

Monthly School Board Meeting (Tuesday, January 13, 2026)**Board members present:**

Vice President, Ed Corona, Trustees: Tracey Miller (arrived 6:15 pm), Steve Enella, Mary Keene, William Luciani (arrived 6:05 pm) and Kathy Moran

ABSENT: Board President, Megan Ryan

Administration present:

Dr. Cynthia Seniuk, Superintendent of Schools

Michael Krauthamer, Ingerman Smith

Mrs. Kate Caporusso, Superintendent for Personnel & Instruction

Mrs. Marie Donnelly, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations,

Dr. Edward Murphy, Special Education

Mr. Samuel Carder, Director of Facilities

Joanne Long, District Clerk

1. OPENING

A. Call to Order by Vice-President Ed Corona at 6:03 PM

B. Executive Session

Executive Session for personnel matters and an update on negotiations.

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran

Not Present at Vote: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Will Luciani

Action, Information, Procedural: C. Reconvene to Public

Reconvene to Public at 7:00 PM

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

2. PUBLIC HEARING - SAFETY PLAN

A. Ed Corona, vice president, called the Public Hearing to Order at 7:05 PM

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

B. Mr. Corona led in the pledge of allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Not Present at Vote: Megan Ryan

C. Report on public comments received (Safety Plan only)

No public comments on the safety plan were received.

Report on public comments received (Safety Plan only)

Motion by Kathy Moran, 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

D. Adjournment

Adjournment 7:06 PM

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

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

A. Superintendent's comments

Superintendent, Dr. Seniuk, praised the holiday music concert held in December and thanked the students, families, teachers, and staff for an outstanding performance. She reported that SEPTA hosted a successful STEM Night, and the Saturday Scope program began with over 100 students participating. A Wellness Retreat for students in grades 4–6 will be held tomorrow evening at Old Mill Road School. Dr. Seniuk noted the District is entering budget season, with Mrs. Donnelly organizing the Budget Committee. Budget presentations will be held at 6:15 p.m. during the February and March Board meetings. She announced a Shark Tank event on January 29 at 6:00 p.m. at Fayette School. Kindergarten registration began today. Universal Pre-K registration on February 6. Dr. Seniuk also reported that Theater Arts programming is underway, with Alice in Wonderland scheduled for March 27 and March 28 under the supervision of Dr. Talbot.

4. ROUTINE APPROVALS

A. Approval of Minutes -December 9, 2025 board meeting minutes

Consent agenda 4A-4C

Motion by Steve Enella, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Not Present at Vote: Megan Ryan

B. Approval of Warrants, Wires and Budget Transfers

Consent agenda 4A-4C

Motion by Steve Enella, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

C. Approval of Treasurer's Report

Consent agenda 4A-4C

Motion by Steve Enella, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (agenda items only)

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

B. Comments

None

6. BUSINESS

A. The Board of Education approves the update 2025-2026 District-Wide Safety Plan.

Consent agenda 6A-6B

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Not Present at Vote: Megan Ryan

B. The Board of Education authorizes the update of the mileage reimbursement rate to be paid to authorized personnel conducting school district business for the 2026 calendar year to 72.5 cents per mile as of January 1, 2026, payment to be made only upon presentation of approved claims.

Consent agenda 6A-6B

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

7. PERSONNEL ACTIONS REPORT

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

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Not Present at Vote: Megan Ryan

8. SPECIAL SERVICES

A. The Board of Education approves the contract agreement between North Bellmore School District and the North Merrick School District for tuition for North Bellmore resident student to attend the North Merrick school district for the 2025-2026 school year.

Consent agenda 8A-8D

Motion by Tracey Miller, 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

B. The Board of Education approves the updated North Merrick Special Education District Plan.

Consent agenda 8A-8D

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

C. The Board of Education approves the ten (10) Individualized Education Plans (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

Consent agenda 8A-8D

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

D. The Board of Education approves the five (5) Individualized Education Programs (IEPS) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Pre-School Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

Consent agenda 8A-8D

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

9. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

A. High School

Mr. Corona reported that the Board recognized Promise of Hope, an organization that covered the funeral expenses for the Mephram student who tragically passed away on his way to school in November. The Board also recognized Calhoun Model UN for sending a delegate to a conference in Switzerland. In addition, the Business Department gave a presentation highlighting the courses offered in the district and the skills students develop. The district currently offers ten college-credit courses in business. Students also showcased their business models, including a Calhoun student's transition sunglasses with adjustable tint and a Kennedy student's solar-powered cooler.

B. School Community Relations/PTA Council

Ms. Keene highlighted upcoming events throughout the District. Fayette School: A Spelling Bee for students in grades 4–6 was held. PARP will run from February 2 through February 13. Black History Month will be observed in February, including an assembly on February 11 honoring significant figures in Black history. International Day of Happiness will be celebrated in March with a meteorologist visit. Boys Bowling Night took place on January 23 at Wantagh Lanes. The Sweetheart Dance is scheduled for February 6. Bingo Night is scheduled for March 26.

Old Mill Road School: Blake Leeper, Paralympic sprinter, author, and motivational speaker, will visit for an assembly. One book will be distributed per family.

The Herald has been invited to cover the event. The Snowball Dance took place on January 23. The Sweetheart Dance is scheduled for February 6. The Read-a-thon will run for two weeks due to its continued success as a fundraiser. PARP will run for one week this year following discussion between the PTA and teachers.

SEPTA: STEM Night was hosted and was well attended. WINGS teacher Ms. Karfinkel led hands-on STEM activities. The annual auction is scheduled for March 6 at the Long Island Children's Museum.

Camp Avenue School: Bingo for Books is scheduled for January 29. Sports Night for grades K–1 is scheduled for February 5. Sweetheart Skate is scheduled for February 6. The Science Fair is scheduled for February 24. The Book Fair is scheduled for February 26. Disney on Ice is sold out. The Harlem Globetrotters will visit on February 15. Ringling Brothers Circus is scheduled for February 21. Planning is underway for the April auction to be held at Mulcahy's in Wantagh.

C. Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Carder, Director of Facilities, reported on weather-related issues. The gymnastics program has been relocated from Old Mill Road to Camp Avenue. Theater Arts has begun, and preparations for the upcoming show are underway. Additionally, projects for February break and the summer are being reviewed.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Communications

None

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Unfinished Business

None

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Business

None

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Comments

Ralph Maffetone shared concerns about the rubber mulch at Old Mill Road School, noting that it spreads beyond the playground into the ball field, parking lot, surrounding neighborhood, and even into nearby homes. He stated that while it may have been a good idea, it is not working and needs to be addressed.

Mr. Corona thanked the speaker and stated that the Board will discuss the concern.

14. INFORMATION REPORTS (BOE only).

A. Appropriation Status Report; Revenue Status Report; Trial Balance; Cash Flow Report

B. Absences of Five Consecutive Days

C. School Health Office and Accident Reports

D. School Enrollment

E Building and Grounds Reports

15. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjournment

7:20 PM

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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