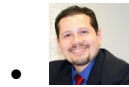


## Audio Transcript



### Victor Pineiro

00:00:00And I am officially hitting the record button.

- 00:00:05Kathy, take it away.



### Cathy Draper

00:00:07Thank you. Good evening, everybody. And welcome to the October 21 Virtual Business meeting of the Southern Westchester though sees word please rise and join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.



### Sheryl Brady

00:00:21I pledge allegiance to the



### Cathy Draper

00:00:23flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

- 00:00:37Thank you.
- 00:00:41I'd like to begin by reminding everybody that while we are operating in this virtual environment, we do not follow our usual practice of allowing the public to participate.
- 00:00:52And since we will have no public comment. During this time, we invite any members of the public, including of course our own staff.

- 00:01:00Who would like to make comments to do that by email to any board member or the appropriate administrators, depending on your issue and you can find all of those emails on our website.
- 00:01:10And we're always happy to hear from you. We just can't do it in a virtual environment. So I'd like to begin by asking the district clerk to call the ball.
- 00:01:32Value.



**Valarie D. Williams**

00:01:35Lobby one



**vcermele**

00:01:39Okay, Kathy Draper.



**Cathy Draper**

00:01:42I'm here.



**vcermele**

00:01:43John Phila Bertie.

- 00:01:45Here, Cheryl, Brady.



**Unknown Speaker**

00:01:47Hasn't



**vcermele**

00:01:49Lynn Frazier McBride.

- 00:01:53Robert Johnson.



**Bob Johnson**

00:01:55Here.



**vcermele**

00:01:56And Valerie Williams.

- 00:01:57Here. Hi, Val.



**Unknown Speaker**

00:01:59Hello.



**Cathy Draper**

00:02:02Thank you very much perfect attendance tonight, which is great.

- 00:02:06So we will begin with a review of the minutes of our previous meeting with the September 30 meeting all board members were here. So all can vote on the minutes. Are there any corrections to the Minutes.

- 00:02:25 Now, hearing none, tonight I would ask Valerie Williams, if you would make the motions and share a few seconds for us, please.
- 00:02:33 In that case, if there are no corrections to the Minutes, all those in favor please say aye.



### **Sheryl Brady**

00:02:38 Aye. Aye.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:02:39 Any opposed.

- 00:02:41 Anybody need to abstain.
- 00:02:45 Okay, thank you.
- 00:02:47 So our first business tonight will be the presentation of the
- 00:02:53 external audit or auditor Allen can say is here, I will ask Stephen a minute to welcome him.
- 00:03:00 I will just remind everybody that last evening we did except this audit the audit committee had met in advance with Alan, I will thank my fellow Members that committee.
- 00:03:11 Cheryl and they've done a great job they're new to the committee. This year, and I think they've really
- 00:03:16 Added some some interest in some good question. So I'm glad that they've joined me on that committee, which is always one of my favorites. Anyway. So Steve tickets, I will ask you to introduce Alan and make any comments you want to make



### **Steve Tibbetts**

00:03:30 Sure. So Alan is the partner from PK Afrikaner Davies.

- 00:03:35 He was the obviously the partner on our job with his team. They did some remote fieldwork back in June and then we're on site for

the audit during the month of August, so I don't believe there are many issues found in the app, but I don't want to take away from Alan's

- 00:03:53Beach, but I just want to thank the business office staff for all their hard work, especially in this remote environment in preparing everything for the audit. And I think the audit committee was very appreciative of that when we met a few weeks back.
- 00:04:06So Alan I'll turn it over to you. He has a
- 00:04:09presentation that will be shown on the screen for everyone to follow along with



### **Alan Kassay**

00:04:14Very good. Thank you, Steve. And I just want to

- 00:04:20That you know before I begin that between Steve and John Miller and Chris Johnson and the rest of the finance department.
- 00:04:29There was a fair amount of back and forth in terms of whether they thought they'd be ready for the scheduled date. We were supposed to come in and they really did a wonderful job and getting ready for the audit.
- 00:04:43We had no indication. I mean, we couldn't tell that we're operating on their, you know, different circumstances, based upon the information that was provided to us.
- 00:04:55And thank them all for their cooperation and made my job that much easier.
- 00:05:00Thank you all.
- 00:05:02Okay, so as
- 00:05:05Was mentioned, we did meet with the audit committee and we went over the financial statements in a bit more detail than I'm going to do this evening.
- 00:05:13Just to go over it.
- 00:05:17If somebody could scroll the page.
- 00:05:21There you go. This is basically a schedule of the
- 00:05:25Past 1920 external audit.
- 00:05:28Mentioned the preliminary field work was done in July, where two people were working at

- 00:05:35What we do during those two pit that that week where those few days which we test the controls cash receipts cash disbursements payroll claims and so forth.
- 00:05:47Then in July. I met with the audit committee is required by state education lot to go over the audit plan and to see if there were any issues or concerns that the audit committee had
- 00:06:00That we would be able to look into when we actually did our fieldwork, which was done the week of August 17



### **Unknown Speaker**

00:06:06And as I said,



### **Alan Kassay**

00:06:08There were no issues that we encountered during the audit went very smoothly. Despite the circumstances.

- 00:06:16And then in September. I met again with the audit committee to go over the draft once again is a required
- 00:06:22Meeting and tonight. I'm just going to present a summary of the financial statements next page.
- 00:06:32Okay contained within the order report. These are some of the items as a summary of communications.
- 00:06:38To those charged with governance, there's a management letter which has the comments that we found.
- 00:06:46Then I'm just going to take a look at the general fund schedule of revenues expenditures and changes and fund balance budget max will look at the general fund balance sheet, primarily the fun bounds and then some closing comments. Next, please.
- 00:07:04Okay so included within the summary of communication, there's certain items that are fall under the orders responsibility.
- 00:07:12And why is that were required to form an opinion based on our audit. We did do that we use what's known as an unmodified opinion, it's a clean opinion, it's the best opinion, you could receive

- 00:07:27In addition, we're required to test compliance with various laws, regulations contracts grants you get a fair amount of money from the federal government.
- 00:07:37For your special aid fund and all those programs that are required to be testing have certain compliance requirements that we have to test each program usually has about up to 14 different attributes that needs to be tested. We did that testing and there were no findings.
- 00:07:56Required to conduct the audience accordance with us gas or living standards.
- 00:08:03And obviously, when we do the audit. We don't look at every item. So we're required to obtain reasonable rather and be sure
- 00:08:12That the financial statements are free of material was saying, which we believe they are which are opinion indicates that they are
- 00:08:20Then included in the summary. There are also some management's responsibilities and basically they're required for the presentation of a financial statements.
- 00:08:30The only page in the 60 some odd pages report that actually belongs to us is the auditors opinion. Everything else belongs to the two bosses.
- 00:08:43They're required to maintain effective internal controls and comply with the laws, regulations and grants of all the contracts received
- 00:08:51Next, please.
- 00:08:55Okay, the internal accounting trolls, as I mentioned, they would know material weaknesses noted, basically there are three types of control weaknesses.
- 00:09:05You could have a material weakness significant deficiency or control deficiency in this particular case, there were no material weaknesses or significant deficiency deficiencies we determine that the accounting policies being followed were appropriate
- 00:09:22And judgments made during the the pre presentation of the information provided to us we deem to be adequate, and we weren't we didn't have to make any significant audit adjustments as I said it was a very clean on it.
- 00:09:37Next page, please.
- 00:09:40In addition, some additional communications. There were no disagreements with management no unresolved difficulties and during the audit.

- 00:09:50 Consultation by management with other accounts was not there PK for kind of Davies is independent, with respect to those seen according to relevant professional standards.
- 00:10:02 And there were no instances or suspicions or allegations of fraud known irregularities or illegal acts noted, and there were no material levers for Julian reporting or misappropriation of assets, known that which is all very good
- 00:10:18 Next, please.
- 00:10:21 As I mentioned, the internal control comments. There were two comments. And for the most part this is these are information, just so that the board is aware of it.
- 00:10:32 And that it could be acted on one is in the special purpose fund. There was one of the trust accounts had no activity during the year.
- 00:10:40 And I've seen this. And a lot of the school districts that we've audited this year.
- 00:10:46 Primarily because a lot of the trust accounts are for scholarships and self worth, and they may be awarded at the end of the year, but I think everybody was caught by surprise when everything shut down mid March.
- 00:11:00 So that could be the reason for that and again within the extra classroom activity find there was one of the puzzle that made
- 00:11:07 Within the state recommended guidelines of 72 hours, but the extra classroom activity report they went, no. I mean, that was the only control deficiency that we found everything else. All the bank reconciliations and everything else we're fine. So there was no issue there.
- 00:11:25 Next page.
- 00:11:28 Okay, this is a summary of the general fund the Budget to Actual going across, left to right, you have the original budget, the final budget, the actual and then the variance with the final budget positive and negative
- 00:11:44 So you can see if VR revenues your final budget was 186,024,000 the actual revenues were 170,983,000 which was shocked by 6.2 million
- 00:11:57 On the flip side of that your expenditures and the final budget was 194 million and the actual came in at 176 million and that generated a positive budgetary variance of 18 million



- 00:12:11 Now basically the expenditures and the revenues go hand in hand, because the expenditures. We're down from the prior year because as I said,
- 00:12:21 When everything shut down in March, there was a fair amount of services that weren't being requested from all the school districts. As a result, the revenue was down
- 00:12:32 So you save money, but you also didn't receive as much money, but overall the actual results. There was a positive surplus of 4,017,000 and a positive budgetary variance of over \$12 million
- 00:12:48 Then you have some other financing uses which transfers out to be other funds for approximately 800,000 so the overall net change and fund balance is 3.2 million
- 00:13:02 And again, you had a \$12 million positive budgetary variance. And if you take the 3.2 million. And if you add it to the fund bounced at the beginning of the year of the 14,000,009 94 on the the earth, a total fund balance of 18,211,000
- 00:13:21 Next page, please.
- 00:13:24 Now this might be a little small. I should have made it bigger. I apologize, but this is the general fund balance sheet, and I just really want to thank you. I just modern technology. I just wanted to focus on the fund balance section.
- 00:13:40 Its comparative
- 00:13:44 The non spendable
- 00:13:47 There was certain prepaid expenditures in 2020 there weren't on the restricted fund bounds, we'll get to in a minute. And this year was 5.3 million versus 4.2 million last year.
- 00:14:00 The committed fund balances 640 2000 and then you have your assigned fund bounce, which is basically in conferences.
- 00:14:08 And that's purchases purchase orders that were issued prior to the end of the year, or during the year for which we hadn't received the goods and services as of June 30
- 00:14:19 And then number is up a little obviously from last year but again directly related to covered
- 00:14:26 And if you look at the right portion, the right hand side of the page you'll see the restricted fund balance you've put aside 4.1 million for the employees retirement system and you increase the Teachers Retirement System from

- 00:14:43Which was the first year that Amy school districts who is allowed to establish a retired are reserved for Teachers Retirement and that's 1.2 million
- 00:14:54You're committed fund balance is 640 3000 and that's for retiree health benefits basically to conducted a commitment set up by the board and we could see that 2019. It was almost 2 million you did utilize some of those funds and that's basically what the money is therefore
- 00:15:16I don't know if there are any questions at this point.
- 00:15:21If not, if you could turn to the next page, please.
- 00:15:26OK. So again, I just wanted to, you know, mention mentioned again. You had an unmodified opinion, a clean opinion, there were no material weaknesses noted
- 00:15:37And the person says establish and maintain effective internal controls which is very important. So overall the audit went very well. As I said, there were no issues.
- 00:15:50And very appreciative for all the help that we received from Steve and John and the Christine and the rest of the finance department.
- 00:16:00So, thank you. Next slide.
- 00:16:04There you go.



## **Cathy Draper**

00:16:07Thank you. And as usual, you did a great job of explaining all this complicated stuff to those board members who don't have being Mary

- 00:16:17And I get I will reiterate your thanks to our staff who do a great job, especially in this year when it's so difficult to compile information and to work with you. They seem to have just done a fabulous job of doing that.
- 00:16:29As well as obviously maintaining our financial house in such order that we get the unmodified opinion every year and and go and comments from you. So when my fellow board members like to ask any questions about



## Bob Johnson

00:16:44But just have a quick question and a comment is this very common with the extra the extra curricular classroom funds, I, you know, I've been on several important education and it seems

- 00:16:55That is usually one of the topics that we discuss is how do we get our advisors to quickly deposit those kinds of collections. It just seems very cubby



## Alan Kassay

00:17:08It is, it is very common. And fortunately in your particular case. That was the only comments. There are some extra classroom activity funds and some of the other districts where they have several comments.

- 00:17:23Because, I mean, I even had one district where they had their internal auditor when they were all required to have it. That was a special focus area.
- 00:17:34And there were several findings in terms of having numbered cash receipts giving out the cash receipts maintaining them as it and you know the positive of money timely.
- 00:17:46I mean, I think some of the head has to do with that some particular cases they may not be a significant amount of money so they may hold on to it until there's enough to go to the bank, which is really, you know,
- 00:18:00It's not within the state guidelines. Basically, they say 72 hours. But, you know, to answer your question, it's certainly not uncommon.



## Bob Johnson

00:18:11Okay, thank you.



## **Alan Kassay**

00:18:13 You're welcome.



## **Cathy Draper**

00:18:15 Anybody else have a question for him.

- 00:18:19 I would just point out, although all of you read every word of his reports preparation for the meeting, but just to remind you that at our last meeting I had asked a question about appendix to to the management letter, there's
- 00:18:33 Representations that management makes that is included and what we see tonight. So there's lots of good information in there and
- 00:18:43 Just wanted to point out that it is here in the final version.
- 00:18:48 So anything else from anybody, or do we just thank Alan and let him either go into a dinner or enjoy watching, if you prefer.



## **Bob Johnson**

00:19:00 Takes



## **Alan Kassay**

00:19:02 About four. I'm going to go have dinner.



## **Cathy Draper**

00:19:04 Okay, I think that's well deserved. And as always, we appreciate your coming to do this with us because you you make it comprehensible to all of us in

- 00:19:14We, we appreciate your help.



**Alan Kassay**

00:19:16You're very welcome. I'm glad unable to do that.



**Cathy Draper**

00:19:20Thanks. Okay.



**Alan Kassay**

00:19:21Thank you. In stay with



**Unknown Speaker**

00:19:23You



**Bob Johnson**

00:19:25And congratulations to our business staff and did a great job. It's just a great honor to see the kinds of outcomes and the kinds of things that you do to



**Cathy Draper**

00:19:38 Thank you. Thank you for that.



**Steve Tibbetts**

00:19:39 All right.



**Cathy Draper**

00:19:40 Let's move on to the rest of the agenda and the next item is the approval of personnel consent items I will begin with the certified personnel and there are some resignations a few that I wanted to point out because they offer the purpose of retirement.

- 00:19:59 First and Eva Mohamad after 13 years as a teacher and Rachel quits or Philip Peck after 28 years as a school psychologist.
- 00:20:12 And Larry berggren after 25 years as a teacher, some really good careers there. We thank all of them for their service to the bosses and wish them the best in their retirement and a couple of appointments of interim principals.
- 00:20:30 Leaves of absence some additional assignments other adjustments and always nice to see a recall appointment. Does anybody have any questions or comments on these certified portion of this
- 00:20:46 Okay. Hearing ongoing Moving along to classify personality and civil service status changes.
- 00:20:54 Against resignations one for the purpose of retirement. That is Patrick de Tomaso after 16 years as a supervisor of operations and management. We thank him for his service and wish him the best
- 00:21:09 A couple of appointments some adjustments to prior appointments, a leave of absence. Some hourly rate assignments and a substitute appointment. Any questions or comments from the Board on any of those items.



## Sheryl Brady

00:21:27 I have a question. So I, I was interested in the title of customer service representative, which kind of struck me

- 00:21:36 On and trying to figure out what that had to do you know with fantasies and from what I could tell I just want to confirm this that acquaintances civil service title on that has to do with something with our database or database entry and technology. Is that correct,



## Cathy Draper

00:21:54 I assume this is for the Rick and I will ask Cafe.



## kconley

00:21:58 Yeah, those are for the Rick customer service reps would serve functions on supporting the student information systems. I'm supporting our the model schools procurement of software. And we also have customer service reps in the test scoring department.



## Sheryl Brady

00:22:22 Was just a curious title.



## kconley

00:22:23 It's it's a generic title. Right. It's just that they're interacting with usually so we also customer service reps in the financial

- 00:22:35Support area. They're usually I'm supporting a system of software and interfacing constantly with the customers the district's. Thank you.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:22:49Thank you. Any other questions.

- 00:22:54Okay, in that case. All in favor please say aye. Aye. Aye. Any opposed.
- 00:23:00Anybody need to abstain. Okay. Who cares. Moving on to the business agenda and I'll note there were a couple of agenda that appeared here today.
- 00:23:13So you need with the Treasurer's Report. This is for August
- 00:23:19Questions, comments.
- 00:23:22Okay, moving on to the accounts receivable report where I'm sure John Miller has something to add.



### **John Miller**

00:23:28Good evening. I do have some information.

- 00:23:31Some materials were posted. We received approximately \$4.4 million White Plains paid \$30,000 and balances going back to January in February.
- 00:23:45Rock embassies paid \$2.5 million of their June balance following districts paid July Irvington, and Eastchester Eastchester and Hawthorne senior dollars paid their August Eastchester
- 00:24:03In Tarrytown paid their September invoices, along with Mount Pleasant life Dale and Hastings on Hudson.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:24:14Thank you. Anybody have any questions for John



- 00:24:18Comments. Okay. Moving along the claims father
- 00:24:24I'm not sure I've ever seen one before we only had two items looks pretty good kudos to the business office one special aid project from DLP state grant for Library Services get any questions comments.
- 00:24:40Contracts, there is an addendum for contracts.
- 00:24:45Additional contracts.
- 00:24:50Let's say, did I miss bits in here a bit wasn't an agenda was only in an addendum correct see two beds.



### **Steve Tibbetts**

00:24:58The script.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:24:59And then the year and program analysis and

- 00:25:06Following that is the distribution of the surplus to our component districts. Does anybody have any questions or comments or wants me to explain those last few items because those are things that some of you may not have seen before.



### **Sheryl Brady**

00:25:20Sure if Steve doesn't mind this



### **Steve Tibbetts**

00:25:23Yep, absolutely. So this is a report from the 2019 20 year so it relates to the audit that was just presented when Alan was speaking about positive variances and revenue and less expense and so forth.

- 00:25:36 So at the at any both sees throughout the state. The requirement is that when we close out the year we take the revenue, which was what was built to participating districts
- 00:25:48 And subtract the expense. Hopefully there's a positive number there. And that means that's the surplus back to
- 00:25:56 The participate districts. So the reports that are shown in the board agenda reflect it in two ways. One is by kosar or the services offered by the both CS
- 00:26:07 And the other way is what each of our districts participating districts, not only our components, but outside of our region. What the refund to them will be for the 1920 year the surplus.



### **Sheryl Brady**

00:26:20 And the refund is based on what they paid in basically or it's some percentage, right, that



### **Steve Tibbetts**

00:26:25 They correct. So all of the services is based on their percentage of participation. So the larger participants. If there's a surplus at the end of the year, get a larger share of that surplus. So for this year, our surplus was almost \$6 million back to the districts



### **Sheryl Brady**

00:26:45 Is that typical



### **Steve Tibbetts**

00:26:47That's a little bit higher than that it normally is generally we're in the three to \$4 million range, but because some of the services.

- 00:26:57You know, we didn't have when we went remote. We didn't have a lot of substitute costs and some of our, you know, utility costs were down
- 00:27:06Because we weren't hitting our buildings back in in the March, April timeframe. So there were savings throughout the organization as a result of the shutdown that we returned back to the districts



**kconley**

00:27:18And there was some refunding of Ted scoring

- 00:27:22Because the test for nine administered. Right. Yeah.



**Steve Tibbetts**

00:27:26So that was another big piece, I think it was around \$700,000

- 00:27:30Back to the district's participating in that service.
- 00:27:35Thank you. Sure.
- 00:27:37Any other questions. Yeah.



**jfiliberti**

00:27:39Yeah quick question from john for liberty, Steve.

- 00:27:44Forgive me for asking what seems like a very simple question.
- 00:27:48For are these
- 00:27:50Surpluses that go back to the school districts applied to any amounts that they owe us first



**Steve Tibbetts**

00:27:58 Yeah, we do get that question sometimes of districts and unfortunately we're not allowed to offset the monies. So sometimes we will do a check exchange, but we have to issue a check back as evidence of a refund of surplus.



**jfiliberti**

00:28:15 Okay.



**Cathy Draper**

00:28:17 Question to Eric Cantor



**Sheryl Brady**

00:28:19 You can tell that hostage until



**Steve Tibbetts**

00:28:21 Well, we, we try to do you know we do let the district's know that, hey, we do have the surplus checks, but you do us a significant amount of money. So could we do some sort of exchange.



**Cathy Draper**

00:28:33 That's fair.

- 00:28:35Any other questions is
- 00:28:39In that case,
- 00:28:42All those in favor of approving the business AGENDA, PLEASE SAY HI I anybody
- 00:28:49Anybody who needs to abstain. Okay, great. Thank you.
- 00:28:54And so moving along to the report of the district superintendent, Dr. Carlos, and I see you've said is a lot of information today.



### **Harold A. Coles**

00:29:02Yes, so sorry about getting it out to you so late, but I want to make sure I included

- 00:29:07The work that was being done at the board of regents meeting on Monday and Tuesday, so that I wind up going through creating a note and I'll summarize some of that as we go through the meeting.
- 00:29:16Just letting you know some of the things that we're working on here at both sees as you're aware, there are two searches that we are potentially going to be doing one is porchester
- 00:29:27The second one we are getting when supposedly getting approval from a board. This week on doing the search for Valhalla.
- 00:29:35We've already started the conversation with porchester in their search at this point. And we're going to be meeting next week we're talking about what they're looking for in a super Dennis candidate and we have our calendar set as to how we're going to proceed with the search
- 00:29:51Will be talking with you, coming up. And this is something that, for those of you that are new, that should be coming up and understanding what's happening with this and that's in reference to
- 00:30:00One of our special like school districts Abbott unit three school districts closed down and that we had been appointed by the legislator to be the overseer of the closed on process.
- 00:30:12If you're not aware posies, with a specific region. There's a special act, they are responsible for record retention and overseeing records of school districts that do wind up closing
- 00:30:23And so if there is not an entity created when a school either merges and boasts these becomes a

- 00:30:29The holder of those student records and we have been working with that over the past couple of years with the orange associates.
- 00:30:36Doing a record retention. We're all getting one of the state grants to pay for the cost of doing that. And we're completing that process.
- 00:30:44Hopefully by December is what the time period, we're looking at doing with Cobra 19 it was extended
- 00:30:50Second point I want to make is that this close on processes almost 10 years in the making with admitting, one of the things that we're able to move forward with this.
- 00:30:59Last year we were given a grant by the legislature to be able to pay for the cost of close down
- 00:31:06For those of you that aren't aware of that close on process and legislation say that we could not use any of our posts. He's funding.
- 00:31:12Which means our component districts funding to do the close down
- 00:31:15And over a course of, I think it was four years going back and forth the legislators came up with a grant resource for us to be able to use money to be able to close down
- 00:31:24It will be bring it to the next month person that we're going to have looking at doing the
- 00:31:29Contract services to do the clothes on for so the more to share with you that process. We will be starting with final phase.
- 00:31:37With the process. First phase is doing reconciliation of bills and then moving towards a rebuilding of districts and then going towards just finally closing down at that point.
- 00:31:47Abbott Unified School District. We want to be enclosed the legislation has dictated that districts. Once they went up to receiving the bill will have three years of pay it. So we're dissipating by December 2024 we will have
- 00:32:02A paid off the process to be able to close down completely. And all we will be doing is overseeing and kind of records request that either is personnel have or students have in looking at job performance.



**Sheryl Brady**

00:32:13Harold

- 00:32:14Why is orange. Oh, sees involved in this.



## **Harold A. Coles**

00:32:18Orange Austin overseas. They have a record retention program.

- 00:32:23And that we had been working with them. I know that our policies has one we saw working with the ABA was working with them before that.
- 00:32:29They had the record already. They started the process and that's reason why we want to coin with them because they've already familiar with the records, it was
- 00:32:36Quite a task is Abbott's records were never retained. So the process. Read quoted going through all the records and digitizing in and going through the process. So that's a good question. Good question.
- 00:32:48Second thing is, I will go through some of the things that pass. And one of the things that with the border region spinning on Monday was that the covert regulations related to educational
- 00:32:58Relating to amending students school district leaders and transition D programs were approved, which will house programs to extend opportunities for people coming out of school to get the certification on other one is looking at
- 00:33:14Extending the Copa crisis support for school districts, providing visits the schools related to
- 00:33:24Voluntary voluntary kindergarten and their programs.
- 00:33:29Also was discussed is and this was the most important part. And there's a detail the description of this piece, and that is a non state aid budget.
- 00:33:39priorities that the state is looking at prevent putting together and last month and remember during the board.
- 00:33:45Meeting they talked about and I shared with you that they are looking at trying to focus on what they're going to prioritize in the budget this year.

- 00:33:53 Recognizing that it was going to be a problem with trying to look at asking for a lot of money, but they want to prioritize what they're going to focus your attention on
- 00:34:01 And last month's discussion with the border regions, they talked about looking at using equity as being the lens to determine what programs are supported.
- 00:34:09 And it was interesting, exciting interesting to see that they focused on that and looking at the different initiatives in the budget. So they focus on efficiencies.
- 00:34:19 Equity was one of the areas they focused on early learning was another one. As I mentioned, with kindergarten Pre K, but also they focus on he recently with other students as well and initiatives that are going forward.
- 00:34:30 Equity being one of the focal points. The other issue was looking at making sure that there's a question or addressing the digital divide issue that
- 00:34:37 Seems to be occurring and making sure that equity is not being a factor in students being able to, especially with remote learning
- 00:34:45 Having access to some type of internet or support or for them to be able to connect
- 00:34:52 And so there's a lot of discussion about connectivity recognize that they couldn't do this on their own, but they're looking at create partnerships to talk about this with the businesses and with the governor
- 00:35:02 Office to see what can be done to as a consorted unit addressing this so that we don't wind up having that divide problem that we had this past spring, go for it.
- 00:35:13 The other question the other his physical so like that was a presentation by Chris Siriano Vz a special education system, Commissioner.
- 00:35:22 He was looking at the due process system and though wasn't impacting us directly. There are dealing with the process related to New York City.
- 00:35:30 Changing the format that they find in due process hearing officers and impartial hearing officers and they looked at relaxing in some respect the applied the application process of who was going to be



- 00:35:46Impartial hearing officer. And so the process has changed. They were expanding expanding the pool beyond lawyers, which was with been done before.
- 00:35:56And it could bind it being an opportunity for out of New York City, but it was something that the focal point was on New York City in the thousands of students that were requiring impartial hearings and we're getting them to try and find a way to be able to address that.
- 00:36:12I want to also talk about this last week was the discuss conference. And it's interesting to hear, in turn, Commissioner, Betty Rosa talking about some of the initiatives that she was engaging in
- 00:36:24She's talked about your New York state. It's kiss departments seeking to be flexible and more regulatory really for the different things that are doing
- 00:36:34She commented in several ways about barriers that are occurring or unfunded mandates and seeking ways to be able to address what those barriers are
- 00:36:42And can make sure that we want to helping and supporting children but also getting out of the way of what needs to be done to make sure that we do the best we can with students. And so there's a concerted effort in trying to make sure that that's addressed.
- 00:36:56Part of the discussion was talking about waivers and they also talked about yesterday with I mean Monday with the border regions meeting.
- 00:37:03There's been discussion as to whether it's going to be waivers for state testing or four regions. At this point, the junior regions.
- 00:37:11Feedback from the Department of US Department of Education was that it there's no they're not going to issue any kind of approval for waiver at this point.
- 00:37:21And I think that we're gonna have to wait till after January, unfortunately, that would impact the channel or regions as to whether it's going to occur not probably going to occur, but I think that the concern that we're hearing from superintendents and teachers alike are with the
- 00:37:37Possible inequities with Howard what learning is going and they're being gaps, whether teachers should be evaluated in the same way they should be or have been in the past with
- 00:37:49The state testing and there's concerns us to gaps as soon as received last year and how those gaps are going to be reflected on the teachers that are currently working with them.

- 00:37:58 Her concern is that she has been communicating directly with the US Department education, stating that these are concerns I have
- 00:38:06 That they focus of New York State has been on safety and well being and making sure that our course our classrooms safe, but we're practicing social distancing
- 00:38:16 The focus is on instruction, but the instructional purposes are focused on what are gaps and students learnings and how can we help us, help them. So she continue having that support of questioning and supportive
- 00:38:31 information be shared throughout her comments when she talked about this, and she's trying to press the US Department of Education to relax on their
- 00:38:38 assessment piece, knowing that our focus should be on how we address the students or students that's their best to how they performed in the past and how make sure they're up to speed, going forward, and working on educational gaps.
- 00:38:53 The governor has probably aware that the requested that there be a state school report card that's being done looking at coven cases on
- 00:39:06 We were informed that on the X was on the 14th of the month.
- 00:39:12 Actually
- 00:39:15 I guess what the 14th. It was we were informed that we, as opposed to us, we need to be doing the same reporting. And so what we've been doing is focusing on those report by four o'clock every day looking at the first issue that we had was
- 00:39:31 Our database that was put on the on the for our policies was incorrect. And so we've had our
- 00:39:40 CIO chief admission officer who's been working on collecting the data and some idiot working with the state part of health to clean up what they have identified as the places that we're working with.
- 00:39:50 And I talked with him this afternoon, and they're still working on trying to identify those court does different school. So our data is not
- 00:39:58 Actually accurate in that we're not getting all the information in that we could be getting in. But one of the concerns that the Commissioner had shared but also
- 00:40:09 During a webinar that was shared by the Department of Health State Department health last week was they recognize that when a parent or a child goes into
- 00:40:22 Get tested for

- 00:40:24It doesn't really truly reflect on the student district that the students coming from
- 00:40:30What they've been trying with a start to start doing was if a student was tested and
- 00:40:36They were in a certain school district by virtue of their zip code. They are automatically looking at that school district been cited where
- 00:40:44That child was sat and where that school district was responding to support or reporting out of that particular child.
- 00:40:53That is not an accurate way to work with this because you have students that attend private schools you have students that are homeschooled you have students that are receiving services at
- 00:41:02Our independent schools or even even a 50,000 special at school districts and they have their own reporting mechanisms and it's created a lot of confusion on
- 00:41:11Giving misinformation to the general public, which I think the government was trying to do. And so they're trying to figure out how to address that.
- 00:41:19Going forward, but that's one of the problems with just database collecting that it's not accurate. And it's hard for people to take what's being shared as being completely without any kind of issue.
- 00:41:35Last thing I want to point out is that during our Monday meeting that we had with George Latimer, the accounting meeting he mentioned that there are numbers of the cases of a
- 00:41:49We've had an increase in numbers of cases of positive cases this past week, the number he said was 106 1006 he said were up 56 hospitalizations.
- 00:42:00He said that these numbers are compared numbers three weeks ago and the facilities past the past six weeks it's looking at that number going up. He is concerns were
- 00:42:12And it's superintendent share this as well. A lot of these are not coming from school related activities, they're coming from gatherings occurring, and I'm sure you've been hearing this news and
- 00:42:22In the other area that some of the superintends we're sharing, whereas the youth sports that are occurring in the community, not following the same
- 00:42:29Protections PPP productions or looking at protecting social distancing or even sanitation equipment and those numbers are increasing. So there's concerns that those items.

- 00:42:43Need to be addressed in the county executive, he would look into what he could do related to that, and addressing that. Because some of that is spilling into schools now with students, returning from those different events.
- 00:42:55The superintendent's express concern over Halloween coming up. And what that would be in a major concern. It was expressed was Thanksgiving.
- 00:43:02In family gatherings and there's been some discussion and how they're going to look at addressing that. But
- 00:43:08Their concerns are what's going to happen following those big holiday Kelly gatherings with families coming together.
- 00:43:14Last thing I would say is that on Monday and Tuesday of next week on the 26 and 27 will be having our district superintendent meetings will be meeting directly with the Commissioner be able to share with you an update on things that were shared. So that's it.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:43:27Thank you very much, Harold. A lot of stuff. Um, do any more numbers. Any questions, I see John right



### **jfiliberti**

00:43:33Yeah, my putting on my real estate hat Harold with the closing of Abbott, are there any opportunities there for

- 00:43:45You know, space, you know, possibly for those seeds to utilize



### **Harold A. Coles**

00:43:51So the special X school districts are somewhat unique

- 00:43:56It depends on the the different school districts Abbott. Unfortunately, the, the housing this the school itself was owned by the

the residential program and the residence program is still in existence  
habit house is the parent agency and they're still operating

- 00:44:14The how the school, as far as I know, is still sitting there, sitting here over 10 years and are not used it since they they rented it out to one of the special acts in the region that they want to believe in it. So I don't know. That's a good question.
- 00:44:28The agency would have to make a determination on how they want to use the space. I know that when Abbott was causing back in 2010 I guess it was 2011
- 00:44:40They were considering selling a property which would have been, I think, where they were located overlooking in Irvington overlooking the Hudson would have been quite expensive. But I think this point.
- 00:44:52With the real estate market. I'm not sure what is in flux. What's happening as to whether they would wind up getting a cost of them getting they would say. So the question is,
- 00:45:00I would say probably not. But there's other opportunities in the region that we can take a look at because I heard there know that this purpose was a closed and the question as to whether their
- 00:45:11Schools that we can actually use the space for if we have a need for it without having to do major renovations cost for the expenses.



**jfiliberti**

00:45:19Great, thank you.



**Cathy Draper**

00:45:21Any other questions. Yes, sure.



**Sheryl Brady**

00:45:23 So held. Has there been any, you know, pretending to Thanksgiving. Has there been any regional or statewide discussion about college kids coming home.

- 00:45:33 So that was a question that was actually posed to me by a religious school director and a preschool director
- 00:45:39 And the concern that with an influx of, you know, college kids coming back. Most colleges are going to, you know, go into remote distance learning
- 00:45:49 after Thanksgiving and not have kids on campus coming home on. Is there a concern about what may happen you know in the local schools, when all these siblings, you know, show up potentially
- 00:46:03 On you know contagious, or having to quarantine and is there any kind of regional concern response to that.



### **Harold A. Coles**

00:46:11 There's discussions at this point the responses are varied.

- 00:46:16 There are some districts are saying they're just going to keep an eye on it. Some districts are considering possibly doing a 14 day quarantine after the break.
- 00:46:24 But it's, it's very at this point, they're all discussions at this point. And there's looking at what their options are to be able to go forward.
- 00:46:30 There is a big concern because they've been working really hard to try to keep their numbers down and in some cases.
- 00:46:37 They have been able to start bringing more kids back in. They just don't want to.
- 00:46:41 Have this damage what's been going on for it. And I think one of the superintendent's was calm calm we saying that this whole process is very fragile.
- 00:46:48 And I think that that's a best way to describe it, because we're trying to go forward, as well as we can, but make sure it be consciously doing it not, we don't end up creating an opportunity for this to research and then what happened to go back into a fully remote status.



## Sheryl Brady

00:47:03Right. And Governor Cuomo has not spoken about this at all or



## Harold A. Coles

00:47:07No, no, no. And I think that it probably will come up next week to the border return our, our meeting with the

- 00:47:12Our district superintendents, it's probably gonna be part of a discussion if we talk about it. On Monday we talked with Commissioner on Tuesday, that might be something that's shared that time and I can give you an update when we hear that so



## Cathy Draper

00:47:25Thank you.

- 00:47:26Any other board questions around don't see anything.
- 00:47:30Okay, moving on to the deputy district superintendent Jackie and I see just by who's in the room, so to speak with us that we're going to have some presentations there.



## jodonnell

00:47:41We are eventually going to move to instructional presentation, I want to give you a few updates first

- 00:47:46And build on some of the things that I'll talk about happening across the state and help you look at what they look like at our own both sees. So we talked a little bit about the assessments will the three three assessments be given, will the high school assessments.

- 00:47:59Be given over time, I've come and spoken to you about the annual professional Performance Plan, the way we evaluate teachers and leaders per New York State law.
- 00:48:09And you know that we have been partners in network across the state. For the last 10 years
- 00:48:18The guidance around that changed in in July. And there actually was a legal change. Last year, the law changed.
- 00:48:26With new legislation that was brought forward by nicer. The change some of the rules around the APR
- 00:48:33But the new guidance didn't really come out until this summer. And there's some really creative new things in that guidance. So we've been working with state, Ed. We meet with our
- 00:48:44assistant superintendents, many of our superintendents come monthly to our curriculum Council meeting, happened to be today.
- 00:48:50But one month ago we had the person in charge of a PPR for the state Alex trickle a nose come in in a virtual meeting into a presentation, we were able to ask him some questions.
- 00:49:00And one of the things that we pushed on was something called the variance model. So the new regulations allow for creative and innovative ideas.
- 00:49:10So I'm really excited to tell you that we've been working on a creative and innovative idea that we took to the region this morning.
- 00:49:19To say to them, would superintendents and assistant superintendents like to think with us around using a substitute for test scores this year.
- 00:49:29Because we think there is an opportunity to gather additional evidence through the rubrics to identify the behaviors of a teacher or a principle that really would move learning ahead.
- 00:49:40And so we've been working on that model we created and an example that we sent to the state that we can now use. We met with our A PPR committee.
- 00:49:50Today, and they like the idea enough that we're going to go to the next step of exploration. So I look forward to talking to you more about that in the future, but
- 00:49:59It's just one way that districts are trying to navigate. What might happen with testing. And is there a way that we can really be thoughtful about the



- 00:50:09 feedback cycle of good evaluation, even in this environment. So I'm really excited about that work, and I think by because we would have to meet a deadline.
- 00:50:19 Of December 1 for a variance process and pretty confident that next month I'll be talking about a lot of details and where we're at.
- 00:50:26 The other thing I want to comment on is Harold talked about the data systems and he talks specifically
- 00:50:31 About one new platform of data, but I want to talk to you about the data we have to collect across the district that's brand new for us because our data world has changed.
- 00:50:42 Suzanne doherty's data world has definitely changed because she has to track you know that we built an app.
- 00:50:50 To track people with screen each day to make sure that folks were coming in healthy, we're about ready to launch a second version of the app because of the updated guidance.
- 00:51:02 We recently spent a lot of time on the webinar that Harold talked about and other meetings and meetings with the State Department of Health.
- 00:51:09 To understand the updates and guidance and the more we learn about the virus. The more things shift right so the number of days of quarantine for this thing, or that needed to shift. They gave some clarity around things like
- 00:51:21 It's not above 100 degrees. It's 100 degrees or above, right, because they get tricky with somebody above 100 degree fever. Is that an issue or not.
- 00:51:29 They expanded the number of symptoms and they also talked about
- 00:51:33 When somebody self reports the part of the data we collect is we created a new system called Cobra it alerts for students and they are for adults. And there's a separate email for students.
- 00:51:46 An employee who is exhibiting symptoms or has traveled somewhere or has a concern because they've been told that they're in close contact
- 00:51:54 Sends a blank email to covert alerts which generates a forum and Suzanne and her team have had to create it all kinds of data tracking systems.
- 00:52:02 For watching and tracking how many days, somebody has been out one of the changes in the new language has to do with if someone reports covered related symptoms.

- 00:52:13 And they stay at home. We have found that people tend to go to the doctor and they're able to come back with some sort of evidence. Lots of times, it's a different diagnosis. Right. So someone who had
- 00:52:25 Thought that they had a sore throat ends up to be a fall allergy type symptom that the doctor can confirm and send information back to us, or they send us eventually a negative coven test.
- 00:52:40 But now the new language says that if someone reports that symptom, and they're symptomatic that if they decide not to go to a doctor that after 48 hours, we have to consider them to be covered positive
- 00:52:54 So that's a major change. And so Suzanne's team. You want to talk about data like they've got spreadsheets going everywhere and on the student services piece.
- 00:53:04 That whole team works together. But Jim Grant of and Claudia Murphy really monitor that on a daily basis, and they have to follow up.
- 00:53:12 That data system Harold was talking about specifically that is new to us this year and he mentioned they launched it for regular districts and
- 00:53:19 Harold, I went to the webinar we're like, where's our sign in, they watched it for both see several week after weeks after but it calls for a lot of data.
- 00:53:30 They want to know how many students participated in every type of activity that day. So we have to figure out how many kids signed him from home.
- 00:53:42 How many kids were remote, who was a synchronous, who was synchronous, who was in person. And so we had to create all sorts of new data fields for that. So I look forward to sharing that report.
- 00:53:54 That data. I have a lot of confidence is pretty clean. Good solid data, the issue that Harold spoke about is with the reporting mechanisms. So we're still working that out.
- 00:54:04 With getting the right sites and things that we can send our data to but for the purposes of our discussion.
- 00:54:11 Really be interested to bring you some information on those numbers because one of the things we're going to be talking to you about
- 00:54:18 Is we made our plan conservatively. And based on square footage we didn't know how many kids would ask to learn remotely because of medical issues.

- 00:54:27But we're actually working really hard and we had several meetings this week to say, Are there opportunities to service kids more time.
- 00:54:35So I look forward to sharing that data with you. And then our steps forward and maybe by next month, talk to you about, you know, if the if the numbers continue to support us.
- 00:54:47You know, looking at our programs and and moving back towards our long term goal.
- 00:54:52Of, you know, servicing kids in person as much as we can in a safe environment. So we're kind of in that process right now. So that might paint a little picture for you of the illustrate how we're living the things that health stuck in your belt that are bouncing around the state.
- 00:55:10But tonight for the next three meetings in December, of course, we have our series of budget meetings, but for the next three regular meetings. I've asked the folks who lead our
- 00:55:23Student programs to come and be with us and really paint a picture for you. Just like I'll try to go deeper into those initiatives that we're talking about across the state and help you see what it looks like in both cities. I've asked them to come and
- 00:55:37speak with you about what the student programs look like and we're in a variety of openings. Right. So we have remote we have hybrid
- 00:55:47Over at CTE. We're back full time and it's taken a lot of coordination on everybody's part to make all those different pieces work, particularly since
- 00:55:56Our schedules don't always match school schedules. Right. So our CTE kids, most of their schools are hybrid
- 00:56:05Somewhere remote, but our kids are back full time. So it's a lot of working with busing and and all that type of thing.
- 00:56:12So next month we'll be hearing from the CTE campus and in January, we're going to hear from adult ed, but tonight. I'm really excited to have two of my colleagues from special services.
- 00:56:24I think David luminous here is the cheering section and to support the work with Andrew and I happy to have our director Andrea burn talk to you a little bit about
- 00:56:34Their path to opening and I think she's got lots of bragging points, some good things happen in there. So Andrew, I'll turn it over to you.

**Andrea Byrne**

00:56:43 Okay, just do a mic check with me.



**jodonnell**

00:56:44 For a moment.



**Andrea Byrne**

00:56:45 Can you hear me.



**jodonnell**

00:56:48 You could be louder.



**Andrea Byrne**

00:56:50 Okay, let's see if I can if I if I can't get my volume up manually.  
I will enunciate is this any better.



**Cathy Draper**

00:57:01 That's good to me. Alright.



## Andrea Byrne

00:57:04Great. So, good evening, everyone. I'm glad to be here with you and what an interesting year to assume the role of the director position.

- 00:57:15We certainly can say this is a time like no other and a time in which I couldn't be more pleased to work alongside the leadership team and the team of instructional professionals in the center for special services.
- 00:57:30I do have to say that it you know it's an enormous amount of time that everybody spends it's interesting in the remote environment, how time sort of stands still a bit and work hours take on a whole new meaning because
- 00:57:42We definitely feel the need to be connected with each other around any challenges that come up around creative strategies for students for families.
- 00:57:51In ways we never have before. And so we will start this presentation, talking about instruction really
- 00:58:00Creativity and innovation sort of being at the heart of that, especially in a time that's unique and that presents us with really while there are challenges. There are also opportunities. So, Victor if you wouldn't mind. Next slide.
- 00:58:15So our first sort of opportunity was at the start of this year, we brought all of our programs to some extent back in person and our students back in person for
- 00:58:29A re entry process and plan and instruction started immediately.
- 00:58:35There was certainly some preparation work that went in to the start of the year, both in terms of, you know, safety precautions and procedures.
- 00:58:43But we all wear our instructional hats full time because we know that we must continue regardless of circumstances to provide quality instruction that's grounded in evidence based practices.
- 00:58:55But we also knew we had kids, who'd been out of school, a very long time, who could be behaviorally emotionally socially just regulated and it's tough to kind of come back after five months.
- 00:59:06Out of an environment and then to return to masks and shields and barriers and

- 00:59:14 Usually our kids come back, whether it's even after one week or two weeks into our summer program or it's into our school year and they run to hug their teachers.
- 00:59:23 Who they haven't seen in quite some time and their support staff members and this time instead of, you know, hugs and handshakes. And, high fives. It was, you know, kind of waves and air elbows and touch list distance affirmations.
- 00:59:37 That we set up. We're happy to be back together. There were there are tears to which
- 00:59:43 You know, I think people went through a stage where they really felt like they were having to prepare and they had questions and then they saw kids.
- 00:59:50 And we all know that once we see our students. We know what we need to do and that transition really was well navigated by all.
- 01:00:00 We work very closely with technology with facilities and, you know, most of all, thinking about what will our students need in their learning. After
- 01:00:09 After this remote time and they're back on campus. So we knew we'd have to find new ways to collaborate with each other.
- 01:00:16 For kids to find new ways to collaborate with each other for students to be able to communicate using technology across the classroom, sometimes instead of side by side.
- 01:00:27 So there was a lot of thinking and planning that went into those transitions and opportunities to connect. Next slide please. sector.
- 01:00:37 So one of the first things we think about when we start any year and this year was no exception is how we begin our year with baseline assessments.
- 01:00:44 And really gathering information and data and continuing with our formative assessments to say where are our students now so we know some students did enormously well in the remote environment they
- 01:00:57 Thrive in a digital landscape and participated well and some other students had many more challenges with that. So we needed to really ascertain, where are they and how can we best plan for not only IEP goals, but our intended outcomes alongside
- 01:01:15 Standards and assessments that would be coming down the road.
- 01:01:20 So we also discussed maybe having our professional development opportunities really focused on that instructional planning.

- 01:01:27 And continuing our journey into seeing how we can learn about additional strategies and tools that would help us integrate instructional technology really successfully for students and we did have our first
- 01:01:43 Half an extended day for professional development this past Monday and I got a chance to go around to some classrooms, you'll see some images of students both engaged in the learning process and we
- 01:01:55 You know, I saw not only work around lesson planning that is grounded in our focus on learning initiative and building on identifying outcomes and goals.
- 01:02:07 And using data that's coming from our assessments to inform our instruction principles were side by side.
- 01:02:15 Virtually with teachers and support staff members and more than ever before, there is really attention to how a one to one aid can support a student who's either all remote or in a hybrid model or when students are in person and have that support the
- 01:02:34 Behavioral social, emotional and instructional and so there was a lot of planning taking place during that time. And during whatever time folks can find during the course of the school day. Next slide please.
- 01:02:49 So, in so far as our instruction work is continuing on. And we've learned quite a bit in the digital landscape.
- 01:02:59 And that's not to say we weren't already using some tools and some resources, but of course over five months there certainly was time spent
- 01:03:09 In discovery and really being creative, looking at virtual field trips. If we can't take field trips right now into, you know, into places we might have otherwise gone
- 01:03:19 Conducting virtual labs tools like gizmos and near pods and cohort for tests and quizzes and assessments that feel engaging and participatory and interactive
- 01:03:34 And really, we've seen that our students and whether their students who are alternately assessed using communication devices, but we've seen enormous growth in the digital stamina for our students. And there's been many, many ongoing professional development.
- 01:03:51 Opportunities, including this past Monday.
- 01:03:54 Where teachers support staff members related service providers and even students and and their families can participate in

digital learning opportunities that helped to grow our practices. Next slide please.

- 01:04:13And and in the digital realm. And even though we're back on site. We're still certainly having an integrated approach to learning for students.
- 01:04:23We're encouraging ongoing and continued collaboration using Google Classroom and Google Docs and comments features of students can engage an inquiry and conversation together even on a document.
- 01:04:35Seeking feedback from teachers that isn't only lifetime synchronous or during a virtual office hours but and and or in person, but certainly through other other digital means that may be correspondence based
- 01:04:52But because of all that interaction and online time. We also see the value in building digital citizenship.
- 01:04:58So this was important. Prior to remote learning and it will continue to be important. But when so much of everybody's time is spent online as we are right now.
- 01:05:07Knowing appropriate etiquette safety in this environment where you're more connected in some ways to other people and sometimes
- 01:05:16Having young people as they're developing understand that.
- 01:05:20There are privacy issues that need to be here, too. And thank you, Victor for continuing our training around a lot to do and privacy and being very careful about what we share
- 01:05:29And and conducting conducting ourselves in a way that keeps everybody safe and appropriate. And so that has been a big, you know, push as we've been in the digital environment as well. Again, just continued learning. Next slide please.
- 01:05:47So I just this one makes me smile, and I have to put this out here. If you haven't visited our website. This is Chris He's one of our students that are tapping help program.
- 01:05:55And what he's holding up happens to be his voter registration and so he is a voting age and has registered to vote. And so, you know,
- 01:06:06It's interesting. We're in a certainly interesting year in many ways. And it happens to be an election year. And so we always it's just one example of how we always want



- 01:06:15 Our teaching and learning to be relevant for students for all students to provide opportunities for equity to have boys and choice in their, in their world and in their lives.
- 01:06:26 In particular, when we feel that sometimes students feel on the periphery that their families feel that they might be minimized in our society.
- 01:06:34 One of our major emphases in our instruction is also to validate and to make our kids as empowered as they can be as they go through their learning and their lives.
- 01:06:45 And that includes vocational opportunities, opportunities for community learning
- 01:06:50 continued emphasis on daily living skills and some of these things are challenges right now. So we've got principles working alongside their teams in their buildings and their clinicians racking their brains about. Okay.
- 01:07:00 If they can't go to a work site placement right now.
- 01:07:03 Then how can we bring the work to them. What can we do that's virtual that's online. What can we create within our buildings that
- 01:07:10 maintains our distancing and our protocols, but still give students the opportunities to learn how to conduct themselves in a workplace environment and complete some vocational tasks.
- 01:07:22 Our students from our center are still participating in our career services, programs as well. So they do.
- 01:07:29 Take the bus and go over midday from several of our programs in either the CTE or the ICT courses so they are continuing their virtual learning in that way.
- 01:07:39 And I really have to recognize our district partners who have provided transportation for many of our students even on the remote days of our hybrid model, so they're able to go from home half day over to our CTE programs.
- 01:07:53 And continue their vocational learning and as that is necessary for their required hours for their pathway to graduation. Next slide please.
- 01:08:06 So there are many ways in which we think about our goals in our center and our instructional goals and our connectivity goals.
- 01:08:15 So over the many months that we were remote and still now we spent a lot of time working with families. This is a very challenging time for families as they were really partnering

- 01:08:26In in their children's education and ways they potentially never had before. And we spent a lot of time.
- 01:08:33supporting families whose children were having some behavioral needs at home who are having really a hard time readjusting to not coming to school and not understanding that maybe
- 01:08:45It wasn't because people didn't want them to go to school. And so we partner with several different groups as consultancies, we use all points consultancy and they work with us on our essentials for living curriculum for ultimately assess students
- 01:09:01And also we work with CBC, which is an organization that really supports our GBT therapeutic implementation in our state assess programs.
- 01:09:11And we even had some evening sessions where parents were invited to come and speak to not only our clinicians as experts.
- 01:09:18Who know their children, but also our consultants who work alongside of us to be sure that we're providing the best
- 01:09:24instruction on how to really help students and support them, not only through their instructional academic work but also as they continue their learning in the social, emotional and behavioral realms.



### Unknown Speaker

01:09:37Next slide please.



### Andrea Byrne

01:09:40And it's a seasonal moment, and despite all of our distancing and restrictions, we certainly can still have celebrations, we had on the right light campus. A couple of

- 01:09:51Folks team together to set up a distanced pumpkin picking type experience. We can't get on a bus and go on that field trip. So the field trip came to us.
- 01:09:59And students, you know, joyfully participated and that's something we think about a lot is

- 01:10:05Regardless of backward planning from regions exams, the rigor of mainstreaming in the Canseco and Irvington into those courses.
- 01:10:13maintaining our practices where we are engaging in meaningful assessments gathering data and having that inform our instruction we will never forget that this must be joyful for our students and for our faculty and and
- 01:10:28That combination is what helps students who struggle in other areas in their lives and and other places, feel that this is a special place and that bosses is where they need to be for their learning. So that's it for me.



### **Cathy Draper**

01:10:44thank you Andrea, that was really great. You kept so many things that I loved your photographs, the joy of, you know, everything from meeting farm animals to

- 01:10:52Registering to vote for the first time in an election year. I remember doing when I was 18 which happened to be an election year. It's like such a big deal.
- 01:11:00And you get all the different ways in which we educate our students that go beyond, you know, reading and mathematics and science. So that was great. Um, any board. Comments, questions.



### **Sheryl Brady**

01:11:14I'll just make a comment at

- 01:11:15You know, at a time when we can't take field trips. Right. And we're remote you really did make this come live for us so much, appreciate it and thank you.



### **Cathy Draper**

01:11:29Anything else

- 01:11:32While you were so complete in what you did gave us such a great flavor of it. We don't even have to ask any questions.
- 01:11:38Thanks so much. Thank you.



### **Andrea Byrne**

01:11:40Thank you. And obviously we can't do everything we do with that everybody's support who's on this call today. So thank you for supporting us



### **Cathy Draper**

01:11:47Well, we look forward to the day when we can get back in those sites with you and see the kids and action and see the teachers and action.

- 01:11:55Don't know when it will be. But in the meantime, it's great to hear about it from you and to see those great photographs that you shared with us. So thank you.
- 01:12:03Jackie. Anything else from you.



### **jodonnell**

01:12:05You can improve on a report at that point. So that's the end of my report.



### **Cathy Draper**

01:12:10Okay. I agree. You really can't. So excellent ending to that. Okay, so we are moving on to comments from members of the board

and I will just ask you in order in which you appear on my particular screen which may be different from yours. So then that puts you first.

- 01:12:31 And you are muted, if you have anything to say you need to unmute



### **lynn mcbride**

01:12:43 I just like to say kudos to the staff again one, the report was very, very comprehensive enjoyed it I to miss the

- 01:12:56 Visiting the schools and I don't know when we'll get back to it for today. But we learn so much. Thank you.
- 01:13:07 Really enjoy
- 01:13:09 And that's it. Oh, it was fun working on the audit committee. Again, I haven't been
- 01:13:16 There for a while. I took a break. But nice going back to work and
- 01:13:23 That's it.



### **Cathy Draper**

01:13:24 We enjoyed having you there.

- 01:13:27 Okay, I'm Cheryl anything



### **Sheryl Brady**

01:13:34 I will add my. Thank you. I'm also going to be at the misbah on convention next week. So I look forward to reporting back



### **Unknown Speaker**

01:13:44Great.



**Cathy Draper**

01:13:46Job.



**jfiliberti**

01:13:47Nothing for me.



**Cathy Draper**

01:13:48Great. Thank you, Valerie.



**Valarie D. Williams**

01:13:51Thank you to everyone who presented and congratulations to all of the retirees and people who received job promotions and everybody please be safe and well



**Cathy Draper**

01:14:03Thank you. Let's see about



**Bob Johnson**

01:14:06 Thank you for that wonderful reports and also to going over these audit reports for the last 10 years in various districts. This was one of the cleanest

- 01:14:17 Reports. I've read kudos to the business department again for such a great job in working with our auditors.



### **Unknown Speaker**

01:14:27 That's it.



### **Cathy Draper**

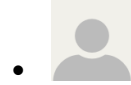
01:14:29 Okay, moving on to comments from members of the staff, David, you're not used to be here and put out a spot like that. But if you would like to say something. This is your opportunity.



### **David Luhman**

01:14:42 Thank you very much. It's been a pleasure to be working closely with Andrea

- 01:14:47 Over the past few months, as some of you know, again, my position kind of spans across southern Westchester OC to a number of different parts of the organization.
- 01:14:56 About a year and a half ago I did a presentation for you guys on work we were doing in the professional development center.
- 01:15:02 To support special education and students with disabilities all across our 32 constituent districts and now it's my pleasure to be working closely with Jim grotto and Andrea
- 01:15:12 In special services to help enhance some of the great work that we're doing with kids and their families on this side of the organization. Thank you.



**Cathy Draper**

01:15:20Thank you. I



**James Gratto Jr.**

01:15:24Just want to update from last time we talked about the enrollment at CTE. We were a little bit down but I'm pleased to report that we are back where we wanted it.

- 01:15:35So in the past few weeks, you know those seeds have been taken up by the districts that have just done. So just wanted to give you that update. Thank you.



**Cathy Draper**

01:15:43That's great. And I think the fact that we're able to do it in person, which is how those programs really need to be run

- 01:15:48Is it
- 01:15:49Once you getting that support from the districts. And let's see, Andrea. Anything else from you.
- 01:15:56No thank you. Okay. Harold anything else.
- 01:15:59Nope, okay. Valerie family.
- 01:16:05I think she said no, thank you. In a muted voice.
- 01:16:08To come anything
- 01:16:12Muted



**kconley**

01:16:13And I'm trying to do it i did i do have something this October is cybersecurity month so just want to make everyone aware to be extra



careful and there are two new attacks out there. One of them I find very despicable. The first one is

- 01:16:36 They believe a Google believes that the same group of China have hackers from China that are messing around with the election.
- 01:16:49 Information is also behind the fishing campaign where it looks like you are being offered McAfee virus protection for free. And when you download it, you download the virus. So be very careful of.
- 01:17:12 accessing those products by email. If you want to do that go on to their site and download it. So don't do it via an email, but the one that I find despicable is we have some bad actors posing as parents
- 01:17:29 And targeting teachers saying that they are a parent and their students device is malfunctioning, and they would like to upload the child's schoolwork.
- 01:17:44 And when the teacher uploads it. It's a virus.
- 01:17:49 So I just find that one particularly despicable because the teachers have enough on their hands right now.
- 01:17:57 They still don't have a good handle on the mic names of parents under this environment, and it is such an easy thing to get tricked on. So I've alerted all of our districts to both and I know the one about
- 01:18:18 Posing as a teacher got circulated down to the teacher level.
- 01:18:23 So we can't put our guard down at all.



### **Cathy Draper**

01:18:29 Thank you for those warnings. I know about those emails that induce you to click on something and they're pretty scary. Yeah.

- 01:18:36 Okay, thank you. Suzanne anything



### **Suzanne Doherty**

01:18:39 No thank you. I have nothing bad



**Cathy Draper**

01:18:41 Okay. Jackie, anything else.

- 01:18:45 final words. Okay. JOHN Miller, any comments.



**JMiller1**

01:18:52 No good.



**Cathy Draper**

01:18:54 Okay.



**Steve Tibbetts**

01:18:57 I just thank you for your kind words towards the business department they as all centers in both you've been working hard, it's certainly been a challenge, but it's nice to have the kind words. So thank you.



**Cathy Draper**

01:19:08 They were well deserved and Victor your time.



**Victor Pineiro**

01:19:12I'm just want to consistently say thank you to the folks at the Rick and the DPS service that help keep us on our toes with cybersecurity.

- 01:19:22I work very closely with them and with Cathy, and it's, you know, it is kind of frightening how things are changing and the direction, things are taking but I'm very happy for the fact that
- 01:19:33We have so many resources and people that are helping us to stay ahead of all of this. So thank you for that.



### **Cathy Draper**

01:19:40Thank you, Brian.



### **Brian Howard**

01:19:42No, nothing. I thank you very much.



### **Cathy Draper**

01:19:44Okay, thank you. Well, I will need to do what I do every time and it almost feels redundant by the time we get to this point in the meeting, saying that

- 01:19:52We owe thanks to so many people for trying to do everything possible to continue our programs at the highest possible level in these very difficult circumstances.
- 01:20:02And I realized that we are, we're always thinking administrators sort of ourselves, people who
- 01:20:07Show up here and their immediate stats, but sometimes we forget we have people who are keeping our buildings clean. We have people who are making sure our kids get Safe flight from place to place.

- 01:20:15 We have so many people who perform critical functions every day and we need to remember that that all of those people are part of his bosses family that that makes our
- 01:20:26 District run so beautifully every day. So I just want to, you know, before we adjourn the meeting, add my thanks to to those people who sometimes
- 01:20:34 I don't get a chance to meet even but I know they're out there every day doing the work. So does anybody else have anything else that I forgotten before we adjourn.
- 01:20:47 Seeing no motion their motion to adjourn. Please. All those in favor please say aye. Aye. Anybody pose. Thank you very much. We will see you in four weeks. Good night.



**jodonnell**

01:21:02 **Goodnight everyone**



**Brian Howard**

01:21:03 Goodnight, all