

MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING December 12, 2013

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The regular meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, December 12, 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  
John Ferrara

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 8:25 p.m. by Board of Education President, Nina Lanci. Mrs. Lanci led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. DeLauter then read the District's Mission Statement.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education approve the Minutes from the regular meeting of November 14, 2013 and the Minutes from the special meeting of November 19, 2013. Mr. Mayo seconded, and the motion was carried 5-0.
- CORRESPONDENCE** Mrs. Lanci advised that correspondence has been received and is under review.
- TREASURER'S REPORT** Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report for the month ended October 31, 2013. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion and was carried 5-0.
- HIGH SCHOOL REPORT** Mrs. DeLauter reported on the meetings of November 13 and December 4. The Board acknowledged the district's 2013 Nassau County Cross Country Champions and All State athletes from Calhoun and Kennedy's All State and Nassau County and Long Island Volleyball Champions. Mrs. DeLauter thanked the community for voting on the Bond referendum. Mrs. DeLauter outlined a timeline for the projects, which will be done in four phases. Phase 1 will start in summer 2014, with the majority of the work being done in Phase 2--summer 2015 and Phase 3--summer 2016. The remaining work will be completed in

Phase 4--summer 2017. A list of project phasing can be found on the district website. The Board adopted resolutions on High Stakes Testing and the Superstorm Sandy Assessment Relief Act. The next meeting will be held on January 8, 2014.

**FINANCE**

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

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

Mrs. Testa reported that she has been spending a lot of time in the schools performing teacher observations and informal walkthroughs with the principals and noted that everyone is working hard as a team to create strong common core base. She advised that a few of the winter concerts needed to be rescheduled due to the weather and thanked the high school district for their consideration in rescheduling. Mrs. Testa advised that students will be sharing their musical talents for the people of Long Island at a holiday concert at MacArthur airport tomorrow morning. Student representatives from all schools will be participating in the Bellmore Holiday tree lighting tomorrow evening. Mrs. Testa highlighted the many ways students are living the mission and contributing to our global community: Thanksgiving food drives to benefit local families, Toys for Tots, Pennies for Island Harvest, coat drives, candy for troops, John Theissen toy drives (in collaboration with the PTAs), Toys for Sandy, Mail for Heroes.

Mrs. Testa stated that Atlantic Transportation has filed for bankruptcy. Mr. Schissler explained that the Board is being asked to pass two resolutions regarding this action: One resolution is to protect the school district's interests and the other resolution is to give the Superintendent authorization to accept a bid concerning assignment of a new transportation company, to ensure a seamless transition for the students.

**BUSINESS  
DEPARTMENT  
UPDATE**

Mr. Schissler reported that the business office is working on the 2014-15 school budget and is in the process of gathering information from the various departments. Final approval for the elevator lift at Newbridge has been received and the lift will be installed over the summer.

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel Report dated December 12, 2013. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**A.1 PERSONNEL REPORT**

**December 12, 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.

NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING December 12, 2013

<u>Appointments:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>	
6.01	Grieco, Cathy	Substitute Teacher	\$95/day	12/13/2013	
6.02	Giusto, Nicole	Lv. Repl. Teacher K-6	95% of 1M	\$59,902.25/yr (prorated)	1/02/2014 -06/24/2014
<u>Active Parenting Now Workshops: (not to exceed 6 hours)</u>					
6.03	Perrick, Ellen	Social Worker	\$53.58/hr	1/21/2014-2/4/2014	
6.04	Signorelli, JoAnn	Social Worker	\$53.58/hr	1/21/2014-2/4/2014	
<u>Unpaid Parental Leave of Absence:</u>					
6.05	Licci, Amanda	Teacher K-6		1/02/2014 -06/24/2014	
<u>Resignation:</u>					
6.06	Negron, Jeffrey	Substitute Teacher		12/13/2013	

Correction to November 14, 2013 Personnel Report

Home Services (not to exceed 10 hours per week): (Change of rate)

5.10	Heaney, Janet	Teacher K-6	\$53.58/hr	9/24/2013-6/23/2014
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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.

<u>Appointment:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>	
6.07	Donovan, Linda	Sr. Typist Clerk	4	\$40,134/yr (prorated)	12/16/2013
<u>Termination:</u>	<u>Title</u>			<u>Eff. Date</u>	
6.08	Van Asco, Jan	Sr. Typist Clerk		12/17/2013	

**Addendum**

**A.1 Personnel Report**

**December 12, 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>	<u>Prob.</u>
6.09	Krause, Valerie	Substitute Teacher	\$95/day	12/13/2013	
6.10	Metzger, Steve	Substitute Teacher	\$95/day	12/13/2013	
6.11	Roach, Amanda	Substitute Teacher	\$95/day	12/13/2013	
<u>Home Services: (not to exceed 5 hours per week)</u>					
6.12	Kalinowski, Danielle	Teacher K-6	\$53.58/hr	12/11/2013-6/23/2014	

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

Mr. Mayo moved that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated December 12, 2013. Mrs. Cramsie seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**BUILDINGS AND  
GROUNDS**

Mr. Russo reported that repairs are being done to bathrooms throughout the district. Fire safety inspections took place districtwide and no major problems were reported. Mr. Russo thanked the principals for their support. The storage container was removed from Martin Avenue School.

**CURRICULUM AND  
INSTRUCTION**

Mrs. Pollitt reported that the Parent University on web-based district subscriptions on December 2 was very successful and thanked the technology staff for their support. Mrs. Pollitt met with the Report Card Committee and reviewed samples of other districts' report cards and the math portion of our report card. The Project Save Committee met to discuss building-wide safety plans. Mrs. Pollitt thanked Mrs. DeLauter, the principals and students for their feedback and input. Staff development within the district continues with Erica Percorale on Guided Reading. The Math Leaders will meet on December 16 to go over the 2014 test guides. Mrs. Pollitt announced that post cards will be mailed out to parents in January to participate in the lottery for the Universal Pre-K program. The deadline for completing the UPK application is March 21, 2014. Mrs. Pollitt added that she met with the component districts' Assistant Superintendents for Curriculum to discuss APPR, Report Cards, and State Assessments.

**TECHNOLOGY UPATE**

In recognition of Computer Science Education Week, Mr. Fischetti reported that technology teachers are teaching the Hour of Code to the 6<sup>th</sup> graders. A pilot program computer club will be starting with the 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Newbridge Road School at lunch time. In response to teachers' requests for document cameras, the district will be purchasing document cameras for all 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes and later on for grades K-2. Mr. Fischetti stated that we are continuing to make progress with the security project. Intralogic is near completion with the installation of the security cameras and the district should be going live soon.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Ms. Eskew reported that Mr. Arlin, Director of Special Education at the High School District, has been attending the 6th grade transition meetings, and it has been very beneficial. Ms. Eskew thanked Mrs. Astrow and Mrs. Eglund for inviting the CHSD to attend the recently scheduled SEPTA meeting and emphasized the importance of parents learning about the programs at the high school district. Unfortunately, the meeting was canceled due to the weather and needs to be rescheduled.

Ms. Eskew noted that paraprofessional and teacher negotiations continue. The principals attended a full day program on Crisis Prevention training given by Mrs. Kaminska. The training focused on de-escalation strategies and how to safely restrain a child in an emergency situation. The training will also be offered to the teachers.

**CPSE/CSE REPORTS**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated December 6, 2013. Mrs. Cramsie seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**NEW BUSINESS  
POLICIES**

There was a first reading of the following district policies:

No. 5695 Students and Personal Electronic Devices

No. 4000 Student Learning Objectives and Instructional Goals

No. 8520 Free and Reduced Price Food Services

No. 5420 Student Health Services

**TRANSPORTATION  
SERVICES**

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education for the North Bellmore Union Free School District that the Superintendent shall be authorized to take all necessary actions on behalf of the board of Education to either consent, or withhold consent, concerning the application of Courtesy bus Company, Inc. for a bankruptcy assignment of its Contract for student transportation services with the North Bellmore Union Free School District to a third party.

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

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

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has become aware that its transportation contractor, Courtesy Bus, has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in the United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District; and

WHEREAS, as a result of said filing, counsel has advised that it is required to and is prepared to file such necessary documents with the Bankruptcy Court as will protect the interests of the School District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes counsel to take any and all necessary steps and to file any and all such documents in the Bankruptcy Court or such other court as in its professional judgment will protect the School District's interests.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**VISITORS**

Christopher Dubon (Martin Ave. student) thanked the Board for removing the storage container at Martin Avenue. He asked if it was possible to add another basketball court at Martin Avenue if there is money in the budget. Mrs. Testa stated that it will be taken into consideration.

Mrs. Adipietro (Pacific St.) asked for an update on the possibility of rearranging the Main office at Saw Mill. Mr. Russo advised that he has discussed it with the architect and the work is quite extensive and expensive. The project needs to be looked into it further.

Mrs. Adipietro asked about the transition plans with the new bus company. Mr. Schissler stated that the goal is that the new company will purchase the equipment and utilize staff from the old company to ensure a seamless transition.

Mr. Lonergan (Newbridge Rd.) commented that there is no mention of safety in the district's mission statement and that it should be changed. Mr. Lonergan expressed concerns regarding safety in the schools and requested more police presence in the area. He also suggested that the police department give presentations in the schools. Mr. Lonergan asked if a teacher can immediately call the police if they see a crime. Mrs. Testa said yes. Mr. Lonergan asked who will be monitoring the security cameras. Mrs. Melnick stated this issue cannot be discussed at a board meeting. Mr. Lonergan asked if there are contingency plans in place if teachers' salaries increase. Mr. Schissler advised that the increases are taken into consideration when planning the budget. Mr. Lonergan stated that he wants more information available to parents. Mrs. Lanci suggested that parents can attend the Parent University, budget meetings, board meetings and the access the district website to learn more about the district. Mr. Lonergan expressed his disagreement with the Common Core. Mr. Lonergan thanked the Board for their time.

Christopher Dubon commented that a lock was broken in the second floor boy's bathroom. Mr. Russo advised that the custodian would look into it.

Mrs. Lanci wished everyone a happy and safe holiday.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mrs. Cramsie and carried 5-0, the Board of Education agreed to enter into Executive Session at 9:45 p.m. discuss a particular personnel matter.

On a motion by Mrs. Cramsie, seconded by Mr. Mayo and carried 5-0, the Board of Education reconvened at 10:39 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mrs. Cramsie, seconded by Mr. Mayo and carried 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

Mark Schissler, District Clerk