

entered 6:55 p.m.), Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Dunn (excused)

Other staff in attendance: Ms. Massaro, Ms. Doerr, Mr. Wojton, Mr. Smeal, Mr. Carella, Mrs. Buchman, Mr. Granieri, Mrs. Glaser. Attorneys Mr. Massaro and Mr. Roscetti.

Mr. Laurie commented that teachers of grades K – 3 have a very difficult job in teaching reading. The District has done a great job addressing the varying needs of myriad learners in this regard. The teachers do a great job.

The upcoming presentation reflects work that has been done for months regarding the State's upcoming literacy mandate.

District Alignment to the Science of Reading - Mr. Carella and Mrs. Buchman offered the following report:

“Science of Reading (SoR) is broad term for consensus view on what literacy instructional practices work best for teaching reading. It relies on research from multiple fields, such as developmental psychology, linguistics, and implementation science. It is not a narrow, prescriptive way to teach reading for all learners. According to The Reading League, The Reading League - The Science of Reading The Science of Reading is NOT: an ideology or philosophy; a fad, trend or new idea; a political agenda; a one-size-fits all approach; or a single, specific component of instruction, such as phonics.

The Science of Reading refers to one instructional approach, i.e., it is a tangible program or curriculum – the term's value is derived from its emphasis on drawing on research findings, principles and practices when designing and implementing literacy

History: 1/3/21: Governor Hochul announces "Back to Basics" initiative with proposed investments in teacher training and teacher preparation programs - the NYSED is to provide guidance on the SoR to school districts.

1/10/24: NYSED releases the Science of Reading Briefs – 7 guidance documents focusing on the SoR.

6/4/24: NYSED released the K-3 Literacy Curriculum Review Guide with FAQ document.

Pending:

1/1/25: Date by which NYSED is to provide additional instructional guidance to school districts, beyond the Briefs.

9/1/25: Date by which districts will be required to review their curriculum and instructional practices for alignment to SED guidance and verify via NYSED's reporting data base.

District goals include to:

- Ensure all schools/teachers provide direct instruction in phonemic awareness and phonics
- Enhance District-wide Response to Intervention system by providing dedicated, trained personnel and research-based interventions
- Provide job-embedded professional learning and coaching support for classroom teachers and interventionists
- Continually analyze student progress data to inform instructional planning – a "teach/test/respond/teach/test/respond" learning cycle.
- Use NYSED guidance and other resources to vet current instructional materials
- Use NYSED guidance and available research to identify instructional shifts needed and create transition plans

Current Status - Strengths and Needs: phonological awareness, phonics, word recognition, handwriting, and spelling:

Wilson Language Foundations – Grades K – 3 – Tiers 1 and 2 in all eight elementary

The Reading League began producing “Curriculum Navigation Reports” in 2022 – reviewers look for evidence of “red flag practices” or those that are not aligned with the SoR

The Reading League found that Wonders 2023, overall, meets or mostly meets all SoR criteria – minimal evidence of red flag practices – the full report:

Curriculum Decision Makers - The Reading League

Fountas and Pinnell – Core Resource Primary Sister Schools – Heinemann Publishing
Program overview:

Fountas & Pinnell Classroom™ Literacy For All Students Grades K-6

Ed Reports review – low marks for Phonics program, text complexity and rigor of writing assignments

New Curriculum Review Gives Failing Marks to Two Popular Reading Programs

Elementary Intervention Menu and SoR include Our 8 elementary schools utilize AIMSWeb, a nationally-normed screener, to assess students' reading skills. This takes place during benchmark periods (Fall, Winter & Spring) and for progress monitoring (weekly or bi-weekly) . Each school has one Lead PEP Teacher, and multiple full-time and part-time interventionists who provide targeted support for Tier 2 and Tier 3 students using the following menu of research-based intervention programs:

Corrective Reading; Foundations Double Dose; Waterford Reading; Failure Free Reading; Reading Recovery; Winsor Learning – Sonday Reading System (Let's Play Learn)

Our Intervention Menu is fluid and flexible so that our Interventionists can meet the individual needs of our learners.

Our literacy committee work will include time reviewing our intervention menu for each program's alignment with the Science of Reading.

In addition to following NYSED guidance, The Reading League's Curriculum Evaluation Guidelines (last updated in February 2023) will be a resource for the committee in evaluating our programs.

The District does need to teach more vocabulary and improve in administering short assessments.

Phase 1 Summer/Fall 2023

Selected and trained RtI Lead Teachers for all elementary schools
Expanded RtI program menu with additional research-based intervention programs
Addressed material and training gaps to ensure all Kindergarten to Gr. 2 teachers were able to teach the Wilson Language Foundations Tier 1 phonics program daily
Updated Kindergarten to Grade 5 ELA Curriculum with new core resources

Phase 2 Winter/Spring 2024

Selected 3 teachers to receive training and certification for in-district training and coaching for Wilson Language Foundations
Participated in Fulcrum Literacy Diagnostic virtual interview
Assessed strengths and needs of K – 2 Foundations implementation and planned summer training to deepen and refine instructional fidelity
ELA leaders and coaches reviewed NYSED’s Science of Reading Briefs and K-3 Literacy Review Guide
Conferenced with Reading League volunteers on creating roadmap for alignment.

Phase 3 Summer/Fall 2024

90 teachers participated in Foundations practice workshops
Gr. 6-8 ELA Teacher committee used NYSED resources to select two core resources and intervention program for piloting SY 24-25.
Created plan for introduction of Wilson Readers (decodable readers) into core literacy program at all schools, grades K - 2
-pilot classrooms – Sept. and Oct.
-training for all teachers Nov. 5 – implementation follows
Began rollout of Grade 3 Foundations Tier 1 Foundational Skills program to all

Board members asked questions and learned that:

A student who is falling behind may receive a different intervention, communication with parents, START Team referral to learn if something else is afoot (personal or family challenges).

Primary Enhancement Program (PEP) is a Response to Intervention program.

Pilot programs are under way for older grades.

The District's programs must align with the SoR, but it is not proscriptive in requiring certain texts or practices. This State mandate is not a fully funded mandate. Teacher training, for example, will need to be done by the District, without dedicated without funding.

We are still using Reading Recovery. One study questions the long-term benefits of it over the long run. We use it for students with the most serious deficits in grade one. All districts await additional guidance from State Education on its final guidance.

Mr. Laurrie is primarily concerned about grade three. The District must expand its programming in use K – 2.

Teachers will be fully trained with the anticipated support of and partnership with NFT. The whole community should be engaged with this topic. The District is in good shape and is always evaluating.

A review of the November 21st agenda was held.

Mr. Laurrie shared that:

The NFHS Alumni Musical will be performed November 7, 8, and 9 at 7p.m. and on Saturday the 9th at 1p.m. in the PAC at NFHS. The show is Beautiful, the Carole King Musical. Tickets are available at the door. Support our theatre and drama students.

Our Native American Club at NFHS raised the Haudenosaunee Flag for the month of November. Thank you to teacher Jessica Forgette for leading our Native American

Thanks to Northpoint Council for donating 600 hygiene kits to our District family closets.

The bond sale will take place tomorrow, saving the District \$320,000.

The Title I application was completed and approved in record time, with the District being granted \$5.4 million. Thanks to Mr. Carella, Mr. Schwertfager, and most especially Mrs. Dotts – the most knowledgeable person with respect to Title I in NYS.

At a future meeting the new graduation requirement roll-out by NYS will be discussed.

Current freshman will be the first to have one diploma; current grade six students will be the first to graduate under the new diploma requirements. A thorough awareness communication campaign will be needed to educate parents.

Thanks to the Board for its support and spending so much time to understand the Science of Reading. Those interested in the community who are interested – parents, the public – should follow the issue and are encouraged to see Dr. Schultz to join the Foundational Literacy group.

The District offers condolences and any help it can give to the Niagara Charter School community and shares in its mourning of the Means family, who perished at Falls last week. Our thoughts are with all those hurting.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:16 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Bilson for the purpose of discussing a collective bargaining agreement. The Board exited executive session and adjourned at 7:54 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto. All in favor.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson(remote), Mr. Cancemi, Mr. Capizzi (entered 7 pm), Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo

MEMBERS ABSENT: (excused)

1. Agenda Review Session

1.01 Topics

Walk the World - Mrs. Capone, Ms. Modicaamore, Ms. Loiacano, and Ms. Leo presented the following information about the second annual Walk the World celebration of diversity, which took place November 2, 2024. The event received an immigrant grant three years due to our number of immigrant students. These funds enabled the event to be realized. The District has greater diversity than ever and celebrates that fact.

The team thanked the Superintendent, teachers, and the community for their support. Mrs. Leo had the original idea for the event.

Ms. Leo pointed out that authenticity is key to a successful event. Therefore, significant outreach took place to invite all residents, not only those with ties to the District. More than 700 guests attended, more than 100 staff assisted. Fourteen restaurant and agencies participated, too. Sponsors included Jewish Family Services, NAZ 716, the Teachers Desk, Niagara County Sheriff's Department, and the Cedar Club.

Collaborating agencies included Niagara Falls Teachers retirees, the Black Excellence Club, NFHS fashion students, Key Club, the Honor Society, and others.

The fair strengthens connections between our families & local organizations, celebrating the strong ties that unite us as a community.

Food and crafts were part of the experience, as were dance and music. There has been

from poor behavior choices and focus on making a positive impact.

Studies show 85% of LPS students participating in this program last year passed with no need for summer schools; 91% did so this year

At GPS, those numbers were 83% last year and 98% this year.

Students have reported being more confident, getting off drugs, and focusing more on academics. Staff have also participated in development with Rev. Coplin.

The Rev. Coplin believes you can change your life by changing the words you say. The Board participated in an exercise with Rev. Coplin. He shared his positive affirmations and invited the assembled persons to repeat them. He is also working on increasing parent participation in school activities and parent meetings.

Mr. Laurrie expressed that he is impressed by Rev. Coplin's enthusiasm and success.

A review of the agenda was held.

The Board entered Executive Session at 6:30 on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. Paretto for the purpose of discussing 4 matters under potential discipline or removal of persons or corporations.

The Board exited Executive Session at 6:57 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Vilardo seconded by Mr. McLeod.

2. Call to Order

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Reflection was offered by Mr. Paretto.

2.03 Roll Call

3.01 Letters and Communications (SG4)

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

4.03 Approval of the following Bids None (SG3)

The following was received and filed.

4.04 Treasurer's Report – October (SG3)

NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2024								
	M&T Bank Host Community	Key Bank Greenway	Wilmington COPS	M&T Bank Tax Collection	Bank on Buffalo Savings	Chase Bank Cap. Projects MM	Chase Bank 31 Day CD 11/2024	Grand Totals
BEGINNING CASH BALANCE	\$ 34,803.29	\$ 1,541,647.74	\$ 4,420,800.00	\$ 1,188,300.49	\$ 3,143,790.17	\$ 12,016,959.26	\$ 25,742,315.05	\$ 48,088,616.00
CASH RECEIPTS:								
Interest	88.79	4,356.34	-	-	7,342.69	21,862.93	90,956.78	124,607.53
Tax Collections	-	-	-	791,932.95	-	-	-	791,932.95
Total Receipts:	88.79	4,356.34	-	791,932.95	7,342.69	21,862.93	90,956.78	916,540.48
DISBURSEMENTS:								
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	1,700,000.00	-	1,206,837.89	-	2,906,837.89
Total Disbursements:	-	-	-	1,700,000.00	-	1,206,837.89	-	2,906,837.89
ENDING CASH BALANCE	\$ 34,892.08	\$ 1,546,004.08	\$ 4,420,800.00	\$ 280,233.44	\$ 3,151,132.86	\$ 10,831,984.30	\$ 25,833,271.83	\$ 46,098,318.59
	A200.11	A200.17	A200.10	A200.15	A200.18	H200.2	A200.21	
BALANCE PER BANK	\$ 34,892.08	\$ 1,546,004.08	\$ 4,420,800.00	\$ 280,233.44	\$ 3,151,132.86	\$ 10,831,984.30	\$ 25,833,271.83	\$ 46,098,318.59
Less: Pending transfers								
ENDING CASH BALANCE	\$ 34,892.08	\$ 1,546,004.08	\$ 4,420,800.00	\$ 280,233.44	\$ 3,151,132.86	\$ 10,831,984.30	\$ 25,833,271.83	\$ 46,098,318.59
Unreconciled Difference	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

The following was received and filed.

4.05 Budget Status Report – October (SG3)

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

4.08 Report from Committee on Special Education (SG1)

A motion is recommended for the approval of the following resolution: Report from the Committee on Special Education

The Committee on Special Education met on September 13, 24, 26, 2024; and October 2, 3, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 2024; and November 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 14, 15, 18, 2024 to review Annual Reviews, and June 6, 2024; and September 16, 18, 25, 26, 2024; and October 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 2024; and November 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 2024 to review and initiate the placement of students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the Committee on Special Education to make known its recommendations to the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education is required by law to take action on the recommendations made by the Committee on Special Education; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approve the attached recommendations made by the Committee on Special Education for the 2024-2025 school year.**The vote was as follows:**

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

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

4.09 Report from Committee on Preschool Special Education (SG1)

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the Committee on Pre-School Special Education to make known its recommendations to the Board of Education; and

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

4.10 Short-Term Contracts (SG 1,3)

1. SUNY Niagara PTECH Sessions – NFHS – General outreach Training \$3,500.00
F2110.400.098.9425 November 2024- 2025
2. NF Memorial Medical Center Sports Physicals for Winter Athletes \$5,250.00 (NTE)
A2280.140.007 November 6,13,14,18, 2024
3. SUNY Niagara Parent Education Program \$6,648.00 A2280.140.007 September 16,
2024-December 21, 2024
4. Father and Son Center Judah Deliverance Ministries Corp Mentoring Students of Color
\$20,000.00 A2280.140.007 October 29, 2024-December 19, 2024
5. Lumber City Combat Sports Staff Defensive training \$2,400.00
A2110.400.045 November, 2024 – June 2025 (4 – 2 hour sessions)
6. University at Buffalo Center for Assistive Technology Assistive Technology Services
\$2,000.00 A2280.140.007 November 2024-June 2025
7. Fuji Grill NF Walk the World Celebration \$600.00 F2259.140.098.2925 November 2,
2024
8. Ghada Have It Walk the World Celebration \$650.00 F2259.140.098.2925
November 2, 2024
9. Amor and Heritage Dance, Inc. Walk the World Celebration \$200.00
F2259.140.098.2925 November 2, 2024
10. Anchai LaCarte Walk the World Celebration \$200.00 F2259.140.098.2925
November 2, 2024

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Cancemi, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

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

Falls City School District; and

WHEREAS, This donation will be used by teachers and students within the District,

RESOLVED, That the Niagara Falls Board of Education gratefully accept the donation of six teacher kits, one box of Let's Play Learn manipulatives and four Sunday 1 Classroom material kits that include sound cards, workbooks, student resource books and student notebooks; and

RESOLVED, That the District Clerk be directed to send a letter of appreciation to:

Rachel Hoot, Adjunct Professor

Daemen University

4380 Main Street

Amherst, NY 14226

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

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

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS 2024/2025 PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL GRANT

WHEREAS, The New York State Pathways In Technology Early College High School (NYS P-TECH) program is a public-private partnership that will prepare thousands of New York students for high-skill jobs of the future in technology, manufacturing, healthcare and finance; and

WHEREAS, District staff prepared and submitted an application for the grant; and

WHEREAS, Official notification of approval of the application and award in the amount of \$374,141.00 has been received; therefore be it

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

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

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS FROM THE CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE OUR SCHOOLS CHANNEL OSC 01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024

WHEREAS, In 2004, the City School District of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, by Agreement with the City of Niagara Falls was designated to operate and administer the Access Educational Channel, now known as Our School's Channel (OSC); and

WHEREAS, The District has successfully operated the OSC since the date of the Agreement affording its students, staff and the community educational and informative programs; and

WHEREAS, In the past, the City assisted the District by contributing monies toward the operation and maintenance of OSC; and

WHEREAS, The City again wishes to assist the District and contribute \$10,000.00 (ten thousand dollars) toward the operation and maintenance of OSC subject to certain terms and conditions contained in an Agreement negotiated by City and District representatives; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the sum of \$10,000.00 (ten thousand dollars) from the City of Niagara Falls, New York for assistance in the operation and maintenance of the Our School's Channel and does hereby approve the

WHEREAS, NFHS students will be dually enrolled at Niagara University and Niagara Falls High School, and

WHEREAS, official notice of approval of the application and award in the amount of \$112,500.00 has been received; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the funds for the 2024/2025 Smart Scholars Early College High School (ECHS) Grant; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the grant award of \$112,500.00 be credited to revenue account code F3289.630.25; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the money be expended in the following function/object codes:

Account	Description	Budget
F 2010.140-045-6325	24/25 SS/EC - SCH B/PER DIEM	\$30,250.00
F 2010.152-014-6325	24/25 SS/EC - PROG DIRECTOR	\$18,000.00
F 2010.400-045-6325	24/25 SS/EC - PRCHD SRVCS	\$60,000.00
F 2010.409-098-6325	24/25 SS/EC - TRAVEL	\$1,980.00
F 2010.450-045-6325	24/25 SS/EC - SPLS	\$2,270.00
	\$112,500.00	
Revenue Code: F3289.630.25		

ABSTRACT

1. School District: City School District of the City of Niagara Falls, NY
2. Title of Project: Smart Scholars Early College High School (ECHS) Grant
3. Funding Source: The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and NYSED
4. Total Budget: \$112,500.00
5. Total Staff: .20

Objectives:

- Promote enrollment
- Promote attendance
- Achieve success in college level course work

The vote was as follows:

RESOLVED, That the grant award of \$125,000.00 be credited to Revenue Account F3289.190.25 Family and Community Engagement Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the money be expended in the following function/object codes:

Account	Description	Budget
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F 2110.140-098-1925	24/25 FCEP - SCH B	\$45,495.00
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F 2110.152-014-1925	24/25 FCEP - PROG DIRECTOR	\$12,000.00
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F 2110.167-098-1925	24/25 FCEP - HRLY CLSFD	\$11,200.00
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F 2110.400-098-1925	24/25 FCEP - PRCHD SRVCS	\$54,750.00
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F 2110.450-098-1925	24/25 FCEP - SPLS	\$1,555.00
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\$125,000.00

Revenue Code: F3289.190.25

ABSTRACT

1. School District: School District of the City of Niagara Falls, New York
2. Title of Project: Family and Community Engagement Program
3. Funding Source: The State Education Department
4. Total Budget: \$125,000.00

Major Objectives/Activities/Evaluation:

- Develop the knowledge and skills of school and district personnel, as well as families and community members, to increase required trust and relationships necessary to address student learning needs and abilities at each grade level.
- Provide access to multi-level networks that foster respect and trust in building family relationships with the school and school community.
- Create an environment where partnerships thrive in a comfortable, culturally diverse, and engaging atmosphere that fosters respect and trust. (Focus on minority male students)
- Commit to building and sustaining child-centered roles for the school family and community that values student learning and social and emotional development as equal education partners

2024/2025 school year, and
 WHEREAS, District staff prepared and submitted an application for the grants; and
 WHEREAS, Official notification of approved of the application and award in the amount of \$4,357,010.00 has been received; therefore be it
 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Acceptance of Funds for the 2024/2025 Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) Grant; and
 RESOLVED, that the grant award of \$4,357,010.00 be credited to revenue code F3289.310.25; and
 RESOLVED, that the money be expended from the following codes:

Account	Description	Budget
F 2510.133-057-3125	24/25 UPK - TCHR - CATARACT	\$335,798
F 2510.133-058-3125	24/25 UPK - TCHR - H/P	\$112,075
F 2510.133-059-3125	24/25 UPK - TCHR - KALFAS	\$359,905
F 2510.133-060-3125	24/25 UPK - TCHR - MAPLE	\$271,083
F 2510.133-061-3125	24/25 UPK - TCHR - BBPS	\$441,601
F 2510.133-065-3125	24/25 UPK - TCHR - 79TH	\$264,872
F 2510.133-067-3125	24/25 UPK - TCHR - GJ MANN	\$312,862
F 2510.140-098-3125	24/25 UPK - SCHEDULE B / PER DIEM	\$22,818
F 2510.150-014-3125	24/25 UPK - GRANT DIRECTOR	\$41,857
F 2510.164-014-3125	24/25 UPK - CLERICAL	\$20,385
F 2510.177-057-3125	24/25 UPK - CLASS ASSOC - CATARACT	\$189,111
F 2510.177-058-3125	24/25 UPK - CLASS ASSOC - H/P	\$68,699
F 2510.177-059-3125	24/25 UPK - CLASS ASSOC - KALFAS	\$190,143
F 2510.177-060-3125	24/25 UPK - CLASS ASSOC - MAPLE	\$144,002
F 2510.177-061-3125	24/25 UPK - CLASS ASSOC - BBPS	\$292,107
F 2510.177-065-3125	24/25 UPK - CLASS ASSOC - 79TH	\$145,697
F 2510.177-067-3125	24/25 UPK - CLASS ASSOC - GJ MANN	\$142,089
F 2510.177-098-3125	24/25 UPK - CLASS ASSOC - JAMBOREE	\$3,360
F 2510.400-098-3125	24/25 UPK - PRCHD SRVCS	\$310,402
F 2510.409-098-3125	24/25 UPK - TRAVEL	\$1,500
F 2510.450-000-3125	24/25 UPK - SPCL	\$120,222

Demonstrate increasing independence.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

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

**APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. SCC-08 FOR THE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

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 Board approve a change order for this purpose; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Niagara Falls Board of Education hereby approves Change Order No. SCC-08 for \$14,942.54 to Scrufari Construction Company 3295 Hyde Park Blvd Niagara Falls, NY 14305

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

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

**APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. GN-02 FOR THE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

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

WHEREAS, Clark Patterson Lee, Project Architect, and Buffalo Construction

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 \$691,386.00; 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 \$34,569.31; and

WHEREAS, The amount of payment the District will issue shall be \$691,386.00 less the required 5% retainage (\$34,569.31) as outlined in the contract, \$656,816.69; 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 \$656,816.69 to Scrufari Construction Company 3925 Hyde Park Blvd Niagara Falls, NY 14305 in accordance with the Application and Certificate for Payment #08; 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.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr.

WHEREAS, Greater Niagara Mechanical has submitted an Application and Certificate for Payment, AIA Document G732, for services rendered and material furnished in the amount of \$4,600.00; 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 \$230.00; and

WHEREAS, The amount of payment the District will issue shall be \$4,600.00 less the required 5% retainage (\$230.00) as outlined in the contract, \$4,370.00; 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 \$4,370.00 to Greater Niagara Mechanical 7311 Ward Rd North Tonawanda, NY 14120 in accordance with the Application and Certificate for Payment #05; 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.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

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

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT NO. 8 TO JOHN W. DANFORTH FOR HVAC CONTRACTING
WORK FOR THE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR (ABOFA) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT (CIP) CONTRACT 123B**

WHEREAS, The amount of payment the District will issue shall be \$119,862.63 less the required 5% retainage (\$5,992.77) as outlined in the contract, \$113,862.63; 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 \$113,862.63 to John W. Danforth 300 Colvin Woods Parkway Tonawanda, NY 14150 in accordance with the Application and Certificate for Payment #08; 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.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

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

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT NO. 8 TO JOHN W. DANFORTH FOR HVAC CONTRACTING WORK FOR THE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR (ABOFA) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (CIP) CONTRACT 123C

WHEREAS, The Board of Education executed a Contract dated January 25, 2024, with John W. Danforth for HVAC work on 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

be submitted as a claim for State Aid reimbursement according to the State formula for school buildings.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

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

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT NO. 8 TO FREY ELECTRIC CONSTRUCTION CO. INC. FOR ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING WORK FOR THE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR (ABOFA) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (CIP)

WHEREAS, The Board of Education executed a Contract dated January 25, 2024, with Frey Electrical Construction Corp. for Electrical work on 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, 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 \$181,297.25; 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

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

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT NO. 7 TO JOHNSON CONTROLS, INC. FOR LABOR AND ELECTRICAL CONTROLS CONTRACTING WORK FOR THE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR (ABOFA) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (CIP)

WHEREAS, The Board of Education executed a Contract dated February 28, 2024, with Johnson Controls Inc for Labor Controls Contracting work on 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, Johnson Controls Inc has submitted an Application and Certificate for Payment, AIA Document G732, for services rendered and material furnished in the amount of \$86,357.58; 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 \$4,317.88; and

WHEREAS, The amount of payment the District will issue shall be \$86,357.58 less the required 5% retainage (\$4,317.88) as outlined in the contract, \$82,039.70; 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 \$82,039.70 to

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, 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 \$43,424.49; 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 \$2,171.22; and

WHEREAS, The amount of payment the District will issue shall be \$43,424.49 less the required 5% retainage (\$2,171.22) as outlined in the contract, \$41,253.27; 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 \$41,253.27 to U&S Services (Stark Tech) 95 Stark St Tonawanda, NY 14150 in accordance with the Application and Certificate for Payment #08; 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.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

Welcome to members of the military in attendance and thank you for your service. Recruiters are always welcome.

The Winter Sports schedule was in your packets; please try to attend Cataract City Classic December 6 and 7. On December 7 at 4:30 p.m., John Hayes #30 number will be retired. He is one of the most prolific scorers in NF history. The girls basketball team looks very promising, also, so try to attend a game.

A Bond Primary School brochure is at your seats. This is a helpful tool for new parents, especially.

Congratulations to two members of our NFHS Ladies Swim Team, divers Tori Franke and Selena Govern on qualifying for sectional competition. Miss Franke left today with the band playing her out on her way to Webster, NY to compete in the NYS diving championship.

The Hyde Park Gazebo roof will be added in spring. The Niagara County Building Trades will honor Matt Rajczak, who is the teacher for building trades, on December 4 at the Wurlitzer in North Tonawanda.

Four students qualified for the All-State Chorus; the All-State Music Festival takes place in Fredonia this Friday and Saturday.

Thank you to Nasreen "Naz" Akhtar and Anas Mangla for distributed 500 turkeys at HJK today.

Wishing staff, students, and Board members a happy, restful, peaceful, Thanksgiving with family.

This month is National School Board Recognition Month; thank you, Board members, for your service. It is a sacrifice to your families and you all are busy. This Board is run

Mr. Bass - Attended the NYS School Boards Association (NYSSBA) and the Council of Urban Board of Education (CUBE) conference. The Council of Urban Board of Education Conference featured powerful workshops. Mr. Bass will share information he learned. Also, at NYSSBA, he learned of a credit union that offers financial literacy teaching to students; it would be good to implement that here. Happy Thanksgiving. Remember the less fortunate with empathy and sympathy.

Mr. Laurrie – NYSSBA was heavy in artificial intelligence; we need to really build on that.

Mr. Capizzi - Happy Thanksgiving. Very thankful Mr. Cancemi is well, following some traffic mishaps.

Mr. McLeod - Happy Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Dunn - Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Paretto – Expressed that he appreciates the time spent on the Board of Education. Happy Thanksgiving. The trades students did an amazing job working on the gazebo. He would like to work with them on electrical lessons during school hours. Mr. Paretto has photos he would like to share in future.

Mr. Laurrie will invite Mr. Rajczak and his trades students to a future meeting. This is his last year teaching; two teachers are shadowing him.

Mr. Petrozzi – thanked you to our armed force members. Happy Thanksgiving.

9. Advanced Planning

9.01 Future Agenda Items

9.02 Future Meeting Dates

12. Deborah Gerace Pearson, mother of Shannon Savage.
13. Kathryn Toni, mother of Christine McNair (Cataract Senior School Monitor) and Phillip Toni (LPS kitchen).
14. Louis Trapasso, teacher at Trott.

10.01

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Bass, Mr. Bilson, Mr. Capizzi, Mrs. Dunn, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Paretto, Mr. Petrozzi, Mr. Vilardo.

Nays: None.

Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Glaser, District Clerk