

ICHABOD CRANE CENTRAL SCHOOL

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 3, 2024

MINUTES

A Regular meeting of the Ichabod Crane Board of Education was held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library

Board Members Present:

Kelly Firmbach

Elizabeth Phillips (*arrived 7:30pm*)

Valerie Spensieri

Meghan Lafferty-Brown

Anne Schaefer

Cal Waits

Matthew Nelson

Christopher Scoville

Board Members Absent: Max DiOrio

School Officials Present:

Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent, Lucas Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Michael Brennan, Business Manager, Craig Shull, High School Principal, Anthony Marturano, Middle School Co-Principal, Tim Farley, Middle School Co-Principal, Andrea Williams, Primary School Principal, Peg Warner, Special Education Director, Todd DiGrigoli, Food Service Director, and Mindy Potts, District Clerk

Board President Matthew Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Board President Matthew Nelson announced the fire exits and conducted the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board member Christopher Scoville read the District Mission Statement:

"The Ichabod Crane Central School District is dedicated to preparing students to become contributing members of society in an ever-changing world by valuing diversity; providing a safe environment; and promoting unique talents, a desire for life-long learning, a strong spirit of community, and Rider pride."

MOTION NELSON      2ND LAFFERTY-BROWN

To approve the agenda as presented

Carried, 7-0

MOTION SCOVILLE      2ND FIRMBACH

To approve the minutes of the 11/12/24 Regular Board meeting

Carried, 7-0

Public Comments

No one from the public wished to address the Board at this time.

## Board Discussion

- Chatham Football Merger Discussion  
Board members discussed the details required for a merger of the Chatham and Ichabod Football teams. In January, formal action will be presented for the Board's consideration.
- Committee Meetings
  - Facilities Committee  
Board Member Meghan Lafferty-Brown reported on the meeting held on November 21
  - Policy Committee  
The following policies have had a second reading and will be considered for adoption under the Consent Agenda:
    - 5275 Athletic Code of Conduct (revised)
    - 5100 Attendance (revised)
    - 5205 Eligibility for Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Activities (revised)

## Reports

- Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute (PR/HYLI) Student Presentation  
Ichabod Crane Students who are also members of PR/HYLI, Franklin Navarro-Castillo and Maria Guadalupe Tapia-Martinez, presented to the Board on the organization and benefits of being members

Board Vice-President Elizabeth Phillips arrived 7:30pm

- Counseling Department Presentation

## Student Board Member Report -

Student Board Member Amara Gabriel reported to the Board on activities and events happening with Ichabod Crane students K-12

## Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Marie Digirolamo reported to the Board on the following topics:

- Student art on display
  - Community Canvas Student Exhibition, December 7 from 5-8 pm, Hudson Winter Walk
  - Masonic Lodge on December 14 at 5 pm, Valatie Winter Walk
- Update on ICCSD Taskforce for Safe and Responsible Cell Phone Usage - Nov 19, 2024
- *The Anxious Generation* - Part III and IV - Workshop Jan 14, 7:00 pm
- Rider Targets 2027 (copy in the Supplemental File)

## Business Office Report

Business Manager Michael Brennan reported to the Board on the following topics:

- Overview of Budget Development Process
- Budget Calendar (copy in the Supplemental File)
- Recognition of Todd DiGrigoli, Food Service Manager, retiring after 30 years of service.

Consent Agenda

MOTION NELSON 2ND FIRMBACH

To approve the following items contained under the Consent Agenda:

11(A) CONSIDERATION FOR AMENDMENT

To amend the effective date of the resignation of Special Education Teacher Heather Scarano from November 29, 2024 to January 4, 2025 *(originally accepted at the 11/12/24 BOE meeting)*

11(B) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept the resignation of Kristine Sigler, Teaching Assistant, effective December 4, 2024

11(C) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE (Full Report in Supplemental File)

To accept the October 2024 Treasurer’s Report including Warrants, Revenues, Appropriations, and Transfers as presented

11(D) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept the CPSE and CSE Recommendations for the 2024-2025 school year as follows:  
Meeting Dates of: 11/4; 11/8; 11/12; 11/13; 11/18; 11/19; 11/21

11(E) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint the following additions to the Non-teaching substitute listing for 2024-2025 school year:

Name	Position	Effective
Aneissa Roman	Substitute RN	12/3/24
Stacey Wurzburg	Substitute Cleaner	11/13/24

11(F) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint the following additions to the Teaching substitute listing for 2024-2025 school year:

Name	Position	Effective
Jennifer Touchstone	Certified Substitute Teacher and TA	12/9/24
Scott Wasser	Certified Substitute Teacher and TA	12/9/24
Erin Lockmer	Uncertified Substitute Teacher and TA	12/9/24
Kyle Farley	Uncertified Substitute Teacher and TA	12/9/24

11(G) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent, the following Interscholastic Coaches for the 2024-2025 school year:

Position	Name	Step
Varsity Indoor Track - Volunteer Assistant	Joslyn Cowan	n/a

11(H) CONSIDERATION FOR AMENDMENT

To amend, upon the recommendation of Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent, to the appointments of the following Volunteer Assistant Coaches for the 2024-2025 school year to paid assistant coaches: *(original appointments at the 7/11/24 BOE meeting)*

Position	Name	Step
Girls Varsity Soccer	Donald Bell	Step 1
Boys Varsity Soccer	Nick Johnston	Step 1
Girls Varsity Tennis	Nolan Wolfe	Step 1

11(I) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To approve, upon the recommendation of Marie Digirolamo Superintendent, a change to the appointments of the following, TEACHER LEADERS for the 2024-2025 school year as follows:

TEAM/CURRICULUM LEADER	Staff
Curriculum Science K-5	Resign: Carey, Michelle and Bell, Stephanie

11(J) CONSIDERATION FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND APPOINTMENT

To establish the position of Assistant Principal (assigned to the Middle School) and furthermore;

Whereas Erin Russo who is eligible for a New York State Public School Teacher Certificate in the certification area(s) of School Building Leader

Whereas Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent of the Ichabod Crane Central School District, recommends Erin Russo be appointed to a probationary position, conditionally, pending New York State Education Department certification and safety clearance, now therefore

Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Ichabod Crane Central School District in compliance with Education Law 3012 and 8 NYCRR Part 30.3 does hereby appoint Erin Russo to the position of professional educator in the tenure area(s) of Assistant Principal, Step 3 for a probationary period of four years to commence on or about January 3, 2025 and to expire on January 2, 2029

11(K) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To approve an unpaid Leave of Absence for Rebecca Wiseman from her Special Education Teaching position, effective on or about May 19, 2025 through June 13, 2025

11(L) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

Whereas Cynthia Desposito who is eligible for a New York State Public School Teacher Certificate in the certification area(s) of Teaching Assistant

Whereas Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent of the Ichabod Crane Central School District, recommends Cynthia Desposito be appointed to a probationary position, conditionally, pending New York State Education Department certification and safety clearance, now therefore

Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Ichabod Crane Central School District in compliance with Education Law 3012 and 8 NYCRR Part 30.3 does hereby appoint Cynthia Desposito to the position of professional educator in the tenure area(s) of Teaching Assistant,

TA+18 Step 1 for a probationary period of four years to commence on or about November 26, 2024 and to expire on November 25, 2028

11(M) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To approve the following Student Teachers/Interns and assignments as listed:

Name	Assignment	Dates
Katharine Asenbauer	Sandra Dwileski	January 21 - March 14, 2025

11(N) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To approve the following field trip requests and chaperones per Board Policy #4531:

DESTINATION: Virginia Beach

DATE: April 27-29, 2025

PARTICIPANTS: 84 Students in the Senior Class

CHAPERONES: 8 chaperones including Todd Megan and Alicia Cowan

11(O) CONSIDERATION FOR ADOPTION

To adopt the following policies pursuant to Board Policy #2410 – Formulation, Adoption and Amendment of Policies:

- 5275 Athletic Code of Conduct (revised)
- 5100 Attendance (revised)
- 5205 Eligibility for Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Activities (revised)

11(P) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To approve an annual merger with the Schodack Central School District for the formation of a Boys' Varsity Lacrosse Team in Section II for Spring 2025 season

11(Q) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE (Full Report in Supplemental File)

To accept the Internal Claims Auditor Report for November 2024 as presented

11(R) CONSIDERATION FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR SIGNATURE (Full Agreements in Supplemental File)

To authorize the Board President or Superintendent to execute the following documents:

- MOA - Retirement
- School Resource Deputy Agreement and Body-worn Camera

11(S) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT AND APPROVAL

To to appoint upon the recommendation of Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent, the following additional Extraclass Appointments and/or Annual Appointments for the 2024-25 school year:

Staff	Assignment
Tim Balon and Brian Sadowski	Ski Club Volunteer Chaperones

11(T) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept the resignation of Jessica Purcell, Bus Driver, effective December 10, 2024

11(U) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent, Michelle Malchow, to the probationary position Monitor, Step 1, effective September 27, 2024 (*original appointment was for long-term substitute monitor approved at the 10/8/24 BOE meeting*)

End of Consent Agenda

Carried, 8-0

Public Comments

One member of the public addressed the Board on Career and Technical Education and other academic courses.

Executive Session

MOTION NELSON 2ND FIRMBACH

To adjourn to Executive Session at 8:54 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular individual; and to discuss the financial and employment history of particular persons

Carried 8-0

MOTION NELSON 2ND FIRMBACH

To appoint Board Vice President Elizabeth Phillips as Clerk Pro Tem

Carried, 8-0

The District Clerk left the meeting.

Others Present in Executive Session:

- Superintendent Marie Digirolamo
- Assistant Superintendent Lucas Christensen
- Business Manager Michael Brennan

Board members leaving Executive Session Early:

- Anne Schaefer at
- Val Spensieri at 9:43 p.m.

The Meeting was reconvened in open session at 9:46 p.m.

MOTION NELSON 2ND FIRMBACH

To adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Carried, 6-0

Meetings:

Special or Regular Board Meeting

01/07/25 Regular Board - 7:00 p.m. in the High School

Committee Meetings

12/10/24 Academic Committee 5:45 p.m. in the CO

12/17/24 Superintendent Goals Committee 5:45 p.m. in the CO

12/19/24 Facilities Committee 4:00 p.m. - Virtual

01/02/25 Budget and Finance 5:45 p.m. in the CO

01/07/25 Communications 5:45 p.m. in the CO