

**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.*

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**Board Goals – 2008-2009**

- ***To be determined***

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**DATE: August 14, 2008**

**LOCATION: Willis Avenue School**

**OPEN BUSINESS MEETING**

**7:00 p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> FLOOR CAFETERIA**

**Board of Education**

Stephen Siwinski, President  
Laraine Salvatore, Vice President  
John McGrath  
Terence Hale

**Central Office**

Dr. Lorenzo Licopoli, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Michael Nagler, Deputy Superintendent  
Sherri Goffman, Asst. Supt. of Curr. & Inst.  
John Waters, Asst. Supt. of Finance & Oper.  
Donna Martillo, District Clerk

**Absent:** William Hornberger

**A. Call to Order**

At 7:14 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Siwinski.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Reading of Mission – President Siwinski**

**D. Moment of Silent Meditation**

**E. Dais & Visitor Introductions**

After introduction of the dais, also in attendance were: Jack Feldman, Esq.; Mary Ann Griffin, former Board of Education Trustee; Donna Strein, former Board of Education Trustee; Lisa Lao, former Board of Education Trustee; Ed Escobar; Mark Barth; Deborah Shaw; Maureen Judge; Matt Gaven; and Dan Romano.

**F. Old Business**

**G. New Business**

**1. 2008-2009 Tax Levy Affidavit**

**RESOLUTION #15 – BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education adopts the tax levy of \$69,577,944.00 to be raised by taxation for the Mineola UFSD of the Town of North Hempstead, Nassau County, New York for the 2008-2009

school year to be levied upon the taxable property of the said school district as said property has been certified to by the Board of Assessors for the said school year.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski  
**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

## **2. Reorganization Plan Submitted by Trustee Salvatore**

**RESOLUTION #16** – **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education directed the Superintendent of Schools to analyze a proposed plan for reorganization, submitted by Trustee Salvatore, at the July 23, 2008 Board Retreat, and that this report be ready for Board discussion on August 14, 2008. The Board will vote on this plan at the September 4, 2008 workshop meeting of the Board of Education. The following positions are proposed for reduction:

- Deputy Superintendent
- Secretary to the Deputy Superintendent
- Administrative Intern/Information Officer
- Assistant Business Administrator
- Supervisor of Guidance

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

**Discussion:** The Superintendent of Schools reported on an analysis he prepared at the direction of the Board, as a result of Trustee Salvatore's proposal, made at the July 23, 2008 Board Retreat, for reorganization. The Superintendent of Schools stated the plan has been adjusted since July 23, 2008 with the exclusion of the position of Supervisor of Guidance, but his review and report includes that position. The Superintendent of Schools discussed the following: referenced Dr. Richard Elmore of Harvard University, who is a leading researcher in schools of excellence and scholar on organizational design; context of studying methodology; establish framework for research in identifying questions to study organizations plan; examine if operations are in sink with design; impact of learning and teaching design; define duties of individuals; talent of personnel to bring tasks to completion; assess plan for functionality; communication feedback; legalities regarding the transfer of personnel; very short timeline to accomplish; organizational alignment of previous administration was not a strong plan for student performance; corrected deficiencies in the submission of building aid and special aid forms to the State and the recovery of monies back to the district; balancing a plan for leadership within the organization; capabilities and responsibilities of staff to meet

goals of the school system; comparing Director positions of the past to the current positions of Instructional Leaders; additional duties and responsibilities taken on by remaining staff; feasibility of the plan and consideration that there will be consequences; unclear lines of communication; difficulty in maintaining this type of design; proximity of District Clerk to the Superintendent's Office, past and present; legal issues not addressed due to time limitation; civil service title issues; benefits in having the position of Assistant Business Manager; importance of the position, Deputy Superintendent and what Dr. Nagler brings to the position; forthcoming opinion of Auditors regarding separation of duties within the Business Office; cost effectiveness of initiatives in place over the past couple of years; considerations and conclusions embedded in the analysis:

- Unrealistic and disruptive to accomplish reorganization in 5 weeks;
- Concerns in several areas of litigation;
- Goal was given, assess plan on its own merits;
- Plan does not permit healthful relationship between the Board and Superintendent of Schools in how schools are governed;
- Plan does not involve any professional input.

The Superintendent also discussed: effectiveness of Supervisor of Guidance and Administrative Intern/Information Officer making significant improvement for the district; emphasis should be placed on spending, by an independent consultant; addressing the Grade Configuration Study whereby the Board reaches a decision may be a way to reduce spending; discussions involving PTSA and High School Seniors in moving High School graduation out of the Tillis Center and back to the High School Auditorium; parking lot at the Korean Church; reduction in spending over past five years (9 million dollars); challenging administration with a cost reduction plan for 2009-2010 or 2010/2011; recovering building and state aid close to a million dollars and \$350,000 in special aid, as well as recovery of legal expenses regarding Nextel.

Ms. Salvatore read a statement: she presented suggestions to the Board and the Superintendent named her suggestion, a reorganization plan; it was a first draft to be discussed further by the Board; the Board asked the Superintendent to do an analysis as to how it would affect the district; awaiting Superintendent and Attorney's input review before she considers it complete.

Mr. Hale complimented the Superintendent on his analysis and the short amount of time it was given to the Board. Mr. Hale stated that Ms. Salvatore's plan had too many potential legal issues, does not feel it will work, and is interested in looking into it further. As a brand new Board Member he wants to focus more on the students. Mr. Hale also stated he respects Ms. Salvatore's idea and thinks it needs to be voted on.

Mr. McGrath stated that his biggest problem with the plan is the timing. He is in favor of saving money and believes the plan will not work, and intends to vote no.

Mr. Siwinski referred to his time as a Board Member and stated the Superintendent of Schools has been fine tuning the organization. He believes that this plan is a step backward for the district. More emphasis will be placed on completing requirements of State Ed than on students and curriculum. Mr. Siwinski also stated that he applauds Ms. Salvatore for thinking outside of the box, and further stated that there is always room for improvement and challenged administration to do that, but he feels this is not the way to go.

The Superintendent of Schools spoke about the benefits and accomplishments of the Deputy Superintendent, and referred to the duties he has undertaken. The Superintendent of Schools addressed Ms. Salvatore's comment about referring to her suggestion as reorganization. He did not mistakenly name it, when it was presented to him he did not know what else to call it. He agrees whole heartedly with Ms. Salvatore as to costs in running a school district. The Superintendent appreciates the challenge of Mr. Siwinski to look at other ways of reducing costs, including reducing staff.

The Superintendent of Schools thanked Mr. Hale for his acknowledgement and stated the analysis is comprehensive because he thought that was the kind of information the Board wanted.

A motion was made to open up the discussion to the public regarding Resolution #15.

**Motion:** John McGrath

**Second:** Terence Hale

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

**Public Comments:**

- ❖ A resident commented on the size of the district in terms of staff and feels hiring administrators would not help students. The resident also commented on the approval of bargaining unit contracts and agreements in June, and how a failed budget negatively impacts students. The resident also commented on: leasing of the parking spaces at Willis; health insurance costs for administrators; and questioned the renting of Tillis Center for High School Graduation when the High School's Auditorium is air-conditioned. The Superintendent of Schools stated that the evidence does not support her contention that the administrative staff is fat (29 administrators were on staff when he came, and now there are 26 including ILs and they are also part time teachers).
- ❖ A former Board of Education Member spoke about how a Board should put forth ideas and not to usurp the Superintendent's duties and authority. The former Board Member took exception with specifically

naming staff in a proposed plan that was developed without the guidance of administration. Ms. Salvatore disagreed, that employee names were placed on the plan. The Superintendent of Schools stated that the plan was handed out at the meeting. Mr. McGrath made a point of order for the former Board Member to complete her statement. The former Board Member stated that no Board Members said to increase costs and everyone would like to cut costs cut as long as they are educationally sound. The former Board Member felt presenting a plan like this, weeks prior to school opening, makes no sense. The former Board Member suggested that the Board examine their own guidelines.

- ❖ A resident commended Mr. Hale on his comments in getting back to the business of the kids. The resident also requested cutting costs and does not believe in mirco-managing. The resident stated that since the Superintendent of Schools has come to the district he has worked tirelessly in cutting costs. The resident felt the district has progressed which is what the community wants from the Superintendent and is impressed with the Superintendent's analysis, and implored the Board to work together. Ms. Salvatore inquired of the resident where the Board should look to make cuts. The resident referred to Ms. Salvatore's petition that cost the district \$12,000.00. The resident stated that it wasn't a bad idea to look at administrators, but it has to be done in a general way. Ms. Salvatore stated that 70% of the budget is salary.
- ❖ A district administrator stated that she would welcome sitting with the Board to discuss cutting expenses and ways to generate revenue for the district and hopes to be part of the team that will help the Board look at cost savings.
- ❖ A resident commented that she feels she has gotten an excellent value for her tax dollars and believes the Board has, over the years, made sincere cost reductions. The resident inquired of Ms. Salvatore as to the time spent on coming up with this plan. Ms. Salvatore responded a couple of days. The Superintendent of Schools responded that if a consultant were to perform the analysis, their fee would be \$800 to \$900 per day. The resident estimated that each family would save \$5.00 as a result of Ms. Salvatore's plan. The resident commented that a number of actions have been undertaken to remove the Deputy Superintendent and the Superintendent of Schools and stated that it may be a personal problem or dislike. Ms. Salvatore responded that when she ran for the Board it was on being fiscally responsible and felt that these positions the district could do without.

Mr. McGrath questioned Ms. Salvatore as to her relationship with the Deputy Superintendent prior to her running for the Board. Ms. Salvatore responded that she knew who he was and once or twice had interaction with him, but really did not know him well. Mr. McGrath asked if she wanted him for the Deputy Superintendent position. Ms. Salvatore responded she felt there was a more qualified person.

The Superintendent of Schools clarified, as a point of order, the amount of salary and benefits within the budget, 77.4% and not 80%. Four years ago it was 84.9%. The Superintendent of Schools stated

salaries were competitive and not the highest in the County. The Superintendent of Schools does not feel this plan fits into the organizational design of the district.

- ❖ A former Board of Education Member commented that with all the discussion of cutting costs the Board may want to do something about the microphones.

A motion was made to amend Resolution #15 to vote on the plan at the August 14, 2008 Board of Education Business Meeting instead of the September 4, 2008 Workshop meeting.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Terence Hale

**Yes:** None  
**No:** Terence Hale  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski

**Passed:** No

A motion was made to open up a public session for a specific item (Coaching appointment).

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Terence Hale

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski  
**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

Public Comments:

- ❖ A district employee spoke about the contributions and character of Chris Grimm. The District's Attorney interjected regarding that specific remarks could not be discussed.

At 9:10 p.m. a motion was made for the Board of Education to go into executive session to confer with their legal counsel for the purpose of discussing 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:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Stephen Siwinski

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

**Passed:** Yes

At 9:27 p.m. the Board returned to open session.

President Siwinski stated that legal counsel advised the Board that specific details cannot be discussed and the Board will listen to all comments, but cannot respond due to the confidentiality of the matter. Mr. Feldman stated that Mr. Grimm is entitled to confidentiality and it is the Board's practice not to discuss personnel matters in public.

- ❖ The district employee further spoke about the practice of coaches practicing with their team. He discussed that if a student should accidentally get hurt it would be unintentional, as well as if coaches got hurt. He also stated that Mr. Grimm's coaching ability is impressive.
- ❖ A resident submitted a letter supporting Mr. Grimm stating his dedication to coaching the youth of Mineola and how positive Mr. Grimm is viewed by parents. The resident requested the Board reconsider their decision.
- ❖ A former Board of Education Member inquired of the Board of Education the number of interscholastic Lacrosse games they attended coached by Mr. Grimm. The former Board of Education Member recommended that the Board attend.
- ❖ A district employee spoke about Mr. Grimm being a substitute teacher at Mineola High School and his capabilities in the classroom, and having the tools that exhibit a great coach. He also spoke about the great amount of time Mr. Grimm volunteers in the community.
- ❖ A resident stated that Mr. Grimm was a great person and did nothing wrong.
- ❖ A district employee spoke about Mr. Grimm's motivation and knows how to build self-esteem. She also stated that he has done an outstanding job and is well respected by the students.
- ❖ Many students from Mineola High School expressed the following: *...the pride Mr. Grimm has in Mineola; ...this is wrong what has happened to Mr. Grimm; ...Mr. Grimm gets things done; ...he has tradition; ...please reconsider; ...great experiences due to Mr. Grimm's coaching abilities; ...goes out of his way to help; ...he is needed; ...Mr. Grimm is a coach that cannot be replaced; ...amazing person; ...stays after practice to help individual players; ...awesome guy.*
- ❖ A resident spoke about knowing the Grimm family for 20 years and that Mr. Grimm coaches his son, and is a terrific guy. He also spoke how Mr. Grimm handled himself like a gentleman in the aftermath of the incident. The resident felt this is an injustice and should not lose employment over this matter.

President Siwinski asked the Superintendent of Schools to revisit this matter and advise the Board.

The Superintendent of Schools thanked the students who e-mailed him regarding their feelings on Mr. Grimm. He also addressed remarks made by a district employee on behalf of Mr. Grimm: taking exception with a comparison made between himself and the Deputy Superintendent and Mr. Grimm's matter; he also addressed his raise, that that he contributes a percentage back to the school district for the students.

### **3. Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools**

At 10:03 p.m. a motion was made for the Board of Education to go into executive session to discuss the Superintendent of Schools evaluation.

**Motion:** Laraine Salvatore  
**Second:** Terence Hale

The Superintendent of Schools waived his right to discuss this matter in executive session and Ms. Salvatore withdrew her motion.

The breakdown of the Board of Education's evaluation for the Superintendent of Schools is as follows:

Goal Area	SS	LS	JM
Improve Student Achievement and Learning for All Students	4	2	4
Mobilize District Mission and Core Values	3	1	4
Improve Internal and External Communications	4	3	3
Ensure Fiscal Stability of School System	3+	1	4

A summary of the Board's evaluation in more detail is set forth in Attachment "A".

Mr. Hale stated he was not part of the Board last year, and if he gives the Superintendent a 4 there is no room for improvement.

President Siwinski stated that the Board needs to finalize the Superintendent of Schools' evaluation so it can be placed in his file. President Siwinski is awaiting Mr. Hornberger's evaluation on the Superintendent of Schools.

**RESOLUTION #17** – **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education will complete its evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lorenzo Licopoli, at the August 14, 2008 Board of Education Business Meeting.

A motion was made to table Resolution #17 until the Board can receive input from Mr. Hornberger to complete the Superintendent of Schools' evaluation.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski  
**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

#### **4. Update on Grade Configuration Study and Superintendent Search**

**RESOLUTION #18** – **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education will update the community on the status of the Grade Configuration Study and Superintendent search.



**Discussion:** The Superintendent of Schools updated the Board and requested direction regarding community input. He informed the Board that his last communication with Dr. Fowler was regarding focus groups during the month of September. President Siwinski inquired of the Board if the Board is interested in receiving more input. Mr. McGrath and Ms. Salvatore both responded that it was the consensus of the Board to go out again to the community. President Siwinski requested that this be done as soon as possible.

The Superintendent of Schools stated that there was a member of the community here this evening to discuss a configuration plan.

The resident spoke about comparison of numbers and he found an opportunity the school Board should be made aware. He presented a modification of the options sent to the community. He stated that in his scenario an elementary school building would be in each of the 4 sections of Mineola with the closure of Jackson Avenue. The Middle School would house 2 schools (Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6, 7, 8); Meadow would be PreK-2 and Hampton grades 3, 4, 5 as well. President Siwinski thanked the resident for his input and inquired of the Board if they wanted this option sent to Dr. Fowler. The Board responded yes.

President Siwinski stated that the Board had 3 proposals regarding the Superintendent search. Ms. Salvatore suggested taking out a classified first, as a savings. Mr. McGrath referred to a publication *On Board*, stating there is a shortage of Superintendents. Mr. McGrath sees a problem with a classified ad because he only wants qualified candidates to apply. He wants a level of competency reviewing applications so that only qualified people are brought before the Board. Ms. Salvatore inquired of the District's Counsel regarding consultants. Mr. Feldman responded he has several.

President Siwinski requested a motion for above Resolution, but Mr. McGrath stated a motion was not needed because the Board has informed the community of the status at this meeting.

## **H. Consensus Agenda**

### **1. Accepting of Minutes**

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the July 3, 2008 (Reorganization/Workshop); July 17, 2008 (Business); July 23, 2008 (Special) Meetings as presented.

### **2. Instruction**

- a. Resignations/Leave of Absence

None

- b. Appointments

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Kimberly Martino, to the position of Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2008; probationary period September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2011; salary BA, Step 1, \$54,259.00.
2. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Amanda Bernard, to the position of Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2008; probationary period September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2011; salary BA+30, Step 3, \$64,025.00.
3. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Charyn Restituyo, to the position of District ESL Teacher, effective September 1, 2008; probationary period September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2010; salary, MA, Step 3, \$68,566.00.
4. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Bette Sloane, to the position of Part Time (.6) Math Teacher, effective September 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009; salary, MA, Step 1, .6 of \$63,109.00 = \$37,865.00.
5. That the Board of Education approves the addition of the following individuals to the 2008-2009 Per Diem Substitute Teacher List at a daily rate of pay, \$90.00:
 

Linda Bonasia	Pre-K to Grade 6
Christine Caruso	Visual Arts
Beth Erker	Student with Disabilities Grades 1-6 & Childhood Ed Grades 1-6
Rhoda Peck	Music
6. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Kristine Gregory, to the position of Chaperone for the 2008 Summer Band Camp at a stipend of \$675.00.
7. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of William DiGennaro, to the position of Physical Education Teacher, effective September 1, 2008; salary, MA+30, Step 9, \$90,154.00, as per MTA Memorandum of Agreement of September 4, 2007.
8. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Donna Hasan, to the position of Registered Nurse, effective September 1, 2008; salary, \$66,065.00, as per MTA Memorandum of Agreement of September 4, 2007.
9. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Anne McAree, to the position of Registered Nurse, effective September 1, 2008; salary, \$66,065.00, as per MTA Memorandum of Agreement of September 4, 2007.
10. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Vincent Russo, to the position of Driver Education Coordinator and

Instructor for the 2008 Fall and 2009 Spring Drivers' Education Program. The stipends are as follows:

Coordinator Fall Semester	\$3,108.00
Coordinator Spring Semester	\$3,108.00
Instructor Fall Semester	\$ 51.13 per hour
Instructor Spring Semester	\$ 51.13 per hour

## **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 May 1, 2008 to June 30, 2008 as set forth in Confidential Attachment "B".

## **2.2. Instruction: Contracted Instructional Services**

- a. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and AHRC for the 2008-2009 school year to provide educational programs for students with significant disabilities. Some students are located at AHRC in Brookville and others receive specialized services for autism. The tuition for the months of July and August 2008 is \$5,825.00; and \$34,952.00 (Per pupil per 10 months for the 2008-2009 school year).
- b. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and All Island Kids Therapy, LLC for the 2008-2009 school year to provide physical and occupational therapies for students inside and outside of the school district to students whose IEP requirements cannot be met by school district personnel. Rates are as follows:

<b><u>SERVICE</u></b>		<b><u>RATE</u></b>
Full Day		\$425.00
Half Day		\$215.00
*Evaluations not included		
Individual	30 minutes	\$ 45.00
	45 minutes	\$ 67.50
	60 minutes	\$ 90.00
Group (per child)	30 minutes	\$ 33.75
Consult w/o formal assessment	30 minutes	\$ 45.00
Home Care	30 minutes	\$ 55.00
	45 minutes	\$ 82.40
	60 minutes	\$110.00
Evaluations		\$175.00
Child Study Meetings	30 minutes	\$ 45.00
Classroom Observation	60 minutes	\$ 90.00
Teacher Course In-service	60 minutes	\$ 75.00
Pre-Kindergarten	30 minutes	\$ 50.00
Kind. Prevention Program	60 minutes	\$100.00

- c. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and Bilinguals, Inc. for the 2008-2009 school year to provide bilingual evaluations for CSE mandated testing in languages that cannot be administered by school district personnel. The fee schedule is as follows:

**Consulting Services**

Special Education Teacher	\$ 95.00 per hour
Staff Development Workshops/Training/Support	\$150.00 per hour

**Rates for Per Evaluations**

**Children ages 5-10**

	<b><u>English or Spanish</u></b>	<b><u>Other Language</u></b>
Psychological	\$445.00	\$580.00
Speech	\$370.00	\$445.00
Educational	\$340.00	\$395.00
Social History	\$225.00	\$265.00
Occupation Therapy Eval.	\$370.00	\$450.00
Physical Therapy Eval.	\$370.00	\$450.00

**Children ages 11-21**

	<b><u>English or Spanish</u></b>	<b><u>Other Language</u></b>
Psychological	\$500.00	\$605.00
Speech	\$395.00	\$500.00
Educational	\$370.00	\$445.00
Social History	\$225.00	\$290.00
Occupation Therapy Eval.	\$395.00	\$500.00
Physical Therapy Eval.	\$395.00	\$500.00

- d. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and Home Care for Children for the 2008-2009 school year to provide nursing services to students with disabilities who are educated outside the school district, as provided by students' IEPs. The fee rate is as follows:

Registered Professional Nurse (RNs)	\$50.00 per hour
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPNs)	\$45.00 per hour

- e. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and Horizon Healthcare Staffing for the 2008-2009 school year to provide on an as-needed and as-requested basis, full range of nursing staffing services including Registered Nurse Supervisors, Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Certified Nurses Aides, Home Health Attendants, and Personal Care Aides. The fee rate is as follows:

RNs	\$47.50 per hour*
LPNs	\$38.00 per hour
CNAs	\$21.00 per hour

\*Any time over 8 hours will be billed in 15 minute increments (Rounded down to benefit the District).

- f. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and Kinney Management Services for Medicaid billing of students who receive Special Education services. The fee rate is as follows:

**ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD SYSTEM**

Annual licensing fee of \$3,600.00

**TRANSPORTATION DATA ENTRY**

Annual fee of \$2,000.00

- g. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and Lakretz Creative Support Services, Inc. for the 2008-2009 school year to provide inclusion services. The fee schedule is as follows:

Technical Assistance	\$ 900.00 per full day
Workshops	\$2,200.00 per full day
Additional consecutive days	\$2,000.00
System or Person-Centered Planning Process	\$1,000.00 per ½ day

- h. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and Life's WORC for the 2008-2009 school year to provide services of New York State licensed certified and qualified (Applied Behavior Analysis) therapists. The fee schedule is as follows:

In-home and parent training	\$ 85.00 per hour
In-school consultation	\$130.00 per hour
Supervisor of Therapists	\$ 80.00 per hour

- i. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and Mill Neck Interpreter Services for the 2008-2009 school year to provide sign language interpreters/translators for students and parents for CSE meetings, school related parent involvement activities and translation for instruction for a student who will be attending school in the district starting in September. The fee schedule is as follows:

Minimum of 2 hours per session	\$70.00 per hour per session
After School Activities/CSE or Other	\$75.00 per hour w/2 hour minimum

- j. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and New York Therapy Placement Services, Inc. to provide related services to school age children as mandated by the student's IEP. The fee schedule is as follows:

Evaluation/Tri-annuals	\$150.00
Psychological Evaluations	\$400.00
OT, PT, SP, Resource Rm & CSE/ School Initiated Meetings	\$ 42.00 - 30 min. individual session
Group (2-5 students)	\$ 56.00 – 30 min. group session
COTA	\$ 38.00 – 30 min. individual session

COTA (2-5 students)

\$ 50.00 – 30 min. group session

**ABA SERVICES**

Paraprofessional

\$ 38.00 per 60 minutes session

Certified Special Ed Teacher

\$ 80.00 per 60 minute session

Consultation/Supervision

\$100.00 per 60 minute session

- k. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and North Shore Speech-Language Associates for the 2008-2009 school year to provide speech and language services to students with significant disabilities, per their IEPs. The fee schedule is as follows:

30 Minute Session

\$ 65.00

60 Minute Session

\$105.00

- l. That the Board of Education approves an agreement between the Mineola Union Free School District and Dr. Ellyn Altman for the 2008-2009 school year to provide counseling for children with hearing impairments at a fee of \$225.00 per hour.

**2.3. Instruction: Student Actions**

**2.4. Instruction: Other**

**3. Civil Service**

**a. Resignations/Leave of Absence**

1. That the Board of Education accepts the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, of Walter Chappel, with regret, Bus Driver, effective August 29, 2008.
2. That the Board of Education approves the extension of Maternity Leave of Absence for Lisamarie Curley, Occupational Therapist, from September 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

**b. Appointments**

1. That the Board of Education approves the re-appointment of Susan Spevak, Teacher Aide, to the position of Senior Library Clerk, effective August 22, 2008. Mrs. Spevak was excessed June 30, 2006 and is being re-appointed due to the retirement of Catherine Habermann; salary, Step 7, \$42,471.00.
2. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Theresa Morra, to the position of part time Bus Aide, effective September 1, 2008; salary, Step 1, \$10.75 per hour.
3. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Graciela Quintanilla, to the position of part time Bus Aide, effective September 1, 2008; salary, Step 1, \$10.75 per hour.

4. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Melissa Fusco to the position of part time Bus Aide for the Transportation Department, effective September 1, 2008; salary, Step 1, \$10.75 per hour.
5. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Melissa Fusco in the part time position of Videographer for the monthly Board of Education meetings, effective September 1, 2008; salary, \$8.00 per hour.
6. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following individuals to the support staff substitute list, effective September 1, 2008:

Debbie Annala	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Zuzette Gallardo	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Adele Imbrenda	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Joseph Lloyd	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Jennifer McGahan	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Lenuka Nimalan	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Linda Pardo	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Concetta Ribeiro	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Georgette Strobel	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Keri Sullivan	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
Joanna Tangel	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
	Clerical Sub	\$12.32
Karen Bonfitto	Teacher Aide Sub	\$13.74
	Clerical Sub	\$12.32

c. New Position

1. That the Board of Education approves the replacement of a 12 month Bus Driver position, due to retirement, with two 10 month, 5 hour Bus Driver positions, effective September 1, 2008.

d. Salary Adjustment

1. That the Board of Education approves the 2008-2009 salary for JoAnn Greene, Internal Claims Auditor, as \$16,624.00, effective July 1, 2008.
2. That the Board of Education approves the 2008-2009 salary for Donna Squicciarino, Treasurer, as \$12,480.00, effective July 1, 2008.

**4. Business/Finance**

a. Treasurer's Report

1. That the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer's Report for the period ending June 30, 2008 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 July 31, 2008.

Warrant #1	\$ 158,648.13
1 <sup>st</sup> Final Payable 07/08	\$1,115,779.01
Warrant #2	\$1,641,105.07
2 <sup>nd</sup> Final Payable 07/08	\$ 314,102.71
Credits to Expense	\$ 282,873.28 Cr.
Void Check #53517	\$ 3,568.00 Cr.
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,943,193.64</b>

<u>PAYROLL #1 &amp; #2</u>	
General	\$1,122,581.43
Fund F	\$ 277,516.29
<b>TOTAL PAYROLL</b>	<b>\$1,400,097.72</b>

**4.1. Business/Finance: Contract Approvals**

**4.2. Business/Finance: Bids**

**5. Other**

- a. NYS Education Department Income Eligibility Guidelines for Free and Reduced Price Meal – 2008-2009

That the Board of Education adopts the NYS Education Department Income Eligibility Guidelines for Free and Reduced Price Meal for the 2008-2009 school year and that the Board delegate the Chief Administrative Officer to act as its agent with regard to entering into contracts and agreements for the Child Nutrition Program.

**RESOLUTION #19** – **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Education approves Consensus Agenda items H.1. through H.5.a. as presented.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

**Discussion:** President Siwinski stated that the minutes of July 17<sup>th</sup> did not reflect his absence. Mr. McGrath asked if he was listed in attendance. President Siwinski responded no.

<b>Yes:</b>	Terence Hale John McGrath Laraine Salvatore Stephen Siwinski	<b>No:</b>	None
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**Passed:** Yes



## **I. Public Comments**

Public comments were as follows:

- ❖ A resident commented on the manner in which the Superintendent of Schools' evaluation was done and made suggestions as to how they should operate.
- ❖ A resident wished Mr. Siwinski a happy birthday.

## **J. Board of Education Reports**

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

The Superintendent of Schools discussed: successes, achievements, and areas improved on, that it does not happen without the kind of support staff the district has; appreciated all Mr. McGrath's comments; his responsibility is to carry out the recommendation of the majority of the Board; not assess him on differing opinions; discussion regarding topics addressed this evening; never hired a teacher or recommended a teacher that had inappropriate certification; has never been outside parameters of State Education Department; making sure to get the facts; never been cited by SED; all decisions made within the framework of an individual's certification; and has faith they can still get there.

The Superintendent of Schools also discussed: opening of school; Superintendent's Conference on September 2<sup>nd</sup>; white boards and the extensive training of staff; final administrative retreat next week; and State report cards published in Newsday.

Mr. Escobar and Ms. Goffman were asked to discuss the problems with the numbers that were reported in Newsday. Ms. Goffman spoke about the following: the information reported in Newsday was for the 2006/07 school year (Actual cohort data for all students entering the High School in 2003) – the problem is that the information was not updated and 12 students were not moved out of the system, the information was not verified so corrections could be made prior to the release of the information. Ms. Goffman stressed the importance of keeping track of the number of students and stated Ms. Macken will help solidify the numbers being correct. Dr. Nagler stated that if you don't have someone managing the information you will never get it right and now we have someone in place. The reason why the district transferred to e-school is because of problems like this. Mr. Escobar reviewed the percentages of the following: English-92%, and U.S. History-95%; High School graduates; ESL students graduating; and significant difference made when Ms. Macken was moved into the Guidance Suite.

- Capital Report - - - Preparation for opening of schools

Mr. Waters presented an update on the capital projects taken place during the summer: Middle School windows, doors, and ventilation are on schedule and targeted to be completed by the end of September; boys locker room at the Middle School; High School lockers have arrived and the floor is being installed, Monday; and field irrigation on the High School track will be completed after receiving another coat. Dr. Nagler reported on the following: Meadow Drive library is awaiting book cases; and new computers for the High School are delayed.

Mr. McGrath inquired about the start of school. The Superintendent of Schools responded that the first day of classes is September 3<sup>rd</sup>, which is also the first day to transport. He also stated that the Superintendent's Conference counts as first day. The District's Counsel stated that the district is not transporting public students that day. The Superintendent of Schools also stated that it is consistent with State guidelines.

- Preparation for New School Year
- 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 public comments were:

- ❖ A resident inquired about construction at the corner of Chase. President Siwinski responded that there needs to be some investigation on that site.

## **K. Executive Session**

At 11:55 p.m. a motion was made for the Board of Education to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing 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. President Siwinski stated that the Board may return at any time to reconvene the public meeting.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

At 12:30 p.m. the Board returned to open session.

**L.    Adjournment**

At 12:30 p.m. a motion was made to adjourn this meeting of the Board of Education.

**Motion:**        John McGrath

**Second:**       Stephen Siwinski

**Yes:**            Terence Hale  
                     John McGrath  
                     Laraine Salvatore  
                     Stephen Siwinski

**No:**        None

**Passed:**       Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Martillo  
District Clerk