

Monthly School Board Meeting (Tuesday, February 27, 2024)**Members present**

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

1. OPENING

Information, Procedural: A. Call to Order by Vice President, Ed Corona at 5:35 PM
Trustee, Will Luciani, participated virtually.

Action, Information, Procedural: B. Executive Session matters of contract negotiations and personnel
The Board of Education entered into an Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations and personnel matters.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action, Information, Procedural: C. Reconvene to Public to begin budget committee at 6:00 PM
The Board of Education approves Reconvene to the Public to begin the budget committee meeting at 6:00 PM.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action, Procedural: D. The Board of Education approves to enter into Executive Session for matters of contract negotiation and personnel at 6:35 PM (addendum).

The Board of Education approves to enter into Executive Session for matters of contract negotiation and personnel at 6:35 PM (addendum).

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Information, Procedural: E. Call to Order by Vice President, Ed Corona at 7:01 PM

Information, Procedural: F. Mr. Corona led in the pledge of allegiance.

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Information, Procedural: A. Superintendent's comments

Dr. Seniuk, Superintendent of Schools, welcomed all to the rescheduled February meeting. She stated that although we took one snow day, the district would still be off the Friday before Memorial Day.

Dr. Seniuk reported on the Mindfulness Retreats over the last month. These events were in two sessions so that parent and student activities could be modified. She thanked all participants.

The Saturday Scope Program is coming to an end. It was a huge success, and the district continues to get more enrollment each year.

The second budget meeting took place this evening at 6:00 PM. The topics discussed were the administrative and capital components of the budget. This information will be on the school website tomorrow. If you have any questions, Mr. McDaid is always available.

The 6th grade production of Matilda will be performed on March 15 and 16 at Brookside at 7:00 p.m. Please support our theater arts program.

An update on student report cards: the parent portal will open on March 12. Parent-teacher conferences will take place on March 14.

The town's local newspaper, The Herald, highlighted the district's morning meetings and mindfulness retreats.

3. ROUTINE APPROVALS

Action, Information, Minutes: A. Approval of Minutes - January 9, 2024
Approval of Minutes - January 9, 2024
Consent agenda Items 3A - 3C

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Kathy Moran.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: Tracey Miller, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani
Not Present at Vote: Megan Ryan

Action, Information: B. Approval of Warrants, Wires, Budget Transfers
Approval of Warrants, Wires, Budget Transfers
Consent agenda Items 3A - 3C

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Kathy Moran.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: Tracey Miller, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action, Information: C. Approval of Treasurer's Report
Approval of Warrants, Wires, Budget Transfers
Consent agenda Items 3A - 3C

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Kathy Moran.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: Tracey Miller, 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

Information, Procedural: B. Comments
None

5. BUSINESS

Action, Information, Procedural: A. The Board of Education approves the *2024-2025 school calendar.
The Board of Education approves the *2024-2025 school calendar.
Consent agenda Items 5A - 5I

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Mary Keene.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: Tracey Miller, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani
Not Present at Vote: Megan Ryan

Action, Procedural: B. The Board of Education approves Ms. Jen Calonita's donation of one (1) Little Lending Library bookshelf to the North Merrick UFSD. This bookshelf will hold a variety of books for educational purposes.
The Board of Education approves Ms. Jen Calonita's donation of one (1) Little Lending Library bookshelf to the North Merrick UFSD. This bookshelf will hold a variety of books for educational purposes.
Consent agenda Items 5A - 5I

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Kathy Moran.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Yes: Tracey Miller, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani
Not Present at Vote: Megan Ryan

Action, Information, Procedural: C. The Board of Education approves the following resolution: RESOLVED the Board of Education hereby authorizes the law firm of Frantz Law Group, APLC and Ingerman Smith, LLP to commence legal action against the parties identified on Confidential Schedule "A" with respect to the litigation discussed in executive session. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board President is authorized to sign the attached retainer agreement with Frantz Law Group, APLC and Ingerman Smith, LLP and take all steps necessary to effectuate the litigation, as detailed in the mailing.

The Board of Education approves the following resolution: RESOLVED the Board of Education hereby authorizes the law firm of Frantz Law Group, APLC and Ingerman Smith, LLP to commence legal action against the parties identified on Confidential Schedule "A" with respect to the litigation discussed in executive session. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board President is authorized to sign the attached retainer agreement with Frantz Law Group, APLC and Ingerman Smith, LLP and take all steps necessary to effectuate the litigation, as detailed in the mailing.

Consent agenda Items 5A - 5I

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action, Procedural: D. The Board of Education awards the piggyback transportation contract with Merrick UFSD for transportation to Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf via the Merrick UFSD We Transport contract for one (1) student at the cost of \$3,900.00 per pupil per month and \$3,500 per matron per month. Retroactive 2-14-2024.

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Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action: E. The Board of Education of the North Merrick Union Free School District accepts the Federal Single Audit Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, as prepared by R.S. Abrams & Co, in accordance with Section 170.3 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

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Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action: F. The Board of Education authorizes the update of the mileage reimbursement rate to be paid to authorized personnel conducting school district business for the 2024 calendar year to 67 cents per mile as of January 1, 2024, payment to be made only upon presentation of approved claims.

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Consent agenda Items 5A - 5I

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action: G. The Board of Education authorizes the budget transfers as follows: Account To: 2815.409-04; Health Other; \$91,000. Account From: A2820.150-04; Psychologist Camp; \$35,000, A2815.160-03; Nurse OMR; \$8,000, A2815.160-04; School Nurse; \$9,000, A2250.160-01; Spec Ed Teach Aides Camp; \$7,500, A2250.160-02; Spec Ed Teach Aides HDF; \$27,000, A9040.800-04; Workers Comp; \$4,500. Reason: to pay for additional special education nurses and certified nurse assistant costs. The Board of Education authorizes the budget transfers as follows: Account To: 2250.400-04; Contracted Services; \$192,000. Account From: A9040.800-04; Workers Comp; \$20,500, A9010.800-04; NYS Employees Ret; \$20,000, A9060.801-04; Health Insurance; \$151,500. Reason: to pay for additional special education aide costs.

The Board of Education authorizes the budget transfers as follows: Account To: 2815.409-04; Health Other; \$91,000. Account From: A2820.150-04; Psychologist Camp; \$35,000, A2815.160-03; Nurse OMR; \$8,000, A2815.160-04; School Nurse; \$9,000, A2250.160-01; Spec Ed Teach Aides Camp; \$7,500, A2250.160-02; Spec Ed Teach Aides HDF; \$27,000, A9040.800-04; Workers Comp; \$4,500. Reason: to pay for additional special education nurses and certified nurse assistant costs.

The Board of Education authorizes the budget transfers as follows: Account To: 2250.400-04; Contracted Services; \$192,000. Account From: A9040.800-04; Workers Comp; \$20,500, A9010.800-04; NYS Employees Ret; \$20,000, A9060.801-04; Health Insurance; \$151,500. Reason: to pay for additional special education aide costs.

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action, Information, Procedural: H. The Board of Education approves the revision of the agreement (November 2023) with Yoga and Breathing for Kids to facilitate two yoga sessions during the Mindfulness Retreat on February 8, 2024. The cost is not to exceed \$600 (retroactive).

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Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action, Information, Procedural: I. The Board of Education approves the following resolution: RESOLVED that the Board President is authorized to execute a repayment agreement with an employee whose identity is known to the Board of Education, which agreement has been reviewed by the Board of Education, as detailed in the mailing.

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Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

6. PERSONNEL ACTIONS REPORT

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

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Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

7. POLICIES

Action, Procedural: A. The Board of Education approves the following resolution: WHEREAS, the North Merrick Union Free School District Policy No. 9310 – Adoption of Policies contains the Board of Education procedures for the adoption, change, and repeal of District policies; and WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that it is necessary to update Corporal Punishment Policy No. 5144 at this time; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education waives Policy No. 9310 with respect to the requirements related to the first reading of policies and the sequence of adoption of policies in relation to Corporal Punishment Policy No. 5144.

The Board of Education approves the following resolution: WHEREAS, the North Merrick Union Free School District Policy No. 9310 – Adoption of Policies contains the Board of Education procedures for the adoption, change, and repeal of District policies; and WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that it is necessary to update Corporal Punishment Policy No. 5144 at this time; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education waives Policy No. 9310 with respect to the requirements related to the first reading of policies and the sequence of adoption of policies in relation to Corporal Punishment Policy No. 5144.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action, Procedural: B. The Board of Education approves the following resolution: WHEREAS, the North Merrick Union Free School District Policy No. 9310 – Adoption of Policies contains the Board of Education procedures for the adoption, change, and repeal of District policies; and WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that it is necessary to create The Rights of Employees to Express Breast Milk in the Workplace Policy No. 4155 at this time; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education waives Policy No. 9310 with respect to the requirements related to the first reading of policies and the sequence of adoption of policies in relation to The Rights of Employees to Express Breast Milk in the Workplace Policy No. 4155.

The Board of Education approves the following resolution: WHEREAS, the North Merrick Union Free School District Policy No. 9310 – Adoption of Policies contains the Board of Education procedures for the adoption, change, and repeal of District policies; and WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that it is necessary to create The Rights of Employees to Express Breast Milk in the Workplace Policy No. 4155 at this time; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education waives Policy No. 9310 with respect to the requirements related to the first reading of policies and the sequence of adoption of policies in relation to The Rights of Employees to Express Breast Milk in the Workplace Policy No. 4155.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

8. SPECIAL SERVICES

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the contract between Long Island Optometric Vision Development, PLLC and the North Merrick School District to conduct a developmental vision evaluation for a special education student for the 2023-2024 school year.

The Board of Education approves the contract between Long Island Optometric Vision Development, PLLC and the North Merrick School District to conduct a developmental vision evaluation for a special education student for the 2023-2024 school year.

Consent agenda Items 8A - 8D

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Not Present at Vote: Megan Ryan

Action: B. The Board of Education approves the contract between Nassau Neuropsychological Services and the North Merrick School District to conduct an independent neuropsychological evaluation for a special education student for the 2023-2024 school year.

The Board of Education approves the contract between Nassau Neuropsychological Services and the North Merrick School District to conduct an independent neuropsychological evaluation for a special education student for the 2023-2024 school year.

Consent agenda Items 8A - 8D

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action, Information, Procedural: C. The Board of Education approves the nine (9) 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 nine (9) 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 8A - 8D

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action, Information, Procedural: D. The Board of Education approves the fifteen (15) Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

The Board of Education approves the fifteen (15) Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

Consent agenda Items 8A - 8D

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

9. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Information, Procedural: A. High School

Vice President, Ed Corona, reported that three students from Mephram and two from Kenndey High School were recognized as Regeneron scholarship finalists. The Bellmore-Merrick CHSD has many finalists, and it's a source of great pride for our district. Kennedy High School also inducted two coaches into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. The Calhoun football team won the New York State Public High School Athletic Association 2023 Community Service Challenge award for raising awareness of heart disease.

Information, Procedural: B. School Community Relations/PTA Council

Trustee Mary Keene gave an overview of the activities and events sponsored by the PTAs. At Old Mill Road, she highlighted PARP, Valentine's Day boosters, and sweetheart dance. In addition to music and dancing, game stations were set up in the cafeteria for children to enjoy. Old Mill Road won the PTA Engagement Plus award, which recognizes PTAs that engage families and the community.

At Fayette, Ms. Keene highlighted the Science Fair and PARP. Black History Month was celebrated, and International Night will occur on March 1st.

At Camp, she highlighted PARP with author Alan Katz. Fundraisers included their annual book fair, Sweetheart Skates Night, and Cards for a Cause. The Camp Avenue auction fundraiser will occur at Mulchaly's on April 3.

For SEPTA, Ms. Keene highlighted Dave and Buster's fundraiser, the Pizza My Heart fundraiser, and Jamming with Jojo, an inclusive dance party that will take place in March.

Information, Procedural: C. Buildings & Grounds

Director of Facilities Sam Carder reported on the snow day and the procedure used to remove the snow and prevent ice from developing. He explained that some of the asphalt was damaged after snow plowing, creating potholes that need to be filled.

Our environmental company conducted a small stucco abatement at Camp Avenue School.

During the three-day break, the custodians waxed floors, painted bathrooms, and rearranged Mrs. DeLuca's main office. He thanked his staff for getting so much done.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

Information, Procedural: A. Communications

None

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Information, Procedural: A. Unfinished Business

None

12. NEW BUSINESS

Information, Presentation: A. New Business

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Information, Procedural: A. Comments

None

14. INFORMATION REPORTS (BOE only)

Information: B. Absence of Five Consecutive Days

Information: C. Building & Grounds Reports

Information, Procedural: D. School Health Office and Accident Reports

Information, Procedural: E. Enrollment

15. ADJOURNMENT

Action, Procedural: A. The Board of Education approves entering into executive session for contract negotiations and personnel matters at 7:20 (addendum).

The Board of Education approves entering into executive session for contract negotiations and personnel matters at 7:20 (addendum).

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Action, Procedural: B. Adjournment 8:05 PM

Adjournment 8:05 PM

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.