

BOT Meeting Thursday August 27, 2026 Minutes

Board Members in Attendance: Jim Sander, Robert Ansbro, Ted Francavilla, Lucas Doe, Christopher Brignola

Administrators in attendance: Norma Hurwitz, Eddie Kubina

Not in Attendance: Thomas Gorrell

Meeting Called to Order by Jim Sander 6:35 pm

I. Approval of Minutes

Robert motions to approve the minutes, Ted seconds, all in favor

II. NYS Spring 2026 ELA & Mathematics results, grades 3-8

The school did very well on the state exams. Unfortunately with the change that took place in 8th grade they did not perform well on the ELA test, which brought our results down. However, overall, we still did very well. 89% in literacy, 96% in math, and 90% in science. Third, sixth, and seventh grade were the best performing. The main goal for this year will be to continue to move in the direction we have been going. The extra effort we put into science paid off. We are going to maintain the same measures that we took for science. We had a lot of discussions at the beginning of the last school year and we made the students more critical thinkers in science as opposed to treating it as another literacy period. Fifth grade especially did well and it was a challenge that the teachers met. Math and literacy we will continue to teach the same way as we have found success with it.

III. June 2026 NYS Regents results for ELA, Algebra 1, Earth Science, and US History

We had the best performance in literacy which makes sense because we teach a lot of literacy. Getting a three is passing, but a four or five is needed for the Regents diploma distinction. That is our goal, but given this was our first year, we are happy with the results we had. We had 94% passing in literacy and 89% passing in Algebra 1, Earth Science, and U.S. History. I am looking to improve on this for next year and have the majority of students getting a four or above. I feel we can improve the scores if we are able to have consistency with the staff. We have teachers who now have a better understanding of what the subjects entail. Also, we will wait on the Literacy test because it does not need to be taken until 11th grade. I was a bit ambitious in trying to have students take it in ninth grade, but we still had good results.

It is worth looking into getting young retirees to come to the school and assist with mentoring students in career choices, financial planning, and general mental well being. It would help students get more real life experience.

IV. Robotics program plans

We are going to be starting a robotics program that will eventually lead to competition. It will be a good way for us to advertise our school by being competitive and hopefully winning some competitions. We feel this is an important program. The teacher we have for this program is motivated. I feel that she will be able to help other staff members become more comfortable with the program and we would like to eventually have it from 5th grade through 12th grade.

V. Extending the Music educational program to the lower grades K-3

The goal is to have students become literate in music. We would like to eventually have a school band and that will take time, but having students learn a variety of instruments from Kindergarten up, there is the potential of them staying with it into high school and becoming proficient enough to perform outside of the school. Our middle school music teacher does a good job of helping students come out of their comfort zone.

VI. Committee Reports

Building: Nothing new to report

Finance: Nothing new to report

Education: Nothing new to report

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 pm.