

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING December 2, 2015

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A regular meeting of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, December 2, 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, President  
Janet Goller, Vice President  
Marion Blane  
JoAnn DeLauter  
Wendy Gargiulo  
Nina Lanci  
Gina Piskin

The following member of the Board of Education was absent:

Dr. Nancy Kaplan

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 Services  
Eric Caballero, Director of Physical Education/Health Ed/Athletics/Driver Education  
Cheryl Fontana, Director of Music/ Fine & Performing Arts/Adult Ed  
Joseph Innaco, Director of Instructional and Technology Services  
Helen Kanellopoulos, Assistant Director of Special Education and Pupil Services  
Jon Simpkins, Director of School Facilities and Operations  
Tom Volpe, Transportation Supervisor/Health and Safety Coordinator  
Kate Freeman, School Business Administrator  
Christopher Powers, School Attorney  
Claire Neufeld, District Clerk

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:06 p.m. Mr. Haile led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed everyone.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the November 4, 2015 Board of Education meeting. Mrs. Goller seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**MINUTES**

Ms. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report dated October 31, 2015. Mrs. Goller seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr. DeTommaso announced the Board will honor the Calhoun Cross Country Team and the Kennedy Volleyball teams next month. Both teams had conflicts and could not attend tonight's meeting. Over the next two weeks there are high

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

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**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT  
(Continued)**

school and middle school winter concerts. He mentioned the upcoming events listed on the agenda and noted the Sprig Gardner tournament will be held at Kennedy and Mepham. Mr. Smestad's memorial at Calhoun HS is scheduled for December 22, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. Future meetings will have presentations on instructional changes. January will begin the budget process. Phase 2 bond work is in progress at Grand Avenue and Kennedy. Hopefully, the delayed Phase 2 work along with Phase 3 work will begin in the Summer of 2016.

**STUDENT  
REPRESENTATIVES**

Jacob Miller advised Calhoun's Thanksgiving dinner was tremendously successful. There was entertainment and money was raised. He congratulated the Boys Cross Country team. The Brotherhood Council's concert kicked off the holiday season. Alumni Day was this past week. Former students advised it is very important to take AP classes. There were many great acts in the talent show and the money raised was given to The Music Never Stops Tyler Seaman Foundation. Students attended the Veterans Stand Down event. A Calhoun student received the Amelia Earhart award. He is looking forward to the upcoming concert, Improv night and the memorial for Mr. Smestad.

Alex Dobosh stated Kennedy's Student Government has organized a food drive. The senior class is collecting coats and jackets, clothing and toys for the holidays. Over 25 members participated in the No Shave November. The first annual Turkey Bowl raised \$750. The Key Club's Blood Drive was this past Wednesday. He congratulated the Boys Volleyball team on becoming the Nassau County Champions and the Girls Volleyball team for advancing to the finals. The play, "Midsummer's Night Dream" was very successful. 12 students were inducted into the National Honor Society and one student is a finalist for the Wendy's Heisman's award. Alumni Day was also last Wednesday and there are winter concerts over the next few weeks in December.

McKayla Cates stated 120 pints were collected in last week's Blood Drive. Students have collected and distributed food for the needy. Alumni Day was last week. She congratulated all Mepham's sports teams for being recognized by NYS as Scholar-Athlete teams. Mepham's production, "In-law, Outlaws and Others who Should be Shot" was successful. Students volunteered at Veterans Stand Down. The third annual Mepham Strong breakfast was held on November 2, 2015. Broadcast Journalism class travelled to NY's NBC studios. Mepham students are collecting clothing for underprivileged children. Mepham hosted College and Career Night. Battle of the Classes was held at Brookside and the senior class won. Proceeds were donated to Tuesday Child.

Mr. DeTommaso noted that every Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District team was designated a scholar-athlete team.

Derek Baumann stated MAP students travelled to SUNY Farmingdale and ACDS, where artwork was showcased. MAP's successful blood drive collected 27 pints. MAP students attended the movie "Everest" or opted to go to ACDS where they toured the school and helped Special Ed kids. Nassau County Community

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College representatives came to Brookside. MAP's paraprofessionals were recognized on November 17, 2015. The Thanksgiving feast marked Mr. Smith's last day. 20 MAP students attained honor roll for the first quarter and students with perfect attendance were recognized. Students are collecting socks and toys.

**STUDENT  
REPRESENTATIVES  
(Continued)**

Mr. DeTommaso stated our students give a great deal back to our community. Dr. Bollettieri's One Voice, One Message ambassadors will be collecting supplies for the needy. These programs are growing. The ideas are coming from the kids and led by the adults. Our schools are working together. He applauds the efforts of the kids and staff. On behalf of himself and the administrative team, he wished everyone a happy holiday and hopes to see them along the way at the upcoming concerts.

There were none on agenda items only.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following Special Education placements as recommended by the Committee on Special Education (CSE): 000010114, 000010384, 000010573, 000013120, 000511903, 000511919, 000511980, 030350000, 030430009, 030430010, 030720000, 032260000, 040540006, 040700003, 050600002, 060690000, 070010409, 070011073, 070360000, 070720004, 070940012, 080290004, 080440002, 082410004, 093130000, 110010173, 131261658, 370000913, 992450059, 992450065, 999011150, 999011247, 999011248, 999011280, 999011296, 999011323 and 999011337. Ms. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education table approval of revised Policy No.5300 – Code of Conduct and place it on the January 6, 2016 agenda. Ms. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**POLICY**

The Board of Education accept the following policies for a first reading:

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Policy No. 0100   | Equal Opportunity (Revised)                                |
| Policy No. 1530   | Smoking and Other Tobacco Use on School Premises (Revised) |
| Policy No. 5420.1 | Concussion Management (Revised)                            |

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education accept a donation of a Wrestling Takedown machine, approximate value of \$2,300, from Calhoun Sports Boosters to Calhoun HS. Ms. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**DONATION**

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent of Schools' Personnel Report, dated December 2, 2015, as stated in the agenda. Ms. Gargiulo seconded and abstained from Item H. The motion was carried 7-0.

**PERSONNEL**

The Board of Education reviewed the Summary of Bills, dated December 2, 2015 and the corresponding warrants.

**BILLS**

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- BIDS** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the bids as stated in the agenda. Mrs. Goller seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.
- BUDGET SUMMARY** The Board of Education reviewed the Budget Summary Report.
- OBSOLETE/SURPLUS PROPERTY** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve the disposal of a BMCHSD 1991 Chevy Dump truck, #GBJK34K5ME207407, tag #4511190022. Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.
- Ms. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education approve the following resolutions:
- BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve the disposal of the recommended Calhoun HS Math textbooks.
- BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve the disposal of the recommended Merrick Avenue Middle School Library books.
- SAFETY EMERGENCY** BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare the need for security and smoke doors at Brookside School an emergency situation due to safety concerns, and further that the project is an ordinary contingent expense of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District. Monies from the 2014-15 interfund transfer, not to exceed \$50,000, will be used to pay for the installation.
- SMART SCHOOLS INVESTMENT PLAN** BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Smart Schools' Investment Plan as prepared by District staff.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Bellmore- Merrick CHSD's application for the District's allocation of \$2,195,440 to be used for classroom technology and school safety as outlined in the Smart Schools' Investment Plan.
- ON-GOING EMPLOYEE** WHEREAS, on July 14, 2015, the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District adopted the attached resolution establishing measurement periods for ongoing employees; and
- WHEREAS, for efficiency in tracking purposes the standard measurement period for ongoing employees shall be from November 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> the following year, beginning with November 1, 2015 and continuing each year thereafter; and
- WHEREAS, for efficiency in tracking purposes the administrative period for ongoing employees shall be a period of 61 days from November 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, beginning with November 1, 2016 and continuing each year thereafter; and
- NOW, THEREFORE, the attached resolution, adopted December 2, 2105, is amended, effective November 1, 2015, in accordance with the foregoing, as follows:

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WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act authorizes the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District to determine full-time status of ongoing employees in order to establish eligibility for health insurance coverage; and

**ON-GOING EMPLOYEE  
(Continued)**

WHEREAS, eligibility will be determined prior to the start of the health plan year each year; and

WHEREAS, the regulations under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act allow for look-back measurement periods to be used for ongoing employees to determine whether an employee is a full-time employee; and

WHEREAS, the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District desires to establish a look-back standard measurement period, administrative period and stability period for its ongoing employees; and

WHEREAS, the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District provides a health plan and is a participating municipality under the New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP) and **Health Plan of New York an Emblem Health Company (HIP)**; and

WHEREAS, the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District's health plan year is a calendar year which runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the standard measurement period for ongoing employees shall be a period of 12 consecutive months to be measured from November 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> the following year, beginning with November 1, 2015 and continuing each year thereafter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the administrative period for ongoing employees shall be a period of 61 days to begin immediately after the standard measurement period on November 1<sup>st</sup> and continue until December 31<sup>st</sup>, beginning with November 1, 2016 and continuing each year thereafter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the stability period for ongoing employees, determined to have averaged at least 30 hours of service per week (130 hours of service per calendar month) during the standard measurement period, shall be a period of 12 consecutive calendar months to begin immediately after the administrative period on January 1<sup>st</sup> and continue until December 31<sup>st</sup>, beginning with January 1, 2017 and continuing each year thereafter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the stability period for ongoing employees, determined not to have averaged 30 hours of service or more per week (130 hours of service or more per calendar month) during the standard measurement period, shall be a period of 12 consecutive calendar months to begin immediately after the administrative period on January 1<sup>st</sup> and

**ON-GOING EMPLOYEE (Continued)** continue until December 31<sup>st</sup>, beginning with January 1, 2017 and continuing each year thereafter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notwithstanding the foregoing, the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District reserves the right to elect to provide insurance coverage to otherwise eligible employees who are not currently provided insurance coverage or to elect not to provide insurance coverage to otherwise eligible employees.

**BOARD CONFERENCE** BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the attendance of Board members Marion Blane, JoAnn DeLauter, Janet Goller, Skip Haile, Dr. Nancy Kaplan, Nina Lanci and Gina Piskin at the Council of PTAs Founders Day Dinner on Monday, March 7, 2016 at a cost of \$47.00 per person.

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

**TLC DAY CARE** Ms. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve a five (5) year agreement with Teaching Little Children (TLC) Day Care at Brookside, Inc. for rental of 7,768 square feet of the Brookside Administration Building. Monthly rent of \$9,710 will commence January 1, 2016; proportionate share (5.5%) of utilities will commence December 1, 2015 and will be billed annually. Rent will increase annually based on the New York-Northeastern New Jersey CPI-U increase for the preceding year (November 1 through October 31) with a minimum increase of 1.25% per annum and a maximum increase of 4% per annum.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Board President to sign said agreement.

Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 6-1-0 with Mrs. DeLauter abstaining.

Mrs. Lanci stated she is a very active member of the Bellmore Lions. She was very pleased with the students' response in joining the Bellmore Lions' clothing drive for underprivileged children. She stated "it takes a village" and is grateful for the students' enthusiasm for this cause. She thanked the students. She stated she enjoys the partnership.

Mr. DeTommaso stated revised Policy No. 1530 – Smoking and Other Tobacco Use on School Premises is due to the flood of vapes use and the district will not tolerate them in our schools. He added one day care moved out and another quality day care is moving in.

**CORRESPONDENCE** There was none.

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Mr. Horowitz stated now that district schools are device schools, he has a dilemma in disciplining his children. He stated other school districts distribute devices to students.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. DeTommaso stated Bellmore-Merrick chose to implement Policy No. 4526.2 – Bring Your Own Device. A One to One Initiative is too costly for such a large district especially since devices quickly become outdated. In general, this policy has been enormously successful. The district is aware that with new technology there will be problems and things to work out.

Ms. Goller moved that the Board of Education authorize its President to enter into an Agreement resolving a Due Process Complaint for Case #91352. Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**SETTLEMENT AND  
RELEASE**

There was none.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Haile wished everyone a family-filled holiday.

On a motion by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Blane and carried 7-0, the Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Neufeld  
District Clerk

