

MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING October 10, 2013

The regular meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, October 10, 2013, 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:

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

Also present:

Marie Testa, Superintendent of Schools
Carol Eskew, Deputy Superintendent
Mark Schissler, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Jason Fischetti, Director of Technology
Janet Pollitt, Curriculum and Instruction
Frank Russo, Director of Facilities
Carol Melnick, District Counsel
Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:18 p.m. by Board of Education President, Nina Lanci. Mrs. Lanci led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Mayo then read the District's Mission Statement.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Minutes from the regular meeting of September 12, 2013 and the Minutes from the special meeting of September 19, 2013. Mr. Mayo seconded, and the motion was carried 5-0.

**SPECIAL
PRESENTATION**

Mr. Nawrocki of Nawrocki Smith LLP gave a presentation of the Fiscal 2013 External Audit to the Board of Education. In summary, the auditor's report expresses a "Clean" or unmodified opinion on the financial statements. All annual reports were filed on a timely basis with New York State. There were no audit adjustments to accounts needed. Mr. Nawrocki gave an overview of the District-wide financial statements and Governmental fund statements. Two current year recommendations were made in the area of vendor database maintenance. Of the nine prior year recommendations for improving accounting procedures and internal controls, seven were noted to be implemented and two are receiving further consideration for implementation in the upcoming year. Mrs. DeLauter added that the Audit Committee was very satisfied with the report.

VISITORS

Mr. Amara asked if a summary of the audit report could be made public. Mr. Schissler advised that the auditor's report will be put on the website.

- CORRESPONDENCE** Mrs. Lanci advised that correspondence was received and will be addressed by the Board.
- TREASURER'S REPORT** Mr. Mayo moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report for the month ended August 31, 2013. Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion and was carried 5-0.
- HIGH SCHOOL REPORT** Mrs. DeLauter reported that at the October 7 meeting the Board authorized a vote date of December 2 to vote on a \$40,896 million bond that will be used to make improvements to all five schools in the district, as well as adding turf fields to all five schools. Of this amount, 53.9 percent (\$425,894 million) will be funded through NYS building aid. It is anticipated that it will cost the average household in the district approximately \$104 a year. Voting will take place at Newbridge Road School from 6 a.m. – 9 p.m. Mrs. DeLauter added that the list of proposed building projects can be found on the district's website.
- FINANCE** The Board of Education acknowledged the review of the warrants that have been approved by the Internal Auditor.
- BUDGETARY TRANSFERS** Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Budgetary Transfers dated October 10, 2013. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.
- Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept the Audit of the financial records of the district for the 2012-13 school year by Nawrocki Smith LLP and directs that all proper filings be completed. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.
- SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** Mrs. Testa reported that the principals, teachers and administrators have been working diligently to align the instructional program and develop a curricular framework that meets the rigor of the Common Core Standards. Mrs. Testa thanked the parents for their support in this endeavor.
- Mrs. Testa stated that, according to Education Law, parents may request the final rating and overall effectiveness score for each teacher and building principal their student is assigned to in the current school year. Only the overall composite score will be provided. The scores will be available in October as soon as they are finalized by the State. Once a process is developed to provide the scores to parents, it will be posted on the district's website.
- Mrs. Testa thanked the community for their cooperation and for calling the police when they see strangers on the school grounds. The police department has increased surveillance of the Martin Avenue grounds over the weekend. A Additional security measures have been put in place that allows for monitoring the interior and exterior of the buildings.

In an effort to improve student safety, Mrs. Testa reported that speed awareness signs have been placed at Saw Mill Road and Park Avenue schools. The signs were purchased with the assistance of Town Supervisor Kate Murray and a grant that was secured through Senator Fuschillo.

Mrs. Testa reminded the parents that, in accordance with Project SAVE, Emergency Preparedness drills will take place on Friday, October 11 and students will be dismissed at 2:45 p.m.

PERSONNEL REPORT Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel Report dated October 10, 2013. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

A.1 PERSONNEL REPORT

October 10, 2013

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 Azus, Allison	Lv. Repl. Psychologist	95% of 1D	\$71,904.55/yr	11/05/2013-06/24/2014
4.2 Mele, Ann	PT Reading Teacher		\$31.93/hr	10/01/2013-06/24/2014
4.3 Pinello, Melissa	Lv. Repl. Teacher K-6		\$299.51/day	10/15/2013-12/06/2013

Home Services: *(not to exceed three one hour sessions)*

4.4 Brady, Lauren	Psychologist		\$53.64/hr	10/01/2013
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Home Services: *(not to exceed 30 minutes weekly)*

4.5 Perrick, Ellen	Social Worker		\$53.64/hr	09/03/2013-06/24/2014
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Internet Safety Presentation: *(not to exceed 2 hours)*

4.6 Collins, Karen	Teacher K-6		\$53.58/hr	10/22/2013
4.7 DiChiara, Leslie	Teacher K-6		\$53.58/hr	10/22/2013
4.8 Smith, Lynne	Teacher K-6		\$53.58/hr	10/22/2013
4.9 Stack, Jenna	Technology Teacher		\$53.58/hr	10/22/2013

Family Medical Leave of Absence:

4.10 Dejak, Keri	Psychologist			11/05/2013-02/07/2014
4.11 Pais, Susan	Teacher K-6			10/15/2013-12/06/2013

Unpaid Parental Leave of Absence:

4.12 Dejak, Keri	Psychologist			02/10/2014-06/24/2014
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Change of Status:

4.13 Yencharis, Amy	From: 3B to 3M	(+4,055.08)	\$32,332.78/yr	09/01/2013
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Resignations:

4.14 Sandowski, Jami	Substitute Teacher			10/11/2013
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Terminations:

4.15 Angert, Stephanie	Substitute Teacher			10/11/2013
4.16 Carbone, Julia	Substitute Teacher			10/11/2013
4.17 Fotinos, Maria	Substitute Teacher			10/11/2013

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4.18	Riolo, Dawn	Substitute Teacher			10/11/2013
4.19	Srenka, Andrew	Substitute Teacher			10/11/2013
4.20	Fogarty, Marlene	Substitute Teacher			10/11/2013

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.

<u>Appointments:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>	
4.21	Ferreri, Elizabeth	Reg. Nurse PT/Sub	\$28.98/hr	10/11/2013	
4.22	Arnold-Velazquez, Melissa	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	1	\$17.10/hr	10/11/2013
4.23	Classie, Maria	Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	10/04/2013
4.24	Drachtman, Randi	Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	10/04/2013
4.25	DeNicola, Anne	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	1	\$17.10/hr	10/11/2013
4.26	Keane, Mary Kate	Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	10/04/2013
4.27	Licato, Lisa	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	1	\$17.10/hr	10/04/2013
4.28	Margolis, Lisa	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	1	\$17.10/hr	10/11/2013
4.29	McGrath, Patricia	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	1	\$17.10/hr	10/04/2013
4.30	Pearsall, Brittany	Teacher Aide PT	1	\$17.10/hr	10/07/2013
4.31	Schefer, Theresa	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	1	\$17.10/hr	10/11/2013

Resignation:

4.32	Keane, MaryKate	Lunch Monitor PT/Sub			10/03/2013
4.33	Aiello, Toni Ann	Lunch Monitor PT			10/11/2013

Terminations:

4.34	Igwilo, Alexander	Reg. Nurse PT/Sub			10/11/2013
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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.

ADDENDUM

A.1 PERSONNEL REPORT

October 10, 2013

<u>Appointments:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>	<u>Prob.</u>
4.35	Kaneras, Maria	Substitute Teacher		\$95/day	10/11/2013
<u>District Math Leaders:</u>					
4.36	Brust, Lynda	Teacher K-6		\$1500/stipend	9/01/2013-6/24/2014
4.37	Fischetti, Antonietta	Teacher K-6		\$1500/stipend	9/01/2013-6/24/2014
4.38	Frank, Andrea	Teacher K-6		\$1500/stipend	9/01/2013-6/24/2014
4.39	Kerning, Monica	Teacher K-6		\$1500/stipend	9/01/2013-6/24/2014
4.40	O'Brien, James	Teacher K-6		\$1500/stipend	9/01/2013-6/24/2014
4.41	Potucek, Josephine	Teacher K-6		\$1500/stipend	9/01/2013-6/24/2014
4.42	Vento, Margaret	Teacher K-6		\$1500/stipend	9/01/2013-6/24/2014

Internet Safety Presentation: (not to exceed 3 hours)

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4.43	DiChiara, Leslie	Technology Teacher	\$78.28/hr	08/26/2013
Change of Status:				
4.44	Angert, Gayle	From:12M+30 to 12M+45	\$105,493/yr (+2,958)	09/01/2013

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.

Appointment:	Title	Step	Rate	Eff. Date
4.45	Agosta, Kristine	From: Lunch Monitor PT/Sub To: Lunch Monitor PT	\$13.42/hr	10/11/2013

STAFF DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated October 10, 2013. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Mr. Schissler reported that the Nassau County school taxes are higher than expected. Although the voters in North Bellmore approved a 2.5 percent tax levy change in the school budget in May, the tax rate percent change is 5.04 percent. Mr. Schissler explained that this is due in most part to reduced tax assessments and successful tax challenges in Nassau County. Mr. Schissler noted that North Bellmore has the fifth lowest increase of the 52 school districts.

Mr. Schissler reminded the community that in order to continue receiving the NYS Basic Star Exemption, homeowners must register with the NYS Tax Department by December 31, or their exemption will be removed.

Mrs. DeLauter questioned North Bellmore's share of the high school district's budget. Mr. Schissler advised that North Bellmore pays the highest portion, which is approximately 29 percent.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Mr. Russo reported that Intralogic will be completing their work at Newbridge very shortly and everything is going smoothly. Work will begin at Saw Mill once Newbridge is complete. Mr. Russo thanked the community for calling the fire department and police department at Martin Avenue over the weekend. Mr. Mayo thanked Mr. Russo and the community for their quick response.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Mrs. Pollitt thanked the Board members who attended the first Parent University, which focused the Common Core Learning. She stated that 150 parents attended the program. The next Parent University will address the district's online subscriptions.

Mrs. Pollitt reported that she has met with the Curriculum Department at the high school to address the Common Core and ensure that our programs are vertically aligned. The Writing Facilitators Committee is working to align components of the ELA modules with current writing benchmarks. The math leaders will meet next week to address the Common Core and work on

implementing the new math modules. An ELA consultant will be in the district in November and December to provide professional development for the teachers and will focus on Balanced Literacy and assist in evaluating our current programs in terms of Common Core alignment.

TECHNOLOGY UPATE

Mr. Fischetti reported that we received the boxes to connect all the telephones in the classrooms. The telephones will be put on a table in the back of the classrooms where the drops are located. He added that teachers will need a pin number to make a call. No outside calls will come through during the day.

Mr. Fischetti reported that he is collaborating with High School District to learn about their technology initiatives and ways to bridge the gap to the high school district. Ms. Stack and Ms. DiChiara are planning research projects for the fifth graders, as part of the entire writing and research process. Technology professional development sessions were held yesterday for fourth grade teachers on *Study Island*, a web based program that is Common Core aligned and supports the ELA and Math curriculum. *ExamView* was also introduced, which works in conjunction with *EnVisions* math.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
CPSE/CSE**

Mrs. Eskew reported that we are working with the High School district to get the Senior Experience Program up and running. A protocol is being set up to give parents APPR composite scores of teachers and principals. The procedure for placing student teachers and student observers in the district has been revised and is in place. Mrs. Eskew stated that she and Mrs. Testa have been conducting observations of the teachers and noted that, despite feelings of anxiety related to the changes in student learning and new standards, she was very pleased with what the children were able to achieve in the classroom and extremely excited to see how the students and teachers are adjusting to the higher expectations.

Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated October 3, 2013. Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**NEW BUSINESS
CONTRACTS**

Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education approve the following contracts for the 2013/14 school year:

- Bellmore UFSD
- Family Pediatric Home Care
- Port Washington UFSD
- Valley Stream UFSD #13

POLICY No. 6830

Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education re-adopt the following policy and revised regulation:

Policy No. 6830 and 6830-R - Expense Reimbursement

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

DONATIONS

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a Target: Take Charge of Education check in the amount of \$404.61 to be used to help pay field trip fees for children in need at Dinkelmeyer School. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education accept the following checks totaling \$2,055, to purchase materials/books to support the Common Core Learning Standards for Newbridge Road students:

- Target Take Charge of Education \$703.68
- Stop and Shop (Ahold Financial Svcs.) \$490.36
- General Mills Box Tops for Education \$860.96

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

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a donation of six Character Education signs to be used to reinforce character traits throughout the Park Avenue School (valued at \$120). Mrs. Cramsie seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mrs. Delauter moved that the Board of Education accept a Target: Take Charge of Education check in the amount of \$701.56, to be used to extend classroom libraries and for school trip scholarships for students of Saw Mill Road School. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

CONTRACTS

Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the following contracts for the 2013-14 school year:

- Elisse Arnell
- Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf

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

MONITORS

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the North Bellmore Board of Education, Location code 72838, hereby establishes the following as standard work days for its employees and will report days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the time keeping system or the record of activities maintained and submitted by these members to the clerk of this body:

Title: School Monitors Standard Work Day: 6 hours

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

**APPOINTMENT OF
HEARING OFFICER**

Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education appoints Mark Schissler to serve as a hearing officer in the matter of a Section 75 hearing concerning a civil service employee as set forth in confidential attachment "A". Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

VISITORS

Mr. Ptacek (Oak St.) thanked the district for the rapid repair of the outside lights at Martin Avenue and repairing the fence. He asked when will all the fences be repaired and the brush removed. Mr. Russo responded that the maintenance crew will be doing trimming and a tree service will be hired to do additional cutting.

Mr. Amara (Columbus Ave.) asked the status of the New York State Reward Schools. Mrs. Testa indicated that a report will be given at the November Board meeting.

Mrs. Shuart (Sherman Ave.) asked about the timeline for implementing science and social studies standards. Mrs. Testa stated that collaboration between the district and teachers has already started, however, there is no deadline.

Mrs. Erhard (Taft St.) asked if it has been determined which students will receive AIS services. Mrs. Testa advised that each student who will be receiving services has been notified.

Mrs. Gambino (Acorn Pl.) and (Stratford Ct.) expressed concern about security issues at Saw Mill and the lack of a greeter/security person in the entrance of the school. She stated that the playground is wide open and needs to be more restricted by fencing and offered to make a donation to fix the fence. Mrs. Testa responded that there is a surveillance system in place, and the district's first priority is keeping children safe. She added that Mr. Russo and Mr. Schissler will look into the fencing at Saw Mill.

Mrs. Ardale (Stratford Ct.) also spoke of her security concerns at Saw Mill and recommended that the district hire security guards.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Mayo and carried 5-0, the Board of Education agreed to enter into Executive Session at 10:23 p.m. discuss a particular personnel matter.

PUBLIC SESSION

On a motion by Mrs. Cramsie, seconded by Mr. Ferrara and carried 5-0, the Board of Education reconvened at 12:44 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Mayo and carried 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

Mark Schissler, District Clerk