

**WORK STUDY MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2024
MINUTES**

**HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK STUDY MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2024
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The Board of Education Work Study Meeting of the Hempstead Union Free School District was held at the A.B.G.S. Middle School Bandbox, 70 Greenwich Street Hempstead, New York 11550. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm, motioned by Trustee Brown Young, seconded by Trustee Pratt.

Board Members Present:

Trustee LaMont E. Johnson
Trustee Victor Pratt
Trustee Olga Brown Young
Trustee Joylette Williams, PhD.

NYSED Monitor/ Trustee Ex. Officio Present:

Dr. William Johnson

Staff Members Present:

Ms. Regina Armstrong	Superintendent of Schools
Mr. James Clark	Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services
Mr. Gary Rush	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Jamal Scott	Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations
Mrs. Djuana Wilson	Assistant Superintendent for Special Education
Mrs. April Keys	District Clerk
Mr. James Pierre	District Treasurer
Mr. John Sheahan	General Counsel
Mr. Johnathan Scher	Labor Counsel
Mr. Monte Chandler	Special Counsel
Mr. LeAndre John	Special Counsel

A. MEETING OPENING

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Brown Young moved, seconded by Trustee Pratt, to move to Executive Session to discuss a particular individual and seek legal counsel @ 6:01 pm.

MOTION

YES 4

MOTION CARRIED

To move to Executive Session @ 6:01 pm.

Trustee Brown Young moved, seconded by Trustee Pratt, to re-convene to Open Session @ 8:45 pm.

MOTION

YES 4

MOTION CARRIED

To re-convene to Open Session @ 8:45 pm.

B. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA CALENDAR

Trustee Williams moved, seconded by Trustee Brown Young, to accept the Consent Agenda

MOTION

YES 4

MOTION CARRIED

To accept the consent agenda.

I. PERSONNEL

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1. RESIGNATIONS

RESIGNATION - RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to **ACCEPT** the resignation(s) from the following Professional Personnel for **RETIREMENT/PERSONAL PURPOSES**:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REASON</u>
Judy Sun Eff. 2/14/2024	ENL Teacher ABGS Middle School	Resignation received for retirement purposes.

2. PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendents recommendation to **APPOINT** the following professional personnel: (In order to be eligible for tenure, an individual receiving a probationary appointment as a classroom teacher or building principal must receive an annual composite or overall APPR rating of Highly Effective or Effective in at least three of the four preceding years. If the individual receives a rating of ineffective in the final year of the probationary period, he or she will not be eligible for tenure at that time).

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
Jasodra Briglall Eff. 2/26/2024 4-Year Probationary Period, 2/25/2028 Teaching Assistant, Level I, Eff. 1/9/2024	Teaching Assistant David Paterson	\$25,020 - Lv. 1, St. 2 - Prorated PURPOSE: Replacing D. Smith, on leave eff. 4/25/2023. Board Action - 5/24/2023.
Tanya Delgado Eff. 2/26/2024 4-Year Probationary Period, 2/25/2028 English Language Arts 7-12, Professional, Eff. 10/14/2020	ELA Teacher Hempstead High School	\$84,379 - Lv. 5, St. 9 - Prorated PURPOSE: Replacing T. Hyde, retired eff. 2/5/2024. Board Action - 1/18/2024
Marie Amazan-Sassi Eff. 2/26/2024 4-Year Probationary Period, 2/25/2028 English to Speakers of Other Languages, Permanent, Eff. 9/1/2004	ENL Teacher Hempstead High School	\$84,379 - Lv. 7, St. 7 - Prorated PURPOSE: Replacing G. Andros, resigned eff. 7/24/2023. Board Action - 8/24/2023.
Lisa Tipiere Eff. 2/26/2024 4-Year Probationary Period, 2/25/2028 English 7-12, Permanent, Eff. 2/1/2002	ELA Teacher ABGS Middle School	\$79,094 - Lv. 5, St. 7 - Prorated PURPOSE: Fill New Position
Catrina Dasque Eff. 3/4/2024 4-Year Probationary	Teaching Assistant Rhodes Academy	\$33,192 - Lv. 4, St. 4 - Prorated PURPOSE: Fill Vacant Position Replacing G. Deans-Forrester,

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Period, 3/3/2028
Teaching Assistant,
Level I,
Eff. 11/23/2021

retired eff. 6/30/2023.
Board Action - 5/24/2023

Carmella Palumbo
Eff. 2/26/2024
4-Year Probationary
Period, 2/25/2028
Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6),
Professional
Eff. 12/23/2022

Special Education Teacher
Joseph McNeil

\$71,168 - Lv. 5, St. 4 - Prorated
PURPOSE: Fill New Position
Due to increased student enrollment

Syed Alam
Eff. 2/26/2024
4-Year Probationary
Period, 3/3/2028
Mathematics 7-12,
Professional,
Eff. 9/1/2005

Mathematics Teacher
Hempstead High School

\$89,663 - Lv. 8, St. 8 - Prorated
PURPOSE: Replacing C. Peragallo,
resigned eff. 1/31/2024.
Board Action - 1/18/2024.

Juan Rivera
Eff. 3/4/2024
4-Year Probationary
Period, 3/3/2028
Teaching Assistant,
Level I,
Eff. 11/9/2023

Teaching Assistant
Joseph McNeil

\$31,215 - Lv. 4, St. 2 - Prorated
PURPOSE: Fill New Position
(due to increased enrollment).

Victoria Thomas
Eff. 2/26/2024
4-Year Probationary
Period, 2/25/2028
English Language Arts 7-12,
Professional,
Eff. 8/2/2018

ELA Teacher
Hempstead High School

\$84,379 - Lv. 5, St. 9 - Prorated
PURPOSE: Fill New Position

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to APPROVE the following LEAVE(S) of ABSENCE request(s) for the following PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REASON</u>
Rhonda Chung Eff. 2/27/2024 - 4/26/2024	Elementary Kindergarten Teacher Prospect	Letter requesting a Medical Leave of Absence at half pay, not to exceed 90 days from 2/27/2024 to 4/26/2024. (Medical documentation on file. Letter received in Human Resources on 2/9/2024).

WAIVER OF POLICY # 2342

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education waives policy #2342, requiring the agenda, together with supporting background materials to be distributed to Board members seven days in advance of a Board meeting, and the Board shall permit the consideration of the had carry resolutions presented at the February 13,2024 meeting of the Board; and

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BE IT RESOLVED, the waiver of policy #2342, is effective only for the hand carry resolutions considered at the February 13, 2024, 2023, meeting.

Trustee Brown Young moved, seconded by Trustee Williams, to Waive Policy #2342.

MOTION

YES 4

MOTION CARRIED

To waive policy #2342.

RESOLUTION # 1

Removal of BOE Trustee (Former Trustee Randy Stith)

WHEREAS the Board of Education of the Hempstead Union Free School District (“Board”) is the duly constituted governance body of the School District; and

WHEREAS, former Trustee Randy Stith was a member of the Board, and at the time of the alleged violation (October 11, 2023) was a member of the Board, and therefore, was bound by the District Policy and legal requirements that confidential information shall not be disclosed and disclosure of same is a violation of General Municipal Law Section 805-a(1)(b) and the Hempstead Union Free School District Code of Ethics and policies; and

WHEREAS, the Board has been advised that there is reasonable suspicion that Trustee Randy Stith violated General Municipal Law Section 805-a(1)(b); Education Law Section 2-d; The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA); the Hempstead Union Free School District Code of Ethics and policies; and the Commissioner of Education Decisions, and his duty of confidentiality by disclosing confidential student information. The public disclosure of student information included information pertaining to students with special needs and their identification number, date of birth and grade level, that was disclosed on his Facebook page to the public; and

WHEREAS Trustee Stith created the Facebook page titled “Hempstead UFSD” which was unauthorized by the Hempstead School District and Hempstead Board of Education and was used by former Trustee Stith to disseminate the confidential information of special need students to the public

WHEREAS, the Board of Education on November 15, 2023, approved special counsel to prepare charges of official misconduct against former Hempstead School Board Trustee Randy Stith; and designated James Clark, Esq., as hearing officer to preside over removal proceedings and authorized him to report to the Board of Education such findings and conclusions of law for final determination by the Hempstead Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, that on November 27, 2023, the Hempstead Board of Education approved charges against former Trustee Randy Stith and designated James Clark, Esq., as hearing officer to preside over removal proceedings and authorized him to prepare a written report and recommendation to the Board of Education, regarding findings of fact and conclusions of law and scheduled a hearing date before Hearing Officer James Clark, Esq., for January 4, 2024; and

WHEREAS, that a hearing on the charges was presented before James Clark, Esq., on January 4, 2024, at said hearing former Trustee Stith did not appear at the hearing and he did not answer and/or defend the charges against him; and

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2024, Hearing Officer James Clark, Esq., submitted a report and recommendation to the Hempstead Board of Education together with the transcripts and exhibits introduced and admitted into evidence at said hearing; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education Trustees of the Hempstead Union Free School District having reviewed the report issued by James Clark, Esq., and the transcripts and exhibits presented at the hearing and after due deliberation accepts and adopts the report issued by James Clark, Esq, and hereby imposes the sanction of removal of Trustee Randy Stith from his former position as Trustee of the Hempstead Union Free School Board including all legal ramifications of same, effective immediately.

Trustee Pratt moved, seconded by Trustee Brown Young, to accept the Hand Carry Resolution # 1.

MOTION

YES 4

MOTION CARRIED

To accept the Hand Carry Resolution #1.

RESOLUTION #2

License Agreement with Hofstra University

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves a license agreement (“Agreement”) between the District the Hofstra University, for use of the University facilities by the District’s Law Club and authorizes the Board President to execute the agreement pending review and approval by General Counsel.

Trustee Brown Young moved, seconded by Trustee Pratt, to accept the Hand Carry Resolution # 2.

MOTION

YES 4

MOTION CARRIED

To accept the Hand Carry Resolution #2.

RESOLUTION

Employment Agreement

Resolved, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to re-appoint the Assistant Superintendent of Business for an additional three years and hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the Terms and Conditions of Employment between the Hempstead Union Free School District and Mr. Jamaal Scott.

Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Williams, to accept the Hand Carry Resolution # 3.

MOTION

YES 4

MOTION CARRIED

To accept the Hand Carry Resolution #3.

Trustee Johnson called for a motion to appoint Elise Nicholson, as Board of Education Trustee, to fill vacancy.

Trustee Brown Young moved, seconded by Trustee Pratt, to appoint Elise Nicholson, as Board of Education Trustee, to fill vacancy.

MOTION

YES 2

MOTION FAILED

To appoint Elise Nicholson
as BOE Trustee

**NO 1(Trustee Johnson)
ABSTAIN 1 (Trustee Williams)**

Trustee Johnson moved, to appoint Gwendolyn Jackson, as Board of Education Trustee, to fill vacancy.

MOTION FAILED DUE TO LACK OF SECOND MOTION.

Trustee Johnson moved, to appoint Jeffrey Spencer, as Board of Education Trustee, to fill vacancy.

MOTION FAILED DUE TO LACK OF SECOND MOTION.

Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Brown Young, to re-consider Elise Nicholson, as Board of Education Trustee, to fill vacancy.

MOTION

YES 2

MOTION FAILED

To appoint Elise Nicholson
as BOE Trustee

**NO 1(Trustee Johnson)
ABSTAIN 1 (Trustee Williams)**

Trustee Pratt moved, seconded by Trustee Brown Young, to appoint Elise Nicholson, as Board of Education Trustee, to fill vacancy.

MOTION

YES 3

MOTION CARRIED

To appoint Elise Nicholson
as BOE Trustee

NO 1(Trustee Williams)

*****Trustee Nicholson was administered the OATH OF OFFICE, as Board of Education Trustee, on Wednesday, February 14, 2024, by Mr. John Sheahan, General Counsel. *****

J. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Brown Young moved, seconded by Trustee Pratt, to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 pm.

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To adjourn the meeting @ 9:01 pm.

YES 4

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted by:

Mrs. April Keys, District Clerk