

Board of Education Meeting (Wednesday, October 9, 2024)

A regular meeting of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, October 9, 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 (arrived at 7:53 p.m.), Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

Also Present:

Michael Harrington, Superintendent of Schools

Scott Bersin, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Mikaela Coni, Assistant Superintendent for Business

Eric Gomez, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Administration

Eric Arlin, Executive Director of Alternative Education

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 Administrative & Instructional Technology and Data Protection/Security

Maura Kempton, Assistant Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services

Jon Simpkins, Director of School Facilities and Operations

Tom Volpe, Supervisor of Transportation

Christopher Powers, School Attorney

Pattianne Guccione, District Clerk

1. Opening

A. Call to Order at 6:39 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

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

C. Acting District Clerk

Motion to appoint Michael Harrington as the Acting District Clerk during Executive Session.

Motion by Rosemarie Corless, second by Gina Piskin.

Motion Approved

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

Not Present at Vote: Edward Corona

D. Executive Session

Motion to convene into Executive Session at 6:40 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, Megan C Ryan, Rosemarie Corless

Not Present at Vote: Edward Corona

E. Reconvene to Public Session

Motion to reconvene into Public Session at 7:45 p.m.

Motion by Janet Goller, second by Nina Lanci.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

Not Present at Vote: Edward Corona

F. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Kaplan led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and requested a moment of silence to honor Calhoun High School student Joseph Andreano, who tragically passed, and to pray for Kennedy High School student Nathan Chugerman, who is critically injured. She also asked for prayers for those affected by the war in the Middle East and for the people still being held hostage.

2. Approval of Minutes

A. Board of Education Meeting Minutes 9/4/2024

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the minutes from the September 4, 2024 Board of Education meeting.

Motion by Janet Goller, second by Nina Lanci.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

Not Present at Vote: Edward Corona

3. Treasurer's Report

A. Approval of the Treasurer's Report

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's Report dated August 31, 2024.

Motion by Rosemarie Corless, second by Janet Goller.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

Not Present at Vote: Edward Corona

4. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Harrington welcomed our student representatives to our Board of Education. He noted that October is Board of Education Appreciation Month, but we traditionally celebrate our Board in November. He expressed his gratitude to the Board for their hard work and continued support. He acknowledged that it has been a challenging start to the school year and offered his condolences to Joseph Andreano's family. He also shared that we are praying for Nathan Chugerman's full recovery. Mr. Harrington emphasized the importance of leadership during difficult times and expressed his gratitude to the Board of Education, Principals, and Assistant Principals for their unwavering support and for helping the community navigate through these challenges and that we will continue to support one another.

Mr. Harrington provided a community update regarding a social media post made on the evening of October 6th. He acknowledged that the post was insensitive and goes against the values we uphold in Bellmore-Merrick. He assured the community that the post was swiftly removed, and an investigation was immediately initiated. While the post conflicts with our core beliefs, he emphasized that people make mistakes and must learn from them.

Mr. Harrington also highlighted the importance of ongoing conversations about inclusivity and expressed pride in how the students responded with respect and understanding. He shared that he feels fortunate to be part of this district, and stressed the need for everyone to care for and respect one another. He encouraged anyone with questions to reach out to him directly.

Mr. Harrington shared that some great things have been happening in our school. He mentioned that the Niche report was recently released, ranking us 71st out of over 10,000 schools nationwide and 13th out of nearly 600 schools in the state—an achievement we can all be very proud of. He added that we will be honoring several student accomplishments tonight and congratulated those students on their outstanding achievements.

A. Award of Honor Presentation - NYSSMA

Kennedy High School

Samuel Klein – Symphony Orchestra (Double Bass)

Zara Selvin – Treble Chorus (Soprano 2)

Mepham High School

Alana Muniz – Treble Chorus (Soprano 1)

Ms. Goller presented the students with an Award of Honor certificate and said "Each year in late August, young musicians throughout New York State receive the exciting notification that they have been selected to participate in the NYSSMA All-State Music Festival. This year the Bellmore-Merrick Music Department is proud to announce we have 3 students selected to these prestigious ensembles! The All-State selection process begins during the previous school year. To be considered for All-State, students must first be recommended by their music director and perform a Level 6 audition piece at the spring NYSSMA festival receiving a score of 98 or higher. The All-State bands, choruses, orchestras and jazz ensembles are honors groups comprised of the top students from school music departments across the state. The elite groups are directed by renowned guest conductors and perform in the world-famous Eastman Theatre in Rochester during the annual NYSSMA Winter Conference. The following students have been selected and will travel to Rochester on December 5th to participate in four days of intense rehearsals and performances:

- Samuel Klein – Kennedy HS – Symphony Orchestra, Double Bass
- Alana Muniz – Mepham HS – Treble Chorus, Soprano 1
- Zara Selvin – Kennedy HS – Treble Chorus, Soprano 2

Congratulations to all of these outstanding musicians and their teachers:
Ms. Dimitriou, Ms. Kenyon & Ms. Shapiro"

B. Award of Honor Presentation - National Merit Semifinalists

Calhoun High School

Kyle Park

Kennedy High School

Mark Prainito

Dr. Kaplan presented Award of Honor certificates to the students and said "The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. The semifinalists represent the highest scoring 1% of the students nationwide who took the PSAT. More than 16,000 students qualified as National Merit Scholarship semifinalists. The semifinalists are now competing to advance to the finalist stage. They must submit a detailed application, including information about their academic record and participation in school and community activities. They also report any employment, honors and awards and demonstrated leadership abilities. Finalists will be notified in February 2025 and scholarship winners will be announced in the spring of 2025."

C. Student Representatives

Samantha Chaiken from Calhoun High School said she is honored to have the opportunity to showcase the Calhoun High School's special events. She began by remembering Joseph Andreano, who tragically passed away, stating everyone is devastated by his loss. He will be remembered as a very special person, that loved robotics and had the ability to lit up a room when he entered. She emphasized the importance of coming together during this time and announced that they would be hosting a fundraiser to benefit his family. Samantha shared that Calhoun kicked off the school year with tremendous spirit, mentioning the Prep Rally and the Annual Fall Ball, where students enjoyed dancing the night away and creating lasting memories. At Coltfest, students sold merchandise, and the football team achieved an outstanding victory against Jericho. She proudly noted that Calhoun crowned its homecoming king and queen, calling the weekend nothing short of amazing. She highlighted some upcoming events, such as Challenge Day and Unity Day, adding that Calhoun is bursting with pride for their school and they are all looking forward to another excellent year ahead.

Jake Classie from Mepham High School said "It's incredible how quickly September flew by, and I'm excited to share that the school year is already off to a great start. Mepham is buzzing with energy and student achievements, so I'd like to take a moment to highlight some of our recent successes and activities.

First, I'd like to congratulate Makayala Daube for being named our 2025 Valedictorian, and Helen Strite as our 2025 Salutatorian. In addition, senior Alana Muniz earned All-State honors for her exceptional talent as a Soprano 1 in the Treble Chorus. Senior Iris Peneda also made school history by winning the first-ever Purchase College SUNY Award for Excellence in High School Journalism with her article titled "New Beginnings." Moreover, junior Sofia Tibaldi was recognized for her arts and entertainment piece, "GUTS World Tour Review." Moving on to school events: Our seniors kicked off the year with a memorable senior sunrise event on the first Friday of the school year, gathering on the football field to celebrate the start of their final year at Mepham. On September 11th, we observed a moment of silence with a "silent passing" between second and third periods, giving students and staff the opportunity to honor and reflect on the lives lost that day. During the second week of school, we celebrated homecoming spirit week. On September 13th, we held a school-wide pep rally on the turf during 9th period, followed by our annual Pirate Fest, where various clubs set up tables and activities for students. The event was a tremendous success and brought the Mepham community together. Our Leo Club organized a collection drive for "All About Cats" and "The Last Hope Animal Shelter," gathering donations of old towels, blankets, sheets, and animal food items to support these local organizations. In athletics, Mepham sports are off to a fantastic start. A special shout-out goes to our varsity football team for their impressive 20-0 homecoming victory over MacArthur on September 14th. In addition, we are excited to announce the opening of "The Treasure Chest," a new snack shed at our football games, which sells beverages, food, snacks, and candy. Proceeds from the Treasure Chest support our football program. Finally, our seniors in the Participation in Government class are preparing for the 10th annual Flag Field of Honor. Proceeds from this year's event will benefit our senior Service Learning Project's partnership with the Ronald McDonald House. Over the years, this initiative has raised more than \$771,000 for both local and national charities. Flag registration is open until October 25th. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of Mepham. I wish everyone a wonderful and successful school year ahead!"

Mia McGorty from Meadowbrook Alternative Program said "There was a great start to the school year for MAP, Prep Academy and the Electrical Training Program. Pre Academy has already started their excursions to the beach to surf on Friday mornings. MAP students took a trip to the ropes course at the Brookville Outdoor Education for some team-building. They used a lot of leadership skills such as teamwork, communication and supporting people who were stepping out of their comfort zones. It was a great way to help everyone come together as people. Also, the MAP leadership class and prep Academy are preparing for the Brookside Day of Bonding on October 16th which is also the district Unity Day. There will be fun and games, arts and crafts and food to unite all different groups and programs in the Brookside building. The Prep Academy Thirsty Husky Cafe has been open for business. They sell coffee, tea and in upcoming months they will also start selling pancakes and waffles. Finally, we are excited to welcome Dr. Carne as the new Brookside Assistant Principal. Dr. Carne and her cute little furry friend, Cash, who gets lots of attention from the students, have been a great addition to Brookside."

Matthew Rowe from Kennedy High School said "I would first like to take a moment to congratulate our Valedictorian, Mark Prainito, and Salutatorian, Jayden Simon. Both students have shown incredible dedication and hard work throughout their high school years. On behalf of the school, we are all so proud of you. I have no doubt that they will continue to achieve great things, and I am excited to see what the future holds for them. As we began the school year, I couldn't be prouder of how the Kennedy community came together to welcome both new and returning students. Just before school officially started, Kennedy held its annual freshman orientation on August 27th. National Honors Society students guided freshmen on campus tours, ensuring they felt at home right from the start. For lunch, students were introduced to the CHAMP program and were lucky enough to try their hamburgers and hotdogs. On the football field, the students played fun games including spike ball and cornhole, and met with upperclassmen-about their class schedule. I had the opportunity to address the incoming students and encouraged them to make the most of their time here by joining clubs where they can truly be themselves and be supported by their peers. For our new seniors, we celebrated the beginning of their final year in high school with fan favorite traditions. On the first day of school, our seniors showcased their spirit by arriving to school with their cars beautifully decorated. The excitement continued through the week on the first Friday, where the senior class wore matching outfits. I had the joy of participating in these traditions myself and was looking forward to them all summer. These long-standing celebrations create great memories for the Class of 2025 and strengthen the sense of community in the grade. Another NEW and exciting tradition this year is Food Truck Fridays. At least once a month, and sometimes more, a food truck is on school grounds during most lunch periods. Students look forward to getting food from the trucks, keeping them intrigued as to what the next month's truck will be. Our first one was a big hit, with everyone enjoying Kana Ice in September. On September 26th, we hosted the Club Fair, another opportunity for our freshmen to get involved in the vibrant clubs and organizations at the school. Students explored diverse

clubs that sparked their interests, such as Future Business Leaders of America, Chess Society, and Asian Pacific Student Association. Each club provides a space for students to meet others with common interests and hopefully will become their "place" in the school. I am particularly proud to announce that Kennedy High School has earned the prestigious New York State Public High School Athletic Association School of Distinction Award for the 2023-2024 school year! This achievement reflects our dedication to both athletic and academic excellence. 100 percent of Kennedy's Varsity sports teams qualified for the Scholar-Athlete award which demonstrates the students' balance by prioritizing both sports and studies. It has been a great start to the school year at Kennedy. As we move forward, there's so much to look forward to in the coming month including Spirit Week, Pep Rally, and the highly anticipated Homecoming Tailgate, Game, and Dance. I know it will be another standout month, reflective of the schools' spirit. Thank you all so much, and I look forward to seeing you next month and sharing even more achievements and initiatives."

D. Future Dates

Mr. Harrington mentioned the future dates:

October 10 Fall Guidance Program 9th Grade

October 11 Emergency Preparedness Drill - Early Dismissal

October 14 Columbus Day - Schools Closed

October 15 High School World Languages Honor Society Induction

October 16 Calhoun Math Honor Society Induction

October 18 Kennedy Pep Rally

October 19 Kennedy Homecoming

October 25-26 On Tour Shakespeare

October 29 Kennedy and Mephram Math Honor Society Induction

November 4 Middle School Winter I Sports Begin

November 5 Superintendent's Conference Day - No School for Students

November 6 Board of Education Meeting

Dr. Kaplan expressed her gratitude to the Board of Education and Mr. Harrington for their unwavering dedication. She wants the community to know that when a child is hurt, the entire community feels the pain, saying, "When you hurt, we hurt". Acknowledging the recent difficult times, she shared that she attended Joseph Andreano's funeral to show the family how much he meant to all of us and was deeply moved by the overwhelming support from the community. Dr. Kaplan also reflected on Nate Chugerman's injury, noting the many conversations took place about how best to support our families as we pray for his full recovery. Dr. Kaplan discussed Mr. Harrington's dedication, as he took time away from his family to address the situation following a recent social media post. She remarked that the timing of the post could not have been worse and that it was hurtful to the community. She said our Board of Education and leadership teams have worked very hard to welcome our Muslim community who were also hurt by the post. She said the Board of Education continues their efforts to ensure everyone feels loved and supported, reminding us all of the importance of treating each other with kindness and unity. She expressed confidence that people will learn from this experience, acknowledging that while there is still work to be done, the community can and will move forward together.

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 on agenda items.

6. Superintendent's Recommendations

A. Policy No. 0100 - Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the following policy for a second reading: Policy No. 0100 - Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity (Revised)

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

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

B. Policy No. 0110 - Sexual Harassment

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the following policy for a second reading: Policy No. 0110 - Sexual Harassment (Revised)

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

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

C. Policy No. 0110.2 - Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the following policy for a second reading: Policy No. 0110.2 - Sexual Harassment in the Workplace (Revised)

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

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

D. Policy No. 0111 - Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Under Title IX

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the following policy for a second reading: Policy No. 0111 - Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Under Title IX (New)

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

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. Policy No. 0111-R - Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Under Title IX Regulation

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the following policy for a second reading: Policy No. 0111-R - Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Under Title IX Regulation (New)

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

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

F. Policy No. 0111-E - Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Under Title IX Exhibit

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the following policy for a second reading:

Policy No. 0111-E - Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Under Title IX Exhibit (New)

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

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

G. Policy No. 0115 - Harassment, Bullying & Discrimination

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the following policy for a second reading:

Policy No. 0115 - Harassment, Bullying & Discrimination (Revised)

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

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

H. Policy No. 0115.R - Harassment, Bullying & Discrimination Regulation

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the following policy for a second reading:

Policy No. 0115.R - Harassment, Bullying & Discrimination Regulation (Revised)

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

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

I. Policy No. 9520.6 - Rights of Employees to Express Breast Milk in the Workplace

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the following policy for a second reading:

Policy No. 9520.6 - Rights of Employees to Express Breast Milk in the Workplace (Revised)

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

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

J. Donation - Mephram Alumni

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation of \$11,954.00 from the Mephram Alumni Association to be used for library supplies at W.C. Mephram High School library and increase the appropriations budget by the same amount.

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

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

K. 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.H.

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

L. 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: 000011003, 000013165, 000013187, 000013372, 000013792, 000014873, 000513025, 000513190, 000513282, 000513323, 000513443, 000514770, 072340000, 090580006, 103490003, 131261167, 131261307, 131261404, 131261522, 131261996, 131262368, 131262763, 131262914, 131262974, 131264126, 131266060, 202000148, 202200039, 202300093, 202300197, 202400046, 202400048, 202400054, 202400064, 202400073, 202400076, 202400091, 202400095 and 370001794.

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

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

7. Human Resources Report

A. Human Resources Report 10/9/24

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Human Resources Report for October 9, 2024.

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

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

8. Business and Finance

A. Bills and Corresponding Warrant dated 10/9/24

The Board of Education review the bills and corresponding warrant.

B. Budget Summary dated 9/30/24

The Board of Education reviewed the budget summary.

C. Indoor Worker/Student Occupied Space

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education re-affirm the practice of maintaining heat in all indoor worker/student occupied spaces, excluding processing spaces (freezers and coolers) and gymnasiums, at 68° Fahrenheit from October 15th through April 15th, and 65° Fahrenheit from September 15th through October 14th and April 16th through May 31st.

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

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

D. Undue Burden Independent Evaluator Hardship Waiver

Resolution: WHEREAS, the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District has an approved Annual Professional Performance Review ("APPR") Plan in place, effective for the 2024-2025 school year;

WHEREAS, the District has submitted an Undue Burden Independent Evaluator Hardship Waiver application to the State Education Department since compliance with the independent evaluator requirement would create an undue burden on the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves and ratifies the District's September 3, 2024 submission of the Undue Burden Independent Evaluator Hardship Waiver application to the State Education Department.

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

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. Ice Arena Agreement - National Rink Management

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

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

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

F. Zycron Industries - Medical Consulting

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an agreement with Zycron Industries, to provide Medicaid Consulting Services from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

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

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

G. Nassau County Police Activity League Bellmore License Agreement

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves a license agreement with Nassau County Police Activity League, Bellmore and directs the Board President to sign on the District's Behalf; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves a memorandum of understanding with Nassau County Police Activity League, Bellmore and directs the Board President to sign on the District's behalf.

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

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

H. Settlement Agreement

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District having reviewed the terms and conditions of a certain Settlement Agreement and General Release concerning a personnel matter in executive session, hereby approves such settlement and directs the Superintendent of Schools and President of the Board of Education to execute the settlement on behalf of the Board.

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

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

9. Old/New Business

A. Old/New Business

Ms. Lanci discussed the Bellmore Street Fair and commended the Bellmore Leos for braving the bad weather and all those that came out.

Ms. Piskin asked if the Bellmore Lions scheduled a date for the Polar Express event and Ms. Lanci said it will be on December 14, 2024.

10. Correspondence

A. Correspondence

Dr. Kaplan stated that the Board of Education did not receive mailed correspondence and received five emails between August 30, 2024 and October 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.

Linda W. expressed her concerns regarding the moment of reflection held in our schools on October 7, 2024, noting that Israel was not specifically mentioned. Mr. Harrington acknowledged the challenges of navigating these issues and assured everyone that we will do better going forward.

Terri L. expressed her concerns regarding the moment of reflection held in our schools on October 7, 2024, noting that Israel was not specifically mentioned. She also addressed a social media post by a member of a student club and suggested setting guidelines for all student groups.

Tami B. addressed the social media post made by a member of a student club, expressing her concern that the post was antisemitic and offensive. She suggested assigning an adult as a club advisor to provide guidance.

12. Potential Executive Session

A. Motion to convene into Executive Session

The Board of Education did not enter into Executive Session.

B. Motion to reconvene into Public Session

The Board of Education did not reconvene into Public Session.

13. Adjournment

A. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Motion by Marion Blane, 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