



**NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES – AUGUST 8, 2024**

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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 8, 2024, in the All Purpose Room of the Martin Avenue School at 2616 Martin Avenue, North Bellmore, New York.

The following members of the Board of Education were present:

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

Also present:

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

<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. A motion was made by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mr. Nardo to move into an executive session. Motion was carried 5-0. The meeting reconvened at 7:50 p.m.
<b>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</b>	Mrs. Lanci led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
<b>MISSION STATEMENT</b>	Mrs. Cmar-Grote read the District’s Mission Statement.
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	ON A MOTION by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved the minutes of the Business meeting of July 8, 2024.
<b>PUBLIC COMMENTS</b> <i>(Agenda Items only)</i>	Guidelines for Public Comments was communicated by Mrs. Lanci on behalf of the Board of Education. There were no public comments relating to agenda items only.
<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	Mrs. Lanci advised that the Board reviewed correspondence.
<b>TREASURER’S REPORT</b>	ON A MOTION by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved the Treasurer’s report for the month ended June 30, 2024.

**BOARD COMMITTEE / HIGH SCHOOL REPORTS**

The BMCHSD met last evening, Wednesday, August 7. Mrs. Lanci proudly reported the BMCHSD was one of three districts honored at the 2024 Advanced Placement Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada in recognition of their overall support and success of the program. Other highlights of the meeting included reports on the status of summer school, the Creative Arts Camp, STEAM, and discussions of exciting opening day events. The next meeting will be held on September 4.

**FINANCE**

9.1 The Board of Education acknowledges the review of the warrants that have been approved by the Claims Auditor for the month of July 2024.

9.2 ON A MOTION by Ms. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approves the Budgetary Transfers dated 8/8/24.

9.3 ON A MOTION by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approves the following budget (Gross Amount) of the necessary claims and expenditures in North Bellmore UFSD (#4) in the Town of Hempstead School year 2024 – 2025, amounting to

\$129,360,932	School Purpose
<u>\$ 3,979,075</u>	Library Purpose
TOTAL \$133,340,007	be and the same is hereby accepted.

RESOLVED that the sum of \$ 84,696,130 School Purpose  
\$ 3,979,075 Library Purpose  
TOTAL \$ 88,675,205 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 2024–25 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 2024-25.

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, 2024

**CONSENT AGENDA**  
*(Item Nos. 10.1 to 10.4)*

ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, seconded by Mrs. Corless, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approves Item Nos. 10.1 through 10.4.

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

10.1 WHEREAS, three positions have been abolished as indicated below. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the appointment of the following positions in the North Bellmore Union Free School District hereby is excessed as indicated below, effective August 9, 2024.

Position: PT Reading  
Employee: Yakira Meltzer

**PERSONNEL REPORT**  
*(continued)*

Position: PT Reading  
Employee: Margo Montgomery

Position: PT Reading  
Employee: Emily McClernon

10.2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an agreement with the North Bellmore Teachers Association on behalf of Michelle Mittler dated August 7, 2024 (See attached).

10.3 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Personnel Report dated August 8, 2024. (See attached.)

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

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

10.4 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated August 8, 2024 (on file at District Office.)

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mrs. Testa opened by extending congratulations and happily welcoming the newest member of the NBTA, Mary Berry, to the North Bellmore School District/Park Avenue School.

Mrs. Testa shared the following updates district-wide:

- The 2024/25 calendar is now available on line and in print for distribution to the North Bellmore families the first week of school. Key elements contained therein were reviewed and gratitude extended to Ms. Canavan, the Principals, and staff who contributed and worked diligently in its production.
- Turning to the 2024/25 District-wide Safety Plan, one amendment illustrated in the final plan for approval this evening is the number of drills to be completed by December 31, emphasizing the overall number of drills is not changing, just the timeframe in occurrence.
- Gratitude was extended to Mr. Fischetti and his technology team on the rollout of the new platform *Parent Square*. Mr. Fischetti will be presenting this evening on data security and privacy.
- In the area of Curriculum and Instruction, gratitude was extended to Mrs. Pollitt and Ms. McNamara on their hard work in planning and organizing the upcoming Superintendent's Conference Day, new teacher orientation, UPK screening, etc., all exciting events in preparation for the school year.
- Capital Projects were approved by the state. More extensive formation to follow in the Business Department Report by Mrs. Rehak.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT  
(continued)**

In closing, Mrs. Testa shared excitement over the start of the 2024/25 school year, spoke to the overall hard work involved in reopening including the cleaning of the buildings, preparation of the classrooms, maintenance of the grounds, extending gratitude to Mr. Russo and his staff.

**BUSINESS DEPARTMENT  
REPORT**

Mrs. Rehak opened her report by extending gratitude to the BOE for approving the tax levy which includes North Bellmore and the BMCHSD's share of the levy for the residents of the North Bellmore community.

As reported by Mrs. Testa, Mrs. Rehak was happy to announce the Capital Reserve Projects were finally approved on July 30 for Saw Mill and Park Avenue schools' ceiling, lighting, and pavement, and electrical upgrades for three district schools. She indicated bid packet preparation is underway in conjunction with the District's Architect. Mrs. Rehak spoke of a potential project work schedule and indicated the district is looking at performing smaller projects during various school breaks with most of the work including the classrooms to be done over the summer of 2025.

In furtherance of Capital Projects, Mrs. Rehak reported work on the submission to NYSED for Gunther and Newbridge as well as the electrical upgrades for the remaining three schools has begun. She did say the architectural plans were received and will be reviewed by the district and the project managers from SCC to determine if any adjustments need to be made with a potential submission to the state by the end of September. Mrs. Rehak indicated she would keep the BOE apprised of the status.

With respect to the potential work schedule in the summer of 2025, Mrs. Rehak reiterated from last month's report on Capital Projects the potential work schedule if all four buildings were approved by spring of 2025. She spoke of the factors to be taken into consideration including summer schedules, bid results, highest need, etc. and indicated all potential plans would be reviewed with the BOE.

In closing, Mrs. Rehak reported the onsite Annual Audit was completed this week, and extended gratitude to Mr. Newman, the District Treasurer, in preparing the documents for audit review and drafting of financial statements. She indicated the Annual Audit Committee meeting to review the external and internal audit reports is forthcoming in the beginning of October date to be determined.

**TECHNOLOGY DEPT.  
REPORT**

Mr. Fischetti presented a detailed departmental update on North Bellmore's technological growth in services concentrating on data security and privacy protections, the "unseen" programs and safeguards that have been implemented based on guidance under Educational Law Section 2-d.

- Data Privacy is governing how data is collected, shared, and used, i.e. personal information such as usernames, passwords, etc.
- Data Security is protecting data from internal and external attackers, i.e. hardware, software, storage devices, user devices, etc.

**TECHNOLOGY DEPT.  
REPORT  
(continued)**

Mr. Fischetti delivered a comprehensive report detailing the data security/privacy implementations district wide discussing the various platforms utilized for file back-up, server performance, customized filtering options, multi factor authentication, and testing/training employee/staff in recognizing potential threats. More detailed information is available on the website under the Technology Department with respect to Education Law Section 2-d and data privacy and security.

In conclusion, Mr. Fischetti proudly described a steadfast journey for North Bellmore into the world of technology, speaking to a responsible expansion and growth safely and budgetarily.

Mrs. Lanci inquired of the BOE if they had any questions for Mr. Fischetti.

Mr. Nardo inquired of the district usage of physical servers and cloud servers, why not utilize just cloud service providers. Mr. Fischetti explained the physical servers are used for certain services utilized districtwide including video and if all were pushed to the cloud it would affect the speed of the connection and slow down the overall network.

Mr. Nardo spoke of the district's in-house training with respect to e-mail awareness and inquired if any other means are utilized by the district to collect information with respect to possible threats. Mr. Fischetti spoke of the platform utilized by the consortium whereby network penetration testing is run twice yearly, and a report is generated to make awareness of potential areas of concern, i.e. password usage, etc.

Mrs. Testa nostalgically recalled North Bellmore's world of technology beginning with Mr. Gary Pardo, and proudly reminisced on Mr. Fischetti's 2012 interview, the vision for technology, and the district's technological advancements through strategic planning over the years. Mrs. Testa extended her sincerest gratitude to Mr. Fischetti and his team for their strides and accomplishments.

**CPSE/CSE REPORTS**

13.1 ON A MOTION by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approves the CPSE and CSE reports dated August 1, 2024 (on file at District Office).

**CONSENT AGENDA  
(Item Nos. 14.1 to 14.6)**

ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Malloy, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approves Item Nos. 14.1 through 14.6.

**2024/25 DISTRICT-WIDE  
SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN**

14.1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopt the 2024-25 District-Wide School Safety Plan (on file at the District Office).

**NEW BUSINESS**

14.2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following contracts for the 2024/25 school year:

- Blue Sea Educational Consulting, Inc. (Academic Tutoring)
- Blue Sea Educational Consulting, Inc. (Services)
- Global Investigations, Inc. (Services)
- The Hagedorn Little Village School (Tuition 2023/24)
- Horizon Healthcare Staffing (Services)

**NEW BUSINESS**  
*(continued)*

- Horizon Healthcare Staffing (Nursing)
- Caryl Orvis, M.D.
- TLC at Brookside (Services)
- Wee Friends Too Nursery School (Services)
- Zveron Industries (Services 2023/24))

**SEQRA RESOLUTION –  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**

14.3 WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the North Bellmore UFSD desires to embark upon the following capital improvement projects:

NEWBRIDGE ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1. Building wide exterior masonry reconstruction and waterproofing.
2. Site wide full depth asphalt pavement, concrete siding, and curbing replacement.
3. Installation of new storm water drainage structures
4. Building wide ceiling and lighting replacement (1924 portion of building)

JACOB GUNTHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1. Site wide full depth asphalt pavement, concrete siding, and curbing replacement.
2. Installation of new storm water drainage structures
3. Replacement of existing incoming electrical service original to the building (1956)
4. Building wide exterior masonry reconstruction and waterproofing.
5. Replacement of existing incoming electrical, electrical service original to the building

JOHN G. DINKELMEYER SCHOOL

1. Replacement of existing incoming electrical, electrical service original to the building

PARK AVENUE SCHOOL

1. Replacement of existing incoming electrical, electrical service original to the building

WHEREAS, said capital improvements are subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQRA Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(1)); and

WHEREAS, replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or a facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQRA Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(2); and

**SEQRA RESOLUTION –  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS  
(continued)**

WHEREAS, Construction or expansion of a primary or accessory/appurtenant non-residential structure or facility involving less than 4,000 square feet of gross floor area and not involving a change in zoning or a use variance and consistent with local land use controls, but not radio communication or microwave transmission facilities at the School District.

WHEREAS, the SEQRA Regulations declare Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, as the only involved agency, has examined all information related to the capital improvement projects and has determined that the Project is classified as a Type II Action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(1) and (2) of the SEQRA Regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, after a review of the proposed action, hereby declares that the Projects are Type II Actions, which requires no further review under SEQR; or

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby shall forward an official copy of this Resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the correspondence from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in connection with its request for approval of the listed project from the New York State Education Department.

**2024/25 LICOOP  
Food and Service Supplies**

14.4 Long Island School Nutrition Directors Association, Participation in the LISNDA Long Island Cooperative (LICOOP) 2024-2025 School Year

*WHEREAS, It is the plan of a number of public-school districts in Nassau/Suffolk Counties, New York to bid jointly on selected Food Service Commodities, Food and Food Service Supplies for the 2024-2025 school year.*

WHEREAS, North Bellmore UFSD, is desirous of participating with other districts in Nassau/Suffolk Counties in the joint bidding of the commodities mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0 and,

WHEREAS, North Bellmore UFSD, wishes to appoint a committee to assume the responsibility for drafting of specification, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, reporting the results to the boards of education and making recommendations thereon; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR North Bellmore UFSD, hereby appoints Long Island School Nutrition Directors Association Long Island Cooperative to represent it in all matters related above, and,

**2024/25 LICOOP  
Food and Service Supplies  
(continued)**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that North Bellmore UFSD Board of Education authorized the above-mentioned cooperative to represent it in all matters leading up to and entering into a contract for the purchase of the above-mentioned commodities, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that North Bellmore UFSD Board of Education agrees to assume its equitable share of the costs of the cooperative bidding, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that North Bellmore UFSD Board of Education agrees (1) to abide by majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards; (2) that unless all bids are rejected, it will award contracts according to the recommendations of the committee; (3) that after award of contract(s), it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

**2024/25 NASSAU BOCES  
AGREEMENT**

14.5 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the 2024-2025 Final AS-7 agreement with Nassau BOCES as required by Education Law § 1950 (on file at District Office).

14.6 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Letter of Intent with Nassau BOCES in the amount of \$4,588,045.68 for the 2024-2025 school year (on file at District Office).

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was discussed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Guidelines for Public Comments was communicated by Mrs. Lanci on behalf of the Board of Education. There were no public comments.

**POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

The BOE did not adjourn into Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Malloy, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m. The next business meeting will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurice Gunnels  
District Clerk