

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING April 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, April 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
Nina Lanci
Gina Piskin

The following members of the Board of Education were absent:

George Haile, President
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 and Performing Arts and Adult 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 8:20 p.m. Mrs. Goller led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Goller stated Mr. Haile was not in attendance tonight due to family obligations. Also, Dr. Kaplan was absent due to illness.

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the March 2, 2016 Board of Education meeting. Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 6-0.

MINUTES

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's report dated February 29, 2016. Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 6-0.

**TREASURER'S
REPORT**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Mr. DeTommaso mentioned that earlier this evening, the Board recognized students for their achievements. Mrs. Goller presented an Award of Honor certificate to Kennedy senior Amanda Aronoff for having been chosen as the recipient of the 2016 Nassau BOCES Education Partner Award. This award recognizes individuals and organizations that have had a measurable impact on public education in Nassau County. Amanda created a student run, anti-bullying committee called N.I.C.E., implemented fundraising activities, served as President of SADD, coordinated Random Acts of Kindness recognitions and served on two hiring committees. Mrs. Goller congratulated Amanda on behalf of the Board of Education.

Mrs. DeLauter presented an Award of Honor certificate to Grand Avenue Eighth grader Youssef Ibrahim for becoming the Nassau County Diving champion. Youssef's score surpassed the second place competitor by over 80 points. This is an exceptional feat for an eighth grade athlete. In addition to diving, Youssef plays soccer, studies robotics and spends his spare time playing the piano, fishing and ice skating. On behalf of the Board of Education, Mrs. DeLauter congratulated Youssef.

Ms. Gargiulo presented an Award of Honor certificate to Calhoun senior Blake Fisher for clinching first runner-up position in the regional Poetry Out Loud competition. She moved on to represent the district at the state level. Blake is a member of several honor societies, an All County and All State vocalist, senior class treasurer, a four year member and current assistant section leader of Crescendo and an active member of Calhoun's On-Tour program. She intends to study theatre in college. Ms. Gargiulo congratulated Blake on behalf of the Board of Education.

Mrs. Piskin presented Award of Honor certificates to the Bellmore-Merrick Bulldogs Ice Hockey team for becoming Nassau County champions. The team defeated Long Beach in a thrilling 5-4 victory, capping off an unbelievable season. At the State Tournament in Jamestown, New York, the Bulldogs made it to the semi-final round. On behalf of the Board of Education, Mrs. Piskin congratulated the entire team for this outstanding accomplishment.

Mr. DeTommaso stated that this morning a bus carrying Merrick Avenue MS students experienced mechanical troubles. The bus driver notice the bus was overheating. He pulled over and evacuated the students. The bus then went on fire. The Merrick FD extinguished the fire. The students were transported to school on another bus and arrived at school on time. The students' parents were notified. This 2009 Guardian Bus was driven by Laron McCravey. It was last inspected on 12/1/15. The DOT is investigating. Mr. DeTommaso thanked Merrick Avenue MS Principal Taryn Johnson and the BMCHSD Director of Transportation Thomas Volpe. He stated the safety and security of our children is primary.

Mr. DeTommaso gave a brief update on bond work stating bathrooms are being finished and Mephams will be ready by Monday, 4/11/16. The Broadcast/Journalism room looks beautiful. A lot of work is scheduled for over the summer. We are awaiting NYS approval of Phase III work. The Energy Performance Contract (EPC) is being reviewed, nine months ahead of schedule.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT
(Continued)**

Mr. DeTommaso advised everyone the district received the NYS budget numbers on Friday, April 1, 2016 and introduced Mrs. Strait Régal.

Deputy Superintendent Strait Régal gave a budget presentation. The District built the 2016-2017 budget anticipating we would receive 1.9 million dollars back in Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) money that NYS has kept. The new State Budget did in fact eliminate GEA. The proposed budget maintains all programs. The Nassau County Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOTs) from LIPA is anticipated to be slightly less than the current year. Decreases in TRS and ERS payments helped the appropriations side of the budget. This year's budget has an increase of 3.47% and a tax levy increase of 1.51%.

**BUDGET
PRESENTATION**

Mr. DeTommaso thanked Mrs. Strait Régal, Kate Freeman and the Business Office staff for their outstanding work on the budget preparation.

Derek Baumann of the Meadowbrook Alternative Learning Program (MAP) advised MAP held a Career Week with presentations and demonstrations in March. MAP students took trips to the Cradle of Aviation, saw a modern take on Shakespeare's Othello in Manhattan, a performance of Godspell in Port Jefferson and competed in the first ever MAP vs. Oceanside baseball game. Unfortunately, MAP lost. MAP students participated in the Project Care event on March 31st and the St. Baldrick's event at Mephams HS. Students are looking forward to the 5K Run/Walk next month.

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVES**

McKayla Cates of Mephams stated the "So You Think You Can Dance" event was once again successful. Mephams held a District College Planning Night. The Chop Your Locks event raised over \$45,000. \$1,600 in gift cards were distributed and students participated in collections for Long Island Cares and City Harvest. She congratulated Mephams' Cultural Arts winners. Open Mike Night transformed the cafeteria. Mrs. Tepfer arranged for an FBI agent to address students on the subject of cyber bullying. The spring musical is "Legally Blonde." Upcoming events include the Spring concerts, honor society inductions and the 5K run/walk.

Jacob Miller of Calhoun stated Calhoun's production of "All Shook Up" was a wonderful experience. He congratulated Calhoun's Cultural Arts winners. The St. Baldrick's event raised over \$47,000. Senior experience is having a fashion show. Relay for Life has already raised over \$40,000. Mephams HS has hosted a Make A Wish student from Amsterdam. Mephams' 10th Annual Health Fair was successful. A student has been chosen by the District

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**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVES
(Continued)**

Governors of Kiwanis and three students were recognized at DECA Nationals. Spring sports are underway and seniors are making college decisions.

Alex Dobosh of Kennedy HS congratulated Kennedy's 2016 BOCES Education Partner Award student recipient. "Shrek the Musical" was thoroughly delightful. Winter Letter Night was held the past month along with National Art Honor Society inductions. The Health and Career Fair was held last week and Culinary Arts students prepared healthy food for the event. The Medical Scrabble tournament raised \$1,200. Kennedy's Blood Drive collected 60 pints. Students participated in a four day trip to Disney World. The Participation in Government students chose to sponsor Camp Sunshine, a camp for children diagnosed with cancer. Proceeds from the Spring Fling will be donated to Camp Sunshine. The Senior Fashion Show is tomorrow night. Boys Lacrosse will play a night game against a team from California. JFK is playing Mephram at SUNY Farmingdale. Relay for Life event also raised money. Upcoming events include Homeroom Derby, pasta dinner night and a car wash. Student are looking forward to the 5K Run/Walk.

Mr. DeTommaso stated he is amazed by the volume of student achievements and the social good at each of our schools. He thanked the students for their reports and stated he has seen four plays so far and encouraged everyone to attend the remaining shows. He congratulated and thanked Mrs. Goller for her 20 years working with the Kennedy Fashion Show. He announced some of the upcoming events noted on the agenda and thanked Assistant Superintendent Dr. Mara Bollettieri, her team and the student ambassadors.

Ms. Gargiulo left the meeting at 8:50 p.m. due to illness.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none on agenda items only.

**SPECIAL
EDUCATION**

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the following Special Education placements as recommended by the Committee on Special Education: BCSE cases: 000010321, 000010533, 000010949, 000011081, 000011185, 000011204, 000011265, 000011500, 000011590, 000511001, 000511291, 000511440, 000511802, 000511808, 000512064, 030350000, 030430051, 030720018, 030800001, 030830011, 030980001, 042820000, 050450007, 052420002, 113620000, 130003245, 362844697, 370000182, 370000231, 370000478, 999011199, 999011251, 999011350, 999011351, 999011358, 999011365 and 999011367. Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

DONATION

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education accept a donation of \$500 from Merrick Kiwanis to support the "One Voice, One Message Superhero 5K Run/Walk" and increase the appropriations budget by this amount. Mrs. Piskin seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

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Mr. DeTommaso stated Deputy Superintendent Cynthia Strait Régal is retiring at the end of the school year. She has been a great leader and secured the community's trust. During our search, we realized her replacement is right here in the district, Kate Freeman. He also mentioned our new Director of Food Services is Joanne Finelli from North Bellmore UFSD.

Mrs. DeLauter moved that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent of Schools' April 6, 2016 Personnel Report, as stated in the agenda. Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 5-0. Mrs. Goller congratulated Mrs. Freeman and Ms. Finelli and welcomed Ms. Finelli to Bellmore-Merrick.

PERSONNEL

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

BILLS

Mrs. Lanci moved that the Board of Education approve the bids as stated in the agenda. Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

BIDS

The Board of Education reviewed the Budget Summary Report.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Mrs. Blane moved that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BUDGET PROPOSITIONS

PROPOSITION NO. 1 – 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 and forty seven million, seven hundred and sixty three thousand, seven hundred and eighty two dollars (\$147,763,782) 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.

Mrs. DeLauter seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

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

PROPOSITION NO. 2 – CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

RESOLVED that pursuant to Education Law Section 3651, the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District is hereby authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding capital projects. In accordance with the five-year plan, projects include: 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, steel), and ADA compliance. The ultimate amount of the aforesaid Capital Reserve Fund is \$10,000,000 and the probable term

**BUDGET
PROPOSITIONS
(Continued)**

is to be 12 years; so that there will be no effect on the tax levy, the funds are to be transferred from surplus monies remaining in the general fund, capital fund, and/or in other reserves. Yearly transfers are not to exceed \$2,500,000 for each year of the probable term up to the ultimate amount.

The Superintendent of Schools or his designee is hereby directed to deposit monies of this reserve fund in a separate bank account to be known as the Construction Capital Reserve Fund.

Mrs. Lanci seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

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

CONSULTANTS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the hiring of a consultant, Steve Rodman Entertainment, to perform/educate as part of Mepham's ELITE Program Math and Magic on 3/9/16 at a total cost of \$125 to be funded by G.O. account.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the hiring of a consultant, National Dance Alliance, to provide a summer dance camp for the Mepham Varsity Kickline on 7/6-8/16, \$195 per student, at a total cost of \$3,510 to be funded by G.O. account.

MEDICAID BILLING

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

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

**COOPERATIVE BID -
2016-2017 NASSAU
COUNTY ASSN. OF
BUILDINGS AND
GROUNDS**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following Nassau County Directors of School Facilities Purchasing Consortium Cooperative Bidding Resolution for the 2016-2017 school year:

"WHEREAS, it is the plan of a number of NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS, during the 2016-2017 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

"WHEREAS, this Board of Education has reviewed the Cooperative Bid Procedures ("Procedures") governing its rights and responsibilities should it elect to participate in the cooperative bidding of the Commodities; and

“**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.”

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 2016-17 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.

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 2016-17 school year.

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.)

**COOPERATIVE BID -
2016-2017 NASSAU
COUNTY ASSN. OF
BUILDINGS AND
GROUNDS
(Continued)**

**INTER-MUNICIPAL
TRANSPORTATION
COOPERATIVE**

**INTER-MUNICIPAL
TRANSPORTATION
MANAGEMENT**

**NON-PUBLIC
SCHOOL
TRANSPORTATION**

**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.

**FEDERAL SINGLE
AUDIT**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the accept the Federal Single Audit Report for the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District for the year ended June 30, 2015.

SEQRA

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Board of Education approves the following resolution;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education desires to embark upon the Proposed Smart Schools Bond Act Project (Project); and

WHEREAS, said Project is subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of SEQRA; and the Board of Education, as the lead agency, has examined all information related to the Project and has determined that the Project as a whole is classified as a Type II Action as defined by Section 617.5(c)(8) of the SEQRA Regulations and, therefore, requires no further review;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby shall forward an official copy of this Resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Project Review Exemption based on the Letter of Resolution.

Mrs. Blane seconded and the motion was carried 5-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

Mrs. Goller reminded everyone the Special BOCES Budget Vote/Trustee Election is April 19, 2016, time to be determined, and the next regular meeting, which is also our Public Hearing on the budget, is May 4, 2016.

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On a motion by Mrs. DeLauter, seconded by Mrs. Lanci and carried 5-0,
the Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Neufeld
District Clerk