

MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING March 13, 2014

The regular meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, March 13, 2014, 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 7:55 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.

**VETERANS'
EXEMPTION**

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

WHEREAS, veterans have provided an invaluable service to this country by risking their lives to protect the freedoms enjoyed by all citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this service and the sacrifices that it entailed, on December 18, 2013 Governor Cuomo signed a bill to allow school districts to partially exempt property owned by certain qualified veterans; and

WHEREAS, such bill requires the governing body of a school district to pass a resolution to adopt such bill; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Bellmore Union Free School District does hereby adopt the exemption provided for in Real Property Tax Law ("RPTL") §458-a; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the maximum exempt amount shall be as follows:

- \$12,000 for all eligible recipients of the exemption provided for under RPTL §458-a
- \$8,000 for all veterans who served in a “combat zone” as that term is defined under RPTL §458-a
- \$40,000 for all veterans who suffered a “service connected” disability as that term is defined under RPTL §458-a; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the North Bellmore Union Free School District does hereby adopt the expanded definition of the term “qualified owner”, as that term is defined under RPTL §458-a, to include a “Gold Star Parent” as that term is defined under RPTL §458-a.

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

Mr. Colon, Commander of the American Legion Post 1749, thanked the Board for adopting the exemption.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Minutes from the special meetings of February 4 and February 25, and the regular meeting of February 27, 2014. Mrs. Cramsie seconded and the motion was carried 5-0. Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board approve the minutes from the special meeting of February 28, 2014. Mrs. Cramsie seconded, and the motion was carried 3-0, with Mr. Ferrara and Mr. Mayo abstaining.

**SPECIAL
PRESENTATION**

In recognition of Music in our Schools Month, Mrs. Testa expressed the value of music in the lives of the students and commended the teachers and students on their musical achievements. She then turned the meeting over to Ms. Speidel, who introduced the District’s nine music teachers and turned the program over to them. Student representatives from each of schools in Chorus, Band and Orchestra performed for the Board of Education and the community. Mrs. Testa congratulated the children and the teachers for a wonderful job. On behalf of the Board, Mrs. Lanci expressed her pride in the talent and dedication of the students. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM. for a brief break. The meeting reconvened at 8:37 PM.

VISITORS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

**TREASURER’S
REPORT**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer’s report for the month ended January 31, 2014. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion and was carried 5-0.

**HIGH SCHOOL
REPORT**

Mrs. DeLauter reported on the high school district board meeting. The district architect gave a presentation on the status of the Bond projects. Phase One, which covers flooring and turf fields, will begin this summer. Phase Two, which involves plumbing, electrical and mechanical work, takes longer for the State Education Department to review and will take place in summer 2015. Award of Honor certificates were presented to the Mepham High School Varsity Coed Cheerleading Team who are the NYS Coed Cheerleading Champions for the second year in a row. An Honor of Award was presented to Louis Hernandez from Mepham High School as the 2014 Nassau County and NYS Wrestling Champion. The initial budget presentation indicated a proposed budget of \$139,192,768, which represents a budget to budget increase of 1.96 percent and a tax levy of 1.866 percent. The district does not plan to cut services for the students. It will be restoring summer school and the BOCES LI School for the Arts program. It was reported that enrollment is down 6 percent. The 2014-15 school year calendar was approved.

FINANCE

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

Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education approve the Budgetary Transfers dated March 13, 2014. Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Mrs. Testa gave an overview of some of the ways the district is working on Building Leadership Capacity and restructuring the curriculum to meet the new Common Core Standards. Mrs. Testa thanked the Board of Education for the staff development opportunities this year. Mrs. Testa turned the meeting over to Mrs. Pollitt who described some of the ways that teachers have been serving in leadership roles to further promote the district's curricular initiatives and supporting student growth.

The following are the some of the ways that teachers have been serving in leadership roles: New teacher orientation presenters, professional development presenters, math leaders, technology teachers, turn-key trainers, data leaders, writing facilitators, literacy leaders and parent university presenters.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel Report dated March 13, 2014. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

A.1 PERSONNEL REPORT

March 13, 2014

Certified Personnel: Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it resolved that the following persons appointed as teachers in North Bellmore Union Free School District as indicated below. All assignments are at the discretion of district. Leave replacements are paid on a per diem basis.

Resignation for the Purposes of Retirement:

Eff. Date

9.1	Carlough, Susan	Teacher K-6	06/30/2014
9.2	Dineen, Nancy	Social Worker	06/30/2014

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Resignation:

9.3 Hopkins, Carolyn Teacher K-6 6/30/2014

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>
9.4 Lawless, Erika	Teacher Aide PT/Sub		\$17.10/hr	03/14/2014

Addendum

A.1 PERSONNEL REPORT

March 13, 2014

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>
9.5 Powers, Edward	Teacher K-6	95% of 1M	\$299.51/day	3/17/2014-6/13/14	

SAL Orientation:

9.6 Blanc, Alison Art Teacher \$26.79/hr 3/24/2014

Professional Development Workshop:

9.7 Yencharis, Amy Music Teacher \$26.79/hr 3/25/2014

Professional Development: (not to exceed 7 hours)

9.8 Reilly, Cynthia Part-Time Reading Teacher \$31.93/hr 3/20/2014

Family Medical Leave of Absence:

9.9 DiChiara, Leslie Teacher K-6 3/17/2014-6/13/14

Unpaid Parental Leave of Absence:

9.10 Schoepfer, Kathryn Special Ed. Teacher 5/26/2014-6/30/2014

Extension of Unpaid Parental Leave of Absence:

9.11 Mitchell, Gina Marie Special Ed. Teacher 9/01/2014-6/30/2015

Pursuant to a letter dated March 10, 2014

Extension of Probationary Period:

9.12 Moir, Kristen Prob. Special Ed. Teacher 9/01/2011-9/01/2015

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.

<u>Appointment:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
9.13 Wagner, Noreen	Monitor PT/Sub		\$13.42/hr	03/14/2014

STAFF DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated March 13, 2014. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve an Employment Agreement with Mark Schissler, the Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business, for the 2014-2015 school year. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

- NBTA SIDE LETTER** Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education approve a Side Letter of Agreement with the NBTA dated March 13, 2014. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.
- BUSINESS DEPARTMENT UPDATE** Mr. Schissler thanked the Board of Education for their support and renewing his contract for next year. Mr. Schissler indicated that the enrollment may be increasing a little next year. A survey has been sent out to all new home buyers at Country Pointe to determine how many new students will be entering the district. The draft budget for the 2014-15 year indicates a 3.95 percent budget to budget increase, with moving all current programs forward. The tax cap is just under 1.5%. In order to balance the budget, some reductions may need to be made and we may need to use money from our reserves again. We are awaiting the approval of the Governor's budget on April 1 to learn what our state aid numbers will be for next year. The Board will adopt the budget at their next meeting on April 10.
- BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS UPDATE** Mr. Russo reported that the crews are finishing up winter cleanup and maintenance and starting on the spring work.
- CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION UPDATE** Mrs. Pollitt reported that the Prevention staff, in collaboration with Grand Avenue Middle School, organized an 8th grade positive leader program where the 8th graders visited our 6th graders to discuss middle school transition. SAL orientation assemblies are taking place with the 5th graders to explain the program and discuss the requirements. Pre-K teachers from our Universal Pre-K programs attended our Kindergarten ELA Professional Development workshop yesterday and the teachers were very motivated. Science consultant, Brian Wallrapp, will be doing one hour science enrichment workshops for students during April and May. The next Parent University will take place on April 1 at Park Avenue School and will focus on the Common Core mathematics.
- TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT UPATE** Mr. Fischetti welcomed Mr. Ed Powers to the staff, who will be replacing Mrs. DiChiara while she is on maternity leave. He will be working with Ms. Stack on video based projects. Mr. Fischetti reported that the Newbridge Road computer club's newscast videos are available on the district's website and we hope to start computer clubs in all the schools next year. The staff is also working on a video project in celebration of Newbridge Road School's 90th birthday. A new tool was added to the website, *Techie Tips for Teachers*, which introduces new instructional resources and strategies that can be used in the classroom.
- SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE** Ms. Eskew reported that NYS has revised their immunization requirements and we are in the process of looking at the changes. NYS Education Department is performing a documentation review on April 7 and will review our billing process related to the Medicaid services we provide. Annual and triennial reviews are taking place. Ms. Eskew is working with the administrative team on class analysis and staffing and student needs for next year.

CPSE/CSE REPORTS Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated March 6, 2014. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education approve the following contracts:

CONTRACTS

- Frances Bacon (2014-15)
- Bruce Bingham and Associates, Inc. (2014-15)
- Centris Group (2014-15)
- Creative Tutoring, Inc. (2014-15)
- East Rockaway (2013-14)
- Dr. Suanne Kowal-Connelly (2014-15)
- Nawrocki Smith LLP (2014-15)
- New Designs Consulting, Inc. (2014-15)
- NRAD Medical Associates (2014-15)
- Vision People (2014-15)

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

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve a contract with BriSci Consultants, Inc. for the 2013-14 school year. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**2014-15 SCHOOL
YEAR CALENDAR**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the recommended North Bellmore Union Free School District's 2014-2015 School Year calendar. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**EXCESS OF
EQUIPMENT**

Mr. Mayo moved that the Board of Education approve the disposal of a 1979 Chevy Truck, VIN # CKL249115063. The vehicle no longer runs and has surpassed its lifespan. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

DONATIONS

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a donation from Logan and Marla Peckman of seven books, WHERE DID DADDY'S TOOTHBRUSH GO?, to be given to social workers and school psychologists in the district to be used as needed (approximate value: \$42). Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education accept a check from General Mills (Box Tops for Education) in the amount of \$1,051 to be used to enhance the music and art department supplies for the students of Saw Mill Road School. Mrs. Cramsie 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 of five mini iPads to be used by the physical education department throughout the district (approximate value \$1600). Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**COOPERATIVE
TRANSPORTATION
AGREEMENT**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that in accordance with the provision of Education Law, 1907 and 3635, and General Municipal Law, 119-0 relating to Municipal cooperative activities, the Board of Education of the North Bellmore School District is hereby authorized and directed to continue its participation in a regional transportation consortium with its component elementary districts to provide for the regional transportation of elementary and secondary students of the District and its components to the schools which such students attend in accordance with the parameters defined in a document entitled, "Cooperative Student Transportation Feasibility Study" dated March, 1989; the foregoing resolution shall be operative to commit the North Bellmore School District to participation in such regional transportation system only for the 2014-2015 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized and directed to give effect to the within Agreement if, in his judgment, there is sufficient participation among the elementary component districts to make participation by the North Bellmore School District feasible and economically advantageous to it; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized and directed to take such other and further actions as shall be necessary or appropriate to give effect to the within resolution.

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

OLD BUSINESS

None.

VISITORS

Gwendolynn Britt (Stratford Ct.) asked if the district could provide a comprehensive list of data items requested by the State as well as a testing schedule that includes the purpose of the test. Ms. Melnick advised that there is no comprehensive list available. Mrs. Testa advised that the tests are used for APPR purposes.

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 9:50 p.m. discuss a particular personnel matter.

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mrs. Cramsie and carried 5-0, the Board of Education reconvened at 11:49 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Mayo, seconded by Mrs. DeLauter and carried 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

Mark Schissler, District Clerk