

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING January 7, 2015

A regular meeting of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, January 7, 2015, in the Board of Education Conference Room of the Administrative Offices at the Brookside School at 1260 Meadowbrook Road, North Merrick, New York.

The following members of the Board of Education were present:

George Haile, Vice President
Marion Blane
Wendy Gargiulo
Janet Goller
Dr. Nancy Kaplan
Nina Lanci
Susan Schwartz

The following Board member was absent:

JoAnn DeLauter, President

Also present:

John DeTommaso, Superintendent of Schools
Cynthia Strait Régal, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Mara Bollettieri, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel
David Seinfeld, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum
Eric Arlin, Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services
Joseph Innaco, Director of Instructional and Technology Services
Saul Lerner, Director of Physical Education/Health/Athletics/Driver Education/Adult Ed
Jon Simpkins, Director of School Facilities and Operations
Thomas Volpe, Transportation Supervisor/Health and Safety Coordinator
Michelle Gagnon, Administrative Assistant I
Christopher Powers, School Attorney
Claire Neufeld, District Clerk

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:13 p.m. Mr. Haile led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Haile advised Mrs. DeLauter is absent tonight and she is enjoying time with her family.

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the December 3, 2014 Board of Education meeting. Mrs. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 6-0-1 with Mrs. Goller abstaining.

MINUTES

Dr. Kaplan moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report dated November 30, 2014. Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. DeTommaso thanked everyone for coming tonight adding it is a record night for all of us. Every meeting is a celebration of district accomplishments. Today, Kennedy HS has three, really four, Intel semifinalists. It is amazing for the district and for all those who participated, and will participate, in the Advanced Science Research Program. Tonight we recognize the rigorous path

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

to greatness. He congratulated Mrs. Poppe, Mr. Rob Soel, Science Department Chairperson, and the science teachers at Kennedy High School.

Mrs. Poppe stated 15 students and two teachers gathered this afternoon to await the Intel competition semi-finalists announcement. A fourth student, who had moved to Connecticut over the summer, was also there to celebrate. She congratulated the students and their teachers adding that the program is very important and really has an impact on the students.

Mr. DeTommaso advised those students will be recognized at the February Board of Education meeting.

**PRESIDENTIAL
SCHOLAR AND
ALL EASTERN –
NAfME**

Mrs. Goller presented an Award of Honor certificate to Kennedy HS senior Beatrice Brown stating tonight we have the privilege of recognizing Beatrice for two awards. Beatrice has received the 2015 Presidential Scholar Award from the United States Presidential Scholars Program. This award was established in 1964 by executive order of the President to recognize and honor some of our nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. In 1979, the program was extended to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional talent in the visual, creative and performing arts. Each year, up to 141 students are named as Presidential Scholars, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students. Recently a semifinalist in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program, Beatrice is a member of five honor societies including the National Honor Society. We are also recognizing Beatrice for having been selected to perform with the 2015 All-Eastern Concert Band at the National Association for Music Education's Eastern Conference in Providence, RI. An accomplished musician, Beatrice has been an All-County Flutist, a New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) All-State Flutist and a National Association for Music Education (NAfME) All-National Honors Concert Band Flutist. She is the principal flutist of the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra and has performed at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. Beatrice will be attending Yale University in the fall. Mrs. Goller, on behalf of the Board of Education, congratulated Beatrice.

**ALL EASTERN –
NAfME**

Dr. Kaplan presented an Award of Honor certificate to Kennedy senior Mara Friedman for having been selected by NAfME to perform with the All-Eastern Mixed Chorus at their Eastern Conference in Providence, RI, in April 2015. Mara recently returned from Rochester, where she performed with the NYSSMA All-State Vocal Jazz. Last year, she was chosen to the All-State Mixed Chorus. Mara is a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society and the Tri-M Music Honor Society. She is the co-president of the Variety Choir, the Concert Choir and the Girls' Choir. She is president of the Band and vice-president of the Drama Club. Mara also serves as Kennedy's Student Representative to the Board of Education. Mara will be pursuing a Vocal Performance Major and her future career plans include becoming an emergency room physician and hopes one day to join the CIA. Dr. Kaplan congratulated Mara and her teacher, Mrs. Pincus, on behalf of the Board.

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING January 7, 2015

Page 3

Mrs. Schwartz presented an Award of Honor certificate to Kennedy HS senior Justin Shapiro for having been chosen as a 2015 United States Senate Youth Program Delegate. The program, established in 1962 by U.S. Senate resolution, is a unique educational experience for outstanding high school students interested in pursuing careers in public service. Two student leaders from each state and the District of Columbia along with the Department of Defense Education Activity will spend a week in Washington experiencing their national government in action. Student delegates will hear major policy addresses by Senators, cabinet members, officials from the Departments of State and Defense and directors of other federal agencies, as well as participate in a meeting with a Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. All expenses are paid for by The Hearst Foundation and in addition, each delegate will also be awarded a \$5,000 college scholarship for undergraduate studies. Justin was a semifinalist in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Science Honor Society, and the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Justin has been a member of the N.M.E.A. All-County Band, Swim Team, and Cross Country Team. He is a member of Kennedy's Jazz Band and Pit Orchestra. He is also member of the Mock Trial Team and Student Government. He plans to major in government or history and attend law school. On behalf of the Board of Education, Mrs. Schwartz congratulated Justin.

**UNITED STATES
SENATE YOUTH
PROGRAM
DELEGATE**

Griffin Miller stated Calhoun held coat, toy and food drives and adopted families in need. He thanked the staff and families for their generosity. The Transition Fair was held in Calhoun HS last night and was well attended. The winter concerts were incredible with standing ovations. A Rwandan genocide survivor spoke with Calhoun students. Calhoun had two champions and finished fifth overall at the annual Sprig Gardner Wrestling tournament. The Prep reading class gave a rendition of "*Buddy the Elf*" to a packed house. "*Great Expectations*" will be performed this month and the Tri M Music Honor Society will induct students. Student athletes who have committed to schools will be announced this month. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVES**

Mara Friedman stated December has been a very busy month at Kennedy. The winter concerts were broadcast over the internet and the live stream is still available. Kennedy students performed at Westbury Gardens. A panel of alumni met with seniors. They highlighted certain courses that were very helpful to them in college. Many clubs sponsored service projects over the holiday season gathering toys, food, clothing and books. The annual blood drive raised over 60 pints. The Trivia Competition for Cerebral Palsy was very popular. Child development classes worked with young students. A Jam the Gym was held and the another is scheduled. Culture Club and Student Government sponsored "Matinee by the Bay." A Kennedy HS PTA Reflections Contest winner will advance to the next level. Guidance counselors are meeting with student to plan next year's courses. She congratulated Kennedy's Intel semifinalists, Beatrice Brown, Justin Shapiro, Samuel Epstein and Jayson Chojar adding Kennedy has had 38 semifinalists since the program's inception. She also wished everyone a Happy New Year.

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING January 7, 2015

Page 4

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVES**

Kara Ognibene stated Mephram has collected food, clothing and gifts for the less fortunate over the holiday season. She congratulated the winners of the Poetry Out Loud event and stated two will go on to the national competition. The two winter concerts were very successful and students also participated in holiday caroling. Students performed for the Bellmore Lions and Kiwanis Club and elementary and middle school students. Mephram had six finalists in the Sprig Gardner Wrestling tournament. Mephram artists were recognized for their work. A Mephram athlete was named to the 2014 Football Conference, exceptional divers were honored and JV and Varsity Cheerleaders took first place in competition. A Dangers of Distracted Driving Program was held for students. She wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated she is looking forward to the rest of this year.

Mr. DeTommaso stated he appreciates the consistency of excellence in our schools and was happy to hear about students' generosity in all our schools. This truly makes this a unique, special and incredible district.

Mr. DeTommaso gave a brief update on Phase I of the Bond Referendum stating that basically the last piece is Merrick Avenue's athletic field which is approximately 15 days away from completion. Grand Avenue's field was completed over the recess. Phase II is currently up at the State Education Department awaiting review and approval. Phase II work will hopefully begin the Summer of 2015. The Energy Performance Contract will provide an additional \$23 million dollars worth of work in the district over the next two years at no cost to taxpayers.

**EPC PRESENTATION –
JOHNSON CONTROLS**

Kieran Moran of Johnson Controls, accompanied by three colleagues, gave a presentation. He stated they have been working with district administration and the district's architects, Behrendt, Burton and Smith (BBS). He reviewed some of the highlights and provided annual savings figures in lighting, weatherization, energy management, boiler/burner replacement, window and door replacement, roof replacement and installation of a photovoltaic electric generation (solar) system. He reviewed his company's qualifications and stated work in the district should begin in February of 2015 and be completed by October of 2017. Johnson Controls is coordinating their work with bond work. When completed, all six schools should qualify for Energy Star status. The lease is over a 15 year period and Johnson Controls guarantees the cash flow coming back to the district.

Mr. Haile was advised Johnson Controls will come back and show a savings in a report they will submit to BBS.

The State Education Department diligently reviews the contracts and permits will be issued when the plans are approved.

Mr. DeTommaso was advised if there is a "Failure of Performance", Johnson controls will issue a check for the shortfall amount.

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING January 7, 2015

Page 5

Mr. DeTommaso mentioned some of the future events and thanked the Kennedy Art Department for the work on display in the Central Office corridor this month.

FUTURE DATES

There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the following Special Education placements as recommended by the Committee on Special Education (CSE): 000010038, 000010321, 000010535, 000011042, 000011473, 000011520, 000012294, 000013370, 000511021, 000511252, 000511722, 000511966, 023250000, 030410009, 030830004, 040050003, 040720003, 042870002, 042990000, 043490001, 061650000, 061710003, 070010280, 070011523, 070011619, 070011678, 070011805, 071210000, 071220003, 080630005, 110009525, 110010720, 110010917, 110460000, 111990001, 370000347, 370000415, 370000890, 370001117, 370001129, 990010200 and 992450291. Mrs. Schwartz seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**SPECIAL
EDUCATION**

The Board of Education accepted revised Policy No. 4326 – Programs for English Language Learners (1st reading) for a first reading.

POLICIES

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve revised Policy No. 4531.1 – Overnight Field Trips (2nd reading). Mrs. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

Mrs. Schwartz moved that the Board of Education accept a \$1,750 donation from Grand Avenue Yearbook for the purchase of a 27” Laminator and increase the appropriations budget by this amount. Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 7-0. Mr. Haile thanked them for the donation.

DONATIONS

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education accept the donation of a 30’ Sport Scope Endzone, valued at \$4,849, and custom signs for the entrance to Mephram Field, valued at \$689, for a total value of \$5,538, from Mephram Football Parents Club. Mrs. Goller seconded and the motion was carried 7-0. Mr. Haile thanked the Mephram Football Parents Club.

Mrs. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education accept the donation of 50 customized sideline folding chairs, valued at \$4,500, and weight room equipment, make and model of equipment subject to the approval of the District Athletic Director, valued at \$2,000, for a total of \$6,500, from Calhoun Sports Boosters. Mrs. Lanci seconded. Mr. Haile stated these items will have Calhoun’s name on them. The motion was carried 7-0. Mr. Haile thanked Calhoun Sports Boosters.

Mrs. Schwartz moved that the Board of Education approve the recommended 2015-2016 School Calendar. Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**2015-2016 SCHOOL
CALENDAR**

Mrs. Lanci moved the following resolutions:

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING January 7, 2015

Page 6

ADULT ED	BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the recommended new courses for the Spring 2015 semester.
PERSONNEL	BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent of Schools' Personnel Report with revisions, dated January 7, 2015. Mrs. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.
BILLS	The Board of Ed reviewed the Summary of Bills, dated January 7, 2015, and the corresponding warrants.
BUDGET SUMMARY	The Board of Education reviewed the Budget Summary Report. Mrs. Lanci moved the following resolutions:
FIRE INSPECTION	BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the 2014-2015 Fire Inspection Report for Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District buildings.
SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM	BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an agreement with The Friedberg Jewish Community Center for the use of certain facilities in the Brookside Building for the purpose of a middle school student's Summer Recreation Program from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Monday through Friday, beginning 7/6/15 and ending 8/14/15.
WAIVER	BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve waiving the custodial/room fees for the Senior Pops Orchestra's free concert on Sunday, 4/12/15 at Brookside. Mrs. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.
CORRESPONDENCE	There was none.
PUBLIC COMMENTS	Lisa Rattoballi asked if the schools are equipped with carbon monoxide detectors. Mr. Simpkins advised the boiler rooms in each building are equipped with carbon monoxide detectors.
OLD/NEW BUSINESS	Mrs. Schwartz thanked all of the schools for all of the drives that were conducted and helping those less fortunate.
EXECUTIVE SESSION	On a motion by Mrs. Gargiulo, seconded by Mrs. Goller, and carried 7-0, the Board entered into Executive Session to discuss a student matter at 9:10 p.m. On a motion by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Schwartz, and carried 7-0, the Board of Education reconvened into Public Session at 9:16 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING January 7, 2015

Page 7

Mrs. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education approve an Agreement of Settlement in a contemplated Due Process Impartial Hearing. Mrs. Schwartz seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**AGREEMENT OF
SETTLEMENT**

Dr. Kaplan moved, that the Board of Education rescind the 12/3/14 Board approved Construction Change Order in which Mrs. Schwartz moved that the Board of Education, having received a Change Order Proposal for the removal, disposal and/or back-filling of ten existing drainage structures and to supply, place, spread and compact select fill to subgrade elevation for a total cost of \$30,116, hereby approves such change order for Merrick Avenue Middle School, SED No. 28-02-53-01-0-007-036. This motion, seconded by Mrs. Blane, was carried 7-0. Mrs. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**RESCIND 12/3/14
CONSTRUCTION
CHANGE ORDER**

Mrs. Schwartz moved that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following following Construction Change Orders:

**CONSTRUCTION
CHANGE ORDERS**

Change Order No. 1, Bond Referendum Projects – Phase I, Athletic Field Reconstruction at Merrick Avenue Middle School, SED No.:
28-02-53-07-0-003-038, in the add amount of \$30,116 for Laser Industries, Inc. site work/general construction contract.

Change Order No. 2, Bond Referendum Projects – Phase I, Athletic Field Reconstruction at Merrick Avenue Middle School, SED No.:
28-02-53-07-0-003-038, in the add amount of \$60,000 for Laser Industries, Inc. site work/general construction contract.

Change Order No. 1, Bond Referendum Projects – Phase I, Athletic Field Reconstruction at Grand Avenue Middle School, SED No.:
28-02-53-07-0-001-031, in the add amount of \$20,000 for Laser Industries, Inc. site work/general construction contract.

Mrs. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

On a motion by Dr. Kaplan, seconded by Mrs. Schwartz and carried 7-0, the Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Neufeld
District Clerk