

MILLER PLACE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MILLER PLACE, NEW YORK  
BOARD MINUTES  
MARCH 13, 2024

**Kind of Meeting:** Business Meeting  
**Place of Meeting:** Miller Place High School

**Those Present:**

Board President:	Ms. Lisa Reitan
Board Trustee:	Mr. John Galligan
Board Trustee:	Ms. Andrea Spaniolas
Board Trustee:	Ms. Johanna Testa
Superintendent of Schools:	Mr. Seth Lipshie
Assistant Superintendent:	Ms. Susan Craddock (Left at 9:30 p.m.)
School Business Official:	Ms. Colleen Card (Left at 9:30 p.m.)
Executive Director for Educational Services:	Ms. Sandra Wojnowski (Left at 9:30 p.m.)
Director of Human Resources	Mr. Christopher Herrschaft (Left at 9:30 p.m.)
District Clerk	Ms. Patricia Morbillo

**Those Absent:**

Board Vice President: Mr. Bryan Makarius

**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 MARCH 27, 2024, BUSINESS MEETING.**

**A. BOARD SESSION**

**1. Open Business Meeting MPHS – 7:00 PM**

Ms. Reitan called the business meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**2. Ms. Reitan reviewed the emergency procedures.**

**B. RECOGNITION**

**1. Recognition of Veterans**

Ms. Reitan acknowledged the veterans, and their families present at the meeting.

**2. Recognition of Media**

There was no media present at the meeting.

**C. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Budget Workshop Presentation**

Ms. Card gave her second presentation of the Superintendent's Proposed Budget for the 2024-25 school year. She reviewed budget schedules, total revenues and expenditures, enrollment history, projected class size information, occupational education, co-curricular activities, clubs and athletics, proposed revenue plan, governor's state aid proposal, state aid ratios for the district, property tax levy cap history, tax cap calculation, projected revenue budget category breakdown, and proposed expenditure plan. She also provided detailed categorical expense analysis by general support services, instructional program services, transportation services, undistributed including employee benefits and debt service information, proposed detailed allocation of appropriations and another perspective of the categorical showing the percentage of each type of expense.

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She elaborated that this is a budget that takes into account the overall enrollment while still being cognizant of the special populations (e.g., students with disabilities, 504 students, plans, free and reduced students, English language learners) within the overall enrollment. She noted that the proposed budget is within the state prescribed tax levy limit formula. Ms. Card reviewed upcoming budget dates and stated that the next Budget Workshop will be held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, during the regular Business Meeting. She reminded everyone that all of the budget information is posted on the District website under the Business Office department section for easy access and review including the line-by-line budget document.

Ms. Card asked the board if they had questions about the presentation. Questions included the gift and talented not being funded, the large transportation budget and potentially making changes in the future to transportation services, state aid reductions, actual CPI vs. tax levy cap calculation, use of reserves, and unassigned fund balance. Several questions focused on specific budget lines including board of education and information technology and detailed information was provided on each. The Superintendent is not recommending moving forward with a new gifted and talented program due to the cost and budget constraints. Mr. Lipshie stated he is trying to have a fiscally responsible budget and not add new programs that the District might not be able to sustain in future years. He reviewed several increases that impacted the budget including transportation, special education, and employee benefits and noted that enrollment and class sizes are considered in his decision making. The board also mentioned that they sent an advocacy letter and are working on a second letter to the Governor. Additionally, the community made comments about the bus tracker app and adding this cost into future budgets, CPI and the community is also directly feeling the impact of these CPI increases not just the school district, new lunch company continuing or not next year, class sizes, and the importance of sustaining programs into the future.

**D. CONSENT AGENDA - FINANCE/FACILITIES**

**1. Tommy Tunes Contract**

Mr. Lipshie and Ms. Card are requesting your approval of the resolution to approve the contract with Tommy's Tunes for the Junior Prom to be held on April 5, 2024.

**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 approves the contract with Tommy's Tunes for the Junior Prom for the 2023-24 school year and furthermore authorizes the President of the Board of Education to sign such agreement."

**2. Contract – LADSBS Play**

Mr. Lipshie and Ms. Card are requesting your approval of the contract with Music Theatre International (MTI) Productions for the Laddie A. Decker Sound Beach School play.

**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 approves the contract with MTI Productions for the Laddie A. Decker Sound Beach School play and furthermore authorizes the President of the Board of Education to sign such agreement."

**E. CONSENT AGENDA - PERSONNEL**

**1. Personnel List**

Mr. Lipshie and Mr. Herrschaft recommend and request your approval of the attached personnel list of March 13, 2024.

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**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 March 13, 2024, 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 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.”

**F. CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVAL**

Ms. Reitan asked for a motion to accept the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Spaniolas moved, seconded by Mr. Galligan, to accept the Consent Agenda.

Yes 4; No 0; Motion Carried

**G. MOVEMENT TO/FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Reitan asked for a motion to move into executive session for specific personnel, specific student, and legal matters.

Ms. Spaniolas moved, seconded by Mr. Galligan, to move into executive session for specific personnel, specific student, and legal matters at 7:52 p.m.

Yes 4; No 0; Motion Carried

**H. MOVEMENT TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

Ms. Reitan asked for a motion to exit the executive session and reconvene the business meeting at 9:58 p.m.

Ms. Spaniolas moved, seconded by Mr. Galligan, to exit the executive session.

Yes 4; No 0; Motion Carried

**I. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

Ms. Reitan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Testa moved, seconded by Ms. Spaniolas, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Yes 4; No 0: Motion Carried

**Respectively submitted by Ms. Patricia A. Morbillo, District Clerk**