

## Monthly School Board Meeting (Tuesday, September 12, 2023)

### Members present

Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

### Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM

#### 1. OPENING

Procedural: A. Call to Order by Vice President Ed Corona at 6:00 PM  
Mary Keene arrived 6:03 PM  
Tracey Miller arrived 6:04 PM

#### Action, Procedural: B. Executive Session

The Board of Education approves entering into executive session for matters of collective bargaining and advice of counsel for late transportation.

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Not Present at Vote: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Mary Keene

#### Action, Procedural: C. Reconvene to the Public 7:02 PM

Reconvene to the Public 7:02

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Ed Corona.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

#### Information, Procedural: D. Call to Order by Board President, Megan Ryan, 7:02 PM

#### Information, Procedural: E. Pledge of Allegiance

Megan Ryan, Board President, thanked the administration and staff for a great first day of school. She said it was a nice rollout, and everything went smoothly.

#### 2. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

##### Procedural: A. Superintendent's comments

Dr. Cynthia Seniuk, Superintendent of Schools, stated there were many different programs for students during the summer, and a survey was sent home to parents for feedback in order to plan for next summer. Dr. Seniuk said the Meet, Greet and a Treat school events saw many smiling faces and was a lovely kick off to the school year. She noted that the treat this year was a water bottle, but she cautioned that the water bottle is not dishwasher safe and should be hand washed, and said the staff will receive their water bottles over the next week.

Dr. Seniuk mentioned that the first day of school was quite hot, but fortunately, air conditioning has been installed over the last few years. She said the three remaining spaces without air conditioning will be covered very soon. Dr. Seniuk added the hot weather is now breaking, and students can play outside again.

Dr. Seniuk also announced that work has started on the new playground at Fayette, and will soon begin on a new playground at Camp Avenue. Ms. Ryan said that although she has not yet made an announcement, the district has a pledge from one of our local politicians, and hopefully the funding will be secured by the October board meeting.

Dr. Seniuk explained there was a glitch with the printing of the district calendars this year, and a message was sent from our principals regarding this issue. She said if anyone needs a calendar, there are copies in each of the buildings and they will also be available at Meet the Teacher Night, which will take place this Thursday from 7:00-8:30 p.m. That evening, parents can also sign up for parent-teacher conferences and class activities. Dr. Seniuk said the first PTA District Council meeting was held this week.

Dr. Seniuk then addressed the American Relief Plan funding the district received for COVID expenses and which is posted on the district website. She said Thomas McDaid, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations, has updated the budget, and the funding has been used to benefit our students. If you have additional questions, she said to please contact Mr. McDaid.

#### 3. ROUTINE APPROVALS

Action, Information, Minutes, Procedural: A. Approval of Minutes - 8-22-23 Public Hearing/ Monthly School Board Meeting Minutes  
8-22-23 Public Hearing/ Monthly School Board Meeting Minutes

Motion by Ed Corona, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action, Information: B. Approval of Treasurer's Report  
(not specified)

Motion by Ed Corona, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action, Information: C. Approval of Warrants, Wires, Budget Transfers  
(not specified)

Motion by Ed Corona, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (agenda items only)

Information, Procedural: A. Guidelines for Public Comments - Any person wishing to make comments or raise questions shall fill out a comment card. After you are called, come forward to the microphone and state your full name. All comments or questions shall be directed to the Board President or Superintendent of Schools. The Board or Administration will do their best to immediately respond to any questions. Out of courtesy and fairness to the rest of the audience, each person will limit his/her remarks to no more than 3 minutes, not to exceed a 30 minute session. Public discussion with respect to confidential matters is prohibited.

None

Discussion, Information, Procedural: B. Comments

None

#### 5. BUSINESS

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the North Merrick Teacher Center Policy Board members for the 2023-24 school year.  
The Board of Education approves the North Merrick Teacher Center Policy Board members for the 2023-24 school year.  
Consent agenda Items 5A-5C

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Will Luciani.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action: B. The Board of Education authorizes petty cash funds, in the amount of \$100 each, to be provided as start-up cash for the cafeteria programs at Camp Avenue School, Old Mill Road School, and Harold D. Fayette School for the 2023-2024 school year. The petty cash checks will be made payable to Tom McDaid, business official, overseeing the district's cafeteria program.

Action: C. The Board of Education approves the North Merrick UFSD UPK Program Plan to be submitted to NYSED as required by law.

Action, Information: D. The Board of Education approves the late transportation application for transportation of one student to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, at no extra cost to the district. (Addendum)

Ms. Ryan explained there had been a late request to transport one student to St. Elizabeth Anne Seaton School provided by Guardian Bus Company through the Bellmore Merrick Transportation Consortium. She said there was no additional cost to the district, as it is a payment per bus.

The Board of Education approves the late transportation application for transportation of one student to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, at no extra cost to the district. (Addendum)

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Will Luciani.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

## 6. PERSONNEL ACTIONS REPORT

Action, Procedural: A. The Board of Education approves the Personnel Actions Report, as detailed in the mailing.  
The Board of Education approves the Personnel Actions Report, as detailed in the mailing.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Will Luciani.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

## 7. SPECIAL SERVICES

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the four (4) Individualized Education Programs (IEPS) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Pre-School Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

The Board of Education approves the four (4) Individualized Education Programs (IEPS) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Pre-School Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

Consent agenda Items 7A-7C

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action: B. The Board of Education approves the five (5) Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

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Consent agenda Items 7A-7C

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action: C. The Board of Education approves entering into a contract with Just Kids, enabling them to receive their New York State-approved SEDCAR flow-through allocations as per Section 611 and 619 funds for the students with disabilities for the 2023-2024 school year.

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Consent agenda Items 7A-7C

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

## 8 REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Procedural: 1 High School

Ed Corona, Board Vice President, said there had been a lot of celebrations this month in the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, and capital projects have been completed at Grand Avenue Middle School, including new parking lots and resurfaced track and tennis courts that are now turfed and this will be done next at Merrick Avenue Middle School.

Mr. Corona said Scott Bersin, the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, reviewed the cosmetology, culinary arts, electrical, and CHAMPS programs, and said many of these students work and leave high school with a license in their field.

Mr. Corona also stated that there is a very high percentage of high school students who take and score well on the Advanced Placement exams. He said the Regents exam passing percentage is well above the Nassau County average and very high above the New York State average.

Mr. Corona said it was a very hot start to school, and there was no air conditioning in some classes at Kennedy High School, mostly due to waiting for repair parts on order for at least two months.

Procedural: 2 School Community Relations/PTA Council

Mary Keene, Board Trustee, reported on the upcoming PTA and SEPTA events, which she said continue to be remarkable, as well as the combined PTA sponsored Long Island Ducks game and Adventureland trip. She noted that all the PTA meetings will be held in person on September 22, and the meetings will alternate between virtual and in person during the school year.

Ms. Keene discussed the insurance issues that have continued to be problematic for the PTAs, which is happening in districts across Nassau County, and she said Mr. McDaid and Dr. Seniuk have helped resolve these issues.

**Procedural: 3 Buildings & Grounds**

Sam Carder, Director of School Facilities, summarized the summer projects throughout the district, and he thanked his staff for their diligence, including painting more rooms than scheduled. Mr. Carder reiterated that the district is almost fully air conditioned and said several classroom floors were abated, which will be continued every summer until completed. He said there is a new fence installed around the playground and brighter lighting added to ceilings at Old Mill Road. He said the Fayette playground is underway and, weather permitting, should be finished within three weeks, and the the sports courts and the long walkway from HDF to Little Whaleneck will be repaved. He added that the buildings' walk through will take place on October 10, starting at 5:00 PM.

**9 COMMUNICATIONS**

Information, Procedural: 1 Communication  
None

**10 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Discussion, Information, Procedural: 1 Unfinished business  
None

**11 NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion, Information, Procedural: 1 New business  
None

**12 PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Discussion, Information, Procedural: 1 Comments  
None

**13 INFORMATIONAL REPORTS (BOE only)**

Reports: 1 Appropriation Status Report; Revenue Status Report; Trial Balance; Cash Flow;

Information, Procedural: 2 Enrollment

Information: 3 Building & Grounds Reports

Information: 4 Absence of Five Consecutive Days

**14 ADJOURNMENT**

Action, Procedural: 1 Adjournment at 7:20 PM