

ICHABOD CRANE CENTRAL SCHOOL

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MAY 5, 2026

MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of the Ichabod Crane Board of Education was held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library. During this meeting the annual Budget hearing was also held.

Board Members Present:

Kelly Firmbach	Meghan Lafferty-Brown	Matthew Nelson
Elizabeth Phillips	Anne Schaefer	Christopher Scoville
Cal Waits		

Board Members Absent:

Max DiOrio	Valerie Spensieri
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School Officials Present:

Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent, Lucas Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Michael Brennan, Business Manager, Andrea Williams, Principal, Craig Shull, High School Principal, Marcella Sanchez, High School Assistant Principal, Anthony Marturano, Middle School Principal, Erin Russo, Middle School Assistant Principal, Kerry Light, Primary School Principal, Peg Warner, Special Education Director, and Mindy Potts, District Clerk

Board President Matthew Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:01.

Board President Matthew Nelson announced the fire exits and conducted the Pledge of Allegiance and 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 SCHAEFER 2ND SCOVILLE

To approve the agenda with modifications as presented
Carried, 7-0

MOTION WAITS 2ND FIRMBACH

To approve the minutes of the April 21, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting
Carried, 7-0

Public Participation

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

Board Discussion

- Committee Meetings

Policy Committee

Superintendent Marie Digirolamo reported briefly to the Board on the Policy Committee meeting held on April 21

Budget Hearing

The Annual Budget Hearing opened at 7:13 p.m.

Business Manager Michael Brennan gave a summary of the process for creating the budget and information which went into the formulation of the 2026-2027 proposed budget.

The hearing was open for Board questions and comments as well as public questions and comments. One member of the public addressed the Board regarding the reduction in staff.

Budget Vote to be held from 8am-9pm in the High School Gymnasium on May 19, 2026

All absentee and early mail voter ballots due in Central Office by 5:00 pm on May 19, 2026

The following Budget Documents were available for public inspection:

Legal Notice (as published)

2026-2027 General Fund Budget Documents:

- Appropriations Budget
- Revenue Budget
- Three Component Budget (Admin/Program/Capital)
- Property Tax Report Card
- Salary Disclosure Information For Administration
- Budget Notice
- School District Report Card
- School District Report Card - Fiscal Transparency
- Tax Exemption Impact Report
- 2024-2025 Audit Report

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:29 p.m.

Student Board Member Report

Student Board member Denise Miranda reported on various activities and events happening around the district in each of the schools

Student Presentation: *Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute (PR/HYLI)*

Dr. Juanita Reyes and five student who attended the PR/HYLI conference presented to the Board on their experiences at the conference.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Marie Digirolamo congratulated the students involved in the the K-12 Art department awards including: Gabriella Williams, Denise Miranda, Briella Delaney, Brooklyn Nabozny

Business Manager's Report

Business Manager, Michael Brennan reported to the Board on the onboarding of Treasurer, Amy Mackey, and mentioned the donation to the Trap Club for consideration by the Board under the Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

MOTION WAITS 2ND LAFFERTY BROWN

To accept the following items contained under the Consent Agenda:

7(A) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Kathryn Walter, Special Education Teacher, effective July 1, 2026

7(B) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept the resignation of Susan Nichols, Special Education Teacher, effective June 26, 2026

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

To accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2026, Warrants, Transfers, Revenues and Appropriations as presented

7(D) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept the CPSE and CSE Recommendations for the 2025-2026 and the 2026-2027 school year as follows: Meeting Dates of: 3/9; 3/16; 3/17; 4/1; 4/2; 4/13; 4/20; 4/21; 4/23; 4/29

7(E) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint the following additions to the substitute listing for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Bradley Lohrenz, Uncertified Substitute Teacher and TA, effective 4/28/26
- Hannah Bouchard Klein, Substitute Cleaner, Clerical and Monitor, effective 5/4/26
- Michelle Berkey, Substitute Food Service, effective 5/6/26
- Austin Prest, Substitute Cleaner, effective 5/18/26
- Aiden Autrey, Substitute Cleaner, effective 5/18/26

7(F) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent, Dawn Kerber, to the probationary position of Bus Driver, Step 1, effective May 4, 2026

7(G) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To approve an extension of the unpaid Leave of Absence for Trina Silvis, Speech Language Pathologist for the 2026-2027 school year (*original LOA approved for the 2025-2026 SY, approved 6/3/25 BOE mtg*)

7(H) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To approve, upon the recommendation of Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent, 2026 summer hours for the district effective July 6, 2026 - August 28, 2026: Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 4:00pm and Friday 8am - 11am

7(I) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL (Full listing in Supplemental File)

To approve per Board Policy #6900-(Disposal of District Property), as Surplus & Obsolete, the attached lists:

- IT Equipment

7(J) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL & AUTHORIZATION (Full agreement in Supplemental File)

To approve a 2025-2026 Health Services Contract in accordance with Education Law Section 912, with the Averill Park Central School District for three students attending a private school within the district (Robert C Parker) in the amount of \$2,147.25 and to authorize the president of the Board to execute the contract

7(K) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE (Full Report in Supplemental File)

To accept the High School and Middle School Extraclass Activity Fund Reports as of the following date(s):

Account Balance as of 3/31: \$176,532.37

7(L) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept, per Board Policy #1800 Gifts from the Public, a donation of \$300 from Walter and Jean Engel to The Trap Club and approve an increase in the 2025-2026 budget from \$51,151,217 to \$51,151,517 into the following Appropriation Code:

- A2855.530-00-3400 - in the amount of \$300

7(M) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZATION

To approve the 2026-2027 Estimated Final Service Request for the QUESTAR III Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties, in the amount of \$3,255,128.86 and to authorize the President of the Board of Education, to sign the Final Service Request and AS-7 upon receipt

7(N) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE (Full Report in Supplemental File)

To accept the Internal Claims Auditor Report for April 2026 as presented

7(O) CONSIDERATION FOR AUTHORIZATION (Full Agreement in Supplemental File)

To authorize the Board president/Superintendent to execute the following document:

- CS Arch 2025 Capital Project - Haz Mat survey agreement

7(P) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

Whereas Johannah Mollitor who is eligible for a New York State Public School Teacher Certificate in the certification area(s) of Earth Science 7-12

Whereas Marie Digirolamo, Superintendent of the Ichabod Crane Central School District, recommends Johannah Mollitor 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 Johannah Mollitor to the position of professional educator in the tenure area(s) of Academic Science, Bachelors Step 4 for a probationary period of four years to commence on or about August 26, 2026 and to expire on or about August 25, 2030

End of Consent Agenda

Carried, 7-0

Public Comment - Agenda Items Only

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

Meetings

Board Meetings

May 19 - Accept Results of Vote at approximately 9:20pm

June 2 - Regular Meeting 7:00 pm High School Library

June 16 - Special Meeting 7:00 pm High School Library (tentative)

Committees

Academic: May 19 at 5:45 pm in the CO Conference Room

Policy: May 26 at 5:45 pm - virtual only

Other

May 11 - Meet the Candidates - 6:00 pm - HS Library

May 19 - Budget Vote and Election - 8 am-9 pm - HS Gymnasium

June 26 - Graduation 6:30 pm on Multipurpose Field

Rain Date June 27 at 10 am

Executive Session

MOTION NELSON 2ND SCOVILLE

To adjourn to Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss the employment history of particular individuals

Carried, 7-0

MOTION PHILLIPS 2ND WAITS

To appoint Kelly Firmbach as Clerk Pro Tem

Carried, 7-0

The District Clerk left the meeting.

Others present at Executive Session:

Superintendent Marie Digirolamo

Assistant Superintendent Lucas Christensen

Business Manager Michael Brennan

The meeting was reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

MOTION SCHAEFER 2ND WAITS

To adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Carried, 7-0