



**NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REVISED MINUTES – August 11, 2022**

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Business Meeting	Martin Avenue School 2616 Martin Avenue, Bellmore, NY 11710	7:30 PM
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The Business meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, August 11, 2022, in the All Purpose Room of the Martin Avenue School at 2616 Martin Avenue, Bellmore, New York, and via Zoom Video Conference.

The following members of the Board of Education were present:

- Christine Malloy, Vice President
- Rosemarie Corless
- Nina Lanci
- Christopher Nardo

The following member of the Board of Education was absent:

- Melissa Cmar-Grote, President

Also present:

- Marie Testa, Superintendent of Schools
- Janet Pollitt, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
- Jacqueline Rehak, Assistant Superintendent for Business
- Christopher Venator, District Counsel
- Laurice Gunnels, District Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. Motion was made by Mrs. Corless seconded by Mr. Nardo to move into an executive session. Motion was carried 4-0. The meeting reconvened at 7:47 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Mrs. Malloy led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Malloy indicated Mrs. Cmar-Grote was not feeling well and will be unable to attend this evening.  
  
Mrs. Corless read the District’s Mission Statement.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Mrs. Corless moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Reorganization/Business meeting of July 7, 2022. Mr. Nardo seconded, Mrs. Lanci abstained, and the motion was carried 3-1.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** None.  
*(Agenda Items Only)*

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mrs. Malloy advised that the Board received correspondence and it was discussed in Executive Session.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Mrs. Corless moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer’s report for the month ended June 30, 2022. Mr. Nardo seconded and motion carried 4-0.

**BOARD COMMITTEE / HIGH SCHOOL REPORTS**

Mrs. Lanci reported the Board met for the annual reorganization meeting. She was happy to announce the appointment of the new Assistant Principal, Mr. Jeff Cronk, at JFK High School. She spoke to the approval of the APPR plan, the Component Tax Allocation, and the continuation of the electrical training program. Mrs. Lanci was excited to share Mrs. Kate Murray visited the high school district summer program and the students held an interesting presentation on solar benches. The prospect of grant money will be explored for a solar project. Mrs. Lanci noted that the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation is scheduled for August 29, Superintendent’s Conference Day will be on August 30 and 31, and the first day of school for students is September 1. The next meeting will be held on September 7.

**FINANCE**

9.1 The Board of Education acknowledged the review of the warrants that have been approved by the Claims Auditor for the month of July 2022.

Mrs. Corless moved that the Board of Education approve Items 9.2 and 9.3. Mr. Nardo seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

9.2 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the following budget (Gross Amount) of the necessary claims and expenditures in North Bellmore UFSD (#4) in the Town of Hempstead School year 2022 – 2023, amounting to

\$ 115,225,041	School Purpose
<u>3,739,725</u>	Library Purpose
TOTAL \$ 118,964,766	be and the same is here accepted

<b>RESOLVED</b> that the sum of \$ 80,535,734	School Purpose
<u>3,739,725</u>	Library Purpose
TOTAL \$ 84,275,459	be the remainder of

budget adopted as above and the amount which must be RAISED BY TAXATION (NET AMOUNT) for North Bellmore UFSD (#4) of the Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York for the year 2022–23 be levied upon the taxable property of the said school district as said property has been certified to by the Assessor for the school year 2022-23.

**RESOLVED**, that the District Clerk of this School District is hereby authorized and directed, pursuant to Section 6–20.0 and amendments thereto of the Nassau County Administrative Code, to file a certified copy of these resolutions with the Nassau County Legislature and the Department of Assessment, Mineola, New York on or before August 15, 2022.

**FINANCE**  
*(continued)*

9.3 **BE IT RESOLVED**, THAT THE Board of Education approve the budgetary transfers dated August 11, 2022.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT/BUSINESS REPORT**

Mrs. Testa began in celebration by announcing the recipient of the \$500.00 Scope Award in North Bellmore and had the distinct honor of awarding it to, Christopher Dubon, a Mepham High School senior and former graduate of Martin Avenue School. Mrs. Testa proudly spoke to Christopher's accomplishments, most recently his Eagle Scout project where he dedicated, built, and donated to the Martin Avenue community a lending library which is displayed outside the front entrance of the Martin Avenue School. She praised him for truly embodying the mission of North Bellmore.

Mrs. Testa provided the Board the following updates district wide:

- Superintendent's Conference Day will be held on August 30 and 31, and planning is underway.
- Recruitment and screening of candidates for open positions is ongoing.
- Relocation of Martin Avenue's Main Office is almost complete. The main office moved down the hall, and the psychologist suite will now occupy the prior location.
- The year-end audit is underway. The external auditors were in district last week to review financial records and books, and interviews are being conducted this week with administrators.
- The security vestibule project is ongoing with Saw Mill and Dinkelmeyer awaiting completion. Implementation of visitation through the vestibules is planned for the start of school.
- The district is excited to share the sixth-grade classes will be given the potential opportunity to switch classes for science and/or social studies. More details to follow after meeting with faculty and staff.

Mrs. Testa extended her gratitude to Mrs. Malone and Mrs. Kaminska, and all faculty and staff for the success of the ESY Program. The children were able to attend field trips and participate in the summer Olympics organized here at Martin. With the conclusion of the ESY Program tomorrow, Mrs. Testa indicated that cleaning and preparation for the start of school will be in full swing at Martin Avenue School.

As a final note, Mrs. Testa was excited to share that the NBNM Little League eight- and ten-year-old girls participated in the States this year and congratulated all on their accomplishments.

**BOND ANALYSIS  
PRESENTATION**

Mrs. Testa opened the Bond Analysis Presentation by detailing an overview of the discussion to be held by the BOE this evening. She briefly reminded all of the presentation by Mr. Grillo, the district architect, at the July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding the five-year building condition survey. The focus this evening she indicated will be to discuss the future of the district facilities, potential capital projects, and the possibility of moving forward with a detailed analysis of a bond by district capital advisors.

A comprehensive detailed power point overview of this evening's presentation by Mrs. Testa and Mrs. Rehak is viewable on the website. Highlights included:

- The 2008 and 2010 bond votes, a list of projects included therein, the financial details, and the overall outcome of those bond votes.
- The 2021 Building Condition Survey illustrating a breakdown of capital projects and repair.
- Potential bond projects discussed were HVAC upgrades district wide including central air, electrical and wiring, the possibility of steam to hot water piping, roof replacements, playgrounds with or without rubber surfacing, and elevators and ADA accessibility.
- The life expectancy of the roofs depending on the particular building is between 7 to 15 years. There was discussion and recommendation of a possible new capital reserve to be voted on by the taxpayer designated for this purpose versus including it in the bond analysis.
- The timing of a potential bond vote coupled with the current economic conditions, rising interest rates, and state aide available.

Upon conclusion of the presentation, the floor was opened to questions by the members of the Board of Education:

Mr. Nardo inquired with respect to the building survey, the different projects, and the funding for each of those projects, of those projects already in progress, is the funding noted the cost for the entire project or is that the monies remaining for the project. Mrs. Rehak in response indicated with respect to those projects we do not have a repair reserve. She explained that this particular piece that is being addressed is made up of several smaller projects which the district, depending on the nature of the repair, is work already completed, currently in progress, and/or in consideration for the future.

Mr. Nardo addressed the potential bond of \$33.9M and inquired whether that included Gunther. Mrs. Rehak responded that the figure does include Gunther. She directed Mr. Nardo to the slide regarding the HVAC which reflects the breakdown by building.

**BOND ANALYSIS  
PRESENTATION  
(continued)**

Mrs. Lanci spoke to the current state of the economy, the impact to the taxpayer in today's market with the reassessment, and the need for the homeowners to know financially the affect a bond will have on their taxes directly. Mrs. Rehak responded that if it is the desire to move forward with the financial advisor, the tax impact per household using a varying amount of assess values coupled with the projected cost of the scope of work to be performed will be included as part of the August 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mrs. Malloy, with respect to HVAC and the soft costs, inquired if those costs include asbestos removal and abatement or, if the situation arises, will it be an additional cost. Mrs. Rehak responded that soft costs are reflective of those type of fees not relative to construction (which are considered hard costs) such as architectural fees and project managers. In furtherance, Mrs. Rehak did explain that within the 18 percent soft costs there could be some contingencies, but if the situation arose in all buildings and all areas, more may be needed.

Mrs. Corless raised a point for consideration that if the bond vote passed and the district goes out for the capital reserve for the roofs, taxpayers whose numbers spike may vote no to the capital reserve. She stressed when making a decision we must be mindful of all potential factors with respect to the different projects.

Mr. Nardo raised another question with respect to interest and interest rates rising, the covenances inside the bond, does that provide any relief or cap with respect to interest rate increases. Mrs. Rehak indicated the interest rates would be a flat rate for the life of the bond and amortization schedules will be provided to the BOE showing projections.

Mrs. Malloy asked if there were any further questions. Hearing no further questions, she inquired of the BOE if they were willing to move forward with the financial advisor. All voted affirmatively.

Mrs. Malloy then inquired what items should be included in the analysis. Mrs. Corless responded definitely HVAC, the playgrounds with and without rubber surfacing (and the possibility of performing this work under a capital reserve), and the ADA accessibility noting more information should be included with respect to this. Mr. Nardo responded that he would like to see the entire list to understand what the maximum expenditure is and then revise downward if necessary.

Mrs. Testa thanked the BOE, offered Board tours of the buildings and/or grounds, and indicated requested documentation and pictures will be made available for the upcoming August 30 meeting for discussion on the financial analysis and the impact of a potential bond.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mrs. Corless moved that the Board of Education approve Items 10.1 through 10.3. Mr. Nardo seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.

- PERSONNEL REPORT** 10.1 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the Personnel Report dated August 11, 2022.
- STAFF DEVELOPMENT** 10.2 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development dated August 11, 2022.
- ADDENDUM TO PERSONNEL REPORT** 10.3 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the addendum to the Personnel Report dated August 11, 2022.
- CPSE/CSE REPORTS** Mrs. Corless moved that the Board of Education approve Items 11.1 through 11.2. Mr. Nardo seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.
- 11.1 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated August 3, 2022.
- 11.2 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the addendum to the CSE reports dated August 10, 2022.
- CONSENT AGENDA** Mrs. Corless moved that the Board of Education approve Items 12.1 through 12.11. Mr. Nardo seconded and the motion was carried 4-0.
- NEW BUSINESS CONTRACTS** 12.1 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the following contracts for the 2022/23 school year:
- Lisa Arbucho-Veneroni
  - Capital Markets Advisors, LLC
  - Hempstead UFSD (2021-22)
  - Merrick Community Nursery
  - Nawrocki Smith, LLP (2021-22)
  - Seneca Consulting Group, Inc.
  - South Shore Country Day School
  - TLC at Brookside, Inc.
  - Wee Friends Nursery School
  - Wee Friends Too Nursery
- SECOND READING/ ADOPTION: Policy No. 1405** 12.2 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accept Policy No. 1405: Complaints About Certain Federally-Funded Programs for a second reading and adoption.
- DONATIONS** 12.3 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accept a donation from John G. Dinkelmeyer PTA of room number hanging signs to be placed in the building and hallways at John G. Dinkelmeyer School. (Approx. value \$350)
- 12.4 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accept a donation from the John G. Dinkelmeyer PTA of hallway murals to be painted on the hallway to update the outdated drawings from 2006 (Approx. value \$1,500)

**DONATIONS  
(continued)**

12.5 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accept a donation from the John G. Dinkelmeyer PTA of book vending machine to be used by all of the learners of John G. Dinkelmeyer School. (Approx. value \$1,800)

**2022/23 NORTH BELLMORE  
DISTRICT-WIDE SCHOOL  
BUILDING SAFETY PLANS**

12.6 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education adopt the 2022-23 North Bellmore District-wide and School Building Safety Plans. A copy of the District Emergency Plan will be on file in the District Office.

**CUSTODIAL BUS DRIVER  
AGREEMENT**

12.7 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby approves an agreement between the North Bellmore Union Free School District and the North Bellmore CSEA Custodial/Bus Driver Unit dated August 1, 2022.

**WEE FRIENDS LEASE  
AGREEMENT**

12.8 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the lease between it and the Wee Friends; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute said lease.

**NBUFSD  
PARAPROFESSIONAL  
ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT**

12.9 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby approves a Memorandum of Agreement between North Bellmore UFSD and North Bellmore Paraprofessional Association for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026.

**EXCISE OF DISTRICT  
EQUIPMENT**

12.10 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education excess a 1992 Car Mate landscaping trailer that is beyond repair and unfit for use on the road, VIN# 1P9U61255NL07778.

**NEW BUSINESS (2021/22)**

12.11 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the following contracts for the 2021-22 school year:

- CBIZ Valuation Group, LLC
- Hempstead UFSD

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Halpern (Winifred Drive) - *Thank you for the presentation today. Are you aware of how hot the classrooms without air conditioning become in the months of September, late May and June when temperatures can exceed eighty degrees, and are there general District plans for these hot days.* Mrs. Testa began by acknowledging Mr. Halpern's appreciation of the presentation this evening and thanked him for attending. The district she explained does have Health & Safety representatives consisting of administrators and other staff who monitor and track current weather conditions including air quality to determine whether activities such as outdoor recess is appropriate. Mrs. Testa described various cooling centers in the buildings that teachers are given permission to visit including the cafeterias, the music rooms, and libraries. She reiterated the district's concern regarding HVAC and the current state of the electrical capacity with respect to it. She thanked Mr. Halpern for the inquiry.

**POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mr. Nardo, and carried 4-0, the Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 8, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurice Gunnels  
District Clerk