

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION October 7, 2013

A special meeting of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Board of Education was held on Monday, October 7, 2013, in the Board of Education Conference Room at the Administrative Offices at the Brookside School at 1260 Meadowbrook Road, Merrick, New York 11566.

The following members of the Board of Education were present:

Susan Schwartz, President
JoAnn DeLauter, Vice-President
Marion Blane
Janet Goller
George Haile
Dr. Nancy Kaplan
Dr. Matthew Kuschner
Nina Lanci

Also present:

John DeTommaso, Superintendent of Schools
Cynthia Strait Régal, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Mara Bollettieri, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel
Caryn Blum, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum
Michelle Gagnon, Administrative Assistant I
Claire Neufeld, District Clerk
Christopher Powers, School Attorney

The special session was called to order at 5:44 p.m. by Board President Mrs. Schwartz. Mrs. Schwartz led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Kuchner moved that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT (the “District”), IN THE COUNTY OF NASSAU, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A Special District Meeting of the qualified voters of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, in the County of Nassau, New York (the “District”), shall be held within the District, on Monday, December 2, 2013, at the times and places as follows:

(a) within the area of Bellmore Union Free School District from 7:00 o’clock A.M. to 10:00 o’clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), at the Shore Road School, 2801 Shore Road, Bellmore, New York;

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(b) within the area of Merrick Union Free School District from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to 9:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), at the Norman J. Levy Lakeside School, 21 Babylon Road, Merrick, New York;

(c) within the area of North Bellmore Union Free School District from 6:00 o'clock A.M. to 9:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), at the Newbridge Road School, 1601 Newbridge Road, Bellmore, New York; and

(d) within the area of North Merrick Union Free School District from 2:00 o'clock P.M. to 10:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), at the Harold D. Fayette School, 1057 Merrick Avenue, Merrick, New York;

as provided in the notice calling said Special District Meeting hereinafter prescribed and on said day and as much longer as may be necessary to enable the voters then present to cast their votes.

Section 2. The business to be acted upon at said Special District Meeting shall be as stated in the Notice thereof, and the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause the Notice of said Special District Meeting to be published in "*Bellmore Herald Life*", "*Merrick Herald Life*", and "*Newsday*", such newspapers each having a general circulation within the District and hereby designated the official newspapers of the District for the purpose of such Notice, such publications to be made four (4) times within the seven (7) weeks next preceding such Special District Meeting, the first publications to be at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of said Special District Meeting.

Section 3. Said Notice of Special District Meeting shall be substantially in the following form:

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING
BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT,
IN THE COUNTY OF NASSAU, NEW YORK**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, in the County of Nassau, New York, adopted on October 7, 2013, a Special District Meeting of the qualified voters of said School District will be held on

Monday, December 2, 2013

at the times and places as follows:

(a) within the area of Bellmore Union Free School District from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to 10:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), at the Shore Road School, 2801 Shore Road, Bellmore, New York;

(b) within the area of Merrick Union Free School District from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to 9:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), at the Norman J. Levy Lakeside School, 21 Babylon Road, Merrick, New York;

(c) within the area of North Bellmore Union Free School District from 6:00 o'clock A.M. to 9:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), at the Newbridge Road School, 1601 Newbridge Road, Bellmore, New York;

(d) within the area of North Merrick Union Free School District from 2:00 o'clock P.M. to 10:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), at the Harold D. Fayette School, 1057 Merrick Avenue, Merrick, New York;

for the purpose of voting upon the following Bond Proposition:

BOND PROPOSITION

YES

NO

RESOLVED:

(a) That the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, in the County of Nassau, New York (the “District”), is hereby authorized to construct improvements and alterations to District buildings and/or sites (the “Project”) substantially as set forth in a plan prepared by the District with the assistance of BBS Architects, Landscape Architects, & Engineers, P.C. (the “Plan”), which Plan is available for public inspection at the office of the District Clerk of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, such Project to include (as and where required): improvements to the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, electrical, lighting and fire protection systems; interior reconstruction and space reconfiguration to provide improved science, art, music, lavatory, kitchen, auditorium and other space; the replacement of doors, windows, floors and ceilings; roof reconstruction and/or replacement; improvements to enhance accessibility to the physically challenged; athletic and recreation improvements including the construction of new synthetic turf fields and the installation of bleachers; and fencing, parking and curb improvements; all of the foregoing to include the original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, and all ancillary and related site and other work required in connection therewith; and to expend therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing

thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of \$49,896,150; provided that the estimated costs of the components of the Project as set forth in the Plan may be reallocated among such components if the Board of Education shall determine that such reallocation is in the best interest of the District;

(b) that a tax is hereby voted therefore in the amount of not to exceed \$49,896,150 to finance such cost, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by said Board of Education;

(c) that in anticipation of said tax, bonds of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$49,896,150 and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable; and

(d) that the District expects to receive a \$250,000 grant from Nassau County and such grant together with any additional grant funds received by the District for the Project shall reduce by like amount the taxes and bonds herein authorized.

Such Bond Proposition shall appear on the ballot labels to be inserted in the voting machines used for voting at said Special District Meeting in substantially the following condensed form:

BOND PROPOSITION

YES

NO

RESOLVED:

(a) That the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, in the County of Nassau, New York (the “District”), is hereby authorized to construct improvements and alterations to District buildings and/or sites (the “Project”), and to expend not to exceed \$49,896,150; (b) that a tax is hereby voted in the amount of not to exceed \$49,896,150 to finance such cost, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by the Board of Education; (c) that in anticipation of said tax, bonds of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the amount of not to exceed \$49,896,150 and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable; and (d) that the District expects to receive a \$250,000 grant from Nassau County and such grant together with any additional grant funds received for the Project shall reduce by like amount the taxes and bonds herein authorized.

The voting will be conducted by ballot on voting machines as provided in the Education Law and the polls will remain open from the respective times as hereinabove set forth and as much longer as may be necessary to enable the voters then present to cast their ballots.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that registration shall be conducted by the Boards of Registration of the several component districts as follows: (a) the Bellmore Union Free School District at the district office, Winthrop Avenue School, 580 Winthrop Avenue, Bellmore, New York, on all school days of the school year until five (5) days preceding the vote between the hours of 8:00

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A.M. and 4:00 P.M. (Prevailing Time); (b) the Merrick Union Free School District at all district schools on all school days of the school year until five (5) days preceding the vote between the hours of 9:30 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. (Prevailing Time); (c) the North Bellmore Union Free School District at the Administrative Office, 2616 Martin Avenue, Bellmore, New York, and all district schools on all school days of the school year until five (5) days preceding the vote between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. (Prevailing Time); and (d) the North Merrick Union Free School District at the Harold D. Fayette School, 1057 Merrick Avenue, Merrick, New York, on all school days of the school year until five (5) days preceding the vote between the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. (Prevailing Time); for the purpose of preparing registers of the qualified voters entitled to vote at the Special District Meeting on December 2, 2013.

The registers, as so prepared, will be filed in the office of the District Clerk at each of the respective Union Free School Districts as set forth above and such registers are to be open for inspection at reasonable times for at least five (5) days prior to the date set for voting on the budget and election, except Sunday. In the Bellmore, Merrick, North Bellmore and North Merrick Union Free School Districts, the register of voters will be available for inspection on the Saturday preceding the vote by appointment only.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that a person shall be entitled to vote at said Special District Meeting who is a citizen of the United States, eighteen years of age, a resident of the Union Free School District in which he intends to vote for a period of thirty days next preceding the election he offers to vote and

registered to vote for said election. The registers of the qualified voters prepared for the Annual District Meetings of the Union Free School Districts, held on May 21, 2013, shall be used as the basis for the preparation of the registers for said Special District Meeting to be held on December 2, 2013. Any person whose name appears on such registers or who shall have been previously registered for any annual or special district meeting or election of the Union Free School Districts and who shall have voted at any annual or special district meeting or election of the District or the Union Free School Districts held or conducted at any time since January 1, 2009, will not be required to register personally for this Special District Meeting. A person shall be registered to vote if he or she shall have permanently registered with the Nassau County Board of Elections or with the Board of Registration of the Bellmore, Merrick, North Bellmore and North Merrick Union Free School District in which he resides. Only persons who shall be registered shall be entitled to vote.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots for said Special District Meeting may be obtained at the offices of the District Clerk of the Bellmore, Merrick, North Bellmore and North Merrick Union Free School Districts between the hours of 9:30 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. (Prevailing Time). Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk of the Bellmore, Merrick, North Bellmore and North Merrick Union Free School Districts at least seven (7) days before the vote if the ballot is mailed to the voter, or the day before said Special District Meeting if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. A list of all persons to whom absentee

ballots have been issued will be available in the offices of the District Clerk of the Bellmore, Merrick, North Bellmore and North Merrick Union Free School Districts during regular office hours until the date set for said Special District Meeting. Any qualified voter present in the polling place may object to the voting of the ballot upon appropriate grounds by making his or her challenge and the reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls.

Only qualified voters who are registered to vote will be permitted to vote.

BY THE ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dated: October 7, 2013

Claire Neufeld

District Clerk

Section 4. The vote upon the Bond Proposition to be submitted to the qualified voters shall be by ballot on voting machines, and the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to have the necessary ballot labels printed for the said voting machines, in form corresponding as nearly as may be with the requirements of the Education Law.

Section 5. All costs incurred by the four Union Free School Districts in connection with the Special District Meeting, including but not limited to costs relating to the registration of voters, preparation of registration books, rental and use of voting machines, appointment and payment of election

workers (including ballot clerks and poll watchers), and printing and postage expenses shall be borne by the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District.

Section 6. The Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Clerk is hereby directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Superintendent and District Clerk of each of the Union Free School Districts promptly following its adoption.

Section 7. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 8-0.

Dr. Kushner thanked Mr. DeTommaso and the staff for helping get the bond together.

Mrs. Goller asked if groups in the district are planning to do anything to promote the bond.

Mr. DeTommaso stated that BMUST wants to set up a phone bank. The Syntax video is almost completed and a press release will be sent tomorrow morning. He said he would ask the component districts to post or have a link to the bond information on their districts' websites.

The Board of Education discussed methods of disseminating bond information to the public.

Mrs. Blane asked about absentee ballots and was advised the application will be posted on the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District's website.

Christopher Powers, School Attorney, advised the absentee ballot applications must be returned by November 22, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Blane, and carried 8-0, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Neufeld
District Clerk