

01:22
thank you so good evening everybody and
01:24
welcome or in the case of those who were
01:26
at our previous
01:28
budget meeting welcome back i'd like to
01:30
call to order
01:31
the december 8th virtual business
01:33
meeting of southern westchester boces
01:36
um and i'd like to begin by asking you
01:38
to rise and join me in the pledge of
01:40
allegiance
01:43
i pledge allegiance to the flag of the
01:46
united states of america
01:47
and to the republic for which it stands
01:50
one nation
01:51
under god indivisible with liberty
01:54
and justice for all thank you
02:01
and um i would like once again to ask
02:05
the district clerk to call the role of
02:07
board members
02:10
okay if you're present please say
02:12
catherine draper
02:14
present john philiberti president
02:17
cheryl brady present uh lynn frazier
02:21
mcbride
02:24
bob johnson president and valerie
02:27
williams
02:32
i saw that present thank you thank you
02:38
so i'd like to remind everybody as i do
02:40
at the beginning of every meeting that
02:42
while we're operating
02:43
under nurse executive orders in this
02:45
virtual environment we do not have
02:47
public con
02:48
during our public meetings however we
02:50
always welcome your comments
02:52
you can email any board member or
02:54
appropriate administrators through our
02:56

website
02:56
and we encourage you to do that if you
02:58
have any comments for us
03:00
so i would like to begin this meeting
03:02
with a review of the
03:04
minutes of our november 18th board
03:07
meeting all were present except for john
03:10
so
03:10
all except john can vote tonight i would
03:14
like to ask if valerie would make the
03:16
motions for us please and
03:18
uh let's say lynn could do the seconds
03:21
please
03:23
so are there any corrections to the
03:25
minutes as presented
03:27
i'm sorry kathy who is second i'm lynn
03:31
thank you
03:37
so are there any corrections to the
03:39
minutes
03:43
hearing none all those in favor please
03:46
say
03:46
hi anybody opposed
03:50
anybody need to abstain okay
03:53
um there will be no executive session at
03:55
the beginning of this meeting
03:56
however um just so you know we'll have
03:58
one at the end of the meeting
04:00
after which we do not anticipate we'll
04:03
come back other than to adjourn so our
04:06
first order of business tonight is
04:07
a resolution relating to records
04:10
retention um would somebody like to
04:13
explain
04:14
this one a little bit sure i'd be happy
04:16
to do so
04:17
um so the the new york state uh
04:22
government i guess the the records
04:23
retention group

04:25
new york state archives uh they they are
04:28
the
04:29
governing body as to what records as a
04:32
public entity need to be maintained
04:34
and for how long and so they used to
04:36
have a schedule called the ed1
04:38
which was for utilization by school
04:41
districts and other
04:42
entities and then they had other
04:44
schedules for
04:45
different entities government entities
04:47
so what the
04:49
new york state archives decided to do
04:51
was just to create
04:52
one schedule and the new schedule is i
04:55
forget the name of it but let me see if
04:57
it's in the
04:57
lgs one the lgs one yes um so that
05:03
item that is the new schedule that is uh
05:06
the
05:07
the new york state archives is
05:08
recommending that
05:10
public entities adopt as of january 1st
05:13
2021 as the new records schedule
05:16
for what records we need to maintain it
05:18
also addresses
05:20
uh you know one thing that was not
05:22
necessarily addressed in the ed1 or
05:25
extremely well was digital records and
05:28
things like that so the new
05:29
schedule is more up to date with the
05:32
technologies available for storing
05:34
records whether it be in hard copy or
05:36
electronic form now thank you
05:39
sure any questions on that hearing none
05:43
all those in favor
05:44
all right hi anybody opposed
05:47

anybody need to abstain okay next comes
05:51
the resolution to create the position of
05:52
supervisor of mathematics and data study
05:55
we discussed this last night during our
05:57
budget session
05:58
is does anybody have any questions about
06:00
this
06:03
okay all those in favor say hi hi
06:06
anybody
06:07
post any abstentions okay
06:10
thank you moving on to the personnel
06:13
agenda
06:13
first going through the certified
06:15
personnel a couple of resignations
06:18
one for the purpose of retirement marcia
06:20
freed after
06:21
27 years as an adult learning instructor
06:25
we thank her for her many years of
06:26
service to the boces and wish her
06:28
a wonderful retirement a couple of
06:32
appointments um
06:36
one leave of absence which relates to
06:38
one of those appointments
06:40
i think um and another adjustment any
06:43
questions on the certified portion
06:46
comments moving along to the classified
06:49
personnel
06:51
a couple of resignations some
06:52
appointments
06:54
an adjustment to an appointment one
06:57
leave of absence
06:59
some hourly rate assignments and other
07:01
adjustments
07:03
and temporary appointments nothing
07:05
shocking
07:07
any questions or comments on any of this
07:11
seeing none all those in favor please
07:14
say

07:14
right all right anybody opposed
07:18
anybody who needs to abstain
07:22
okay thank you unanimous moving along to
07:26
the
07:26
business agenda and you'll know that
07:28
there is one addendum tonight
07:30
for contracts so
07:33
any questions first on the futures
07:36
report
07:40
i actually have one steve it's not
07:42
really so much what's here is what might
07:43
be coming
07:45
if i remember correctly it was around
07:46
this time of year
07:49
last year that we looked at doing iran
07:52
are we going to need to do that again
07:54
this year or is our cash situation
07:56
different i'm just sort of curious and
07:57
want to plan i know we're definitely in
08:00
a similar cash situation with the
08:02
as you can see you'll see on the
08:03
accountancy we'll still load a
08:05
significant amount of money so
08:06
we are in the process of preparing uh
08:09
the rand documents
08:10
john i don't know if you know sorry to
08:12
put you on the spot but uh the timing of
08:14
it is we're looking at like early
08:15
january
08:16
i believe so yeah we're gonna be okay
08:19
well i go nowhere these days
08:20
so i will be very available to sign
08:22
documents if necessary hopefully do
08:24
some of the preparation in advance but
08:26
uh i assume i will need to be there in
08:28
person to sign them
08:29
so okay great thank you yeah one thing
08:32

that we
08:32
you know unless things dramatically
08:34
change in the next month or so we should
08:35
receive a very favorable rate
08:37
for borrowing money because the rates
08:39
are extremely low yes
08:40
yes that's always good news absolutely
08:44
okay anybody have any questions on the
08:45
treasury's report other than that
08:48
no accounts receivable report i assume
08:52
john has some comments
08:53
we do have some information good evening
08:56
we received approximately two point
08:57
eight million dollars
08:59
since materials were posted uh
09:02
yonkers paid sixty three thousand
09:04
dollars of their august balance
09:07
uh sullivan bosses paid their september
09:10
and october
09:11
balances districts paid against their
09:14
october invoices they have several of
09:16
those
09:17
greenberg north castle eastern suffolk
09:20
bosses
09:26
irvington edgemont mount pleasant
09:29
central
09:30
eastchester and valhalla and the
09:33
following districts paid
09:35
smaller amounts but it's their october
09:38
esy billing
09:40
blindbrook irvington mount pleasant
09:43
central
09:44
mamaroneck and valhalla
09:48
thank you any questions for john
09:51
comments always making progress
09:56
okay let's see um
09:59
[Music]
10:00
making a wall to the

10:05
and it's totally disappeared on my
10:06
computer
10:09
uh sorry
10:13
um claims audit report
10:17
nothing there looks good as always
10:21
the bids questions
10:25
comments
10:29
um a couple of donations
10:33
chef coats that's sort of nice
10:37
um contracts and there there is an
10:39
addendum
10:41
questions and additional contracts i
10:45
think there are
10:46
only a couple of these yeah any other
10:50
questions or comments
10:58
hearing none all those in favor say aye
11:00
aye
11:01
anybody opposed okay
11:04
going quickly um
11:07
[Music]
11:08
reports starting with the district
11:12
superintendent
11:15
good evening everyone um
11:18
i'm going to keep this short um just a
11:20
couple things i want to point out and
11:21
highlight in reference to some things
11:23
that have been happening around the
11:24
county um one of them is that we have
11:27
been mentioning that uh
11:29
been talking about doing district
11:30
superintendent uh searches for school
11:32
districts
11:33
we finally got the approval to do the
11:35
res the uh the search for right neck
11:38
and so we're in the process of doing
11:40
three searches right now port chester
11:42
reineck and valhalla
11:44

we're trying to look at wrapping
11:45
everything up for uh advertising with
11:47
the help of several of the boces
11:49
crew brian being part of that and our uh
11:53
office our business office i mean our hr
11:55
office helping with getting
11:56
advertisement out
11:58
so that we can wind up getting um the
12:00
the application
12:01
process uh the flyer that we're putting
12:04
together out by
12:05
uh christmas time so people can have
12:07
that break time period to complete it
12:08
and looking at starting
12:10
interviews beginning in january middle
12:11
of january
12:13
second thing was that this past monday
12:16
was
12:16
the regional meeting to look at doing
12:19
the
12:20
substantial equivalency i think a couple
12:22
years a couple
12:23
years ago we had a meeting in our boces
12:25
we hosted it
12:26
uh with a presentation with uh christina
12:29
kaufman coming down talking about that
12:31
component um this was a regional meeting
12:33
to do a uh
12:34
pretty much a talking tour looking at
12:36
what are the things that
12:38
should be going into regional substance
12:39
substantial equivalency
12:41
and um i had an opportunity to
12:43
participate in that meeting
12:44
um one of the things that we found was
12:46
that there's been a lot of discussion
12:48
about changing how
12:50
the criteria is being created for the uh

12:53
substantial equivalency
12:54
during a meeting we had at our southern
12:56
western supposes
12:57
um they talked about trying or several
13:00
of the um
13:01
uh independent schools and the private
13:03
schools and religious schools were
13:04
talking about using their certifications
13:06
that they received
13:08
accreditation process with the different
13:09
entities that they're affiliated with
13:11
as a mechanism to be able to determine
13:14
whether they're
13:15
substantially equivalent or not is where
13:17
the accreditation process is pretty
13:18
extensive
13:19
in some ways they're they're stating
13:21
that the school that they're
13:23
certifying is accredited under their
13:26
license and uh
13:28
it gives an opportunity for them to be
13:29
able to look at uh them
13:31
being able to use that as a means of uh
13:33
showing their uh
13:34
status i guess amongst their groups the
13:37
private group private school groups
13:38
um there's been a lot more discussion
13:40
about that there's several different
13:42
caveats to that
13:43
one of the discussions was talking about
13:45
if they do that
13:46
they need to have the sed has to have a
13:48
criteria as to what
13:50
uh would be equivalent based upon what
13:52
these accreditation companies were
13:54
and they also need to have a way to make
13:56
to determine whether the
13:58

accreditations aren't some fly-by-night
14:00
company coming along
14:01
and creating this special accreditation
14:03
in it uh and it's just so that's
14:05
something
14:05
i'm getting it but that seems to be
14:07
getting some traction um several people
14:09
that were
14:10
in the meeting were concerned with the
14:12
way the process is set up
14:13
it pits private and private and
14:16
independent schools and religious
14:18
schools against
14:19
the component school district who would
14:21
be doing the uh
14:22
the substantial equivalency hearing and
14:25
there are some discussions about
14:26
some of the boards being told that if
14:29
they don't approve a program
14:30
or discussion would be an approval
14:31
program that they could jeopardize their
14:33
budget
14:33
not going through so that's some way
14:36
that this
14:36
process could go forward um this is one
14:39
of i think six meetings
14:41
but i understand from what was shared
14:42
that this is something that's come up at
14:44
other meetings so there's a possible
14:45
way out of this uh there's not going to
14:47
be any more discussion about this
14:49
after they go through meetings until
14:51
sometime in september
14:52
so we should know more about what we're
14:53
doing is going forward um
14:55
the other one was that we've been
14:57
entered into three of our districts
14:59
um one of my jobs says district

15:01
superintendent
15:02
is to work with school districts with a
15:04
boundary disturbance
15:05
becomes a hat comes ahead
15:08
and we have three districts that are
15:10
looking at a property
15:12
that's being sold and what that would
15:13
mean as far as school districts sell
15:16
we'll be working valerie and i will put
15:17
together some information working with
15:19
our council trying to determine how we
15:22
go forward with that
15:25
the other thing was that um today i sat
15:27
in the work group with uh
15:29
dr mary beth wilson referenced to
15:32
preparing for
15:33
a tsi uh meeting which is a targeted
15:37
school
15:37
support intervention i mean it will be
15:39
happening within our component districts
15:41
uh
15:41
tomorrow and um it's part of what um
15:45
uh when talking with uh chris ciarano
15:47
who's the director of uh
15:50
the assistant commissioner for special
15:52
education had asked district
15:53
superintendents to become more involved
15:54
with
15:55
and um starting working with that team
15:58
to begin tomorrow to work around my my
16:01
schedule with um
16:03
getting ready for interviews where with
16:05
the uh the two the three schools i
16:07
talked about
16:08
working around getting things ready for
16:09
that but trying to be able to
16:10
participate in that meeting
16:12

tomorrow so i'll give you more updates
16:14
on that as we go forward
16:15
um within our region we've been looking
16:18
at having discussions with cobot 19
16:20
especially uh with the testing as we're
16:23
looking at changes that happening in the
16:24
zoning
16:25
uh jackie's probably going to talk about
16:27
later on about what's happening with our
16:28
own boces but
16:29
overall the county mentioned to us today
16:32
that
16:33
they are going to allow us use their
16:34
limited license to be able to do testing
16:37
and this protocols need to put in place
16:38
in order to do that but
16:40
um they test that the lab test the binex
16:43
test
16:44
that will be used is one of the tests
16:45
that's free that the government that the
16:47
governor cuomo
16:48
had said that school districts went up
16:50
getting so there's now gearing up and
16:52
talking about what that's going to look
16:53
like
16:53
and uh how going forward but there were
16:55
some assurances so long as the tests are
16:57
available
16:58
uh that we would be able to move forward
16:59
with this if we end up having to fall in
17:01
one of the zones where we needed the
17:02
testing um
17:04
last thing i want to talk about was that
17:06
last on november 24th
17:08
there was a um a meeting that
17:12
our senate education chair shelly mayor
17:14
head
17:15
house we hosted at the boces for a press

17:17
release talking about her
17:20
digital education bill
17:24
it's called e-learning and it's geared
17:26
towards trying to help
17:27
make sure that students during the
17:29
october 19 efficacy have access
17:32
to internet access and so um
17:35
it opened the door up for discussions
17:37
and and what
17:38
sod is looking at trying to do in
17:40
january going forward
17:42
is to have discussions with partners and
17:44
seeing how beyond this it could actually
17:46
wind up being something that'd be done
17:47
around the state so
17:49
more to come with that as well and the
17:50
last thing one last thing was uh
17:52
that the annual uh aesa conference was
17:54
last week
17:55
uh it was virtual so i didn't have a
17:57
chance to go to florida
17:58
um but um it was nice to be able to have
18:00
it because i was actually able to
18:02
go to some of the meetings and i was had
18:04
conflicts and being able to get to all
18:05
the meetings but one of the things nice
18:07
about it is that
18:08
they're going to leave the uh the
18:09
meetings open until for six months so i
18:11
have a chance to go back and
18:13
get additional information i'll be
18:14
sharing those in future board reports as
18:16
i look at some of the different
18:17
uh things i wasn't able to participate
18:19
in last week so that's my report
18:23
thank you harold as usual any questions
18:25
for harold
18:27

i have a few questions harold um you
18:30 mentioned this tsi
18:32 meeting can you say a little more about
18:34 what the purpose of that meeting is
18:37 it's generally done for schools that
18:38 have been identified with
18:40 some indicators and based upon either
18:43 their
18:43 uh their essa indicators or their
18:46 application indicators
18:48 and um part of what they need to do is
18:50 work on uh
18:51 self study and our our boces is working
18:54 with the team
18:54 there to help them put together their
18:56 self-study to be able to
18:58 um prepare for um from scd to to come
19:01 with a plan to address what's been
19:03 indicated for them and it's a number of
19:04 different factors that could be wound up
19:05 being indicators
19:07 okay and another question um when you do
19:10 these
19:10 um searches for school superintendents
19:13 for school districts
19:15 so are are there parameters i mean let's
19:17 say you know 10 school districts
19:19 wanted searches um is there is there
19:22 some
19:22 limitation to to what you can do and and
19:26 is there sort of a set fee that's
19:28 charged to school districts for this
19:30 that's that's a good question so the
19:32 answer is there hasn't been any
19:33 limitations because this is general this
19:35 is the first time we've done three at
19:36 one time um generally it's like one or
19:38 two

19:39
and actually we had a potential to do i
19:40
think was five that we could have
19:42
possibly doing in the region but
19:44
um three is it's it's pushing it so
19:47
um the the my job title as a part of
19:50
working under the commissioner's
19:52
regulation
19:53
i'm supposed to be working with
19:54
districts as they do their
19:56
superintendent searches so in some
19:57
capacity i would be working with them
19:59
there is no fee for my work services but
20:01
there's service fees for
20:03
things that we want up having to
20:04
purchase like uh printing and for
20:06
advertising
20:07
and for um you know if we
20:11
would host um some of the boards coming
20:13
into our board
20:14
uh room and using it be post code
20:16
pre-covet that would want to be in there
20:18
if there were meals or anything that was
20:19
purchased
20:20
it would end up being built back for
20:21
that that happened so okay
20:23
and i guess my last question is i was
20:25
interested in your report about
20:27
um you know the mention of student
20:29
teachers
20:30
and uh needing spaces for them and i was
20:34
just wondering how that process
20:36
works um are did student teachers apply
20:40
for particular schools or to be with
20:43
particular teachers or is there a
20:44
distribution in some way
20:46
yeah that's a good question because that
20:48
i think that there's been some
20:50

pushback since um when uh when the
20:54
appr came out when student teachers were
20:56
not
20:57
really readily being accepted in the
20:59
classroom settings because
21:00
there's concerns about uh i should say
21:03
they weren't readily because there was
21:04
concerns that they
21:05
would be in the classroom how would
21:07
impact the teacher in the linkage
21:09
since the linkage has gone away from
21:11
their accountability
21:13
um there's been more and more
21:14
opportunities for teaching teachers to
21:16
go into classrooms
21:17
what they found was post covet this past
21:20
fall when teachers are trying to look
21:23
for placements because
21:24
the second half of the year they have to
21:26
be in a school before they graduate
21:28
they weren't able to find locations so
21:30
they would um their several the sunnis
21:32
would come to the district
21:32
superintendents
21:33
and ask if we could help out getting a
21:35
word out and so
21:37
um this past um i guess past ds meeting
21:40
there's discussion about several people
21:42
that were interested in trying to
21:44
uh get a student teaching position and
21:46
they couldn't find a school that would
21:47
accept them
21:48
um i put out word out to several of our
21:50
districts in our region and some of them
21:51
jumped that says yes
21:52
absolutely i have one but you have war
21:55
and um
21:55
the sheet that we had fortunately in our

21:58
region
21:59
uh were uh people that designated if
22:01
they wanted to be in our region not so
22:02
several of the superintendents uh took
22:04
advantage of contacting them directly so
22:06
um there's and they're just going
22:08
forward this is possible to be able to
22:10
look at so
22:11
and one day i guess we look at trying to
22:12
get somebody over in our boces because i
22:14
think some people would be interested in
22:15
trying it
22:16
as well thank you you're welcome
22:21
uh good evening dr coles good evening
22:24
everyone
22:24
dr coles can you mention the three
22:26
schools that you're doing the
22:28
superintendent searches for three school
22:31
districts
22:32
yeah ryan eck valhalla and port chester
22:35
thank you
22:40
else with questions for harold yeah john
22:44
harold with regard with regard to the
22:46
e-learn
22:47
the the meeting that um state senator
22:50
shelly
22:50
uh shelley mayer had uh you know
22:53
regarding e-learning
22:55
has there been do we have any numbers
22:58
on how many of our schools or
23:01
students or percentages of students
23:04
don't have internet access at home right
23:08
now
23:08
that's actually a very good question um
23:11
there was a
23:12
survey that was sent out and i guess it
23:14
was um
23:15

june last uh last june sed had required
23:19
requested districts to participate in
23:21
that to be able to get that very
23:23
answered
23:23
made the problem was they had less than
23:26
50 percent of the school districts wind
23:27
up answering that and i think part of
23:29
the issue was when they
23:30
asked for this was right at the time
23:31
period people were struggling trying to
23:33
in school
23:34
and uh it was not a very good time for a
23:36
survey to come out so they had a push to
23:39
try to extend that
23:40
and that they had a discussion with uh
23:44
the push was to have it done by december
23:45
1st and uh my understanding at that
23:48
within our region we had three schools
23:50
that had difficulty getting in they
23:51
extended to last friday
23:53
and so the attempt was to try to get all
23:55
the schools to report out
23:57
in the state and my understanding came
23:59
close to if they didn't get 100
24:00
they got close to that and with that
24:02
they're going to take that back to be
24:04
able to look at
24:05
where the need actually is um the
24:07
partnership meeting that i mentioned
24:09
is with businesses uh telecom companies
24:13
um the utility companies with
24:15
legislators with uh
24:16
philanthropists they're trying to figure
24:18
out how to look at this
24:19
need going forward because it's not an
24:22
issue
24:23
there's issues all over the state you
24:24
have rural areas that do not have the

24:26
infrastructure
24:27
or the ability to have any kind of
24:28
internet because there's nothing there
24:30
for them
24:31
uh so there's so there's a i guess a
24:33
building out of
24:34
um equipment that needs to happen and
24:37
there's a cost to that in there it's
24:38
like you say we're going through a
24:39
pandemic right now
24:40
there are resources out there so what
24:42
can we do to address that there have
24:44
been some discussions
24:45
at the state level but also the national
24:47
level of seeing is this is one of the
24:49
next
24:50
new utility that needs to be looked at
24:52
and because it's something that is so
24:54
intricate and what's happening in the
24:55
lives of our students and our units of
24:57
people
24:58
that whether this is the next utility
25:00
like electricity
25:01
and a telephone window being and having
25:03
some of those essentials and looking at
25:04
how there'll be
25:05
some oversight to make sure that
25:07
everyone has access to it so
25:09
there'll be more to come from this the
25:11
meeting that we had we have a district
25:12
superintendent's meeting in a couple
25:14
weeks
25:15
and it's a board of regents meeting on
25:16
monday and i'm sure we'll talk about the
25:18
findings from that and i'll keep you
25:20
more up to date at the next board
25:21
meeting
25:22

yeah because you know i know that there
25:25
are
25:26
schools um in the city in new york city
25:30
where they've basically provided
25:33
their students with um
25:36
cellular enabled ipads
25:39
you know possibly maybe other brands as
25:41
well but
25:43
you know they're having a very difficult
25:46
time you can only imagine
25:48
in a city as big as new york how many
25:50
devices you need
25:52
and then you know what happens is
25:55
if you have a student whose ipad happens
25:58
to have problems
25:59
they might go a month um without
26:03
you know remote access while they're
26:06
hoping to get their
26:07
their device um you know fixed by
26:11
by an i.t group so uh i can only imagine
26:14
how difficult the task that's going to
26:15
be to do that
26:16
at a statewide level but you know it's
26:19
it's really a it's unfortunate for the
26:21
students that do not
26:23
have that access because they're really
26:25
at a disadvantage yeah
26:26
ryan i think that's one of the issues
26:28
that had and i think we within our
26:29
region
26:30
kathy and her team were working with uh
26:33
several districts that had that same
26:34
issue
26:34
and uh working with him as far as even
26:36
with equipment with break how do you
26:38
wind up getting it fixed
26:39
and kathy and maybe talk about the
26:41
service that was created to support

26:42
parents even at home to work with uh
26:45
devices because even
26:46
parents now were not you couldn't it's
26:48
not like you take it to it department
26:49
school
26:50
were remote and honey we're not doing
26:52
that so it is a significant issue
26:54
going forward
26:58
well i have you harold let me ask you
26:59
another question since the
27:01
since the rumor um coming out of
27:04
washington today was that
27:07
local governments and schools might not
27:09
get
27:10
aid in this upcoming federal package
27:15
has the state education department
27:18
discussed
27:19
how they're going to deal with the
27:21
upcoming budget issues that
27:24
so many of our schools are going to have
27:27
um i think they're all waiting for the
27:29
governor to make a determination
27:30
at this point and i he's waiting for
27:33
the federal government to make a final
27:35
decision i think he's willing to go into
27:37
the the
27:38
i guess uh january um and waiting to see
27:40
when there's a change in administration
27:42
to see if something would happen at that
27:43
point
27:44
i think that steve not correctly when is
27:47
the fiscal year
27:48
force the quarter ends is it december or
27:51
january when
27:52
the quarter ends for this the look back
27:55
time period the last one
27:56
that he needs to have to be able to go
27:59

back
28:00
i'm not sure the look back periods are
28:01
exactly the same as the fiscal quarters
28:04
right which would be the end of december
28:05
i think they're they're a little bit
28:06
different in some cases but
28:08
it's really the department of budget
28:09
that's doing that and the controller
28:11
they need to
28:12
sort of look at where we are i think and
28:14
you know decide whether the 20
28:17
holdbacks that they've done so far are
28:18
going to be continued or
28:20
not or made permanent or not and i think
28:23
all that steve you might know more about
28:25
that sort of my understanding that we
28:26
just don't know yet
28:28
right that's my understanding as well i
28:29
mean i know cuomo is still politicking
28:31
for
28:31
the feds to bail us out and if that
28:33
doesn't happen the state just doesn't
28:35
have any money so
28:37
it's definitely going to be challenging
28:38
going forward and of course the governor
28:40
has to come out with his executive
28:42
budget in january
28:43
before we'll really know what the next
28:45
administration can do so that's a
28:47
another
28:47
you know further dilemma for him in
28:49
trying to figure all of this out so
28:51
tough year yeah i don't remember what
28:53
the actual number is but there's a
28:54
number of what they are projecting the
28:56
budget deficit is at this point
28:58
and if we don't want to getting the
28:59
bailout but that's going to be rolling

29:00
over into the next year so it could be
29:02
pretty significant going into next year
29:05
thank you welcome
29:09
anybody else have any good news
29:10
questions for harold
29:16
okay hearing none we will move along to
29:18
comments from members of the board
29:20
and i will start in order in which you
29:22
appear on my screen with
29:24
val kathy i didn't give my report yet
29:29
go ahead jackie that's okay it's been a
29:31
long day
29:33
yes so it's been a long evening but i'll
29:35
go ahead and give my report because i
29:37
know there's some information that the
29:38
board's been eager to hear about
29:40
i want to start by just thanking
29:44
steve and john and the entire
29:47
exec cabinet team has done a fantastic
29:51
job
29:51
in this budget year you want to talk
29:53
about unusual circumstances and steve
29:56
said last night we're thinking about
29:58
business as usual
29:59
but they're also planning for every type
30:02
of
30:03
possibility for next year and they've
30:05
been working really hard
30:07
to make sure that they keep us fiscally
30:10
stable
30:11
throughout this time period so i just
30:13
publicly want to thank them
30:15
and thank all the cabinet members and
30:16
leadership members who have been
30:18
attending these meetings
30:19
some of them we can't see because
30:21
they're with us virtually but not in the
30:23

room
30:24
but a very thoughtful and challenging
30:26
process this year so
30:29
thank you i also want to say that that
30:32
is usually their day job but everybody's
30:36
doing a little bit different job this
30:37
year so everybody's still trying to keep
30:39
things going and moving toward
30:41
our goals but someone asked me recently
30:44
about the contact tracing procedure
30:48
and so i wanted to update you a little
30:50
bit about what so many members of the
30:52
cabinet
30:53
are involved in um and very heavily
30:57
members of our district response team
31:00
because we all think about the doh doing
31:03
contact tracing whenever there is an
31:05
issue with someone with a covet related
31:07
problem but remember they don't have the
31:09
details that districts have
31:12
so the way that our process works is our
31:14
own rick created for us an
31:16
app that is our very unique app and
31:19
every day that somebody's going to be
31:21
on site they must take their temperature
31:22
at home answer some coveted related
31:25
questions
31:26
and then note that they've read the
31:28
guidance once they do they receive
31:30
clearance to come in
31:31
if they can't pass those questions then
31:33
a denial comes out
31:36
they're instantly generated a notice
31:39
that they need to fill out an
31:40
email for covet alerts and so they send
31:44
a blank email to covet alerts and the
31:46
covet alerts
31:48
form comes to them and they answer some

31:50
basic questions
31:52
those questions fill in a form and
31:54
they're monitored
31:56
by our hr staff so the hr staff looks
32:00
and triages those
32:01
and then they bring the team together
32:03
and we start working our way through
32:05
so the first thing we have to do is
32:06
remove the false alarms right somebody
32:08
who clicked the wrong button when they
32:10
were doing the alert
32:11
but once they fill out the covet alerts
32:13
form we start working our way through
32:15
and calling and working with every
32:17
individual a lot of folks
32:20
we get cove alerts are because they know
32:22
somebody outside of school that they've
32:24
been in close proximity with that are
32:25
positive
32:26
but we also have had a number of
32:28
positives ourselves over time
32:30
every one of them takes a high level of
32:33
detail
32:34
so one positive case could
32:37
take five people five or six
32:41
hours of contact tracing and so you have
32:44
to call and
32:45
start with what's called the index
32:46
person the person who's positive
32:48
and you have to trace everywhere they
32:51
were for 48 hours on school grounds
32:54
every person that they were in contact
32:56
with and then from there
32:58
we try to calibrate so we take what the
33:01
person tells us and you can imagine when
33:03
a person has received a positive covet
33:05
diagnosis
33:07

sometimes they're feeling a heightened
33:09
sense
33:10
and it's difficult for them to trace
33:12
back and think about where was i 48
33:14
hours before
33:15
especially because if they were
33:17
asymptomatic
33:19
and maybe it was last friday
33:22
where they where they became symptomatic
33:25
and but they didn't get
33:26
test results till now so it's kind of
33:28
tough
33:29
so we trace we um do contact tracing
33:33
with people who are symptomatic
33:34
we do contact tracing with people who
33:37
are positive
33:38
covet tests after we get the index
33:42
a person's story we go to the supervisor
33:46
and we
33:47
cross check all the schedules we cross
33:49
check the meetings that the supervisor
33:51
was aware they were at
33:52
and every trace of information we have
33:55
that confirms their story and if we find
33:58
discrepancies wait a minute weren't you
34:00
third period in the math lab we call
34:03
them back until we have a really
34:05
solid picture then we identify everybody
34:08
else that was in any of those areas we
34:10
have to determine how close they were
34:12
we always confirm that everyone was
34:14
wearing masks
34:16
and then we have to look at the size of
34:18
the room and see
34:20
what did that space say so it's a pretty
34:23
extensive process
34:27
in the beginning we thought what would
34:29
happen is we would turn this all over

34:30
the department of health but we've all
34:32
seen the numbers rising they're very
34:34
busy these days
34:36
and so we have a process whereby we
34:39
bring the people that have the
34:40
relationships with folks
34:41
into a room like this one and we
34:44
identify
34:45
who needs to receive a phone call so we
34:48
don't have the right to quarantine
34:50
anyone we do have the right to exclude
34:52
people from school
34:54
but we have a script that we use so that
34:56
we're all consistent in our message
34:58
and we call every individual personally
35:01
who has come in contact with a person
35:03
who is
35:04
tested positive for coven and we explain
35:07
to them that the health department will
35:09
be contacting them
35:10
we never give the index person's name or
35:12
any identifiers about them
35:14
but we explained that they should start
35:16
to quarantine
35:17
from the last day of contact which we've
35:21
determined for 14 days and that will be
35:23
giving their information
35:24
to the department of health from there
35:28
they get several follow-on
35:31
communications from our hr department
35:34
and extra support in knowing whether
35:36
they can work from home if they're if
35:38
their job will move remotely
35:40
if not what benefits might be available
35:42
to them during that
35:44
time period the people who are contacts
35:46
are asked to put in covet alerts it
35:48

fills in that form
35:49
and our hr team continues to work
35:51
through that form
35:53
so at any time we have a number of
35:57
active cases um i didn't ask suzanne for
35:59
an update
36:01
um this week but i'm going to guess that
36:02
we've monitored over 150 people
36:06
since the beginning of this since march
36:08
i'm going to guess that that's fairly
36:10
accurate so then
36:14
we make individual phone calls to any
36:17
student and their families
36:18
i contact every superintendent that has
36:21
a student from a district attending our
36:23
school
36:24
who we have asked to quarantine and then
36:27
suzanne and her team for the adults and
36:30
jim and his team for the students
36:33
they then put together a spreadsheet
36:35
that gets transferred over to department
36:37
of health
36:38
they have to send along some other
36:41
artifacts with it to start the contact
36:43
tracing with the department of health
36:45
and then we begin to follow up with each
36:47
individual
36:48
so it's a very extensive process
36:53
and i want to recognize that with the
36:54
team because these folks are doing their
36:56
jobs
36:57
and doing this um they're very active in
37:00
this work
37:01
um over the thanksgiving break i think
37:04
it's fair team those of you who are on
37:07
we had thanksgiving day off
37:10
and uh there were no covert alerts on
37:12
thanksgiving day but other than that i

37:14
think everybody worked
37:15
that period so it's it's a very
37:19
um busy job in addition to the things
37:22
that folks are doing
37:23
so we're moving into a new phase we just
37:25
keep building systems and building
37:27
systems we're moving into a new phase
37:29
where we're building a system for
37:30
testing and harold talked about this
37:32
we've all been watching in the news the
37:34
yellow the orange and the yellow and the
37:36
red zones and they keep shifting a
37:38
little bit about what needs to happen
37:40
boces has its own unique set of
37:43
circumstances
37:44
because our buildings are all over the
37:46
place and a lot of our people are not in
37:49
student programs such as the rick pd
37:51
athletics so trying to figure out is the
37:54
first time anybody's been through this
37:56
what the rules are around that
37:58
and how we want that system to work so
38:00
we have a small
38:01
testing committee and we've been meeting
38:04
and really going through the language
38:06
and working very closely with the
38:07
department of health
38:09
we want to be ready any moment should
38:12
one of our buildings fall
38:13
into the yellow zone and so we
38:16
are applying for our own limited site
38:20
lab
38:21
certification but we're also working in
38:24
collaboration with the department of
38:26
health
38:27
it would be our preference to use the
38:29
department of health's
38:31

limited site lab license and they send
38:34
out one person to support you
38:36
but right now we're identifying
38:38
locations to which the testing could
38:40
take place
38:42
you're required to test a certain
38:45
percentage we're going to go
38:46
five percent over that and creating our
38:48
cohort groups that if we have
38:50
absenteeism we'll still have
38:52
uh the right amount of reporting we're
38:55
working to get all of the permission
38:57
slips in and we're creating new systems
38:59
all the time
39:00
for example the parent permission slip
39:03
is filled out electronically by parents
39:06
but it fills a google spreadsheet
39:10
so we can look at any moment and sort
39:12
those names
39:13
in order to track it we're also looking
39:16
to hire
39:17
some additional support our nurses
39:20
during this time have really been
39:21
stretched very thin
39:24
and we've had a hard time hiring new
39:26
nurses and so we have during this time
39:28
period so
39:29
we actually are using um some
39:32
subcontractors for nurses and we're
39:34
looking at the avenue
39:35
of bringing in a team from that
39:37
subcontractor group to help
39:39
run this if we have to open it and send
39:42
the team from space to space
39:45
so i just kind of want to share with you
39:47
what the steps are
39:50
and again it changes every day we're
39:52
learning every day

39:53
but getting a lot of support from the
39:55
region i really appreciated being able
39:57
to group
39:58
think with some of our superintendents
40:00
have great conversations with them and
40:02
have them share their resources back and
40:04
forth
40:04
so we're moving ahead with the testing
40:08
the system i'm really excited to talk to
40:10
you about has to do with appr it has
40:12
nothing to do with covid
40:14
so um i met with our principals uh today
40:18
and last week um the appr regs changed
40:22
this summer we knew that they would
40:25
after the legislation of 2019
40:27
changed some of the rules around appr
40:29
we've been waiting for a regulation
40:31
update
40:31
and it came out the very end of july and
40:34
it offered something new
40:36
called a variance and the variance is
40:39
you can come up with a new and creative
40:41
innovative idea
40:42
that isn't in conflict with the law but
40:45
might not appear in the regs maybe
40:47
whoever wrote the regs didn't think
40:48
about it
40:49
so if you come up with something new and
40:51
creative you can bring it forward
40:53
so we had kind of a grassroots idea that
40:56
we brought forward
40:58
and a couple of us grew it and then we
41:01
called out to other boces and said grow
41:02
it and think
41:03
it through with us and
41:06
we started practicing and playing with
41:08
it we brought our appr committee
41:10

together
41:11
and said let's think about this together
41:13
they really liked it so we have this
41:15
year
41:16
a instructional advisory team that we've
41:18
brought together to see us through this
41:19
period
41:20
we brought them in and we let them think
41:22
about it and the teachers said
41:24
we love this idea so we gave them some
41:26
meeting time to further it
41:28
so basically the way our idea looks is
41:31
in the past appr you get two scores
41:33
that combine to give you what we call a
41:37
heady rating you're either rated highly
41:39
effective effective
41:41
developing or ineffective and
41:46
in this new plan or in the old plan you
41:49
would get one score from your
41:50
observations or school visits for
41:52
principals
41:53
and another score based on student
41:55
performance and assessments
41:58
in our plan we've written a variance
42:00
that asked to say
42:02
this year we don't think that student
42:05
tests are going to tell the story
42:08
so we wrote a variance that said what if
42:11
we went back to the teacher rubric in
42:12
the principal rubric and we identified
42:14
those areas
42:16
where if people were really engaged in
42:18
those evidence-based practices
42:21
kids would not show regression kids
42:23
would continue on to close gaps
42:27
so we let those teachers meet and go
42:29
over that and they came up with five
42:31
areas

42:32
that they thought that if teachers
42:33
really worked deeply on them if our pd
42:35
was all aligned with it
42:37
if we really talked about quality
42:39
evidence would really keep kids moving
42:41
in the right direction
42:43
so i'm excited to say our variance is in
42:45
it's not yet approved but i have every
42:47
reason to believe it will be because
42:50
we vetted it with state ed
42:53
as our thinking partner and
42:57
we've shared it across the state but we
42:59
did the training on it
43:01
today and last week and one of our
43:03
teachers who helped create
43:06
the note capture form that we're going
43:07
to use as a measurement tool
43:10
volunteered to let me evaluate her
43:13
live
43:14
in front of all the principals and it
43:16
was just really powerful and awesome
43:18
to hear her talk about her practice and
43:21
the really good things she's doing
43:22
in this unusual environment and they're
43:25
so excited about it that i left there
43:28
and went to the response team meeting
43:30
where we were talking about contact
43:31
tracing and testing and all those things
43:33
and they were blowing up my phone going
43:35
can we roll this out we want to talk
43:36
about this
43:37
and they sent me notes and said thank
43:39
you for creating a space for us to talk
43:42
teaching and learning
43:43
so i wanted to share those systems with
43:46
you tonight the good systems that we're
43:47
doing to keep our people safe
43:49

and navigate through this and and
43:51
they're working well
43:52
and i want to thank my partners that are
43:54
working those systems
43:56
tirelessly on the behalf of our staff
43:59
and students
44:00
and the good systems that we're moving
44:02
ahead with what we believe in
44:03
anyway in spite of this crazy time
44:07
so my last thing i just want to say is
44:10
we will see each other for the budget
44:11
meeting tomorrow but then we will not
44:13
see each other until the new year
44:16
so just wishing everyone just a
44:19
restful wonderful break you know just
44:22
filled with the best of all blessings
44:24
this year
44:25
so thank you very much thank you jackie
44:29
and i have to say
44:30
i whenever the complaints about the appr
44:33
tool a few years ago i never would have
44:35
imagined
44:36
teachers being happy and enthusiastic
44:38
about a teacher evaluation tool so you
44:40
have done something
44:41
really amazing here so thank you for
44:43
sharing that little piece of good news i
44:45
think we needed that as well as all the
44:46
information about
44:48
contact tracing you know all the code
44:50
related items that we need to hear about
44:52
all the time unfortunately so any
44:53
questions
45:00
okay so i have one quick question
45:03
are these chariots have anybody pushed
45:05
back whether a parent
45:07
student teacher in terms of the contact
45:10
trace and testing has that been at all

45:14
controversial
45:16
or everything is you know we're just
45:18
getting ready to roll out our testing
45:21
program
45:22
um and uh you know again boces a little
45:25
more complicated we don't have clarity
45:27
yet about those people that work in
45:28
offices
45:30
and we've gotten two different answers
45:31
from authorities on that so we're
45:33
working on that piece
45:34
and then remember we have a couple of of
45:37
programs that are embedded right in
45:38
districts
45:39
um we should have added we were really
45:41
fortunate those districts have scooped
45:43
us up and they're letting us partner
45:45
with them so we're in the process of
45:46
having meetings with those districts to
45:48
work out the systems
45:50
um so we haven't actually sent out the
45:52
letters or the permissions yet but
45:55
the first ones will go out this week so
45:58
i don't know if we will get pushback i
46:01
will tell you what i'm hearing from
46:02
around the state from my colleagues in
46:04
other
46:04
places in the state most of them are
46:07
finding success with people
46:09
saying let's keep each other safe and
46:11
get the test done
46:12
the tests are very simple um people
46:15
self swab right so they stand in line
46:19
socially distance and they walk forward
46:20
and they self swab
46:22
and it goes into a tube and it's a 15
46:25
minute wait and there's an
46:26

answer but the pieces that go into that
46:29
like how do you sign somebody a random
46:31
number when do you contact them do you
46:33
have them wait
46:34
do you have leave when you do it at what
46:36
point of the day
46:38
what's your follow-up how to use the
46:40
reporting systems how many reporting
46:42
systems
46:42
are there those things are all new
46:45
learning for all of us
46:46
um but i'll be able to report by next
46:49
month we'll be
46:50
pretty well established with our testing
46:52
process so i'll be able to report where
46:54
folks are at
46:55
but i'm going to be optimistic and say
46:56
people will be happy to do it and know
46:58
that we're keeping people safe
47:01
thank you anything else for jackie
47:06
okay now i will go back to where i was
47:08
before i forgot jackie momentarily
47:10
and go around the board members starting
47:13
with valerie
47:14
hello good evening um i wish everybody a
47:18
happy and healthy holiday
47:20
and i was really happy to hear about our
47:24
budget and also that we're
47:27
keep on reviewing our systems that
47:29
southern westchester both sees is
47:30
reviewing our systems
47:31
to keep people safe and to ensure
47:34
student learning
47:36
and um it was great to hear about
47:39
um boces working with um the state
47:43
education department
47:45
and um ensuring wi-fi
47:48
um access to

47:51
our schools and also working with
47:54
schools
47:56
on tsi status and we're involved
48:00
in uh three superintendent searches in
48:03
valhalla ryanic and port chester
48:06
and also uh that
48:09
we're working with teachers
48:12
and administrators on appr
48:17
and also contact tracing so
48:20
thank you southern westchester boces for
48:22
everything that we're doing
48:25
and have a great holiday
48:28
thank you cheryl anything
48:33
sure so i mean i'll just mention i
48:36
attended
48:36
westchester putnam school boards
48:38
association roundtables
48:41
um and so managed to get in as many as i
48:44
could they they were offered uh
48:46
you know twice a day um so socially
48:49
distance
48:50
board meetings communicating with
48:52
parents
48:53
um difficult decisions extracurriculars
48:55
in athletics
48:56
special education assessing student
48:58
learning
48:59
um teaching in a hybrid model
49:03
um it was just a rewarding experience
49:07
being with different board members from
49:09
different diff
49:10
different school districts and really
49:12
sharing ideas and thoughts
49:14
on and westchester putnam school boards
49:17
association did a great job of putting
49:18
them together and preparing sort of
49:20
guiding questions
49:21

um so um i thought that was excellent
49:25
and thank you to everyone as i always
49:28
say
49:29
um you know for all the the really hard
49:32
and wonderful work
49:33
that that's being done um i guess i'll
49:36
save the happy holidays for tomorrow
49:41
thank you uh let's see john anything
49:49
you're muted
49:53
sorry i hit it too many times um just a
49:56
general thank you
49:57
you know these uh december meetings are
50:00
incredibly informative i enjoy them
50:04
and steve your team does a wonderful job
50:07
putting them together
50:08
so thank you thank you to everybody and
50:11
you know thank you especially for this
50:12
week
50:13
and i'll see everybody tomorrow
50:17
thank you uh bob i just want to ditto
50:20
everybody uh valerie summed everything
50:23
up
50:23
quite well and uh yeah thanks
50:27
to the team for doing such a great job
50:30
as some of you know i am a teacher i
50:33
teach in connecticut i go into school
50:35
buildings every single day
50:37
i greet kids i i teach
50:40
masked their masks we were using shields
50:44
we're staying safe and uh you know
50:47
it's it's a great thing to be back in
50:49
the classroom with with
50:51
with uh students and i hope that
50:53
everywhere
50:54
else we get back to this whole thing
50:56
called teaching and learning
50:59
and you know with the vaccine things are
51:01
looking really

51:02
hopeful and just to wish everybody a
51:06
nice holiday and happy new year and
51:08
we'll see you tomorrow
51:12
thank you lynn anything from you yes
51:15
jessica i appreciate everything that the
51:18
staff
51:18
post is does it makes being a school
51:20
board member easy
51:22
you all are incredible at dr coles i
51:25
don't know how you do it
51:27
i would be overwhelmed trying to do
51:30
three superintendent searches
51:32
plus my other jobs but you make it look
51:34
easy for some reason
51:36
and i look forward to caring about the
51:39
rest of the meetings
51:40
tomorrow thank you
51:43
well by going last every time there's
51:45
really nothing left for me to say in
51:46
terms of thanks
51:47
my fellow board members have said it all
51:50
and just just hearing jackie say
51:52
that thanksgiving was allowed as a day
51:54
off um
51:55
i i hope that you know there may be a
51:56
few other holidays that you all take off
51:58
in the near future as well because you
52:00
deserve it and you've worked hard
52:02
but again i'll add my thanks um
52:04
especially to those that i won't see
52:06
tomorrow night i wish you
52:07
wonderful holidays hope you get some
52:08
time off with family
52:10
um even if you can't travel maybe you'll
52:12
be like me and watching your kids on
52:13
zoom i don't know
52:15
but um i do hope you all have wonderful
52:17

holidays
52:18
so moving along to comments from members
52:21
of the staff
52:22
and i will start with valerie
52:27
no you i don't think you had anything to
52:30
say though correct
52:32
she was mute they want them thank you
52:35
nothing to say thank you
52:39
kathy so i will be picking up the talent
52:43
tomorrow night and i will
52:45
extend my best wishes at that point but
52:48
i
52:48
just want to share how gratifying it is
52:52
to hear the very thoughtful questions
52:55
and um the interest in all that we're
52:58
doing so
53:00
it is um a lot of work but it
53:03
um it all pays off when we hear about
53:06
the support that we're getting
53:08
from the board thank you and i will say
53:11
the amount of time we put in
53:12
is extensive but it's nothing like what
53:14
you guys put in so
53:16
you deserve to have our attention once
53:17
you've put in that kind of work
53:21
uh john miller
53:24
happy and safe holidays to everyone
53:28
thank you steve
53:31
i just thank you for all the kind words
53:33
related to the budget process and it's
53:35
i appreciate the the kind words towards
53:38
me but it's it's truly a group effort
53:40
uh john miller and christine jansen our
53:42
treasurer really take a significant lead
53:45
role in all of this
53:46
and all the senate directors as well as
53:48
the financial support staff that work at
53:50
all the centers

53:51
it's it's truly an army of people who
53:54
make it all happen
53:55
and they make my job very easy in the
53:57
work that they do
53:58
and the thoughtful presentations that
54:00
everyone has put on so
54:02
uh thank you again for your kind words
54:03
and i'll share that with collectively
54:05
with our team
54:06
at the boces thank you
54:09
uh suzanne um
54:12
on behalf of dash luna and myself you
54:15
can't see them but they are present they
54:17
have not missed a board meeting yet
54:19
um we just want to wish everyone a safe
54:20
and happy holiday
54:23
thank you and i'm glad to know the cats
54:24
are around we're here brian
54:27
uh nothing to add just uh like with a
54:29
happy holidays and uh look forward to
54:30
doing this again tomorrow night
54:34
victor same here no comments just
54:37
echoing everybody's sentiments for happy
54:39
and safe holidays and here's to a
54:41
hopefully a great 2021.
54:45
uh before i ask to adjourn into
54:48
executive session
54:48
jackie and harold any final comments
54:52
anybody else
54:56
okay so the process is going to be that
54:58
i am going to ask in a moment for
55:00
a motion to go into executive session
55:03
just for
55:03
purposes of members of the public who
55:04
may be listening i do not anticipate
55:07
that we will come back for anything
55:09
other than to adjourn
55:10

so um don't bother sticking around i
55:13
don't think there would be a point to it
55:15
i don't expect any action to come out of
55:16
this executive session
55:18
so if nobody else has anything to say i
55:20
will ask for a motion to go into
55:22
executive session
55:23
to discuss the employment history of
55:25
particular persons
55:28
uh all those in favor please say aye hi
55:32
anybody of house okay thank you very
55:34
much and
English (auto-generated)