

MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING February 27, 2014

The regular meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, February 27, 2014, 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:

Nina Lanci, President
John Ferrara, Vice President
Grace Cramsie
JoAnn DeLauter
Peter Mayo
John Ferrara

Also present:

Marie Testa, Superintendent of Schools
Carol Eskew, Deputy Superintendent
Mark Schissler, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Jason Fischetti, Director of Technology
Janet Pollitt, Curriculum and Instruction
Frank Russo, Director of Facilities
Carol Melnick, District Counsel
Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 8:27 p.m. by Board of Education President, Nina Lanci. Mrs. Lanci led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Ferrara then read the District's Mission Statement.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education approve the Minutes from the regular meeting of January 9, 2014. Mrs. DeLauter seconded, and the motion was carried 5-0.
- VISITORS** None.
- CORRESPONDENCE** Mrs. Lanci advised that correspondence was received and is under review by the Board.
- TREASURER'S REPORT** Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report for the month ended December 31, 2013. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.
- HIGH SCHOOL REPORT** Mrs. DeLauter reported on the February Board meeting. The Board recognized three Intel Science Competition Semi-finalists from Kennedy High School, the News 12 Scholar/Athlete and the Golden 11 Award student from Mepham High School. The Superintendent gave an overview of the bond work that will take

**HIGH SCHOOL
REPORT**

place over the summer, which includes the installation of new floors and turf fields. The board approved changes to the Coaches' Handbook regarding transportation to events.

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 February 13, 2014. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Mrs. Testa thanked the Board of Education for supporting the delayed opening process. She thanked Mr. Russo and his staff for all their assistance with the snow removal and thanked the parents for their flexibility and patience with the snow days and delayed school openings.

Mrs. Testa advised that the Alternative Veterans' Exemption is under review by the Board for possible adoption.

In our continued effort to increase the level of security in the district, Mrs. Testa added that the new security surveillance installation is going well and we are looking forward to going live very soon. Additional lighting was added to the 1602 building to deter loitering on the property. The district is looking into Lobby Guard, a visitor management system that would streamline the visitor sign-in process and enhance security.

Mrs. Testa highlighted some activities taking place in each of the schools. Mrs. Testa reminded the parents that New York State testing is coming up. She added that students are not allowed to Opt Out of NYS testing; however, a child whose parent has refused to allow him or her to take the test will be permitted to read in a separate testing location.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel Report dated February 27, 2014. Mrs. Cramsie seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

A.1 Personnel Report

February 27, 2014

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> |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| 8.4 Pinello, Melissa | Lv. Repl Teacher K-6 | 95% of 1M | \$299.51/day | 1/28/14-5/02/14 |
| 8.5 Quarta, Samantha | Lv. Repl. Special Ed. Teacher | 95% of 1M | \$299.51/day | 2/14/14-5/23/14 |
| 8.6 Smith, Jason | Substitute Teacher | | \$95/day | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.7 Reynolds, Sean | Substitute Teacher | | \$95/day | 2/24/2014 |

NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Home Services: (not to exceed a total of two hours)

| | | | | |
|-----|---------------|--|------------|-----------------|
| 8.8 | Brady, Lauren | | \$53.58/hr | 2/04/14-6/24/14 |
|-----|---------------|--|------------|-----------------|

Family Medical Leave of Absence:

| | | | | |
|------|--------------------|---------------------|--|-----------------|
| 8.9 | Burnell, Suzanne | Teacher K-6 | | 1/28/14-5/02/14 |
| 8.10 | Schoepfer, Kathryn | Special Ed. Teacher | | 2/14/14-5/23/14 |

Terminations:

| | | | | |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--|-----------|
| 8.11 | Bartels, Danielle | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.12 | Cerrone, Claudia | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.13 | Fisherman, LilyAnn | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.14 | Grubman, Chase | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.15 | Haik, Sarrit | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.16 | Herzog, Jenna | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.17 | Madden, Derrick | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.18 | Maltseva, Tatiana | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.19 | Mayer, Elyssa | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.20 | Miller, Kristen | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.21 | Newman Shayna | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.22 | Noble, Douglas | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.23 | Santer, Richard | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.24 | Schecter, Judith | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.25 | Trees, Stephanie | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |
| 8.26 | Wiertz, Patricia | Substitute Teacher | | 2/14/2014 |

Change to January 9, 2014 Personnel Report

Homebound Behavior Intervention Services: (not to exceed 5 ½ hrs weekly)

| | | | | |
|------|------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------|
| 7.08 | Quarta, Samantha | Special Ed. Teacher | \$53.58/hr | 1/6/2014-6/23/2014 |
|------|------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------|

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>Resignation:</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Step</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>Eff. Date</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| 8.27 | O'Brien, Mercedes | Teacher Aide PT | | 1/17/14 |

Termination:

| | | | | |
|------|-----------------|----------------|--|---------|
| 8.28 | Ringer, William | Cleaner PT/Sub | | 2/19/14 |
|------|-----------------|----------------|--|---------|

**STAFF
 DEVELOPMENT
 REPORT**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated February 13, 2014. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**BUSINESS
 DEPARTMENT
 UPDATE**

Mr. Schissler reported that the upcoming budget hearing workshops will take place on March 18 at Saw Mill Road School at 7:30 p.m. and March 25 at Newbridge Road School at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Schissler encouraged the community to attend the meetings and give their input into the budget. The Board will adopt the budget at the April 10 Board meeting. The budget vote will take place on May 20.

**BUSINESS
DEPARTMENT
UPDATE**

Mr. Schissler indicated that enrollment has been stable. He stated that he is in communication with Country Pointe Development to get up-to-date information and how it may impact enrollment in September.

Mrs. Lanci asked for clarification of the Veterans' tax exemption. Mr. Schissler explained that the Governor recently signed into law a bill extending to school districts the Alternative Veterans' tax exemption. Previously, this law applied only to County taxes. He added that it is the choice of the school district whether or not to implement the exemptions. If the board of education would like to implement the exemptions, it must first hold a public hearing and then adopt a resolution. Mr. Schissler explained that there are three different categories of exemptions. The district must notify the County by March 14 if they would like to offer the exemption.

**BUILDINGS AND
GROUNDS**

Mr. Russo reported that window film was installed on the gym windows at Dinkelmeyer to cut down on the glare in the gym. He stated that it has been determined by Mohawk, the door manufacturer of the interior doors with lights that were installed throughout the district, that they are defective. All doors with lights will be replaced at no cost to the district. Mr. Russo advised that all six schools have carbon monoxide detectors in place in the kitchen, basement and boiler rooms.

**CURRICULUM AND
INSTRUCTION
UPDATE**

Mrs. Pollitt reported that the third Parent University took place this evening and it focused on Literacy and Digital Media. Parents were taught how to access and download a variety of eBooks from the district's library and how to access and navigate the "Find It!" databases to help students with research. The next workshop will focus on the Math curriculum and will demonstrate some of the new strategies in math.

Mrs. Pollitt stated that the Curriculum Department and Technology Department are working together to create a math video to help parents and students with the Common Core Math modules.

Mrs. Pollitt advised that, due to a number of concerns, the ELA, Math and Grade 4 science tests will not be scored in-house this year. We will be using Optimum Scoring Corporation, an outside vendor, who has partnered with BOCES.

UPK update: To date 142 UPK applications have been received. The deadline to submit an application is March 21. The lottery will be held on April 4.

ESL update: Mrs. Pollitt met with the ESL Department yesterday. Mrs. Colter turn-key trained teachers on NYSITELL, a new assessment used to help identify English Language Learners more accurately.

The Writing Facility Committee met recently to continue their work on writing benchmarks.

**CURRICULUM AND
INSTRUCTION
UPDATE**

The Project SAVE Committee is focusing on practicing off-site evacuations. The subcommittee, headed by Ms. Fisher, visited one of the two off-site evacuation sites thus far.

The Literacy Leaders met and discussed mid-year results of Fountas and Pinnell assessments and are beginning to work on revising progress reports.

Erica Pecorale, ELA consultant, will be in the district in March to implement new training with teachers in K-2, Reading, ESL and Related Arts.

Fred Cohen, Data Warehouse consultant who works with Nassau BOCES, met with the administrators recently on the use of the Instructional Data Warehouse and how it can be used to analyze curriculum and evaluate individual student and class assessment data. Mr. Cohen has also conducted training for a core group of teachers who will serve as data leaders in their respective buildings.

TECHNOLOGY UPATE

Mr. Fischetti reported that the technology department is currently working with the library media specialists to facilitate research and has partnered with the Curriculum Department to develop a Common Core math video.

The technology department is in the early stages of looking into a lunch automation program and getting quotes on various programs. In addition, the department is preparing for upcoming PARCC assessments and making sure the district meets all of the technology guidelines. The new camera surveillance system installation is near completion. The buildings are wired and the cameras and recording devices are 80-90 percent installed.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Ms. Eskew reported that in accordance with State law, the nurses were required to report students' body mass index data to the New York State Health Department in an effort to help guide childhood obesity prevention efforts.

In an effort to help special education students with the transition to middle school, Ms. Eskew reported that the BMCHSD will be holding a meeting for 6th grade students and parents to familiarize them with the supports and services available in the high school district and become acquainted with the middle school staff and facilities. The meetings will be held on March 12 and March 26.

Ms. Eskew reported that she will be working jointly with the Report Card Committee to help with getting the report card streamlined and clearer.

The ERR teachers met recently and discussed the roles and responsibilities of paraprofessionals and the criteria for placing students in an ERR setting.

The psychologists met to review their current caseloads and discuss staffing needs for next year.

Ms. Eskew added that she met with Mrs. McNamara, Mrs. Testa and Mrs. Pollitt to review the screening process for the students to enter the gifted program and discussed what instruments can be used to have better validity and reliability.

CPSE/CSE REPORTS

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated February 6, 2014. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**NEW BUSINESS
DONATIONS**

Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education accept a donation from Box Tops for Education in the amount of \$544.60 to be used to purchase document cameras for Martin Avenue students in grade 2. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

CONTRACTS

Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education approve the following contracts for the 2013-14 school year:

- Brookville Center for Children's Services
- Capital Markets Advisors
- Erica Percorale
- Sanford Schulsohn
- Seaford UFSD
- Henry Viscardi School

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

BIDS

Mr. Mayo moved that the Board of Education reject all bids for the Newbridge Capital Improvement Program:

Irwin Contracting Inc. 367,000
Stalco Construction Inc. 334,200

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

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education of the North Bellmore Union Free School District hereby approves the statement of charges preferred by the Superintendent pursuant to Section 75 of the Civil Service Law against the employee named in the confidential attachment "A", and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby affirms its appointment of Mark Schissler as the Hearing Officer in the matter of the disciplinary proceeding against the employee named in the attached confidential "A". The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Section 75 of the Civil Service Law. Mr. Schissler shall cause a record/transcript to be made of such hearing, which will be referred to the Board, along with his recommendations for review and decision by the Board.

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

OLD BUSINESS

None.

VISITORS

Mrs. Arale (Stratford Ct.) presented the Board with a survey of security measures in a sampling of districts and commented that security guards or greeters should be posted at Saw Mill Road School.

Mrs. Adipietro (Pacific St.) commented on the new houses being built at Country Pointe and asked if there is adequate room at Saw Mill to handle the incoming new students.

Mr. Sowen (Davenport Pl.) stated his disappointment that the Board is tabling the Veterans' exemption resolution.

Mr. Peterkin (Hanson Pl.) read a letter to the Board, on behalf of Vincent Montero, Commander of the Bellmore Veterans of Foreign War Post 2770, requesting that district bring up the Alternative Veteran's tax exemption for consideration.

Mrs. Erhard (Taft St.) questioned why the public cannot vote on the Veteran's Exemption. Ms. Melnick stated that it is the way the Governor's bill was formed in legislation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. Mayo and carried 5-0, the Board of Education agreed to enter into Executive Session at 10:15 p.m. discuss a particular personnel matter.

On a motion by Mr. Mayo, seconded Mr. Ferrara and carried 5-0, the Board of Education reconvened at 11:49 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mr. Ferrara and carried 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

Mark Schissler, District Clerk