



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2024
6 PM - NEW YORK MILLS UFSD LIBRARY

<input type="checkbox"/> Kristin Hubley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Mahardy, Jr.
<input type="checkbox"/> Sara DeFazio
<input type="checkbox"/> Jacqueline Edwards
<input type="checkbox"/> Jeremy Fennell
<input type="checkbox"/> Steve King
<input type="checkbox"/> Abbie Taylor

Agenda Item	Who	Information Distributed	Action	Notes
1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER		6:00 pm		
1.1 Pledge to the Flag			Procedural	
1.2 Reading of the New York Mills UFSD Mission Statement.			Procedural	<i>Through combined efforts of students, staff, parents and community members, our mission is to foster the confidence, knowledge, cognition, and character necessary to instill a strong work ethic, to create an environment of tolerance and respect, and to ignite an attitude of inquiry and enthusiasm for learning that will enable students to become productive, responsible citizens.</i>
1.3 Acceptance of Agenda	K. Hubley	Yes	Action	1 st R. Mahardy 2 nd J. Edwards / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
2. PRESENTATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS				
2.1 President’s Message	K. Hubley		Information	<i>K. Hubley: On behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to Welcome Back the students, families and faculty and staff to a new school year. The BOE hopes everyone had a fun filled enjoyable summer. Our Administrators worked hard over the summer with faculty and staff to ensure our students’ learning experience this year will be successful and productive. The beginning of the school year offers us the opportunity to reflect on our past accomplishments and challenges as we move forward with the District’s mission, vision and core beliefs. I was able to attend the Superintendent’s opening day assembly for the teachers and was very pleased to see that our District’s mission, vision and core beliefs were right at the center of the presentation. Mrs. LaGase has shared her</i>

presentation with the BOE and she along with our Executive Principal and Interim Principle will give us some highlights of their presentations later. I want to thank our Board Members for attending our working session in August, these sessions afford us the opportunity to welcome new board members, to help us all understand our roles and responsibilities and to review and discuss our mission, vision and core values. Along with assisting us in aligning priorities. It improves our performance and builds relations, and I am looking forward to our future working sessions. Some dates to remember September 16th and 17th is the Blue Ribbon Commission on graduation measures, a forum at BOCES. September 19th is open house and Board members will come to assist with that. September 30th is the SBI general meeting and S. King will give us the update on that later. I would like to end my message tonight by offering our condolences to our colleagues, families and community members of the Utica City School District for the tragic loss of the Columbus Elementary Principal Elizabeth Gerling, and just take a moment of silence to honor her before we continue with our meeting.

2.2 BOCES Representative Report	G. Porcelli		Information	
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2.3 Committee Reports			Information	
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Policy Committee: Steve King/Chair, Jacqueline Edwards, Abbie Taylor; S. King: we are trying to reschedule dates and will have something before the next meeting.
Facilities Committee: Jeremy Fennell/Chair, Sara DeFazio, Jacqueline Edwards; J. Fennell: we did just meet last month, we are still working on the Capital Project and Capital Outlay scopes. Next month samples will be brought in and discussed. Also firming up a timeline and the cooperative bidding process.
Communications Committee: Abbie Taylor/Chair, Robert Mahardy; A.Taylor: we are still planning our first meeting.
Safety Committee: Robert Mahardy/Chair, Abbie Taylor; R. Mahardy: still looking at scheduling.
Transportation Committee: Sara DeFazio/Chair, Robert Mahardy; Same
Finance Committee: Jacqueline Edwards/Chair, Sara DeFazio, Jeremy Fennell; J. Edwards: we are not meeting at this time, first want to do an overview as Sara and Jeremy are fairly new and want to talk about some of the things to come down the road, and the timeline of how we plan out a budget and have Lisa (Business Office) give an overview of how the process works.

K. Hubley: Before we get to SBI, I do want to ask that other committee’s follow the Finance Committees lead and try to focus your first few sessions on working with goals, so they align with the Superintendent’s goals for the year. Creating a sort of an outline on what you are working on for the year.

SBI: Steve King (**SBI Alternate:** Jacqueline Edwards); S. King SBI met last night, we talked about an Albany meeting on financial futures, looking to schedule a meeting with assembly and state candidates. January looking to meet legislators’ and talk about budgeting. Program Committee has a lot coming up. Spoke of NYSSBA, those that want to know what NYSSBA does, there is a resolution committee that posts all the resolutions the State Legislators are looking to propose, that would be good place to look. Also discussed Regional plan ideas with Boards’ of Education involved by mid-November survey, January – spring meetings, then the plan will come out in 2025. I would encourage everyone to come to SBI meetings.

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3. CONSENT AGENDA				
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3.1 Approval of 3.2 through 3.4	K. Hubley	Yes	Action	1 st S. King 2 nd J. Edwards / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
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3.2 Business Office Reports		Yes	Action	1 st S. King 2 nd J. Edwards / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
3.3 CSE Reports		Yes	Action	1 st S. King 2 nd J. Edwards / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
3.4 Approval of the Previous Minutes	8.6.24 8.13.24	Yes	Action	1 st S. King 2 nd J. Edwards / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
4. OLD BUSINESS				
4.1 Capital Updates			Information	
5. NEW BUSINESS				
5.1 Personnel Report		Yes	Action	1 st S. King 2 nd J. Fennell / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
<i>M. LaGase: asked that the second non-instructional appointment be removed from the personnel report, (J. Edwards, asked if the person was already an employee?)M. LaGase: No, she was going in as a substitute bus driver but she is not responding to the district's inquiry for employment. All in favor of the amended report.</i>				
5.2 Resolution to Approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between New York Mills Teachers' Association and the NYMUFSD		Yes	Action	1 st R. Mahardy 2 nd S. DeFazio / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
5.3 Resolution to Approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between CSEA Local 1000 AFSCME and the NYMUFSD		Yes	Action	1 st R. Mahardy 2 nd S. DeFazio / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
5.4 Approval of Combining Contract with New Hartford Central School District (host) – Varsity Girls Gymnastics and NYMUFSD Fall 2024-2025		Yes	Action	1 st J. Edwards 2 nd J. Fennell / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
5.5 Approval of Combining Contract with Oriskany Central School District (host) –		Yes	Action	1 st R. Mahardy 2 nd J. Fennell / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____

Modified Girls Soccer and NYMUFSD Fall 2024-2025				
5.6 Rescind Approval of Combining Contract with Notre Dame Jr/Sr High School (host) – Varsity Girls Soccer and NYMUFSD Fall 2024-2025		Yes	Action	1 st J. Edwards 2 nd R. Mahardy / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
J. Edwards: How many girls does this effect from our school? The Athletic Director responded, one and she will be running cross country instead.				
6. K-12 REPORTS				
6.1 Executive Principal K-12	M. Facci		Information	
<i>M. Facci: For the first few days with teachers spent some time reviewing 3-8 testing data that Mrs. DiSpirito will share with you. The opening of school was very smooth, Sept. 6th was 7-12th grade(s) assemblies reviewing the student hand book, setting goals and extra-curricular policies. We met with our new Drama Club Director Ms. Bailey Witter; she came up with a list of productions the student can choose from. Student Council met to collect student candidate name's looking to run for class positions. Meeting with advisors of clubs was held to discuss upcoming school goals and fundraisers. Open house is Sept. 19th . Safety drills are underway to be in compliance with the regulations.</i>				
6.2 Interim Principal K-12	D. DiSpirito		Information	
<i>D. DiSpirito: I agree opening day went very smoothly, we made some efficiency changes in the parent drop off which has expedited drop off and getting students in a little faster so we are not bogging down traffic on Burrstone Road. So that was a real success. We also had opening assemblies, just going over rules and expectations, continuing with positivity project. We have had bus drills along with fire drills. Teachers are preparing for Open House. We at the Elementary level will be meeting with our school-based inquiry team to review some of the expectations for student of the month and Positivity Project, also meeting with the instructional support team. Which teachers have been calling RTI for a long time and we will be looking at students who are having difficulty with attendance and academics, some of the therapies that are needed with that and doing some training on how to input the data they are collecting when doing Response Intervention so we can make some clear and clean adjustments to the CSE referral process if we need to. During opening day, we spent some time on a professional development called, "One Trusted Adult", which we would like to implement so that students have a connection with at least one adult in the building. Especially at the secondary level, its easy on the elementary level it's 6 hours a day with one teacher. For secondary it is a little more difficult, and we really liked this program's philosophy. I would like to share some of the testing scores with you (gave hand-out of an over glance awareness), from the 3-8 testing as well as Regents and NYSUT the scores are still embargoed so we cannot share them with the pubic at this time.</i> <i>M .LaGase: These handouts are for informational purposes and instructional planning at this point. Grade level and content area teachers will be working in their data planning meetings to look at where our strengths are and where things are working well and then looking at where some of our academic achievement gaps lie and what strategies or curriculum mapping/ pacing guide adjustments need to be made to address the areas of underperformance. One trend shows an overall strength in math, so we will focus on ELA, while continuing to support math.</i> <i>J. Edward: can I just give Kudos to whomever is teaching US History and Government because that is no small feat right there and it definitely jumps right off the page at you.</i>				

<i>M. LaGase: I also want to point out that our English Language Learners (ELL) NYSESLAT results were very good. We had several students test out.</i>				
7. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT				
7.1 Enrollment Update	M. LaGase	Yes	Information	
<i>M. LaGase: Last year we were at 567 K-12, right now we are at 526 but I can tell you there has been a continuous change in enrollment daily.</i>				
7.2 Superintendent’s Update	M. LaGase		Information	
<i>M. LaGase: Provided an overview of the presentation that was given during the opening day faculty meeting, which lead with a review of our District’s Vision statement. Noting...this should be guiding our work as educators and informing decision making. The District Vision is the framework for what we want for NYMUFSD and I think sometimes as educators it can get pushed to the backend, you see and hear the vision, but sometimes it doesn’t resonate in daily work. Collectively, we talked about keeping that at the forefront and using it as a guide for informing our decisions. When we are looking at curriculum choices, making scheduling changes, programmatic decisions, and during the budget development process etc. We went over the state of the district...where we were verses where we are, talked about goal setting, increasing graduation rates, increasing higher levels of proficiency on state and local assessments, increased levels of student engagement and the key components of the professional development session “One Trusted Adult”, which focuses on having connections with the adults at school. We know students are more likely to want to come to school, if they feel this is a safe place and they are supported here. The Capital Outlay and scope of the Capital Project were also reviewed.</i>				
8. COMMUNICATIONS				
8.1 From the Floor -	District Clerk		Information	
Persons wishing to speak should first be recognized by the President, then identify themselves, any organization they may be representing at the meeting, and the agenda topic or other matter of public concern about our schools that they wish to discuss. Topics must be addressed one at a time with each individual's comments limited to three (3) minutes for a total of twelve (12) minutes designated for the public comment agenda item.				
<i>Hillary Williams: (Parent) discussed suggestions for improved Guidance services.</i>				
<i>Mrs. LaGase answered, noting that several of her suggestions are already initiatives the District has undertaken.</i>				
8.2 Board Discussion	BOE		Discussion	
<i>S. King – One last time go to the SBI, you will learn a lot!</i>				
<i>S. DeFazio - Encouraged parents to the attend the Blue Ribbon Commission public session.</i>				
<i>J. Edwards – She was very happy to hear what Mrs. Williams was saying.</i>				
<i>R. Mahardy – I do believe a lot of those things are on our radar. So, thank you, we are looking at that.</i>				
<i>K. Hubley – Noted, we always welcome fee back from the community and I was glad to hear you recognize some of the things we have changed and we do have more of your concerns on our radar.</i>				
9. EXECUTIVE SESSION ** (If Needed)	BOE	6:59 pm	Discussion/Action	1 st S. King 2 nd J. Edwards / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ___

9.1 Return to General Session (time)	BOE	7:59 pm	Action	1 st R. Mahardy 2 nd J. Edwards / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
10. ADJOURNMENT				
10.1 Adjournment		8:00 pm	Action	1 st S. DeFazio 2 nd J. Edwards / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____

**§105. Conduct of executive sessions.

1. Upon a majority vote of its total membership, taken in an open meeting pursuant to a motion identifying the general area or areas of the subject or subjects to be considered, a public body may conduct an executive session for the below enumerated purposes only, provided, however, that no action by formal vote shall be taken to appropriate public moneys:
 - a. matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed;
 - b. any matter which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer;
 - c. information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed;
 - d. discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation;
 - e. collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law;
 - f. the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation;
 - g. the preparation, grading or administration of examinations; and
 - h. the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof.
2. Attendance at an executive session shall be permitted to any member of the public body and any other persons authorized by the public body.