COHOES CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education **Business Meeting**
Cohoes, New York **October 7, 2026**
Library, Cohoes Middle School **6:00 PM**

(The Board of Education may entertain a motion to enter into an executive session subject to Board approval.)

MINUTES

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Jackson at 6:01 pm.

Roll Call

Present: Mrs. Burwell
Mrs. Snyder
Mrs. Gendron
Mrs. Paradis
Mr. Jarosz
Mr. Jackson

Absent: Mr. Dorsey

Also Present: Peggy O'Shea, Superintendent
Laura Tarlo, Assistant Superintendent
Stacey Mackey, Business Official

II. EX OFFICIO STUDENT REPORT

III. DISTRICT REPORTS

Superintendent O'Shea provided a staffing update, noting that an ENL teacher has been hired and the final interview for a SPED teacher is scheduled. Current openings include two science teachers, a 3rd-grade teacher at Abram Lansing, and teaching assistants, with walk-in teacher assistant interviews hosted Thursday at Cohoes High School.

Next, Dr. Tarlo presented a climate and culture update, highlighting a three-year lookback on discipline data for Cohoes Middle School and Cohoes High School. Dr. Tarlo is collaborating with CHS Principal Kristy Georgen and the team instructional coach to support students facing significant disciplinary, academic, and social challenges, while also looking at procedures and protocols to implement building-wide strategies for supporting staff and students.

Regarding board priorities and academic initiatives, the Board reaffirmed its commitment to supporting all students and highlighted the Freshman Seminar class, which focuses on student self-assessment and purpose discovery.

Finally, Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) updates were provided focusing on enhancing the use of data and interventions to meet student needs.

Ashley Simmons, District Clerk, shared insights from a recent NYSSBA training session and introduced the idea of adopting a new platform for board meetings. She compared the features of Diligent Community and Boardables, noting that the board will revisit the discussion at a later time with the goal of transitioning in the coming school year.

IV. BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

V. COMMUNITY DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VII. REPORT FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education adopts the minutes of the September 23, 2026 Business Meeting.

B. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approve the contract dated June 16, 2026 by and between the Cohoes City School District and Crossroads Center for Children, 395 Becker Drive, Schenectady, New York for special education services from July 13, 2026 through August 21, 2026 at a rate of $8,616.53 (rates are subject to finalization by NYSED) and in accordance with the terms and conditions herein.

C. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves a service agreement dated September 28, 2026 by and between the Cohoes City School District and Encore Fire Protection Company Inc, 75 Philmack Dr Middletown, CT 06457, to perform inspection and testing of the Vesda System at Cohoes High School in the amount of $2,100. The service period is from 07/01/2026 to 06/30/2027 in accordance with the terms and conditions herein.

D. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves a service agreement dated September 17, 2026 by and between the Cohoes City School District and Encore Fire Protection Company Inc, 75 Philmack Dr Middletown, CT 06457, to perform inspection and testing of the Inverter at Cohoes High School in the amount of $900. The service period is from 07/01/2026 to 06/30/2027 in accordance with the terms and conditions herein.

E. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves a service agreement dated September 24, 2026 by and between the Cohoes City School District and Johnson Controls Building Solutions LLC, 1399 Crescent Vischer Ferry Road, Halfmoon, New York to perform preventive maintenance services on the HVAC system throughout the District per NYS Contract Pricing from 07/01/2026 to 06/30/2027 in accordance with the terms and conditions herein.

F. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves a service agreement by and between the Cohoes City School District and Benetech INC., for Flexible Spending Plan Services from October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2031 in accordance with the terms and conditions herein.

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT – PERSONNEL

INSTRUCTIONAL

A. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individuals to the Substitute Teacher and Tutor list:

Isabella Romano
Effective: October 2, 2026

B. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Schuylar Clark from her

position as a Science Teacher (CHS).

Effective: October 21, 2026

C. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Erin Valente from her position as a Special Education Teacher (HH).

Effective: October 28, 2026

D. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Jesse LeVan from her position as a Speech Teacher (DW).

Effective: October 28, 2026

E. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education amend item VIII (U) of the August 26, 2026 Agenda to read as follows **Class Advisor - Class of 2030 and Student Council (CHS) ONLY**:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individuals as advisors to the clubs and activities listed for the 2026-2027 school year, contingent upon acceptable program enrollment:

Clubs and Activities	Name	FTE
CLASS ADVISOR – CLASS OF 2030 (CHS)	~~**Caitlyn Hennessy**~~ **Jaclyn Calabrese** Hanna Mazzeo	 0.5 0.5
STUDENT COUNCIL (CHS)	Emily Frey ~~**Schuylar Clark**~~ **Kortney Conley**	0.5 0.5

F. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individuals to the 2026-2027 Future-Ready Pathways Extended Learning Program (grant funded):

Teachers
Heather Ball
Terrin Griffin
Michele Bolke
Alicia Ozols
Emily Frey
Dawn Maddalena
Daniel Shepard
Jennifer Heeney
Ashley Hoffmann

Substitute (as needed)- Tracy Gresis

G. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves a salary increase due to additional teaching assignments for the following individuals for the 2026-2027 school year:

Bonnie-Jo Bellville – 0.125 FTE as per CTA contract – ENL (VS)

Katrina Keith – 0.125 FTE as per CTA contract – ENL (VS)
Effective: September 28, 2026 through October 30, 2026
Emily Durkee – 0.2 FTE as per CTA contract – Special Education (CHS)
Margaret Brownell – 0.2 FTE as per CTA contract – Special Education (CHS)
Denise Assalian – 0.2 FTE as per CTA contract – Special Education (CHS)
Effective: September 25, 2026 through December 31, 2026

H. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individual as a Long-Term Substitute Teacher.

Thomas Supeau
Position……..……Long-Term Substitute Teacher (DW)
Tenure Area……..……..……English as a Second Language
Effective Date……October 8, 2026 through June 30, 2027
Salary ……..……..Step 1 of the current CTA contract

NON- INSTRUCTIONAL

I. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education hereby appoints the following individual to the Cleaner Substitute list, subject to the rules of the Cohoes Civil Service Commission, such appointments are temporary appointments.

Ronald McIver
Effective: October 5, 2026

J. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education appoints Julia DelPozzo to the position of Part-Time Teacher Aide subject to the rules of the Cohoes Civil Service Commission, such appointment is a temporary appointment.

Julia DelPozzo
Position.....Part-Time Teacher Aide (VS)
Effective Date.....September 28, 2026 through June 30, 2027
Salary.....$16.50 per hour

K. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education appoints Kristina Bullis to the position of Part-Time Teacher Aide subject to the rules of the Cohoes Civil Service Commission, such appointment is a temporary appointment.

Kristina Bullis
Position.....Part-Time Teacher Aide (VS)
Effective Date.....October 5, 2026 through June 30, 2027
Salary.....$16.50 per hour

VII. REPORT FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

G. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves an addendum to the Agreement with the Boys and Girls Club of the Capital Region (CBO) located at 21 Delaware Avenue, Albany, New York dated September 25, 2026 for Pre-Kindergarten Program services for the 2026-2027 in accordance with

the terms and conditions herein.

VII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT – PERSONNEL

INSTRUCTIONAL

L. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Terrin Griffin from her position as a English Teacher (CHS).

Effective: November 5, 2026

M. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education amend item VIII (U) of the August 26, 2026 Agenda to read as follows **Class Advisor - Class of 2027 (CHS) ONLY**:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individuals as advisors to the clubs and activities listed for the 2026-2027 school year, contingent upon acceptable program enrollment:

Clubs and Activities	Name	FTE
CLASS ADVISOR – CLASS OF 2027 (CHS)		~~**1.0**~~
	Scott Ciarlone	**0.5**
	Heather Ball	**0.5**

N. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education appoints the following individual as a Long-Term Substitute Elementary Teacher:

Megan Leylegian
Position…….Long-Term Substitute Elementary Teacher (AL)
Effective Date…… October 6, 2026 through December 22, 2026
Salary……..…..……..Step 1 of the current CTA contract

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

O. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education hereby appoints the following individual to the Cleaner Substitute list, subject to the rules of the Cohoes Civil Service Commission, such appointments are temporary appointments.

Allison Staub
Effective: October 8, 2026

P. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education amend item VIII (U) of the September 23, 2026 Agenda to read as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby appoints Amanda Vacha to the position of Senior Typist (12 Month, ~~**School Schedule**~~ **Central Office Schedule**), subject to the rules of the Cohoes Civil Service Commission; such appointment is a probationary appointment, jurisdictional classification in NYHELPS.

Amanda Vacha
Position.....1.0 FTE 12 Month Senior Typist ~~**(School Schedule)**~~ **(Central Office Schedule)** (CHS)

Effective Date.....September 24, 2026
Probation period.....N/A
Salary..... per CSEA contract

Q. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education hereby appoints Keri Bushey to the position of full time Teacher Aide, subject to the rules of the Cohoes Civil Service Commission, such appointment is a probationary appointment.

Keri Bushey
Position.....1.0 FTE Teacher Aide (AL)
Effective Date.....,,,,,,,.....October 5, 2026
Probation period.....April 4, 2027
Salary.....entry level per current CSEA contract

IX. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT - BUSINESS/FINANCE

X. FINANCIAL REPORTS (Recommended by the Superintendent)

A. I recommend that the following reports be accepted by the Board of Education:
- Warrants- August 2026
- Budget Transfers – July 2026
- Budget Status Report – July 2026
- Revenue Status Report – July 2026
- Bank Reconciliation Report – July 2026
- Internal Claims Audit Report – n/a

XI. INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATION

DESIGNATION OF CONSENT AGENDA:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education adopts the following resolutions of the October 7, 2026 Agenda & Addenda:

VII (A-G) , VIII (A-Q) and X (A)

Moved by: Mrs. Gendron
Second by: Mr. Jarosz
All voted: "Aye"
Motion Carried 6-0

XII. COMMENTS FROM BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Thank you for a great homecoming week to the students & staff who did a wonderful job!

XIII. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

XIV. BOARD POLICY REVIEW

XV. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

October 21, 2026- Cohoes Middle School Library at 6 PM
November 4, 2026- Cohoes Middle School Library at 6 PM

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To enter into executive session at 6:55 PM to discuss matters leading to the discipline of a particular person and to discuss the Superintendent search process.

Moved by: Mrs. Gendron
Second by: Mr. Jarosz
All voted: "Aye"
Motion Carried: 6-0

Roll Call

Present:	Mrs. Burwell
	Mrs. Snyder
	Mrs. Gendron
	Mrs. Paradis
	Mr. Jarosz
	Mr. Jackson
Absent:	Mr. Dorsey

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:10 PM

Moved by: Mrs. Gendron
Second by: Mr.Jarosz
All voted: "Aye"
Motion Carried: 6-0

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DISTRICT CLERK

(The October 7, 2026 Business meeting of the Cohoes City School District Board of Education can be viewed in its entirety on our website)