

MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING October 11, 2018

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The regular meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, October 11, 2018, in the All Purpose Room of the Martin Avenue School at 2616 Martin Avenue, Bellmore, New York.

The following members of the Board of Education were present:

Melissa Cmar-Grote, President  
Nina Lanci, Vice President  
JoAnn DeLauter  
John Ferrara

Also present:

Marie Testa, Superintendent of Schools  
Carol Eskew, Deputy Superintendent  
Janet Pollitt, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Jason Fischetti, Director of Technology  
Larry Tenenbaum, District Counsel  
Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Motion was made by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. DeLauter, to move into executive session to discuss personnel matters. Motion was carried 4-0. The meeting reconvened at 7:49 p.m. Mrs. Grote led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. DeLauter then read the District's Mission Statement.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes from the regular meeting of October 11, 2018. Mrs. DeLauter seconded, and the motion was carried 4-0.
- CORRESPONDENCE** Mrs. Cmar-Grote advised that correspondence was received and will be addressed by the Board.
- TREASURER'S REPORT** Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report for the month ended August 31, 2018. Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion and was carried 4-0.
- HIGH SCHOOL REPORT** Mrs. Lanci reported that at the October 3 meeting, the board of education honored four National Merit Scholarship finalists, the National Hispanic Merit Scholarship Finalist, four students who achieved All-State honors from the New York State School Music Association and a student who achieved All National from NYSSMA. The board congratulated a Grand Avenue student for becoming the 2018 Broadcom MASTERS finalist. The board accepted a donation for Kennedy High School from the JFK Alumni Association in the amount of \$14,439.85. Visitors raised questions on the facility use fees and adding EID holidays to the school calendar. The next board meeting will take place on November 7.

**FINANCE** The Board of Education acknowledged the review of the warrants that have been approved by the Internal Auditor for the month of September 2018.

**BUDGETARY TRANSFERS** Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Budgetary Transfers dated October 11, 2018. Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** Mrs. Testa stated that she was proud to recommend two teachers for tenure this evening to the Board of Education: Nicole Giusto, 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Park Avenue School and Diane Vaccaro, ENL teacher at Newbridge Road School.

**PERSONNEL REPORT** Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel Report dated October 11, 2018. Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

**A.1 Personnel Report**

**October 11, 2018**

**Certified Personnel:** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it resolved that the following persons be appointed as teachers in North Bellmore Union Free School District as indicated below. All assignments are at the discretion of the district. Leave replacements are paid on a per diem basis per the NBTA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

<u>Appointments:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
4.1 Halleck, Jackelyn	Math AIS Teacher		\$125/day	9/25/2018
4.2 Castillo, Allison	Substitute Teacher		\$100/day	9/21/2018
4.3 Fili-Callari, Nancy	Substitute Teacher		\$100/day	10/01/2018
4.4 Presta, Andrew	Substitute Teacher		\$100/day	9/28/2018
4.5 Savinetti, Paula	Substitute Teacher		\$100/day	10/03/2018
4.6 Stanganelli, Kerri	Substitute Speech Teacher		\$100/day	10/01/2018
4.7 Wilson, Jessica	Substitute Teacher		\$100/day	10/01/2018
4.8 Cabral-Karp, Rosa	Substitute Teacher		\$100/day	10/09/2018
4.9 Breslin-Conaty, Shannon	PT Reading Teacher & PT ENL Teacher		\$36/hr	10/01/2018
4.10 Dotzler, Jessica	PT Reading Teacher		\$36/hr	10/01/2018
4.11 Papazis, Maria	PT Reading Teacher		\$36/hr	10/01/2018
<u>Homebound services:</u>				
4.12 Moir, Kristen	Special Ed. Teacher K-6		\$54.53/hr	9/20/18-6/30/19
<u>Appointment to Tenure:</u>				
4.13 Giusto, Nicole	Teacher K-6			9/30/2018
4.14 Vaccaro, Diane	ENL Teacher K-6			11/08/2018
<u>Resignations:</u>				
4.15 Held, Shannon	Substitute Teacher			9/19/2018
4.16 Longo, Dina	Substitute Teacher			9/20/2018
4.17 Lanciotti, Jacquelyn	Substitute Teacher			9/20/2018
4.18 Shaw, Morgan	Substitute Teacher			9/20/2018

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4.19	Taylor, Kristan	Substitute Teacher	9/17/2018
4.20	Herman, Paige	Substitute Teacher	9/25/2018
4.21	Zamparo, Lisa	Substitute Teacher	10/03/2018
4.22	Gorman, Elizabeth	Lv. Repl. Teacher	10/10/2018

**Terminations:**

4.23	Rizzuto, Karen	Substitute Teacher	9/26/2018
4.24	Turowski, Christine	Occupational Therapist	10/05/2018

***Classified Personnel:*** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it resolved that the following persons be appointed in North Bellmore Union Free School District as indicated below. All assignments are at the discretion of the district.

<b><u>Appointments:</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Step</u></b>	<b><u>Rate</u></b>	<b><u>Eff. Date</u></b>
4.25	Megias, Jeanine	From: Teacher Aide PT/Sub To: Teacher Aide PT	\$17.55/hr	9/04/2018
4.26	Lavelle, Kristen	From: Teacher Aide PT/Sub To: Teacher Aide PT	\$17.25/hr	10/09/2018
4.27	Cohen, Tammy	From: Monitor PT/Sub To: Monitor PT	\$14.42/hr	10/05/2018
4.28	Vosilla, Steven	Cleaner PT/Sub	1 \$16.94/hr	10/12/2018
4.29	Leviso, Aaron	Maintainer	5 \$60,194/yr	10/29/2018
4.30	Smith, Deborah	Substitute Nurse	\$28.98/hr	10/12/2018

**Resignations:**

4.31	Stone, Stacey	Teacher Aide PT	9/17/2018
4.32	Virapen, Donna	Teacher Aide PT	9/17/2018
4.33	Mignoli, Terri	Teacher Aide PT	10/01/2018
4.34	Keuning, Nancy	Teacher Aide PT	10/01/2018
4.35	O'Mara, Catherine	Monitor PT	10/04/2018

Change to October 11, 2018 Personnel Report

Rescind Terminations:

3.64	Gentile, Janice	Typist-Clerk PT/Sub	9/14/2018
3.65	Romano, Ann Marie	Typist-Clerk PT/Sub	9/14/2018

Mrs. Testa, Ms. Speidel, Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Elhilow, on behalf of the NBTA, teachers and students and members of the PTAs all expressed their congratulations to the newly tenured teachers. The meeting recessed at 8:20 PM for refreshments. The meeting reconvened at 8:40 PM.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
 REPORT**

*Building and Grounds update:  
 Air conditioning:*

Mrs. Testa reported that she and Mr. Schissler spoke with Mr. Grillo regarding gathering information to air condition all the buildings (except for Gunther). Given the layout of our buildings, Mr. Grillo said that package roof top units are not a good option; however, he recommended replacing all the univents in the buildings.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

The new univents would contain DX coils and condensers making them capable of providing both heat and air conditioning. It is a fair amount of work and would have to be done in the off-season. The larger areas like the gyms, all purpose rooms, and cafeterias would have to be done with the package roof top units. We also spoke about the need to do electrical upgrades ahead of this work. He estimated the total cost of electrical upgrades and installation of univents/roof top units to be \$20-25 million, with a possible completion of summer 2020. The date also depends on when/if the bond passes and when we could go out to bid. He also mentioned that some of that cost is aidable. Mrs. Testa added that our building aid ratio is approximately 57 percent, which means we get back approximately 57 percent of our approved expenses. Although, not everything in the project may be approved. The problem is that the reimbursement for building aid has changed. It used to be very current and now aid does not start up for a few years. It could be very difficult to pass a bond issue at this time, as well as, have the money in our budget to pay the principal and interest the first few years.

Mrs. DeLauter asked if the project would include new univents at Newbridge Road School. Mrs. Testa stated that it would.

Mrs. Testa asked the Board to let her know if they wanted Mr. Grillo to proceed with building surveys and pricing.

*Peapond Road:*

Mrs. Testa reported that Mr. Russo has been conversing with the Town of Hempstead regarding the scheduled work on Peapond Road. They indicated that the project would not begin before the spring. Mr. Russo explained that we would still prefer if the work could be postponed until the summer. The Town indicated that they would contact us once they have more information.

*Safety and security:*

Mrs. Testa stated that the Homeland Security Department for Nassau County suggested that we add additional fencing and gates at the schools where we are vulnerable. Mrs. Testa commented that not all of our schools are completely gated and stated that it would be very challenging to implement this in our district. Mrs. Testa asked for the Board's consideration and will provide a cost estimate.

We are still waiting to hear back from Leg. McKevitt regarding our request for a grant to assist us in installing security vestibules in the schools.

*Saw Mill Playground:*

Mrs. Testa reported that the Saw Mill PTA has raised funds to supplement the Saw Mill Road playground. Mr. Russo, Mr. Rosof and Mrs. Brugge are working with the PTA to try to get the equipment at a lower cost. We are waiting for pricing and another estimate. Mrs. Testa thanked the PTA community for all their efforts.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

*Saw Mill Road School – Proposed Street Assignments:*

Mrs. Testa stated that in the spring of 2018 the Board of Education commissioned a demographic and enrollment study be done to balance districtwide enrollment across the district and reduce overcrowding at Saw Mill Road School. The study was conducted by Mr. Wayne Verdeber from Applied Data Services. Mrs. Testa gave a presentation to the Board relative to ADS's recommendation to reassign 20 streets from the current Saw Mill Road Zone to Dinkelmeyer and Martin Avenue Schools. Mrs. Testa outlined the streets that would be reassigned to each school. The reassignment of the 20 streets will impact Saw Mill enrollment over the long term.

The total students from Saw Mill eligible to transfer in 2019-20 in grades 1-6 would equal 80 students, if all families transferred (45 to Dinkelmeyer and 35 to Martin Avenue.)

Mrs. Testa proposed to the Board to reassign the 20 streets for the 2019-20 school year and beyond for all new families who do not currently have children in attendance at Saw Mill Road School.

Families who currently live on the proposed streets, who have students who attend Saw Mill Road now, will continue to attend Saw Mill Road School and are not required to move.

The District will offer current Saw Mill families, who live on the proposed reassigned streets, an opportunity to attend either Dinkelmeyer or Martin Avenue, respectively, in 2019-20 and beyond, if they wish to do so.

Saw Mill to Dinkelmeyer:

Newbridge Road  
(North of Southern State Pkwy.)  
Taft Street  
Belmond Avenue  
Willard Street  
Sterling Street  
Acorn Place  
Ashland Place  
Regent Place  
Elm Court  
Virginia Avenue

Saw Mill to Martin Avenue:

Court Street  
Wallace Avenue  
King Street  
Beltagh Place  
Pacific Street  
Atlantic Avenue  
Fallwood Court  
Gerald Court  
Pappas Court  
Regina Avenue

Mrs. Testa added that if the Board approves the recommendation:

- The district will issue a letter to the entire district announcing the reassignment of streets on October 12.
- The district will issue individual letters to current Saw Mill families with students who reside on the proposed reassigned streets, seeking their interest to attend Dinkelmeyer or Martin Avenue.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

- The district will contact local realtors and media outlets to inform them of the reassigned streets and school zones.
- The district will conduct a central kindergarten registration in January 2019 to help expedite the process. The registration will be held at Newbridge Road School from 8am-8pm on the dates previously established—1/8 and 1/9.

**VISITORS**

Mr. Rubino (Old Britton Rd.) asked about the impact of the Dinkelmeyer reassignment on the transportation budget.

Mrs. Testa stated that it would depend on the number of students that want to transfer, however, we estimate no increase at all.

Mr. Rubino questioned the purpose of reassigning the last two houses on the east side of Lindstead Lane. Additionally, Mr. Rubino expressed his concern about dividing up neighborhoods.

Mrs. Testa stated that she would look into why two of the houses on Lindstead were coded for Dinkelmeyer. Additionally, Mrs. Testa explained that the Board is very cognizant regarding “not dividing up neighborhoods.” Therefore, the lines were chosen to keep groups of houses in the same zone.

**SAW MILL STREET  
REASSIGNMENT**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation to reassign 20 streets from the current Saw Mill Road Zone to Dinkelmeyer and Martin Avenue schools, as outlined in the 2018 Demographic and Enrollment Study. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

**STAFF  
DEVELOPMENT  
REPORT**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated October 11, 2018. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

**CURRICULUM AND  
INSTRUCTION  
UPDATE**

Mrs. Pollitt gave the following updates:

*Grade 6 Science materials:* A group of 6th grade teachers came together to conduct a product review and selected Pearson Elevate Science, which are modules specific to the standards we selected. It is the same digital platform as Envision Math 2.0 for ease of use. Professional development is planned for October 18.

*RTI:*

This year at Martin Avenue we are piloting, *Branching Minds*, a platform for organizing and compiling data to assist in the Response to Intervention process. It has a storehouse of academic and behavioral interventions for teachers to use with students in need. Mrs. Malone and Mrs. Brady will lead the initiative and plan for initial professional development for the teachers.

**CURRICULUM AND  
INSTRUCTION  
UPDATE**

*Prevention Department:* Ms. Signorelli has been instrumental in analyzing and implementing new Mental Health state mandates. Social workers and guidance counselors from all the component districts met last week to have articulation across K-12. Two new prevention workers with social worker and school counselor backgrounds were hired this year to help with initiative. Curriculum writing on mental health will focus on sixth graders, as appropriate. Teams of sixth graders from each building will attend an anti-bullying conference at Hofstra University tomorrow, October 12. We are working on a Prevention Newsletter that will be sent to the entire community.

*Reading:* Remedial reading services started earlier this year based on our new protocol. Groups remain to be fluid—room for discontinuing and entering throughout the year. There will be push-in services to Kindergarten classes this year to support early literacy.

Mrs. McNamara is working with the coaches in planning the professional development to support the new reading materials we brought in for K-2 and the host classrooms (K-3).

*Report Card:* The template has been updated. There has been a major redesign in structure- more visually pleasing and reader friendly – with minimal content changes.

*October Professional Development:*

i-Ready PD for tech teachers, math AIS & coaches on the new teacher platform took place today. Training for principals is scheduled for next week.

Schoolwide PD is scheduled at Park Avenue tomorrow, as well as Social Studies PD with BMCHSD for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers.

Next week, 90-minute PD is scheduled on Monday and Wednesday on a variety of courses

*Fountas & Pinnell Classroom Materials:* Mrs. McNamara and the literacy coaches are working with teachers who are implementing the new resources. We are receiving positive feedback from teachers and students so far regarding:

- Kindergarten – new shared reading piece
- Grade 1 & 2 Independent Reading Collection
- 10 host classrooms across district will be piloting additional pieces of the system: Interactive Read Aloud, Independent Reading, Shared Reading, and Mini Lessons.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION  
CPSE/CSE**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated October 3, 2018. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION  
UPDATE**

Ms. Eskew reported that we are currently working with the high school district on a plan to offer elementary students access to school counselors, in accordance with the new mental health initiative. At this time, Valley Stream is the only district that has a plan in place. We are still waiting for more guidance from the state.

Ms. Eskew stated that she was pleased to report that reading services for students with an IEP started on the first cycle this year.

Ms. Eskew stated that she is in the process of interviewing for a leave replacement psychologist for Saw Mill, as well as substitute nurses. There is a shortage of physical therapists statewide, as the certification requirements changed. Physical therapists are now required to have a Ph.D. It is getting difficult to find physical therapists to provide services for the students.

Professional development will be held next week for the special education department on the early signs and support of dyslexia. We are seeing an increase in the number of students with signs of dyslexia.

Ms. Eskew thanked SEPTA for their presentation on Tuesday night and all the programs they offered over the summer.

**TECHNOLOGY  
UPDATE**

Mr. Fischetti gave the following updates:

*Parent portal:* We started using the parent portal built into eSchool as a method of sharing report cards about two years ago and now, as part of our scaffolded approach, we plan to begin sharing class placements at the end of August for the upcoming school year, instead of mailing out the placements.

*Technology Professional Development:* Mr. Bevilacqua and Mrs. DiChiara will be offering PD sessions after school on Mondays on iPad use for instruction. They will rotate buildings across the district and attendance is voluntary. They created a list of locations and topics to be covered, but teachers are welcome to bring their questions. Additional iPad PD will be offered during upcoming 90-minute sessions.

*SmartBond:*

We have been reimbursed for all iPad purchases. New smartboard computers and student computers were purchased for the entire district. 400 computers and 250 monitors arrived on August 20. The Technology Department delivered and installed new computers for all classroom teachers and all student computers in grades 5-6 districtwide. Student computers in grades 1-4 will be installed over the next few weeks.



**TECHNOLOGY  
UPDATE**

*Printing and PDF issues:*

Mr. Fischetti thanked the teachers for their patience as the technology staff work to resolve printing and pdf issues associated with the move to Windows 10. We attempted to stay with Windows 7 for as long as possible, but our time with Windows 7 has run out.

**NEW BUSINESS  
CONTRACTS**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approved the following contracts :

- Eliza DellaMonica
  - Long Island Therapy Management Associates, Inc.,
  - New Designs Consulting, Inc.,
  - Province Therapeutic LLC
  - Stenhouse Publishers
  - Stenhouse Publishers (Addendum)
  - United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc.
- Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

**EXCESS OF  
EQUIPMENT**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education excess the following instruments that are broken and beyond repair:

- Flute -Artley s/n #78891
  - Clarinet - Selemer s/n #1615934
  - Alto Saxophone - Buescher no serial number listed
- Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

**DISTRICT POLICY**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education adopt Policy 0110 Sexual Harassment and Policy 4321.4 Independent Educational Evaluations. Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mrs. Cmar-Grote thanked everyone who applied for the vacant board seat. The board will keep the community apprised as they move forward in the process.

**VISITORS**

Mrs. Oza (Saw Mill Rd.) and Mrs. Virapen (Bellmore Ave.) asked the school board to add the EID holidays to the North Bellmore school calendar.

Mrs. Cmar-Grote advised that the Board will discuss it.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mrs. Lanci and carried 4-0, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

Mark Schissler, District Clerk