

MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING January 7, 2016

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The regular meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, January 7, 2016, 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  
JoAnn DeLauter, Vice President  
Melissa Cmar-Grote  
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  
Larry Tenenbaum, District Counsel  
Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. The North Bellmore Library Board and Architect were invited in to speak with the Board of Education. Motion was made by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, to move into executive session to discuss personnel matters at 7:43 p.m. Motion was carried 5-0. The meeting reconvened at 8:07 p.m. Mr. Mayo led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Cmar-Grote then read the District's Mission Statement.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Minutes from the Regular meeting of December 10, 2015. Mrs. DeLauter seconded, and the motion was carried 5-0.

**STUDENT ART PRESENTATION**

Mrs. Testa announced that we are honoring the district art students tonight. She thanked the students for bringing the beauty of art into our lives. She gave a special thanks to the art teachers for their passion and hard work. She also thanked Mrs. Skelos and the Board of Education for their support of the arts. The meeting was turned over to Mrs. Skelos who introduced the Art teachers – Ms. Skelly, Ms. Blanc, Ms. Lopez and Ms. Emmer - who presented certificates to over twenty children whose artwork was on display. Mrs. Skelos expressed her congratulations to all of the artists. The meeting adjourned for a short break at 8:25 PM to appreciate the artwork. The meeting reconvened at 8:35PM.

**VISITORS**

There were no questions relating to agenda items only.

- CORRESPONDENCE** Mr. Mayo advised that correspondence was received.
- TREASURER'S REPORT** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report for the month ended November 30, 2015. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion and was carried 5-0.
- HIGH SCHOOL REPORT** Mrs. Lanci reported that at last night's meeting, the Kennedy High School Volleyball teams were honored, as well as two Intel Science semifinalists from Kennedy. Future dates were announced. The Board approved an agreement with BOCES to provide a Twilight Alternative High School Program for BMCHSD students. Mrs. Lanci also commented on a couple of donations received, including a large donation from Amazon Education to Merrick Avenue Middle School of 100 Kindle Fire tablets, valued at \$12,000. Several policies and contracts were approved. The next Board meeting will be on February 3.
- FINANCE** The Board of Education acknowledged the review of the warrants that have been approved by the Internal Auditor.
- Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the budgetary transfers dated January 7, 2016. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.
- SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** Mrs. Testa thanked the Board for approving the creation of a district Festival Chorus and Festival Band and the appointments of the Co-Directors, Ms. D'Andrilli and Ms. Yencharis for Chorus and Ms. Behr and Mr. Neiderman for Band.
- Mrs. Testa noted that the administrators and teachers are continuing to work together on the district's APPR plan. She explained the observation process how the district is working on implementing the new rubric to meet the new regulations.
- Mrs. Testa highlighted the holiday assemblies, concerts, dance performances and singalongs that took place in each school and thanked the PTAs for their support. The winter concerts were very successful and she thanked the High School District for allowing the concerts to be held at Brookside.
- Mrs. Testa stated that the No Parking signs are installed at Saw Mill. She thanked Mr. Schissler, Mr. Rosof and Ms. Malone for working together to make the arrival and dismissal procedures safer.
- Mrs. Testa reported on her work with the Nassau County Superintendents Safety Committee and The Superintendents Committee – Liaison to College Presidents.

**PERSONNEL REPORT** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the following personnel report:

**A.1 PERSONNEL REPORT**

**JANUARY 7, 2016**

**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>
7.1	Cerrato, Michelle	Math AIS - Sub	\$100/day	1/7/2016
7.2	O'Shea, Teresa	Math AIS - Sub	\$100/day	1/7/2016
7.3	Anzalone, Joyce	Substitute Teacher	\$100/day	1/7/2016
7.4	Bein, Jeremy	Substitute Teacher	\$100/day	1/7/2016
7.5	Demino, Kathleen	Substitute Teacher	\$100/day	1/7/2016
7.6	Gerbino, Dana	Substitute Teacher	\$100/day	1/7/2016
7.7	Kirk, Lisa	Substitute Teacher	\$100/day	1/7/2016
7.8	Ruiz, Amie	Substitute Teacher	\$100/day	1/7/2016
7.9	Trageser, Michele	Substitute Teacher	\$100/day	1/7/2016
7.10	O'Toole, Eileen	Lv. Repl. Teacher	\$302.50/day	1/6/16-2/5/16

Homebound Services: (not to exceed 2hrs 1x daily)

7.11	Vaccaro, Diane	Special Ed. Teacher	\$54.12/hr	12/17/15-6/24/16
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Homebound Tutoring: (not to exceed 1hr daily)

7.12	Drum, Jill	Teacher	\$54.12/hr	11/23/15-6/30/16
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Family Medical Leave of Absence:

7.13	DiMonda, Amanda	Teacher K-6		1/16/16-2/5/16
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Resignation:

7.14	Fried, Karen	Prob. Psychologist		12/31/2016
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Termination:

7.15	Kirincle, Samantha	Substitute Teacher		1/7/2016
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**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>Appointment:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
7.16	Griffin, Thomas	Cleaner PT/Sub	\$16.08/hr	1/7/2016
7.17	LoBrutto, Michelle	From: Monitor PT/Sub To: Monitor PT	\$13.42/hr	1/7/2016
7.18	Compton, Caryn	From: Teacher Aide PT To: Monitor PT	\$13.42/hr	1/4/2016

Termination:

7.19	Boltuc, Kathleen	Monitor PT		12/11/2015
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**Addendum**

**A.1 PERSONNEL REPORT**

**JANUARY 7, 2016**

**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.

\*This appointment is subject to all applicable provisions of the NY Education Law including, without limitation, that, in order to be eligible for tenure, the referenced individual must have received annual composite or overall APPR ratings of Highly Effective (HE) or Effective (E) for at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding school years exclusive of any break in service. In addition, if the individual receives an ineffective (I) composite or overall APPR rating in his/her final year of probationary service, s/he shall not be eligible for tenure at that time even if she/he has secured HE or E APPR composite or overall ratings in every other year of his/her probationary service.

This expiration date is tentative and conditional only. In order to be granted tenure the teacher must receive composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law of either effective or highly effective to the extent required by the applicable provisions of the Education Law, the Rules of the Board of Regents and the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, and if the teacher receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.

<u>Appointment:</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
7.20 Hintz, Emma	Substitute Teacher		\$100/day	1/7/2016
7.21 Fitzgerald, Kaitlin*	Prob. Psychologist	1M	\$60,501.70	**
Festival:				
7.22 D’Andrilli, Emilie	District Chorus Co-Director		\$1268 (Stipend)	1/7/16-6/30/16
7.23 Yencharis, Amy	District Chorus Co-Director		\$1268 (Stipend)	1/7/16-6/30/16
7.24 Neiderman, Brian	District Band Co-Director		\$1268 (Stipend)	1/7/16-6/30/16
7.25 Behr, Desiree	District Band Co-Director		\$1268 (Stipend)	1/7/16-6/30/16

**Resignations for the Purposes of Retirement:**

7.26 Ahmed, Anne	Teacher K-6			6/30/2016
7.27 Colter, Randee	ESL Teacher			6/30/2016
7.28 O’Leary, Michael	Psychologist			6/30/2016
7.29 Phelan, Kathleen	Teacher K-6			6/30/2016

\*\*Contingent upon reference checks

Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated January 7, 2016. Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**BUSINESS DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Mr. Schissler reported that student enrollment is down by 4 from December. The 2016-17 Budget is still in draft form. We are trying to keep the budget at a reasonable increase—within one percent. There could a potential Tax Cap situation. The CPI has been lower than 2%. If we can’t raise taxes, we may need to use reserves. We are hoping to get a bigger increase in State aid. Mr. Schissler will continue to provide updates as we move along the budget process.

**BUSINESS  
DEPARTMENT  
UPDATE**

The Facilities Department is busy preparing for the snow and getting the trucks in shape, etc.

The district entered into an Energy Performance Contract with Johnson Controls five years ago, and we have met those savings every year. This year it was \$212,000. If we don't meet the savings, they will reimburse us. It looks like the savings will continue.

**CURRICULUM AND  
INSTRUCTION**

Mrs. Pollitt reported on the following:  
The Universal Pre-K post cards were mailed out. The lottery will take place on March 28. There was a press release was in the Bellmore HERALD LIFE.

There will be three upcoming Parent Universities:  
Jan 19 – Developing Math Minds  
Jan. 28 - Web-Based District Subscriptions  
Feb. 8 - Erika Stroh, parent educator and founder of Parent From The Heart, Learn to Talk So Kids Will Listen & Listen So Kids Will Talk

Science Consultant, Brian Wallrapp, will be delivering science enrichment lessons in the schools at the end of January. Mrs. Pollitt and Mrs. McNamara will be attending a meeting at the Cradle of Aviation Museum with other Curriculum leaders in Nassau County.

The Math leaders, Math AIS teachers and administrative representatives attended a workshop today at Molloy College with Dr. Karen Karp, a visiting professor from John Hopkins University, on *How to Make Math Count*. Joint professional development with BMCHSD will take place next week for grade 6 math leaders.

The administration team will be participating in joint professional development with consultant, Judy Barbera, on the observation process. Calibration walkthroughs are scheduled on January 20 at Dinkelmeyer and Martin.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

Mrs. Eskew reported that at the March Staff Development, LRAs and Kindergarten monitors will receive training on first aid and the Heimlich maneuver provided by Bellmore-Merrick Emergency Services. We will also be focusing on strategies to make the lunch period safe and enjoyable.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Laura Granelli from Jaspan Schlesinger will provide updates on the 504 Regulations to the psychologists, behavior specialists, social workers, and OTs at the January 28 after school professional development to make sure that we are fully in compliance.

SEPTA had an interesting presentation last night about the effect of retained primitive reflexes on students.  
We have filled the open psychologist position at Saw Mill.

We are looking into two new programs:

Lifespan – Crisis intervention services provided by mental health professionals -  
-should we ever have an emergency situation.

Cogmed: A computer based program to help children with attention deficit disorder and memory difficulties to increase attention span and retain information.

**CPSE/CSE**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated January 4, 2016. Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**TECHNOLOGY  
UPDATE**

Mr. Fischetti reported the following:

The Intralogic security installation is moving along with completion expected in near future.

The Library Media Specials are doing a trial of Launch Pads, similar to iPads, for consideration to purchase with the Smart Schools Bond Act funds.

The Technology teachers will be working in conjunction with the Library Media Specialists to present a workshop on the district's online subscriptions at the January 28 Parent University.

We are conducting walkthroughs of all the buildings to assess for Wi-Fi access point installation. We are in the process of getting quotes from CSD and ICAS for a new wireless infrastructure we are planning to install to be purchased with the Smart Schools funds. The cabling work will be done outside of the funding.

**NEW BUSINESS  
CONTRACTS**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following contracts for the 2015-16 school year:

-Abilities, Inc. (d/b/a Kornreich Technology Center)

-Blue Sea Educational Consulting, Inc.

-Capital Markets Advisors, LLC

-Joyce Raimondo

Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**NBTA MEMORANDUM  
OF AGREEMENT**

Mr. Ferrara moved that the Board of Education approve the Memorandum of Agreement By and Between North Bellmore Union Free School District (the "District") and the North Bellmore Teachers' Association regarding a retirement incentive for the 2015-16 school year. Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**DONATIONS**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education accept a donation from Box Tops for Education in the amount of \$1,550.50, to be used to add to the Guided Reading libraries, additional scholarship funds for students for trips during the school year, and graduation expenses for the 6th grade students in need at Saw Mill Road School. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mrs. Testa reported that we are still coordinating the installation of the LED sign at Newbridge Road School. The building needs to be shut down for two hours to complete the installation. We are looking at a tentative date of January 18.

**VISITORS**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Ferrara and carried 5-0, the Board entered into Executive Session at 9:17 p.m. to discuss the following:

1. Collective negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law with several Civil Service and Instructional bargaining units.
2. Matters leading to the possible discipline of a particular member of the Instructional staff.
3. Discussions regarding proposed litigation involving real property taxes.

**RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter and seconded by Mrs. Lanci, the Board of Education reconvened to public session at 11:08 p.m.

**LIPA REFORM ACT**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following resolution.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the LIPA Reform Act of 2013, NY Public Authorities Law 1020-q, (LIPA Reform Act) LIPA is obligated to make payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs) to municipalities and school districts equal to the tax assessments which would have otherwise been received for properties that were once owned by LILCO and transferred to LIPA; however, commencing with January 1, 2015, and for each calendar year thereafter, such PILOTs shall not exceed the previous year's PILOT payment by more than two percent; and

WHEREAS, as part of its implementation of the LIPA Reform Act, on or about September 30, 2015, Nassau County unilaterally reduced the authorized 2015-2016 school district tax levies and removed LIPA properties from the 2015-2016 tax assessment rolls, instead deeming them statutory PILOTs; and

WHEREAS, a number of consequences have resulted from the LIPA Reform Act and particularly Nassau County's implementation of the LIPA Reform Act, which pose significant fiscal concern for the Uniondale Union Free School District (District); and

**LIPA REFORM ACT**

WHEREAS, while the District through its representatives has been attempting to work cooperatively with Nassau County to address those concerns, it recognizes that it must preserve its rights to pursue legal action, if necessary, in order to protect the interests of the District;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Education of the District hereby authorizes the District's legal counsel, Jaspian Schlesinger LLP to take all necessary and appropriate action, including without limitation commencing legal action against the parties named in confidential attachment "A", to protect the District's interests with respect to the implementation of the LIPA Reform Act and all acts leading up to and flowing therefrom; and further authorizes the Board President or the Superintendent of Schools to execute any and all documents attendant thereto on its behalf; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board President is hereby authorized to monitor the status of any efforts to reach a Tolling Agreement and to make a determination, with any appropriate input from legal counsel, that such Tolling Agreement adequately protects the District's interest, and that if the Board President determines that a timely and mutually agreeable Tolling Agreement is reached and that said agreement adequately protects the District's interest, the President is authorized to sign it on the Board's behalf.

Mrs. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**NORTH BELLMORE  
LIBRARY  
RENOVATIONS**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education hereby approves a plan for renovations to the North Bellmore Public Library, dated January 7, 2016, subject to the submission to the Board of additional details as requested by the District and further subject to the execution and approval of an agreement between the Board of Education and the Board of Trustees of the North Bellmore Public Library setting forth certain specific details and representations regarding the aforementioned renovation.

Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education hereby approves a plan for renovations to the North Bellmore Public Library, dated January 7, 2016, subject to the submission to the Board of additional details as requested by the District an further subject to the execution and approval of an agreement between the Board of Education and the Board of Trustees of the North Bellmore Public Library setting forth certain specific details and representations regarding the aforementioned renovation.

Mrs. Cmar-Grote seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**            On a motion by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mrs. Lanci, and carried 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

Mark Schissler, District Clerk