

**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 for 2024 - 2025**

***Educational***

- Continue to expand our professional understanding of the Science of Reading and Scarborough's Rope as it applies to learners in upper elementary, middle and high school
- Prepare teachers for the shifts in the Math Expressions curriculum and platforms (K-6)
- Expand learning opportunities for students emphasizing self - direction (managing one's own time and resources to pursue individual interests) and career readiness
- Develop and pilot the new concept of competency based education that allows learners to choose assignments and level of rigor entitled "Build your own grade"
- Expand the elementary health curriculum to include engaging video content on topics of health, nutrition, and social-emotional well being

***Facilities***

- Create a new 5 year Capital improvement plan that addresses outstanding items in the Building Condition Survey (BCS) as well as address future bus electrification plans for the Mineola fleet

***Finance***

- Not to exceed the allowable tax levy cap while continuing to maintain and enhance all of our programs and facilities

**DATE: Thursday, January 09, 2025 / Synergy Building - 7:00 p.m.**

**Board of Education**

Dr. Margaret Ballantyne, President  
Cheryl Lampasona, Vice President  
Brian Widman  
Patrick Talty  
Stacey DeCillis

**Central Office**

Michael Nagler, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Catherine Fishman, Deputy Superintendent  
Will Herman, Asst. Superintendent for Business & Operations  
Cindy Velez, District Clerk

- A. Call to Order - 7:00 pm**
- B. Pledge of Allegiance**
- C. Reading of Mission - Stacey DeCillis**
- D. Moment of Silent Meditation**
- E. Dais & Visitor Introductions**
- F. Student Organization Report - None**

**Student Recognition -**

Hyunah Park - **Volleyball** - Scholar Athlete, All County Honorable Mention, All County, All conference

Chris McCann - **Cross Country Track** - All County / **Football** - All Conference, Academic All Conference, Unsung Hero / **Girls Soccer** - Scholar Athlete, All Conference, All County Honorable Mention, All County, Conference Defensive Player of the Year / **Boys Soccer** - All Conference, All County Honorable Mention, Conference A1 Defensive Play of the Year Scholar Athlete, All Conference A1 Goalkeeper of the Year, Conference A1 Coach of the Year

**G. BOE Reports**

1. Comments from Board Trustees - Stacey DeCillis, Patrick Talty, Brian Widman, Cheryl Lampasona
2. Comments from Board President - Dr. Margaret Ballantyne
3. Comments from Superintendent - Michael Nagler

**H. Old Business**

**I. New Business**

**J. CONSENSUS AGENDA**

**RESOLUTION #37** - **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the consensus agenda items J.1.a. through J.4.b.1 , as presented.

**Motion:** Cheryl Lampasona

**Second:** Patrick Talty

Yes:

Dr. Margaret Ballantyne

Cheryl Lampasona

Brian Widman

Patrick Talty

Stacey DeCillis

No:

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Passed: **Yes**

1. **Accepting of Minutes**

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the December 12, 2024, Business Meeting as presented.

2. **Instruction**

a. **Resignations**

1. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Kelly Policastro, Leave Replacement Teacher, effective December 18, 2024.

b. **Leave of Absence - Child-Rearing**

1. That the Board of Education grants a request to Sabrina M. Knopf, for a Leave of Absence, for child-rearing purposes, for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year.
2. That the Board of Education grants a request to Samantha Henton, for a Leave of Absence, for child-rearing purposes, using accumulated sick days, starting January 13, 2025.

c. **Appointments**

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Emma B. Blennau, to the position of Leave Replacement Teacher for Samantha Henton, effective on or about January 13, 2025 to on or about June 6, 2025 with a salary of BA Step 1 \$66,355.
2. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of James Moran, to the position of Leave Replacement Teacher for Sabrina Knopf, for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year.
3. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Jacqueline Gaynor, to the position of Special Education Teacher, retroactive to January 6, 2025 with a salary of MA Step 1 \$76,823.00 and a Probationary Period from January 6, 2025 - January 5, 2029.

d. **Permanent Sub Appointments**

That the Board of Education approves the following individual(s) as Permanent Substitute Teacher(s) for the current school year, between October 1st and May 31st, at a daily rate of \$150.

	<u>Employee Name</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
1.	Spencer Lubell	Earth Science & General Science 7-12	01/13/2025

e. **Per Diem Sub Appointments**

That the Board of Education approves the following individual(s) as Per Diem Substitute Teacher(s) for the current school year, at a daily rate of \$150.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
1.	Maureen Manley	Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)	12/16/2024
2.	Harrison Tepe	Music	12/19/2024
3.	Spencer Lubell	Earth Science & General Science 7-12	06/01/2025
4.	Jens Kramer	Music	01/13/2025

f. **Instruction - Mentorship Program**

That the Board of Education approves the following Mentors to be paid \$2000 for the 2024-2025 school year:

	<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Mentee</u>
1.	Lisa Fiocco (prorated from 1/6/25-6/30/25)	Jacqueline Gaynor

g. **Instruction: Committee on Special Education**

1. That the Board of Education approves four additional CSE meetings for November 1, 2024 through November 30, 2024.

h. **Instruction: Student Actions**

1. That the Board of Education approves the following out-of-state field trips NAFME All-Eastern Conference April 24-27, 2025 at Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, CT. The student(s) will be taking the bus provided by Nassau Music Educators Association NMEA to the conference . The students are staying overnight 3 nights.  
Students - Nolan Farrelly - Honors Band  
Shayan Dhar - Alternate for Jazz Ensemble  
Chaperone - Marc Ratner

i. **Leave of Absence - Personal**

1. That the Board of Education grants a request Karen G. McLaughlin, for a paid Leave of Absence, for personal reasons, starting February 14, 2025 for approximately 4 to 6 weeks.

3. **CIVIL SERVICE**

a. **Resignation(s)**

1. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Zoubida Bahtar, Part Time Teacher Aide, effective December 6, 2024.

b. **Appointment(s)**

1. That the Board of Education approves the promotional appointment of Lissa C. Zukoff, to the position of Principal Account Clerk, effective January 10, 2025 with a salary of Step 4 \$66,143.
  2. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Jorge Sanchez, to the position of 6 hour 10 Month Bus Driver, retroactive to December 18, 2024 with a salary of Step 1 \$32,967.
  3. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Lendry Menendez Jimenez, to the position of Part Time Bus Attendant, retroactive to December 16, 2024 with a salary of Step 1 \$16.00/hr.
  4. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Corina Rodriguez, to the position of Part Time Bus Attendant, retroactive to January 6, 2025 with a salary of Step 1 \$16.50/hr.
  5. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Gabrielle Connolly, to the position of Substitute Teacher Aide, retroactive to December 17, 2024 with a salary of \$16.00/hr.
  6. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Donjeta Becerra, to the position of Substitute Teacher Aide, retroactive to January 6, 2025 with a salary of \$16.50/hr.
  7. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Andrea Hansman, to the position of Substitute Teacher Aide, retroactive to December 18, 2024 with a salary of \$16.00/hr.
  8. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Cristofer Holowat, to the position of Substitute Cleaner, retroactive to January 6, 2025 with a salary of \$16.50/hr.
  9. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Awad Ragunauth, to the position of Substitute Cleaner, retroactive to January 6, 2025 with a salary of \$16.50/hr.
4. **BUSINESS / FINANCE**
- a. **Business/Finance - Contract Approvals**
1. That the Board of Education accepts the 2024-2025 IDEA Flow-Through Allocation Contract between Woods Services and Mineola UFSD.
  2. That the Board of Education approves a platform license agreement with New Visions for Public Schools for a comprehensive data portal tool and authorizes the Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations to execute said agreement.
  3. That the Board of Education approves a contract with Auctions International, Inc. to facilitate the sale of District property that has previously been designated an obsolete and/or surplus item. Additionally, the Board of Education authorizes the Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations to execute said agreement.
- b. **Business/Finance: Disposal of District Property**
- That the Board of Education approves the disposal or sale of the following district property, according to Policy #5250, declaring them obsolete or surplus:

1. That the Board of Education approves the disposal of a pizza warmer at Mineola Middle School, according to Policy #5250, declaring the item surplus. This item has been damaged beyond repair.

**K. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent of Schools' Reports

Presentations:

1. Physical Education Athletics Report - Chris McCann

Superintendent Comments

**L. Public Comments - None**

**M. Executive Session      Time: \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_

Second: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes:                      No:

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Passed: \_\_\_\_\_

**N. Adjournment      Time:      8:01 pm**

**Motion:** Cheryl Lampasona

**Second:** Stacey DeCillis

Yes:

Dr. Margaret Ballantyne

Cheryl Lampasona

Brian Widman

Patrick Talty

Stacey DeCillis

No:

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Passed: **Yes**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Cindy Velez**

**District Clerk**