



**NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES – APRIL 18, 2023**

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| Special Meeting | Martin Avenue School | 7:00 PM |
| | 2616 Martin Avenue, Bellmore, NY 11710 | |

A special meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Tuesday, evening, April 18, 2023.

The following members of the Board of Education were present:

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

Also present:

Marie Testa, Superintendent of Schools
Laurice Gunnels, District Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Cmar-Grote led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Corless read the District’s Mission Statement

BOCES BUDGET AND ELECTION

Motion was made by Mrs. Lanci and seconded by Mrs. Corless to approve Item No. 4.1. Motion carried 5-0.

4.1 2023/24 Nassau BOCES Proposed Administrative Budget and Election

WHEREAS, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County (hereinafter “Nassau BOCES”) has proposed and presented its Proposed Administrative Operations Budget for the 2023/24 school year (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024); now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nassau BOCES Proposed Administrative Operations Budget for the 2023/2024 school year in the amount of twenty-five million, two hundred twenty thousand, eight hundred twelve dollars (\$25,220,812) be, and hereby is, approved by this Board.

**BOCES BUDGET AND
ELECTION
(continued)**

Motion was made by Mrs. Lanci and seconded by Mrs. Corless to approve Item No. 4.2. Motion carried 5-0.

4.2 Election of Trustees

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the election of the following candidates to the Board of Education for Nassau BOCES: Deborah Coates, Lawrence Greenstein, Eric B. Schultz.

**NEW YORK HOUSING
COMPACT**

Mrs. Cmar-Grote opened discussion regarding a drafted letter to Governor Hotchul from the BOE of North Bellmore relating to the New York Housing Compact which was addressed by Mrs. Malloy at the prior BOE meeting of April 9, and the concerns thereto. Mrs. Cmar-Grote understood Mrs. Testa had spoken to legal counsel, Mr. Powers, for the district regarding the proposed letter and inquired of the information she received.

Mrs. Testa spoke to a conversation with legal counsel for the district regarding the letter. She indicated she was informed that while it is not advisable for a school district to involve themselves in political issues since it is not their purview, in a case such as this it would be understandable since it could negatively impact the school enrollment and thus within the BOE's discretion to do so.

Mrs. Corless responded she agreed with sending the letter since the focus of it is relating to the proposed impact on the school district directly.

Mrs. Lanci in response voiced her concerns. She indicated the purview of the BOE is to set policies and work within the guidelines of the State on behalf of the taxpayers relating to education, health, and safety, and expressed the jurisdiction of housing and zoning is within the purview of the town or county government and indicated this would be overstepping that boundary.

Mr. Nardo spoke to his methodology in drafting the letter, i.e., the unknown overall impact the proposed zoning will have on the schools in the future which are currently at maxed capacity, and conveyed those concerns reportedly shared to him by other members of the community. Mr. Nardo indicated while he can understand the housing issue stressed it must be done responsibly and jointly by working together

Mrs. Malloy reiterated her thoughts from the prior meeting and indicated the letter was not drafted to dictate what can or cannot be built, but rather to make an awareness of the school suburbs, the size of the schools, the impact that a proposed plan such as this could have on the school buildings already at maxed capacity, education, and the taxpayers of this community now and in the future.

Mrs. Cmar-Grote indicated since the proposed housing compact could directly impact the school, she was in agreement to send the drafted letter voicing that concern.

**NEW YORK HOUSING
COMPACT
(continued)**

Mrs. Cmar-Grote asked if anyone wished to make further comments and/or modifications to the drafted letter. Hearing no further response, she called for a vote to send the drafted letter to Governor Hochul. The vote passed with Mrs. Cmar-Grote, Mrs. Corless, Mrs. Malloy and Mr. Nardo voting in favor. Mrs. Lanci abstained from the vote.

**AMENDMENT TO 2022/23
SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Motion was made by Mrs. Malloy and seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote that the Board of Education approve a revised copy of the 2022-2023 School District calendar to reflect schools will be closed on Friday, May 26. Motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurice Gunnels
District Clerk