

MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING December 7, 2017

The regular meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, December 7, 2017, in the All Purpose Room of the Martin Avenue School at 2616 Martin Avenue, Bellmore, New York.

The following members of the Board of Education were present:

Peter Mayo, President
Melissa Cmar-Grote, Vice President
JoAnn DeLauter
John Ferrara
Nina Lanci

Also present:

Marie Testa, Superintendent of Schools
Carol Eskew, Deputy Superintendent
Mark Schissler, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Janet Pollitt, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Jason Fischetti, Director of Technology, Chief Information Officer
Larry Tenenbaum, District Counsel
Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. Motion was made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mrs. Lanci, to move into executive session to discuss personnel matters. Motion was carried 5-0. The meeting reconvened at 7:40 p.m. Mr. Schissler led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. DeLauter then read the District's Mission Statement.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Minutes from the Regular meeting of November 2, 2017 and the Minutes from the special meeting of November 29, 2017. Mrs. Lanci seconded, and the motion was carried 5-0.
- MOMENT OF SILENCE** Mr. Mayo led a moment of silence to mark the anniversary of Pearl Harbor.
- SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS LIONS INTERNATIONAL PEACE POSTER** Mrs. Testa stated that the Board is recognizing the winners and participants of the Lions International Peace Poster Contest. Mrs. Testa thanked the students for their outstanding artwork and presented them with a certificate. Mrs. Testa thanked the art teachers for their support of this project. On behalf of the Bellmore Lions Club, Mrs. Lanci congratulated the grand prizewinner from North Bellmore Maya Stone (Newbridge Road) and the winners from each school—Yianna Foufas (Dinkelmeyer), Madison Martineation (Martin Avenue), Ellie Kertzner (Park Avenue) and Alyssa Bifulco (Saw Mill Road) and presented each of the winners with an award.

**EMPLOYEE
RECOGNITION**

Mrs. Testa and the Board of Education recognized the following employees for outstanding service to the district and presented them with a Mission Award certificate:

Michele Johnson, lunch monitor (Newbridge Road School)

Gary Streicher, cleaner (Park Avenue School)

Tom Clare, head custodian (Park Avenue School)

Mr. Mayo, on behalf of the Board of Education, thanked the employees for looking out for the safety of all the children.

VISITORS

There were none.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Mayo advised that correspondence was received and will be addressed.

**TREASURER'S
REPORT**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report for the month ended October 31, 2017. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion and was carried 5-0.

**HIGH SCHOOL
REPORT**

Mrs. Lanci reported that at last evening's Board of Education meeting, the Board recognized the Kennedy boys volleyball team for their accomplishments. She stated that the Jerusalem Avenue School referendum passed 759 votes to 278 votes. The proceeds will be used to minimize future tax impacts and fund student programs. Nassau County residents will be asked to participate in a public vote on February 8 that would authorize Nassau BOCES to purchase the Jerusalem Avenue School for \$12 million. If it is approved, the sale will become final in July. The Board approved an agreement for the use of the NYCB Theatre to be used for the high school graduation exercises. The next regular meeting will be held on January 3.

FINANCE

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

**BUDGETARY
TRANSFERS**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Budgetary Transfers dated December 7, 2017. Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Mrs. Testa provided an overview of the district enrollment, grade and class sizes:

ENROLLMENT

District average class size for Gr. 1- 6: 20.2 (7th lowest in in the County)

Kindergarten class size average: 21.8

District enrollment: 2007 - 2341 students

2010 - 2163 students

2014 - 2112 students

2017 - 2100 students

ENROLLMENT

Average class size by school (not included self-contained classes):

Dinkelmeyer 21.7
 Martin Ave. 18.6
 Newbridge Rd. 18.3
 Park Ave. 18.6
 Saw Mill Rd. 22.1

TRANSPORTATION

Mrs. Testa spoke about a possible transportation referendum to provide bussing for all students in grades K-6 living more than one half mile from school. If the proposition were approved, we may need up to 14 additional buses. However, based on a ridership analysis, it could be 9, 10 or 11 additional buses, at a cost \$61,000 a bus. By doing this, we will exceed the number of buses utilized through the consortium and will need to pay for these buses outside of the consortium. Mrs. Testa indicated that if the referendum passes, we could expect to pierce the Tax Cap.

Mrs. Testa gave a breakdown school by school of the eligible riders, should a referendum be brought forward and approved.

<u>School</u>	<u>Current # of riders</u>	<u># Students eligible if referendum approved</u>
Dinkelmeyer:	76 (2 buses)	175
Martin Ave.	57 (1 bus)	174
Newbridge Rd.	57 (1 bus)	198
Park Ave.	106 (2 buses)	203
Saw Mill Rd.	390 (5 buses, 1 large van)	574

Mrs. Testa stated that if a proposition were put forward, a *Frequently Asked Questions* document about the transportation referendum and impact on the budget would be placed on the district website and included in our budget newsletter.

Mrs. Lanci commented that residents would not receive the tax freeze credit check each year if we pierce the Tax Cap. Mr. Schissler stated that the tax freeze credit ends this year and is not a factor.

BUDGET

Mr. Schissler commented that if the proposition is added on and does pierce the State Tax Cap, 60% of voters must approve the budget. If the budget fails to get 60% approval, the contingency budget can only raise taxes, in accordance with what the district raised the prior year.

Mrs. Testa clarified a statement made by Mr. Schissler at last month's Board meeting regarding budget issues due to special education costs. Mrs. Testa explained that the use of the word burden to describe the budget was not

BUDGET

indicative of how the district views our special education program. Mrs. Testa apologized to those community members who may have misinterpreted Mr. Schissler's intent.

Mrs. Testa explained how the district used the excess in fund balance and reserves to balance the budget over the last five years, as per the Board's request. Mrs. Testa advised that going forward we will need to readjust district spending to compensate for increases to health insurance and TRS, without piercing the Tax Cap.

Mrs. DeLauter stated the Board was following State Comptroller's best practices to bring down the reserve fund balances to lower levels.

Mr. Schissler indicated that we anticipate having a clearer financial picture by January 20--once the Tax Cap number comes out and we receive our preliminary State Aid, TRS and Heath and other estimates.

Mr. Mayo commented that the Board of Education acted on the advice of the State Comptroller in 2012 to bring down the reserves, as there was \$4.5 million left each year in the reserves.

SMART BOND UPDATE

Mr. Fischetti explained that the district entitlement is \$1,289,890. We plan to spend \$1,056,239 and have \$233,561 remaining for needs that arise once installation begins. Since the plan is now over a year old, changes to pricing, equipment options, we will be completing an amendment to the original plan. Immediate amendments that need to be filed are model numbers and pricing of wireless access points that are being installed in classrooms and offices. New AP models allow for more connections at higher speeds and cost less money overall. Once we have the Wi-Fi installation and configuration complete, we will look to start bringing in iPads for teachers, followed by carts and iPads for student use. Another one of our first orders of business is to replace all teacher smartboard computers and classroom computers for student use. All money expended by the district is reimbursed within 30-60 days of completing the reimbursement form.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION UPDATE

Mrs. Pollitt commented that the Kindergarten Math Family game night was a wonderful event. December professional development will focus on Next Generation ELA Standards. January professional development will focus on the Math Standards. Mrs. Pollitt stated that she recently met with BMCHSD to discuss 6th grade transition to the middle school and to address the changes in Math. We continue to collaborate with BMCHSD to ensure consistency in our curriculum.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION UPDATE

Mrs. Pollitt stated that report cards are scheduled to post to the portal tomorrow. The North Bellmore Report Guide was emailed to parents today.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel Report dated December 7, 2017 (tabling item 6.8). Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

A.1 PERSONNEL REPORT

December 7, 2017

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

<u>Appointment:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
<u>Home Tutoring: (5hrs per week)</u>				
6.1	Hagan, Melissa	Teacher K-6	\$54.53/hr	11/06/17-06/22/18

Family Medical Leave of Absences:

6.2	Kalinowski, Danielle	Teacher K-6		12/12/17-03/16/18
6.3	Giocopelli-Zucker, Krista	Instructional Coach		12/06/17-03/09/18
6.4	LoBello, Lauren	Teacher K-6		11/20/17-02/16/18

Leave of Absence:

6.5	Kalinowski, Danielle	Teacher K-6		03/19/18-06/30/18
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A.1 PERSONNEL REPORT

December 7, 2017

Classified Personnel: Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it resolved that the following persons be appointed in North Bellmore Union Free School District as indicated below. All assignments are at the discretion of the district.

<u>Appointments:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
6.6	Leroux, Carol	Typist Clerk	5	\$34,458/yr 11/29/2017
6.7	Gargano, Monica	Typist Clerk	5	\$34,458/yr 12/04/2017
6.8	Gunnels, Laurice	Typist Clerk	5	\$34,458/yr 12/08/2017
6.9	Danz, Lisa	Typist Clerk	5	\$34,458/yr 11/29/2017
6.10	Lazaar, Katuska	Typist Clerk	5	\$34,458/yr 12/04/2017
6.11	Leggio, Nick	Cleaner PT/Sub	1	\$16.73/hr 12/08/2017
6.12	Carroll, Christopher	Cleaner PT/Sub	1	\$16.73/hr 12/08/2017
6.13	Rosario, Michelle	From: Teacher Aide PT To: Teacher Aide Pt/Sub		\$17.62/hr 12/08/2017

Leave of Absences:

6.14	Villagio, Michelle	Teacher Aide PT		11/14/2017-06/22/2018
6.15	Roach, Mary Grace	Typist Clerk		11/02/17-01/02/2018

Resignations:

6.16	Arbesfeld, Leslee	Part-Time Teacher Aide		11/09/2017
6.17	Amaturo, Joanne	Monitor PT/Sub		11/28/2017
6.18	Koehler, Susan	Monitor PT/Sub		11/30/2017

NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
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6.19	Asfour, Dena	Typist Clerk P/T	12/04/2017
<u>Terminations:</u>			
6.20	Nelson, Holly	Teacher Aide	11/17/2017
6.21	Panetta, Justin	Seasonal Cleaner	12/08/2017
6.22	Regina, Catherine	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	12/08/2017

Change to July 6, 2017 Personnel Report

Family Medical Leave of Absence:

1.50	Scalici, Victoria	Sr. Typist Clerk	8/08/17-11/13/17
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Certified Personnel: Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it resolved that the following persons be appointed as teachers in North Bellmore Union Free School District as indicated below. All assignments are at the discretion of the district. Leave replacements are paid on a per diem basis.

<u>Appointments:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
Parent University Presenters: <i>(not to exceed 4hrs)</i>				
6.23	Sotirakos, Soula	Teacher K-6	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.24	Devine, Marianne	Teacher K-6	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.25	Reime, Melissa	Teacher K-6	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.26	Sand, Samantha	ESL Teacher	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.27	Martelli, Nicole	ESL Teacher	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.28	DelRosario, Nancy	Teacher K-6	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.29	Nowicki, Carl	Teacher K-6	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.30	Hodge, Olivia	ESL Teacher	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.31	Hagan, Melissa	Teacher K-6	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.32	Ippolita, Loridana	Teacher K-6	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.33	Regan, Maria	Teacher K-6	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.34	Vento, Peggy	Teacher K-6	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17
6.35	Carolan-Yager, Mary	Teacher K-6	\$54.53/hr	11/28/17-11/29/17

A.1 Personnel Report

Addendum

December 7, 2017

Classified Personnel: Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it resolved that the following persons be appointed in North Bellmore Union Free School District as indicated below. All assignments are at the discretion of the district.

<u>Appointments:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
6.36	McCarthy, Maura	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	\$17.25/hr	12/08/2017
6.37	Rudnicki, Olimpia	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	\$17.25/hr	12/08/2017
6.38	Rende, Julia	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	\$17.25/hr	12/08/2017
6.39	Ryder, Jill Ann	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	\$17.25/hr	12/08/2017
6.40	Cavelle-Stepnowski, Kristen	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	\$17.25/hr	12/08/2017

Medical Leave of Absence:

6.41 Mignoli, Terri Ann Teacher Aide PT 12/05/2017-6/22/2018

Termination:

6.42 Lombardo, Modesta Typist Clerk PT 9/29/2017

**STAFF
DEVELOPMENT
REPORT**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated December 7, 2017. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
CPSE/CSE**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated November 30 2017. Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Ferrara moved to go to a consent agenda for agenda item Nos. 14.1 – 14.7. Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

14.1 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve a contract with Rosa Cabral-Karp for services for the 2017/18 school year.

**EXCESS OF
EQUIPMENT**

14.2 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education excess library materials from Martin Avenue School Library and Park Avenue School Library that are outdated (on file in the district office).

14.3 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education excess instruments from Newbridge Road School that are not in working order and/or unrepairable (on file in the district office.)

14.4 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education excess an Audiometer at Martin Avenue School that is obsolete.

**MOA – TECH. TCHR.
ASSISTANT**

14.5 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve a Memorandum of Terms and Agreement for Kerry MacTiernan, Technology Teacher Assistant, for 2017-2018.

DONATIONS

14.6 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accept a check in the amount of \$297.00 from the Newbridge Road School PTA to be used to purchase additional gym equipment for the students of Newbridge Road School.

14.7 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accept a check in the amount of \$1,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Milhonic to be used to purchase various items to enhance Park Avenue School's Makerspace.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

VISITORS

Mrs. Oza (Saw Mill Road) read a letter to the Board requesting the Board to consider adding Eid holidays in the school calendar. Mr. Mayo stated that the Board would take it into consideration.

Mrs. Riccards (Lawrence Rd.) spoke about the transportation proposal and asked the district to do a ridership survey for students in grades 4-6 in order to get accurate numbers.

Mr. Schissler indicated that a survey was done and 616 students in grades 4-6 would qualify.

Mrs. Testa stated that we would exceed the number of buses utilized through the consortium and would need to pay for these buses outside of the consortium which would be a financial hardship for the district.

Mrs. Goldstein (Redmond Rd., Merrick) stated that according to report card guidelines, a "3" is meeting grade level requirements, while a "2" is meeting some requirements. Mrs. Goldstein asked how is "some" defined. Additionally, she asked how the scores are being normed to ensure that teachers across the district are giving the same grades for the same quality of work.

Mrs. Pollitt responded that assessment is based on a number of measures and many lenses. Percentages such as 90% do not correlate to 1-4 on the report card scale. Our scale is based on grade level expectations. Our teachers have been participating in workshops based on the New Standards. Teachers assess students individually. We do have common assessments that help us to assess the progress of our students. Mrs. Pollitt invited Mrs. Goldstein to call her to discuss it further, if necessary.

Mrs. Roth (Maple Ave.) stated that students are assessed with Fountas & Pinnell twice a year to give the instructional and independent reading levels. She asked what formal researched based assessments are given weekly or bi-weekly to continually assess the students' reading skills. Also, what research based assessments are used to assess writing response (to a text) – for example, essays.

Mrs. Pollitt stated that Fountas & Pinnell is given twice a per year depending on the grade level. All remedial reading students are given the assessment three times per year. Other research based assessments include: iReady Diagnostics for Reading and Math (grades 2-6). Other resources that are in place include Guided Reading with running records, Schoolwide Units of Study, which produce formalized writing samples.

Mr. and Mrs. Pulliza (Julia Lane) asked the Board to look into an assessment for early entrance to Kindergarten admission for children who miss the birthdate cutoff. Mr. Mayo advised that the Board would take it into consideration.

Mr. Mayo wished everyone very happy holidays and a happy and safe New Year.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Ferrara and carried 5-0, the Board adjourned at 9:25 PM. Mrs. DeLauter rescinded the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Ferrara and carried 5-0, the Board of Education agreed to enter into Executive Session at 9:27 PM to discuss a particular personnel matter. The Board reconvened the meeting at 9:35 PM.

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Ferrara and carried 4-0, the Board approved item No. 6.8 in the personnel report. (Mr. Mayo was not present.)

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Ferrara and carried 4-0, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

Mark Schissler, District Clerk