

MINUTES OF THE NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING April 10, 2014

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The regular meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, April 10, 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

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  
Lawrence Tenenbaum, District Counsel  
Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 8:12 p.m. by Board of Education President, Nina Lanci. Mrs. Lanci led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Mayo 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 March 13, 2014 and the special meeting of March 25, 2014. Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.
- VISITORS** None.
- CORRESPONDENCE** Mrs. Lanci advised that some correspondence has been received and is under review by the Board.
- TREASURER'S REPORT** Mr. Mayo moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report for the month ended February 28, 2014. Mrs. Cramsie seconded and the motion and was carried 5-0.
- HIGH SCHOOL REPORT** Mrs. DeLauter reported on the high school district board meeting. The Board adopted the 2014-15 proposed budget in the amount of \$139,418,645. Mrs. Lanci added that the Board congratulated Mepham's Louis Hernandez on his outstanding wrestling achievements.

**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 April 10, 2014. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education authorize the North Bellmore School District to expend the sum in the General Fund Appropriation in the total amount of \$ 52,291,099 for the 2014/2015 school year. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mrs. Testa stated that she was honored to recommend the following staff for tenure this evening:

- Michael Bevilacqua, Newbridge Road School, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher
- Lauren Brady, Martin Avenue, Psychologist
- Kathleen Callahan Fodor, Saw Mill, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher
- Chakira-Iliana Doherty, Saw Mill, Music teacher
- Gerilynn Downey, Martin Avenue, Reading teacher
- Krista Giacobelli Zucker, Saw Mill, Special education teacher

All of the teachers were congratulated by the principal of the school they are assigned to, representatives from the PTAs, members of the faculty and students. Randee Colter, President of the NBTA also congratulated all of the teachers. Mrs. Testa congratulated the teachers and expressed her appreciation for all their contributions and dedication to the district. Mrs. Lanci, on behalf of the Board of Education congratulated the newly tenured teachers and thanked the staff for supporting them. The meeting recessed at 9:25 PM for refreshments.

The meeting reconvened at 9:40 PM.

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel Report dated April 10, 2014. Mrs. Cramsie seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**A.1 Personnel Report**

**April 10, 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>
10.1 Ricotti, Amanda	Substitute Speech Pathologist		\$95/day	4/11/2014

**Appointment to Tenure:**

10.2 Bevilacqua, Michael	Teacher K-6			9/1/2014
10.3 Brady, Lauren	Psychologist			9/1/2014
10.4 Doherty, Chakira-Iliana	Music Teacher			9/1/2014

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10.5	Downey, Gerilynn	Reading Teacher	9/1/2014
10.6	Callahan Fodor, Kathleen	Teacher K-6	9/1/2014
10.7	Giacopelli Zucker, Krista	Special Ed. Teacher	9/1/2014

**Unpaid Parental Leave of Absences:**

10.8	Brugge, Danica	Teacher K-6	9/01/2014-6/30/2015
10.9	Masone, Christie	Part-Time Reading Teacher	3/10/2014-6/30/2014

**Extension of Unpaid Parental Leave of Absences:**

10.10	Alduino, Lori	Special Ed. Teacher	9/01/2014-6/30/2015
10.11	McGonigle, RobinAnn	Teacher K-6	9/01/2014-6/30/2015

**Resignation for the Purposes of Retirement:**

10.12	MacLeod, Christine	Registered Nurse	06/30/2014
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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.

**Appointment:**

	<u>Title</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
10.13	Helford, Karen	From: Monitor PT/Sub To: Monitor PT	\$13.42/hr	4/11/2014

**Family Medical Leave of Absence:**

10.14	Edmonds, Kristy	Teacher Aide FT	3/28/2014-6/30/2014
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**Unpaid Leave of Absence:**

10.15	Cernohorsky, Eileen	Teacher Aide PT	3/31/2014-6/30/2014
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**Resignations:**

10.16	Micieli, Kathleen	Lunch Monitor PT	4/11/2014
10.17	DeNicola, Ann	Teacher Aide PT/Sub	3/18/14

**A.1 Personnel Report Addendum**

**April 10, 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.

**Resignation for the Purposes of Retirement:**

**Eff. Date**

10.18	Schenck, Leslie	Bus Driver/Matron PT	6/30/2014
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Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education hereby accepts the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact and Recommendation dated April 3, 2014 in connection with a hearing pursuant to Civil Service law Section 75 against the employee set forth in confidential attachment "A" on file in the District Office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby terminates the employment of the employee set forth in confidential attachment "A", effective immediately.

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

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development

**STAFF**

**DEVELOPMENT  
REPORT**

Report dated April 10, 2014. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**BUSINESS  
DEPARTMENT  
UPDATE**

Mr. Schissler reported that the district will be receiving an additional \$240,000 in state aid with the passage of the Governor's 2014-15 budget (\$77,000 in Foundation Aid and \$163,000 Gap Elimination Adjustment).

Mr. Schissler explained that the Governor's Smart School Allocations initiative is to be used to enhance technology in all districts throughout New York State and is contingent upon a state-wide referendum that will be on the November ballot for voters' consideration. If the voters approve the referendum to borrow money to finance the Smart Schools proposal, North Bellmore would receive approximately \$1.2 million; however, the designation is based on the district submitting technology plans to the state for approval. Approval is not guaranteed and it will most likely be a long process.

Another highlight in the Governor's budget included a tax freeze where homeowners would receive a tax credit on their personal income tax if the district's tax rate is below a certain amount. The state's guidelines will be forthcoming.

Mr. Schissler reported that the NYS Comptroller's Office has completed their audit on the district covering the last five years. Although we haven't received a final report yet, Mr. Schissler mentioned that they may comment on two items: an excess amount in the fund balance left over each year and the losses in the cafeteria program. He added that the district has addressed these two issues and has taken steps to correct them.

Mr. Schissler explained that although the Board approved the Veterans' Exemption at last month's board meeting, Nassau County just notified all school districts that the Veterans' Exemption will not go into effect until the 2015-16 school year as the resolution needed to be approved prior to January 2, not the March 15 deadline the district was informed of by the County.

Mr. Schissler advised he received three more surveys back from Country Pointe and reported that they have no school age children.

**BUILDINGS AND  
GROUNDS UPDATE**

Mr. Russo reported that the maintenance crew is busy doing spring maintenance in addition to repairing fences, parking lots and the garage roof.

**CURRICULUM AND  
INSTRUCTION  
UPDATE**

Mrs. Pollitt reported that the Parent University workshop on Common Core Math was very successful and had a great turnout. All resources that were shared at the meeting are now available on our website. Mrs. Pollitt noted that there is also a Parent University suggestion survey available on the website for parents to suggest topics to address at future workshops. The UPK lottery took place on April 4 and 181 applications were received. All 66 placements were made. The

ELA State assessments took place and Mrs. Pollitt thanked the principals for ensuring that the testing went as smoothly as possible. The State Math Assessments will take place at the end of April/early May.

**TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT UPATE**

Mr. Fischetti reported that the technology teachers are currently working with teachers across the district producing video projects including: spring concerts, kindergarten orientation and Newbridge Road School's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. They are also working on specific technology integration lessons in the lower grades, for example, working with the second grade to create a PowerPoint presentation on the life cycle stages.

Mr. Fischetti reported that all classroom voicemail accounts and extensions have been created and are currently active. Teachers are now beginning to get trained on how to use the phones and set up their voicemails.

All buildings security cameras are now on-line and recording. The administrators have been trained. We are working on creating names on the cameras. The administration is evaluating visitor management systems. They have viewed a demonstration of Lobbyguard and another demonstration by Raptor is scheduled this month. After the next demonstration, a recommendation will be made to the Board.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION  
UPDATE**

Ms. Eskew reported that the New York State Department of Health performed a documentation review and no errors were found. The formal report will be forthcoming.

**CPSE/CSE REPORTS**

Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated April 3, 2014. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following contracts:

**CONTRACTS**

- Bellmore UFSD (2013-14)
  - Cullen & Danowski, LLP (2014-15)
  - Education Incorporated (2014-15)
  - Garden City UFSD (2013-14)
  - Hicksville School District (2013-14)
  - Nassau County Dept. of Human Services (2014)
  - Plainedge UFSD (2013-14)
  - Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD (2013-14)
  - Seaford UFSD (2013)
  - South Huntington UFSD (2013-14)
  - Uniondale UFSD (2013-14)
- Mrs. Cramsie seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**BIDS**

Sealed bids were opened on Wednesday, March 26, 2014, at 11:00a.m. for the elevator reconstruction capital project at Newbridge. The bids were as follows:

Irwin Contracting Inc.     \$287,000  
Stalco Construction Inc.   \$291,238

It is recommended, based on the higher than anticipated costs, all bids be rejected.

Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education reject all bids for the Newbridge Capital Improvement Program. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**POLL WATCHERS**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education appoint the following as poll watchers for the 2014/2015 Annual Budget Vote and Election: Anne Barbera, Karen Hartnett, Sandy Finck, Michael J. Bevilacqua, Grace Pelant, Karen Guerra, Dianne Lawson, Janice Gentile, Chris Kropp, Modesta Lombardo, Kaitlyn Bazarewski, Courtney Hartnett, Jean Farraher, Irene Ebert, Elizabeth Dunn, Carol Sena (Substitute), Kim Cavanagh (Substitute), Brandi Fernandez (Substitute), Patti Lombardo (Substitute), April Forth (Substitute). Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**DONATIONS**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a donation from Box Tops for Education/PTA of \$621.40 to be used to purchase two guitars, five digital computer software subscriptions for music, and character education utility balls for recess time, to be used by the students of Dinkelmeyer School. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a donation from Target and Box Tops for Education in the total amount of \$1095.90, to be used to purchase eight iPad minis, to enhance and engage students in the acquisition of Common Core Standards at Newbridge Road School. Mr. Ferrara seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a donation from the Saw Mill 6<sup>th</sup> grade Class of 2014 in the amount of \$1,000 to be used to offset the cost of the Saw Mill sixth grade class of 2014 canoe trip. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**VISITORS**

Mrs. Grote (Aron Pl.) asked if the district had a long term plan for repairs over the next ten years. She also expressed concern over increasing enrollment at Saw Mill and spacing issues. Mr. Schissler stated that the district has a continuous five-year capital improvement plan and it will be updated at the end of next year. Mrs. Testa reported that the administrative team is currently working on class placements for next year and is watching the enrollment very closely at each of the schools.

**VISITORS**

Mr. Zink (Boy Scout Troop 192.) proposed an Eagle project to be done on the grounds of Newbridge Road School that would restore and refurbish the Veterans' Memorial and improve the look of the grounds in time for the Memorial Day parade. Mrs. Lanci thanked Mr. Zink for his letter asked that he contact Mr. Russo and the business office to go over the details of the project.

Mrs. Arale (Stratford Ct.) and Mrs. Gambino (Acorn Pl.) submitted a petition for a security guard in the district and asked for an update on our security projects.

Mrs. Adipeitro (Pacific St.) also expressed concerns over the increasing enrollment at Saw Mill and spacing issues. Mrs. Cramsie advised that he Board is very sensitive to the community's concerns.

Mrs. Cramsie moved that the Board of Education approve the Mark Zink's Eagle Scout proposal. Mr. Mayo seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

**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 10:55 p.m. discuss a particular personnel matter.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Canavan, Board Secretary

Mark Schissler, District Clerk