

MINUTES OF THE BELLMORE-MERRICK CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING DECEMBER 2, 2020

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A regular meeting of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, December 2, 2020, via Zoom video conference in accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1 for alternative means for public entities to conduct public meetings.

The following members of the Board of Education were present:

Gina Piskin, President
Edward Corona, Vice President
Marion Blane
Janet Goller
Melissa Cmar-Grote
Dr. Nancy Kaplan
Nina Lanci

The following member of the Board of Education was not present:

Tracey Miller

Also present:

John DeTommaso, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Mara Bollettieri, Deputy Superintendent of Personnel
Mikaela Coni, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Michael Harrington, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
Joseph Innaco, Director of Administrative & Instructional Technology and Data Protection/Security
Christopher Powers, School Attorney
Pattianne Guccione, District Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Education met in Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and COVID-19 issues and remote learning.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Piskin, Board President at 7:54 p.m.

On a **MOTION** by Ms. Lanci seconded by Ms. Blane and carried 7-0 the Board of Education removed the Public Comment sections from this meeting only and changed the order of business accordingly.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Piskin led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a **MOTION** Ms. Lanci seconded by Dr. Kaplan and carried 7-0 the Board of Education approved the minutes from the November 4, 2020 meeting.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

On a **MOTION** by Ms. Lanci seconded by Dr. Kaplan and carried 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Treasurer's Report dated October 31, 2020.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Future Dates

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| December 10 | Mephram ASR Parent Info Night |
| December 14 | Kennedy ASR Parent Info Night |
| December 24 – January 1 | Holiday Recess – Schools Closed |
| January 6 | Board of Education Meeting |

Mr. DeTommaso thanked everyone for joining the meeting. He thanked the staff for their dedication to kids and for giving the students a sense of normalcy. He mentioned that intramural sports had two sessions, there were plays at Kennedy HS and Calhoun and kids are participating in clubs which gives the students a sense of normalcy during these challenging times.

Mr. DeTommaso thanked the students for following safety protocols such as wearing masks, sanitizing/washing hands and remaining socially distant while they are in school and reminded everyone that they must also be vigilant when they are outside of school. He discussed how challenging contact tracing becomes when school personnel have to contact trace for events that take place over the weekend or outside of school, so that schools can remain open. Mr. DeTommaso explained that contact tracing reviews the 48 hours prior to someone being symptomatic and students will be quarantined based on the tracing. He mentioned that students and staff could be under quarantine for something in their own lives that do not involve school such as family members being positive. Mr. DeTommaso mentioned that there are only a few staff members under quarantine because they are taking the necessary precautions and are being very careful. He said that schools are one of the safest places to be and the District is not seeing transmission in school. He added that we will do everything possible to keep schools open but if the contact tracing becomes overwhelming, or if it becomes unsafe for the students and staff then we will close. Mr. DeTommaso added that it is important that the partnership with the community continues and that everyone remains aware and careful so that schools can remain open.

Mr. DeTommaso explained NYS's COVID-19 geographical color zones, yellow, orange and red. He further explained that the zone determination keeps changing and that we do not know the formula to determine the color of the zone, nor will the District find out if we become a yellow zone prior to Governor Cuomo's press conference. Mr. DeTommaso said that if a school falls within a designated yellow zone then the District will have two weeks to test for COVID-19 on 20% of the students and staff in that building to remain open. If a building falls into an orange zone then we will need to test for COVID-19 on 25% of the students and staff in that building to remain open. If a building falls in a red zone then we are ordered by NYS to close the building. Mr. DeTommaso assured everyone that we are working with all of the elementary districts and are exploring different options for testing such as getting the Binex rapid tests, which are accurate and free from NYS, and hiring an outside organization to perform testing. He said that the Bellmores and Merricks will be prepared if or when we go into a yellow zone.

Mr. Harrington reiterated that this is changing by the day and that we are well prepared for whatever we may face. He said that being open is the best thing for the kids and we will continue to do everything we can to remain open.

Mr. DeTommaso said that information will be shared as soon as it is solidified and when we have more information about the process of COVID-19 testing we will likely send out a survey asking who is willing to be tested.

Mr. DeTommaso said not only are kids following safety protocols, but they are doing an incredible job fundraising. He is proud that during this difficult time the schools and kids are raising funds for other kids that have needs in the District. In the Brookside building there are two hallways filled with food for the Community Cupboard. The Lions Club's Polar Express fundraising event is upcoming. Mr. DeTommaso thanked the kids, families, schools, outside organizations and everyone in the community for their contributions.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS – *Agenda Items Only*

There were no public comments for this meeting.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

On a **MOTION** by Dr. Kaplan seconded by Mr. Corona and carried 7-0, the Board of Education approved agenda items VII.A.1 and VII.A.2.

A. Policies

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following policy for a first reading:
Policy No. 5151.1 – Homeless Children (Revised)
2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following policy for a second reading:
Policy No. 6742 - Procurement: Uniform Grant Guidance for Federal Awards (New)

On a **MOTION** by Dr. Kaplan seconded by Mr. Corona and carried 7-0, the Board of Education approved item VII.B.

B. Donation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation of \$1,400.00 from Boy Scout Troop 123 and Kyle Berberich of Calhoun High School, to be used to purchase two outdoor benches to be placed in the front entrance of Merrick Avenue Middle School.

On a **MOTION** by Ms. Blane seconded by Dr. Kaplan and carried 7-0, the Board of Education approved agenda items VII.C through VIII.K.

C. Special Education

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education (CSE) for the following cases: 000010099, 000012114, 000012793, 000012883, 000013313, 000014895, 000014900, 000512680, 000512943, 000513066, 000513190, 000513599, 000513853, 000513893, 050490002, 053320000, 060720020, 060810000, 061640000, 070540001, 071910005, 080440002, 080630002, 080660007, 080710001, 080730001, 081850000, 081900001, 081910000, 081930002, 090430001, 090900004, 092400007, 102370000, 103550000, 131261312, 131261560, 131262381, 131263384, 131263722, 131263979, 181910009, 192010385, 192010789, 201600029, 201700181, 201900160, 202000078, 202112290, 370001623, 370001642, 370002031, 998460000.

VIII. PERSONNEL REPORT – December 2, 2020

- A. Terminations
- B. Resignations
- C. Appointments
- D. Permanent Status
- E. Recommendation for Continued Employment
- F. Salary Reclassification
- G. Cancellation
- H. Assigned Services – Non-Athletics – Cancellations
- I. Assigned Services – Non-Athletics
- J. Assigned Services – Athletics – Cancellation
- K. Assigned Services – Athletics

IX. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

- A. Bills and Corresponding Warrant – December 2, 2020
The Board of Education reviewed the Summary of Bills and the corresponding warrants.
- B. Budget Summary – November 30, 2020
The Board of Education reviewed the Budget Summary.

On a **MOTION** by Dr. Kaplan seconded by Ms. Blane and carried 7-0, the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items IX.C through IX.H.

- C. Obsolete/Surplus Property
 - 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve disposal of four items of Gravely equipment at Merrick Avenue MS and Calhoun HS.
 - 2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve disposal of one Gravely Brush at the Brookside Administrative Building.
- D. Construction Change Orders

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following Site & Interior Reconstruction Change Orders at W. C. Mephram High School, SED No. 28-02-53-07-0-005-053:

 - 1. Change Order No. 4 in the add amount of \$27,831.76 for The Land Tek Group Inc., the Site Work Contract.
 - 2. Change Order No. 5 in the add amount of \$28,455.00 for The Land Tek Group Inc., the Site Work Contract.
 - 3. Change Order No. 6 in the add amount of \$9,697.23 for The Land Tek Group Inc., the Site Work Contract.
- E. Ice Arena

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

F. Prep Academy Agreements

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve a lease agreement between the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District and Life's WORC for utilization of space at the Brookside Building for the period January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021.
2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve a lease agreement between the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District and Community Mainstreaming Associations (CMA) for utilization of space at the Brookside Building for the period December 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

G. Corrective Action Plan

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Corrective Action Plan of the 2019-20 Employee and Retiree Healthcare Benefits Audit performed by the Internal Auditor, Questar III.

H. Memorandum of Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District hereby approves and ratifies the attached Memorandum of Agreement dated this 23rd day of November 2020 by and between the negotiation representatives of the Association of Building Administrators of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District and the negotiating representatives of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District.

X. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was no old or new business.

XI. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Piskin stated the Board of Education did not receive correspondence.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments for this meeting.

XIII. POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Education did not enter into Executive Session

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Piskin said on behalf of the Board of Education that they wish everyone a healthy, safe and happy holiday season. She thanked the administration and staff for working so hard to keep our schools open. Ms. Piskin added that that if anyone ever has any questions to please contact us, we are always available.

On a **MOTION** by Dr. Kaplan, seconded by Ms. Goller and carried 7-0, the Board of Education meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pattianne Guccione
District Clerk