

**ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE  
DECEMBER 27, 2012**

President Neil Martin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at Central Administration Office, 144 Todd Hill Road, LaGrangeville, NY 12540. Board Members present were Mrs. Baxter, Mr. Johnston, Mrs. Lappan, Mr. Martin, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Rossi and Mrs. Smith. Board Member absent were Mrs. Kaul and Mr. McCormick. Also present was Mrs. Rafalik. There was an audience of approximately 110.

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Roll Call**

**4. Superintendent/  
Board President  
Report**

Dr. Licopoli stated that he and his staff are looking at the issues regarding school safety in response to the tragedy that occurred at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut. School districts are grabbling with plans to do what is best for their districts. Dr. Licopoli's presentation included the upgrade of school and safety procedures, funding options, contingency plan, and recommendations for security measures. He has recommended formal security and greeters in every building. He also reviewed lock down drills, specific instructions and staff training, and two month emergency allocation to support police presence in the schools. He reviewed the resolutions that were recommended to the Board of Education in order to improve the safety and security measures used in the district.

The Board Members discussed the resolutions. Mrs. Lappan requested more specifics regarding the consultant, the process of hiring, cost, and qualifications. Dr. Licopoli stated that Mr. Eidelman from the Altarius Group, an emergency management consulting company, will be coming in to meet with him on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. He also said that a safety assessment audit takes about two to three weeks and having a task force is a good idea – six weeks for a comprehensive study. Mrs. Lappan stated that it is the board's responsibility to know the amount and where it is coming from. Mr. McLeod asked Dr. Licopoli about the Task Force and who he envisions. Dr. Licopoli stated himself, Brendan Lyons, high school administrators, Director of PPS, , consultant, members of the community with background, law enforcement and board members – about 10 to 15 individuals. Lock down drills were discussed. Mr. McLeod would like to know what went wrong and what went right during the drills. The presence of SRO's were discussed as well as greeters.

**Add Motion**

Motion by Mrs. Lappan, seconded by Mr. Johnston to add Motion 5.4  
The motion was carried unanimously.

**Change Agenda**

Motion by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Johnston to change agenda to  
add a 15 minute "Open to the Public" section at the end of the agenda.  
The motion was carried unanimously.

**5. Special Meeting  
Resolutions**

Approving Strategic and Contingency Plans for Improving School  
Safety and Security

5.1 Motion by Mrs. Baxter, seconded by Mrs. Lappan to approve the  
following resolution. The motion was carried unanimously.

**BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education authorize the  
Superintendent of Schools to implement the Strategic Plan for  
School Safety and Security and form a School Safety and Security  
Task Force.**

5.2 Motion by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. McLeod to approve the  
following resolution. The motion was carried unanimously.

**BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education authorize the  
Superintendent of Schools to implement the Contingency Plan for  
School Safety and Security in accordance with the attached plan as  
reviewed by the Board of Education, including the following  
recommendations:**

**Recommendation A: Formal Security/Greeter Protocol in all  
schools**

**Recommendation B: Explore keyless door entry system and after  
school locked doors**

**Recommendation C: 3 Lock Down Drills for remainder of year**

**Recommendation D: Specific Instructions and staff training for all  
school personnel on safety and security procedures**

5.3 Motion by Mrs. Lappan, seconded by Mr. McLeod to amend the  
following resolution. The motion was carried unanimously.

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorize the  
Superintendent of Schools to add police presence in accordance with  
the attached schedule for a 2-month period, beginning as soon as  
possible.**

It will now read as follows:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent of Schools to add police presence for a 2-month period in every district school, beginning as soon as possible.**

5.4 Motion by Mrs. Lappan, seconded by Mr. Johnston to approve the following resolution. The motion was carried unanimously.

**BE IT RSOLVED that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent of Schools to expend up to \$500,000 to implement the previous three motions.**

**6. *Public  
Comment***

Ms. Barbara Forte, parent of a LMS student, shared concerns that the current school safety procedures do not work. She commends the Superintendent for the changes that are being made. She feels police presence is necessary.

Ms. Alvarez stated that the police presence is necessary and is happy that the district will be implementing this.

Mr. Sweats, parent and business owner, stated that knowledge is power. He recommended more lock down drills on a regular basis. He agrees with the police presence. A single point of entry is also an excellent idea.

Mr. King, parent, applauded Dr. Licopoli's strategies and plans. He suggested that it should go further than two months. He also likes the idea of school greeters.

Mr. Golds, parent, likes the idea of only allowing people in buildings that are on a list of scheduled appointments. If you're not on the list, then you cannot enter the building. He would like this type of system to be implemented as soon as possible.

Mr. Zach stated that his wife tried to get in to the building without identification. She could not enter the building, and he was very happy about that.

**7. Executive Session** (Due to contractual and personnel matters)

Motion by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. McLeod to adjourn meeting in order to enter to Executive Session.

8. **Adjournment** Motion by Mrs. Lappan, seconded by Mrs. Baxter to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. Motion was carried unanimously.

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**Margie Flynn, District Clerk**