

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

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A regular meeting of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, October 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, President
Janet Goller, Vice President
Wendy Gargiulo
Dr. Nancy Kaplan
Nina Lanci
Gina Piskin

The following members of the Board of Education were absent:

Marion Blane
JoAnn DeLauter

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
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
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 8:13 p.m. Mr. Haile led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed this year's representatives from the schools.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the September 2, 2015, the revised minutes of the May 6, 2015 and the revised minutes of the August 5, 2015 Board of Education meetings. Dr. Kaplan seconded and the motion was carried 6-0.

MINUTES

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report dated August 31, 2015. Dr. Kaplan seconded and the motion was carried 6-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. DeTommaso welcomed the new representatives from the schools and everyone in the audience stating we begin our monthly meetings with celebrating student and staff accomplishments. He added that he and the Board appreciate the student representatives' commitment and their input. Tonight's focus is on the music departments in all our schools.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

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**NEW YORK STATE
SCHOOL MUSIC
ASSOCIATION –
ALL STATE and
ALTERNATES**

Ms. Gargiulo presented an Award of Honor certificate to Calhoun junior Alaina Anderson for having been chosen as a vocalist in the All-State Mixed Chorus, adding that Ms. Gargiulo is a very good friend of Alaina's mother. Alaina has participated in the Nassau All County Chorus three times and is deeply involved in Calhoun's Choral Program and On-Tour Company. She is a member of numerous honor societies and is the voice of Calhoun's morning announcements. On behalf of the Board, Ms. Gargiulo congratulated Alaina.

Dr. Kaplan presented an Award of Honor certificate to Kennedy senior Joshua Corwin for having been selected to play viola in the NYSSMA All-State Orchestra. Josh attends the Mannes School of Music in NYC, has been taking private piano lessons, is a member of the variety choir and serves as the accompanist for both the choir and musical productions. Dr. Kaplan congratulated Josh on behalf of the Board of Education.

Mrs. Goller presented an Award of Honor certificate to Kennedy senior Cara Slovinsky for having been chosen once again to perform with the NYSSMA All-State Women's Chorus. Cara is a member of the Drama and Key Clubs, Variety Choir, Girls' Chorus and several honor societies. She studies voice privately and has performed with the New York Virtuoso Singers. Additionally, Cara has spent over 60 hours volunteering at La Fortuna Orphanage in Costa Rica. On behalf of the Board of Ed, Mrs. Goller congratulated Cara.

Mrs. Piskin presented an Award of Honor certificate to Kennedy junior Skylar Berkley for having been chosen as an alternate clarinet to the NYSSMA All-State Band. Skylar is involved with the Jazz Band, Pit Band, Key Club, Variety Choir and is a member of several honor societies. She takes private lessons in clarinet, alto sax, flute and piano. Mrs. Piskin congratulated Skylar on behalf of the Board of Education.

Mr. Haile presented an Award of Honor certificate to Calhoun senior Blake Fisher for having been chosen by NYSSMA as an All-State Vocal alternate. She is a member of Calhoun's Concert and Show Choirs, On Tour Company, numerous honor societies, a peer tutor and mentor in the Express Yourself program. She studies voice and piano privately and is currently teaching herself the guitar. On behalf of the Board of Ed, Mr. Haile congratulated Blake.

Mrs. Lanci presented an Award of Honor certificate to Kennedy junior Jack Lido for having been chosen as an alternate tuba to the NYSSMA All-State Band. He is a member of the Long Island Youth Orchestra, All County Symphony Orchestra, Pep Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Pit Band and a number of honor societies. He studies tuba privately and has participated in the Boston Bass Workshop at Adelphi. Mrs. Lanci congratulated Jack on behalf of the Board.

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. DeTommaso announced that our returning Student Representative from the Meadowbrook Alternative Learning Program (MAP), Derek Baumann, cannot attend tonight due to illness. Derek has advised that he now has a back-up/student representative-in-training.

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Jacob Miller, Calhoun's Senior Class President and this year's representative to the Board of Ed, stated it is a testament to the character at Calhoun that he, who did not attend Calhoun in his freshman year, became class president. He began by stating students are feeling the loss of Mr. Smestad and this year's Pep Rally was dedicated in his honor. He added the school will continue Relay for Life in his honor. Movie Night Under the Stars, featuring "Waterboy," was held after the Pep Rally. The event was sponsored by several clubs and was a good bonding experience. He mentioned Calhoun students who received honors. Spirit Week was very successful. Coltfest was cancelled due to weather and will be rescheduled.

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVES
(Continued)**

Alex Dobosh, Kennedy's Student Government President and this year's representative to the Board of Ed, congratulated Kennedy students on their accomplishments. Kennedy held a club fair and the Guidance Department will be meeting with 9th graders in small groups. Kennedy is already busy organizing community service and Service Learning projects involving the Tunnel to Towers Run, constructing adaptive smart homes for disabled veterans, a Safe Halloween program and events during Breast Cancer Awareness month. Fundraisers are underway and an outdoor movie is scheduled for next week. Ten miles of ties (over 12,000 ties) will be on display at Kennedy. Spirit Week is scheduled for October 18th with the bonfire and homecoming game on the 23rd. JFK can be followed on twitter.

McKayla Cates, Mepham's Class President and this year's representative to the Board of Education, stated this week is homecoming and Spirit Week. Mepham's Pep Rally will be held after the girls' soccer game. She congratulated members of the Mepham community who received honors. This year, the Participation in Government students have partnered with Tuesday's Child. Students have learned about 9/11 events and will visit the 9/11 Memorial in lower Manhattan. Flags are being sold as a fundraiser and will be displayed at Mepham during the week of November 1-7, 2015. The proceeds will go to Tuesday's Child. Items are being collected to prepare baskets for the needy.

Mr. DeTommaso stated if we pay attention each month we will notice our student representatives always mention accomplishments, thanks and community service. Over the ten months that school is in session, this adds up to a tremendous amount of things happening in the Bellmore-Merrick school community.

Mr. DeTommaso mentioned some of the important upcoming dates listed on the agenda. Of special note is the Fall Guidance Program for 9th Graders and a reminder that for the first time, the PSAT will be given on a week day. There are no classes for students on that day, October 28th, and November 3rd, Superintendent's Conference Day. There will be workshops on November 3rd for the entire staff.

FUTURE EVENTS

- PUBLIC COMMENTS** There were none on agenda items only.
- SPECIAL EDUCATION** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the following recommendations for placement made by the Committee on Special Education: 000010364, 000010873, 0000911320, 000511435, 000512589, 070011770, 070011774, 102730000, 121650000, 370000347, 370000487, 370000818, 370000912, 999011189, 999011264, 999011287 and 999011306. Mrs. Goller seconded and the motion was carried 6-0.
- DONATION** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education accept a donation of ten (10) Olympus CH30 Binocular Microscopes, valued at approximately \$16,000, from the New York City Police Department Lab to Calhoun. Mrs. Goller seconded and the motion was carried 6-0. Mr. Haile and Mr. DeTommaso thanked the NYPD. Mr. Haile added these microscopes will enhance the school.
- GRANT-IN-AID** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education accept a NYSED Grant-in-Aid as additional aid in support of general expenses in the amount of \$25,000 obtained by Senator Venditto and increase the appropriations budget by this amount. Dr. Kaplan seconded and the motion was carried 6-0. Mr. DeTommaso added his thanks to Senator Venditto.
- PERSONNEL** Dr. Kaplan moved that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent of Schools' Personnel Report, dated October 7, 2015, as stated in the agenda. Ms. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 6-0.
- BILLS** The Board of Education reviewed the Summary of Bills, dated October 7, 2015, and the corresponding warrants.
- BIDS** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the bids as stated in the agenda. Dr. Kaplan seconded and the motion was carried 6-0.
- BUDGET SUMMARY** The Board of Education reviewed the Budget Summary Report.
- BUDGET TRANSFER** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the following 2014-2015 transfer:
\$83,400 From A2250 490 00 0000 (SpEd BOCES)
To: A9901 950 00 0000 (Interfund Transfer to Sp Aid)
Dr. Kaplan seconded and the motion was carried 6-0.
- FIRE MARSHALLS' INSPECTIONS** Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education accept the Fire Marshalls' Inspection Reports. Dr. Kaplan seconded and the motion was carried 6-0.
- Ms. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education approve the following resolutions:

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education re-affirm the practice of maintaining heat in all indoor worker/student occupied spaces, excluding processing spaces (freezers and coolers) and gymnasiums, at 68° Fahrenheit from October 15th through April 15th, and 65° Fahrenheit from September 15th through October 14th and April 16th through May 31st.

**INDOOR WORKER/
STUDENT OCCUPIED
SPACES**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve the disposal of a double-stack combi-oven at Kennedy, #605597 or 005597, and partial #58, inasmuch as their repair costs exceed their worth.

**OBSOLETE/SURPLUS
PROPERTY**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve the disposal of a hot-holding cabinet, #006393, at Calhoun HS inasmuch as it is unrepairable.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve the disposal of the following Calhoun, Kennedy and Mephram tractors:

Model B1022C, VIN C218667, tag #004983

Model B1022C, VIN 032586, tag # 004627

Model B1022C, VIN C2189666

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve the disposal of the following Mephram items:

Lawn mower, #006146

Grass Sweeper, no number

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the hiring of a consultant, Platinum Athletic, Ltd. from the end of October through the end of November to provide choreography for the Mephram HS JV Cheerleading team at a cost not to exceed \$2,000 funded by fundraisers.

CONSULTANT

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the hiring of a consultant, Hope for Youth, to provide case management and services from 9/3/15 through 6/30/16 at a revised cost not to exceed \$16,130 and fully funded by Title I.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the hiring of a consultant, Regina Residence, to provide case management and services from 9/3/15 through 6/30/16 at a revised cost not to exceed \$2,000, funded by Title I.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an amendment to the September, 2008 Ice Arena License agreement with National Rink Management Corp.

**ICE RINK
AGREEMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education waive the custodial/room fee for the Merrick Brotherhood Council's annual Thanksgiving Concert in Calhoun's auditorium on Sunday, 11/22/15.

FEE WAIVER

**JOHNSON CONTROLS
AGREEMENT
AMENDMENT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District entered into an Energy Performance Agreement with Johnson Controls, Inc. on March 11, 2015 (the "Agreement"); and,

WHEREAS, the School District and Johnson Controls, Inc. desire to amend the Agreement to include modifications to the scope of work and the terms of the Agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract Amendment;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District hereby approves the Contract Amendment to the Agreement with Johnson Controls, Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Board President to execute such Contract Amendment between the Board of Education and Johnson Controls, Inc. on behalf of the Board of Education

Dr. Kaplan seconded and the motion was carried 6-0.

**APPR HARDSHIP
WAIVER**

Ms. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District has met the criteria set forth in the application for an APPR Hardship Waiver promulgated by the State Education Department;

WHEREAS, for the reasons set forth in the APPR Hardship Waiver application, the District is unable to meet the statutory deadline requiring implementation of an APPR Plan compliant with Education Law §3012-d;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the submission of the APPR Hardship Waiver application to the State Education Department;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools and the Board President to execute such application.

Mrs. Goller seconded and the motion was carried 6-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rona Barsch asked for an update on the air conditioning at Merrick Avenue Middle School, JFK and Calhoun. Mr. DeTommaso stated NYSED's approval of Phase II work was delayed 10 – 11 months. Once the district received State Ed's approval, bids were requested, reviewed, and the work confirmed with the companies before the Board could approve those bids. After a project meeting, the work can begin. Because of NYSED's delay, work that was slated to be performed during the summer of 2015 could not be done. Some Phase II work

cannot be done while school is in session and must wait until the summer of 2016. So far, district residents have paid about \$1.43 for work that has been completed. Phase III was submitted for approval to NYSED in June and it is hoped that approval will come in March or April of 2016. There will be buildings waiting until Phase IV for air conditioning since the work is performed on a rotational basis. This massive project is at the beck and call of NYSED. A \$24 million dollar Energy Performance Contract in which LED lighting was added will be submitted to NYSED for approval in the very near future. NYSED has added more personnel to their department but it is anticipated approval may take in excess of ten months.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Dr. Kaplan, seconded by Ms. Gargiulo and carried 6-0, the Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Neufeld
District Clerk

