The regular meeting of the Board of Education held on December 15, 2004 commenced at 5:30 p.m. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

All Board Members were present.

The Interim Superintendent was present.

President Johnson presided.

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Board Recognition

I.A. Essay Contest Winners
Interim Superintendent Hargrave read into the record the following:

The Board of Education recognizes eight students who have won the district sponsored “How the Information Highway has Changed Society” essay contest. The following students will be awarded laptop computers donated by IBM and Apple Computer companies:

Student  School
Gregory Milano  City Honors
Jonah Richmond  City Honors
Sabrina Peczonczyk  Hutchinson Central Technical High School
Dominiche Lovings  Hutchinson Central Technical High School
Andrew Charleton  Hutchinson Central Technical High School
Jesse Young  McKinley High School
Ricardo Quiros  McKinley High School
Yolanda Maxwell  Bennett High School

Representatives from IBM and Apple Computer are present to distribute the laptop computers.

Congratulations to Gregory Milano, Jonah Richmond, Sabrina Peczonczyk, Dominiche Lovings, Andrew Charleton, Jesse Young, Ricardo Quiros, and Yolanda Maxwell for achieving this recognition.

Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Evans and Ms. Hanlon gave tokens of appreciation on behalf of the Board to the students.

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Speakers made comments on various issues.

Interim Superintendent Hargrave responded to the speakers.
Student Achievement Report

Ms. Carol LeClair, Acting Director of Adult Education and Mr. Jim Natali, Director of Access Center gave a report on Adult Education/Student Outcomes.

Board Minutes

APPROVED, Board Minutes of December 1, 2004. The vote was unanimous.

Educational Update

Ms. Susan Doyle, Principal of Middle College, gave a Middle College Update.

The Board received Committee Reports as follows:

1. Mrs. Grants reported that the next Inclusion Committee Meeting will be held December 20, 2004 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 801 City Hall.

   At this point, President Johnson read into the record the charge (Attachment A) to Board of Education Members to the Joint Schools Construction.

2. The Executive Affairs Committee submitted an oral report through its chairperson, Ms. Hanlon, as follows:

   Ms. Hanlon read into the record the recommendation for the following Charter Schools by the Renaissance Application Review Team:

   1. Bison Academy Charter School (Attachment B)
   2. Greater Buffalo Academy Charter School (Attachment C)
3. Aspire Charter School (Attachment D)
4. Enterprise High School Charter School (Attachment E)

APPROVED, a motion made by Mrs. Curry, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, to accept the recommendations made by the Renaissance Application Review Team. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Hanlon read into the record the following:

Bison Academy Charter School in the application meets all the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; The Bison Academy Charter School can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; and granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purpose set out in subdivision two of section twenty-eight hundred fifty of Article 56 of the Education Law.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Hanlon, to approve granting the charter to Bison Academy Charter School. The vote resulted as follows: 7 – Ayes, 1 – No (Mr. Hernandez), 1 – Absent (Dr. Collins). The motion carried.

The Greater Buffalo Academy Charter School in the application meets all the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; The Greater Buffalo Academy Charter School can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; and granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purpose set out in subdivision two of section twenty-eight hundred fifty of Article 56 of the Education Law.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Hanlon, to approve granting the charter to The Greater Buffalo Academy Charter School. The vote resulted as follows: 7 – Ayes, 1 – No (Mr. Hernandez), 1 – Absent (Dr. Collins). The motion carried.

The Aspire Charter School meets all the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; Aspire Charter School can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally
and fiscally sound manner; and granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purpose set out in subdivision two of section twenty-eight hundred fifty of Article 56 of the Education Law.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Hanlon, to approve granting the charter to Aspire Charter School. The vote resulted as follows: 7 – Ayes, 1 – No (Mr. Hernandez), 1 – Absent (Dr. Collins). The motion carried.

The Enterprise High School Charter School meets all the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations; Enterprise High School Charter School can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; and granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purpose set out in subdivision two of section twenty-eight hundred fifty of Article 56 of the Education Law.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Hanlon, to approve granting the charter to Enterprise High School Charter School. The vote resulted as follows: 7 – Ayes, 1 – No (Mr. Hernandez), 1 – Absent (Dr. Collins). The motion carried.

REFERRED to Executive Affairs Committee by Ms. Hanlon: Development of Expectations for Superintendent Search by the Board

The Town Meeting for the Superintendent Search will be Monday, January 24, 2005 at Bennett from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The next Board Retreat will be Saturday, February 5, 2005 at the Hyatt Regency.

3. Mrs. Evans announced that the Special Education Parent Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, January 11, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. at the Day Treatment Center.
4. The Legislative Liaison, Mr. Hernandez, submitted an oral report as follows:

Mr. Hernandez announced that the WNY Delegation Breakfast will be held on Friday, December 17, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. at Emerson Commons and distributed the agenda.

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At this point the Board went into Executive Session.

President Johnson stated for the record that the Board met in Executive Session from 7:30 p.m. to 8:10 p.m. to discuss 3020-a’s and other personnel items.

The Board Approved the Agenda Items as follows:

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Coyle, seconded by Mrs. Curry, to remove Item IX.C.41 and Item IX.C.42. from the agenda. The vote was unanimous.

REFERRED to Student Achievement by President Johnson: Monitoring of SES Providers

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Coyle, seconded by Ms. Hanlon to table Item IX.C.48 and Item IX.E.53. The vote was unanimous.

Item IX.A.1. Emergency Conditional Appointments as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.A.2.a. Instructional Personnel Changes as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.A.2.b. Civil Service Miscellaneous Personnel Changes as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.A.2.c. Administrative Personnel Changes as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.
Item IX.B.4. Item Deleted

Item IX.B.5. Item Deleted

Item IX.B.6. Item Deleted

Item IX.B.7. Item Deleted

Item IX.B.8. Item Deleted

Item IX.B.9. Consultant Contract – Training Mentor Teachers; Ginna Galivan as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 6 – Ayes, 2 – Recuses (Mrs. Curry, President Johnson), 1 – Absent (Dr. Collins).

Item IX.B.10. Consultant Contract – Training Mentor Teachers; Kerry Hunter as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 6 – Ayes, 2 – Recuses (Mrs. Curry, President Johnson), 1 – Absent (Dr. Collins).

Item IX.B.11. Contract Services – Adult Ed. – Buffalo and Erie County Workforce Dev. Consortium as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.12. Contract Services – EPIC – Every Person Influence Children as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.13. Contract Services - Patricia Duffy – Catholic Central as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.14. Contract Services – American Education Corporation – Inservice – Mount Mercy as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.15. Contract Services – American Education Corporation – Technology Support – Mount Mercy as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.
Item IX.B.16. Contract Services – ARMOR – Mount Mercy as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.17. Contract Services – New Horizons – Mount Mercy as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.18. Contract Services – Dan Corcoran – Nichols as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.19. Contract Services – Paul Iorio – Nichols as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.20. Contract Services – Broadway Networks – St. Mark as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.21. Contract Services – PremCom- St. Thomas Aquinas as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.22. Contract Services – Musicians United for Superior Education (MUSE) as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.23. Contract Services – Safe and Drug Free School Community Program 2004-05 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 6 - Ayes, 2 – Noes (Mr. Coyle, Mr. Jacobs), 1 – Absent (Dr. Collins).

Item IX.B.24. Contract Services – Supplemental Educational Service Providers as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.25. Contract Services – Young Audiences of WNY – Waterfront as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.
Item IX.B.26. Non-Employee Travel – BOCES Technology Seminar – St. Paul as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.27. Inservice – CR Part 154 Regulations as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.28. Inservice – Strategies to Integrate ESL Standards as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.29. Inservice – Teaching of Language Arts to LEP/ELLs as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.30. Inservice – Write Traits in the Bilingual/ESL Classroom as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.31. Purchased Services – Erie I BOCES – Title IV – Safe and Drug Free Inservices as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.32. Purchased Services – CSR Initiative – Erie I BOCES - #18 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.33. Purchased Services – CSR Initiative – Learner Centered Initiatives - #171 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.34. Purchased Services – CSR Initiative – National Ctr. On Public Educ. - #31, 18, 69, 206, 301 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.35. Purchased Services – CSR Initiative – NYS Middle School Association - #31, 171 as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.
Item IX.B.36. Smaller Learning Communities Planning – Bennett High School as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.37. Smaller Learning Communities Planning – Grover Cleveland High School as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.38. Smaller Learning Communities Planning – Riverside High School as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.39. Supplemental Service Providers – Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.B.40. Supplemental Service Providers – Buffalo Hearing and Speech Center as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.43. Award of Purchase Order – 25 Laptop Computers – Our Lady of Victory as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.44. Award of Purchase Order – Xenographic Paper – Service Center as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.45. Consultant Contract – The Portolan Group as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.C.46. Denial of Claim – Nathaniel Hargrove – upon the advice of the Corporation Counsel and as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; 6 – Ayes, 2 – Noes (Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Grant), 1 – Absent (Dr. Collins).

Item IX.C.47. Purchase of Various Purpose Trash Bags as recommended by the Interim Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.
Item IX.C.49. Settlement of Claim – Armen Bagdasarian – upon the advice of the Corporation Counsel and as recommended by the Superintendent; 7 – Ayes, 1 – No (Mrs. Grant), 1 – Absent (Dr. Collins).

Item IX.C.50. Settlement of Claim – Kathleen Jindra – upon the advice of the Corporation Counsel and as recommended by the Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Item IX.D.51. Transfer of Funds – Within Accounts as recommended by the Superintendent; the vote was unanimous.

Special Item 54 Contract Services – Education Innovation Consortium as recommended by the Superintendent; 6 – Ayes, 2 – No (Mrs. Evans and Mr. Hernandez), 1 – Absent (Dr. Collins).

The Board received Reports on the Agenda from the Superintendent as follows:

Item IX.D.52. Report: Transfer of Funds – Between Accounts

Items Tabled

Item IX.C.48. School Name Changes - #31 & #307

Item IX.E.53. Agenda Format – Unfinished Business/Open Session

Items Pulled

Item IX.C.41. Award of Purchase Orders – Software for Information Technology

Item IX.C.42. Award of Purchase Orders – Software for Information Technology
Unfinished Business

Mr. Jacobs stated in regards to the article today pertaining to Mr. Rumore recommending that his teacher’s take pictures of student that are involved in altercations; he wants to go on record to say how disturbed and disappointed he is by that. He really thinks that is so counterproductive and is an example of somewhat overstepping their role into the operations of the day-to-day school environment. We have a Superintendent and that is her job and the staff works for her not Mr. Rumore. This is a very serious issue – violence in our schools. It is a serious issue – violence in our communities. This is something that we need to very thoughtfully address comprehensively and we need all the stakeholders at the table with cool heads and concrete information to develop a comprehensive community based strategy not treating schools to violence because they are not; they are part of the community. What we don’t need is political posturing and media grandstanding because that does nothing and this issue is too serious for us at this point in time. I would hope that people think about how they approach this. We are certainly receptive to ideas and we don’t have all answers; we need the community with us, but we all have to work positively to change the equation in our schools and our neighborhoods.

The District Parent Coordinating Council meeting scheduled for January 4, 2005 will be held on January 11, 2005 at Emerson Commons at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Coyle, seconded by Mrs. Evans, to approve travel for Ms. Hanlon to attend a Big Five meeting with the Commissioner on January 18, 2005 in Albany, New York. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Coyle, seconded by Mrs. Curry, to excuse Dr. Collins from tonight’s meeting. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Mrs. Grant, to approve the purchase of a table for the Board to attend the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast on January 17, 2005 at the New Hope Baptist Church. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVED, a motion made by Mrs. Evans, seconded by Mr. Jacobs, to approve travel for President Johnson to attend the
Commissioner’s Advisory Committee Meeting on January 20, 2005 and May 19, 2005 in Albany, New York. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. in memory of Donald Zimmer and Rocco Lamparelli.

Respectfully submitted,

Emlyn Rivera
Senior Stenographer