

Board of Education Meeting (Wednesday, August 7, 2024)

A regular meeting of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, August 7, 2024, in the Board Conference Room of the Administrative Offices at the Brookside Educational Center at 1260 Meadowbrook Road, North Merrick, New York.

Members present

Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

Also present

Scott Bersin, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
Mikaela Coni, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Eric Gomez, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Administration
Christopher Powers, School Attorney
Pattianne Guccione, District Clerk

1. Opening

A. Call to Order at 6:35 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Kaplan led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Acting District Clerk

Motion to appoint Mikaela Coni as the Acting District Clerk during Executive Session.

Motion by Nina Lanci, second by Janet Goller.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

Abstain: Nancy Kaplan

D. Executive Session

Motion to convene into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m.

Motion by Nina Lanci, second by Janet Goller.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

E. Reconvene to Public Session

Motion to reconvene into Public Session at 7:10 p.m.

Motion by Nina Lanci, second by Rosemarie Corless.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

F. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Kaplan led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Kaplan asked for a moment of silence to remember Chloe Boyle and Christopher Carini.

Chloe Boyle was a student from the Calhoun Class of 2024 who was expected to attend Coastal Carolina University in the fall. She was an On-Tour student who was known throughout the school community as an extremely kind person who volunteered great amounts of time to causes supporting special needs individuals and animal shelters.

Christopher Carini has been a Hempstead Town Councilman since 2018 after serving 22 years as a police officer with NYPD, MTA and the Port Authority.

2. Approval of Minutes

A. Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2024 Board of Education meeting.

Motion by Marion Blane, second by Rosemarie Corless.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

3. Treasurer's Report

A. Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report dated June 30, 2024.

Motion by Nina Lanci, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

4. Superintendent's Report

A. Future Dates

August 27	7th and 9th Grade Orientation
August 28-29	Superintendent's Conference Day
August 30-September 2	Labor Day Weekend
September 3	First Day of School

Mr. Bersin said that the Bellmore-Merrick CHSD was honored along with two other districts at the Advanced Placement Annual Conference in Nevada. He said there were over 3,000 people in attendance and that the entire staff is very proud of this honor. He thanked the Board of Education their continuous support of our programs.

Mr. Gomez said that opening day for faculty will be on August 28th and Mr. Harrington will start the day by introducing Kaz Windness, a neurodivergent author who wrote a book titled "Bitsy Bat, School Star".

Ms. Coni said that we are near the end of our summer programs which have all seen an increased enrollment except for our summer school programs which means students are doing well, it has been an exciting summer.

Dr. Kaplan thanked everyone for all of their efforts.

5. Public Comments-Agenda Items Only

A. Guidelines to Public Comments

The Board of Education encourages public participation on school related matters at Board meetings. To allow for public participation, a period not to exceed 30 minutes shall be set aside during each Board meeting. Any person wishing to make comments or raise questions shall complete an information card. Questions are to be addressed to the Board President, not to individual board members. Personal attacks on individual board members, administrators and staff will not be tolerated and may be cause to adjourn the meeting. There will be no back and forth dialogue. Out of courtesy and fairness to the rest of the audience, it would be appreciated if each visitor would limit his/her remarks to not more than three minutes or ask only one question. Public discussion on matters relating to staff and students, by which their reputation, privacy, or rights to due process, or those of others could be in some way violated, is prohibited.

There were no public comments.

6. Superintendent's Recommendations

A. Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR)

Resolution: 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize its President to sign the 2024-2025 APPR Implementation Certification form for the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District.

Resolution 2. WHEREAS, 30-2.9 of the Rules of the Board of Regents requires certification of lead evaluators for purposes of conducting evaluations of teachers and principals in accordance with the requirements under 3012-d of the Education Law, respecting Annual Professional Performance Reviews; and

WHEREAS, the individuals named below have successfully completed a training course that meets the requirements prescribed under the Rules of the Board of Regents;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County certify the following individuals as lead evaluators:

Rick Aceste, Mary Allegretta, Danielle Amato, Eric Arlin, Adeline Atkins, Scott Bersin, Heather Bizewski, Eric Caballero, Danielle Caliendo, Dr. Jen Carne, Theresa Catalina, Christina Cone, Carlo Conte, Jeffrey Cronk, Theresa Dell Olio, Andrew DelRosario, Anthony DeMartinis, Ann Donaldson, Katelyn Dunn, Robyn Einbinder, Cheryl Fontana, Ron Giarrappa, Justin Gioia, Eric Gomez, Michael Harrington, Nicole Hollings, Michael Hughes, Joseph Innaco, Dan Jantzen, John Jimenez, Nathalie Job, Rosa Kaplan, Maura Kempton, Barbara Kubler, Katherine Lessig, Mark Melkonian, James Mollica, Gerard Owenburg, Renee Owenburg, Emily Paluseo, Kristyn Pelligrini, Vincent Pisano, David Prince, Nicole Rhodes, Christopher Riccardi, Melissa Rohr, Christopher Safina, Kim Serpe, Andrea Sheridan and Robert Soel.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

B. Academic Intervention Services Plan

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopt the 2024 Academic Intervention Services Plan upon the recommendation of the Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

C. Professional Development Plan

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the 2024-2025 Bellmore-Merrick Central HS District Professional Development Plan.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

D. Special Education Vendor List 2024/2025 Revised

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the recommended revised Special Education vendors for the 2024/2025 school year.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

E. Special Education Report

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following special education placements as recommended by the Committee on Special Education: 000013174, 053570001, 100780012, 202400027 and 370002031.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

7. Human Resources

A. Human Resources Report 8/7/24

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Human Resources report for August 7, 2024.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

8. Business and Finance

A. Bills and Corresponding Warrant dated 8/4/24

The Board of Education reviewed the bills and corresponding warrant.

B. Budget Summary dated 7/31/24

The Board of Education reviewed the budget summary.

C. School Safety Plans

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopts the district-wide and building-level safety plans and directs that the district-wide plan be filed with the Commissioner of Education within 30 days of the adoption of this Resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

D. Component Tax Allocation

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the allocation of the Bellmore Merrick Central High School Districts tax levy for 2024-2025, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the District Clerk to notify the component districts of their tax levies for the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District for the 2024-2025 School Year.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

E. SEDCAR

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize its President to execute the 2024-2025 school year SEDCAR agreements as required by NYSED.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

F. District Disaster Recovery Plan

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the revised District Disaster Recovery Plan providing guidance and procedures for the recovery of information, technology data and equipment in the event of a disaster.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

G. Nassau BOCES AS-7 and Letter of Intent

Resolution: 1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the 2023-2024 Final AS-7 agreement with Nassau BOCES as required by Education Law 1950.

Resolution 2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Letter of Intent with Nassau BOCES in the amount of \$12,304,517.31 for the 2024-2025 school year.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

H. Electrical Training Center Agreement

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an agreement with Electrical Training Center Inc. to provide an electrical training program for Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District students for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$6,885.00 per student and authorize the Board President to sign said agreement.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

I. Athletic Trainer - Professional Athletic Training Services

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an amendment to the agreement with Professional Athletic Training Services, PLLC, to provide athletic training services to District Athletic Teams from July

1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 at a cost not to exceed \$40.00 per hour.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

J. Obsolete/Surplus Equipment/Property - Textbooks and Equipment

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve the disposal of 903 math textbooks, 1 overhead projector, 45 graphing calculators and 11 calculator view screens for overhead projectors located at Calhoun High School.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

K. Obsolete/Surplus Equipment/Property - Smartboards

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare obsolete and approve the disposal of 996 smartboards located throughout the district.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

L. Employee Compliance Services - Clarity Testing Services

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an agreement with Clarity Testing Services, Inc. to provide employee compliance services for for a period of one (1) year commencing on July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2025.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

M. Consultant - Myron Dueck - Speakers Bureau of Canada

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an agreement with Myron Dueck and Speakers Bureau of Canada to provide professional development services on August 29, 2024 at a total cost of \$8,200.00. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to sign said agreement.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

N. Consultant - Kaz Windness

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an agreement with Kaz Windness to provide professional development services on August 28, 2024 at a total cost of \$2,990.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to sign said agreement.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

O. Budget Transfer 2023-2024 Expenses

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick CHSD approve the following budget transfers to cover 2023-2024 school year expenses:

From: A9060.800 (Health Insurance) \$130,000.00

To: A9901.950 (Transfer out to Special Aid Fund) \$130,000.00

To write-off prior year Summer Handicapped 4408 receivables deemed uncollectable

From: A9010.800 (ERS) \$125,000.00

To: A9020.800 (TRS) \$125,000.00

To cover costs for TRS expense

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

P. Budget Transfer 2024-2025 Expenses

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick CHSD approve the following budget transfer to cover 2024-2025 school year expenses:

From: A2630.400 (Contractual – Computer Services) \$88,571.00

To: A2630.490 (BOCES – Computer Services) \$88,571.00

To re-allocate CORE services to BOCES Contract.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

Q. Statista Software Agreement

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve a software service agreement with Statista from 7/1/24 – 6/30/25 at an annual cost of \$1,709 for Kennedy High School and \$2,000 for Mephram High School.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

R. Wendel Energy Services, LLC.

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an agreement with Wendel Energy Services, LLC to provide professional energy services for the period of 7/1/24 – 6/30/25 at an annual cost of \$9,902.50.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved by consent agenda items 6.A through 8.R.

Motion by Megan C Ryan, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

8. Employment Agreement-Superintendent of Schools

This item was tabled. After Executive Session the Board of Education reconvened into Public Session and passed this motion (see below).

9. Old/New Business

A. Old/New Business

No old or new business was discussed.

10. Correspondence

A. Correspondence

The Board of Education received one mailed correspondence and did not receive any emails between July 5, 2024 and August 2, 2024.

11. Public Comments

A. Guidelines to Public Comments

The Board of Education encourages public participation on school related matters at Board meetings. To allow for public participation, a period not to exceed 30 minutes shall be set aside during each Board meeting. Any person wishing to make comments or raise questions shall complete an information card. Questions are to be addressed to the Board President, not to individual board members. Personal attacks on individual board members, administrators and staff will not be tolerated and may be cause to adjourn the meeting. There will be no back and forth dialogue. Out of courtesy and fairness to the rest of the audience, it would be appreciated if each visitor would limit his/her remarks to not more than three minutes or ask only one question. Public discussion on matters relating to staff and students, by which their reputation, privacy, or rights to due process, or those of others could be in some way violated, is prohibited.

There were no public comments.

12. Potential Executive Session

A. Motion to convene into Executive Session

Motion to convene into Executive Session to discuss a specific personnel issue at 7:16 p.m.

Motion by Marion Blane, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

B. Motion to convene into Public Session

Motion to convene into Public Session at 7:22 p.m.

Motion by Nina Lanci, second by Gina Piskin.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

8.S. Employment Agreement-Superintendent of Schools

BE IT RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education be authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the Board, the annexed Addendum No. 3 to the Employment Agreement between the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education.

Motion by Gina Piskin, second by Janet Goller.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

13. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn at 7:22 p.m.

Motion by Nina Lanci, second by Janet Goller.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Nina Lanci, Nancy Kaplan, Marion Blane, Janet Goller, Gina Piskin, Edward Corona, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

Submitted by Pattianne Guccione, District Clerk