

Herricks Public Schools Board of Education

999B Herricks Road New Hyde Park, NY 11040 https://www.herricks.org/HUFSD

Regular Meeting ~ Minutes ~

Tuesday, April 21, 2020 7:30 PM

Herricks Community Center

I Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by President Juleigh Chin

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Juleigh Chin	President	Present	
Henry Zanetti	Vice President	Present	
Nancy Feinstein	Trustee	Present	
James Gounaris	Trustee	Present	
Brian Hassan	Trustee	Present	

II Executive Session

Mrs. Chin moved that the Board of Education recess into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations and personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zanetti and passed by unanimous vote. Executive Session was held via teleconference due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

III Meeting Reconvened

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was reconvened at 7:36pm via teleconference. There were no student government representatives present.

IV Pledge of Allegiance

V Announcements and Correspondence

Mrs. Chin thanked and welcomed the public for joining our live cast meeting via teleconference.

Mrs. Chin then asked for a moment of silence for our loved ones: family, friends, and neighbors who have lost their lives to the coronavirus or any other illness. Our hearts go out to all our Herricks families.

Mrs. Chin then opened the meeting to announcements and correspondence from the Board. Among the items raised were the following:

Ms. Maggiacomo was happy to state that everyone is doing well in our District. She is

proud of the entire staff for pulling together, and thankful and grateful for all of them. Ms. Maggiacomo added that we miss them and hope to see everyone soon!

Ms. Guercin echoed Ms. Maggiacomo's sentiments. Ms. Guercin then stated that on April 8 the faculty was involved in a virtual professional development day. Everything was digital and there were many great opportunities relating to technology workshops to support teachers with new technology resources, and to help make remote learning experiences for our students more efficient and robust. Ms. Guercin added that this is also a fragile time for our staff and students, so there were also social emotional workshops which showed how to offer students counseling virtually. There were also opportunities to explore and bring resources back to our students, such as virtual museums and other virtual explorations.

Mrs. Chin stated that there has been a lot of positive feedback regarding remote learning and the time teachers have been putting in. She added that on behalf of the Board and Central

Administration, we appreciate all the work that the staff has been doing, and thankful to the parents for making sure their children are staying on track.

Ms. Rutkoske also echoed Ms. Maggiacomo and Ms. Guercin, thanking everyone for their support and that we miss everyone!

Dr. Celano added to the theme of missing everyone. He wants to reassure everyone that they are in his thoughts. Dr. Celano added that he visualizes, on a daily basis, being in school and seeing the students, staff and parents. Even though we are social distancing, we are coming together as a community because that is the Herricks way.

Dr. Celano was proud to state that *U.S. News* and *World Report* came out with their annual ranking of High Schools in America, and once again Herricks faired very well on the list of best High Schools in the nation. Herricks High School ranked 10 on Long Island, 43 in New York State and 412 in the United States. This puts Herricks High School in the top 1% academically of all High Schools in America. These rankings are based on matrix achievement results. Dr. Celano added that he could not be more proud of our students, faculty and parents.

Dr. Celano stated that rankings do not measure everything. There are many aspects of our high school that cannot be part of that matrix, such as the sense of community and caring that our students possess. Having said that, it is always nice to receive recognition from an outside group, so congratulations everybody at the high school.

Dr. Celano also mentioned the importance of taking care of ourselves especially the social emotional aspect. So just a reminder, there are counselors or social workers and school psychologists available to address any needs that students and family members may have. They are providing mental help support, social emotional support and they are available. They are working hard every day and I want to encourage members of the community, parents, students, if you need someone to talk to, reach out to one of our guidance counselors, psychologists, or social workers. We are all here for you.

Dr. Celano added that while we are social distancing, we're coming together as a

community and one of the things that has happened at the high school is that some students initiated a group called, *Herricks Strong*. Students have come together to work with faculty members, Mr. Hodge, Mr. Stein, and others, to help the community. They're doing this through various different ways. *Herricks Strong* is going to be involved with thank you letter writing. The high school students are offering online tutoring for younger students, and they are raising money to provide food for first responders and medical professionals in our community that are very busy right now. Dr. Celano then stated that our hearts go out to all of those people who really are heroes. They have sacrificed their own lives and their families, to take care of others in need, so the *Herricks Strong* group wants to give back by offering food from local restaurants to those heroes in our community. There will be a *Herricks Strong* Facebook presence and there will be information there if you're interested in helping the group. Dr. Celano stated that he is very proud of this initiative, which came from our high school students. He then congratulated and thanked the teachers and the administrators who have been involved with the students.

Mrs. Chin stated that while we are holding our Board meetings via teleconference, we have temporarily suspended our Questions and Comments section from the agenda. Mrs. Chin added that if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email the Board at boardofeducation@herricks.org. We will definitely reply to you. You can also email any of the administrators or teachers with your concerns.

VI Recommended Actions - Routine Business

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Henry Zanetti, Vice President
SECONDER: James Councils Trustee

SECONDER: James Gounaris, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

A Approval of Minutes

1 Minutes - March 12, 2020 & April 2, 2020

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration: **Resolved:** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the March 12, 2020 & April 2, 2020 Minutes.

B Approval of Personnel Report

1 Personnel Report - April 21, 2020

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration: **Resolved:** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the April 21, 2020 Personnel Report.

C Approval of Transfer Report

1 Transfer Report - April 21, 2020

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration: **Resolved:** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of

Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the April 21, 2020 Transfer Report.

D Approval of Treasurer's Report

1 Treasurer's Report - February 2020

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration: **Resolved:** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the February 2020 Treasurer's Report.

E Approval of Warrants

1 Warrants - April 21, 2020

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration: **Resolved:** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following Warrants:

General Fund Schedule: 87 through 92 Trust & Agency Schedules: 28 through 30

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Warrant #87	General Fund	\$ 6,000.00
Warrant #88	General Fund	\$ 1,630,763.48
Warrant #89	General Fund	\$ 2,876,691.94
Warrant #90	General Fund	\$ 201,739.45
Warrant #91	General Fund	\$ 2,855,318.26
Warrant #92	General Fund	\$ 215,520.83
Warrant #28	Trust & Agency	\$ 2,859,744.93
Warrant #29	Trust & Agency	\$ 916.67
Warrant #30	Trust & Agency	\$ 2,997,437.78

F Acceptance of Business Reports

1 Business Reports - April 21, 2020

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration: **Resolved:** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the following Business Reports:

Appropriation Status through February 2020 Budget Transfer February 2020 Revenue Status through February 2020 System Audit Analysis February 2020 Trial Balance through February 2020 Cash Flow through February 2020

VII 2020-2021 Budget Adoption Discussion - Budget Presentation #4 is Posted on the Herricks Website

Dr. Celano informed the Community that the 2020-2021 Budget Presentation #4 is posted on the Herricks website at https://www.herricks.org/Domain/53. Please feel free to take a look at it. We had to make some adjustments to the original budget, and that was because we learned that we would have a cut in state aid because of the economic and financial difficulties that the state is going through right now. We received a preliminary number of a cut in state aid and we may have more cuts that we are prepared for, but at this point, we feel as though we are in a good position to weather the storm. Our goal is to continue to maintain our class size guidelines, to maintain our programs, and if we do have to make additional budget reductions, it will come from one time only purchases. We will continue to monitor the situation. Dr. Celano then asked Ms. Rutkoske to briefly speak about what we have in terms of the budget adoption for tonight.

Ms. Rutkoske stated that we have our overall budget with total expenditures, which is the revised budget from the previous three presentations, with a budget to budget increase of 2.55%. Then, we also have our property tax report card which is required to be submitted to the State Education Department. As Dr. Celano shared, at this stage the outlook from the governor is that there will be a manageable reduction in state aid and it will be monitored from quarter to quarter throughout the school year. Ms. Rutkoske then added that in terms of the annual budget vote, we are waiting to hear more from the governor's office.

Dr. Celano added that as far as the budget vote, obviously this is a state-mandated decision in terms of how the budget vote is going to work and the date of the budget vote. Hopefully, we will hear more definitive information over the next week or so, but what we're hearing right now is that the budget vote may be on June 9th and will probably be a mail-in ballot. The reason for the mail-in ballot is that we've been told by the Board of Elections that they will not have the machines available for us to use. There may also be issues with getting people to work at the voting places, particularly now with social distancing going on. He then stated that as soon as we get more information, we will update you.

Dr. Celano reminded the Public that all of the budget presentations are available for viewing on the Herricks website at https://www.herricks.org/Domain/53.

VIII Recommended Actions - New Business

A Suspension of Policy 2350 - Board of Education Meeting

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following resolution:

Whereas, the State of New York, along with the entire nation and world, is in the midst of the COVID-19 (AKA the novel coronavirus) pandemic, a public health emergency unprecedented in modern times;

Whereas, on March 16, 2020, Governor Cuomo issued Executive Order 202.1 which suspended the requirements of the Open Meetings Law concerning board of education meetings; and

Whereas, as permitted by Executive Order 202.1, the Board of Education's meetings

will be conducted via **teleconference** with no public participation as long as Executive Order 202.1 is in place.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education hereby suspends that portion of Policy 2350 (Board of Education Meetings) which provides for public participation and comment at Board of Education meetings.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nancy Feinstein, Trustee **SECONDER:** Brian Hassan, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

B Vote on BOCES Administrative Budget

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby votes on the following resolution:

Whereas, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County (hereinafter "Nassau BOCES") has proposed and presented its Proposed Administrative Operations Budget for the 2020-21 school year (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021), now therefore,

Be It Resolved: that the Nassau BOCES Proposed Administrative Operations Budget for the 2020-21 school year in the amount of twenty-two million, eight hundred ten thousand, eight hundred seventy three dollars (\$22,810,873.00) is hereby **approved** by this Board.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Henry Zanetti, Vice President

SECONDER: James Gounaris, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

C Vote for Election of BOCES Trustees

There are three seats on the Nassau BOCES Board that will expire on June 30, 2020. Two of these seats are held by Deborah Coates and Eric B. Schultz. The third seat is vacant due to the retirement of Stephen B. Witt. Each seat carries a term of three years. Jean Fichtl, Lawrence Greenstein, CPA, Michael Hatten, and Douglas J. Pascarella are also running for a seat on the Nassau BOCES Board. Resumes are attached. Each component board is to cast one vote for each vacancy. Therefore, a total of three votes may be cast by each board this year. **Note:** At the March 12, 2020 Board Meeting, the Board nominated: Deborah Coates, Eric B. Schultz, and Michael J. Hatten.

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration: **Resolved:** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby casts a vote for:

- 1. Deborah Coates
- 2. Eric B. Schultz
- 3. Michael Hatten

for the office of Trustee of the Nassau County Board of Cooperative Educational Services.

MOVER: James Gounaris, Trustee **SECONDER:** Brian Hassan, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

D Adoption of 2020-2021 General Fund Budget

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration:

Be It Resolved: that the Board of Education hereby adopts the budget for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$_120,534,523.00;\$ and

Be It Further Resolved: that the following proposition shall be placed on the ballot for the budget vote and election in substantially the following form:

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Herricks Union Free School District, is hereby authorized to expend the sum of <u>\$ 120,534,523.00</u> in accordance with the budget submitted for the school year 2020-2021 and to levy the necessary tax therefore.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Henry Zanetti, Vice President
SECONDER: Nancy Feinstein, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

E Approval of Property Tax Report Card

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the Property Tax Report Card for the 2020-2021 school year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: James Gounaris, Trustee **SECONDER:** Nancy Feinstein, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

F Approval for Actuarial Review of the District's Workers Compensation Liabilities

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the attached proposal from Sound Actuarial Consulting, LLC, 403 East Main Street, Port Jefferson, NY 11777 to conduct an actuarial review of the District's workers compensation liabilities for a total cost of \$7,200.00.

Note: The actuarial review is required for disclosure purposes in the notes to the annual financial statements.

MOVER: Brian Hassan, Trustee SECONDER: James Gounaris, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

G Rejection of All Bids Submitted for Fitness Center Addition at Herricks High School

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following resolution:

Whereas, the Board of Education of the Herricks Union Free School District received bids for the Fitness Center Addition at Herricks High School capital construction project (hereinafter referred to as the "Project") on March 5, 2020;

Whereas, the School District's Architect and Administration have reviewed the bids submitted by the bidders for the Fitness Center Addition at Herricks High School contract;

Whereas, based upon such review, the Board of Education of the Herricks Union Free School District believes it to be in the best interest of the School District to reject all Fitness Center Addition at Herricks High School bids received and re-advertise for new Fitness Center Addition at Herricks High School bids at a later date;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Education hereby rejects all bids submitted for the Fitness Center Addition at Herricks High School contract for the Project.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nancy Feinstein, Trustee **SECONDER:** James Gounaris, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

H Approval of Agreement with Textbook Central for distribution of Textbooks to Non-Public School Students

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves an agreement with Textbook Central, a Sole Source Service Provider, for the procurement and distribution of textbooks for Herricks students attending non-public schools during the 2020-21 school year, at fees as follows:

First 1 to 25 students by school \$28.60 per student per school Next 26 to 250 students by school \$22.65 per student per school \$16.85 per student per school, and

Managed Purchase Option Program 16% Admin fee for total expenses

of textbooks procured

Be It Further Resolved: that the Assistant Superintendent for Business be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

MOVER: James Gounaris, Trustee **SECONDER:** Brian Hassan, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

I Approval of BOCES 2019-20 - Model Schools - Letter of Intent #731484

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration: **Resolved:** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board

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of Education hereby approves BOCES Model Schools - Letter of Intent #731484 at a fee of \$1,200.00 for one day of professional development in the 2019-20 school year.

Note: BOCES Model Schools will providing professional development for our district wide staff day. Timothy Gill, presenter, will offer four virtual sessions to support teachers in the new remote learning technologies and platforms. The sessions will include: EdPuzzle, Screencastify, Google Forms, and an Advanced Use session of those three technologies. Each session will be 1-hour long.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: James Gounaris, Trustee **SECONDER:** Brian Hassan, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

J BOCES 2019-20 Letter of Intent #731846 - Screencastify, LLC

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration: **Resolved:** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves BOCES 2019-20 Letter of Intent #731846 in the amount of \$3,450.00 for Screencastify, LLC.

Note: Screencastify is a Google Chrome extension that allows you to easily record, edit and share videos. You can record a browser tab or whole desktop or record using a webcam. Easily share these videos through Google Classroom or other means. Allows for the creation of walkthroughs for assignments, demonstrations using other apps (Google Slides, SMART Notebook, etc...), or brief teacher-led lessons using tools you have available at home (whiteboards, manipulative, etc.)

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: James Gounaris, Trustee **SECONDER:** Brian Hassan, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

K Approval of Consultant for Professional Development

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration: **Resolved:** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves Allison Morgan of Zensational Kids, 26 Highland Road, Montvale, NJ 07645, to conduct a 40-minute virtual professional development opportunity on April 8, 2020 (Staff Day) for teachers on mindfulness practices. The fee is \$500.

Note: In this session teachers will be guided in restorative and healing breath, movement, and mindfulness practices to nourish their mind, body, and heart.

MOVER: James Gounaris, Trustee **SECONDER:** Brian Hassan, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

L Amendment to the Infinite Campus End User License Agreement - Custom Computer Specialists

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves an amendment to the Infinite Campus End User License Agreement – Custom Computer Specialists for an additional amount of \$3,500.00 for the 2020-21 school year.

Note: The original agreement is with Infinite Campus, and the server is hosted at BOCES. Next school year 20-21, the server will be hosted in the Cloud by Infinite Campus. Custom Computer Specialists are the support arm of Infinite Campus for the Northeast.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: James Gounaris, Trustee **SECONDER:** Brian Hassan, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

M Approval of Inter-Municipal Cooperative Agreement with the Jericho Union Free School District for Maintenance and Repair of Buses and District Vehicles

The following resolution has been prepared for the Board's consideration:

Resolved: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following resolution:

Whereas, the Jericho Union Free School District and the Herricks Union Free School District have determined to enter into an agreement pursuant to New York General Municipal Law ("GML") section 119-0 for the purpose of maintenance and repair to school buses and district vehicles; and

Whereas, the Herricks Union Free School District owns school buses and other school-district owned vehicles that require inspections from the New York State Department of Transportation, ("DOT"), maintenance and repair; and

Whereas, the Jericho Union Free School District owns and operates a bus maintenance depot and has the capability to service and repair school buses and other district vehicles; and

Whereas, the Herricks Union Free School District wishes for the Jericho Union Free School District to permit use of its bus maintenance depot in furtherance of inspection, maintenance and repair services to the Herricks Union Free School District's school buses and vehicles based upon availability of the Jericho Union Free School District; and

Whereas, the Jericho Union Free School District is willing to assist Herricks Union Free School District with inspection, maintenance and repair services in accordance

with the terms and conditions set forth herein based upon availability of the Jericho Union Free School District, and

Whereas, Jericho Union Free School District and Herricks Union Free School District have each determined that it would be in their best financial interests for the Jericho Union Free School District to provide bus maintenance and repair services to the Herricks Union Free School District at the facilities of the Jericho Union Free School District on a cooperative basis based upon availability of the Jericho Union Free School District;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education authorizes the School District to participate in the Cooperative; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Board of Education hereby approves the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Agreement for Maintenance and Repair of buses and district vehicles attached hereto and authorizes the Assistant Superintendent for Business to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: James Gounaris, Trustee **SECONDER:** Brian Hassan, Trustee

AYES: Chin, Zanetti, Feinstein, Gounaris, Hassan

IX New Business and Future Agenda Items

Mrs. Chin stated that before going into New Business and Future Agenda Items, the Board received an email question during our meeting and Dr. Celano would like to address it. Mrs. Chin then stated that the parent was asking about how fourth quarter grades will be determined, as they have a senior at the high school and they don't want to find out too late that he may not pass one or two classes, which would make it difficult to see graduation.

Dr. Celano stated that there are two separate questions. To answer the first part, we are looking at different models for handling grades in the fourth quarter. We are also taking a look at what comparative districts are doing. We've been working very closely with all the districts in our area in terms of remote learning, doing something similar, and we're looking at other districts to see what they're doing and checking with faculty administration to see what their recommendations are. The fourth quarter just began yesterday, so within the next week or two we will have more information about that and will get that information out to parents and students. Especially given what's going on, we want to make sure that no students are harmed. To answer the other question about when a parent might be notified if their student isn't doing well, in particular with seniors, I recently spoke to Ms. Keegan about this, and she informed me that the guidance counselors are very much on top of notifying parents and students. If there are any issues with a student, the parent should also feel free to contact the guidance counselor or the school administration with any concerns. Dr. Celano added that the guidance counselors are looking at each and every senior to make sure that they are academically in good standing. If there is any issue at all, the guidance counselor will reach out to the parent.

Mrs. Feinstein asked, is it safe to say that if a student was in danger of not graduating, the

parent would have been contacted already.

Dr. Celano replied that it is just the beginning of the fourth quarter, and the guidance counselor would be in touch with the parent if a student is in danger. We believe in early and frequent contact with students and parents, and that is exactly what would be happening.

Mrs. Chin then thanked Dr. Celano. Mrs. Chin asked the Board if there was any New Business or Future Agenda items. There were none at this time.

Mrs. Chin then stated that before the meeting is adjourned for the night, she wants to thank the community for trying to help us flatten the curve, by staying home and being safe. With a great deal of sadness, she added that a lot of the parents who have kids who play spring sports have already heard by now that the spring sports have been officially cancelled. This is a very sad day for us, but you know that we have better and bigger accomplishments to look forward to for next year. We want to come back strong and healthy, and we don't want anybody in danger. Stay strong, we will get through this. Herricks Strong!

X Future Business - Meetings are held at 7:30 PM unless otherwise noted

	8	
May 7, 2020	Location To Be	Budget Hearing & Regular Meeting
	Determined	
June 1, 2020 - Tentative	Community	Budget Vote
	Center	
May 21, 2020	Location To Be	Regular Meeting & Recognition of
	Determined	Student Representatives
June 11, 2020	Location To Be	Regular Meeting
	Determined	

XI Adjournment

At 8:01pm, Mr. Gounaris made a motion to adjourn the Board of Education Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zanetti and passed by unanimous vote.