

**MILLER PLACE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
MILLER PLACE, NEW YORK
BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 29, 2021**

Kind of Meeting: Business Meeting
Place of Meeting: Miller Place High School
Time: 8:00 P.M.

Those Present:

Board President:	Mrs. Johanna Testa
Board Vice President:	Mrs. Lisa Reitan
Board Trustee:	Mr. Keith Frank
Board Trustee:	Mr. Bryan Makarius
Superintendent of Schools:	Dr. Marianne Cartisano
Deputy Superintendent:	Mr. Seth Lipshie
Assistant Superintendent:	Ms. Susan Craddock
School Business Official:	Mrs. Colleen Card
Executive Director for Educational Services:	Mrs. Sandra Wojnowski
District Clerk:	Mrs. Patricia Morbillo

Those Absent:

Board Trustee: Mr. Richard Panico

Those Invited:

Cullen and Danowski Mr. Joseph Crocco, Audit Manager

PLEASE NOTE: THE MINUTES, AS WRITTEN, ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND ARE NOT CONSIDERED AN OFFICIAL RECORD UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AT THE OCTOBER 27, 2021, BUSINESS MEETING.

Mrs. Testa called the meeting to order at 8:06 P.M. Mrs. Testa acknowledged the veterans that were in the audience.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of our administrative staff Dr. Cartisano welcomed everyone back to our first business meeting of the school year. Although the Board of Education has met numerous times over the summer this is our first meeting since school started.

Dr. Cartisano invited Mr. Joseph Crocco from the auditing firm Cullen and Danowski to present to the Board of Education the findings of their 2020-21 external audit. Mr. Crocco stated that the District had no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses this year as there were no significant matters or difficulties encountered. The District did not receive a management letter this year and had cleared the one comment from the prior year related to the food service program shutting down early. which was due to the shutdown of the program during the pandemic. He was happy with the Superintendent and Business Office staff for their hard work in completing the audit in a timely manner and stated that it is not often that.

Dr. Cartisano then invited Mrs. Card, School Business Official to speak about the status of the upcoming bond referendum. Mrs. Card stated that the District has been preparing for the upcoming proposed bond referendum vote. The required legal notices are being published and an informational newsletter was

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sent out last week. We expect to send out a flyer next week around October 8th and a reminder postcard around October 14th. As a reminder, the proposed bond vote will be held on October 19, 2021, from 6:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M at the North Country Road Middle School gymnasium. The main District website page has a link to the bond information proposal for community reference. She stated that we look forward to seeing the community at the vote. Dr. Cartisano thanked Mrs. Card for the information.

Dr. Cartisano stated that the District has officially completed the 17th day of the school year today and we are proud that our K-12 students have returned to live, in-person school, five days per week. From where we were a year ago this is an accomplishment for our school community. She recognized that although a more traditional instructional model has been implemented, we have not returned to our pre-covid days. As the days and months proceed, we will continue to look for progress and make adjustments with two overarching goals – to keep our students and staff safe and to remain open for in-school instruction, complimented by co-curricular activities, the arts and athletics. On the elementary level, the District has reduced class sizes and, in most cases, have been able to distance student desks at 6 feet. Playgrounds are open, recess is in taking place each day, with additional outdoor time scheduled, all specials (art, music, PE and library) are part of the school day. On the secondary level, students are changing classes, using lockers, have access to the outdoors for lunch at high school, and middle school students have the opportunity to be outside during their lunch/recess period. Over the past three weeks we conducted parent/guardian open house events (in-person) at all schools. Administrators are reviewing and scheduling potential fields trips on a case-by-case basis.

In September we began participation in the Federal Universal Pre-K Program, with approximately 50 four-year old's attending classes at Andrew Muller Primary School. Dr. Cartisano stated that the district calendar, which is posted on the district website, has a full complement of events including concerts, academic recognitions, and community events that are planned for the 2021-22 school year. She also noted that our Athletic Program, our varsity and junior varsity fall athletes have been on our fields and courts for over a month, and middle school teams began about two weeks ago.

She reviewed that the District has experienced significant issues regarding athletics transportation to and from games due to a lack of bus drivers. Some contests have been moved to Diamond in Pines because they have field lights for the games that are delayed due to arriving teams being more than an hour late. The changes to the schedules and game locations have caused issues with officials, which are being addressed on a game-by-game basis. She noted that for the middle school girls' soccer, the District only had 8 students interested in participating which is not enough to field a team – need between 9-11 athletes. The District is concerned about the lack of interest and how that may impact the future of the program. Mr. Petrie was able to implement a creative solution which was to combine teams with Port Jefferson School District. We are affectionately calling them the Royal Panthers as they are alternating wearing each other's school jerseys for games. She reminded the Board that Homecoming is scheduled for Saturday, October 23rd; with the parade beginning at 1:30 P.M. and varsity football game at 2:30 P.M.

Dr. Cartisano spoke regarding our Food Service Program and thanked Mrs. Card and the food service staff for coordinating the District participating in the federally funded program which allow us to serve breakfast and lunch meals free to all of our students again this school year.

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Dr. Cartisano noted that later in the meeting the Board, as we did last year, will readopt the Open Schools Plan and that it is important to recall that the Board adopted the original plan on August 23rd prior to the latest guidance from the New York State Department of Health. If there are future changes to the plan during each month, we will edit the plan accordingly for the Board to approve.

This month the updates include language that has been added by section regarding:

- The communication section:
The District will post various documents to the district website as needed and notify parents and guardians regarding positive COVID cases.
- The health and safety section:
 - a) In the case where one sibling is experiencing Covid symptoms, all siblings need to stay home until test results are received.
 - b) Weekly Covid testing of non-vaccinated staff is being implemented, and vaccinated staff need to submit proof of being fully vaccinated.
 - c) Also added is the New York State Department of Health mandate for everyone to wear a mask-face covering while inside school buildings.
- In the area of child nutrition:
 - a) Elementary students are eating lunch in the cafeteria, approximately 6 feet apart, on snack tables as they need to remove their masks in order to eat and drink.
 - b) Secondary students are eating lunch in the cafeteria, approximately 6 feet apart, in student desks, as they need to remove their masks in order to eat and drink.
- In the area of teaching and learning:
 - a) As per the NYSDOH guidance physical education activities require 6 feet of social distancing when masking is not possible. We are conducting as many outdoor activities as possible for our PE classes.
 - b) The updated plan will be posted on the district website.

Additional information for the Board, that is not included in the plan, as a comparison to last year and this year regarding positive cases:

- **September 2020** - no data regarding reported positive student cases
- October 2020 - 4 cases were reported
- Over the two-month period there were 4 cases.

- **September 2021** - 17 days of school – We have over 30 cases districtwide, and the number is rising. We are aware that cases may continue to increase throughout October 2021.

Therefore, Dr. Cartisano stated that the District will continue to:

- Use student desks and small snack size tables for breakfast and lunch service and as of now we will not return to using café tables.
- We will continue to limit visitor access to our buildings during the school day.

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Dr. Cartisano reported to the Board, with regard to the lawsuit filed on or about September 10, 2021, by the Massapequa and Locust Valley School Districts regarding the mandate by New York State Department of Health for in-school mask wearing. The initial lawsuit has been filed and this is not a legal action that a school district can just join, or easily add our names as a plaintiff. After reviewing our options with our attorney's, they have confirmed should this legal action cause a change in guidance, it would apply to all New York State school districts. The District does not need to be a party to the action should it result in a change in guidance. As a point of reference, this type of legal action normally takes 4 to 6 months to make its way through the process, so we anticipate information to be released to the public in mid-winter.

II. RECOGNITION – None

III. BOARD MEMBERS MESSAGE

Mrs. Testa welcomed the attendees to the first Business Meeting of the School year. She noted that Mr. Panico was not present as he had a work commitment and that our new Board Student Representative Scott Bisiani is home sick, and we look forward to seeing him at the next meeting. Mrs. Testa stated that she would like to recognize all of our teachers, staff, assistants, clerical, administration, nurses, grounds and operations and thanked them for their efforts every day. You are appreciated. She noted that the District is open, full time, all buildings, classrooms, fields and auditoriums. To our students, kudos to all of you as well. We see and hear about your efforts and the progress you have made already in the first month and we are proud of you. She acknowledged the many community groups including but not limited to Miller Place PTO, Miller Place Athletic Booster Club, Miller Place Friends of the Arts, Miller Place Civic Association, Miller Place Historical Society, and the local businesses. She noted that what we all have in common is our kids and that we are all doing our very best to bring out their full potential. We have been and can continue to be a strong school community with an emphasis on the word Community. Mrs. Testa reminded everyone to mark their calendars for Tuesday, October 19th for our Proposed Bond Vote and to get out and exercise your right to vote. Remember the proposed bond is a net zero tax impact plan with new debt service being offset by state aid and savings from retiring debt service, and other revenues and reductions. She noted that you should have received an informational flyer in the mail. If there are any concerns or questions don't hesitate to visit the website or you can always email the District.

IV. PUBLIC BE HEARD

(Comments are limited to 2 minutes per person and a total of 30 minutes **related to agenda items only**, state name, resident, or non-resident)

Mrs. Testa addressed the audience in preparation for moving into the public comment period of our meeting. She stated that we believe it is crucial for the Board to hear from our community members about their concerns and issues. She noted that the board is here to listen and that the public comment period is not designed to be a discussion. Accordingly, please do not expect the board to respond to your concerns and questions tonight. She stated that the Board takes your concerns and questions seriously and that they want to have sufficient time to process and research issues, if need be. She stated that the Board will either respond to your questions and concerns at a future meeting, if appropriate, or have the proper staff member get back to you if a response is called for. She also pointed out that under state and federal privacy laws the Board is unable to entertain any comments or questions about school personnel.

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Please know, however, that the Board takes personnel concerns very seriously. On these matters, the Board would ask you to go through the appropriate administrative channels.

She stated that the Board recognizes that right now our nation and our community are polarized on a number of issues but that the Board wants our school board meetings to serve as an example to our students, that members of our school board and members of our community can handle controversial issues in a civil manner and demonstrate mutual respect for one another. In that spirit, the Board will insist that all speakers and members of the audience maintain civility and respect for any divergent views that others possess. The Board asks that speakers please address their comments to the board directly, rather than the audience. Speakers may address only items pertinent to tonight's meeting agenda during the first public be heard section or any topic of District concern, etc. in the second public be heard section.

In the unlikely event the meeting becomes unruly, the board will recess the meeting and return once order has been restored. Finally, she reminded everyone that you may submit written comments to the board in lieu of speaking during the public comment period if you so choose, or you can email the Board at BOE@millerplace.k12.ny.us. The board will now entertain public comments for 30 minutes. Each individual speaker is allotted 2 minutes. The individual time limits will be enforced so that as many members of the public who wish to speak may be allowed to do so. We will not be allowing community members to give up their time to another individual to ensure that as many have an opportunity to speak as possible.

There were several comments from the public. Mrs. Testa also reminded the audience members that they are required to wear a mask in the school building.

The comments included formally petitioning the Board of Education to challenge the NYS Department of Health ruling regarding masks, vaccinations, and quarantines and several community members want the Board to join the lawsuit against the NYSDOH. Another community member stated that testing only the unvaccinated does not work, everyone should be tested both vaccinated and unvaccinated. A community member stated why can't there be a mystery reader in the elementary when you can have an open house with parents present. A parent was upset at mask requirements while another was happy there are masks being worn in the school buildings. A study was quoted by the public that schools without masks are 3.5 times more likely to shut down due to an outbreak and that the state mandate being enforced is so that our schools stay open. This member also stated that this is much more a pandemic now of the unvaccinated and that it is too early to get rid of mask mandates.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. MINUTES:

This resolution is to approve the meeting minutes of the Board of Education.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: "BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby accepts, as written, the minutes of the August 23, 2021, Audit Committee; August 23, 2021 Business Meeting; August 23, 2021 Executive Session – Early; September 2, 2021 Business Meeting; September 20, 2021 Business Meeting."

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B. FINANCE/FACILITIES:

1. Treasurer Reports:

Enclosed are the Treasurer reports as submitted by Mr. Donald Pearce for the periods ending June 30, 2021; July 31, 2021; and August 31, 2021.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby accepts, as presented, the Treasurer Reports for the periods ending June 30, 2021; July 31, 2021; and August 31, 2021.”

2. Financial Reports:

Enclosed are the Financial Reports as submitted by Mrs. Darlene Levi for the periods ending June 30, 2021; July 31, 2021; and August 31, 2021.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby accepts, as presented the Financial Reports, for the periods ending June 30, 2021; July 31, 2021; and August 31, 2021.”

3. Extra Classroom Activity Reports:

Enclosed are the Extra Classroom Activity Reports as submitted by Mrs. Carrie Sandt for the periods ending June 30, 2021; July 31, 2021; and August 31, 2021.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby accepts the Extra Classroom Activity Fund Reports for the periods ending June 30, 2021; July 31, 2021; and August 31, 2021.”

4. Claims Auditor Reports:

Enclosed is the Claims Auditor Reports as submitted by MacDonald & Rand LLP - Certified Public Accountants for the periods ending June 30, 2021; July 31, 2021; and August 31, 2021.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby accepts as presented the Claims Auditor Reports for the periods ending June 30, 2021; July 31, 2021; and August 31, 2021.”

5. Agreement – Legal Counsel:

Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Card are requesting your approval of the following resolution to reapprove the agreement for general counsel and labor counsel services for the District.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby reauthorizes the agreement with Guercio & Guercio LLP for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026, and furthermore authorizes the President of the Board of Education to sign such agreement.”

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6. Donation – Miller Place PTO:

Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Card are requesting your approval of the following resolution to accept a monetary donation for the Special Education donation account from the Miller Place PTO in the amount of \$5,000.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby accepts with gratitude the Miller Place PTO donation for the Special Education donation account in the amount of \$5,000.”

7. Designation – Official Depositories:

Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Card are requesting your approval of the following resolution to authorize an additional bank account for District scholarships. The District is required to add an additional bank account due to changes in auditing requirements.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: "BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby authorizes an additional bank account for District scholarships for the 2021-22 fiscal year and authorizes the Board of Education President and related staff to sign all required bank paperwork.”

8. Bond Vote Workers:

Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Card recommends and requests your approval of the following updated list of Vote Workers for the Miller Place Union Free School Bond Vote on Tuesday, October 19, 2021.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby approves the following updated list of Vote Workers: Natalie Cea; Debra Rasweiler; Lynn Scolfield; Rosemary Eisenhardt; Carrie Sandt; Colleen Card; Coreen Moschella; Darlene Levi; Bonnie Sannito; Caterina Schretzmayer; Shanna Doyle; Nadine Steffens; Anne DuBois; Cecily Cardinale; Patricia Chapin; Jennifer Bennett; Myriam Crino; Laura Danetra; Elaine Deveaux; Pamela Hagermann; Mary Scully, Laurette Ligonde, Michel Ligonde.”

C. PERSONNEL:

1. Personnel List:

Dr. Cartisano and Mr. Lipshie recommend and request your approval of the attached personnel list of September 29, 2021.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby approves the attached Personnel List of September 29, 2021, as presented. For any probationary appointment for a class room teacher or building principal that except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of the Education Law, in order to be granted tenure the class room teacher or building principal shall have received composite or overall APPR

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ratings pursuant to Education Law §§3012-c and/or 3012-d of either E or H in at least three of the four preceding years and if the class room teacher or building principal receives an I composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period he or she shall not be eligible for tenure at this time.”

D. SPECIAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. CSE and CPSE Recommendations:

Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Wojnowski are requesting your approval of the following CSE and CPSE recommendations.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby accepts the following recommendations of the CSE’s and CPSE’s dated: CSE 9-9-21 MPHS; CSE 9-13-21 MPHS; CSE 9-14-21 NCR (2); CSE 9-14-21 NCR CSE 9-15-21 LADSBS; CSE 9-17-21 LADSBS; SUMMER CPE-CSE 8-24-21; SUMMER CSE 8-12-21; SUMMER CSE 8-23-21 DO; SE 9-11-20 DO; CSE 7-30-20 DO; CSE 8-25-20 DO; CSE 9-18-20 MPHS; CSE 9-11-20 NCR; CSE/CPSE 8-20-20 DO; CSE 9-17-20 MPHS; CSE 9-18-20 MPHS.”

2. Revised Stipulation of Settlement:

Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Wojnowski are requesting your approval of the following revised resolution for Stipulation of Settlement for student #101744 for the 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 years.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District accepts the revised Stipulation of Settlement for student #101744 as written for the 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 years.”

3. Contract – Rocky Point Union Free School District 2021-2022 Program:

Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Wojnowski are requesting your approval of the following Special Education Instructional Services Contract with Rocky Point Union Free School District for student identification number 600042017 for the period September 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District authorizes the contract with Rocky Point Union Free School District for student identification number 600042017 for the period September 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, and furthermore authorizes the President of the Miller Place Union Free School District Board of Education to sign such agreement.”

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4. Contract – Positive Behavior Support Consulting & Psychological Resource, P.C.:

Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Wojnowski are requesting your approval of the following Special Education Instructional Services Contract with Positive Behavior Support Consulting & Psychological Resource, P.C. for the period September 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “**BE IT RESOLVED** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District authorizes the contract with Positive Behavior Support Consulting & Psychological Resource, P.C. for the period September 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022 and furthermore authorizes the President of the Miller Place Union Free School District Board of Education to sign such agreement.”

5. Contract – Center Moriches Union Free School District 2021-2022 Program:

Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Wojnowski are requesting your approval of the following Special Education Instructional Services Contract with Center Moriches Union Free School District for student identification numbers 600040460, 600040111, and 102617 for the period September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “**BE IT RESOLVED** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District authorizes the contract with Center Moriches Union Free School District for student identification numbers 600040460, 600040111, and 102617 for the period September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and furthermore authorizes the President of the Miller Place Union Free School District Board of Education to sign such agreement.”

6. Contract – Birch Family Services for the 2021-2022 Program:

Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Wojnowski are requesting your approval of the following Special Education Instructional Services Contract with Birch Family Services for student identification number 100627 for the period September 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “**BE IT RESOLVED** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District authorizes the contract with Birch Family Services for student identification 100627 for the period September 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, and furthermore authorizes the President of the Miller Place Union Free School District Board of Education to sign such agreement.”

E. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:

1. Textbook Obsolescence:

Dr. Cartisano and Ms. Craddock are requesting your approval of the following resolution to declare the attached list of textbooks as obsolete and for its possible sale, and/or disposal.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby approves the attached list of textbooks as obsolete and for its possible sale, and/or disposal.”

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F. OTHER – None

Mrs. Testa thanked the Miller Place PTO for their generous donation and for everything that they do for our community.

Mrs. Testa asked for a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

Mr. Frank moved, seconded by Mr. Makarius to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

Yes 4; No 0; Motion Carried

VI. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS – None

VII. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Legal Resolution:

The following resolution is to approve the requests for defense and indemnification pertaining to a legal matter.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby approves the request for defense and indemnification submitted by Dr. Marianne F. Cartisano aka Marianne Higuera and aka Marianne Massari, Admin., Leadership, Resources & Services Inc., Seth A. Lipshie, Susan G. Craddock aka Susan G. Hodun, Johanna Testa aka Johanna Draper, Frog Hollow Industries Holding Corp., Lisa Reitan aka Lisa Mercurio, Keith Frank, Richard Panico, Symbio Technologies, Noelle Dunlop, Bryan Makarius, Laura Gewurz aka Laura Danieli, Christopher Herrschaft, Sandra Wojnowski aka Sandra Nielsen, Jeremy Koch, Maria Gianino, Noreen Killeen, Lisa Bray, JordanBeth Fiore, Danielle Hoffman, Briana Grippe, and Dr. Mark Wasserman, in connection with the “Attorney Letter” received, discussed in executive session; and the benefits and protections of Section 18 of Public Officers Law, in addition to the benefits and protections of Section 3811, 3028 and 3023 of the Education Law as applicable, are hereby conferred upon the aforementioned persons; and it is further resolved that the District shall accordingly, indemnify and save harmless such persons, for any costs, attorneys’ fees, judgments, damages, settlements, fines, or penalties, provided that the acts or omissions from which the judgment or claim (etc.) arose or occurred while such persons were acting within the scope of their public employment or duties, and provided further that in the case of a settlement, the duty to indemnify and save harmless shall be conditioned upon the approval of the amount of any such settlement by the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District; and no Certificate of Good Faith or merit shall be required.”

Mrs. Testa asked for a motion to approve the resolution as presented.

Mr. Frank moved, seconded by Mr. Makarius to approve the resolution as presented.

Yes 4; No 0; Motion Carried

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B. Legal Resolution:

The following resolution is to approve the requests for defense and indemnification pertaining to a legal matter.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby approves the request for defense and indemnification submitted by Dr. Marianne F. Cartisano aka Marianne Higuera and aka Marianne Massari, Admin., Leadership, Resources & Services Inc., Seth A. Lipshie, Susan G. Craddock aka Susan G. Hodun, Johanna Testa aka Johanna Draper, Frog Hollow Industries Holding Corp., Lisa Reitan aka Lisa Mercurio, Keith Frank, Richard Panico, Symbio Technologies, Noelle Dunlop, Bryan Makarius, Laura Gewurz aka Laura Danieli, Christopher Herrschaft, Sandra Wojnowski aka Sandra Nielsen, Jeremy Koch, Maria Gianino, Noreen Killeen, Lisa Bray, JordanBeth Fiore, Danielle Hoffman, Briana Grippe, and Dr. Mark Wasserman, in connection with the “Notice of Liability Letter” received, discussed in executive session; and the benefits and protections of Section 18 of Public Officers Law, in addition to the benefits and protections of Section 3811, 3028 and 3023 of the Education Law as applicable, are hereby conferred upon the aforementioned persons; and it is further resolved that the District shall accordingly, indemnify and save harmless such persons, for any costs, attorneys’ fees, judgments, damages, settlements, fines, or penalties, provided that the acts or omissions from which the judgment or claim (etc.) arose or occurred while such persons were acting within the scope of their public employment or duties, and provided further that in the case of a settlement, the duty to indemnify and save harmless shall be conditioned upon the approval of the amount of any such settlement by the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District; and no Certificate of Good Faith or merit shall be required.”

Mrs. Testa asked for a motion to approve the resolution as presented.

Mr. Frank moved, seconded by Mr. Makarius to approve the resolution as presented.

Yes 4; No 0; Motion Carried

C. Opening of Schools Plan Re-Approval:

Dr. Cartisano is requesting your re-approval of the updated Miller Place UFSD Opening Schools Plan for the 2021-22 school year.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the updated Opening Plan developed for the Miller Place School District for the 2021-22 school year in response to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.”

Mrs. Testa asked for a motion to approve the resolution as presented.

Mr. Frank moved, seconded by Mr. Makarius to approve the resolution as presented.

Yes 4; No 0; Motion Carried

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D. Assessed Value & Tax Levy:

The Board of Education District is required to accept the Town of Brookhaven assessed valuation and set the tax levy for each school year.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby accepts the Town of Brookhaven assessed valuation of \$17,139,020 to establish the tax levy and the proposed revenue plan for the 2021-22 school year and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the tax levy for school purposes for 2021-22 will be established at \$48,769,567.”

Mrs. Testa asked for a motion to approve the resolution as presented.

Mr. Frank moved, seconded by Mr. Makarius to approve the resolution as presented.

Yes 4; No 0; Motion Carried

E. Funding of Reserve Funds Resolutions 2020-21:

Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Card are requesting that the following resolutions be adopted regarding the funding of reserve funds from within the existing 2020-21 general fund budgetary appropriations for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 2021 and are requesting roll call votes:

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby approves the funding of reserve funds as follows:

- 1. Reserve for Employee Benefit Accrued Liability**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby approves the appropriation of funds of \$350,000 from within the existing 2020-21 general fund budgetary appropriations.

Mrs. Testa noted that this resolution requires a roll call vote. She asked for a motion.

Mr. Frank moved, seconded by Mr. Makarius. The resolution was duly put to a roll vote which resulted as follows:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Mrs. Johanna Testa, President	<u>X</u>	_____
Mrs. Lisa Reitan, Vice President	<u>X</u>	_____
Mr. Keith J. Frank, Trustee	<u>X</u>	_____
Mr. Bryan Makarius, Trustee	<u>X</u>	_____
Mr. Richard Panico, Trustee	<u>ABSENT</u>	_____

Yes 4; No 0; Motion Carried

**MILLER PLACE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
MILLER PLACE, NEW YORK
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2. **Reserve for Teachers’ Retirement Contribution Reserve Sub-Fund**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby approves the appropriation of funds of \$570,000 from within the existing 2020-21 general fund budgetary appropriations.

Mrs. Testa noted that this resolution requires a roll call vote. She asked for a motion.

Mr. Frank moved, seconded by Mr. Makarius. The resolution was duly put to a roll vote which resulted as follows:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Mrs. Johanna Testa, President	<u>X</u>	_____
Mrs. Lisa Reitan, Vice President	<u>X</u>	_____
Mr. Keith J. Frank, Trustee	<u>X</u>	_____
Mr. Bryan Makarius, Trustee	<u>X</u>	_____
Mr. Richard Panico, Trustee	<u>ABSENT</u>	_____

Yes 4; No 0; Motion Carried

F. Accept External Audit Reports:

Each year the Board is required to have an external audit which reviews and prepares the financial statements for the District. We are required to accept the external audit reports so that they can be submitted to NYSED. Dr. Cartisano and Mrs. Card are requesting your approval of the following resolution to accept the External Audit Reports and related documents.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: “BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Miller Place Union Free School District hereby accepts the following reports dated June 30, 2021 and cover letters dated September 10, 2021, which have been submitted by the District’s external auditors, Cullen and Danowski, LLP, along with the District’s response to these documents dated September 23, 2021.

- Financial Statements and Supplementary Information with Independent Auditor’s Report including Management Letter;
- Extraclassroom Activity Funds Financial Statement with Independent Auditor’s Report;
- Professional Standards Letter (AUC 260) letter dated September 10, 2021;
- School District’s response dated September 23, 2021.”

Mrs. Testa stated that the Board is required to have an external audit. The firm also prepares the financial statements for the District which Mr. Crocco, the Audit Manager from Cullen and Danowski, reviewed the audit results earlier in the meeting. The District is required to accept the external audit reports so that they can be submitted to NYSED.

Mrs. Testa asked for a motion to approve the resolution as presented.

Mr. Frank moved, seconded by Mr. Makarius to approve the resolution as presented.

Yes 4; No 0; Motion Carried

**MILLER PLACE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
MILLER PLACE, NEW YORK
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VIII. DISCUSSION

A. Board of Education Policy Review Plan

Mrs. Testa noted that this year the Board of Education would be reviewing 66 policies in three sets over the course of the school year according to this year's policy plan. The first set of 39 policies will be in first reading next month, then the Board will review this set in November and then this set will be put into action for approval of the proposed changes at the December board meeting. The second set of policies will start in January and the final set will start in March.

B. Board of Education Committee Assignments

The Board Members discussed the Board of Education committees and Mrs. Testa reviewed the Board Committee assignments as follows:

- Audit Committee: All Board Trustees
- Curriculum and Instruction: Lisa Reitan
Johanna Testa (alternate)
Richard Panico (alternate)
- Health and Safety: Bryan Makarius
Keith Frank (alternate)
Richard Panico (alternate)
- Legislative: Keith Frank
Bryan Makarius (alternate)
- Wellness Committee: Johanna Testa
Richard Panico (alternate)
Lisa Reitan (alternate)

IX. BOARD POLICIES

- A. **First Time Reading:** None
- B. **Review:** None
- C. **Action:** None

X. OTHER

XI. PUBLIC BE HEARD

(Comments are limited to 2 minutes per person and a total of 30 minutes; state name, resident or non-resident)

Mrs. Testa reminded the community present of her earlier statements.

A community resident had a comment/question regarding the District website and the District's maintenance of the website. The resident provided their contact information to Administration in order to follow up with this resident.

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XII. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Mrs. Testa asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting to go into executive session for matters concerning a specific student and specific legal.

Mr. Frank moved, seconded by Mr. Makarius to approve moving into Executive Session for matters concerning a specific student and specific legal at 8:46 P.M.

Respectively submitted by: Patricia A. Morbillo, District Clerk