

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING April 5, 2017

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A regular meeting of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, April 5, 2017, 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:

Janet Goller, President
Dr. Nancy Kaplan, Vice President
JoAnn DeLauter
Wendy Gargiulo
Lisa Katz
Nina Lanci
Gina Piskin

The following member of the Board of Education was absent:

Marion Blane

Also present:

John DeTommaso, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Mara Bollettieri, Deputy Superintendent of Personnel
Kate Freeman, Assistant Superintendent for Business
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 and Performing Arts and Adult Education
Joseph Innaco, Director of Instructional and Technology Services
Helen Kanellopoulos, Assistant Director of Special Education
Jon Simpkins, Director of School Facilities and Operations
Tom Volpe, Transportation Supervisor/Health and Safety Coordinator
Christopher Powers, School Attorney
Claire Neufeld, District Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 8:25 p.m. Mrs. Goller, Board of Education President, led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes from the March 1 and March 20, 2017 meetings. Mrs. Piskin seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

MINUTES

Mrs. Katz moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's Report, Report, dated February 28, 2017. Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. DeTommaso thanked everyone for coming as we celebrate another month of accomplishments in BMCHSD. Tonight we begin by recognizing the Calhoun Colts Cheerleading team as Nassau County champions.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

**CALHOUN
CHEERLEADING
NASSAU COUNTY
CHAMPIONS**

Ms. Gargiulo stated The Calhoun Varsity Cheerleaders had an undefeated season which culminated in a Nassau County Championship win and a trip to the State Championship in Syracuse, New York. The team has 13 seniors and 10 first year varsity members. The majority of this team has worked together throughout their four years of high school where their skills have progressed with the growth of the program. They are new to the Co-Ed Division in Section 8 this year due to the addition of senior athletes, Christian Concepcion and Nick Cantalupo. This team was extremely motivated and dedicated to achieving their goal of competing in the State Championship and worked hard throughout the season training and conditioning to improve their skill level. It is an incredible achievement to become competitive with other teams in the county when this team only began cheering competitively in high school. We are extremely proud of their accomplishments this year and hope they continue representing Calhoun High School and the Bellmore-Merrick CHSD at this competitive level for years to come. Ms. Gargiulo, on behalf of the Board of Education, congratulated the team and their coaches.

**COUNCIL OF
ADMINISTRATORS
ADMINISTRATORS
AND SUPERVISORS
(CAS) LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD**

Mr. DeTommaso stated we are always recognizing the incredible achievements of our students and staff. Tonight we recognize Kennedy High School Principal Lorraine Poppe. Ms. Poppe has been principal of JFK, one of the finest high schools in the nation, for 22 years. The Council of Administrators and Supervisors (CAS) have chosen Ms. Poppe for the Lifetime Achievement Award. No one deserves it more than Ms. Poppe.

Ms. Poppe thanked everyone and stated she loves coming to work every day and added that she is surrounded by wonderful people.

Mrs. Goller stated she was on the Board that hired Ms. Poppe and it has been a pleasure to watch her over the years. Ms. Poppe's commitment to the school community is visible and appreciated.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Mr. DeTommaso stated that initially One Voice, One Message's (OVOM) objective was to bring the schools together. This program has expanded beyond that purpose. Dr. Bollettieri has been involved since the beginning. The OVOM Superhero 5K Run/Walk was held on Saturday, March 25th. He thanked all those involved in this event.

**ONE VOICE, ONE
MESSAGE SUPERHERO
5K RUN/WALK**

Dr. Bollettieri stated the student ambassadors come up with the ideas. She introduced Robyn Einbinder and Joseph Netto who will give a recap of the Run/Walk. They, and many others, care so very much and Dr. Bollettieri thanked them all.

Mr. Netto stated there were 462 walkers/runners in the Third Annual OVOM Superhero 5K Run/Walk and many volunteers. Many in the community made donations. This event raised over \$10,000. A large portion of that money will go to "Rise Against Hunger" and \$1,500 will go to the Community Cupboard.

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Ms. Einbinder stated the Community Cupboard is fulfilling the needs of many in the neighborhood. On April 22 at 9:00 a.m., 80 students will participate in a food packaging event. Everyone is welcome. Food is being collected for the Community Cupboard this Saturday.

**OVOM SUPERHERO
5K RUN/WALK
(Continued)**

Dr. Bollettieri stated 14 families are provided with food each week with an additional 25 families also receiving food during the month. Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts troops and elementary schools have made random donations. Alan Epstein is donating a sign for the Community Cupboard that reads "Community Cupboard – Families Helping Families."

Ms. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education approve a change in the order of the agenda. Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**CHANGE IN ORDER
OF THE AGENDA**

Ms. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent of Schools' Personnel Report, dated April 5, 2017. Mrs. Lanci seconded, and the motion was carried 7-0.

PERSONNEL

Mr. DeTommaso announced the newly appointed principal of Mepham High School, Mr. Eric Gomez, adding that the building will be in very good hands. Mr. DeTommaso also introduced two new Special Education Chairs, John Jimenez at JFK and Maura Kempton at Grand Avenue. Mr. DeTommaso stated we need people who truly put kids first and it is a proud night when three fine educators become part of the leadership team.

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education return to the order of the agenda. Mrs. Piskin seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

**RETURN TO ORDER
OF THE AGENDA**

Sara Samir congratulated the Cheerleading team. Calhoun students received 37 DECA medals at the State competition and will be going to nationals in two Weeks. Poseidon Pure placed in the top 15 at the Virtual Enterprise (VE) National Competition. Students traveled to Disney for a competition and the concert choir performed at Epcot. A Health Fair was held this past week. Seniors won Class Night and St. Baldrick's raised over \$32,000. The Senior Fashion Show is tomorrow night and those proceeds will go to "Reason to Smile." Relay for Life is scheduled for May 12th. "On The Town" musical production was very successful. Students discussed global issues at the recent Model UN trip. Honor societies held inductions this past month. Seniors are beginning to receive college acceptance letters.

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. DeTommaso added Sara Samir was a key component of Poseidon Pure's VE business plan presentation.

Sara Samir stated Poseidon Pure is a water filtration company.

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVES
(Continued)**

Abigail Jellinek stated Kennedy's spring sports have begun. Kennedy students performed at Disney World. "*Pippin*" was very successful. A JFK student received an award at the Scholastic Art and Writing competition. The English Department raised \$4,000. Honor societies held inductions and a Health and Career Fair was very well received. Advanced Science Research (ASR) student continue to received more recognitions at the Long Island Science and Engineering Fair. A student's research has been published. A student won at a recent Poetry contest and another student's artwork will be displayed in the Heckscher Museum. The Senior Fashion Show was held last week and the proceeds will be donated. Kennedy students are participating in the "One Book, One New York" campaign.

Derek Baumann stated MAP held a Career Day at the beginning of the month. On March 17th, MAP students attended a Seal Watch boat trip from the Nautical Mile. He mentioned the OVOM Run/Walk and added it was a huge success. On the 24th of March students attended a modern take on Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" and held a Shakespeare Festival on March 31st. "Soles for Souls" is a community service project and they will accept gently used and new shoes all month in MAP. Mr. DeTommaso donated his shoes.

Madison Uzwy stated honor societies held inductions. Mephram's VE team took 2nd place at the Annual New York City Trade Show. She highlighted the OVOM Superhero 5K Run/Walk. Mephram's production of "*Thoroughly Modern Millie*" was a great success. Mephram's St. Baldrick's event raised over \$40,000 for children's cancer research. Mephram had 2017 Cultural Arts winners. Mephram's Elite after school activities explored last month. Mephram Kickline is hosting "So They Think They Can Dance" tomorrow night. The track team will be hosting the annual Paul Limmer event and students continue to support the Community Cupboard. Spring concerts will take place after the break.

Mr. DeTommaso stated all the plays were incredible. He found the Shakespeare Festival to be a very cool educational experience and requested a copy of the video.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Mr. DeTommaso stated over 70% of Bellmore-Merrick parents have opted out of the English Language Arts (ELA) Assessments. This parental movement will continue until NYS works on these tests. Bellmore-Merrick assesses our students every day. One test does not measure the success of our kids. We have a true picture of how our students are doing. The Math Assessments are scheduled for May. Our students are receiving college acceptance letters from the schools they want to attend. The Class of 2017 is a high performing, top of the line class with amazing acceptance rates. There was a Community Forum held earlier tonight concerning the sale of the Jerusalem Avenue property. The Board will consider comments and suggestions made at tonight's meeting. No Board action will be taken tonight and information about another possible Community Forum will be forthcoming. A May 19th Realtor Breakfast at Brookside, showcasing what Bellmore-Merrick CHSD is about, may include CHAMP and Broadcast students.

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Mrs. Freeman, Assistant Superintendent of Business gave a PowerPoint Budget presentation. This budget will retain all program and includes new initiatives. The 2013 Bond work is approximately half complete. Phase 3 is anticipated to be completed next year and Phase 4 is awaiting state approval. The district received a Aa1 Moody's rating in July, which contributed to the District obtaining a 2% interest rate on the BOND as well as the EPC, saving the District millions of dollars in interest payments. The full impact of Debt Service as well as health insurance increases of 12% for both 2017 and 2018 significantly impact the proposed budget. State aid is not finalized at this time. Additional aid may be used to impact the tax levy, which is now 3.23%. Federal aid cuts to Title grants could also impact the budget. CPI is 1.26%. The District will use reserves and fund balance to offset the budget.

**BUDGET 2017-2018
PRESENTATION**

There were none on agenda items only.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the following Special Education placements as recommended by the Committee on Special Education: 000010741, 000010853, 000010873, 000010920, 000011857, 000011949, 000012313, 000511235, 000511490, 000511818, 000511943, 000512109, 030450019, 041820003, 050980002, 052410003, 070010751, 070780002, 112280000, 201600073, 370001119, 370001296, 370001549 and 370001792. Mrs. Katz seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a donation of \$3,000 from the Helen Matchett DeMario Foundation, Inc. to Mephram HS' SADD Club to help with the Senior Citizen Prom and increase the appropriations budget by this amount. Ms. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 7-0. Mr. DeTommaso thanked them.

DONATIONS

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a donation of \$250 from the Bellmore-Merrick United Secondary Teachers (BMUST) Association to support the "One Voice, One Message" 5K Superhero Run/Walk and increase the appropriations budget by this amount. Mrs. Katz seconded and the motion was carried 7-0. Mr. DeTommaso thanked them.

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a donation of \$500 from the Mephram Sports Boosters to put towards the purchase of four (4) softball field poles and increase the appropriations budget by this amount. Mrs. Katz seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

Ms. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education accept a donation from Calhoun Sports Boosters of the following items for a total value of \$4,715:

- a. Hack Attack pitching machine, valued at \$3,295 (baseball)
- b. Roll Out Instant Runway, valued at \$1,300 (track)
- c. Net Playz Pro Speed Vision, valued at \$120 (various athletic activities)

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

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BILLS The Board of Education reviewed the Summary of Bills, dated April 5, 2017, and the corresponding warrants.

BIDS Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the bids as stated in the agenda. Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

BUDGET SUMMARY The Board of Education reviewed the Budget Summary Report.

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

ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS PROPOSITION NO. 1 – CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, Town of Hempstead, County of Nassau, is authorized to expend the sums in the General Fund Appropriate of one hundred fifty three million, six hundred sixty six thousand, eight hundred sixty three dollars (\$153,666,863) to be raised through taxation in the several districts included within the Central High School District after first deducting the monies available from state aid and other sources.

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

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

PROPOSITION NO. II – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, Town of Hempstead, County of Nassau, is hereby authorized to expend the sum of one million five hundred fifteen thousand and fifty four dollars (\$1,515,054) representing Capital Reserve Fund monies for the following purposes: districtwide paving and concrete work, track resurfacing, floor and ceiling tile replacement, roof replacement and/or resurfacing, tennis court refurbishment, turf replacement, door replacement, abatements, electrical and plumbing upgrades, fuel tank replacement and related work, structural work (brick, concrete and steel) and ADA compliance. Since the funds to be expended hereunder come from the Capital Reserve Fund, approval of this proposition will not require a tax levy upon the real property of the district. This Proposition shall be independent of Proposition No. I.

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

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the following resolutions:

FEDERAL SINGLE AUDIT BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the Federal Single Audit Report for the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District for the year ended June 30, 2016.

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, approve a Custodial Agreement with The First National Bank of Long Island to utilize Irrevocable Letters of Credit issued by Federal Home Loan Bank of New York as Eligible Collateral and authorize the Board President to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

**BANK CUSTODIAL
AGREEMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District approve an Interim Release settlement with Reliance Insurance Company for Workers' Compensation Excess Insurance claim #08000962-001 and authorize the Board President to execute the Interim Release on behalf of the Board of Education.

**WORKERS'
COMPENSATION
EXCESS INSURANCE**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an agreement with Zycron Industries, Highland, New York, for the provision of Medicaid Billing Services, commencing July 1, 2015 and expiring June 30, 2016, at a cost of 15% of monies received and retained by the Bellmore-Merrick CHSD; and

**MEDICAID BILLING
SERVICES**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Special Education will represent the District with respect to this agreement.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following Bond Referendum Projects Phase 2B Construction Change Orders:

**CONSTRUCTION
CHANGE ORDERS**

- a. Kennedy HS, SED No. 28-02-53-07-0-007-037, Change Order No. 1 in the deduct amount of \$10,000 for LEB
- b. Kennedy HS, SED No. 28-02-53-07-0-007-037, Change Order No. 2 in the add amount of \$395.45 for JNS
- c. Calhoun HS, SED No. 28-02-53-07-0-004-048, Change Order No. 3 in the add amount of \$14,000 for National Ins.
- d. Calhoun HS, SED No. 28-02-53-07-0-004-048, Change Order No. 4 in the add amount of \$8,962.24 for JNS
- e. Merrick Avenue MS, SED No. 28-02-53-07-0-003-039, Change Order No. 1 in the deduct amount of \$5,000 for LEB

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following Cooperative Bidding Resolution for the 2017-2018 school year:

**COOPERATIVE BID –
2017-2018 – NASSAU
COUNTY ASSOCIATION
OF BUILDINGS AND
GROUNDS**

“**WHEREAS**, it is the plan of a number of NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS, during the 2017-2018 school year, to bid cooperatively for the purchase of materials, supplies, equipment and repairs (the “Commodities”); and

“**WHEREAS**, the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District (“the School District”) is desirous of participating in the cooperative bidding of the Commodities, as authorized by General Municipal Law, Article 5-G; and

COOPERATIVE BID – 2016-2017 – NASSAU COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS “WHEREAS, this Board of Education has reviewed the Cooperative Bid 2016-2017 – NASSAU PROCEDURES (“Procedures”) governing its rights and responsibilities should it elect to participate in the cooperative bidding of the Commodities; and

(Continued) “BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby appoints the superintendent or designee to represent it in all matters related above; and

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with Cooperative Bid Procedures, the Board of Education agrees to award bid item purchases according to the recommendations of the Superintendent and the Boards of Education of the Cooperative School Districts, if such award is in the best interest of the school district.”

RECEIPT, COLLECTION AND REVIEW OF CERTIFIED PAYROLL RECORDS WHEREAS, contractors and subcontractors engaged by a school district for construction work are required to pay prevailing wages to their workers and are required to submit certified payroll records to the school district in connection with their obligation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Labor Law §220, the Board of Education designates Jon Simpkins as the individual responsible for Receipt, Collection and Review for facial validity of Certified Payroll Records.

INTER-MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION COOPERATIVE WHEREAS, a number of public school districts in Nassau County wish to jointly solicit proposals, together with the Nassau Board of Cooperative Educational Services (“BOCES”) for pupil transportation services for the 2017-18 school year (and any renewal period) in accordance with the applicable provisions of General Municipal Law;

WHEREAS, the public school districts and the BOCES have agreed to form a Cooperative (the “Cooperative”) for this purpose;

WHEREAS, the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District is desirous of participating in the Cooperative for joint solicitation of proposals for pupil transportation services as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Transportation Agreement attached hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the School District to participate in the Cooperative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Transportation Agreement attached hereto and authorizes the Board President to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an Inter-Municipal Transportation Management Services agreement between Bellmore-Merrick Central HS District, the Bellmore UFSD, the Merrick UFSD, the North Bellmore UFSD and the North Merrick UFSD authorizing inter-municipal cooperation and assistance with and among each other for the consolidation of their transportation management services and administration of the transportation management by a single transportation coordinator for the 2017-18 school year.

**INTER-MUNICIPAL
TRANSPORTATION
MANAGEMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District approve the provision of bus transportation to particular non-public schools for a period of three years starting with the 2016-17 school year. This period of time will become irrelevant if an eligible student should register for transportation to the school in question during this time. The three year period will restart once there are no longer eligible students in attendance. (NY State Education Law §3635.)

**NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL
TRANSPORTATION**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the establishment of the Mobius Arts Scholarship for two (2) Mephram students in the amount of \$10,000 each funded by Dr. Mark Mobius. A committee will determine the recipients and the scholarship will be awarded at the Senior Awards Program.

SCHOLARSHIP

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the hiring of a consultant, Steve Rodman Entertainment, to perform/educate as part of Mephram's ELITE Program Math and Magic on 3/15/17 at a total cost of \$125 to be funded by G.O. account.

CONSULTANTS

Dr. Kaplan seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

Ms. Gargiulo acknowledge the large and generous scholarship financed by Mr. Mobias. Michael Harrington, Principal of Mephram High School, stated Mr. Mobias is a graduate of Mephram HS, Class of 1954. He is an international investor and founded the firm Templeton Investments. He and his year have been very generous over the years. Some lucky students will truly appreciate receiving this scholarship.

There was none.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Robert Kaukaras questioned the 2.4 million dollar debt in the budget. Mr. Kaukaras asked what is EPC. Mr. Kaukaras stated he has been asking for eight years about the bond. He was advised he means North Bellmore's bond and he should contact NBUFSD. Mr. Kaukaras wanted to know where his school tax dollars go. Mrs. Freeman stated she had his information.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Lanci mentioned she attended a Mephram breakfast hosted by Fine and Performing Art students and added it was so very nice to see the talent we have in Bellmore-Merrick.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

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EXECUTIVE SESSION On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Ms. Gargiulo and carried 7-0, the Board of Education entered into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter at 10:02 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Gargiulo, seconded by Mrs. Katz and carried 7-0, the Board of Education reconvened at 10:35 p.m.

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

“BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, having reviewed the terms and conditions of a certain Memorandum of Agreement concerning a personnel matter in Executive Session, hereby approves such Memorandum of Agreement and directs the Superintendent of Schools and President of the Board of Education to execute the Memorandum of Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.”

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

ADJOURNMENT On a motion by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Piskin and carried 7-0, the Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 10:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Neufeld
District Clerk