

MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING January 8, 2015

The regular meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, January 8, 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:

Grace Cramsie, President
Peter Mayo, Vice President
John Ferrara
Nina Lanci

The following member of the Board of Education was absent:

JoAnn DeLauter

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
Larry Tenenbaum, District Counsel
Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. Motion was made by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mr. Mayo, to move into executive session to discuss negotiations. Motion was carried 4-0. The meeting reconvened at 8:21 p.m. Mr. Schissler led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Pollitt then read the District's Mission Statement.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Mr. Mayo moved that the Board of Education approve the Minutes from the regular meeting of December 11, 2014. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the special meeting of December 17, 2014. Mrs. Lanci seconded, and the motion was carried 4-0.

ART PRESENTATION Mrs. Testa thanked the Board of Education for celebrating the arts tonight. She recognized the art students for their beautiful artwork and the outstanding art department for meeting the Art Standards and the Common Core Standards. She then turned the meeting over to Mrs. Skelos who coordinates the art program. Mrs. Skelos thanked the Board for the opportunity to present the children's artwork. She thanked the children and the art teachers for all their effort. She then introduced art teachers, Mrs. Emmer and Mrs. Blanc. Each teacher introduced the students and presented them with certificates. Mrs. Cramsie

- ART PRESENTATION** thanked the boys and girls for their art work.
- At 8:30 p.m. the Board adjourned to appreciate the students' artwork. The meeting reconvened at 8:40 p.m.
- VISITORS** There were no questions relating to agenda items only.
- CORRESPONDENCE** Mrs. Cramsie advised that correspondence was received.
- TREASURER'S REPORT** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report for the month ended November 30, 2014. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion and was carried 4-0.
- HIGH SCHOOL REPORT** Mrs. Lanci reported on last night's Board meeting. The Board recognized three students at John F. Kennedy High School, and one student who recently moved out of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, who were named semifinalists in the 2015 Intel Science Talent Search contest. A presentation was given to the Board by Johnson Controls on the Energy Performance Contract. The 2015-16 school calendar was adopted. School will start before Labor Day. The next board meeting will be held on February 4, 2015.
- FINANCE** The Board of Education acknowledged the review of the warrants that have been approved by the Internal Auditor.
- PERSONNEL REPORT** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel Report dated January 8, 2015. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

A.1 Personnel Report

January 8, 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>
7.1 Abramo, Janine	Substitute Teacher		\$95/day	01/09/2015
7.2 Korsah, Beverly	Substitute Teacher		\$95/day	01/09/2015
7.3 Loetman, Samantha	Substitute Teacher		\$95/day	01/06/2015
7.4 O'Connor, Kelly	Substitute Teacher		\$95/day	01/09/2015
7.5 Schapira, Sarah	Substitute Teacher		\$95/day	01/09/2015
7.6 Vetro, Kristina	Substitute Teacher		\$95/day	01/09/2015
<u>Parent Training Services: (not to exceed 1hr 1x/weekly)</u>				
7.7 Meehan, Stephanie	Special Ed. Teacher		\$53.58/hr	01/08/15-4/20/15
<u>Parent Training Services: (not to exceed 1hr 1x/monthly)</u>				
7.8 Meehan, Stephanie	Special Ed. Teacher		\$53.58/hr	01/08/15-4/20/15
<u>Parent Training Services: (not to exceed 1hr 2x/monthly)</u>				
7.9 Meehan, Stephanie	Special Ed. Teacher		\$53.58/hr	01/08/15-4/20/15

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Homebound Services: (not to exceed 2hrs 3x/week)

7.10	Meehan, Stephanie	Special Ed. Teacher	\$53.58/hr	11/18/14-6/24/15
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Internet Safety Parent University Workshop:

7.11	Collins, Karen	Teacher K-6	\$53.58/hr	1/20/2015
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7.12	Smith, Lynne	Teacher K-6	\$53.58/hr	1/20/2015
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Terminations: (Inactive more than 1 year)

7.13	Brodersen, Mary	Substitute Teacher		01/09/2015
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7.14	Casey, Juliane	Substitute Teacher		01/09/2015
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7.15	Rini, Rosemarie	Substitute Teacher		01/09/2015
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7.16	Weinstein, Suzanne	Substitute Teacher		01/09/2015
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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:

		<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
7.17	Cirisano, Marcella	Monitor PT/Sub		\$13.42/hr	01/09/2015
7.18	DeVito, Shanna	Monitor PT/Sub		\$13.42/hr	01/09/2015
7.19	Rodriguez, Lori	Monitor PT/Sub		\$13.42/hr	01/05/2015
7.20	Lynott, Michele	Monitor PT/Sub		\$13.42/hr	01/09/2015
7.21	Spano, Gina	Monitor PT		\$13.42/hr	01/09/2015

Resignation:

7.22	Stabile, Dana	Monitor PT			01/09/2015
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STAFF DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated January 8, 2015. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

2015-2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Mr. Mayo moved that the Board of Education approve the school calendar for 2015-2016. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Testa gave an update on the Saw Mill Road School parking situation. The police department will be doing an assessment of the area and will be providing the district with a report. People are still continuing to park in the no parking zones and the police will be issuing tickets. A Connect-Ed message was sent to the community reminding the Saw Mill Community of important arrival and dismissal safety information. The district is exploring additional parking areas. In the meantime, we will continue to monitor the situation. Mrs. Testa thanked the parents who are following the safety rules. Mrs. Cramsie reminded the community that the Little League parking area is usable and thanked Mr. Rosof for sending out the Connect-Ed message.

Mrs. Testa thanked the Board of Education for appointing Janet Pollitt to the position of Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.

**TECHNOLOGY
PRESENTATION**

Mr. Fischetti gave a presentation on an overview of the Technology Department. Mr. Fischetti explained in detail his responsibility as Director of Technology and the scope of responsibilities of each of the three departments that work in conjunction with each other within the department: Network and IT Support, eSchool Data Administrator and State Data Coordinator and Instructional Technology.

Mr. Fischetti reported on current inventory of technology equipment, inventory growth since 2010, an overview of recent implementations and the technology department's staffing and responsibilities.

Some of the major technology-based implementations since the 2009-2010 school year include: My Learning Plan and OASYS (Observation and Teacher Portfolio Management System), Photo ID badges/swipe card access for all employees, doubled the access to networked computers and laptops for instruction, Smartboards and document cameras in all K-6 classrooms, new district website, fully managed and maintained in-house, eliminating a third party "webmaster", full scale security installation (ongoing), web based software for home use including Typing Instructor and Fastt Math, Avaya IP Office Telephone System--adding phones to every classroom, installed a complete telephone backup system, Nutrikids Lunch Automation program, fully redundant Internet and phone systems, fully networked printers for toner/purchasing and management and "remote" repairs, Follett Library Automation, iPads for instructional use, network and e-mail accounts for all teacher aides and custodians (ongoing), OLAS, IEP Document Repository and Parent Portal (ongoing).

Mr. Fischetti stated that with the support of the Board of Education, and with a careful eye on the district's mission and finances, the Technology Department has been able to provide high quality tools for effective, differentiated instruction, a state of the art network infrastructure, on-going technical and instructional support, research-based technology tools and proven software subscriptions that inspire our students to become confident, passionate learners, a more secure school environment from door locking mechanisms and strobe lights, to video surveillance and swipe card access.

Mr. Fischetti thanked the Board for adding a new part time technology person to the staff. Looking toward the future, Mr. Fischetti recommended making the part time technician a full time position and adding staff to the Data Department to assist Evelyn Comas with the tremendous increase in State reporting.

**BUSINESS
DEPARTMENT
UPDATE**

Mr. Schissler indicated that student enrollment increased by one in January. A letter was sent out to a possible non-resident, in which case, enrollment will decrease by one.

**BUSINESS
DEPARTMENT
UPDATE**

He added that we are moving along well with the budget process. We are still waiting for the Governor's budget plans relative to state aid and revenue and hoping that they allocate a good portion to education.

The Nutrikids program has been very successful. There is a positive trend in the Cafeteria account.

In the Facilities Department there have been some minor heating situations, but they have been handled.

**CURRICULUM AND
INSTRUCTION**

Mrs. Pollitt stated that she is honored to continue to serve the district in her new position as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.

Mrs. Pollitt reported that the Math leaders and principals, Mrs. Hirschfield and Mr. Rosof, attended a *How to Make Math Count* conference at Molloy College today. The information will be shared at the end of the month at the grade level meetings.

Mrs. Pollitt advised that the State Education Department approved the district to use the Title II rollover funds from the 13-14 school year (\$21,000) to purchase leveled books to support the training and implementation of our Guided Reading program. A team of administrators and teachers met with a representative from the Houghton Mifflin Publishing Company to preview the materials and place the order specific to building needs.

Mrs. Pollitt stated that Universal Pre-Kindergarten will be offered again next year, contingent upon State funding. Postcards will be sent out next week reminding parents that the deadline for completing the UPK application is March 20, 2015. The lottery will take place on March 31. Applications are available on our website or can be picked up at the schools.

The next Parent University workshop will be held on January 13 on K-2 Tools for Beginning Readers. On January 20 Nassau County Assistant District Attorney, Ann Donnelly, will present an Internet Safety workshop for parents and 5th and 6th grade students.

Mrs. Cramsie asked about the status of Kindergarten enrollment for September. Mrs. Schissler stated that after registration next week, he will be monitoring the enrollments weekly and will update the Board.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Ms. Eskew reported that we just received information from the State on the NYS Alternative Assessment that puts a restriction on the number of children that can be in that category. Only 1 percent of children in grades 3-6 can be alternatively assessed. The district must apply to the State to exceed the 1 percent cap. Ms. Eskew reported that we will most likely exceed the 1 percent cap. We are working with the attorneys to meet the mid-February deadline. The State wants

SPECIAL EDUCATION

as many children as possible to take the state tests.

Ms. Eskew stated that out-of-district observations of preschool children and children transitioning to middle school are taking place to assess what types of programs are needed for next year.

Ms. Eskew stated that ERR (Expanded Resource Room) classes at Newbridge are starting to grow. Instead of two kindergarten classes at Saw Mill next year, one class will be at Newbridge and one at Saw Mill. Mrs. Eskew thanked Mrs. Hirschfield for making it a successful and very smooth transition for the students in the ERR classes that were added to Newbridge this year.

CSE/CSE

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated January 6, 2015. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

**NEW BUSINESS
CONTRACTS**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the following contracts for the 2014-15 school year:

- Brookville Center for Children's Services, Inc.
- The Hagedorn Little Village School
- Just Kids Early Learning Center
- Kidz Therapy Services
- Mid Island Therapy D/B/A All About Kids

Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

DONATIONS

Mr. Mayo moved that the Board of Education accept a donation of a check in the amount of \$1500 from Christopher and Kathryn Loftin to be used to purchase the following equipment to enhance the music program at Park Avenue School:

- 1 new Trombone
- 1 Sonor Global Beat Deep Bass Xylophone
- 5 Orff Stands for Soprano/Alto instruments

Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education accept a grant from Donors Choose (approximate value \$1638.78) to be used to purchase the following instruments to enhance the general music program at Park Avenue School, specifically, student's composition and improvisations skills:

- 2 Global Beat Alto Xylophone with Fiberglass bars
- 3 Suzuki Soprano Xylophones
- 1 pair of Sonar Head Yard Soprano Xylophone Mallets
- 2 Suzuki Double Headed

Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

VISITORS

Mrs. Grote (Aron Pl.) asked for information on where the additional parking area would be located at Saw Mill. Mrs. Cramsie advised that the Board will be seeking advice from the district's architect to come up with a plan that is the most feasible and the safest for children.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mrs. Lanci and carried 4-0, the Board of Education agreed to enter into Executive Session at 10:13 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular individual.

On a motion by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mr. Ferrara and carried 4-0, the Board reconvened at 11:29 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mr. Mayo and carried 4-0, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

Mark Schissler, District Clerk