



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA
August 11, 2026
5:30 PM - NEW YORK MILLS UFSD LIBRARY

- ✓ _ Kristin Hubley
- ✓ _ Robert Mahardy, Jr.
- ✓ _ Sandra Dare
- ✓ _ Sara DeFazio
- ✓ _ Jeremy Fennell
- ✓ _ Cynthia St. James
- ✓ _ Abbie Taylor

Agenda Item	Who	Information Distributed	Action	Notes
1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER				
1.1 Pledge to the Flag			Procedural	
I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.				
Reading of the New York Mills UFSD Mission Statement				<i>In partnership with students, staff, families, and the community, our mission is to create an educational environment that inspires confidence, builds character, and fosters respect – empowering every student with the knowledge to become a productive, responsible citizen.</i>
1.2 Acceptance of Agenda	K. Hubley	Yes	Action	1 st S Dare 2 nd J. Fennell / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
District Clerk Pro Temp				Yes 7/ No 0 Abstain ____
				<i>Appointment of Kaylyn Clark as District Clerk Pro Temp</i>
2. PRESENTATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS				
2.1 President's Message	K. Hubley		Information	

<i>K. Hubley thanked the Board for staying to attend the retreat after the board meeting and formally welcomed Mr. Manley, 7-12 principal, to the New York Mills Union Free School District.</i>				
2.1a Presentation of the Order of the Orange and Blue	K. Hubley		Information	
<i>K. Hubley presented Jackie Edwards with the Order of the Orange and Blue award in recognition of her years of dedicated service as a member of the Board of Education and thanked her for all she has done to support the school district and community.</i>				
2.2 BOCES Representative Report	K. Hubley		Information	
<i>K. Hubley spoke about attending the PTECH induction ceremony and commented on what a great program it is.</i>				
2.3 Ex Officio Student Member Report	A. Misiasek		Information	
2.4 Committee Reports			Information	
Policy Committee: <i>Sara DeFazio/Chair, Robert Mahardy, Jr.</i> Facilities Committee: <i>Jeremy Fennell/Chair, Abbie Taylor</i> Communications Committee: <i>Abbie Taylor/Chair, Sandra Dare</i> Transportation Committee: <i>Cynthia St.James/Chair, Sara DeFazio</i> Health & Safety Committee: <i>Sandra Dare/Chair, Cynthia St.James</i> Finance Committee: <i>Robert Mahardy, Jr./Chair, Jeremy Fennell</i> SBI: <i>Abbie Taylor (SBI Alternate: Cynthia St.James)</i>				
<i>*Meetings will be scheduled starting September</i>				
3. CONSENT AGENDA				
3.1 Approval of 3.2 through 3.4	K. Hubley	Yes	Action	1 st C. St. James 2 nd S. DeFazio / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
3.2 Business Office Reports		Yes	Action	1 st ____ 2 nd ____ / Yes ____ No ____ Abstain ____
3.3 CSE Reports		Yes	Action	1 st ____ 2 nd ____ / Yes ____ No ____ Abstain ____
3.4 Approval of the Previous Minutes	7.7.26 7.14.26	Yes	Action	1 st ____ 2 nd ____ / Yes ____ No ____ Abstain ____

4. OLD BUSINESS				
<i>Official Resolution was read related to the Superintendent's Employment Agreement. Specifically, the term of employment (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2031) and the associated compensation rate increase for the contract.</i>				
4.1 Contractual Agreement				
5. NEW BUSINESS				
5.1 Personnel Report		Yes	Action	1 st R. Mahardy 2 nd J Fennell / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
<i>Discussion noted regarding coaches being certified prior to the season starting to ensure full compliance. Resolution was read on the probationary appointment of Lisa Ellis to the position of Teacher Assistant, effective 9/1/2026, 4-year probationary term, salary per the NYMTA agreement.</i>				
5.2 Approval of the Audiology Contract for the 2026-2027 School Year between Citi BOCES and NYMUFSD		Yes	Action	1 st A Taylor 2 nd S DeFazio / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
<i>S. DeFazio inquired how many students needed this service? Mrs. LaGase commented, 1 student</i>				
5.3 Resolution to Set Tax Levy for the 2026-2027 school year in the Town of New Hartford and the Town of Whitestown.		Yes	Action	1 st S. DeFazio 2 nd J. Fennell / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
5.4 Approval of Community Use of Facilities Request with New York Mills Optimist Club – Biddy Basketball Program		Yes	Action	1 st S. Dare 2 nd J. Fennell / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
<i>C. St. James asked about the locations, Mrs. LaGase commented all 3 facility locations have been requested, and Mr. Deuel will schedule accordingly.</i>				
5.5 Resolution to Approve Tax Certiorari Proceedings Settlement – AutoZone # 4770		Yes	Action	1 st C St. James 2 nd S. Dare / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
5.6 Resolution to Accept the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for Building Access Audit (Report S9-26-18)		Yes	Action	1 st J. Fennell 2 nd C. St. James / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
6. K-12 REPORTS				
6.1 Principal K-6	D. DiSpirito		Information	

Mrs. DiSpirito spoke about preparing for the opening of school, the ongoing construction, schedules/mailings taking place, including welcome back letters. She thanked the custodians for keeping up with the construction dust, and putting together new furniture. She discussed the collaboration between the English Dept. Grade 6 – 7/8th becoming aligned, the Beanstack challenge, with 6 hours of reading- the student reward with be silly stringing Mrs. DiSpirito and Mr. Manley

6.2 Principal 7-12	T. Manley		Information	
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Mr. Manley said he has been getting to know everyone, working on student schedules, and is excited to be a part of the district.

7. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT				

7.1 Enrollment Update	M. LaGase	Yes	Information	
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7.2 Superintendent’s Update	M. LaGase		Information	
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Mrs. LaGase formally welcomed Mr. Manley to NYM and spoke about some of the great ideas they have already discussed. She provided an update on the Capital Project, Phase 3 including the student bathrooms and timeline for completion. Asbestos was found in two locations (front of building and science wing bathrooms) it has been addressed and has not derailed the timeline. The front kiosk for attendance is on track, the SRO office is getting ready for finish work. 1st Floor Bathrooms have been demolished, sheet rocked has been installed and they are preparing for epoxy flooring. In preparation for the new school year, updates to the 7-12 parent handbook were done, procedural building adjustments were discussed, the 7/8 ELA classroom was relocated, moved to the “middle school wing” with a Team Model in place for a smoother transition for 6th to 7th grade students. The CSE office was moved from the back of the building to the front of building to better address parent and student needs as well as accessibility to the new 12:1:1 classroom which will be located across from the CSE office. This will offer additional support operationally. Students and staff have been in working on curriculum/tech camp. PBIS enhancements are being made. D. DiSpirito discussed moving from P2 to RISE, building wide- Looking for something new, teachers are very excited. Mrs. LaGase talked briefly about the Guidance Counselor and Social Worker, working collaboratively on a dedicated space for students to go to deescalate in a new calm space. New materials/ design of the outside of the counseling offices was shared along with the revisioning of how the 7-12 office operates. There are plans for Introducing a therapy dog 1x per month. There will be a presentation to the BOE at the September meeting. Some teachers/ TA’s received new desks chairs/updated student furniture to enhance the classroom space. Mrs. LaGase also acknowledged the maintenance/custodial staff for their handwork this summer.

8. COMMUNICATIONS				

8.1 From the Floor -	District Clerk		Information	
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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.

J. Goodfriend welcomed Mr. Manley on behalf of the NYMTA, really excited for the opportunities to collaborate, looking forward to a great year. Mr. King followed up regarding his previous request regarding property tax exemptions for volunteer firefighters.

8.2 Board Discussion	BOE		Discussion	
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S. DeFazio, reviewed the enrollment report and numbers for Kindergarten. She asked if the Teacher Aide position was being filled, How will services be effected with the 12:1:1 classroom, Asked if the Board could get RTI reports for tier 3, to compare and said the Policy Committee will be scheduling a meeting.

A.Taylor - Asked how many students in the 12:1:1 classroom? 6 students full time, 3 additional will go in for some support.

M. LaGase- spoke about how nice the 12:1:1 classroom is coming along and discussed how many students will be coming back from BOCES for programming as a result of the new class.

C. St. James- asked if the IEPs will reflect the students time in the 12:1:1 classroom/regular education. She also discussed the transportation policy and committee meeting date.

A.Taylor - Thanked the counseling office for their initiative.

R. Mahardy - Wished everyone an enjoyable rest of summer and said he is looking forward to the new year.

C. St. James- Welcomed Mr. Manley and asked a question about the OHM BOCES calendar

J. Fennel - Welcomed Mr. Manley and wished everyone a good rest of summer.

S. Dare - confirmed Mr. Deuel is up to speed regarding the Nov 25th adoption of new requirements for coaching.

S. DeFazio – asked if a copy of the finished goals could be put in the BOE folders.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION ** (If Needed)	BOE	Time: 6:21	Discussion/Action	1 st R. Mahardy 2 nd C. St. James / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
9.1 Return to General Session (time)	BOE	Time: 6:33	Action	1 st S. DeFazio 2 nd R. Mahardy / Yes 7 No 0 Abstain ____
<i>Resolution was read ,as noted by Attorney Heather Cole, on the employment agreement for Lisa Stamboly. Term July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2030 and the compensation increase for the contract with all other terms and conditions remaining the same.</i>				
Return to Executive Session		Time : 6:35	Discussion/Action	
9.1 Return to General Session (time)		Time: 6:52	Action	
10. ADJOURNMENT				
10.1 Adjournment		Time: 6:53	Action	1 st S. DeFazio 2 nd R. Mahardy / 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.