

Boquet Valley CSD
Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 16, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
Mountain View Campus - Elizabethtown, NY
Unofficial Minutes

1. **Call to Order** **At: 6 PM** **By: President Hooper**

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **District Vision**

- a. The VISION of the Boquet Valley Central School District is to become the best rural school in New York State. We will accomplish our vision by providing exceptional opportunities to all learners and preparing them to set and reach their future goals by embedding our core values into their student experience.

4. **Roll Call**

Arrived 6:10 [X] Tom Broderick [X] Paige Cotter-Saltamach [X] Paul Fenton [X] Darlene Hooper
[X] Sarah Kullman [X] Debra Spaulding [X] Jason Welch [X] Sadie Burgess

5. **Attendees**

Present:

Joshua Meyer, Superintendent
Bridget Belzile, District Clerk
Hayden Reidy, Business Manager
John Looby, AV Support
Elaine Dixon-Cross, MVC Principal
Lee Kyler, LVC Principal

Visitors:

LuAnn Pulsifer
Jim Jackson
Mary Lou Morgan
Sarah Rice
Robert Rice
Olive Stewart
Megan Ostroski
Sheera Broderick
Sarah Bosley
Rhonda Sloper
Matt Martineau
Justine Crandall-Otis
Cecile MacFarlane
Zoe Brugger

Bridget Hilshey

Paul Hooper
Brooke Beaton
Mary McGowan
Hedy Merrihew
Phoebe Bosley
Julie Bisselle
Craig Cumber
Melissa Pierce
Larry Cooney
Sonny Calkins
Michael Reusser
Jason Fiegl

6. **Capital Project Update - see attached.**

7. **Board Discussion**

- a. Old Business

- i. Tax Exemption Proposals - An update was provided on the proposed tax exemptions for groups such as veterans and emergency responders. Based on legal guidance, these exemptions cannot be placed on a public vote and must be decided by the Board of Education. The Board discussed seeking community input through methods such as an exit poll and noted that a public hearing will be required before any action is taken.
- b. New Business
 - i. Committee updates
 - 1. Joint Study: Continued discussion regarding attendance, including class attendance as well as daily attendance.
 - 2. Youth Commission: Securing permits for the Summer Program to be held at the Mounatin View Campus and has been accepting applications for summer employment within the summer program.
 - 3. Policy Committee: Next meeting scheduled for April 29, 2026.

8. 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.

Matthew Martineau: Discussion regarding communications with administration and his experience with a recent bus incident.

9. 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.

In: 6:10	Motion: Welch	Second: Cotter-Saltamach	Yes: 6	No: 1 - Hooper	Abstain: 0	Accept
Out: 6:17	Motion: Cotter-Saltamach	Second: Welch	Yes: 7	No: 0	Abstain: 0	Accept

No action taken.

- a. Motion to return to regular session at: 6:19

Motion: Cotter-Saltamach	Second: Spaulding	Yes: 7	No: 0	Abstain: 0	Accept
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10. Public Comment

- b. 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.

Matthew Martineau: Continued discussion regarding communications with administration and his experience with a recent bus incident.

11. Executive Session

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

- b. (#6) To discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or persons.
- c. (#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: 6:24 PM Motion: Spaulding Second: Fenton Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Accept
Out: 7:14 PM Motion: Spaulding Second: Broderick Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Accept

No action taken.

- b. Motion to return to regular session at: 7:18

Motion: Spaulding Second: Cotter-Saltamach Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Accept

12. Ex Officio Student School Board Member Report - see attached

- a. Student Board Member, Sadie Burgess provided updates on the recent rummage sale, which was highly successful, with strong student participation and support from staff and the community. Sadie also highlighted upcoming and ongoing student activities, including BVMUN, college commitments among seniors, and events such as the senior trip, prom, and spirit week.

13. Approval of Agenda & Minutes

- a. Approve the adoption of the agenda.
- b. Approve the minutes of the March 12, 2026, Regular Meeting and the minutes of the March 26, 2026, Budget Meeting, as presented.

Motion: Spaulding Second: Cotter-Saltamach Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Accept

14. Financials

- a. Approve the following financial reports:
 - i. Payroll Distribution Report dated 03/01/2026 and 03/31/2026
 - ii. Warrant Report 0054-AP dated 03/06/2026
 - iii. Warrant Report 0058-AP dated 03/10/2026
 - iv. Revenue Status Report dated 03/31/2026

v. Budget Status Report dated 03/31/2026

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

15. 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: Cotter-Saltamach Second: Spaulding Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Accept

16. Amendment to Annual Independent Auditor Reports and Associated Fiscal Accountability Resolution

- a. WHEREAS, the Boquet Valley Central School District is required to engage an independent certified public accounting firm to conduct an annual audit of the financial operations of the District; and
WHEREAS, the aforesaid audits have been prepared by Telling & Hillman, PC for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025; and
WHEREAS, the Audit Committee has received, examined and discussed the financial statements as presented; and
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the June 30, 2025 Boquet Valley Central School District audited Financial Statements and corresponding corrective action plan (CAP); and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District Clerk is authorized to file the June 30, 2025, Audited Financial Statements with the New York State Commissioner of Education in accordance with Education Law 2116-a(3)(a) and the Commissioners' Regulation Section 170.12(e)(2).

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

17. Action Items - Consent Agenda

- a. Establish and approve the compensation rate of \$16.00 per hour for inspectors and clerks serving at the Annual Budget Vote & School Board Election to be held on May 19, 2026.
- b. Approve the disposal of ballots from the May 20, 2025, Annual Budget Vote & Election.
- c. Accept the "Expanding Educational Pathways: A Farm-to-School Experiential Learning Initiative" grant in the amount of \$15,000, received from the Adirondack Community Foundation.
- d. Accept and approve the agreement with Varley Appraisal Group, Inc., as presented.

Motion: Cotter-Saltamach Second: Broderick Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Accept

Discussion regarding the \$15,000 Adirondack Community Foundation grant to support a chicken coop project at the Lake View campus and expand environmental programming for the next two years.

18. Personnel - Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the following permanent civil service position appointments:
 - i. Eric Holland, 12-month Cleaner, effective March 17, 2026.
 - ii. Angel Mitchell, 10-month Food Service Helper, effective March 17, 2026.
 - iii. Teona Nary, 10-month Teacher Aide, effective March 17, 2026.
- b. Approve the appointment of Hunter Mitchell to the full-time (12-month) civil service position of Cleaner at an hourly rate of \$18.00, effective March 30, 2026, with a 120-day probationary period beginning March 30, 2026, and ending approximately September 5, 2026 (fingerprint clearance on file).
- c. Approve the appointment of Jennifer Belrose to the full-time (10-month) civil service position of Teacher Aide at an hourly rate of \$17.50, effective March 27, 2026, with a 120-day probationary period beginning March 27, 2026, and ending approximately November 6, 2026 (fingerprint clearance on file).
- d. Accept and approve the letters of resignation as submitted by:
 - i. Caitlin Quinn, math teacher, effective June 26, 2026.
 - ii. Eric Schultz, elementary teacher, effective June 30, 2026.
 - iii. Jennifer Belrose, teacher aide, effective April 3, 2026.
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Kelsey Marvin, who holds professional certification in Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2), is hereby granted tenure in the Elementary tenure area effective June 1, 2026.
- f. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Sarah Kingzack, who holds initial certification in English Language Arts 7-12, is hereby granted tenure in the Secondary English tenure area effective July 1, 2026.
- g. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Kayla Dempsey, who holds initial certification in Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2) and Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), is hereby granted tenure in the Elementary Teacher tenure area effective September 1, 2026.
- h. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Melissa Niquette, who holds permanent certification in Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and Grades 1-6, is hereby granted tenure in the Elementary tenure area effective September 1, 2026.
- i. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Eric Schultz, who holds professional certification in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), is hereby granted tenure in the Elementary tenure area effective September 1, 2026.
- j. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Andrya Heller, who holds a NYSED Statement of Continued Eligibility (SOCE) in Computer Science, is hereby granted tenure in the Computer Science tenure area effective September 1, 2026.
- k. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, John Fairchild, who holds permanent certification in Mathematics 7-12, is hereby granted tenure in the Secondary Mathematics tenure area effective September 1, 2026.
- l. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, MaryBeth Sayre, who holds initial certification in Students With Disabilities (Grades 1-6), is hereby granted tenure in the Special Education tenure area effective September 1, 2026.

- m. Approve the Chairperson and Inspector List for the Annual Budget Vote & School Board Election to be held on May 19, 2026, as presented.
- n. Approve the following extra-curricular appointments and stipends per the current BVFT agreement for the 2025-26 school year:
 - i. Volunteer Assistant Girls Modified Softball (no stipend) - Emily French
 - ii. Volunteer Assistant Boys Varsity Baseball (no stipend) - Jason Demar
- o. Approve the following employee(s) to be compensated up to an additional 60 minutes per day at their hourly rate(s) for detention for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - i. Brad Egglefield
- p. Approve the following substitutes at the current substitute(s) rate unless otherwise noted:
 - i. Jennifer Belrose, bus aide, effective March 27, 2026, at her hourly rate, fingerprint clearance on file.
 - ii. Brittany Forget, bus aide and cleaner, effective April 17, 2026, at an hourly rate of \$18.00, pending fingerprint clearance.
 - iii. Hannah Gibbs, (non-certified) teacher, teacher assistant, and teacher aide, effective April 17, 2026, pending receipt of fingerprint clearance.
 - iv. Carter Cheney, cleaner, effective March 30, 2026.
 - v. Ashley Duke, (non-certified) teacher, teacher assistant, aide, and monitor, effective April 14, 2026, fingerprint clearance on file.
 - vi. Karen Kister, (certified) teacher, teacher assistant, aide, and monitor, effective April 17, 2026, fingerprint clearance on file.
- q. Accept and approve the letter of request submitted by Brad Shumway for Paternity leave with a start date of August 26, 2026, and an anticipated end date of January 4, 2027.

Motion: Cotter-Saltamach

Second: Spaulding

Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0

Accept

19. Policy

- a. None at this time.

20. Administrator/Director Report

- a. Mountain View Principal - Elaine Dixon-Cross
 - i. Principal Elaine Dixon-Cross provided an update on student activities, celebrations, and academic progress, highlighting student-driven PBIS events, arts and educational programming supported through grants, and upcoming field trips and a career fair for grades 6–12. She noted strong academic achievement, including a 100% pass rate on the January ELA Regents exam, and outlined the upcoming testing schedule. Additional recognitions included student inductions into National Technical Honor Society, along with upcoming end-of-year events and celebrations.

21. Superintendent's Update - see attached

- a. Superintendent’s Report - Reviewed progress toward district goals, noting that most goals are on track for completion, with the facilities project continuing to progress and updates to be provided as available.
- b. District Grants Update: ESSA, ESD, 611/619, Title I/II/IV, UPK - Several grant amendments have been submitted, and the District has applied for continued funding through the Extended School Day Grant, with results pending.

22. 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.

Floor was opened for public comment, none voiced.

23. Next Meeting

- a. Budget Meeting, Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 6 PM, Mountain View Campus.
- b. Special Meeting, Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 8:30 AM, Mountain View Campus.

24. Executive Session

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

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In: 7:40 PM	Motion: Cotter-Saltamach	Second: Fenton	Yes: 7	No: 0	Abstain: 0	Accept
Out: 8:53 PM	Motion: Cotter-Saltamach	Second: Broderick	Yes: 7	No: 0	Abstain: 0	Accept

25. Adjournment

Time: 8:54 PM Motion: Brockerick Second: Cotter-Saltamach Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Accept

No action taken.

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

Date approved by the BOE:

Bridget Belzile, District Clerk