

Budget Hearing and Monthly School Board Meeting (Tuesday, May 5, 2026)**Board members present:**

Board President, Megan Ryan; Vice President, Trustees: Tracey Miller Arrived 6:20 PM), Steve Enella, Mary Keene, William Luciani, and Kathy Moran

ABSENT: Vice President Ed Corona

Administration present:

Dr. Cynthia Seniuk, Superintendent of Schools

Mrs. Kate Caporusso, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Personnel

Mrs. Marie Donnelly, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations

Dr. Ed Murphy, Assistant to the Superintendent for PPS & Special Education

Mr. Samuel Carder, Director of Facilities

Steve Goodstat, Ingerman Smith

Joanne Long, District Clerk

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM**1. OPENING**

A. Call to Order by Board President Megan Ryan

B. Executive Session for matters of personnel and negotiations.

Executive Session for personnel and negotiation matters.

Motion by Steve Enella, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

C. Reconvene to the Public to begin Budget Hearing

Reconvene to the Public to begin Budget Hearing at 6:30 PM

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Will Luciani.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

2. BUDGET HEARING

A. Superintendent calls the meeting to order at 6:33 PM

B. Superintendent leads in the pledge.

C. Superintendent introduces the Board of Education.

D. Superintendent turns meeting over to the President of the Board of Education, Ms. Ryan, who will act as Chairman of the meeting.

E. The Chairman, Ms. Ryan, will direct District Clerk to read the Call of the Meeting.

F. The Chairman, Ms. Ryan, will direct District Clerk to report on candidate petitions received.

G. The Chairman, Ms. Ryan, will direct the District Clerk to read the qualifications of a voter.

H. The Chairman, Ms. Ryan, reads the Proposed Budget - Categories of Budget: Administrative, Program and Capital

I. The Chairman, Ms. Ryan, adjourns the budget hearing. 6:39 PM

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

A. Call to Order by Board President. 6:39 PM

B. Tenure celebration and recognition - Robin Isseks - OMR (Grade K Teacher); Carissa Johnson - OMR (Grade 1 Teacher); Mara Karfinkel - District (WINGS Teacher, AIS); Samantha Maloney - Camp Ave (Grade 4 Teacher); Gina Moricone - Harold D. Fayette (Grade 5 Teacher); Tricia Shanagan - OMR (Grade 3 Teacher); Megan Silka - Camp Ave (Speech Teacher); Dawn Baker - Camp Ave (TA); Kim Breman – HDF (TA); Lisa Ferrandino - OMR (TA); Jessica Gavin - Camp Ave (TA); Shivonne O'Brien - Camp Ave (TA)

A tenure celebration and recognition was held for the following staff members: Robin Isseks (OMR, Grade K Teacher), Carissa Johnson (OMR, Grade 1 Teacher), Mara Karfinkel (District, WINGS Teacher/AIS), Samantha Maloney (Camp Avenue, Grade 4 Teacher), Gina Moricone (Harold D. Fayette, Grade 5 Teacher), Tricia Shanagan (OMR, Grade 3 Teacher), Megan Silka (Camp Avenue, Speech Teacher), Dawn Baker (Camp Avenue, TA), Kim Breman (HDF, TA), Lisa Ferrandino (OMR, TA), Jessica Gavin (Camp Avenue, TA), and Shivonne O'Brien (Camp Avenue, TA).

Each honoree was called up and briefly recognized for their contributions and service to the district. The Board of Education extended congratulations to all recipients.

4. ROUTINE APPROVALS

A. Approval of minutes April 14, 2026, monthly meeting and April 28, 2026, BOCES Special Meeting

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

B. Approval of Warrants, Wires and Budget Transfers

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action, Procedural: C. Approval of Treasurer's Report

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

5. 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.

B. Comments: None

6. BUSINESS

A. The Board of Education approves the renewal of the bid award to G.C. Environmental, Inc. to provide petroleum tank repair testing, alarm, compliance, and inspections on an as-needed basis for the 2026-2027 school year

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

B. The Board of Education approves the renewal of the bid award to Woods Mens & Boys Clothing. to provide uniforms to custodial staff for the 2026-2027 school year

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

C. The Board of Education approves the issuance of tax anticipation notes for the 2026-2027 school year, not to exceed \$2,500,000.

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

D. The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to submit the online Letter of Intent for the 2026-2027 school year for services provided by BOCES in an amount not to exceed \$2,800,000.

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

E. The Board of Education accepts the donation of \$1,000.00 from New York Schools Insurance Reciprocal (NYSIR) to be used towards professional development.

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

F. The Board of Education approves the agreement with the Merrick Woods Country Day School, Inc. for use of 25 designated parking spaces and 4 bus parking spaces during Summer 2026. The President of the Board of Education is authorized to execute the agreement.

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

G. The Board of Education approves the agreement with the Merrick Woods Country Day School, Inc. for use of the ball fields at Harold D. Fayette School during Summer 2026. The President of the Board of Education is authorized to execute the agreement.

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

H. The Board of Education approves the agreement with AIG Accident & Health/National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, PA for student accident insurance for the 2026-27 school year.

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

I. The Board of Education approves the engagement letter with Cerini & Associates, LLP for claims auditing services for the

2026-2027 school year.

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

J. The Board of Education authorizes the additional funding of the 2025-2026 reserves in accordance with General Municipal Law and Educational Law, as detailed in the mailing.

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, 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, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

8. SPECIAL SERVICES

A. The Board of Education approves the forty four (44) Individualized Education Plans (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

B. The Board of Education approves the nineteen (19) Individualized Education Programs (IEPS) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Pre-School Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

9. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

A. High School

Ms. Ryan reported on highlights from the high school board meeting, noting several student-athlete achievements. Recognized teams included the New York State Champion boys swimming team, the Bulldogs ice hockey team, Calhoun boys track for winning the Nassau County Championship, the Mephram girls track relay team, and both the girls and boys wrestling teams for their Nassau County Championship wins. Student representatives also returned and provided updates on events and activities in each school building. The Board also received the budget presentation, which is available for review on the Bellmore-Merrick CHSD website.

B. School Community Relations/PTA Council

Mary Keene, Board Trustee, reported on the following: PTA representatives shared updates on recent and upcoming events across the district. Harold D. Fayette held Kindergarten Orientation on April 23 and is planning a 90s-themed staff appreciation celebration, along with its Celebration and Installation Night on May 13. The districtwide North Merrick Color Run will take place on May 29 at HDF.

At Camp Avenue, the Drama Club presented *Storyland* on April 30, and the Spring Fling was held on May 1. The PTA also announced that this year's auction raised \$28,535. Upcoming events include the final PTA meeting, Talent Show, Teacher

Appreciation Week celebrations, and the districtwide Color Run.

Additional updates included a successful Variety Show featuring student and teacher acts, preparations for the Fun Run and Community Open House, and SEPTA's upcoming Ice Cream Social honoring past presidents. PTAs were thanked for their continued support of the school community.

C. Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Carder congratulated tenure recipients and provided a district operations update. He reported that the grounds crew is managing seasonal spring growth and that school events are keeping facilities busy with frequent setups. Summer project planning is underway with the administrative team. He also noted that the turf installation at Old Mill Road has been completed and is now in use. The Field of Flags will take place at HDF on May 14.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

Information, Procedural: A. Communication

Mrs. Joanne Long reported that one communication was received and responded to.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Unfinished business

None

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. New business

None

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Comments

Ms. Ryan had closing comments: The budget vote will be held on May 19 from 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the North Merrick Library. The Open House will take place on May 18 from 5:00–6:30 p.m. in all schools. Appreciation Week will recognize staff, including teachers, principals, and nurses. Upcoming events include the Musical Showcase on May 11 and spring concerts on June 1 (Grades 5–6) and June 2.

14. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS (BOE only)

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

B. Health Office Report: Student/Adult Accidents

C. Absences of Five Consecutive Days

D. Enrollment

E. Building and Grounds Reports

15. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjournment

Adjournment 7:28 PM

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Mary Keene.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani