

# SCHALMONT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## MINUTES

### Meeting of the Schalmont Board of Education Monday, April 7, 2025; 7:00 PM; Middle School LGI

**CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** - The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM.

**Members Present**

Mr. Angelo Santabarbara, President  
Mr. David Lawrence, Vice President  
Ms. Patricia Dowse  
Mrs. Jean Hanson  
Mr. William Mau  
Mr. Kevin Thompson (Arrived 7:30pm)

**Members Absent**

None

**Others Present**

Dr. Thomas Reardon, Superintendent of Schools  
Mrs. Brenda Leitt, School Business Administrator  
Mr. Kyle Larabee, Student Representative

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Motion made by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Dowse, that the agenda for the April 7, 2025 meeting of the Schalmont Board of Education be approved.

*Motion carried 5-0. Mr. Thompson absent.*

## **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Mr. Larabee reported at the High School Everett Montgomery's photography was selected to be on display at the Albany Center Gallery for the 26th Annual High School Regional Art Exhibit. It will be on display through April 18th. Some of our Winter sports athletes were recently named colonial council all stars. All of our winter sports teams were scholar athlete team (Average above 90 for over 75% of team). Senior Superlative photos and buddy pictures were taken last Friday. Preparations are well under way for the Spring musical, 9 to 5, which will, take place soon after break. Spring break is next week! At the Middle School, they had a "spring into kindness" spirit week last week. Maria Zarillo, Food Services Director, recently gave 8th graders a behind the scenes look at how the cafeteria staff prepares meals as part of an in house field trip. Students in the Middle School's functional skills class celebrated the return of those two astronauts that were trapped in space with some ISS themed learning. Class of 2029 Bowl-A-Thon was March 29<sup>th</sup>. At Jefferson Elementary, 1st grader glow day for 120th day of school. Kindergarten Orientation will be held this Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. "Fergie", the bunny, recently visited Mrs. Madej's class as Hop on Home Rabbit Sanctuary helped kindergarteners learn about rabbits.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

NYS Senator Patricia Fahy  
Unified Sports Update – Mrs. Russell, Director of PE, Health & Athletics  
2025-2026 Budget Update – Dr. Reardon and Mrs. Leitt

**CONSENT AGENDA** – Motion made by Mrs. Hanson, seconded by Ms. Dowse, that the consent agenda consisting of the following items be approved:

- Board of Education Meeting Minutes: March 25, 2024
- CSE/CPSE Recommendations: March 11, 12, 14, 18, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 2025
- Personnel Matters
- **Instructional Personnel Matters**  
2024-25 Mentor (Stipends in accordance with STA Agreement)  
Bonnie Barner (mentoring Olivia Santabarbara), \$750
- **Non-Aligned Personnel Matters** (as per Management Confidential Agreement)  
Resignation  
James Brooks, Computer Technician, District Wide, effective March 28, 2025

• **Non Instructional Personnel Matters** (All hourly pay rates as per SSRPA Agreement)

<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Work Day</u>	<u>Step</u>
Rasheen Stenson	Bus Driver	Transportation	03/31/25	5.25	1

<u>Substitute Appointments</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Work Day</u>
Michael Daviero	Security Monitor	District Wide	04/07/25	as needed
Lisa Lucarelli	Monitor	Jefferson	04/08/25	as needed
Lisa Lucarelli	Teacher Aide	Jefferson	04/08/25	as needed
Lisa Lucarelli	Food Service Worker	District Wide	04/08/25	as needed

<u>Termination</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Charlene Tebbano	Security Monitor	District Wide	04/02/25 (close of business)

**Change of Hours**

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Old Daily Total</u>	<u>New Daily Total</u>
Vittoria Costantini	Bus Attendant	Transportation	03/31/25	1.00	2.25
Lou Ann Tubb	Bus Attendant	Transportation	03/31/25	1.00	2.50

*Motion carried 6-0.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Budget Proposition:** Motion made by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Mrs. Hanson, shall the resolution adopted by the Board of Education on April 7, 2025 authorizing the Schalmont Central School District to expend the sum in the amount of \$60,210,234 during the 2025-2026 school year, and to levy a tax therefore, be approved?

*Motion carried 6-0.*

**Voter Propositions and Budget Notice:** Motion made by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Dowse, NOTICE OF THE BUDGET HEARING AND ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING/ELECTION TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE Schalmont Central School District at Rotterdam, Schenectady County, New York. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing of the qualified votes of the Schalmont Central School District at Rotterdam, will be held in the Middle School Building in said District on Monday, April 7, 2025 at 7:00 PM prevailing time, for the presentation of the budget. The budget will be available for review starting April 29, 2025 at each school. NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN, that the annual school election of the qualified voters of the Schalmont Central School district of Rotterdam, will be held at the High School in said District on May 20, 2025 between the hours of 6:00 AM and 9:00 PM, prevailing time to vote by machine upon the following items: (1) To adopt the annual budget of the School District for the fiscal year 2025-26 and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District; (2) To elect three (3) three-year members of the Board commencing July 1, 2025 and expiring June 30, 2028; NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that at said Annual School District Meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, the following propositions will be submitted.

**BUS PROPOSITION**

Shall the Board of Education of the Schalmont Central School District, Schenectady County, New York be authorized to (1) acquire five (5) School Buses, at a maximum aggregate cost of \$800,000.00 and (2) expend such sum, or so much thereof as shall be necessary; and (3) shall be paid from the Capital Bus Reserve?

**CAPITAL BUS AND VEHICLE RESERVE FUND PROPOSITION**

Shall the Board of Education of the Schalmont Central School District be authorized to (a) establish a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to §3651 of the New York Education Law to be known as the Bus and Vehicle Reserve Fund in an amount not to exceed \$805,000.00 with a probable term of five (5) years, to be used to pay for the cost of school buses, vans and maintenance vehicles, and (b) appropriate from time to time from available fund balance and/or other legally available funds of the school district to such Bus and Vehicle Reserve Fund?

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required to fund the School District's budget for 2025-26 may be obtained by any residents of the District during business hours beginning Tuesday, April 29, 2025. NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that petitions nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education shall be filed with the Clerk of said School District at her office in the District Office not later than Monday, April 21, 2025 between the hours of 7:00 AM and 4:00 PM. Each petition shall be directed to the Clerk of the District and shall be signed by at least 25 voters of the District, and must state the name and residence of the candidate. NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the applications for Early Mail ballots will be obtainable by calling the District Clerk at (518) 355-9200 x4001 or by email at [bleitt@schalmont.net](mailto:bleitt@schalmont.net). Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Early Mail ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 PM, prevailing time, on Tuesday, May 20, 2025.

*Motion carried 6-0.*

**Order to Discontinue:** Motion made by Ms. Dowse, seconded by Mrs. Hanson, "WHEREAS, the Board of Education previously authorized intervention in a legal action titled In The Matter of The Application of City of Schenectady v. The Assessor of the Town Of Rotterdam, The Board of Assessment Review of the Town of Rotterdam, and the Town of Rotterdam (Index Nos. 2021-1533; 2022-1159; 2023-1257; 2024-1588) regarding issues related to the tax assessments of the City of Schenectady ("the City") property identified as SBL No. 38.-3-8.1; and, WHEREAS, the parties have reached settlement under which the City will discontinue the actions in which the School District has intervened and will waive the rights to any tax refunds for the years 2021-2024 from the School District with the property being granted an exemption by the School District as requested by the City pursuant to RPTL § 406(3); and, WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools and Board Counsel recommend acceptance of this settlement. IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT, the above referenced actions be settled and discontinued for the recommended terms of settlement; and, IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Superintendent of Schools, Board President, and Board Counsel are authorized to execute any documents necessary to settle and discontinue the above referenced action.

*Motion carried 6-0.*

### **BOARD ITEMS**

Ms. Dowse - If we can move to a universal design in everything we do, and then every child can be included.

Mr. Mau - Everything at the national and state level is making things difficult. We can get through it together!

Mr. Lawrence - Capital reserve for buses shouldn't be overlooked. It's good that we're looking into the future. Thank you to Mrs. Russell for organizing Unified Sports.

Mr. Santabarbara - Thank you to Senator Fahy for coming. It's nice that some of our concerns are making it to the Governor. It's extremely difficult building a budget. Hopefully, Pre-K helps our community. This seems like a fair increase after 4 years with no increase.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Motion made by Mr. Mau, seconded by Mrs. Hanson, that the April 7, 2025 meeting of the Board of Education be adjourned at 8:15 PM.

*Motion carried 6-0.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Brenda Leitt  
Clerk of the Board