

**MINEOLA UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINEOLA, NY**

Business Meeting MINUTES

*The Mission of the Mineola Union Free School District is to inspire each student
to be a life-long learner, pursue excellence, exhibit strength of character
and contribute positively to a global society.*

Board Goals – 2010-2011

- **Educational**
 - To further expand the district initiative of differentiated instruction specifically focusing on individual student achievement.
 - To continue our growth as professional learning communities focusing on common formative assessments to demonstrate individual student growth
 - To continue to provide the resources to attain a Intel finalist within the next three years
- **Facilities**
 - To investigate and embrace projects that incorporate 'green' technologies that over time will decrease our dependency on fossil fuels
- **Finance**
 - To continue the district initiative to actualize a five year plan to maintain a stable tax levy

DATE: January 20, 2011

LOCATION: Willis Avenue School

OPEN BUSINESS MEETING

7:00 p.m. 2nd Floor Staff Lounge

Board of Education

Terence Hale, President
Christine Napolitano, Vice President
John McGrath

Central Office

Dr. Michael Nagler, Superintendent of Schools
Jack Waters, Asst. Supt. for Finance & Operations
Patricia Burns, Asst. Supt. of Curr., Instr., Assessment
Donna Martillo, District Clerk

Absent: William Hornberger
Irene Parrino

A. Call to Order

At 7:03 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Hale.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Reading of Mission – Michael Nagler

D. Moment of Silent Meditation

E. Dais & Visitor Introductions

Also present: Ed Escobar, Mineola High School Principal; Larry Puccio, Assistant Principal, Mineola High School; Joseph Carbonaro, Legal Counsel, Frazer & Feldman.

F. High School Student Organization Report

The High School student representative reported on the following: Bethanne Bartscherer being named an Intel Semi-finalist; Boys Basketball is in first place in their conference; Girls Basketball, Boys Wrestling, and Winter Track are having a good season so far; Student Service Center – students volunteering at nursing homes and helping Senior citizens learn how to use computers; mid-terms and Regents are next week; Volunteers for Vets (Writing Valentine cards to veterans).

The Superintendent of Schools introduced Mineola's first Intel Semi-finalist, Bethanne Bartscherer. The Superintendent of Schools further discussed: congratulating and recognizing Ms. Bartscherer at this meeting; it is a Board of Education Goal; discussed starting the Intel program 3 years ago; 3 students were entered from Mineola; he introduced Dr. Ellen McGlade-McCulloh, who developed Mineola's Intel program; and this accomplishment is a tribute to Ms. Bartscherer's hard work.

Mr. Escobar presented flowers to Ms. Bartscherer and discussed the following: Board and Dr. Nagler's vision; events leading up to finding out the news; and stated that Ms. Bartscherer is a sensitive, compassionate person, who is a very nice young woman, and a credit to her parents.

Mr. Hale stated he is proud of Ms. Bartscherer's dedication and passion for Science, recognized Ms. Lazo and Ms. McGlade-McCulloh for their dedication to the students; and hopes other students follow in Ms. Bartscherer's footsteps.

Ms. Napolitano expressed her excitement for Ms. Bartscherer, had always hoped for this day, and for a woman to accomplish this makes it extra special.

Mr. McGrath stated that he has been an advocate of this, which demonstrates that Mineola students can achieve these milestones and expects Mineola students will be a force to contend with in future Intel competitions.

Ms. Bartscherer, parents, Administration, and Board of Education commemorated this event with a picture.

G. Old Business

Muireann Phelan alumni of Mineola High School spoke about an endeavor she is undertaking (Cycling across America) this summer in raising money for 4K Cancer Research. She spoke about the foundation and her reason for participating in this event. She thanked the Board for allowing her to address them this evening.

H. New Business

The Board of Education discussed receipt of a petition calling for the Board to set a Special Meeting to address returning to the current configuration of schools across the district (1 – 5 at Cross, Hampton, Jackson, and Meadow). The petition contained 160 signatures. The Superintendent of Schools stated that it is unclear if the petitioners wanted a proposition on the February 8th Bond Vote, and if that is the case, time constraints will not allow it from occurring. If a separate date is what is desired then it is within the Board's right to set a special meeting to vote on this proposition.

Mr. McGrath addressed a few of the Superintendent's comments. As he understands this, the petition was submitted per 2008 Education Law and the time frame is limited. Legal Counsel, Joseph Carbonaro, stated that it is not timely and the Board cannot delegate this decision to the public.

President Hale stated that this item will be brought back for a discussion at the February 3, 2011 Board Workshop meeting.

Ms. Napolitano inquired as to why the Board was entertaining a discussion given legal counsel's reply, as well as the Board has decided to close buildings.

President Hale stated that two Board Members were not present and they may or may not want to discuss it.

Mr. McGrath stated that just because it cannot make the February 8th ballot does not mean it can't be on a ballot at a later date.

Ms. Napolitano feels it is sending a mixed message to the community regarding closing of schools.

President Hale inquired if the Board wants to discuss it now or wait until the February Workshop. Ms. Napolitano stated she would rather wait. Mr. McGrath stated that they may not have any choice because there are not enough votes.

A motion was made to suspend the rules and change the order of the agenda in addressing Resolution #48 first.

Motion: John McGrath
Second: Christine Napolitano

Yes: John McGrath
Christine Napolitano
Terence Hale
No: None

Passed: Yes

1. Tenure Appointment

RESOLUTION #48 – BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District grants tenure to candidate Surabhi John, in the area of High School Biology, effective February 1, 2011.

Motion: John McGrath
Second: Christine Napolitano

Discussion: The Superintendent of Schools explained the tenure process and that Surahbi John fulfills both requirements in working with children and is a professional. Her tenure portfolio is a snapshot of work in and out of the classroom.

Mr. Escobar congratulated Ms. John and stated she began her career in the district as a student teacher. He also discussed the following: Ms. John collaborates easily with others; spends time each day after school prepping for the next day; she is a professional and her goal is to increase student learning; and is a model of what future teachers will be at Mineola High School.

Yes: John McGrath
Christine Napolitano
Terence Hale
No: None

Passed: Yes

2. Annual Election and Budget Vote – May 17, 2011

RESOLUTION #47 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District approves of the following information regarding the Annual Election and Budget Vote scheduled for May 17, 2011:

- (a) The District's Annual Election will be held on **Tuesday, May 17, 2011**.
- (b) The District Clerk be authorized to make all necessary arrangements for the registration of qualified voters and for the conduct of the District's Annual Election to be held on **Tuesday, May 17, 2011**, including the rental and delivery of voting machines and the publication of the necessary notices of public budget hearing, and of said registration, as required by law, in the **Mineola American, Roslyn News and Williston Times**.
- (c) The polls on the date of the Annual Election will be open for the period from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., both inclusive.
- (d) The polls for voting purposes at these locations will be designated as (1) Cross Street Elementary School; (2) Hampton Street Elementary School; (3) Jackson Avenue Elementary School, and (4) Meadow Drive Elementary School.
- (e) Each of the Inspectors of Election and Registrars designated by the Board of Education serve for such Annual Election and be compensated in the sum of **\$10.00** per hour for their services.
- (f) The President of the Board of Education will be designated as Chairperson, calling the election to order.
- (g) The form and content of the notice of the Public Budget Hearing and of the registration of voters and the annual election including the dates, times and places thereof as set forth in such notices, all as prepared by the District Clerk and annexed hereto, be approved.

- (h) Dr. Nagler and Mrs. Martillo be designated as Poll Clerks to canvass "affidavit ballots" to meet at the Superintendent's Office on **Wednesday, May 18, 2011**, at 3:00 p.m. for such purpose.
- (i) The Budget Hearing will take place on **Thursday, May 5, 2011** at 7:00 p.m., at the Willis Avenue School, with regard to the special meeting.
- (j) A special evening registration of voters shall take place on **Tuesday, May 3, 2011**, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at each of the following locations: (1) Cross Street Elementary School; (2) Hampton Street Elementary School; (3) Jackson Avenue Elementary School, and (4) Meadow Drive Elementary School.

Motion: John McGrath
Second: Christine Napolitano

Yes: John McGrath
 Christine Napolitano
 Terence Hale
No: None

Passed: Yes

I. Consensus Agenda

1. Accepting of Minutes

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of December 2, 2010 (Workshop); December 16, 2010 (Business) Meetings, as presented.

2. Instruction

a. Resignations

- 1. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation for the purpose of retirement, with regret, for the following staff members effective June 30, 2011:

Mary Bauer	Physical Education Teacher
Kathleen Kern	Physical Education Teacher
Rita Topol	Reading Teacher
Marilyn Abramowitz	Librarian
Alfred Weidlein	Physical Education Teacher
Nancy Bolettieri	Social Studies Teacher

b. Appointments

None

c. Stipend(s) – REMOVED FROM AGENDA

- 1. That the Board of Education approves of the following stipends for the 2010-2011 school year to be paid out of the MSG Varsity Donation:

- Ralph Amitrano \$1,500.00
- George Maurer \$1,500.00

2.1. Instruction: Committee on Special Education Actions

- a. That the Board of Education approves the CSE/CPSE/SCSE recommendations for programs and services for students with IEPs for the time period from December 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010 as set forth in Confidential Attachment "A".

2.2. Instruction: Contracted Instructional Services

- a. That the Board of Education approves the following IDEA Flow-Through Allocations Contracts between the Mineola UFSD and the listed agencies below for the 2010-2011 school year:
 - School for Language and Communication Development
 - Harmony Heights School
 - Cooper Kids Therapy Associates
 - Mid Island Therapy Associates LLC D/B/A All About Kids Services, LLC
 - S.E.E.D.S. of the Willistons, Inc.
 - Nassau BOCES
 - Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf
 - Kids First Evaluation & Advocacy Center
 - Variety Child Learning Center
 - Association for Children with Down Syndrome
 - Kidz Therapy Services, LLC
 - Bilinguals Inc.
 - Brookville Center for Children's Services, Inc.
 - Center for Developmental Disabilities
 - The Hagedorn Little Village School
- b. That the Board of Education approves of a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and St. Charles Hospital and Rehabilitation to provide Occupational and Physical Therapist services for the 2010-2011 school year.

2.3. Instruction: Student Actions

2.4. Instruction: Other

3. Civil Service

- a. Resignation(s)/Retirement
 1. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Kristen Ryan, part time Typist Clerk in the Registrar's Office, effective January 14, 2011.

2. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Lisa Lappin, part time Greeter at Jackson Avenue School, effective January 6, 2011.
3. That the Board of Education approves the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, with regret, for Patricia Lawless, Stenographic Secretary, effective June 30, 2011.

b. Appointments

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following names to the support staff substitute lists, effective January 18, 2011:

Lalitha Balasubramanyam	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Maria Condoleo-Peitler	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Merlen Mills	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Gwenn Brown-Tammaro	Registered Nurse Sub	\$90.00 Day

4. Business/Finance

a. Treasurer's Report

1. That the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer's Report for the period ending November 30, 2010 and directed that it be placed on file.

b. Approval of Invoices and Payroll

1. That the Board of Education approves the Invoices and Payroll for the period ending December 31, 2010.

Warrant #11	\$1,948,675.43
Warrant #12	\$ 568,545.73
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,517,221.16

PAYROLL #11 & #12

General	\$4,121,187.68
Fund F	\$ 98,620.59
TOTAL PAYROLL	\$4,219,808.27

4.1. Business/Finance: Contract Approvals

a. WINCAP Agreement

1. That the Board of Education approves the License Agreement between the Mineola Union Free School District and WINCAP to provide the district with a finance software program for the 2010-2011 school year in the amount of \$22,025.00.

b. Consortium of Nassau County School Districts-Legal Representation-
REMOVED FROM AGENDA

1. Be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District hereby approves an Agreement for Legal Services dated January 20, 2011 between the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District and Hamburger, Maxson, Yaffe, Knauer & McNally, LLP as attached, and authorizes the Board President to execute said Agreement.

4.2. **Business/Finance: Bids**

5. **Other**

a. Appointment of Registrars and Inspectors for Special District Meeting February 8, 2011

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following individuals to serve as Registrars and Inspectors at the Special District Meeting held **Tuesday, February 8, 2011** at the hourly rate of pay, \$10.00:

CHIEF ELECTION INSPECTORS

<u>CROSS STREET</u>	<u>HAMPTON STREET</u>
Eileen Alexander (5:15 am-10:30 pm)	Helen Callahan (5:30 am – 3:30 pm) Gina Hahn (3:30 pm – 10:30 pm)
<u>JACKSON AVENUE</u>	<u>MEADOW DRIVE</u>
Carolina Macedo (5:30 am – 10:30 pm)	Raymond Kwiatek (5:00 am – 10:30 pm)

REGISTRARS

<u>CROSS STREET SCHOOL</u>	<u>HAMPTON STREET SCHOOL</u>
Kathleen Finn (5:30 am – 9:30 pm) Joanne Fitzgerald (11:00 am – 9:30 pm)	Marian Kessler (5:30 am – 9:30 pm) Cathy Fabiszewski (5:30 am – 1:30 pm) Martha Makowski (1:30 pm – 9:30 pm)
<u>JACKSON AVENUE SCHOOL</u>	<u>MEADOW DRIVE SCHOOL</u>
Maryann Siwinski (5:30 am – 9:30 pm) <u>TBD (5:30 am-4:00 pm)</u> Laura Kwiatek (4:00 pm – 9:30 pm)	Anna Spatola (11:00 am – 9:30 pm) Debra Donovan (5:30 am-9:30 pm)

INSPECTORS

<u>CROSS STREET SCHOOL</u>	<u>HAMPTON STREET SCHOOL</u>
Patricia McMahon (5:15 am – 9:30 pm) Loretta Piotrowski (5:15 am-1:15 pm) Lynn Clifford (1:15 am– 9:30 pm) Margaret Mahon (5:15 am-1:15 pm) Margaret Roach (1:15 pm-9:30 pm)	Frank Iaquinto (5:30 am – (9:30 pm) Maryanne Iaquinto (5:30 am – 9:30 pm) <u>TBD (5:30 am – 1:30 pm)</u> Edith Horowitz (1:30 pm – 9:30 pm)
<u>JACKSON AVENUE SCHOOL</u>	<u>MEADOW DRIVE SCHOOL</u>
Marie Encizo (5:30 am – 9:30 pm) Flore Rowe (5:30 am – 9:30 pm) Michael Coniglio (5:30 am – 9:30 pm) Nora Coniglio (5:30 am – 9:30 pm)	Maria Callan (5:00 am – 9:30 pm) Nicole Peralta (5:00 am – 9:30 pm) Joanne Wladyka (5:00 am – 9:30 pm)

Kristine Vigario (5:30 am – 1:30 pm)
Marianne Lovallo (1:30 pm – 9:30 pm)

NOTE: In the event there should be a vacancy created in any of the positions of Inspector of Election or Registrar, the Superintendent of Schools is authorized to appoint a qualified voter of this District to fill such vacancy.

The Superintendent of Schools recommends the appointment of the following Registrars to serve on Registration Day, Tuesday, **February 1, 2011**, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the authorized rate of pay of \$10 per hour.

<u>CROSS STREET SCHOOL</u>	<u>HAMPTON STREET SCHOOL</u>
Eileen Alexander	Helen Callahan

<u>JACKSON AVENUE SCHOOL</u>	<u>MEADOW DRIVE SCHOOL</u>
Jacqueline Borstel	Anna Spatola

The Superintendent of Schools also recommends the appointment of: Eileen Alexander to open the Registration Books to the public on **Saturday, February 5, 2011** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the same authorized rate of pay.

RESOLUTION #49 – BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves Consensus Agenda items I.1.a. through I.5.a.1., as presented.

Motion: John McGrath
Second: Christine Napolitano

A motion was made to amend the Consensus Agenda with the removal of Item I.4.1.b. (Consortium of Nassau County School Districts – Legal Representation) pending further review.

Motion: John McGrath
Second: Christine Napolitano

Yes:	John McGrath	No:	None
	Christine Napolitano		
	Terence Hale		

Passed: Yes

The Board now voted on Resolution #49 to approve Consensus Agenda Items I.1.a. through I.5.a.1. as amended.

Yes:	John McGrath	No:	None
	Christine Napolitano		
	Terence Hale		

Passed: Yes

The Superintendent of Schools thanked Patricia Lawless and Nancy Bolettieri for their service to the Mineola School District and wished them well in their retirement. Mr. Hale stated Ms. Bolettieri made a strong impact on his daughter and a difference in her life.

A motion was made to “Reconsider” Consensus Agenda Item I.2.c.1 (Administrative Stipends) to table this item pending full Board of Education review.

Motion: John McGrath
Second: Christine Napolitano

Yes: John McGrath
Christine Napolitano
Terence Hale
No: None

Passed: Yes

A motion was made for the Board to re-vote on Resolution #49, Consensus Agenda Items I.1.a.1. through I.5.a.1. with amendments.

Motion: John McGrath
Second: Christine Napolitano

Yes: John McGrath
Christine Napolitano
Terence Hale
No: None

Passed: Yes

RESOLUTION #50 - BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District hereby authorizes the firm of Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP to appeal the Court’s December 22, 2010 decision in the matter of *Laraine Salvatore v. Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District*, pending in Nassau County Supreme Court under Index No. 8368/2010 and to take all action necessary to perfect such appeal.

Motion: John McGrath
Second: Christine Napolitano

Discussion: The Superintendent of Schools explained that the district is appealing this case. This case is regarding Ms. Salvatore suing the district for monies she spent on legal fees when she filed an Article 578 to have the Board represent her. She won and the Board has represented her in that case. This is to bring forth the Article 578 which the court has not ruled on yet.

The Superintendent of Schools also explained why Item I.4.1.b. was removed. He stated that the same legal firm representing Ms. Salvatore is also representing the consortium of school districts vs. Nassau County. Participating in the consortium is pending further review to ascertain if there is a conflict of interest. The Board is supporting the consortium, and when this matter is resolved, the Board will entertain joining the consortium.

when this matter is resolved, the Board will entertain joining the consortium.

Mr. McGrath is concerned in waiting too long. The Superintendent of Schools stated that it is in Mineola's interest, due to a large commercial tax base, to challenge the County's decision and believes the District should pursue it. Mr. McGrath inquired as to the number of districts participating. The Superintendent of Schools responded 20 to 25.

Yes:	John McGrath	No:	None
	Christine Napolitano		
	Terence Hale		

Passed: Yes

J. Public Comments

President Hale advised the audience to state their name and address at the podium before addressing the Board.

- ❖ A resident inquired about block scheduling and pull outs. The Superintendent of Schools responded that it will depend on how many services the child will need.
- ❖ A resident commented that she likes block scheduling from a teaching perspective, but questions the attention span of Pre-K age children. The Superintendent of Schools stated that Pre-K will be ½ day. The resident also commented that with block scheduling grades K-1 spend a lot of time in the class. The Superintendent of Schools responded that he would never dictate how they spend the time. He hears there are too many pull-outs. The resident also voiced concern about assessments. The Superintendent of Schools stated that is why the district is going to the NWEA program, which shows student growth.

K. Board of Education Reports

- Comments from Board President
- Board Committee Report
- Superintendent of Schools' Reports & Comments

The Superintendent of Schools presented a scenario of what a Pre-K- 2 building will look like and discussed the following: description of outcomes for students after 4 years (Reading at Level M, hands on and cooperative learning, problem solving, and social and ethical development); intervention of students; mandated activities and structure of a student's day; assessments; Time in the Day; "Block" Schedule; master schedule for students and staff; continues to receive input from constituencies.

Mr. McGrath inquired about the amount of mandated time students receive in Physical Education. The Superintendent of Schools responded that recess will be more structured in meeting the PE mandate.

The Superintendent of Schools informed the Board that staffing is still being addressed and the district has until April 1st to inform staff of excessing. Mr.

McGrath inquired when the Superintendent of Schools anticipates it being completed. The Superintendent of Schools responded that it is complicated especially if the 8th grade goes to the High School.

Mr. McGrath inquired about the timeline for construction if the Bond and Budget pass. The Superintendent of Schools responded that the district will go out to bid sometime in the summer; construction will be completed and schools will be ready to open September 2012; Hampton will start after June 26th.

Ms. Napolitano likes the idea of "Block" Scheduling.

Mr. McGrath commented that if the Bond and Budget pass 3 elementary schools will close. The Superintendent of Schools responded no because there won't be enough space in the existing buildings.

Mr. Hale commented that the children being on reading level is most important and that it begins at home.

The Superintendent of Schools also discussed the following: he is an advocate of Art and Music and how the students' day is structured makes a difference; and Mineola has a high mobility rate.

- Superintendent Comments

The Superintendent of Schools reported on the following: finalizing 2011-2012 school calendar; snow days; notification that the district will not be receiving the \$150,000 grant earmarked by Senator Johnson for Science labs as well as the other \$100,000 being unlikely as well; met with new State Senator Martins regarding the proposed 2% tax cap and getting back the grant money; Board of Elections and the new machines; school districts proposed to the County donating old machines to them.

- Capital Updates
- Table Reports
 - Finance and Operations Report
 - Monthly Financial Report
 - Building & Grounds Report
 - Building Usage
 - Vandalism
 - Work order status
 - Transportation Report
- Special Reports
 - *Public Questions - Board Committee Reports; Student Organization Report; Superintendent's Report; Table Reports (All Finance & Operation Functions); and Special Report

The Superintendent of Schools stated he is in need of an executive session.

L. Executive Session

At 8:46 p.m. a motion was made for the Board of Education to go into executive session to discuss 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.

Motion: Christine Napolitano

Second: John McGrath

Yes: John McGrath **No:** None
Christine Napolitano
Terence Hale

Passed: Yes

President Hale stated that the Board may return at any time.

At 10:10 p.m. the Board returned to open session.

M. Adjournment

At 10:10 p.m. a motion was made to adjourn this meeting of the Board of Education.

Motion: John McGrath

Second: Christine Napolitano

Yes: John McGrath **No:** None
Christine Napolitano
Terence Hale

Passed: Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Martillo
District Clerk