

MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING October 1, 2015

The regular meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, October 1, 2015, 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:

Peter Mayo, President
Melissa Cmar-Grote
John Ferrara
Nina Lanci

The following member of the Board of Education was absent:

JoAnn DeLauter, Vice President

Also present:

Marie Testa, Superintendent of Schools
Carol Eskew, Deputy Superintendent
Mark Schissler, Assistant Superintendent for Business
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 7:11 p.m. Motion was made by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, to move into executive session to discuss personnel matters. Motion was carried 4-0. The meeting reconvened at 8:17 p.m. Mr. Mayo led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Lanci then read the District's Mission Statement.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Minutes from the Regular meeting of September 10, 2015. Mr. Ferrara seconded, and the motion was carried 4-0.
- VISITORS** There were no questions relating to agenda items only.
- CORRESPONDENCE** Mr. Mayo advised that correspondence was received and will be addressed by the Board of Education.
- TREASURER'S REPORT** Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report for the month ended August 31, 2015. Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion and was carried 4-0.
- HIGH SCHOOL REPORT** Mrs. Lanci advised that there was no report as the High School meeting will be held on October 7.

FINANCE

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the budgetary transfers dated October 1, 2015. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Testa reported that she attended the NYS Council of School Superintendents Fall Leadership Summit. The Superintendents had an opportunity to attend a workshop with the Commissioner of Education to discuss issues with the testing and initiatives. Governor Cuomo has launched a Common Core Task Force that is charged with reviewing and making recommendations to overhaul the current Common Core system and the way we test our students. The Task Force will examine how the State and districts can reduce both the quantity and duration of student tests. North Bellmore will continue with the testing and will forge forward to do what is best for the children and support the district's goals.

Training continues with administrators and teachers on the Charlotte Danielson Framework to get a deeper understanding of the rubric.

The recent lockout and lockdown drills went very well and we have received good feedback from the principals. Mrs. Testa added that the Nassau County superintendents attended a safety meeting with the Chief of Police on September 21. We cleared up any miscommunications concerning lockdown and lockouts. The Chief confirmed that the district will only be called if they deem that the school is in any type of jeopardy.

The Prevention Department will join the ATM meeting next week to share their plans for implementing the *Peaceful Playground* program which will be used to teach students about positive ways to resolve problems at recess and help support the lunch recess assistants with conflict mediation.

The Newbridge Road School sign is close to completion.

Mrs. Testa announced that she was happy to recommend Jenna Stack for Tenure as a Technology Teacher. Mr. Fischetti congratulated Mrs. Stack and thanked her for her enthusiasm and dedication and for sharing her knowledge to help move the Instructional Technology Program forward.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the following personnel report as amended:

A.1 PERSONNEL REPORT

October 1, 2015

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.

<u>Appointments:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
4.1 McNamara, Tillie	Director of Educational Programs and Staff Development		\$135,000/yr	10/2/15-10/1/18

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Homebound Services: (not to exceed 1hr per day)

4.2	Moir, Kristen	Special Ed. Teacher	\$54.12/hr	9/22/15-6/24/16
4.3	O'Neill, Jennifer	Special Ed. Teacher	\$54.12/hr	9/22/15-6/24/16
4.4	Pugliese, Caitlin	Special Ed. Teacher	\$54.12/hr	9/22/15-6/24/16

Appointment to Tenure:

4.5	Stack, Jenna	Technology Teacher		10/1/2015
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Math Leaders:

4.6	Hooker, Michelle	Teacher K-6	\$1500 (Stipend)	9/1/15-6/30/16
4.7	Fischetti, Antoinette	Teacher K-6	\$1500 (Stipend)	9/1/15-6/30/16

Parent University Presenters:

4.8	Bevilacqua, Michael	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.9	Brust, Lynda	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.10	Colter, Randee	ESL Teacher	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.11	Devine, Marianne	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.12	DiChiara, Leslie	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.13	Drum, Jill	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.14	Falabella, Debra	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.15	Fischetti, Antonietta	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.16	Fredrickson, Jennifer	ESL Teacher	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.17	Giacopelli Zucker, Krista	Special Ed. Teacher	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.18	Hooker, Michelle	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.19	Kakalos, Mary Ellen	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.20	Licci, Amanda	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.21	Martelli, Nicole	ESL Teacher	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.22	Perrick, Ellen	Social Worker	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.23	Quinn, Cynthia	Literacy Coach	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.24	Signorelli, JoAnn	Social Worker	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.25	Sotirakos, Kiparisoul	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.26	Stack, Jenna	Technology Teacher	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.27	Vaccaro, Diane	ESL Teacher	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16
4.28	Ward, Eileen	Teacher K-6	\$54.12/hr	10/01/15-6/30/16

Change of Status:

4.29	Brady, Lauren	From: 5M+30 to 5M+45	\$82,224/yr	(+2,664)	9/01/2015
4.30	Callahan Fodor, Kathleen	From: 5M+30 to 5M+45	\$82,224/yr	(+2,664)	9/01/2015
4.31	Downey, Gerilynn	From: 5M+15 to 5M+30	\$79,560/yr	(+2,495)	9/01/2015
4.32	Schwartz, Stephanie	From: 9M+45 to 9M+60	\$99,258/yr	(+2,093)	9/01/2015

Resignations:

4.33	Haugh-Dermody, Colleen	Substitute Teacher		10/01/2015
4.34	Jerz, Allison	Substitute Teacher		10/01/2015
4.35	Lamidi, Ewaoluwa Beatrice	Substitute Teacher		10/01/2015
4.36	Quealy, Lauren	Substitute Teacher		10/01/2015
4.37	Bodendorf, Christine	Substitute Teacher		10/01/2015

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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.

Appointments:	Title	Step	Rate	Eff. Date
4.38 Fontana, Janet	Food Service Hlp PT/Sub		\$12.78/hr	10/02/2015
4.39 Johnson, Michele	Teacher Aide PT		\$17.10/hr	09/28/2015
4.40 Lynott, Michele	Teacher Aide PT		\$17.10/hr	09/28/2015
4.41 O'Brien, Deborah	Teacher Aide PT		\$17.10/hr	09/28/2015
4.42 Petritis, Lori	Teacher Aide PT		\$17.10/hr	09/28/2015
4.43 Jackson, Kathleen	Monitor PT/Sub		\$13.42/hr	10/02/2015
4.44 Pascali, Pamela	Monitor PT/Sub		\$13.42/hr	10/02/2015
4.45 Schlossberg, Susan	Monitor PT/Sub		\$13.42/hr	10/02/2015
4.46 Hammonds, Eunice	From: Monitor Sub To: Monitor PT		\$13.42/hr	09/28/2015
4.47 Sorrentino, Joanne	From: Monitor Sub To: Monitor PT		\$13.42/hr	09/28/2015

Return from a Leave of Absence:

4.48 Drachtman, Randi	Teacher Aide PT			10/01/2015
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Resignation:

4.49 Pugliese, Donna	Monitor PT			10/02/2015
4.50 Leisenring, MaryAnne	Monitor PT			09/30/2015
4.51 Lynott, Michele	Monitor PT			10/02/2015

Termination:

4.52 MacTiernan, Kerry	Data Analyst			9/21/2015
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Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Mayo congratulated Mrs. Stack on receiving tenure.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated October 1, 2015. Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Mr. Schissler reported that Mr. Grillo will be working on a Five-Year Facilities Plan. He will be looking at electrical upgrades with regards to potential air conditioning issues, as well as building and facility needs districtwide.

Mr. Schissler advised that we have received a \$25,000 legislative grant from Senator Venditto. This is a general purpose grant with no attachments as far as what it can be used for.

Mr. Schissler stated that the Board of Education Audit Committee met with Nawrocki and Smith LLP and shared a draft of the audit report. It was a very good report and only one comment was made. Mr. Nawrocki will give a public presentation of the audit report to the Board of Education and the community at the November 5 Board meeting.

**BUSINESS
DEPARTMENT
UPDATE**

Mr. Schissler reported that the Nassau County legislature has raised concerns and tax questions regarding PSEG not paying their full amount of taxes. He addressed the potential impact of the removal of LIPA properties from the Tax Roll. The removal of these properties will result in a reduction of the school district tax levies that have already been set and fixed for the 2015-16 school year, based on approved budgets. The County must decide whether to accept or reject PILOT payments (payment in lieu of taxes) which would compensate the County for some or all of the tax revenue that it lost. There is a possibility that districts may face a revenue shortfall next year if the full amount of anticipated PILOTs are not received by Nassau County from LIPA and distributed to the school districts. Mr. Schissler commented that there is a minimal amount of LIPA assessed property in our town, so the impact would be a negligible amount.

**CURRICULUM AND
INSTRUCTION**

Mrs. Pollitt thanked the Board for appointing Tillie McNamara as the Director of Educational Programs and Staff Development. Her dedication, knowledge and professionalism have been a tremendous asset in moving us along our instructional goals.

Mrs. Pollitt stated that there has been a lot of staff development in September:

- ENL Integrated Services and Co-Teaching to support the new modules of ENL services within each building.
- Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Training
- LLI Training
- Teachscape training for Administrators
- Calibration Walkthroughs- non-evaluative collection of evidence to align to new rubric

Mentor Plan - Mrs. McNamara has begun the process of recruiting mentors for our new teachers.

Teacher Center Courses - We will be joining forces again with the component districts and to offer new courses on Literacy and Math. We will be producing a joint catalog through My Learning Plan.

Math Acceleration Program: The High School District will begin with the present fifth grade cohort. David Seinfeld will be attending our ATM on October 7 to give an overview of the programs. On October 9 the sixth grade teachers will participate in a joint professional development with all component districts. There will be a Parent University at the end of October for fifth grade parents to provide information on the program.

**TECHNOLOGY
UPDATE**

Mr. Fischetti reported that the Barracuda Disaster Recovery Unit installed at Gunther is backing up all district data in-house. Data is also backed up in two locations by Barracuda - at their facilities and in the cloud. Cloud space is owned and operated by Barracuda and is not a third party cloud service.

**TECHNOLOGY
UPDATE**

Mr. Fischetti thanked the Board for expanding the instructional staff of the Technology Department. By adding a third teacher to the staff allows for an instructional technology staff member in every building for approximately 15 instructional blocks per week.

The Technology teachers attended Data Warehouse training so that they can continue to work with teachers and principals in locating, organizing and analyzing data. They also attended Danielson teacher training workshops so that they can be resources to all teachers as we all work to better understand this new rubric.

Through a State grant, we were able to obtain 24 laptops free of charge that were prepped and assigned to the ALPHA program. Mrs. Angert has expressed an interest in doing the stock market game, as well as using a program called SCRATCH to teach software coding with the students.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated September 24, 2015. Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

CPSE/CSE

**NEW BUSINESS
CONTRACTS**

Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the following contracts for the 2015-16 school year:

- Cleary School for the Deaf
- Levittown UFSD

Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

Mrs. Lanci moved that the North Bellmore Board of Education approve the attached proposal with Crossfit Merrick to provide professional development for the physical education teachers on October 29, 2015 for a 90-minute session. Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

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Mr. Medina (Natta Blvd.) expressed concern about the security of the disaster recovery unit and wanted to know if the students' information is safeguarded. Mr. Fischetti stated that Barracuda owns and operates its own cloud space and does not farm it out.

Mr. Medina stated that he sent a letter to Mr. DeTommaso and Mrs. Testa regarding a STEM program curriculum and wanted to know what the district is doing to move the children along. He asked if we could start the program now in the ALPHA program. He also asked if we can use the funds from the grant from Leg. Venditto to fund the program. Mrs. Testa confirmed that she received the letter and stated that we are looking at the New Generation Science Standards and NYIT's engineering program. We are not rushing into a new science program. We will continue to partner with the High School District. We

VISITORS

will look at it and see the benefits of bringing it to the entire population. Mrs. Testa thanked Mr. Median for his correspondence.

Ms. Casucci (Sycamore Ave.) asked why there are no Social Studies and Science Standards. Mrs. Pollitt stated that there are standards. The Social Studies Standards were just revised and the teachers are all trained on the Social Studies Framework curriculum.

Mrs. Pollitt stated that the Next Generation Science Standards are still current. We are working with a science consultant to review our curriculum. We continuously examine our instructional resources. We doubled the amount of hands-on science kits in the district. We teach Social Studies and Science as an integrated approach with Literacy. The Curriculum Department website contains a list of all Social Studies topics by grade level. We will be uploading the Science curriculum next. Mrs. Pollitt thanked Mrs. Casucci for her question.

Mrs. Testa congratulated Mrs. McNamara on her position and for sharing her wealth of knowledge to support the district and achieve more successful student outcomes.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, and carried 4-0, the meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

Mark Schissler, District Clerk