



a. Motion to return to regular session at: 7:18 PM

Motion: Spaulding    Second: CotterSaltamach    Yes: 7    No: 0    Abstain: 0    Accept

## 7. Approval of Agenda & Minutes

- a. Approve the adoption of the agenda.
- b. Approve the minutes of the July 1, 2025, Reorganization and Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion: Fenton    Second: Broderick    Yes: 6    No: 0    Abstain: 1 - Spaulding    Accept

## 8. 2025-2026 Tax Levy

- a. Resolution confirming the tax rolls and authorizing the tax levy:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Boquet Valley Board of Education has been authorized by the voters at the Annual Meeting to raise for the current budget for the 2025-2026 school year a sum not to exceed \$8,547,418. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board fix equalized tax rates by the towns and confirm the extension of taxes as they appear on the attached roll (for equalizing taxes): AND BE IT HEREBY DIRECTED THAT THE DELINQUENT TAX PENALTIES SHALL BE FILED AS FOLLOWS:

September 2, 2025 - September 30, 2025 No Penalty

October 1, 2025 - October 31, 2025 2% Penalty

RESOLUTION authorizing the issuance of the tax warrant: WHEREAS, Chapter 73 of the laws of 1977, amended section 1318, subdivision 1 of the Real Property Tax Law; and WHEREAS, the entire unreserved fund balance at the close of the last fiscal year must be applied in determining the amount of the school tax levy except for an amount not to exceed the maximum percent allowed by for the current school year budget; and WHEREAS, this latter amount may be held as surplus funds during the current school year;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education retain as surplus funds approximately \$1,258,501 from the total approximate fund balance of \$10,039,064 thereby applying \$0 to the reduction of the tax levy.

BE IT ADDITIONALLY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS, to the Collector of Boquet Valley Central School District, town(s) of Chesterfield, Elizabethtown, Essex, Lewis and Westport, County of Essex, New York State, you are commanded:

1. To give notice and start collection on September 2, 2025 (in accordance with provisions of section 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law).
2. To give notice that the tax collection will end on October 31, 2025.
3. To collect taxes in the amount of \$8,547,418 in the manner collectors are authorized to collect town and county taxes in accordance with the provisions of section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law and as approved by the voters at the annual meeting to collect taxes in the amount of \$40,000 for the public libraries and to turn over to the Westport Library Association \$15,000, to the Wadhams Free Library \$7,000 and to the Elizabethtown Library Association \$18,000.
4. To make no changes or alterations in the tax warrant or the attached tax rolls but shall return the same to the Board of Education. The Board may recall its warrant and tax roll

for correction of errors or omission in accordance with the provision of section 553 of the Real Property Tax Law.

5. To forward by mail to each owner of real property listed on the tax rolls within ten days after the start of collection a statement of taxes due on his property on pressed-numbered tax bill forms provided by the school district in accordance with the provisions of section 922 of the Real Property Tax Law. To forward by mail, without interest penalties to the office of the County Treasurer, a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on the school tax rolls in accordance with the provisions of section 540 and 5445 of the Real Property Tax Law.

6. To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons that sum listed on the attached tax rolls without interest penalties where such sums are paid before the end of the first month of tax collection. To add 2% interest penalties to all taxes collected during the second month of the tax collection period to account for such as income due to the school district.

7. To issue press-number receipts only on forms provided by the school district in acknowledgment of receipt of payments of taxes and to retain, preserve and file exact copies of all such receipts issued as required by section 987 of the Real Property Tax Law.

8. To promptly return the warrant at its expiration and if any taxes on the attached tax rolls shall be unpaid at that time deliver an accounting on forms showing by town the total assessed valuation, tax rate, and total tax levy, the total amounts remaining uncollected as required by section 1330 of the Real Property Tax Law.

The warrant is issued pursuant to sections 910, 912, and 914 of the Real Property Tax Law and is delivered in accordance with sections 1306 and 1318 of this law. It is effective immediately after it is properly signed by a majority of the Board of Education. This warrant shall expire on the dates stated above unless a renewal or extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing with section 1318, subdivision 2 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Motion: Broderick      Second: CotterSaltamach      Yes: 7    No: 0    Abstain: 0      Accept

## **9. Public Comment**

Our agenda offers two Public Comment sections; opinions, ideas and concerns that are offered by the public will be considered and taken under advisement. We have set aside a 15 minute period giving the audience time to share their thoughts with us. Please raise your hand to be acknowledged by the Board President. When called upon, please identify yourself and give your address, limiting your comments to three minutes.

Megan Ostroski encourages transparency and highlights recent administrative efforts.

Jim Jackson raised concerns about asbestos and project costs.

Sarah Kingzack supported replacing the carpet, noting its poor condition and the benefits for students and staff despite the cost.

## **10. Financials**

a. Approve the following financial reports:

- i. Warrant Summary Report 07/01/2025 - 08/08/2025
- ii. Warrant 0002 - AP dated 07/11/2025
- iii. Warrant 003 - July Week 2

Motion: Broderick      Second: Spaulding      Yes: 7    No: 0    Abstain: 0      Accept  
Discussion about financial reporting ensued.

### **11. CSE, CPSE, and 504 Recommendations**

- a. Accept and approve the Committee on Preschool Special Education, Committee on Special Education, and Committee on 504 Plan recommendations as presented.

Motion: Welch              Second: Fenton              Yes: 7    No: 0    Abstain: 0      Accept

### **12. Action Items - Consent Agenda**

- a. The approval of the following revised/updated handbooks as presented for the 2025-2026 school year:
  - i. BVCS D Student and Family Handbook 2025-2026 Edition.
  - ii. BVCS D Athletic Code of Conduct 2025-2026 Edition.
  - iii. BVCS D New Teacher Introduction and Mentoring Program 2025-2026 Edition.
- b. Approve the Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) agreements from the Stearn Center as presented for students identified by the Committee on Special Education (CSE).
- c. Approve the following service contracts/agreements for the 2025-26 school year as presented:
  - i. Partnership Agreement between BVCS D and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Essex County, Inc. (CCE Essex).
  - ii. Essex County School Resource Officer Agreement.
  - iii. Laurie Eamer, RN, FNP-BC - School Health: Medical Director \$12,000.
  - iv. AES Northeast, \$8,500.
  - v. Atlantic Lab Testing, \$21,755.
  - vi. Essex County - Tax Collector for the 2025-26 school year at a rate of \$2.00 per parcel multiplied by the total number of tax bills prepared by Essex County Real Property Tax Services (3,711) for a total of \$7,422.

Motion: Spaulding    Second: CotterSaltamach              Yes: 6    No: 1 - Fenton    Abstain: 0      Accept  
The Board discussed the location of materials available for member review.

### **13. Personnel - Consent Agenda**

- a. Accept and approve the letters of resignation as submitted by:
  - i. Denny Mitchell, full-time bus driver, effective August 30, 2025.
  - ii. Daniel Marangiello, Director of Student Support Services, effective September 13, 2025.
  - iii. Dawn Haase, full-time (10-month) School Nurse, effective August 13, 2025.
- b. Approve the appointment of Rhonda Baker as Interim CSE Chairperson, effective July 8, 2025, through June 30, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$35.00.

- c. Approve the appointment of Denny Mitchell as a part-time (10-Month) Civil Service position of Bus Driver, effective September 2, 2025, with a 120-day probationary period beginning September 2, 2025, and ending approximately March 17, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$22.63, fingerprint clearance on file.
- d. Approve the appointment of Angel Mitchell as full-time (10-month) Civil Service position of Food Service Helper, effective September 2, 2025, with a 120-day probationary period beginning September 2, 2025, and ending approximately March 17, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$19.50, fingerprint clearance on file.
- e. Approve the appointment of Eric Holland as full-time (12-month) Civil Service position of cleaner effective August 18, 2025, with a 120-day probationary period beginning August 18, 2025, and ending approximately March 3, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$19.50, fingerprint clearance on file.
- f. Approve the appointment of Kendra Goff as a (non-certified) Building Substitute at a daily rate of \$135 for the 2025-26 school year.
- g. Resolved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Adele Jesmer is hereby appointed Teacher on Special Assignment, Dean of Students, effective September 4, 2025, for the 2025-2026 school year at her contractual salary per the BVFT Agreement.
- h. Resolve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Shawn Strack, who holds an Administrator Professional Certificate, is hereby appointed on probation to the position of Director of Student Support Services with an annual salary of \$92,500 (prorated based upon start date) anticipated to commence on or about September 15, 2025 and anticipated to end on September 15, 2029, pending receipt of fingerprint clearance. Mr. Strack will be credited with 30 sick days for the 2025-2026 school year.
- i. Approve the non-tenure track appointment of (June) Marcail Miller to the full-time 10-month position of School Counselor, per the terms of the Feinerman agreement, at an annual salary of \$48,261 (Step A +18) for the 2025-2026 school year, effective September 2, 2025, fingerprint clearance on file.
- j. Approve the appointment of the following employees to serve as OASIS Credit Recovery, Enrichment, and Summer Power Program teachers for the period July 7 through August 8, 2025, paid at their hourly rate through the Extended School Day Grant:
  - i. Adele Jesmer (enrichment)
  - ii. Ashley Hooper (academics)
  - iii. Malinda Fleming (academics)
- k. Approve the appointment of Angel Mitchell as Summer School Cook Manager, effective July 7, 2025, through August 8, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$25.00, paid through the OASIS grant.
- l. Accept and approve the title change for the following employees to Clerk, effective August 15, 2025, with no additional changes:
  - i. Allison Whalen
  - ii. John Looby
  - iii. Janelle Pulsifer
- m. Approve the following extra-curricular appointments and stipends per the current BVFT agreement for the 2025-2026:
  - i. Quiz Bowl Advisor - Jay Fiegl
  - ii. Talent Show Co-Coordinator - Julie Bisselle
  - iii. Talent Show Co-Coordinator - Heather Olson

- iv. Track Coach (fall & spring) - Kyle Smith
  - v. Boys Modified Basketball Coach - Kyle Smith
  - vi. Volunteer Asst. Boys Modified Basketball Coach (no stipend) - Mike Peck
  - vii. Boys Varsity Soccer Coach - Evan George
  - viii. Girls Varsity Basketball Coach - Terry Pulsifer
  - ix. Volunteer Asst. Girls Varsity Basketball Coach (no stipend) - Amanda Pulsifer
  - x. Boys Varsity Baseball Coach - Don Markwica
  - xi. Girls Modified Basketball Coach- Irwin Borden
  - xii. Volunteer Asst. Girls Modified Basketball Coach (no stipend) - Ella Lobdell
  - xiii. Girls Modified Softball Coach - Irwin Borden
  - xiv. Game Timer Basketball - Mike Peck
- n. Approve the appointment of the following employees to be paid at their hourly rates for the 2025-26 Kindergarten Boot Camp being held on August 19 and 20, 2025:
- i. Rhonda Sloper
  - ii. Kayla Dempsey
  - iii. Harry Caldwell
  - iv. Adele Jesmer
  - v. Stevi McCann
  - vi. Kelly Gough
  - vii. Katherine Lavery
- o. Approve the appointment of the following employees for August 19 and 20, 2025, Regents proctoring paid at their hourly rates through the Extended School Day Grant:
- i. Erica Loher
  - ii. Zoe Brugger
  - iii. Theresa McAuley
  - iv. Pete Castine
- p. Approve the following appointments and stipends from the 2024-25 school year to be paid through the Rural Post-Secondary Economic Development (RPED) Grant:
- i. Ashley Hooper \$1,500
  - ii. Jen Peck \$1,500
- q. Approve the appointment of the following employees as Mentors paid at a rate of \$1,500 for the 2025-26 school year:
- i. Julie Bisselle
  - ii. Lorraine Hathaway
  - iii. Stites McDaniel
  - iv. Jodi Thompson
  - v. Sarah Rice
  - vi. Zoe Brugger
  - vii. Jay Fiegl
  - viii. Pete Castine
  - ix. John Fairchild
  - x. Jen Peck
  - xi. Kristin Fiegl
- r. Approve the appointment of Dawn Haase to the position of Per Diem School Nurse at an hourly rate of \$37.50 for the 2025-26 school year.

Motion: CotterSaltamach      Second: Kullman      Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 1 - Fenton      Accept

#### 14. Policy

- a. As recommended by Erie I Policy Services, approve the revision of policy #5681 School Safety Plans.

Motion: Welch    Second: CotterSaltamach    Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 1 - Fenton    Accept

The Board discussed the location of materials available for member review.

- b. First reading, waiver of second reading (per policy), and adoption of policy #5685 Maximum Temperature For School Buildings And Indoor Facilities, as recommended by Erie I Policy Services.

Motion: Spaulding    Second: Broderick    Yes: 7 No: 0    Abstain: 0    Accept  
The Board discussed the logistics related to the policy.

### **15. Board Discussion**

- a. Old Business
  - i. Internet-Enabled Device Policy.

CotterSaltamach inquired about sending additional communication on the new policy.

- b. New Business
  - i. Future of BVCS D Facilities.

The Board discussed a proposal regarding the potential closure of the Lake View Campus. Fenton suggested a September 2025 closure due to needed repairs at Lake View and available space at Mountain View, and a possible 2026 closure.

Kullman inquired about what student benefits there would be with this closure.

Hooper raised health, safety, and equipment concerns at the Lake View Campus.

CotterSaltamach addressed temperature moderation.

Spaulding noted transportation impacts.

Welch highlighted both the benefits of consolidation and concerns about Mountain View's limitations.

Hooper discussed options for Mountain View during a possible renovation or addition, including portable classrooms.

Kullman referenced past Facilities Committee presentations highlighting current classroom usage.

Dr. Meyer addressed square footage versus usable space.

CotterSaltamach inquired about conducting a space study.

Broderick asked whether the matter would be referred to the Facilities Committee.

Dr. Meyer will provide further information at the next meeting.

- ii. Board meeting location and setup.

Hooper discussed the desire to have meetings in a larger room with microphones.

Dr. Meyer reviewed current room capacities and noted that auditoriums could be used in the future if students are not displaced, with consideration for a stipend position to manage AV setup.

Welch encouraged attendees to voice their opinions during the second public comment portion about the current setup.

### **16. Superintendent's Update**

- a. District Wide Safety Plan
  - i. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the District Wide School Safety Plan (revised June 2025) as presented.

Motion: CotterSaltamach    Second: Broderick    Yes: 7 No: 0    Abstain: 0    Accept

- b. Superintendent's Report - see attached.
- c. District Grants Update: ESSA, ESD, 611/619, Title I/II/IV, UPK - see attached.

## **17. Public Comment**

- a. Our agenda offers two Public Comment sections; opinions, ideas and concerns that are offered by the public will be considered and taken under advisement. We have set aside a 15 minute period giving the audience time to share their thoughts with us. Please raise your hand to be acknowledged by the Board President. When called upon, please identify yourself and give your address, limiting your comments to three minutes.

Brooke Beaton commented on the Board's planning regarding the potential closure of Lake View Campus and the potential capital project.

Sheera Broderick discusses the approved recommendation from the Facilities Committee.

Sarah Rice discusses class size and room utilization for board meetings.

Stites McDaniel comments on board meeting procedures and related technical issues.

Response: President Hooper addressed comments regarding technical issues.

Sarah Kingzack shares her opinion that the current board meeting setup is adequate, and concerns regarding the potential closure of the Lake View Campus before improvements are made to the Mountain View Campus.

Paul Hooper addressed board meeting setup and board communication to the public.

Jay Fiegl addressed the comments made by board members and the effects they have, and the research that the Facilities Committee has done.

Megan Ostroski discussed historical enrollment numbers and the presentations of the Facilities Committee.

Sarah Rice discusses room utilization.

Sarah Kingzack addressed the legal requirements of IEPs and 504s.

Dr. Meyer reviewed some of the current requirements for testing accommodations outlined in students' IEPs and 504 plans.

Sarah Rice expressed concerns regarding how students requiring accommodations would access them, while ensuring confidentiality and consistency.

Jim Jackson expressed concerns about the maintenance of current facilities.

Megan Ostroski expressed concerns regarding PK regarding the closure discussion.

Brooke Beaton commented on room utilization.

Sarah Kingzack commented on the importance of supporting the approved recommendation from the Facilities Committee.

Sheera Broderick commented on the importance of supporting the approved recommendation from the Facilities Committee and on the value of designated learning areas for students.

Heather Reynolds commented on concerns regarding board support for the approved recommendation from the Facilities Committee and discussed the New Visions program.

Response: President Hooper notes the importance of having a plan in place for utilizing one building and supporting the approved recommendation.

Sarah Rice spoke regarding the clarification of board member proposals.

## **18. Executive Session**

Specifically, the Board anticipates entering into Executive Session for the following reasons:

- a. (#6) To discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or persons.
- b. (#8) To discuss the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition, sale, or exchange of securities, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value of these things.

In: 8:39 PM      Motion: CotterSaltamach      Second: Broderick      Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0      Accept  
Out: 10:01 PM      Motion: Broderick      Second: Spaulding      Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0      Accept

No action taken.

### **19. Next Meeting**

- a. Regular Meeting Thursday, September 11, 2025, 6:00 PM, Lake View Campus.

### **20. Adjournment**

Time: 10:02 PM      Motion: Broderick      Second: Kullman      Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0      Accept

Minutes are not official until approved by the Board of Education.

Date approved by the BOE: September 11, 2025

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Bridget Belzile, District Clerk