement Project, which provides for payment to it for services rendered and materials furnished, upon the filing and approval of AIA Document G732, "Application and Certificate for Payment; and

WHEREAS, In order that an official record of expenditures for Capital Projects be maintained, all invoices pertaining to the Capital Project must be approved by the Board, upon approval of the Application and recommendation for payment by the Architect, the Construction Managers and Administrator for School Business Services; and

WHEREAS, Scrufari Construction Company has submitted an Application and Certificate for Payment, AIA Document G732, for services rendered and material furnished in the amount of \$85,851.52; and

WHEREAS, The Application has been reviewed, approved and recommended for by the Architect, Clark Patterson Lee, construction managers Buffalo Construction Consultants, and Rebecca Holody, Administrator for School Business Services; and

WHEREAS, The Application is in accordance with the Contract and is inclusive of the required 5% retention in the amount of \$4,292.58; and

WHEREAS, The amount of payment the District will issue shall be \$85,851.52 less the required 5% retainage (\$4,292.58) as outlined in the contract, \$81,558.94; and

WHEREAS, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the payment of \$81,558.94 to Scrufari Construction Company 3925 Hyde Park Blvd Niagara Falls, NY 14305 in accordance with the Application and Certificate for Payment #12; and further

RESOLVED, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Paretto seconded by Mr. Bilson.

6.15 Approval of Payment No. 13 to John W. Danforth for HVAC Contracting Work for the A Breath of Fresh Air (ABOFA) Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Contract 123B [\(SG 3\)](#)

WHEREAS, In order that an official record of expenditures for Capital Projects be maintained, all invoices pertaining to the Capital Project must be approved by the Board, upon approval of the Application and recommendation for payment by the Architect, the Construction Managers and Administrator for School Business Services; and

WHEREAS, John W. Danforth has submitted an Application and Certificate for Payment, AIA Document G732, for services rendered and material furnished in the amount of \$38,025.73; and

WHEREAS, The Application has been reviewed, approved and recommended for by the Architect, Clark Patterson Lee, construction managers Buffalo Construction Consultants, and Rebecca Holody, Administrator for School Business Services; and

WHEREAS, The Application is in accordance with the Contract and is inclusive of the required 5% retention in the amount of \$1,901.29; and

WHEREAS, The amount of payment the District will issue shall be \$38,025.73 less the required 5% retainage (\$1,901.29) as outlined in the contract, \$36,124.44; and

WHEREAS, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the payment of \$36,124.44 to John W. Danforth 300 Colvin Woods Parkway Tonawanda, NY 14150 in accordance with the Application and Certificate for Payment #13; and further

RESOLVED, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Paretto seconded by Mr. Bilson.

6.16 Approval of Payment No. 13 to John W. Danforth for HVAC Contracting Work for the A Breath of Fresh Air (ABOFA) Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Contract 123C [\(SG 3\)](#)

WHEREAS, In order that an official record of expenditures for Capital Projects be maintained, all invoices pertaining to the Capital Project must

be approved by the Board, upon approval of the Application and recommendation for payment by the Architect, the Construction Managers and Administrator for School Business Services; and

WHEREAS, Frey Electrical Construction Corp. has submitted an Application and Certificate for Payment, AIA Document G732, for services rendered and material furnished in the amount of \$175,460.00; and

WHEREAS, The Application has been reviewed, approved and recommended for by the Architect, Clark Patterson Lee, construction managers Buffalo Construction Consultants, and Rebecca Holody, Administrator for School Business Services; and

WHEREAS, The Application is in accordance with the Contract and is inclusive of the required 5% retention in the amount of \$8,773.00; and

WHEREAS, The amount of payment the District will issue shall be \$175,460.00 less the required 5% retainage (\$8,773.00) as outlined in the contract, \$166,687.00; and

WHEREAS, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the payment of \$166,687.00 to Frey Electrical Construction Corp. 100 Pearce Ave Tonawanda, NY 14150 in accordance with the Application and Certificate for Payment #13; and further

RESOLVED, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Paretto seconded by Mr. Bilson.

6.17 Approval of Payment No. 13 to Frey Electric Construction Co. Inc. for Electrical Contracting Work for the A Breath of Fresh Air (ABOFA) Capital Improvement Project (CIP) [\(SG 3\)](#)

WHEREAS, In order that an official record of expenditures for Capital Projects be maintained, all invoices pertaining to the Capital Project must be approved by the Board, upon approval of the Application and recommendation for payment by the Architect, the Construction Managers and Administrator for School Business Services; and

WHEREAS, Frey Electrical Construction Corp. has submitted an Application and Certificate for Payment, AIA Document G732, for services rendered and material furnished in the amount of \$175,460.00; and

WHEREAS, The Application has been reviewed, approved and recommended for by the Architect, Clark Patterson Lee, construction managers Buffalo Construction Consultants, and Rebecca Holody, Administrator for School Business Services; and

WHEREAS, The Application is in accordance with the Contract and is inclusive of the required 5% retention in the amount of \$8,773.00; and

WHEREAS, The amount of payment the District will issue shall be \$175,460.00 less the required 5% retainage (\$8,773.00) as outlined in the contract, \$166,687.00; and

WHEREAS, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the payment of \$166,687.00 to Frey Electrical Construction Corp. 100 Pearce Ave Tonawanda, NY 14150 in accordance with the Application and Certificate for Payment #13; and further

RESOLVED, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Paretto seconded by Mr. Bilson.

6.18 Approval of Payment No. 09 to Johnson Controls, Inc. for Labor and Electrical Controls Contracting Work for the A Breath of Fresh Air (ABOFA) Capital Improvement Project (CIP) [\(SG 3\)](#)

WHEREAS, In order that an official record of expenditures for Capital Projects be maintained, all invoices pertaining to the Capital Project must be approved by the Board, upon approval of the Application and recommendation for payment by the Architect, the Construction Managers and Administrator for School Business Services; and

WHEREAS, Johnson Controls Inc has submitted an Application and Certificate for Payment, AIA Document G732, for services rendered and material furnished in the amount of \$47,869.48; and

WHEREAS, The Application has been reviewed, approved and recommended for by the Architect, Clark Patterson Lee, construction managers Buffalo Construction Consultants, and Rebecca Holody, Administrator for School Business Services; and

WHEREAS, The Application is in accordance with the Contract and is inclusive of the required 5% retention in the amount of \$2,393.47; and

WHEREAS, The amount of payment the District will issue shall be \$47,869.48 less the required 5% retainage (\$2,393.47) as outlined in the contract, \$45,476.01; and

WHEREAS, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the payment of \$45,476.01 to Johnson Controls Inc 130 John Muir Dr #100 Amherst,

NY 14228 in accordance with the Application and Certificate for Payment #09; and further

RESOLVED, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

The following was approved on a motion by Mr. Paretto seconded by Mr. Bilson.

6.19 Approval of Payment No. 13 to Stark Tech for Technology Contracting Work for the A Breath of Fresh Air (ABOFA) Capital Improvement Project (CIP) [\(SG 3\)](#)

WHEREAS, U&S Services (Stark Tech) has submitted an Application and Certificate for Payment, AIA Document G732, for services rendered and material furnished in the amount of \$26,960.25; and

WHEREAS, The Application has been reviewed, approved and recommended for by the Architect, Clark Patterson Lee, construction managers Buffalo Construction Consultants, and Rebecca Holody, Administrator for School Business Services; and

WHEREAS, The Application is in accordance with the Contract and is inclusive of the required 5% retention in the amount of \$1,348.01; and

WHEREAS, The amount of payment the District will issue shall be \$26,960.25 less the required 5% retainage (\$1,348.01) as outlined in the contract, \$25,612.24; and

WHEREAS, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the payment of \$25,612.24 to U&S Services (Stark Tech) 95 Stark St Tonawanda, NY 14150 in accordance with the Application and Certificate for Payment #13; and further

RESOLVED, This appropriation will be expended from the Capital Fund and will be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

7. Review of the Proposed Policy(ies)

8. Information and Reports

8.01 Oral Communications - Public Comment on Non-Agenda-related
Dr. Tina Schultz, Niagara Community Information Group, President,
CEO- Lockport. NY – Spoke about the State’s proposed cell phone ban.
The group held teen town halls to hear feedback. Opinions showed a
generational divide.

Michael Barksdale, Niagara Community Information Group, COO -
Independence Ave – Followed up on his comments from a previous
Board meeting. Accused the Board of being dismissive. Demanded
information about college credit bearing classes at NFHS. He again
questioned student achievement and Board member concern.

Portland Jackson – 605 Chasm Ave.- on behalf of Gloria Dolson - A
representative read a letter to the Board from Ms. Dolson, wishing a safe
and pleasant spring break and generally extoling the work of District
staff.

Portland Jackson – 605 Chasm Ave.- LaSalle Educational Club Dinner –
The upcoming dinner will be held June 13, 2025 at 6 p.m.. This is the
organization’s 56th year of presenting scholarships. Philip Mohr, Jr., is
among the honorees.

8.02 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's Report
Mr. Laurie:

At SUNY Niagara, President Holmes was inaugurated today. The District
already has a relationship with Dr. Holmes, who is a Niagara Falls
resident. Congratulations and welcome.

New York State PreK audit: Thanks to Mrs. Buchman and the schools
visited by the auditor: G.J. Mann, Hyde Park, Kalfas, and Maple, as well as
St. John's Community Based Organization. It went exceedingly well. The
St. John's Community Based Organization needs some tightening up. We
will receive our exit audit in early May. It went very well in terms of
curriculum and rituals and routines. The auditor raved about the fidelity
to curriculum, social interaction among children and staff. She visited 10
classrooms.

Our PreK 3 and 4 and 2025-26 Head Start applications are now available.
Tell anyone who may need to start their child in school. Seats are filling
up very fast.

Summer programming also will have a strict deadline.

After tomorrow, students will be on a two-week break. Safe travels and good rest.

Regarding the NYS ELA testing in grades 3 -8: the District is very disappointed in outcome with respect to technology problems, which were experienced across the State. This morning, the state testing system completely shut down in six of our eight schools. This is the measure the critics use to say our students can't read. This has been very disruptive to preparations we have made, and yet the critics will never acknowledge this poor system. Many districts canceled their testing altogether today. Many districts are calling for a halt to state testing based on the current situation.

The Buffalo Bills have donated \$100,000 to Feedmore in the name of the Niagara Falls City School District ,to maintain our food backpack and pantry program. I would like to recognize the Bills Foundation, along with the other groups, in June with a Golden Apple. On Tuesday, May 14, 2025, trauma-informed students will present to Buffalo Bills executives.

Wishing students and ten-month staff a happy, restful break.

8.03 Board Members Report and Comments

Mrs. Dunn attended SUNY Niagara inauguration, Dr. Holmes will be a valuable partner.

The Superintendent will invite him to a Board meeting,

Mr. Vilardo attended NSBA in Atlanta, where there was lots of information on artificial intelligence. Happy holiday.

Mr. Petrozzi attended Maple Avenue School for an awards assembly. The children were full of energy. Taxes: The Board is very proud to have raised taxes only 4% since 1994. However, the Board takes care of children, academically and through efforts like expanding the number of social workers.

9. Advanced Planning

9.01 Future Agenda Items

Review Mtg. Thursday, May 8, 2025 Public Hearing Budget, Safety Plans	ARS/Regular Mtg. Thursday, May15, 2025 Regular Meetings 7 p.m.
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1. Outstanding Alumni	1.
2. Review of the May 21 Statutory, Regular Board Meetings – <i>Mr. Laurrie, Mrs. Glaser, Ms. Massaro</i>	2. Review of Agenda for May 15 th Regular Meeting – <i>Mr. Laurrie, Mrs. Glaser, Ms. Massaro</i>
3. Public Hearing on Safety , 6:30 p.m Public Hearing on Budget, 7 p.m.	3. Review of Agenda for Statutory Meeting May 21st – <i>Mr. Laurrie, Mrs. Glaser, Ms. Massaro</i>

<p>Statutory</p> <p>Wednesday, May 21, 2025</p> <p>8 p.m.</p>
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Meeting Adjourned at 7:53 p.m. in memory of:

1. Donna Fraser, grandmother of Laura Kashishian (Bloneva Bond)
2. Susan Weston, associate at Bond

Motion by Mr. Vilardo, second by Mr. Paretto.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Rob Bilson, Michael Capizzi, Clara Dunn, Anthony F Paretto, Russell Petrozzi, Nicholas Vilardo

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Glaser

Judith Glaser, District Clerk