

MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING April 16, 2015

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The regular meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, April 16, 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  
JoAnn DeLauter  
John Ferrara  
Nina Lanci

Also present:

Marie Testa, Superintendent of Schools  
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 7:10 p.m. Motion was made by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, to move into executive session to discuss negotiations. Motion was carried 5-0. The meeting reconvened at 8:10 p.m. Mrs. Cramsie 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 March 12, 2015. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.
- VISITORS** There were no questions relating to agenda items only.
- CORRESPONDENCE** Mrs. Cramsie advised that correspondence was received and will be reviewed by the Board.
- TREASURER'S REPORT** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report for the month ended February 28, 2015. Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion and was carried 5-0.
- HIGH SCHOOL REPORT** Mrs. DeLauter reported that there were many presentations at last night's Board meeting. Students from Kennedy were recognized for taking first place in the Virtual Enterprise competition –“On the Move”, Mephram senior, Jamie Marvin, was also recognized for winning first place at the *Poetry Out Loud competition*. The *One Voice One Message One Run* raised a total of \$10,860, which was donated to support pediatric cancer research at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital. The students from Calhoun, Kennedy and Mephram raised approximately \$44,000 for the St. Baldrick's Foundation to support childhood cancer research. The Board

authorized a \$142,802,333 budget for the 2015/16 school year. The proposed levy to levy increase is 2.05%, which is lower than the permissible increase of 2.073%. The budget to budget increase is 2.43%.

**FINANCE**

The Board of Education acknowledged the review of the warrants that have been approved by the Internal Auditor.

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Budgetary Transfers dated April 16, 2015. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**2015/16 BUDGET  
ADOPTION**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education authorize the North Bellmore School District to expend the sum in the General Fund Appropriation in the total amount of \$53,303,507 for the 2015/2016 school year. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

Mrs. Testa stated that tonight is the most rewarding evening as we congratulate the teachers who are receiving tenure.

Mrs. Testa announced that school will be closed on June 25 and May 26 and thanked the Board for approving the days.

The Buildings and Ground Department has been very busy cleaning up the grounds after the winter months. Geronimo Tree Service is pruning trees and shrubbery around the district. Dinkelmeyer, Park and Newbridge schools are completed.

Mrs. Testa thanked the Board for looking at the plans to construct three office spaces, with separate entrances, for reading and speech instruction at Saw Mill. The current classroom that is being utilized is needed for incoming kindergarteners in September. The work will be done over the summer.

THE NYS ELA Assessments began this week. Student participation rate is 37% with a 63% refusal rate. Out of the 1209 eligible students, 762 refused the test. Mrs. Testa stated that every child was treated with dignity and respect. We are focusing on growth and learning and creating a very positive student environment. Mrs. Testa thanked the Board for their support. We are waiting to learn how the refusals will affect the district's AYP and growth scores.

Mrs. Testa announced that she is very proud to recommend eight teachers for tenure: Christine Cevetello, reading teacher at Park Avenue, Danielle Jackson McAllister, elementary teacher at Newbridge, Danielle Kalinowski, elementary teacher at Martin Avenue, Kristen Moir, special education teacher at Martin Avenue, Anastasia Panouis, reading teacher at Saw Mill Road, Janice Pittelli, speech teacher at Saw Mill Road, Caitlin Pugliese, special education teacher at Newbridge Road, Kara Pulsinelli, elementary teacher at Saw Mill Road.

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**PERSONNEL REPORT** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel Report dated April 16, 2015. Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**A.1 PERSONNEL REPORT**

**APRIL 16, 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>
10.1 Carlough, Susan	Substitute Teacher		\$95/day	4/17/2015
10.2 Haugh Dermody, Colleen	Substitute Teacher		\$95/day	4/17/2015
10.3 Murphy, Maureen	Substitute Speech Pathologist		\$95/day	3/31/2015
10.4 Manganella, Sarah	Substitute Teacher		\$95/day	4/17/2015
10.5 O'Neill, Jennifer	Lv. Repl. Special Ed Teacher	95% of 1M	\$299.51/day	4/22/15-6/25/15

**Appointment to Tenure:**

10.6 Cevetello, Christine	Reading Teacher			9/1/2015
10.7 Jackson, Danielle	Teacher K-6			9/1/2015
10.8 Kalinowski, Danielle	Teacher K-6			9/1/2015
10.9 Moir, Kristen	Special Ed. Teacher			9/1/2015
10.10 Panouis, Anastasia	Reading Teacher			9/1/2015
10.11 Pittelli, Janice	Speech Pathologist			9/1/2015
10.12 Pugliese, Caitlyn	Teacher K-6			9/1/2015
10.13 Pulsinelli, Kara	Teacher K-6			9/1/2015

**Parent Training Services:** (not to exceed 1 hour 1x weekly)

10.14 O'Brien, Susan	Special Ed. Teacher		\$53.58/hr	4/27/15-5/22/15
10.15 Meehan, Stephanie	Special Ed. Teacher		\$53.58/hr	3/23/15-6/25/15

**Homebound Behavior Services:** (not to exceed 1 hour 1x weekly)

10.16 Quarta, Samantha	Special Ed. Teacher		\$53.58/hr	3/17/15-4/30/15
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**Homebound Behavior Services:** (not to exceed 1 hour 3x weekly)

10.17 O'Brien, Susan	Special Ed. Teacher		\$53.58/hr	4/27/15-5/22/15
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**Homebound Behavior Services:** (not to exceed 1 hour 5x weekly)

10.18 O'Brien, Susan	Special Ed. Teacher		\$53.58/hr	4/27/15-5/22/15
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**Kindergarten Parent Meeting:**

10.19 Collins, Karen	Teacher K-6		\$42.64/hr	5/19/2015
10.20 Colter, Randee	ESL Teacher		\$42.64/hr	5/19/2015
10.21 Doyle, Lorraine	Teacher K-6		\$42.64/hr	5/19/2015
10.22 Kuhn, Jennie	Teacher K-6		\$42.64/hr	5/19/2015
10.23 Sotirakos, Soula	Teacher K-6		\$42.64/hr	5/19/2015
10.24 Squicciarini, Phyllis	Librarian		\$42.64/hr	5/19/2015

**Family Medical Leave of Absence:**

10.25 Horvath, Laura Jean	Teacher K-6			4/30/15-5/8/15
10.26 Ciancimino, Karen	Special Ed. Teacher			4/22/15-6/25/15

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**Extension of Unpaid Parental Leave of Absences:**

10.27	Brugge, Danica	Teacher K-6	9/1/15-6/30/16
10.28	Alduino, Lori	Special Ed. Teacher	9/1/15-6/30/16
10.29	McGonigle, Robin	Teacher K-6	9/1/15-6/30/16

**Resignations:**

10.30	Brolly, Jeanine	Substitute Teacher	3/11/2015
10.31	O'Connor, Kelley	Substitute Teacher	3/18/2015

***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>	
10.32	Guagliardo, Salvatore	Cleaner PT/Sub	1	\$16.08/hr	04/17/2015
10.33	O'Connor, Brian	Cleaner PT/Sub	1	\$16.08/hr	04/17/2015
10.34	Hinojosa, Amy	Food Svr Hlp PT/Sub	1	\$12.78/hr	04/17/2015
10.35	Hinojosa, Amy	Monitor PT/Sub		\$13.42/hr	04/17/2015
10.36	Papasodero, Cristine	Monitor PT/Sub		\$13.42/hr	04/17/2015
10.37	Cruz, Massiel	Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	04/14/2015
10.38	Donnelly, Tasha	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	1	\$17.10/hr	04/17/2015
10.39	Arbsfeld, Leslee	From: Teacher Aide PT/Sub To: Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	12/22/2014
10.40	Azzara, Tonia	From: Teacher Aide PT/Sub To: Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	01/22/2015
10.41	Badenhop, Joyce	From: Teacher Aide PT/Sub To: Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	10/22/2014
10.42	Blume, Jaymie	From: Teacher Aide PT/Sub To: Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	01/20/2015
10.43	Coster, Jean	From: Teacher Aide PT/Sub To: Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	11/10/2014
10.44	Koch-Baron, Laura	From: Teacher Aide PT/Sub To: Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	10/01/2014
10.45	Mavridis, Kayley	From: Teacher Aide PT/Sub To: Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	12/22/2014
10.46	Soregaroli, Jeanine	From: Teacher Aide PT/Sub To: Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	11/10/2014
10.47	Williams, Stephanie	From: Teacher Aide PT/Sub To: Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	10/28/2014

**Resignations:**

10.48	Tierney, Barbara	Teacher Aide PT	3/20/2015
10.49	Gutierrez, Massiel	Monitor PT/Sub	3/27/2015
10.50	Aruanno, Lorraine	Monitor PT/Sub	4/17/2015
10.51	Koch-Baron, Laura	Monitor PT/Sub	4/17/2015
10.52	Beris, Andrea	Monitor PT/Sub	4/17/2015

**Terminations:**

10.53	Adlerstein, Amy	Monitor PT/Sub	4/17/2015
10.54	Apollo, Karen	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	4/17/2015
10.55	Giacomello, Lorraine	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	4/17/2015

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10.56 Vetro, Kristina Teacher Aide PT/Sub 4/17/2015

Change to March 12, 2015 Personnel Report

Appointment: (Last name)

9.33 Daly, Maureen Teacher Aide PT 1 \$17.10/hr 03/13/2015

**A.1 Personnel Report  
 Addendum**

**APRIL 16, 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>
<u>Parent Training Services:</u> (not to exceed eight 1hr sessions)				
10.57	Meehan, Stephanie	Special Ed. Teacher	\$53.58/hr	04/20/2015-06/19/15
<u>Parent Training Services:</u> (not to exceed six 1hr sessions)				
10.58	Egan, Christine	Special Ed. Teacher	\$53.58/hr	04/20/2015-06/19/15

**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.

**Return from Family Medical leave:**

10.59 Cullen, Carolyn Teacher Aide FT 4/16/2015

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
 REPORT**

Mrs. Testa congratulated all the newly tenured teachers on meeting the district's high standards and expectations and thanked them for all their past contributions, as well as their continued dedication and efforts to the children in the district.

In addition to the principals and staff members, Ms. Colter, on behalf of the NBTA, as well as representatives from the Martin Avenue, Newbridge Road, Park Avenue and Saw Mill PTAs, SEPTA and the Coordinating Council all extended their congratulations and welcome to the teachers and presented them with flowers.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mrs. Cramsie congratulated and welcomed the newly tenured teachers.

The meeting recessed at 9:15 p.m. for refreshments. The meeting reconvened at 9:40 p.m.

**STAFF  
 DEVELOPMENT  
 REPORT**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated April 16, 2015. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**EMPLOYMENT  
AGREEMENT**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve an employment agreement with Frank Russo for the 2015-16 school year. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**BUSINESS  
DEPARTMENT**

In Mr. Schissler's absence, Mrs. Testa thanked the Board for adopting the budget. The next budget hearing, which is coordinated through the PTA Coordinating Council, will be held on April 20 at Martin Avenue at 7 pm. The annual budget meeting will precede the Board of Education meeting on May 12. The budget vote will be held on May 19 from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Newbridge Road School. We are moving forward with the budget process.

**CURRICULUM AND  
INSTRUCTION**

Mrs. Pollitt reported that there are changes to the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) this year. Ms. Fredrickson has attended full day of training to learn about the changes and will turnkey the information to the other ESL teachers. Mrs. Pollitt met with the ESL teachers on Monday to set the schedule for the speaking portion of the NYSESLAT and will meet again to review the reading, writing and listening portions of the test. We will be hiring additional ESL teachers for next year. The first round of ESL interviews is complete. Several candidates are scheduled to advance to the demonstration round. Final candidates will be interviewed by the Superintendent.

Erica Pecorale has been providing Guided Reading coaching in all of the K-2 classrooms. She is providing individual sessions, analyzing districtwide reading caseloads and assessing student data to help design more effective lessons. A specialized intensive Wilson Training program is being scheduled for June for all reading teachers.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION**

In Ms. Eskew's absence, Mrs. Testa reported that a Special Olympics program was started in the district and thanked Mrs. Egland, SEPTA and Ms. Eskew for bringing the program forth. It has been a very rewarding program for the students and the volunteers. Ms. Eskew is currently meeting with the principals and special education teams to work on staffing and student placements for next year.

Dr. Lerner, from Stony Brook University, presented at the SEPTA meeting this week on understanding and treating children with autism spectrum disorders. Mrs. Testa thanked SEPTA for bringing in this dynamic, cutting edge speaker. The meeting had a wonderful turnout by parents and our teachers.

**NEW BUSINESS  
CONTRACTS**

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

- Applied Data Services
- Frances Bacon
- Bellmore UFSD
- Creative Tutoring

**CONTRACTS**

- Cullen & Danowski
- Education Incorporated
- Freeport UFSD
- Homecare Therapies LLC (2015/16)
- Dr. Suzanne Kowal-Connelly (2015/16)
- Metro Therapy, Inc. (2015/16)
- North Merrick UFSD
- South Huntington UFSD
- Variety Child Learning Center
- Westbury UFSD
- Zycron Industries,

Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve a contract with Creative Tutoring for the 2014/15 school year. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**DONATIONS**

Mr. Mayo moved that the Board of Education accept a donation from the Newbridge Road School PTA in the amount of \$200 to be used to pay for students that can't afford to participate in trips in the Newbridge Road School. Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a donation from the Foundation for Academics, Enrichment and Recreation in the amount of \$5,000 to be used to purchase new indoor recess activity games for each of the North Bellmore Schools (\$1,000 each). Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mr. Mayo moved that the Board of Education accept a check in the amount of \$440 from the Newbridge Road School PTA, to be used to offset the sixth grade canoe trip for the Newbridge sixth grade students. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**PROPERTY TAX  
FREEZE CREDIT**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education enter into an agreement with Bellmore UFSD, Merrick UFSD, Bellmore-Merrick CHSD and North Merrick UFSD to develop and file a multi-district efficiency plan in order that our District residents qualify for the "Property Tax Freeze Credit" established in State Law in 2014. Bellmore-Merrick CHSD will assume the role of Lead agency for the purpose of this Plan. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**POLL WATCHERS**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education appoint the following as poll watchers for the 2015/2016 Annual Budget Vote and Election:  
Anne Barbera, Karen Hartnett, Sandra Finck, Michael J. Bevilacqua, Grace Pelant, Karen Guerra, Dianne Lawson, Janice Gentile, Christine Kropp, Modesta Lombardo, Nicholas Bazarewski, Jean Farragher, Irene Ebert, Elizabeth Dunn, Justine Barbera-Brazas, Carol Sena, Kim Cavanagh, Patti Lombardo (Substitute),

Roseann Moskowitz (Substitute), Mary Grace Roach (Substitute), Dianne Agoglia (Substitute), Mary Wesselhoft (Substitute), Marjorie Hoffmann (Substitute), Linda Donovan (Substitute). Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**QUESTAR III  
AGREEMENT**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education hereby approves a Fund Surplus Resolution Agreement and Release with Questar III – BOCES Rensselaer, Columbia and Greene Counties regarding the return to the District of funds accumulated for future liabilities relating to post-employment benefits, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President is hereby authorized to execute said Agreement on the Board's behalf. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**INTER-MUNICIPAL  
COOPERATIVE  
TRANSPORTATION  
AGREEMENT FOR  
THE 2015/16  
SCHOOL YEAR**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a number of public school districts in Nassau County wish to jointly solicit proposals, together with the Nassau Board of Cooperative Educational Services ("BOCES") for pupil transportation services for the 2015-2016 school year and Summer 2014 (and any renewal period) in accordance with the applicable provisions of General Municipal Law;

WHEREAS, the public school districts and the BOCES have agreed to form a Cooperative (the "Cooperative") for this purpose;

WHEREAS, the North Bellmore School District is desirous of participating in the Cooperative for joint solicitation of proposals for pupil transportation services as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Transportation Agreement attached hereto;

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 Transportation Agreement attached hereto and authorizes the Board President to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Civil Service Law Section 75, the Board of Education of the North Bellmore Union Free School District hereby approves and prefers disciplinary charges dated April 16, 2015 against a member of the Civil Service staff, named in confidential Attachment "A"; and

**CIVIL SERVICE  
DISCIPLINARY  
CHARGES**



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby appoints Arthur Riegel, Esq. to serve as hearing officer in such disciplinary matter.  
Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**VISITORS**

Mrs. Grote (Aron Pl.) asked if a decision was made about adding a parking lot at Saw Mill Road School. Mrs. Cramsie stated that it is still under discussion.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Ferrara and carried 5-0, the Board of Education agreed to enter into Executive Session at 9:56 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular member of the staff.

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Ferrara and carried 5-0, the Board reconvened at 11:05 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mrs. DeLauter and carried 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 11:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

Mark Schissler, District Clerk