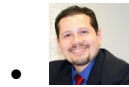


## Audio Transcript



**Victor Pineiro**

00:00:02 Okay, we are officially recording



**Cathy Draper**

00:00:06 And good evening, everybody. Welcome to 13 virtual meeting of Southern Westchester bases for the education and Happy New Year to everybody. I'd like to begin by asking you to rise and join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 00:00:24 I pledge allegiance to



**Unknown Speaker**

00:00:25 The



**Valarie Williams**

00:00:26 Flag.



**Cathy Draper**

00:00:27 Of the United United States of America.



**Valarie Williams**

00:00:29 America.



**Cathy Draper**

00:00:30 And to the republic for which it



**Valarie Williams**

00:00:33 stands, one nation.

- 00:00:36 under God, indivisible.



**Cathy Draper**

00:00:39 With liberty.



**Valarie Williams**

00:00:40 And justice justice for all.



**Cathy Draper**

00:00:44 Thank you.

- 00:00:47 And tonight, I would ask Cheryl, would you make the motion please and Valerie, would you

- 00:00:56 Emotions and the first motion, we are going to need before we do a roll call is to a point appoint a clerk pro Tam, that would be Jim Grotto. So, all in favor please say aye.



**Sheryl Brady**

00:01:08 Aye. Aye.



**Cathy Draper**

00:01:09 Anybody opposed.

- 00:01:12 Thank you Jim. You are clerk program. And thank you for taking responsibility. So your first responsibility is to call the rule on board members please



**James Gratto Jr., Southern Westchester BOCES**

00:01:22 Please say president if you're present Catherine paper.



**Cathy Draper**

00:01:26 I am president



**James Gratto Jr., Southern Westchester BOCES**

00:01:28 John filbert it



•

**Unknown Speaker**

00:01:29Wasn't



•

**James Gratto Jr., Southern Westchester BOCES**

00:01:31Sure, Cheryl, Brady.

- 00:01:33Present Lynn Frazier McBride.
- 00:01:38See, she's just joining
- 00:01:42I know, I know. That's my words coming



•

**Unknown Speaker**

00:01:45Out. It was lemon



•

**James Gratto Jr., Southern Westchester BOCES**

00:01:47I'm Robert Johnson.

- 00:01:51And Valerie Williams.



•

**Unknown Speaker**

00:01:53Here.



•

## **James Gratto Jr., Southern Westchester BOCES**

00:01:54 Thank you.



## **Cathy Draper**

00:01:56 Thank you, Jen. We do have a quorum. Even though there are a few people who are absent tonight. I'm not sure whether any will join us in progress and if so welcome and

- 00:02:03 So I'd like to begin with the review of the Minutes of previous meetings and because we met so many times in
- 00:02:14 Birth three budget meetings and one business meeting. We have a lot of minutes to do
- 00:02:18 If there's no objection. I will just take the motion for all the stuff before I do that, I'd like to ask whether anybody has any corrections to the minutes of the budget meeting of December 7
- 00:02:30 The business meeting of December at the end of December 9 or the budget meeting of December, it's
- 00:02:43 Hearing none, all those in favor please say aye.
- 00:02:46 Aye. Anybody post
- 00:02:50 Excellent. Thank you. And we will not have an Executive Session. At this point, we will need to one at the end of the meeting.
- 00:02:58 So moving on to our resolutions, beginning with the resolutions, having to do with our audit reports first item three, a resolution to accept the corrective action plan for the internal audit report.
- 00:03:12 Steve, do you want to mention this, this has been discussed by the audit committee, of course.



## **stibbetts**

00:03:17 Sure. So just a few comments back in the fall, the external auditor, as well as the internal audit or the internal auditor presented to both the to the audit committee and the external auditor to the board and total and the

- 00:03:32The
- 00:03:33Plans themselves the risk assessment as well as the agreed upon procedures report, we're presenting except upon the book accepted by the board.
- 00:03:43So the next part of that process is what was for the administration to create a corrective action plan for those reports which were shared with the audit committee.
- 00:03:53Then there'll be hopefully accepted by present to the board for acceptance this evening, and then we have to submit them to the state and will, you know, work on the the items that were noted in the reports. So does anyone have any questions.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:04:12Thank you know I guess they don't. So, so three eight is about the agreed upon procedures report three be is about the risk assessment report, but the same process for each of us.



### **stibbetts**

00:04:22That's correct. The to



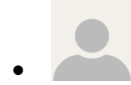
### **Cathy Draper**

00:04:23Internal audit reports and



### **stibbetts**

00:04:24Then the third one is the external



## Cathy Draper

00:04:26 External letter which is is three. See, so does anybody have any questions or comments on any. And again, I'd like to take them as a group and this is injection

- 00:04:36 No questions. No objections, all those in favor please say
- 00:04:39 Hi. Anybody opposed.
- 00:04:43 No extensions. Okay, thank you, Steve for your work at this as usual the audit reports. Excellent.
- 00:04:50 Every time we look at these with the auditors. When we look at what we were expected to do since the last year's meeting we've accomplished what we're expected to do and we're moving forward and making progress. So thank you to Steve and everybody in his department.
- 00:05:05 Thank you. Okay, moving on item for a approval of personnel consent items. This was updated. I think at some point today this afternoon. I'm not sure what time I got to look at it. So I hope you all had a chance to look at it again.
- 00:05:24 Beginning with a certified personnel. We do have in the area of resignations three for the purposes of retirement. So I'd like to mention those specially. The first one is Richard Thomas after 15 years as a teacher.
- 00:05:42 As a Soto after 11 years as a teaching assistant and Pete moszkowicz after 25 years as a wonderful teacher. So I'd like to wish all the best in their retirement and thank them for their, their service and the policies. Any questions about any of that comments next moving on to some appointments
- 00:06:07 A couple of leaves of absence.
- 00:06:11 Additional assignments other adjustments and we call appointments. Anybody have any questions on any of the certified personal
- 00:06:22 Okay. Moving along to classify personnel, a couple of civil service status changes people becoming more permanent with us and then to the sad part

- 00:06:33 With some resignations including three retirements and the first one that I will say more about in a minute is valid family after 13 years as
- 00:06:44 Chief school officer. Second one is Jamal after 32 years as an office assistance and third Carol del Rico. Sorry about that.
- 00:06:56 Situation that one's a tough one for me after 18 years the telephone operator. So of course we wish all of them the best in their retirement and thank them and
- 00:07:06 To Valerie, who has been such a resource to every board member and the whole administration in all of her time here. She I know she sent board members, thank you notes.
- 00:07:20 I hope you all received them, but she also sent me an email. But she wanted me to read publicly tonight from her. So I will take this particular opportunity to do that.
- 00:07:29 And it's so Valerie SHE SAYS TO MY BOARD OF EDUCATION members, which is how she always refers to us.
- 00:07:36 I hope everyone received my personal thank you notes. I'm sorry that that I'm not present this evening, but one of each of my board members to know how much I've been working with each of you.
- 00:07:46 Whether it was for a short time or a long time I have cherished each relationship that I have made and every single one of you hold very dear place in my heart.
- 00:07:54 The members that have previously left us are also included my phone Emirates. I have learned so much from each of you and you made my time at those seeds very enjoyable.
- 00:08:02 I will be forever grateful to each and every single one of you and wish you much happiness in the future forever, your clerk and buddy Valerie so
- 00:08:12 Lovely email from her exactly what one would expect. And we will miss her tremendously. Obviously we have contact with her in the way that we really don't with others. Most other staff members. So, this is this is a sad moment that will happen for
- 00:08:28 Moving on to appointments. A few of those a lot of great adjustments for student helpers because of the change in law with respect to minimum wage.
- 00:08:40 A couple of unpaid interns one elimination of positions in the related reduction in force a temporary appointment.
- 00:08:51 a substitute teacher. Any questions, comments on any of that.



- 00:08:59 Okay. Hearing none, all those in favor please say aye. Aye. Aye. Any opposed, anybody who needed to abstain. See now. Thank you.
- 00:09:11 And moving on to the business agenda here and you will see there are a couple of a vendor, including one that please don't let me forget at the end because it doesn't show up on the business report itself. I don't think so. Let's go through that starting with the
- 00:09:36 Wrong one
- 00:09:38 The
- 00:09:43 Treasurer's Report. Any questions, comments on that.
- 00:09:51 The accounts receivable report.
- 00:09:55 On in here before. Right. Yes. Yes. Yes.



### **JMiller1**

00:09:58 Good evening, since the materials were posted. We received approximately \$1.6 million

- 00:10:04 Blind paid their November invoice Byron hills made partial payments against their september, and october invoice and Hastings paid a small balance. Oh, for November.
- 00:10:19 Wishes to community college paid. They're balanced, that was from June 30 \$853,000 and we received an email late in the day that Mount Vernon will be wiring this money tomorrow, approximately \$2.1 million for the
- 00:10:40 October and November invoices.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:10:43 Nice to hear

- 00:10:45 I like those big amounts. Any questions, comments for john
- 00:10:51 Okay, I'm moving along to claim.
- 00:10:55 Audit Report looks good. As always, I'm bids.
- 00:11:04 And there was an agenda with respective bids.
- 00:11:10 Say,
- 00:11:14 I keep going back and forth on my thing there. Let's say

- 00:11:22An RFP.
- 00:11:25Question. Questions, comments, special a projects library systems community services for corrections.
- 00:11:38Adult Community Services English literacy and sex education and adult basic education literacy grants. Questions, comments.
- 00:11:48The equipment lease purchase Brewster
- 00:11:54purchase option plan.
- 00:11:57Wine book by impropriety new free school district.
- 00:12:02Contracts
- 00:12:06And again, our individual
- 00:12:20Individual contracts and there was an addendum there.
- 00:12:28And then there was an end that was not on the original agenda that we received, which is the sale of surplus vehicles, and I assume this came to us after the fact, because it's an auction. So we couldn't report this until it had happened.
- 00:12:45And



**stibbetts**

00:12:46The auction closed over the weekend.



**Unknown Speaker**

00:12:48Right.



**Sheryl Brady**

00:12:50Yeah.



**Cathy Draper**

00:12:50 That's what I assumed. Any questions, comments on any of that.

- 00:12:58 nutcase. All those in favor, please. Hi, hi, hi anybody
- 00:13:06 Anybody to abstain.
- 00:13:09 Okay, I don't see. Thank you very much. Moving along to the report of the chief operating officer who I think is bringing a guest with her to speak.



### **Jacqueline O'Donnell**

00:13:22 I am. Would you like to go first or for me.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:13:26 They were reversed on the agenda tonight. I thought maybe you

- 00:13:28 For that but but if we want to go first. We can do that to



### **Harold A. Coles**

00:13:32 Mind will be very brief. I just want to give an overview. First we'll start off by saying Happy New Year everybody and it is a happy new year going forward we're planning on doing a lot of exciting things and our policies going forward.

- 00:13:46 I wanted to announce that share with you the other day that on Monday, the Board of Regents met and they appointed Dr.
- 00:13:53 Lester YOUNG AS A NEW CHANCELLOR he's gonna bring a lot of experience to the position we're looking forward to seeing what he's going to do going forward with what that
- 00:14:02 Initiatives will be putting forth and making sure that there's quality education for all students.

- 00:14:08 Second point, what to make out is, and I need to get the exact date, but the bosses advocacy date has moved from
- 00:14:15 March is when it usually has until February, I'll get to the exit date actual date to you, that's when it's going to be. And it's going to be virtual so we're going to work on trying to
- 00:14:25 Try to see if it's possible. The district superintendent. So we're talking about seeing if there be more students that can participate being it's virtual
- 00:14:33 Having to have an opportunity to put together, either a video tapes of their experiences or having them be part of the meetings that occur virtually with different legislators, which you'd be pretty excited to see that involve more involved this year.
- 00:14:46 The other one is looking at next week we begin doing the first round of interviews for the three school districts will be doing a superintendent searches for looking forward to that. One of getting a
- 00:14:59 Proposal request for another school district that's looking for a new superintendent going to next year it will be working putting that together, submitting it to the the board.
- 00:15:09 For that as well. The last thing is that you're all aware, if you're not Monday is when the code or the vaccinations for a while for educators
- 00:15:21 And a lot of school districts are now working on how to develop plans to move forward with that. How to encourage staff to get to vaccinations.
- 00:15:30 It's identifying sites that we're going to actually have that effect the vaccinations available so
- 00:15:35 It's a new day. He gives a lot of hope that people will talked about when we met on Monday, but moving forward and excitement single and for with us and
- 00:15:43 I'll be more to talk about this as we go forward with it and how we roll this out with not only our policies, but with the other districts as well. And that's it.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:15:51 Thank you. Hello. I have a question about the vaccination, since this is my life at work these days.

- 00:15:58 Are we, or other school districts in the area going to provide onsite vaccination using our own your school nurses or something like that to provide patients because it's been very difficult to get appointments and other places.



### Harold A. Coles

00:16:09 As a very, very good question. I think that several different superintendents, have asked the same questions. That's where they could do that or not.

- 00:16:15 Not only that, but if you're looking at trying to mobilize a staff to try to get vaccinated to try to figure out a way to be able to do that in a way where it wouldn't impact on instruction still occurring.
- 00:16:24 The what we've been told is because of the way the vaccinations are supposed to be stored. It's hard to be able to have
- 00:16:32 Those vaccinations with the equipment that was required for them to be kept it in a safe place under
- 00:16:38 The freezing temperatures need to have the other one is security issues, and I think that because
- 00:16:43 There are very few doses. There's all issues as to whether, if you have them what you can do to secure them.
- 00:16:48 What some districts have been doing. It's been partnering with some agencies like CVS is one agency to have them come in once they're given approval to use their, their district has a site for
- 00:17:00 Vaccinations connect here so that could be one avenue of hope to be able to work with going forward. But we're hearing more about how that's going to roll out as we talked about this going forward.



### Cathy Draper

00:17:10 That the pharmacy option. I think is what they did with the nursing homes and other congregate settings. So, that makes sense. They have the equipment and the

- 00:17:18 Pharmacist then personnel and maybe they can be assisted by our own school but nurses if they were about on the job done. Okay, thanks. Anybody else have questions for Harold cons.
- 00:17:30 you're muted.



### John Filiberti

00:17:31 I did. Did somebody else.



### Cathy Draper

00:17:33 Jumping friend. Go ahead.



### John Filiberti

00:17:35 Okay, Harold. The question I had is, is now that they've opened the the vaccines have to basically anybody over 65. What I'm wondering is, is, is that going to further delay the schools.

- 00:17:50 From getting all of their teachers or, like, in other words, to the teachers fall into the same category.
- 00:17:57 With everybody that's, I think, in one day and one be or well the schools and the teachers at least be able to, you know, along with, you know, police officers and at first responders, will they sort of be able to move
- 00:18:12 To the, to the front of the list, because as as Kathy said, you know, the list. So now to April or May. If you're, if you can even find one.



### Harold A. Coles

00:18:23 Yeah, I, that's a good question that we're still trying to get answers on at this point.

- 00:18:27 I know that when they open this up, there is a push and sort of effort for educators to be vaccinated
- 00:18:34 And so as you fill the form out you designate what category you belong to. And I'm hoping that with that process. It will help with people move closer to the front of the list, but it is an extensive list this time.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:18:47 I actually heard that question asked a phone call today through my work. And the answer was that at least for the moment, it looks as if everybody who is currently eligible is essentially in one pot and

- 00:19:02 The fact that somebody may have been a healthcare worker was eligible. A couple of weeks ago, does not put them ahead of me right now. Or you so
- 00:19:11 I think we're all just going to have to try to do it in whatever way we can, whether it's your place of employment or through just, you know, going on the websites and signing up and saying,
- 00:19:19 I'm old enough, or whatever it may be. So that could change these things change every day but but that's how it looks right now because it's just administratively so difficult with a number of people trying to sign up to start putting people into some categories. Is there, is there something



### **Harold A. Coles**

00:19:36 Or the other piece of this, too, is that if you sign up for particular site, they're encouraging you to go back to get your second dose. It's the same site.

- 00:19:45 A lot of people. They're concerned with people not having the proper documentation or not getting the proper

- 00:19:52 Even the proper vaccination to do second serve second dosage. So I think that's one thing that people need to recognize it wherever you want to go and you need to go back to the same site, whatever the time frame is that you need to go back to it.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:20:03 It's three or four weeks depending on which vaccine you get, yes.

- 00:20:07 Unless you are so far down the road, you're going to get a Johnson and Johnson or something else. It doesn't need a second though. So, you know, again, everything evolves. But yeah, it's complicated. Any other questions or anything for Harold
- 00:20:20 Okay, thank you. Now you are up.



### **Jacqueline O'Donnell**

00:20:23 Okay, thank you. I want to build on the vaccine conversation a little bit. We were fortunate that last week. Some of our employees could go before it opened up this week. So we did receive notification that

- 00:20:36 Speech teachers OT, PT nurses, people who are in direct contact with kids in close proximity could sign up early, so we get that information out quickly and some of our people were able to take advantage of that.
- 00:20:49 We also got the link out to start to fill out the form to set up for a vaccination as soon as it came out early this week and a number of our people.
- 00:21:02 Have shared with us that they were able to get appointments in a timely manner.
- 00:21:07 A lot of them starting this week and next, and we're hearing from people who are starting the initial vaccine that as they
- 00:21:15 Leave the ones who have any done at the county center as they leave. They're already given an appointment for the next vaccine.



- 00:21:22 So it sounds like it's a pretty well run system we have been in conversation with some of our districts, particularly the districts where our programs are embedded we would be very much in favor
- 00:21:34 Of supporting clinics running clinics ourselves that option is not available to school share
- 00:21:39 That we do have a committee that came to a subcommittee. As you know, we have a district response committee for the covered response.
- 00:21:47 We also have a subcommittee when it within their that's been working on our testing program.
- 00:21:53 Tonight, you see an appointment of an additional school. Dr. The school Dr support that we had wasn't enough to manage all covered concerns in addition to the types of support that they give us in our daily programs.
- 00:22:06 And we're really enjoying working with that new professional who supported several of our schools.
- 00:22:14 So we have a subcommittee that's been working on testing protocol. Should we have to test their now I'm taking on the immunization piece.
- 00:22:23 And while we're encouraging people to take outside of school appointments. We are working out a process to support them if they must go during the day. So just want to make you aware of that, it's been
- 00:22:37 A top topic in our work lately to make sure that we make things as accessible as possible. And so more to come on that as more information comes, but some of our folks have already started getting
- 00:22:50 The vaccine. So that's, that's really good news building off of that one of the new requirements to our safety plan is that we have a pandemic response.
- 00:23:01 And we've been pretty smart about it as we went. We have sort of archived, we realized that this was an opportunity, since last March to develop a process for dealing with any sort of big term emergency
- 00:23:17 And, you know, hopefully this is the last pandemic, we will see or deal with in our lifetime, but we wanted to have a plan to build on the strengths of
- 00:23:29 Our path. During this time, and the lessons that we've learned. And so I asked Steve to speak tonight, a little bit about for safety team is taking that on to get an actual published pandemic plan.

- 00:23:43 That should we ever encounter an emergency at this sort or even one where we could borrow from the pandemic plan for a different type of emergency. The team is working on that. So Steve,



### **stibbetts**

00:23:55 Hey, thank you. So Jackie kind of outlined what we're required to do and what the pandemic plan, it's, it's an annex to our

- 00:24:03 Existing safety plan. So if you look at our existing district wide safety plan. There's a number of annexes, you know, from from bomb threats to
- 00:24:12 You know car accidents, things like that. So it's going to be another annex to that and it's one that requires us to put it out for public comment again and also have a public
- 00:24:25 Hearing. So that will be we're planning, we're kind of working backwards that we'd have a public hearing on the march 7 board meeting.
- 00:24:34 And adopt the plan that night because we have to have everything wrapped up by April 1 and so we'd also have the district wide safety committee meeting and reviewing
- 00:24:45 This particular plan. We do have a template that I was reviewing today with Tom Briggs.
- 00:24:50 Which is from our safety consultant L terrorists and it just kind of outlines, you know, really defines who's an essential employee.
- 00:24:59 And then what would happen if this has to be a quick shift to a remote environment and things like that.
- 00:25:07 So it's going to refer a lot to plans that have already been developed and put in place, like a reentry plan, but you'll see more of that coming forward. So just to give you a heads up.



### **Jacqueline O'Donnell**

00:25:19 So Kathy had mentioned, I had a guest with me tonight. That wasn't Steve. He's not the guest speaker, he's just updating you on our

plan the guest speaker has to do with the new year and I think we're all really happy to count down

- 00:25:36 Right and look forward to the new year and tomorrow we'll be doing a visioning activity with our entire cabinet thinking about what are the good things ahead and where do we want to grow from here.
- 00:25:48 But one of my commitments to the board. This year is to bring forward some of our leaders to talk about their walk their vision for their division.
- 00:25:58 The journey that they're on with their teammates in building good things to benefit our partners. So I'm really excited tonight to welcome one of our directors Tracy Raza cat.
- 00:26:10 To come and talk to us about how she is leading her division of adult learners. And as you know, Tracy also works with the springbrook Academy. So Tracy. I'm going to turn it over to you.



### **Tracy Racicot**

00:26:28 Hi. Thank you for having me tonight I've prepared a slide presentation that gives a broad overview of the programs that we offer through the center for adult and community services.

- 00:26:42 I'm sure you're aware of probably a lot of these pieces. But I thought a broad overview and the funding sources and the different variety of programs that we offer might be helpful.
- 00:26:52 Then I broken it down into different programs. So we can discuss where we are with current enrollments and how we've been impacted in each of these different programs by the current state of affairs Victor, if I can have the the slide please. Next slide.
- 00:27:08 So in our center our commitments are to provide high quality training for those who are entering the workforce and or changing fields.
- 00:27:17 And in doing so, we're seeking the input from the community and industry partners as part of that we have advisory committee meetings. We've had a couple to date.
- 00:27:29 And we will have another one coming up for construction trades soon we are also committed to supporting the learners of those who are pursuing their high school equivalency diploma.

- 00:27:40 And providing English language instruction for those seeking to increase their English language fluency and also in part.
- 00:27:50 Helping students
- 00:27:52 earn their citizenship through passing the citizenship exam.  
Next slide. Victor
- 00:27:59 So again, sort of the sweeping overview of how we're staffed how we were staffed and how we're moving forward.
- 00:28:08 So at this time we have myself, the director, I have to office assistance that support the broad operations of the Center for adult and community services.
- 00:28:20 Deanna and Joe are with us at 450 that's where they are stationed and Eileen Moskowitz is the center's accountant providing support to all of our programs.
- 00:28:32 So epicenter for adult and community services. We have primarily three different funding sources for our different programs we have tuition based programs we have grant funded programs as well as programs that are funded through contracts that have formulas based on how we
- 00:28:51 How we achieve our goals and how we get compensated all of these different funding sources are integral to how we operate and how we make decisions.
- 00:29:01 In our program specifically the tuition based programs we have partners who support us in the community, primarily the New York State Department of Labor, Employment centers.
- 00:29:12 The New York State Education Department access program as well as the Urban League and a variety of other community partners.
- 00:29:20 What sets us apart very differently than other instructional programs is that we actually our hours extend till 930 on weeknights
- 00:29:29 And then we have Saturday hours from eight to one. So we regularly offer classes during those times. So we indeed have a night shift that's coming in. When the day shift is leaving
- 00:29:41 So that sets us apart very much and how we operate primarily our locations or at 450 mamaroneck the Westchester County Department of Correction.
- 00:29:51 The Center for Career Services at Valhalla, we share space there st Gabriel's in New Rochelle where we leased space and numerous community locations.

- 00:30:00 That is in the best of times that we're operating programs there. If you were to look at the staffing
- 00:30:06 Last year at this time, it would have also included a full time. Secretary, a full time junior accountant and to hourly counselors, we no longer have those positions with us as we try to streamline our processes next life after
- 00:30:24 So one of the programs that we operate that Jackie referenced is the springbrook Academy. The springbrook Academy serve students ages 18 to 21
- 00:30:35 At the Westchester County Department of Correction our staffing, there is Dr. Michelle Darby she's our principal secretary leases are our was actually a shared staff member with another one of our programs.
- 00:30:49 And as of January, we have three teachers there. So again, if we look last year at the snapshot of who was there. We had an additional teacher, a full time social worker, a full time school counselor, as well as a Community aid so you'll see we have
- 00:31:07 We have downsized the program and you will see that the enrollment numbers underneath support those programmatic decisions.
- 00:31:16 So what I've tried to do here is to capture year to date enrollment that that is comparing apples to apples. So if we look at this year.
- 00:31:27 8.12 f t and I've noted here FT does not mean enrollment. That is a formula. There are not 8.12 students attending there's after you 17 students as of yesterday on our end moment.
- 00:31:40 So it's a formula. So this is a program that is contract funded with a formula. So as so from July 1 to December 20 we had 8.1 to f t accumulated
- 00:31:56 Last year at this time we had 17.76 and the previous year, we had 28.02 f t that shows a precipitous decline in our enrollment in that program.
- 00:32:12 You might wonder, what is it you do it that program. Exactly. So you'll see in the little yellow box there the box highlighted and outlined in yellow. We actually do three different things in that program.
- 00:32:23 We offer New York State regions diploma program. We offer a program that leads to high school of Portland see

- 00:32:32 And we also have students who are attending that program who have their high school equivalency diploma or taking additional coursework to prepare themselves.
- 00:32:40 To take classes through Manhattanville college in the Department of Corrections. So those are the three things that we have there. We have varying numbers of students who are attending
- 00:32:51 Who are actually have goals and some of those programs we're finding that we have very few students
- 00:32:58 Currently I believe one, maybe two that are actually seeking the region's diploma. The remaining students are either working on their high school equivalency or post High School of Public Policy. So what is the impact of this trend and why is it happening. Next slide. Victor
- 00:33:17 Well, overall, the population at the Westchester County Department of Correction has declined in part that has to do with coven they're keeping less people incarcerated for periods of time.
- 00:33:30 We've also had the raise the age legislation which eliminated all students who were previously attending who are ages 16 and 17. This was a planned and
- 00:33:43 A plan that was rolled out over a couple of years. So this wasn't a sudden drop. They all reform has also lowered the population in the Department of Correction.
- 00:33:53 At the last meeting where I presented the budget. There was a question about whether a receipt, whether we were reaching
- 00:33:59 And serving a comparable percentage of the eligible population. And when we are so the amount of population is just so small.
- 00:34:07 We are reaching and serving the same percentage that we were previously. There's just less students to serve. So what is the impact of this
- 00:34:18 That we have to make some very serious decisions with the district and with the staff.
- 00:34:25 About what this looks like moving forward as the program continues to have less and less population. How do we continue to serve them with a high quality program. So we have a lot of very difficult decisions to make about this program at this time.
- 00:34:42 Next slide. Victor
- 00:34:45 Our next set of programs are tuition based. So again, these are programs for ages 18 and over

- 00:34:53 And these are the programs. I like to talk about as our high school career tech ed programs and how many adults, we all encounter who say
- 00:35:01 I wish I had known in high school and I would have taken plumbing, or I would have taken carpentry. Well, these are the programs that we offer for adults.
- 00:35:10 They are tuition based. So students are paying out of pocket or we do have our partners in the community who helped to afford some of these programs by providing tuition and vouchers.
- 00:35:23 Our program is staffed by two coordinators. At this time, Dr. Michelle Darby, who is taking on responsibilities for the evening supervision and coordination.
- 00:35:34 And I'm including Maureen's up arrow here, who is our nursing program coordinator, but she's been working diligently on developing healthcare Academy programs.
- 00:35:44 Which falls under the umbrella of workforce development programs at this time. We have about 15 instructors were actively teaching. And again, these programs are occurring during the day.
- 00:35:57 In the evenings and on the weekends are construction trades programs at this time are the highest demand programs. I've listed these in order of the highest demand.
- 00:36:11 But all of these classes are filling. So at this time, electricity, ah fact plumbing welding carpentry and auto mechanics are basically bursting at the seams.
- 00:36:22 The problem was saying bursting at the seams is we have limited capacity due to coven we've had to cut our class sizes nearly in half in order to accommodate social distancing
- 00:36:35 And also we have limited availability to use this space or to offer sections. So our daytime H back program is full and it runs Monday through Friday.
- 00:36:47 All day if we could open another section, it would fulfill, but we don't have another H back lab.
- 00:36:53 So that's exciting. A lot of these programs are being filled because our partners are able, our community partners are able to provide tuition assistance to those who are unemployed and or under employed a. Next slide. Victor
- 00:37:12 So as I was saying, the healthcare Academy programs are falling under the umbrella of workforce development and Maureen's apparel has been developing these programs.

- 00:37:24 She has spent the fall hiring instructors developing curriculum connecting with the help National Health Care Association to make sure that we will be offering industry recognized credentials at the completion of these programs.
- 00:37:39 We have done a lot to promote these programs, including a 200,000 piece mailing that went out in the fall, we have individual program fliers for these programs.
- 00:37:51 That we're sending out to the community and that we're posting. We have an advisory committee hoping our partners can help us.
- 00:37:58 Spread the word and it has a major presence on our website. Unfortunately, we are still suffering from very low enrollment at this time, we have one of these offerings that is running.
- 00:38:10 So we're offering nursing assistant phlebotomy EKG pharmacy tech medical terminology clinical medical assistant medical office management medical administrative assistant
- 00:38:23 And billing billing and coding specialist. So we're offering a lot of programs that we believe are valid programs and our partners are telling us there is field out there, but we're just not getting the enrollment Victor. Next slide.
- 00:38:41 So what do we believe is happening here. Why are we not getting enrollment in healthcare, and why are other programs, some of them not feeling
- 00:38:50 Well, we believe there's a lot of different factors, specifically in health care. You know, I have to wonder
- 00:38:55 Are people really willing to go into health care at this time and be a frontline worker. Is that where people want to be if they're not already there. We don't know. Also the course, the cost of the courses is always a factor as well.
- 00:39:11 So again, I'd like to
- 00:39:12 Look at some comparisons and enrollment. So you can have a strong idea of where we're at. So again, I tried to take a snapshot from July.
- 00:39:22 Of this year to December. So that puts us in the middle of the covid ID and the suspension of programs. So between July and December we had only 233 students enrolled our workforce programs.
- 00:39:38 Last year from July to December we had 683 and the year before we had 702 it's often hard to compare our numbers when we just look at numbers and workforce.



- 00:39:50 Because we could have one course that is 200 hours long, and one course that's two hours long. But when we just look at
- 00:39:58 enrollment numbers that can be deceiving. But there is no way around this, that the viruses had a serious impact on our enrollment.
- 00:40:07 And why would that be well most of these programs are hands on skills based programs. You just cannot teach welding or automotive or phlebotomy in a fully remote environment.
- 00:40:19 Also, when we shut down in March, we were in the middle of a very robust semester we had to stop offering instruction. When we reopened in September.
- 00:40:30 We had to resume those classes that were suspended. So if you were taking an auto mechanics class that started in February.
- 00:40:38 And we cut it short, March, you came back in September, what that did is it disallowed us in offering new programs because our space and our instructors were occupied completing courses that they had started in March.
- 00:40:53 And of course we can never underestimate the economic challenges of our clients at this time and really just having the resources to pay for tuition is a challenge.
- 00:41:06 Steady enrollment for some courses again is due to our partners, the nursing assistant program that started last week we're doing a hybrid nursing assistant program.
- 00:41:17 Is full almost in its entirety entirety with those who are funded through the Department of Labor, Employment centers and access VR.
- 00:41:27 Those programs are operational and running because they deliver training for a high demand field which where there's there's guaranteed employment. Next slide. Victor
- 00:41:43 Our next program is really the building block of the Center for adult and community services, our adult literacy center.
- 00:41:51 Is grant funding as well as contract in Formula contract funded and formula based our supervisor is Maria Guerrero, we have support staff there rosana sodano
- 00:42:03 Tanya to the ghetto Lisa's arc. Our who also works at the springbrook Academy. We also had to community as James pen Kathy Reynolds
- 00:42:12 And at this time, we are employing a total of 22 instructors registration aids and testers. This is a robust program right now we are offering programs only at

- 00:42:26 The Westchester County Department of Correction and some remote in online classes.
- 00:42:32 In the best of times we're offering this program in as many as 25 to 35 community locations that include libraries community centers at this time those options are not open to us. We're not. We're not offering classes in the community centers.
- 00:42:52 The primary things that we offer at the adult literacy center or again the high school equivalency diploma English as a second language says this citizenship in skills training with embedded ESL support.
- 00:43:06 So we indeed just completed surf safe training, which is a food handling certification with embedded ESL teacher and we had 20 students pleat that program in the fall, with the
- 00:43:18 Help of a community partner our programs and adult literacy. At this time, have solid funding, they're funded in part by employment preparation education funds which are in New York State funds.
- 00:43:32 We have had no indication that that funding will be reduced.
- 00:43:36 Our biggest issue with keeping up with our epi as we refer to funding is making sure that we have attendance.
- 00:43:43 The epi funding is truly based on numbers of hours of instruction that we deliver. So if we don't have students. We don't get the money or the reimbursement from the state so attendance is critical.
- 00:43:55 Our other grant funding in this program is the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act that is actually federal funding that is given through the State Education Department. So they oversee it
- 00:44:07 But it is federal money we again. Also, at this time, have no indication that that funding is in jeopardy. But again, we must make sure that we are delivering these programs as promised in our grant application by having sufficient enrollment.
- 00:44:24 The other source of funding and our adult literacy programs is the contract funded formula based through an agreement with Westchester Community College.
- 00:44:34 And in this program, we're offering both ESL in high school equivalency programs. And again, we must have the attendance through that agreement with the college, we're able to offer more remote and online courses than we are with our grant funded programs. Next slide.

- 00:44:53 So what are the current state of affairs, how they impacted our programs. Again, if you look at the enrollments here. I was not able to get a snapshot of a half year I was able to get full year numbers. But if we look carefully at this. And again, this is the box that is in the yellow
- 00:45:14 Outline in yellow. This year we're halfway through the year. And we have a total enrollment of 528 students last year end of the year, we had 2215
- 00:45:28 So it would be safe to assume that it this at this time last year, our count would have been over 1100 students
- 00:45:36 And if you follow that trend, you will see a decline over the last couple of years, not a huge decline, not what we're witnessing now.
- 00:45:44 But on a really happy know if you look at our high school achievement since July. We've had 51 students in this program who've obtained their high school equivalency diploma.
- 00:45:54 That's really great news. And we've had seven students that have reported to us that they have obtained their citizenship. We don't always get those numbers from the agencies we get those numbers from the individuals, the citizenship attainment.
- 00:46:09 So what is really impacting us here in our attendance. We do recognize that the elimination of our community locations severely impacts our attendance, mostly because of
- 00:46:25 Access to the sites. So if you live in a community and you can walk or take the bus safely and easily to
- 00:46:34 To the library or to the community center, you can get to those classes and attend right now we are only offering the literacy classes.
- 00:46:45 At mamaronock at the Westchester County Department of Correction, and a few a handful online. So it really limits the access to the programs.
- 00:46:57 We generally would be offering a great deal of courses at St Gabriel's where we leased space that location is in New Rochelle.
- 00:47:06 At last investigation that location. That address is still located in a micro cluster designation as a yellow zone. So as we are not doing testing.
- 00:47:18 We are not offering instructional programs in the yellow zone. So those are programs that have been primarily move to 450 so
- 00:47:27 The distance learning restrictions from our funding source really have impacted us as well.

- 00:47:34 When we offer a distance learning program that is funded through employment preparation education funds we are severely limited in some of the programs that we can offer
- 00:47:46 A for instances we can only offer ESL programs using specific materials that have to be mailed hardcopy workbooks and worksheets to students.
- 00:47:58 Then when those packets of work or received back from us, the amount of funding that we received it receive is very minimal. So distance learning for our grant funded programs really impacts us
- 00:48:12 And then, you know, the bigger question, do people feel safe or want to come out to classes for in person or are they even available even if their home. Are they available if they have children.
- 00:48:26 At home, who are in remote instruction or in hybrid environments are people available. We just don't have the answers to all that we do know we're being impacted. But we do know that we have solid sources of funding as long as we're able to keep ourselves in operation. Next slide. Victor
- 00:48:49 And the, the last program that we offer that that I'm presenting here is our practical nursing program.
- 00:48:57 Be remiss in not thanking everyone who has kept this program going for, for many years, it is a tuition based program.
- 00:49:06 It has had a declining enrollment over the years. We made some very difficult decisions over the last school year to not offer a program to start this coming year.
- 00:49:20 So this program will conclude this June. At this time we have 20 students who remain in the program we indeed just lost two students last week.
- 00:49:33 In the program that that we're not being successful. So we're not having students who are struggling in the program to continue
- 00:49:42 So we are still delivering lecture and classroom via zoom our clinical instruction which students are required to complete in order to sit for the National Nursing exam.
- 00:49:54 Is taking place at this time in simulation labs at as we are not having access to the long term care facilities to deliver clinical experience for our students. So that's been very problematic.
- 00:50:08 And then, you know, certainly, we need to recognize as well that the students who are currently enrolled in our nursing program did not sign up for a virtual class.

- 00:50:18 Many of these students have been struggling with learning in a virtual environment, having the adequate access to the tools that they need.
- 00:50:27 And it's really, it's really not what they signed up for. And they also have many real world issues employment childcare that are impacting their ability to be successful in this program last slide.
- 00:50:43 So you know the future of our program really is to make sure that we stay viable and that we have fiscally responsible programs that continue to meet the education training needs of the large community. We know there's a need out there.
- 00:51:00 The underserved population. This the students who may not have been the academic superstars.
- 00:51:07 Well they attended K 12 programs they need continue services and support. That's what we're here for. So we're going to continue to provide grant and partner supported literacy programs and skills based training.
- 00:51:20 We just need to be very skillful in our choices and be very mindful. And how we monitor programs to make sure that we can stay viable in there for, for the people who need us the most. So with that, I'll take any questions that you may have.



### **Cathy Draper**

00:51:47 Don't really have questions, but I'd like to just say this. This is by far the best explanation of this program. I've seen in all of my years on this board. It was so comprehensive and the explanations of the funding sources.

- 00:52:01 Were just so clear and you managed to get all that done before you got to the challenges of this year, which are you know
- 00:52:09 What we understand exactly what they are and how we're dealing with them. So I really thank you for for all of this and I learned a lot. So I'm sure my other my fellow board members have some questions.



### **Jacqueline O'Donnell**

00:52:21 I do see some questions, Cheryl.



### Sheryl Brady

00:52:24 Tracy. Thank you. That was really very educational on so I was just trying to make sure that I understood how the the contract funding.

- 00:52:33 Worked so something like the Westchester County Department of Corrections would enter into a contract with southern Westchester bases and pay us to provide the particular services that we provide. Is that right,



### Tracy Racicot

00:52:48 That's a great question. Cheryl and it's a little bit more convoluted than that in that throughout the state wherever there is a county correctional facility.

- 00:53:00 The district in which the facility is actually located is obligated to provide educational services for those under the age of 21
- 00:53:12 So it's actually pecan tacos responsibility or obligation, I should say, to provide an education so they enter into a contract with us. And then there is a back end funding to them for providing the services.
- 00:53:30 To the incarcerated persons, so it's it's a few different levels. And there's a formula that's the
- 00:53:39 Yeah, I get always hung up on let me call things f t because f t just means full time equivalent, and it means something different in every program.
- 00:53:47 In this case, it has to do with the numbers of the attendance of hours of each individual student. So when a student attends a certain amount of hours we accumulate a percentage of f t that then we that actually that mechanical can then build upon



## Sheryl Brady

00:54:05 And the formula is developed by the state, then yeah.



## Tracy Racicot

00:54:09 And



## Sheryl Brady

00:54:10 I guess another question I had, in terms of just funding and that you have, you know, Grant based funding or there are you know partners who are providing funds.

- 00:54:21 Do we publicize that in any way or is there counseling provided to students so that they're aware of how they can get that kind of assistance.



## Tracy Racicot

00:54:29 Another really great question. It is posted on our website and on any of our materials that we publish as well.

- 00:54:39 As well as our partners, being very, very aware. So actually, one of our community AIDS has been just phenomenal. This year, and connecting our community partners.
- 00:54:51 With our classes that are up and coming in the Community aid will actually poke us with a stick and say, hey, they want another electricity class, you know, can we get one going
- 00:55:01 So yes, there's there's both and, you know, making sure that we have the follow through to make sure the training reports are filed for them.

- 00:55:10 Because they need that to get their funding from the state their offices do. So there's a lot of work on the on the back end, when we work with the partners.
- 00:55:19 But it's hugely important. And those really are the folks who need us the absolute most those who are unemployed or underemployed or those who have had other challenges and are in in the state system. Thank you.



### **Robert Johnson**

00:55:33 Hi Bob here. Sorry about coming in late and just having some service or internet problems here, but I just had a quick comment and

- 00:55:45 A question I was reading that the four year colleges are now they're losing lots of students and trying to shift their programs into programs like what you described described Tracy and I think you've done a wonderful job with with that presentation. I just want to know.
- 00:56:09 After coven how well prepared are we going to be for an influx of adult learners, because I have a feeling that programs like ours and other
- 00:56:22 Other programs around the state are going to be inundated with the new adult students looking for vocational certification programs.



### **Tracy Racicot**

00:56:32 Another great question. Mr. Johnson, that's really where we're, we're really held. Unfortunately, at this time, with some of our facilities.

- 00:56:41 And that we just don't have space to offer some more of the classes that are highly in demand, because it's not just classroom space.
- 00:56:49 When you offer an H back class or an electricity class or a welding class, you really need highly specialized facilities. So we're not poised to expand a lot on that.



- 00:57:01 Some of the conversations that I've had with Jim and others is about maybe offering some sections that occur. Late in the afternoon so that we can offer morning, afternoon and evening.
- 00:57:14 So we're looking at that we need more instructors as well, you know, right now it's it's very hard to find teachers who work in the trades.
- 00:57:23 Who will be available to do this because honestly, the construction trades are booming right now. So it's hard to find people who are available and qualified to teach the courses as well.
- 00:57:34 Right now we're paying our healthcare teachers more than we pay our construction trades teachers.
- 00:57:40 And you know, we have to be looking at. Is that fair to. So we have a lot of decisions about that but
- 00:57:46 You know I'm pushing staff right now to put out request for personnel, so that we can hire people and we can have people on the back end waiting to be employed. But, you know, we're going to face the same challenges and hiring people, I think that the college's well



### **Robert Johnson**

00:58:01 Thank you so much. Nice job.



### **Jacqueline O'Donnell**

00:58:03 John flow pretty, I think you had a question. Yeah.



### **John Filiberti**

00:58:09 My question with regards to the to the trades on on you know some visits that I've, you know, or conferences that I've attended. There have been other communities where the actual business community has sat down with the educational community and tried to put together.

- 00:58:35 Forecasts for where they might need people in the future. And, you know, one of the things that they've been willing to do in these other locations is help the schools build out the
- 00:58:55 The training facilities so that if they needed to have a larger area for H back or a larger area for building trades or carpentry or electricity.
- 00:59:09 The schools had the facilities they needed to meet the demands that the business who saw coming five years down the road or six or seven years down the road. Is that an opportunity that we might have with like some of our businesses in the Westchester and lower Hudson area. Yeah.



### Tracy Racicot

00:59:32 John as as we and I know. Thank you for attending the healthcare advisory committee that's my intention with developing the construction trades, so that we can expand those opportunities. We do have

- 00:59:47 An industry partner that we've worked with to develop an electrical program. And that's the question I kept asking is can we offer the program at your location.
- 00:59:57 The beauty of adult education very different than career technical education in our high school programs is we're not bound by all of the K 12 restrictions and what a classroom has to look like.
- 01:00:12 So, you know, we do have that freedom and we can do things out in the community. We need to build more relationships with those industry partners. We do watch the Department of Labor data.
- 01:00:24 To see what is up and coming right now. I can tell you it's electricity and H back. We just cannot get enough people trained in those programs and get them out the door, quick enough and you know in those trades. Unlike
- 01:00:40 The Health Care trades that require a certification. So if I want to be a phlebotomist I've got to have a phlebotomy certification. If I want to be an electrician or a
- 01:00:53 Carpenter. It's great to have training, but the employers are not always looking for a certification.

- 01:01:00 The difference is is if those employers are doing like state contract bids, then they have to have those students in an apprenticeship program that is approved.
- 01:01:10 So there's varying various levels in the construction trades. It's very different than health care.
- 01:01:17 And it's a matter of teasing out how we can get people skills and get them employed as quickly as possible.
- 01:01:25 And that's really where I want to focus. So know that you'll be getting an invitation to that construction trades advisory committee as soon as I have the date from the coordinator. So you're on my list. Okay, good.



### John Filiberti

01:01:37 And I had, I had, I had a second question I wanted to ask, with regards to nursing. Okay, now

- 01:01:46 You'll have to forgive me, because I'm learning some of this since my younger daughter is a is a nursing student in college, but it seems that
- 01:01:54 The hospitals in the state of New York have dramatically changed the requirements for
- 01:02:01 What the people that they're going to be hiring into those fields have to have. And I'm sure that's had an impact on what our students can do. But what I'm wondering is, is have you seen have any of the hospitals.
- 01:02:15 With what they're all going through now in this corporate environment, do they see any type of creativity in expanding their job descriptions to allow for more people to come in with varying
- 01:02:34 Skill sets.



### Tracy Racicot

01:02:37 You know, the decline in the need for licensed practical nursing has been on the horizon for many years.

- 01:02:45 You know, previous to working at us who sees I worked in a bow sees that had a nursing program and and at that time. This was years ago we were being forewarned.
- 01:02:55 That the need for practical nurses nurses was going to decline and that it was going to be replaced with registered nurses
- 01:03:03 So indeed, this is something that has been on the horizon for for many years as hospitals work toward magnet status.
- 01:03:12 They were required to change their hiring policies and their requirements for their employees.
- 01:03:18 So indeed, that is what has happened, we are hearing now that acute care facilities and doctors offices are much more interested in hiring practical nurses and those with other skills. So, you know, the pendulum will swing back and forth.
- 01:03:36 But the need for practical nurses is not what it was in in real in to be very frank. The, the nursing program practical nursing program is indeed a college level program that is bundled as a training program.
- 01:03:53 So students who are academically capable of a LPN program are in all honesty, attending college programs.
- 01:04:02 Where they can get their bachelor's degree and an RN because the academic expectations of the program are that high.
- 01:04:09 So there's a you know a whole whirlwind of things that that played into that decision and where we're going. That doesn't mean that we close our doors absolutely to ever considering that
- 01:04:20 But certainly healthcare facilities are looking at a wide range of skills, the pharmacy tech program is being developed specifically because there's changes and regulation.
- 01:04:29 That are coming in that field in April. So we were trying to get ahead of that. Now, we believe that some of those REGULATION CHANGES, AND RUN hold because of the virus, but they're coming. So we're trying to stay on top of all of that great.



**John Filiberti**

01:04:42 Thank you very much, very educational.



**Jacqueline O'Donnell**

01:04:47I think that there are no more questions.



**Valarie Williams**

01:04:49Oh, I have a question.



**Jacqueline O'Donnell**

01:04:50Oh, I'm sorry. Go ahead. Go ahead.



**Valarie Williams**

01:04:52Hey, thank you very much for the presentation and I like to say that, you know, I'm happy about raise the age and bail reform.

- 01:05:03However, you know, the opportunities that were provided for the students. You know, when they found themselves in
- 01:05:12An unfortunate circumstances don't exist anymore. However, I think they definitely know that they would benefit from receiving training and education. So is it something that we're thinking about maybe offering
- 01:05:30The classes that we were offering to the students who were six. The 16 and semi your 17 year old incarcerated students, perhaps offering it at earlier ages, so that you know
- 01:05:44They can be
- 01:05:46So that you know
- 01:05:49younger students
- 01:05:52They would be working towards a goal and maybe they wouldn't have wouldn't find yourselves in the same predicament that they would have found themselves.

- 01:06:02 In the past, there were 16 and 17 and in Cars. Cars are made it because, you know, fortunately, they're not incarcerated. But, you know,
- 01:06:12 Those students by an any student was certainly benefit from the skills and education that was provided in the past.



## Tracy Racicot

01:06:21 And those are always the dilemmas that we have in K 12 education is really being proactive and making sure that we meet the needs of those students who are most vulnerable and most at risk.

- 01:06:36 I served as a principal of an alternative school for for several years.
- 01:06:42 So it's very near and dear to my heart. And that was one of the things that I tried to deliver to middle school and high school students was that skills training.
- 01:06:50 That's not within the scope of what we do at the Center for adult and community services. We are only serving students ages 18 and over at this time.
- 01:06:58 When we were serving 16 and 17 year olds is because they were housed at the Westchester County Department of Correction. There are no longer there. They're not even in the facility. They've moved to them out.
- 01:07:10 But know that I, you know, I'm your biggest fan in supporting those initiatives and I know our career services program does a great job.
- 01:07:19 Most students. Well, they would be 11th and 12th grade students, but some programs around the state offer pre tech programs as well, which is a different funding because they're not actually



## Jacqueline O'Donnell

01:07:30 Eligible for career tech



## Tracy Racicot

01:07:32Ed funding for districts. So there's a lot of opportunities around P tech schools and early college high school programs that we that we could look at as opposed these. Oh, thank you.



## Jacqueline O'Donnell

01:07:48So now I think person did we get everyone's questions. Great. I think we covered and Tracy. Thank you so much. And that can collect report, I



## Tracy Racicot

01:07:56Just want to say one thing. I was gonna say thank you to Kathy because I never want to assume that people know anything. So it was like to start from the bottom up. So thank you for validating my effort.



## Cathy Draper

01:08:09Takes you know it was critical that you did that for all of us.

- 01:08:13I've been on this board longer than anybody else. And there was stuff. I learned. So I know that anybody who came after I did certainly had a watch learn
- 01:08:20And your programs are not always the ones that were most likely to have an opportunity to tour, just because of the many different locations and the hours and all those things. So
- 01:08:30I think it's harder for board members to get a handle on what your center does. I've been to the jail.

- 01:08:36 I think most of us tried to do that at one point, but that's going to be a smaller program. Fortunately, so I think it's really helpful to to hear this from you and I really appreciate your taking the time to do this tonight.
- 01:08:48 Thanks. Oh, nothing else. Many board members.
- 01:08:51 Time for the comments section I neglected to mention at the beginning of this meeting, but I think it's appropriate to do it now.
- 01:08:57 Just remind everybody that while we're in this virtual environment, which is permitted by the governor and we do not
- 01:09:06 Take comments from members of the public because it's just not a practical thing to be able to do
- 01:09:10 But we do welcome any comments that anybody would like to make by email to any board member or
- 01:09:16 The appropriate members of the administration. So if anybody has any comments, they'd like to share with this board, please do send them in and make sure and you can be sure that we will consider that
- 01:09:27 So with that said, I will start with comments from members of the board and beginning with a see my screen. I will begin with Cheryl.



### **Sheryl Brady**

01:09:40 Thank you. Um, I want to take this opportunity to wish everybody a happy and healthy new year. Um, as always, I just want to thank everyone for everything that they are doing.

- 01:09:52 On. And I also want to echo the best wishes for Valerie on and
- 01:10:00 I have not been on the board. A long time but Valerie was one of the first people to welcome me and to make me feel comfortable and to make sure I had what I needed. And so I really appreciated being able to work with her and I wish you all the very best.



### **Cathy Draper**

01:10:18 THANK YOU, JOHN your next





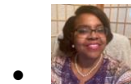
## John Filiberti

01:10:22 Yeah. Ditto to Valerie. Best wishes and I'll be probably texting her as soon as this meeting is over just a, you know, to, you know, give her my thoughts, a Happy New Year to everybody and I look forward to hopefully in the near future being sitting around a table again with all of you.



## Cathy Draper

01:10:45 Thank you and Valerie anything



## Valarie Williams

01:10:49 Yes. Happy New Year everyone a healthy and a happy new year and like to congratulate all of the retirees and all the people receive promotions and I would like to say that it was a pleasure to work with Valerie family. Thank you so much. Valerie and enjoy and

- 01:11:09 Everybody, I look forward to
- 01:11:15 Seize board.



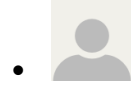
## Cathy Draper

01:11:17 Yeah, thank you. Okay, Bob, you the West board.



## Unknown Speaker

01:11:20 Member.



**Robert Johnson**

01:11:22 I know just a wish everybody a better 2021 and congratulations a hearty congratulations to Valerie spent helped me navigate through

- 01:11:37 Some of the some of the issues.
- 01:11:41 Of board membership here. I suppose these and I want to wish her well. And again, I want to echo all of the comments, you know, kudos to the staff. And again, Tracy. That was a great presentation really want to have a good one.



**Cathy Draper**

01:11:59 Thank you. And I put myself last night because I knew I could just say, I share the comments of all my fellow board members and I don't need to take any more of your time.

- 01:12:07 So we will move on to comments from members of the staff and in the order in which you appear on my computer. I'm going to start with Jim



**James Gratto Jr., Southern Westchester BOCES**

01:12:21 Just so we can do to deal with the covert issues as they come up. Are we been able to keep our programs open we've had to shut down or go remote for a particular classes for short periods of time or responding to it as well. But our programs are all open in person.



**Cathy Draper**

01:12:39 Thank you.

- 01:12:41 Asked



**stibbetts**

01:12:44 I'm just one item to note that the state came out today with the Allowable levy increase for next year. The CPI increase

- 01:12:52 Which is based on the calendar year, but it will be used for a local budgets for July through June, July of 21 through June of 22 and that number. Unfortunately 1.23%
- 01:13:06 So certainly better than zero, but you know definitely less than the allowable increase of 2% so it's definitely going to be a challenging year for our districts with that 1.23% allowable increase
- 01:13:20 And that's it. Thank you.



**Cathy Draper**

01:13:21 Great news.

- 01:13:23 And let's see. JOHN



**JMiller1**

01:13:27 Doe. Thank you.



**Cathy Draper**

01:13:28 Okay, thank you, Cathy



**Kathy Conley**

01:13:31 So I would like to say Happy New Year to all as well and just share a statistic that I prepared for my staff development day tomorrow. I want to be able to share that our safety protocols have been working. We've had 104 staff members quarantine since March.

- 01:13:57 But I'm happy to share. That's only out of an abundance of caution and, you know, can't you know being in close proximity
- 01:14:05 Only 19 people were positive and only two of them contracted the virus from a work environment. Most of it was from, you know, a social environment. So the protocols that we have in place have been working really, really well.



**Cathy Draper**

01:14:27 Thank you. Good news, Suzanne.



**Suzanne Doherty**

01:14:33 Happy New Year, everyone. I'm just wanted to say kind of maybe a perspective, I had the opportunity to have two conversations today about summer school. So think sunshine.

- 01:14:43 It's the start of a new year.
- 01:14:45 Look forward we're going to get through it and I'm, where do we go



**Cathy Draper**

01:14:50 Thank you for that optimism and Brian anything



**Brian Howard**

01:14:55 Oh, definitely. I thank you.



**Cathy Draper**

01:14:57 Thank you. How about you, Victor



**Victor Pineiro**

01:14:59 No, ma'am. Nothing to add here.



**Cathy Draper**

01:15:01 Okay, thank you.

- 01:15:03 Anything further from Tracy Harold or Jackie beyond what you've already said.
- 01:15:09 Okay, thank you. Then we are finished, except for the fact that we do need an executive session.
- 01:15:15 I do not expect that we will need to take any action based on anything we do in the Executive Session. So those of you who aren't necessary for it should know that we will come back, only to reconvene and immediately adjourn, so feel free to
- 01:15:29 Go eat dinner or whatever you're going to do at this hour. So I need a motion to go into executive session to discuss the employment history of particular person's. All those in favor, please, that I anybody post. Okay. Thank you Victor, we will wait for you to put us in a room.