



**NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES – AUGUST 14, 2023**

Business Meeting

Newbridge Road School
1601 Newbridge Avenue, North Bellmore, NY 11710

7:30 PM

The Business meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Monday evening, August 14, 2023, in the school cafeteria of the Newbridge Road School at 1601 Newbridge Road, North Bellmore, New York, and was recorded.

The following members of the Board of Education were present:

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

Also present:

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

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 6:39 p.m. A motion was made by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote to move into an executive session. Motion was carried 5-0. The meeting reconvened at 7:54 p.m.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Mrs. Malloy led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- MISSION STATEMENT** Mrs. Cmar-Grote read the District’s Mission Statement.
- BOE DISCUSSION** The BOE set a work session date for Monday, September 18, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss Board of Education goals.
- The BOE discussed the 2024/25 School District Calendar relating to holidays, particularly the impact upon the contractual agreements, the required number of school days, coordination with the high school district, and the importance of same to the community. The Board discussed how the holidays fluctuate from year to year, i.e., Eid, Diwali, Lunar New Year, etc. Future discussion in a scheduled work session was discussed relating to this topic. The calendar is finalized in the spring of each year for the upcoming school year.

BOE DISCUSSION
(continued)

The BOE discussed a potential community survey as a tool to gauge thoughts, ideas, and opinions, the subject matter it should contain, i.e., the goal and/or information sought, and the accessibility of it. It was stressed the importance of the community's understanding of what the BOE's role is and the extent and/or limitations thereto should be communicated first.

Mrs. Lanci proudly commented and applauded the administrative team and staff on their accomplishments districtwide over the years. She described the financial restraints and the strives that this district has taken in education, maintenance, technology, etc., while balancing and keeping in consideration fairness to the community and the taxpayers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a Motion by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Corless, and carried 4-1, the Board of Education approved the minutes of the Reorganization/Business meeting of July 10, 2023, and Special Meeting of July 17, 2023. Mrs. Cmar-Grote abstained as she was not present for the July 10 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
(Agenda Items only)

Guidelines for Public Comments was communicated by Mrs. Malloy on behalf of the Board of Education.

There were no public comments relating to agenda items only.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Malloy advised that the Board received correspondence and were discussed.

**TREASURER'S
REPORT**

On a Motion made by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Lanci, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved the Treasurer's report for the month ended June 30, 2023.

**BOARD COMMITTEE / HIGH
SCHOOL REPORTS**

Mrs. Lanci reported that the high school district met on Wednesday, August 2. She discussed the success of the Bridge and ESY Program, STEAM, and the introduction of the Creative Art Program this year. Mrs. Lanci spoke to the upcoming orientation for Middle and High Schools, grades 7 and 9. In the regular course of business she noted a donation from the Mephram Alumni Association was accepted to be utilized for Mephram library supplies for the 2023/24 school year. The next meeting for the BMCHSD is September 6.

CONSENT AGENDA
(Item Nos. 10.1 to 10.3)

On a Motion made by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Corless, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved Item Nos. 10.1 through 10.3.

FINANCE

10.1 The Board of Education acknowledged review of the warrants that have been approved by the Claims Auditor for the month of July 2023.

10.2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Budgetary Transfers dated 8/10/2023.

10.3 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 2023 – 2024, amounting to

FINANCE
(continued)

\$122,525,208	School Purpose
<u>\$ 3,838,588</u>	Library Purpose
TOTAL \$126,363,796	

be and the same is hereby accepted.

RESOLVED that the sum of \$82,533,751	School Purpose
<u>\$ 3,838,588</u>	Library Purpose
AL \$86,372,339	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 2023–24 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 2023-24.

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, 2023

CONSENT AGENDA
(Item Nos. 11.1 to 11.3)

On a Motion made by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved Item Nos. 11.1 through 11.3.

PERSONNEL REPORT

11.1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Bellmore Board of Education approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to increase the full-time teacher staff by one position in the tenure area of Elementary, effective 8/30/23.

11.2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Personnel Report dated August 14, 2023.

- A. Appointments
- B. Leave Requests
- C. Resignations
- D. Terminations
- E. Retirement

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

11.3 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated August 14, 2023.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

With great enthusiasm and excitement Mrs. Testa addressed the Capital Reserve projects occurring at John G. Dinkelmeyer and Martin Avenue schools, i.e., the new ceilings and lighting in all designated interior areas as well as the asphalt on the exterior of the buildings. She expressed gratitude to Mrs. Rehak, Mr. Russo and the entire Building and Grounds Maintenance crew, for their hard work and to the community for their continued support. Mrs. Testa happily added that preparation has begun for Phase 2 at Saw Mill and Park.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT
(continued)**

Moving on, Mrs. Testa shared that she attended the Merrick Civic Association meeting at Merrick Golf Course regarding an incident of vandalism that occurred. She spoke to discussions regarding core values, the code of conduct to be followed, and what can be done as a school district. Mrs. Testa addressed the code of conduct and policies that North Bellmore has against such behavior in the schools and/or neighboring communities regarding racism, intimidation, and hate crimes.

Mrs. Corless on behalf of the Board expressed gratitude to Mrs. Testa for raising the importance of core values and the code of conduct in relation to diversity and inclusion. Turning her focus to the Capital Reserve Projects, Mrs. Corless expressed her excitement to see years of planning and preparation unfold, and expressed gratitude to the community for their continue support.

**BUSINESS REPORT
Review of District
Reopening Plan and ARP
Funding**

As previously reported, Mrs. Rehak reiterated that the district is undergoing a State desk review audit for ESSER and GEER funding including CARES, CRRSA, and ARP. She spoke to the requirements of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding and how the district's Reopening Plan must no less than every six months through the life of the grant be reviewed and revised as appropriate keeping within the recommendations of the CDC. Mrs. Rehak indicated that though there is no longer a State of Emergency, this is a living plan/document that needs to be discussed and documented, and available for review and public comment. She noted that the Reopening Plan has been consistently available on the district's website and updated to reflect current practices.

Also, Mrs. Rehak reported in accordance with the above that if the district needs to close schools due to a communicable disease, the district will implement the Communicable Disease-Pandemic Plan (see Appendix D/North Bellmore District-wide School Safety Plan), and noted if a class, school, or the district needs to close due to such an outbreak, remote instructional plan will be implemented (see Appendix E/North Bellmore District-wide School Safety Plan).

In closing, Mrs. Rehak noted while the grant funding is coming to an end and discussions relating to a Reopening Plan will discontinue, she stressed it will become part of the District-wide School Safety Plan in accordance with State requirements. She reminded all that the District-wide School Safety Plan has been available for public review and comment for the last 30 days. She expressed new for this year are sections relating to pandemics, communicable diseases, and related closing of schools.

Mrs. Rehak invited anyone with comments and/or questions relating to the Reopening Plan or the federal grants to contact her office directly or utilize the BOE meeting public comment section.

**CURRICULUM AND
INSTRUCTION REPORT**

Mrs. Pollitt opened by addressing the overall success this summer of the Word Wizards and Book Clubs, and offered gratitude to Ms. McNamara for overseeing these programs.

**CURRICULUM AND
INSTRUCTION REPORT**
(continued)

Mrs. Pollitt highlighted the following updates districtwide in Curriculum and Instruction:

- UPK was tentatively awarded an additional grant which can significantly increase the number of spots available for the 2024/25 school year, and noted the district is awaiting the final reward letter. Mrs. Pollitt reported for the current school year, there were 191 spots available and 233 families applied. For those families that did not accept, the district is utilizing the wait list to fill those placements.
- New this year for UPK is Universal Pre-K Screening at the district. This method is a more streamlined and consistent means utilizing the same instrument performed for in-coming Kindergarten students. Appointments are set up for the week of August 21, and over 100 families are scheduled.
- Mrs. Pollitt indicated herself and Mr. Fischetti are researching digital platforms for parent/teacher conferences to streamline the process, and are viewing and setting up demonstrations.
- New Teacher Orientation will be held at the Park Avenue School on Wednesday, August 16, and the Kindergarten Meet and Greet is scheduled for Thursday, August 31.

In closing, Mrs. Pollitt happily shared they're looking forward to welcoming back all the students, teachers, and faculty.

CPSE/CSE REPORTS

On a Motion by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved the CPSE and CSE reports dated August 3, 2023.

CONSENT AGENDA
(Item Nos. 15.1 to 15.10)

On a Motion by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved Item Nos. 15.1 through 15.10.

**2023/24 NB DISTRICTWIDE
SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN**

15.1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopt the 2023-24 North Bellmore Districtwide School Safety Plan.

**2023/24 SCHOOL BUILDING
LEVEL EMERGENCY
RESPONSE PLANS**

15.2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopt the School Building-Level Emergency Response Plans for the 2023-24 School year for John G. Dinkelmeyer, Martin Avenue, Newbridge Road, Park Avenue and Saw Mill Road schools.

BUSINESS CONTRACTS

15.3 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following contracts:

- CBIZ Valuation Group (2022/23)
- Tel/Logic DBA Textbook Central (2023/24)
- Bellmore Physical Therapy DBA Just for Kids Physical Therapy (23-24)
- Blue Sea Educational Consulting, Inc. (Related Services 23-24)
- Blue Sea Educational Consulting, Inc. (Skilled Nursing 23-24)

BUSINESS CONTRACTS
(continued)

- Blue Sea Educational Consulting, Inc. (Academic Tutoring 23-24)
- Capital Markets Advisors, LLC (23-24)
- Childhood Anxiety Solutions, LCSW, PLLC (23-24)
- Comprehensive Resources, Inc. (23-24)
- Health Source Group, Inc (Skilled Nursing 23-24)
- Health Source Group, Inc (Related Services 23-24)
- Kidz Educational Services, PLLC (Services 23-24)
- Pediatric Neuropsychology (Services 23-24)
- Sensational Development Occupational Therapy, PLLC (23-24)
- White Glove Community Care (Related Services 23-24)
- White Glove Community Care (Skilled Nurse 23-24)

DONATIONS

15.4 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation of various gifts, including gift cards, plaques, medals, certificates, checks, etc., for the 2022-23 sixth grade awards assembly at Saw Mill Road School.

DONOR/ORGANIZATION	GIFT	DOLLAR VALUE
Sen. Steven Rhoads	paper certificates	
Kiwanis Club of the Bellmores	2 Amazon Gift Cards	\$25.00 ea.
NB American Legion Post 1749	4 Target Gift Card	\$50 ea.
NB Fire Department No. 1 Smithville South	1 Plaque	
North Bellmore Lions Club	5 Amazon	\$25.00 ea.
NB Teacher's Association	1 Amazon	\$25.00
Saw Mill Faculty Fund	1 Amazon	\$25.00
Leg. Thomas McKeivitt	certificates	
Veterans of Foreign Wars Vigilant Post #2770	1 medal	
NB Central Administrators	Gary Pardo Award 2 Amazon Gift Cards	\$25.00 ea.
Patti Cernuto Art Award	2 checks	\$200 ea.
North Bellmore Republican Club Mr. David Weiss	Book on the Constitution	
Assemblyman David G. McDonough	paper certificates	
North Bellmore Retired Teachers' Association	1-plaque, Barnes and Noble gift card, medal	\$25.00
Attorney General Letitia James	5 Triple "C" certificates	
NB Principal's Association	Amazon Gift card	\$25.00
North Bellmore SEPTA	4 Plaques	
Chamber of Commerce of the Bellmores	Plaque/Gift Card	
NYS Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli	Paper certificates	
Coordinating Council Cares	check	\$50.00
Saw Mill Road School PTA	4 Barnes and Noble gift cards	\$25 ea.

DONATIONS
(continued)

15.5 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation of various gifts, including gift cards, plaques, medals, certificates, checks, etc., for the 2022-23 sixth grade awards assembly at Martin Avenue School.

Donor/Organization	Gift	Dollar Value
Kiwanis Club of the Bellmores	2 Amazon gift cards	\$25 ea.
NB American Legion Post 1749	4 Target gift cards	\$50 ea.
Bellmore Lions club	4 Amazon gift cards	\$25 ea.
NB Teachers' Association	1 Amazon gift card	\$25
Veterans of Foreign Wars Vigilant Post 2770	1 medal	
NB Central Office Administrators	Gary Pardo award 1 Amazon gift Card	\$25
Mr. and Mrs. Cernuto	Patti Cernuto Art award – 2 checks	\$200 ea.
NB Republican Club	Book on the Constitution	
Assemblyman David G. McDonough	Certificates	
NB Retired Teachers's Association	Framed certificate, Barnes and Nobel gift card, medal	\$25
Attorney General Letitia James	3 Trip "C" Award Certificates	
NB Principals' Association	1 Amazon gift card	\$25
NB SEPTA	2 plaques	
Chamber of Commerce of the Bellmores	2 Plaques, Carvel gift card	\$10
NYS Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli	Certificates	
Coordinating Council Cares	Check	\$50
Martin Avenue PTA	2 Amazon gift cards	\$25 ea.

15.6 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation of various gifts, including gift cards, plaques, medals, certificates, checks, etc., for the 2022-23 sixth grade awards assembly at Park Avenue School.

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Gift</u>
Chamber of Commerce of the Bellmore Park Avenue School	Plaque and \$25 Gift Card Certificate of Excellence
Park Avenue PTA Academic Excellence	Plaques
SEPTA Outstanding Academic Improvement	Plaques
Councilman Dennis Dunne Sr.	Certificates
NYS Comptroller (Thomas DiNapoli) Achievement Award	Certificates
North Merrick Fire Department	Plaques
VFW Post 2770	Medals
North Bellmore Republican Club	Constitution Book
Park Avenue School Steam Award	Certificates

DONATIONS
(continued)

Park Avenue School Faculty for Academic Effort	Certificates
North Bellmore Principals’ Association	\$25 Gift Card
North Bellmore Teachers’ Association	\$25 Gift Card
Park Avenue School Faculty for Academic Achievement	Certificates
Park Avenue Technology Award	Certificates
Patti Cernuto Scholarship Award for Art	2- \$200 Checks
Gary Pardo Award	2-\$25 Amazon Gift Cards
Park Avenue School Faculty Citizenship	Certificates
Park Avenue PTA Citizenship	Plaques
NB Coordinating Council Cares Award	\$50 Check
Park Avenue PTA Leadership	Plaques
Thomas McKeivitt	Certificates
Wenshaw Park Civic Association	Plaques
NYS Attorney General Triple ‘C’	Certificates
Lions Club of the Bellmores	2- \$25 Gift Cards
Kiwanis Club of the Bellmores	2- \$25 Amazon Gift Cards
American Legion Post 1749	4- \$25 Gift Cards
North Bellmore Retired Teachers	Certificate, Medal, \$25 Gift Card
Park Avenue School Community Service	Certificates
CPL Kevin P. Vaughan Inspiration	Plaques
Principal’s Award	Trophies

15.7 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation of various gifts, including gift cards, plaques, medals, certificates, checks, etc., for the 2022-23 sixth grade awards assembly at Newbridge Road School.

Donor/Organization	Gift	Value
Mary Grace Roach	Meghan Alice Roach Art Award	\$50 check
Newbridge Road Faculty	2 Barnes and Noble gift cards	\$15 ea.
Newbridge Road PTA	3 Barnes and Noble gift cards	\$20 ea.
SEPTA	2 Plaques	\$20 ea.
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2770	Medal	\$10
Republic Club	Book	\$10
NYS Comptroller’s Office	3 Certificates	\$2 ea.
Smithville Hook and Ladder Co.	Plaque	\$20
Chamber of Commerce	Engraved Plaque	\$20
NB Teachers’ Association	Amazon Gift Card	\$25
NB Principals’ Association	Amazon Gift Card	\$25
Mr. and Mrs. Cernuto	2 checks Cernuto Art Awards	\$200 ea.
Mr. and Mrs. Clare	6 checks James Clare Excellence in Music Awards	\$50 ea.
NB Central Office Administrators	Gary Pardo Awards – 2 Amazon gift cards	\$25 ea.
Newbridge Road PTA	3 Barnes and Noble gift cards	\$20 ea.

DONATIONS
(continued)

NB Coordinating Council	Gift certificate	\$50
Knights of Columbus	Visa card	\$25
Letitia James Triple "C" Award	3 Certificates	\$2
Bellmore Lions Club	6 Visa cards	\$25 ea.
NB Principals' Association	Amazon Gift Card	\$25
Kiwanis Club	Barnes and Noble gift card	\$25
American Legion Post 1749	3 Gift cards	\$50 ea.
Newbridge Retired Teachers	Barnes and Noble gift card, framed certificate, medal	\$25

DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE INSTRUMENTS

15.8 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education declared obsolete and approved the disposal of the following instruments from Newbridge Road School that are broken beyond repair:

Instrument	Case #	Year Purchased	Serial #
Flute	NE4	1961	79121
Clarinet	NE21	1972	105013
Clarinet	NE22	1972	105113
Alto Saxophone	NE1	1957	65612
Alto Saxophone	NE3	1960	74780
Cornet	NE1	1957	161542
Cornet	NE2	1957	201765
Cornet	NE3	1957	205768
Cornet	NE5	1958	233732
Cornet	NE6	1958	236689
Cornet	M56	1958	237084
Trumpet	NE9	1980	311611

TRANSPORTATION

15.9 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approved an agreement with Guardian Bus Company Inc for the provision of transportation services to the School District for the 2023-2024 school year and in accordance with a written agreement with Guardian Bus Company, Inc. and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education President is hereby authorized to sign said agreement (on file at District Office).

JOINT MUNICIPAL COOPERATIVE BIDDING PROGRAM

15.10 JOINT MUNICIPAL COOPERATIVE BIDDING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, various educational and municipal corporations located within the State of New York desire to bid jointly for generally needed services and standardized supply and equipment items; and

WHEREAS, the North Bellmore School District, an educational/municipal corporation (hereinafter the "Participant") is desirous of selectively participating with other educational and/or municipal corporations in the State of New York in joint bidding in the areas mentioned above pursuant to General Municipal Law § 119-o and Education Law Section 1950; and

**JOINT MUNICIPAL
COOPERATIVE BIDDING
PROGRAM
(continued)**

WHEREAS, the Participant is a municipality within the meaning of General Municipal Law § 119-n and is eligible to participate in the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, First Supervisory District of Suffolk County (hereinafter Eastern Suffolk BOCES) Joint Municipal Cooperative Bidding Program (hereinafter the "Program") in the areas mentioned above; and

WHEREAS, the Participant acknowledges receipt of the Program description inclusive of Eastern Suffolk BOCES' standard bid packet and the general conditions relating to said Program; and

WHEREAS, with respect to all activities conducted by the Program, the Participant wishes to delegate to Eastern Suffolk BOCES the responsibility for drafting of bid specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, evaluating bids, awarding via Eastern Suffolk BOCES Board approval, and reporting the results to the Participant.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Participant hereby appoints Eastern Suffolk BOCES to represent it and to act as the lead agent in all matters related to the Program as described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Participant hereby authorizes Eastern Suffolk BOCES to place all legal advertisements for any required cooperative bidding in *Newsday*, which is designated as the official newspaper for the Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Participant Meeting shall be held annually consisting of a representative from each Program Participant. Notice of the meeting shall be given to each representative at least five (5) days prior to such meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Advisory Committee will be formed consisting of five to ten representatives of Program Participants for a term of three (3) years as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o.2.j.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Agreement with the Participant shall be for a term of one (1) year as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o.2.j.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Participant agrees to pay Eastern Suffolk BOCES an annual fee as determined annually by Eastern Suffolk BOCES to act as the lead agent for the Program.

This Resolution solely applies to the Cross Contact for Bid: Security Services.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Guidelines for Public Comments was communicated by Mrs. Malloy on behalf of the Board of Education

There were no public comments.

POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Education did not enter into executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

On a Motion by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Lanci, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The next Business Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 14, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurice Gunnels
District Clerk