

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING January 6, 2016

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A regular meeting of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, January 6, 2016, 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, Vice President
Marion Blane
JoAnn DeLauter
Wendy Gargiulo
Dr. Nancy Kaplan
Nina Lanci
Gina Piskin

The following member of the Board of Education was absent:

George Haile, 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 Services
Eric Caballero, Director of Physical Education/Health Ed/Athletics/Driver Education
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 8:10 p.m. Mrs. Goller led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and stated she hoped everyone had a wonderful holiday and New Year. She is looking forward to a good new year. She stated Mr. Haile, the Board President, is not feeling well tonight and wishes him a speedy recovery.

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Kaplan moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the December 2, 2015 Board of Education meeting. Ms. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

MINUTES

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report dated November 30, 2015. Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. DeTommaso wished everyone a Happy New Year and added it is hard to believe it is January already. Before the break, he attended ten incredible winter concert performances where the students thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT
(Continued)**

He mentioned Calhoun students performed "Circle of Life" at the tribute for Mr. Smestad. Mr. DeTommaso continues to be awed by the charitable giving, donations and fundraising in the Central High School District. He stated new programs and district staples were presented at Kennedy's Curriculum Specialty Night for 8th grade parents and students. Individualized learning helps students find their passion. The district's move to 21st Century facilities will only enhance our students' experiences. The Board recognized Kennedy's Boys Volleyball team and their coach earlier this evening. The Advanced Science Research (ASR) Program produced two semi-finalists from Kennedy this year, Rachel Mashal and Sarah Moussavi. He congratulated all the students involved in the program throughout the district's three high schools. He added kudos to the principals, teachers, and other staff. Tomorrow, five BMCHSD students were chosen to participate in the Long Island Psychology Fair. Mr. DeTommaso mentioned some important dates noted on the agenda and was advised Calhoun's spring production is "Midsummer Jersey."

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVES**

Derek Baumann stated in December MAP students learned the basics of ceramics, toured electric cars in West Islip and listened to a presentation about the effects of alcohol on brain development. He went to the United Nations (UN) in Manhattan and discovered the UN has its own zip code. MAP students also took a trip to Bounce Park in Syosset, wrapped gifts for children in homeless shelters, dressed up as elves for the Holiday Party on December 19th, collected socks, hats, and gloves and sent holiday cards to soldiers overseas. Three MAP students graduated in January, 2016.

McKayla Cates stated Mephams' toy drive, in conjunction with the Bellmore Lions Club, was very successful. Mephams' Friends and Family distributed gift cards and students performed "A Christmas Carol." Mephams students participated in a poetry workshop, an interactive holiday concert and 92% passed the financial literacy test. A Mephams student received a college soccer scholarship. The Poetry Out Loud contest was held last month and those winners will compete at the next level. The Mephams Varsity Cheerleading team qualified to compete in Orlando, Florida, next month. Both winter concerts were outstanding and students are working on Martin Luther King Day of Service collections.

Alex Dobosh congratulated Kennedy's Boys Volleyball team and Kennedy's ASR's Intel semifinalists adding they are the 39th and 40th semifinalists in Kennedy's history. Students received a standing ovation at the winter concerts. Students performed at the Westbury Gardens and a flash mob at the Broadway Mall. A successful toy drive was held and treats were given out at the holiday party on the 19th. Currently, there is a clothing drive and collections are being held for Martin Luther King Day of Service. Kennedy's annual Trivia Challenge raised over \$1,000. He mentioned the winners of the PTA Reflections contest. The Curriculum Specialty Night was the also the date of the ASR Information Night. Winter sports are underway and, as a tribute, the wrestling room has been named after Coach Munich. GSA sponsored an assembly given by Mr. Jackson. Approximately 15 children attended "Bring Your Child to Work" day.

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Mr. DeTommaso remembered George Munich and stated Mr. Munich's impact during his long career with the district as a teacher and a coach is immeasurable.

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVES
(Continued)**

Jacob Miller welcomed everyone back from their holiday and stated it was a wonderful evening at the Mr. Smestad memorial and the "Circle of Life" performance was outstanding. A memorial plaque will be installed this week. Over \$5,000 in scholarship money was raised that night. Star Wars music was performed at the winter concerts while clips were displayed above the students. Calhoun's toy and coat drivers were very successful. Students are looking forward to the Martin Luther King Day of Service. He congratulated athletes and encouraged everyone to see Calhoun's spring production, "Midsummer Jersey" adding it is a spoof on Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and the television show "Jersey Shore."

Mr. DeTommaso stated all of the district's fall teams were designated Scholar Athlete teams by New York State.

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 (CSE): 000010224, 000010739, 000011176, 000011185, 000011537, 000011558, 000011688, 000011866, 000011982, 000012605, 000511167, 000511493, 000512134, 023020002, 030350000, 030360005, 032310003, 032450008, 040500017, 041550000, 043480000, 052590000, 060730001, 062480000, 070011774, 081900001, 082420003, 092400007, 102730000, 131261293, 370000182, 370000348, 370000589, 370001549, 903700077, 992450050, 992450051 and 992450143. Dr. Kaplan seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Dr. Kaplan moved that the Board of Education approve the following revised policies:

Policy No. 5300 Code of Conduct (Revised) (2nd reading)
Policy No. 0100 Equal Opportunity (Revised) (2nd reading)
Policy No. 1530 Smoking and Other Tobacco Use on School Premises
(Revised) (2nd reading)
Policy No. 5420.1 Concussion Management (Revised) (2nd reading)

POLICY

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

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a donation of a of 100 Kindle Fire HD 7" tablets (5th Generation), valued at \$12,000, from Amazon Education to Merrick Avenue Middle School. Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 7-0. Mr. DeTommaso thanked Principal Johnson for negotiating this acquisition.

DONATIONS

**DONATIONS
(Continued)**

Ms. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education accept a donation of 155 Metro Cards, valued at \$6.50 each for a total donation of \$1,007.50, from the Bellmore Lions Club for the Martin Luther King Day of Service. Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

Ms. Gargiulo thanked Mrs.Lanci.

Dr. Bollettieri also thanked Mrs. Lanci and the Bellmore Lions for their generosity.

Mrs. Lanci stated she received a tremendous amount of praise about our kids. Our students are amazing and, along with the Bellmore Lions, serve their community. She hopes to expand next year and add transportation. She is very proud of our kids.

Mrs. Goller also thanked Mrs. Lanci and stated she is very proud to work alongside Mrs. Lanci on the Board of Education.

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a Youth Service America grant in the amount of \$3,000 for the Bellmore-Merrick One Voice, One Message Committee and increase the appropriations by this amount. Ms. Gargiulo seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

Dr. Bollettieri thanked Robyn Einbinder for applying for the grant and her leadership in One Voice, One Message. This grant money enables the committee to do so much for the children which empowers and prepares them. Washington, D.C. is very supportive of Bellmore-Merrick because it is a districtwide endeavor. She stated 5,600 students are involved in the Martin Luther King Day of Service and thanked everyone involved.

Mrs. Goller thanked Dr. Bollettieri, the administrators, teachers, students, staff and Mr. DeTommaso for bringing One Voice, One Message to our district.

**ADULT ED NEW
COURSES**

Ms. Gargiulo moved that the Board of Education approve the recommended new courses for the Spring 2016 semester. Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 7-0.

PERSONNEL

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent of Schools' Personnel Report, dated January 6, 2016, as stated in the agenda.

BILLS

The Board of Education reviewed the Summary of Bills, dated January 6, 2016 and the corresponding warrants.

BUDGET SUMMARY

The Board of Education reviewed the Budget Summary Report.

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

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Corrective Action Plan for 2015.

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Cullen & Danowski as the district's External Auditors for the following years and amounts:

EXTERNAL AUDITOR

2016-2017	\$46,400
2017-2018	\$47,300
2018-2019	\$47,300
2019-2020	\$48,200
2020-2012	\$48,200

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an agreement with The Friedberg Jewish Community Center for the use of certain facilities at Brookside for the purpose of a Summer Recreation Program for Middle School Students from 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM, weekdays, beginning 6/30/16 and ending 8/16/16.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve the disposal of the recommended 878 Merrick Avenue MS textbooks and reference materials that contain outdated information, are damaged and are available digitally.

OBSOLETE/SURPLUS PROPERTY

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare the brick repairs at Mephram High 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 & 2015-16 interfund transfer, not to exceed \$75,000, will be used to pay for the repair.

SAFETY EMERGENCY

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an agreement with Nassau BOCES to provide a Twilight Alternative High School Program for Bellmore-Merrick High School students.

TWILIGHT ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the hiring of a consultant, Stagelight Entertainment, to provide sound service for Kennedy's spring musical for a maximum of 22 sessions at \$98 per session, not to exceed \$2,156, funded by the Kennedy Building Student Activities Fund.

CONSULTANT

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

There was none.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Camille Morvay Raia, President of the Bellmore Lions Club, thanked everyone for their part in the December 19th holiday party. She is extremely proud of everyone. She thanked Dr. Bollettieri, Susan Ellinghaus, Skip Haile, JoAnn DeLauter, Lorraine Poppe, and all the students for their help

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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PUBLIC COMMENTS (Continued) in making it a very special day. She thanked the district for allowing it and the enthusiastic participation of everyone involved. Over 250 parents and children were served that day.

Mrs. Goller thanked Mrs. Raia and the Bellmore Lions.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS There was none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION On a motion by Mrs. Blane, seconded by Ms. Gargiulo and carried 7-0, the Board of Education entered into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter at 9:09 p.m.

On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mrs. Lanci and carried 7-0, the Board of Education reconvened at 10:14 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT On a motion by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Blane and carried 7-0, the Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Neufeld
District Clerk