

In the Matter Of:

NORTH BELLMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

April 02, 2020



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NORTH BELLMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

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APRIL 2, 2020

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2 NINA LANCI: Okay, I'd like to call
3 this meeting to order.

4 Please rise for the Pledge of
5 Allegiance.

6 (WHEREUPON, the Pledge of
7 Allegiance was recited.)

8 NINA LANCI: Rosemarie, would you
9 like to read the mission statement?

10 ROSEMARIE CORLESS: Sure. Our
11 mission is to inspire all students to be
12 confident, passionate learners with the courage
13 and skills to lead their life with integrity
14 while contributing to our global community with
15 creativity and compassion.

16 JOHN FERRARA: Thank you.

17 NINA LANCI: Thank you.

18 Good evening to our North Bellmore
19 School community. Thank you for joining us
20 tonight. This is the first time we've ever
21 streamed a meeting, so it's a little
22 challenging.

23 These are very challenging times we
24 are facing here in North Bellmore, in Nassau
25 County, and in the state and throughout our

2 country. Our sincere thanks to our incredible
3 medical personnel, some who serve on this Board
4 of Education, and to the first responders who
5 have answered the call to duty with courage and
6 commitment.

7 Thank you, also, to our
8 administrators, teachers and support staff for
9 your tireless commitment to address the needs
10 of our students and the community in the
11 unprecedented and challenging times.

12 We are convening our Board meeting
13 tonight pursuant to the Executive Order 202.1,
14 wherein Governor Cuomo has authorized
15 alternative means for public entities such as
16 the Board of Education, to conduct public
17 meetings.

18 We are conducting tonight's meeting
19 via a Zoom video conference. The meeting will
20 be recorded and a transcript of the meeting
21 will be available at a later date.

22 Tonight's Board meeting will be
23 somewhat streamlined and we will only be
24 conducting critically necessary business.

25 Board Policy 2350 identifies the

2 order of business for our regular board
3 meeting. Such policy also identifies that the
4 regular order of business may be changed by an
5 affirmative vote of the majority of the Board.

6 I will entertain a motion at this
7 time to remove the following items from our
8 Board's meeting agenda for tonight's meeting
9 only.

10 Visitors comments on Agenda items,
11 correspondence, board committee reports, high
12 school reports, old business, visitors
13 comments.

14 ROSEMARIE CORLESS: Motion.

15 MELISSA CMAR-GROTE: Second.

16 NINA LANCI: All in favor?

17 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
18 affirmative vote of the members present.)

19 NINA LANCI: Thank you.

20 The order of business for tonight's
21 meeting will be changed accordingly.

22 I'll ask, at this time, item 4, the
23 approval of the minutes of the business meeting
24 of March 5th, 2020, and the special meeting of
25 March 17th, 2020.

2 ROSEMARIE CORLESS: Motion.

3 NINA LANCI: There's a second?

4 JO-ANN ERHARD: Second.

5 NINA LANCI: All in favor?

6 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
7 affirmative vote of the members present.)

8 NINA LANCI: Thank you, everyone.

9 Item six, I'll ask for approval of
10 the Treasurer's Report.

11 Do we have a motion?

12 ROSEMARIE CORLESS: Motion.

13 NINA LANCI: Do I have a second?

14 JO-ANN ERHARD: Second.

15 NINA LANCI: Any discussion?

16 (WHEREUPON, no response heard.)

17 NINA LANCI: All in favor?

18 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
19 affirmative vote of the members present.)

20 NINA LANCI: Item 7, our finance
21 section, 7.1. Be it resolved that the Board of
22 Education authorizes the North Bellmore School
23 District to expend the sum in general funds
24 appropriation in the total amount of 58 million
25 thirty-nine thousand, six hundred and

2 fifty-five dollars for the '20 to '21 school
3 year.

4 JOHN FERRARA: Motion.

5 ROSEMARIE CORLESS: Second.

6 NINA LANCI: Any other discussion?

7 (WHEREUPON, no response was heard.)

8 NINA LANCI: All in favor?

9 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
10 affirmative vote of the members present.)

11 NINA LANCI: Thank you.

12 At this time, Item 7.2, the Board
13 of Education acknowledges the review of the
14 warrants that have been approved by the claims
15 auditor for March 1st through the 15th, 2020.

16 You don't need a motion for that.

17 Chris, we don't need a motion on
18 the warrants. We do?

19 MR. POWERS: You do not.

20 NINA LANCI: No?

21 MR. POWERS: You do not.

22 NINA LANCI: (Inaudible) Thank
23 you.

24 Item 8. We have our
25 Superintendent's report, Mrs. Testa.

2 MARIE TESTA: Yes. Thank you,
3 Mrs. Lansi. Thank you to the Board of
4 Education.

5 This is the first time in public --
6 I'm so grateful to the entire Board, every
7 member, Chris Powers our attorney, for the
8 guidance, the support, this entire time. It's
9 14 school days and it feels as if it's a year,
10 so I can only imagine how the public feels.

11 Hello to our North Bellmore public,
12 to our faculty, our staff. I'm beyond proud of
13 the way that our North Bellmore community has
14 come together, the administration team, our
15 amazing teachers, the faculty staff, our food
16 service workers, our custodians, our buildings
17 and grounds, District office staff, the entire
18 North Bellmore staff, parents. I feel my heart
19 goes out to those parents who are struggling,
20 to the families who are struggling, and to
21 everyone who is trying to balance and find a
22 place in a shaky world now. I know that many
23 of our families are finding it challenging with
24 our home learning plan because they are
25 remotely working as well. I want to say a real

2 thank you to them. Parents, thank you for your
3 support and thank you for your emails, for your
4 feedback, for your opinions. We appreciate it.
5 While we couldn't do this without being united,
6 we did roll out our home learning plan phase
7 three, today. We're really thrilled about
8 that. Janet Pollitt and (inaudible) MacNamara,
9 the principals, Jackie Rehak, Jason Fischetti,
10 Carol Eskew, a whole team approach. And thank
11 you to the parents because many parents have
12 been asking us about our digital platform. I
13 just want to say that we have the Seesaw
14 Platform coming out. It will give more
15 interactive tools for the students and the
16 teachers to converse, to have valuable learning
17 materials, to be able to continue to
18 authentically teach, and many our parents were
19 asking us about a platform. However, our roll
20 out was scaffolded purposely, being that when
21 children, their world is turned upside down,
22 the best practice is not to pile on everything
23 at once. And that was thoughtful and strategic
24 on our part to give valuable learning materials
25 home in phase one which we had right away that

2 Tuesday and Wednesday -- we closed Monday --
3 and Tuesday and Wednesday we had those
4 materials out purposefully just to ease our
5 children into what we expected would be a long
6 term -- term closure. So now we at phase three
7 where we've rolled out now our digital
8 platform. The accounts are coming out to the
9 students and our teachers will be dipping their
10 toes in that. I sent a message out to our
11 teachers today and our faculty and staff today,
12 and I will also -- I have also been speaking to
13 the parents through letters. I think when you
14 really step back from it and you look at what
15 our world is dealing with, and you say this is
16 why the reason schools exist. The school is
17 the center of the community. The church is the
18 center of a community. And I feel as if we're
19 going back to when schools began and the school
20 was the invisible thread. So we're going to
21 continue to provide as much support as
22 possible. We are open to feedback. We have
23 the best faculty and staff in the land. I have
24 no doubt, and I thank them, and the most
25 supportive parents, and especially our students

2 who are the ones navigating through this and
3 their lifetime will always be marked by this
4 new period in time. So whatever joy we can
5 bring along the way, we will. Spirit days we
6 will. We'll provide the work. We understand
7 that parents have said, "You know what? This
8 is too much." We understand that. And we're
9 going to thank you, you make that decision.
10 Because you're home with your children, you're
11 finding the balance, and we understand that.

12 As we move forward, we're going to
13 see change thank you to Ms. Rehak and the food
14 service department, the custodial department
15 and maintainers. Thank you for our food
16 service program, our lunch program has been
17 quite busy and we appreciate that our employees
18 are coming in during the time where we're doing
19 our best to social distance, but we're also
20 working hand in hand with our families to make
21 sure that the lunches are served.

22 As you know, the governor just
23 passed a recent order which in a nutshell is
24 that the schools are responsible now and for
25 continued learning, continued instruction,

2 continued lunch for meal service and continued
3 child care for families during the Spring
4 recess.

5 We are speaking to our teachers
6 about this now, but I thank the Board for your
7 support. I sent out a letter today to the
8 families. I think it's very important to take
9 a moment to know that the Governor's order is a
10 law, so we need to follow that. However, we're
11 going to be, as always, as respectful as
12 possible to our families who are celebrating
13 religious holidays and to our faculty and staff
14 who are celebrating as well. So while there
15 will be work provided, we do respect where our
16 families are and we understand that you may not
17 be choosing to do that work. That is okay.
18 That's our balance together. We're going to do
19 our part; you'll do your part and we meet
20 together.

21 On Monday, after the holiday
22 passes, our Passover, our Easter holiday, we
23 will be uploading our lessons to our Seesaw
24 (inaudible) and we'll continue with our
25 conferencing and I am very proud, as well, of

2 our special area teachers and our special
3 education teachers, our related services who
4 are also providing service during this time.
5 So that will -- that will resume as well. So
6 we're here to partner with our families at this
7 time. Any questions, please reach out to your
8 principals. You can always reach out to our
9 District office as well. We are here for you.

10 And I thank again the Board and the
11 community for this report and I hope that
12 everyone is as well as possible during this
13 time. Please know North Bellmore is here for
14 you.

15 NINA LANCI: Thank you.

16 And on behalf of the Board and the
17 Board of Education, we'd like to thank the
18 administrators, the principals and the
19 teachers. You always go over and above in
20 North Bellmore. We always say there's no
21 better teachers anywhere, and in times of
22 crisis and the unprecedented times in
23 education, and the status and the care and the
24 daily updates that no one knows, you know, the
25 Governor comes out -- and Chris, in your law

2 firm, your guidance that the interpretation --
3 we really appreciate everyone's hard work. And
4 we'll get through this. It may take us a
5 little while. And we are trying to do the best
6 we can. We appreciate the parents and the
7 community for their understanding. Some of you
8 are not teachers. We understand that, but
9 you're doing a great job. (Inaudible)

10 But on the way to item 8.1, this is
11 usually a very -- this is one of the most
12 beautiful meetings we do in the month, we'd
13 like the Board to approve item 8.1, be it
14 resolved that the Board of Education approve
15 the personnel report dated April 2nd, 2020, 8
16 in the agenda.

17

18 JOHN FERRARA: Motion.

19 ROSEMARIE CORLESS: Second.

20 NINA LANCI: All in favor?

21 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
22 affirmative vote of the members present.)

23 NINA LANCI: At this time
24 (inaudible) we have just granted tenure, Ms.
25 Testa.

2 MARIE TESTA: Yes, Mrs. Lanci,
3 thank you. May I take a moment for that?

4 NINA LANCI: Yes.

5 MARIE TESTA: Thank you very much.

6 So this is one of the -- our
7 tradition in North Bellmore is that we have a
8 very rigorous observation process, interview
9 process, and tenure is not granted lightly. I
10 am extraordinarily proud of the individuals who
11 are recommended for tenure and that tenure just
12 past. So that's effective September. We
13 usually have a wonderful tradition where we
14 come together and celebrate, but we're
15 definitely going to do that when we re-open.
16 We will have our celebration in style in North
17 Bellmore.

18 I'd like to take moment to announce
19 those names and when we reunite back
20 together we'll proudly honor each individual.

21 My congratulations on behalf of the
22 Board of Education and the District
23 Administration, both central and our
24 principals; congratulations to Mrs. Leyna
25 Malone, principal of Martin Avenue School on

2 tenure.

3 Congratulations Tiffany Zocchia,
4 Ashely Evans, Melissa Mignoli, Kristin Henchel,
5 Jennifer O'Neil, Dana Rudnet, Lindsey Rich,
6 Samantha Sand, and Amanda Schmitt. Those are
7 our tenure recipients as we are exceedingly
8 proud of you. You are a dynamic group of
9 educators and we're better for having you. So
10 congratulations. We look forward to
11 celebrating you in the future when we reunite.

12 NINA LANCI: Thank you.

13 MARIE TESTA: Thank you.

14 NINA LANCI: Item 8.2, be it
15 resolved that the Board of Education approve
16 the Staff development report dated April 2nd,
17 2020.

18 ROSEMARIE CORLESS: Motion.

19 MELISSA CMAR-GROTE: Second.

20 NINA LANCI: All in favor.

21 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
22 affirmative vote of the members present.)

23 NINA LANCI: We're up to our
24 business department report.

25 Mrs. Rehak, would you like to speak

2 about our budget.

3 MRS. REHAK: Good evening everyone,
4 and thank you to all who are joining us for our
5 first livestream of the Board of Education
6 meeting.

7 A few items I just want to mention
8 regarding the budget and the vote for getting
9 some of the details.

10 Governor Cuomo delayed the annual
11 budget vote and the school board elections to
12 at least June 1st. As of now, that is all we
13 know regarding the election. Once we have more
14 information, we'll notify the public of that.

15 A few of our future dates we had
16 scheduled will either be postponed or delivered
17 in a different manner such as this. We will
18 also keep the public notified of those changes
19 as they unfold.

20 Overall, the budget went down by
21 about \$383,000 since the last presentation I
22 gave a month ago. Due to recent economic
23 conditions and reports from Governor Cuomo,
24 there's a lot of uncertainty in the amount of
25 state aid the District could receive during the

2 next fiscal year and future years.

3 The Governor has requested the
4 ability to adjust his budget on a quarterly
5 basis. This makes it extremely difficult for
6 us to budget right now and means that school
7 districts must be adaptable.

8 As of two days ago, the best
9 guidance we've had was that it is reasonable to
10 expect anywhere from a five to fifteen percent
11 cut in state aid. I've updated the District's
12 adjusted revenue, the request is ten percent
13 shortfall which is about one point five million
14 dollars.

15 Yesterday, Governor Cuomo presented
16 a budget that reflected foundation aid
17 remaining flat for the 2020 to '21 year as
18 compared to '19/'20. This means there's no
19 increase from the prior year.

20 In addition, the proposed budget
21 reflected a pandemic adjustment for each
22 District. This is a reduction in state aid
23 that's equivalent to the amount districts can
24 expect to receive from the Federal stimulus
25 package passed last week. Essentially, it

2 means the budget is flat compared to '19/'20
3 and there's possibly a slight reduction called
4 the pandemic adjustment. For North Bellmore,
5 this adjustment equates to \$69,000. However,
6 this change in the budget also gives the
7 Governor the ability to make further reductions
8 throughout the year. This still leaves us in a
9 difficult situation. And this budget, by the
10 way, has not been approved as of yet.

11 Without any increases, this budget
12 leaves us with a revenue shortfall and if they
13 cut the budget further, we'll need to adapt
14 them to potentially make further cuts to our
15 budget.

16 Although the budget I just
17 explained keeps the aid flat, with a \$69,000
18 potential downward adjustment, and further
19 potential unknown cuts, I've left the current
20 budget with the ten percent cut in aid revenue
21 as I previously mentioned.

22 In addition, I reduced expected
23 interest income to reflect the reduction in
24 rates due to the economic downturn as well.
25 We're still getting point four percent on our

2 balances which is higher than we previously
3 received through Chase, so it's not a huge
4 reduction but it's still a reduction,
5 nonetheless.

6 The District's plan to cover the
7 shortfall by appropriating more funds from
8 '19/'20 to next year's budget and by utilizing
9 our reserves. I'll go over this in more detail
10 as I go through the slides that I'm going to
11 pull up in a little while.

12 In addition, I reworked some of the
13 expenditures to reflect breakage in salaries,
14 due to some retirements that came to our
15 attention after we last met. An additional
16 reductions in Special Education costs for a
17 couple of more students being brought back into
18 District.

19 Overall, the expenditure budget, as
20 I mentioned, is 383,000 less than originally
21 anticipated a month ago. And the projected
22 revenue is now one point five million less than
23 anticipated a month ago. As such, we plan to
24 use an additional one point one million of
25 reserves and fund balance in the upcoming year.

2 Should the District receive the originally
3 budgeted state aid revenue, we'll leave the
4 funds in the reserves.

5 With all that said, the District
6 must focus on more long term effects of what is
7 currently going on in the economy. We
8 understand the economic downturn can affect us
9 in future years down the road. For example,
10 TRS and ERS rates are set based on a look back
11 of the market. So the current economic
12 downturn may come back to affect us when they
13 set future rates. This also can have an effect
14 on health insurance and other various
15 expenditures. As such, we need to be prudent
16 in our spending and monitor our fiscal needs
17 very carefully in case any future cuts are
18 needed.

19 First and foremost, we want all
20 positions and programs to remain in place. We
21 have reserves and fund balance that is not
22 earmarked, and that's exactly what those funds
23 are for, for a time like this. However,
24 utilizing our reserves cannot be the long term
25 plan for the District. Since so much is still

2 unknown that is the current solution for the
3 upcoming budget. But as more information comes
4 to light, we're going to have to adopt and make
5 decisions. With that said, I want to go over
6 some of the slides. I'm going to see if I can
7 share my screen here.

8 Okay, so, we maintain the same
9 budgetary goals as before. Continue to meet
10 our mission to inspire all students to be
11 confident, passionate learners with the courage
12 and skills to lead their lives with integrity,
13 while contributing to our global community with
14 creativity and compassion. We want to provide
15 services and programs that meet these goals and
16 continue to improve and strengthen these
17 programs, maintain the District's buildings and
18 grounds; maintain and improve District
19 technology; keep the tax levy within the tax
20 cap, continue to look for outside revenue
21 sources, as we have with some of the grant
22 money we've received recently; and continue to
23 plan with long term goals in mind.

24 A few of the budgetary factors in
25 this budget is our enrollment which includes 97

2 sections. In 2019-20, the District had 95
3 sections. This increase relates to
4 deconsolidation of Saw Mill Road, Third Grade,
5 a deconsolidation of Park Avenue, Fourth Grade;
6 13 current Sixth Grade sections that will be
7 graduating; and 14 incoming Kindergarten
8 sections; a potential for one consolidation;
9 and, of course, final enrollment is unknown, so
10 that's a contingency within the budget. We'll
11 continue to monitor that as the year goes on.

12 With Special Education, we always
13 have contingency needs in the budget for
14 Special Education due to unknown student needs,
15 but overall, you're going to see in the
16 numbers, when we get to it, that our Special
17 Education expenditures have gone down, which is
18 a result of the out-of-district placements that
19 are being brought back into district. On the
20 flip side, there's a reduction in the state aid
21 revenue for this as well.

22 We included adding security cameras
23 in the budget. This is a \$35,000 cost that
24 will be one hundred percent aidable. The aid
25 will come in the following year though. So the

2 District will be laying out the money in the
3 current year and then you'll see it as revenue
4 in the following year.

5 Another expenditure in the budget
6 is our building condition survey. This is a
7 survey we have to do every five years. It's
8 state mandated, and 2020 is our year to do our
9 next building condition survey.

10 As I mentioned earlier, our final
11 state aid numbers are unknown. So we have that
12 ten percent reduction after what the Governor
13 had projected to begin with.

14 Also our insurance increases are
15 always unknown. We know what our health
16 insurance is for the first half of the year but
17 in January, as they are on a calendar year, we
18 always get an increase and that's unknown. So
19 currently we're taking into account a five
20 percent increase.

21 Overall, we are asking the Board to
22 approve a budget in the amount of fifty-eight
23 million thirty-nine thousand six hundred
24 fifty-six dollars. This is a 604,000 increase
25 from the current year and it equates to 1.05

2 percent increase.

3 Now, we're going to look at the
4 increase in a little more detail on the next
5 slide.

6 The first section is general
7 support. This includes District office
8 expenses such as finance, central
9 administration, insurance and central services.
10 As you can see, most of the increase falls
11 under central services, which has a four
12 percent increase from 2019-20. Central
13 services includes the District's buildings and
14 grounds expenditures including utilities and
15 this increase includes the 35,000 security
16 camera project that I mentioned before.
17 Overall, there's a 2.88 percent increase in the
18 general support budget or a 160,000.

19 The next section is instruction.
20 Overall, there is a .8 percent increase of
21 \$268,000. As I mentioned earlier, you can see,
22 overall, the budget in Special Education
23 expenditures are subjected to decrease by
24 377,000. The other expenditures are projected
25 to increase. This increase mostly relates to

2 additional sections in the budget and the
3 deconsolidations that I mentioned at the
4 beginning of the presentation.

5 You may also notice a large
6 increase in the administration and improvement
7 section. This is actually due to movement in
8 our budget code due to ESSA reporting. While
9 some codes last year were considered teaching,
10 they are now included in administration this
11 year. This makes the comparison, the 2019-20
12 year difficult, but it will be more comparable
13 going forward. Those two categories,
14 administration and teaching, should really be
15 looked at as one for comparative purposes.

16 The next section is transportation.
17 Overall, we're projecting a .07 increase. The
18 decrease in district transportation relates to
19 breakage due to retirements and the increase in
20 the contract transportation relates to the
21 2019-20 actual plus a two percent increase.

22 The remaining expenditures include
23 employee benefits, debt service and transfer to
24 other funds. The majority of this increase is
25 from employee benefits and these relate to

2 contractual increases throughout the District.

3 The total projected increase is
4 1.11 percent or 175,000.

5 Here is our projected revenue for
6 2020-21 I highlighted a few items in red.
7 These are the items that changed from a month
8 ago, as I mentioned at the beginning of this
9 presentation. The tax levy is projected to
10 increase by 2.71 percent and that remains
11 within the tax cap.

12 Our projected PILOT revenue is down
13 \$70,000. This is based on actual PILOT revenue
14 that came in during 2019-20. It is lower than
15 originally budgeted due to a Class III tax rate
16 being reduced. This could be due to a
17 grievance filed by LIPA.

18 As you can see, I'm projecting a
19 large decrease in state aid due to the current
20 economic conditions. This represents state aid
21 less ten percent of what the Governor
22 projected.

23 I also included a large increase in
24 reserve fund transfers. This is made up of
25 transfers from the ERS reserve TRS reserve

2 EBLAR reserve and unemployment reserve.

3 Lastly, I increased the
4 appropriated fund balance from 2019-20 to next
5 year by a hundred thousand dollars. This is
6 still 240,000 reduction from last year's
7 budget.

8 In the event our state aid comes in
9 closer to that 14 million dollar number, we
10 will utilize less of the District's reserves
11 and keep that money in reserve.

12 Speaking of reserves, this is the
13 look at our reserves and fund balance as of
14 June 30, 2019. We had four point eight million
15 in reserves and two point two million in
16 unassigned fund balance. These are the funds
17 we are using to cover the reduction in state
18 aid.

19 In addition, we are projecting an
20 increase to these reserves at the end of the
21 current fiscal year. So those numbers will be
22 a little higher going into next fiscal year.

23 The District also plans to include
24 a voter proposition for a capital reserve.
25 We'd like to create a capital reserve to cover

2 capital improvements including
3 pavement/concrete work and ceiling replacements
4 throughout the District. The reserve shall be
5 ten million fund over ten years. Please note
6 this reserve will be funded by the transfer of
7 unappropriated fund balances from the general
8 fund as authorized by the Board of Education
9 over a ten-year term. This does not create
10 additional tax levy. It's not a bond or other
11 borrowing. This is funded like other reserves
12 in that it is only funded if there is monies
13 left over at the end of the year. These
14 improvements were noted during our last
15 building condition survey five years ago. The
16 District is really excited to be able to get
17 this passed, get the work done and do it
18 without an increase in tax levy. So we hope
19 everyone supports us on that.

20 In summary, the budget is within
21 the tax cap and an increase of 2.71 percent and
22 the overall budget increase is 1.05 percent.

23 We appreciate all the support. If
24 you should have any questions relating to the
25 budget, please feel free to reach out to me.

2 Any new dates will be made available to the
3 public as soon as we know them. This is
4 changing everyday, so as we get updates, we'll
5 let the public know.

6 Again, thank you for your support.
7 And do I have any questions from the Board at
8 this time?

9 NINA LANCI: Jackie, this is going
10 to be available up on the District website;
11 these presentations, so --

12 MRS. REHAK: Correct. It already
13 is.

14 NINA LANCI: Okay, great. Great.
15 I just want to know for sure.

16 And you did mention quarterly the
17 Governor said there would be changes. Is that
18 in the state aid numbers coming?

19 MRS. REHAK: Yes, so he gave us
20 runs yesterday, they gave -- which wasn't
21 approved yet but within what he reported, it
22 gives him the right to make adjustments
23 throughout the year. So we could find out maybe
24 a year that our state aid is going to be lower
25 than he's telling us today. That's why I said

2 it's very difficult for us to budget at this
3 time because we could get adjustments mid-year.
4 So the District has to be prepared to make
5 adjustments as the year goes on, if need be.

6 NINA LANCI: Thank you.

7 Very unusual, you know, we adopt
8 the budget --

9 MRS. REHAK: Yes.

10 NINA LANCI: (Continuing) -- so to
11 plan but this is very, you know... Hopefully,
12 we're able, based on your numbers, you're
13 pretty conservative, we'll be able to get
14 through this.

15 MARIE TESTA: Yeah.

16 NINA LANCI: Any other questions
17 from the Board, at this time?

18 MARIE TESTA: Mrs. Lanci, if we
19 have questions from the public, they can always
20 reach Ms. Rehak or contact me at our email
21 addresses where you'll find on the website;
22 it's the first initial last name at
23 northbellmoreschools.org. We'll be glad to
24 take up public questions and get back to our
25 community.

2 MRS. REHAK: Thank you.

3 NINA LANCI: As the date continues
4 for the week, we were preparing for an April
5 27, presentation of this Board meeting
6 (inaudible) put it back in session, otherwise
7 that date will change, too.

8 Thank you.

9 At this time, we're moving on to
10 Special Education.

11 Ms. Testa, would you like to speak
12 on the Special Ed?

13 MARIE TESTA: Certainly. Thank
14 you.

15 Special Education, I appreciate the
16 support of all our staff members, our service
17 providers. We are up and running with our
18 services. That includes all the -- all the
19 related services. We are up and running --
20 thank you to staff again for CSE meetings,
21 annual reviews and so forth. The IT meetings.
22 Our principals have been instrumental in that
23 and so have our -- all our teachers in getting
24 that together, and the public, again, parents
25 have been very flexible with us. So we're

2 moving along with that. We're going to be
3 doing our best. We're keeping good track of
4 the services we provide so that at the end of
5 the time period, if there are compensatory
6 services that need to be implemented for
7 children, we will have those records to do so.
8 So we're looking at all the classes across the
9 District, our classes, ILP and ICT classes for
10 next year as our annual reviews come along. So
11 Special Ed is doing very well and we're on
12 target with where we should be at this time.

13 NINA LANCI: Thank you very much.

14 MARIE TESTA: Thank you.

15 NINA LANCI: At this time, Item
16 10.1, be it resolved that the Board of
17 Education includes the CPSE and CSE reports
18 dated March 20, 2020.

19 MELISSA CMAR-GROTE: Motion.

20 ROSEMARIE CORLESS: Second.

21 NINA LANCI: Any other discussion?

22 (WHEREUPON, no response was heard.)

23 NINA LANCI: All in favor?

24 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
25 affirmative vote of the members present.)

2 NINA LANCI: At this time, I would
3 ask the Board for a consent agenda for items
4 11.1 through 11.4 as contained in the agenda.

5 JOHN FERRARA: Motion.

6 MELISSA CMAR-GROTE: Motion.

7 NINA LANCI: Any other discussion?
8 (WHEREUPON, no response was heard.)

9 NINA LANCI: Do we have a second?

10 MELISSA CMAR-GROTE: Second.

11 NINA LANCI: Thank you.

12 All in favor?

13 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
14 affirmative vote of the members present.)

15 NINA LANCI: Just please note that
16 I am -- Jackie, if you want to speak to Item
17 11.3 that we just adopted (inaudible)

18 MS. REHAK: Sure. So that
19 resolution -- given everything going on right
20 now, we don't know how much state aid we'll get
21 it and when. There's going to be cash flow
22 problems and that is for the state as well as
23 we don't know if they're going to extend the
24 due date for property tax payments. Should
25 they extend that due date as well, the District

2 could run into cash flow issues. If that
3 should happen, we'll need to go out and borrow.
4 So we've already set up with our bond counsel
5 to be able to do that in a very quick manner.
6 So that resolution gives Nina, the Board
7 president, the power to sign off on us
8 borrowing without having to do a full Board
9 meeting to get that done, should be need to do
10 it. We actually did get in some state aid
11 yesterday. We got in four million dollars. So
12 that was a good way to go into the next month
13 and I don't foresee us needing to borrow until
14 at least the end of May, should that happen.
15 But we could -- we'll find out as the month
16 goes on if we'll get more property tax payments
17 in because this is the month that we get huge
18 property tax payments in.

19 NINA LANCI: We have not got a
20 definitive answer if the school tax bills are
21 due on -- there was talk of moving them until a
22 different time for these payments to the Town.

23 MS. REHAK: There are definitely
24 groups lobbying to have that extended -- the
25 due date extended. However, a majority of real

2 estate taxes come in through escrow accounts.
3 So I'm not sure that Laura Curran is in favor
4 of that or that will go through. At this time,
5 I don't see that happening, but things are
6 changing day to day. So that could change at
7 any given time.

8 NINA LANCI: Okay.

9 FEMALE SPEAKER: I know.

10 NINA LANCI: Any other questions
11 from the Board? Comments?

12 (WHEREUPON, no response was heard.)

13 NINA LANCI: Our next meeting would
14 be May 7th, and hopefully we'll be back at
15 Martin Avenue with the public in attendance.

16 At this time I'd ask that we will
17 entertain a motion to go into executive session
18 for matters of personnel.

19 ROSEMARIE CORLESS: Motion.

20 JOHN FERRARA: Second.

21 NINA LANCI: All in favor?

22 (WHEREUPON, there was a unanimous,
23 affirmative vote of the Board.)

24 NINA LANCI: I used to like to wish
25 everyone a safe and healthy holiday and over

2 this recess, and we hope to see you soon. And
3 we miss our students and we hope to see them
4 back through our doors.

5 Thank you everyone.

6 JOHN FERRARA: Thank you.

7 (WHEREUPON, this audio was
8 concluded.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, LORRAINE D. BERARDI, certify the foregoing transcript of the proceedings held on April 2, 2020, in the matter of the North Bellmore School District, Board of Education Meeting, commenced via video conference, was prepared using the required electronic equipment and is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Signature Lorraine D. Berardi

Dated: April 30, 2020
Agency: Accurate Court Reporting Service, Inc.
info@accuratecorp.com

1	F	R
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2	flexible 31:25	real 7:25
2350 3:25	free 28:25	Rehak 15:25
9	fund 19:25	relate 25:25
97 21:25	G	relates 24:25
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B	home 8:25	reserve 26:25 27:25
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year 19:25 22:25 23:25