

**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**

- *Educational Expectations and Improvement*
- *School Quality*
- *Operations*
- *Fiscal Management/Stability*

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**DATE: January 15, 2009**

**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  
William Hornberger  
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.  
Janice Patterson, Director of Pupil Services  
Donna Martillo, District Clerk

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Pledge of Allegiance**
- C. Reading of Mission**
- D. Moment of Silent Meditation**
- E. Dais & Visitor Introductions**

After introduction of the dais, also in attendance were: Jack Feldman, Esq.; Pat Molloy, Elementary Principal; Deborah Shaw, Willis Principal; SueCaryl Fleischmann, Elementary Principal; Matt Gaven, Elementary Principal; Debra Small, Elementary Principal; Larry Puccio, Assistant Principal of Mineola High School; George Maurer, Assistant Principal of Mineola High School; Whittney Smith, Assistant Principal of the Middle School; Ian Dunst, Instructional Leader; Michelle Hochhauser, Instructional Leader; A.J. Hepworth, Instructional Leader; Rob Kurtz, Instructional Leader; Don Leopardi, Instructional Leader; Gary Desire, Instructional Leader; Nicole Moriarty, Instructional Leader; Larry Butti, Instructional Leader; Maureen Judge, Assistant Business Manager; and Dan Romano, Director of Facilities & Operations.

**F. High School Student Organization Report**

The High School Student Representative presented a report regarding issues being discussed at the High School: bathrooms, cafeteria lunches, and various fund raisers.

**At this time the Board of Education moved up agenda item H.1.**

**H.1. Presentation of High School Diploma**

**RESOLUTION #46** – **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education grants a High School Diploma to Oracio Vaz in accordance to the regulation honoring WWII Veterans who left High School in order to serve and protect the United States of America.

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

**Discussion:** The Superintendent of Schools explained the requirements an individual need to meet in order to receive a High School Diploma (Serving in the armed forces during WWII and not having the opportunity to graduate with their class). The Superintendent of Schools also stated that Mr. Vaz’s daughter, who was present, contacted him and requested granting her father a Mineola High School Diploma. The Superintendent of Schools presented Ms. Salesi, with great honor, a Mineola High School Diploma and asked her to forward it onto to her father. President Siwinski stated that it is the least the district can do for a veteran who fought for this country.

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

**Passed:** Yes

**G. Old Business**

**1. Superintendent of Schools 2007-2008 Evaluation**

**RESOLUTION #42** – **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts the Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools for the 2007-2008 school year.

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

**Discussion:** President Siwinski stated that 3 Board Members sat on the Board last year. The two who were not are still able to vote on this motion, but may choose to abstain. It is a personal choice.

**Yes:** John McGrath  
**No:** Laraine Salvatore

Stephen Siwinski

**Abstention:** Terence Hale  
William Hornberger

**Passed:** No

**2. Merit Raise for the Superintendent of Schools**

**RESOLUTION #43** – **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the merit raise for the 2008-2009 school year as follows:

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Stephen Siwinski

**Discussion:** President Siwinski noted that a merit raise is within the Superintendent of Schools' contract for work he performed last year to promote the educational system. The raise is between zero and 3%.

A motion was made to amend Resolution #43 with the recommendation of a 3% merit raise for the Superintendent of Schools.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Stephen Siwinski

**Discussion:** Mr. Hornberger inquired if prior Boards of Education had given merit raises in the past. President Siwinski stated that the Superintendent of Schools did not take them. Mr. Hornberger commented that the Board has asked the contractual units for give backs and now the Board is approving a raise. President Siwinski responded yes. Mr. Hornberger inquired as to why the Board, during these economic times, is looking to give a raise. The Superintendent of Schools responded he has never accepted a performance raise, and in the past 3 years has given back 2% of his salary and 1% for the past 2 years. He has also given \$15,000.00 to the community which he had put into his contract. The Superintendent of Schools also put into his contract, at the request of Mr. Siwinski, a notification clause (To avert obtaining additional monies that could be owed to him). The Superintendent of Schools does not know how one could accept a raise in these economic times. He further stated that he would not accept an increase if the Board were to vote, it would go back to the school system. Mr. Hornberger asked that with that being said does it make sense to vote on it. Mr. McGrath presented reasons why they should: Middle School results are phenomenal; Meadow and Cross are in the top 10 in Nassau County; the HS has improved with spectacular results, and Mr. McGrath feels the Superintendent of Schools deserves a 3% raise, and the Superintendent of Schools stated he would give it back. Mr. Hale asked, if the raise was going to be returned anyway, why is there a need to vote on it. In today's economic climate how can the district offer it? Why vote on it? President Siwinski stated because it is contractual. Mr. Feldman interjected that the Board must make a decision.

**Yes:** John McGrath  
Stephen Siwinski

**No:** Terence Hale  
William Hornberger  
Laraine Salvatore

**Passed:** No

**3. Superintendent of Schools 2008-2009 Goals**

**RESOLUTION #44 – BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the Goals of the Superintendent of Schools for the 2008-2009 school year as follows:

1. Educational Expectations and Improvement
  - a. Improve ELA and performance of SPED and ESL students
  - b. Improve ELA and performance of students in levels 3 & 4
  - c. Improve Math results
  - d. Improve ESL and SPED results all content areas
  - e. Reduce gap between General Ed and Special Ed/ESL
  - f. Develop Intel Program
  - g. Study feasibility of Foreign Language at Elementary level
  - h. Review electives
  - i. Program Review: Macmillan Reading Program
  - j. Review class size protocol
2. School Quality
  - a. Develop faculty use of web pages
  - b. Develop/complete vision for District
  - c. Complete Security Plan
  - d. Improve Communications Plan - - - improve community perceptions; perception of school
  - e. Embed School Improvement Plan into annual report
  - f. Articulate value of tax dollar relative to student learning and development
3. Operations
  - a. Continue with Capital Planning
  - b. Inventory supplies
  - c. Improve School lunch program
  - d. Improve transportation
  - e. Improve maintenance of facilities
    - Standard for cleaners
    - Preventative maintenance program
  - f. Insure value of District security program
4. Fiscal Management/Stability
  - a. Develop scenarios for possible expense side reduction
  - b. Continue to improve and build an appropriations true budget
  - c. Allocate resources where priorities exist
  - d. Implement Auditor's recommendations
  - e. Maximize bidding and RFP protocols
    - Technology
    - Food services
    - Legal services
    - Auditor's services
  - f. Maximize Fund Balance
  - g. Maintain \$500,000 Capital upgrade

**Motion:** John McGrath

**Second:** Terence Hale

**Discussion:** Mr. Hornberger referred to a document handed out at the last Board meeting. Mr. Hornberger felt that the goals needed to be more descriptive. Mr. Siwinski stated that these were just guidelines and it was tied up with the evaluation. Mr. Hornberger inquired about the following goals: homework and lesson plans being posted on the website; complete security plan. Mr. Siwinski stated that there were issues with the security firm: camera; recognition issues; how to do it better; more cost effective; and Administration is to come back with a better plan. Mr. Hornberger stated that if it is part of the plan than he is on Board.

Mr. Siwinski stated that last August a resident complained about the newsletter and this year it is better. Administrators are going to PTA meetings again. Mr. Hornberger inquired what other communication goals are being looked at? Mr. Siwinski responded it was discussed at the Retreat and he did not bring his notes with him. Mr. Hornberger further discussed goals: community perceptions; timely updates on web page and removing them when the date passes, i.e. update web page by removing November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting announcement. Ms. Salvatore asked if there was a dedicated person to keep web page updated. Dr. Nagler responded, no, everyone that inputs data is to refresh it. The November 10<sup>th</sup> announcement was linked to the grade study configuration information which was left up on purpose. Mr. Hornberger requested the meeting date be removed. Mr. Hornberger asked who monitors it. Dr. Nagler responded administrators who have their own page. The front page is limited to the offices of Superintendent of Schools, his, and Ms. Goffman and Ms. Martillo is responsible for the Board of Education information, i.e. agenda, etc. Ms. Salvatore commented that there were a lot of people involved. Dr. Nagler responded it is purposely done that way so not to hire a separate individual. The Superintendent of Schools stated that from a practical point of view a webmaster monitors constantly. What we are trying to do is have the kind of staff development that will promote it daily. Mr. Hornberger further inquired about the following: integrating the school improvement plan into the annual report; if the SIP has been integrated and passed? The Superintendent of Schools responded, to a certain extent. This year the first round of smart goals of school improvement are embedded in the annual report. Mr. Hornberger inquired about continuing to develop the capital plan. Mr. Siwinski responded dealing with the finance committee and their roles. After speaking with Dr. Nagler it is contingent on closing schools. Mr. Siwinski further stated there is a five year capital plan which is reviewed each year. Mr. Hornberger inquired about the lunch program. Mr. Siwinski responded that the district is going out with an RFP this year, as well as other contracts.

Mr. Hornberger inquired about a goal regarding improvement of students, focused in the areas of ELA, Special Ed, ESL and Math results. Mr. Siwinski responded that ELA & ESL were presented last meeting. The Math issue was regarding implementation. Mr. Hornberger inquired about

improving Math results. Mr. Siwinski responded it was the Middle School Math scores and they are looking to maintain 4s in mastery and the secondary schools show documented improvement. The Superintendent of Schools stated that they designated Math & ELA specific smart goals addressing each of the areas Mr. Hornberger mentioned by school and grade, targeting groups in reducing the gap in general Ed and special needs students.

Mr. Hornberger requested including as a goal, implementing 100%, if feasible, the Auditor's recommendations. The Superintendent of Schools responded that in the state of the district report an overview of all Board goals, which are his goals. Even though he has not seen the Auditor's report all recommendations from last year were implemented.

Mr. Hornberger also requested providing challenge enrichments to students at levels 3 and 4 and inquired where was it embedded. The Superintendent of Schools responded in the smart goals. Mr. Hornberger requested putting a line item specific to providing challenge enrichments for students at levels 3 and 4.

Mr. Hornberger inquired as to the availability of scoring results in Math. The Superintendent of Schools responded that this is all part of the district report. Mr. Hornberger stated that these numbers were for last year and he would like to see improvement of kids taking exams today before June 30 and have the Superintendent of Schools review meeting goals and then talk about merit. Mr. Siwinski inquired as to when the results will be available. Ms. Goffman stated the results should be available by the end of June. The Superintendent of Schools stated that information is compiled and in September year to year growth is analyzed, and they target the summer to use the information so Principals can work with their faculty to develop goals for improvement. Mr. Hornberger stated that the Board has to have all the information in order to make reasonable decisions; he does not want to go through an exercise where he can't make proper decisions. Ms. Salvatore asked Mr. Hornberger if he was looking for an interim report. Mr. Hornberger responded he is looking for something, possibly an out-clause for the Superintendent's contract.

The Superintendent of Schools stated that his goals were embedded in the Board's goals and his job is to deliver goals. He distributed the State of the District Report and referred to page 11, Appendix A (mid-year overview of Board goals).

A motion was made to amend Resolution #44 with the addition of three modifications: (1) provide communication with stakeholders in the community particularly pertaining to community perspective of our school district; (2) implement 100% the Auditors recommendations within feasibility; (3) provide line item challenges to students at levels 3 and 4 in addition to the AGP Program.

**Motion:** William Hornberger  
**Second:** Stephen Siwinski

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

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

**4. Take from the Table**

**RESOLUTION #45** – **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education take from the table Resolution #40 (Counsel Legal fees).

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

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

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

At 8:00 p.m. a motion was made for the Board of Education to go into executive session to discuss proposed, pending or current litigation.

**Motion:** William Hornberger  
**Second:** Terence Hale

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

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

Mr. McGrath requested a point of order as to what Board Members would be in executive session.

Mr. Feldman stated that Ms. Salvatore should not participate because she is adverse to the Board's party. He does not represent Ms. Salvatore he represents the majority of the Board.

At 8:15 p.m. Mr. Hale returned to bring Ms. Salvatore into executive session.

At 8:17 p.m. the Board returned to open session.

**5. Public Officers Law 18**

**RESOLUTION #40 – PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW 18**

**WHEREAS**, Board Trustee Laraine Salvatore has requested that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District (“Board”) agree to provide for her defense, pursuant to section 18(3) of the Public Officers Law, in a pending defamation action commenced against her in Supreme Court, Nassau County;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that based on the Board’s review and independent investigation of the complaint and the information available to it with respect to said defamation action, the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District hereby approves the request to provide such defense and to reimburse Trustee Salvatore for reasonable legal fees and expenses incurred in the defense of said action.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** William Hornberger

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
William Hornberger                      **No:** John McGrath  
Stephen Siwinski

Ms. Salvatore was excluded from this vote at the advice of District’s Counsel.

**Passed:** No

**H. New Business**

**2. State of the District Report**

**RESOLUTION #47 – BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts the Superintendent of Schools State of the District Report and Annual Report.

**Motion:** Stephen Siwinski  
**Second:** John McGrath

**Discussion:** The Superintendent of Schools discussed and presented highlights of the Annual Report of the State of the District. The report in its entirety will be available on the website, portions are on there already. The report is to provide feedback to the Board and community on the current state of the district in terms of planning, implementation and delivery of the goals established for the 2008-2009 school year. Also discussed were the Superintendent of Schools’ accomplishments: substantial growth and student development over the past few years; on course in meeting 10 year threshold; a good solid base is needed in order to bring about change; structure a vision for success; annual goals for Board of Education; find adjustments to create separate schools acting independently into one school system; change landscape curriculum K-12; change instructional landscape built in high aspirations delivered through teachers; change assessment landscape letting staff work with Principals; smart goals; student improvement becoming a way of life; revenue of \$847,000 per



year with potential of 12 to 15 million tax free dollars through Nextel agreement; reduction of 9 million dollars in spending in a 3 to 4 year period; refocus leadership to deliver professional learning communities; strong Principals that know what goals are; change capital improvement landscape; High School Auditorium, window and door replacements; computer centers; Meadow Drive being named a Blue Ribbon school; Middle School most improved school; National Student Learning Center; and Regents result rates from 60% in the past to 90% for the last 3 years.

At this time the Superintendent of Schools asked the Elementary Principals to talk about some of the small things that led to big results. The Principals discussed the following: Like Pair Analysis (Charting and comparing students performances from grade to grade); student improvement and progression; positive changes coming about in curriculum and student achievement; smart goals; well laid out plan for professional learning communities; teachers automatically plan their smart goals where they are looking at strategies that PLC has taught them; teachers focused on individual children; data supports students weaknesses and strengths; differentiations, Judy Dodge are all wonderful educational opportunities to assist in improving students at different levels; Charlotte Danielson framework for teaching in getting from proficient to distinguished; constructivism, involving children in their own learning environment; literacy collaborative, to help focus on each child which makes a difference when moving them to the next level; collective responsibility for professionals to move children forward; building level monthly meetings in discussing student performance; importance of reviewing educational data with teachers; full day Kindergarten has changed so much, preparing the students for reading; incoming early childhood students wanting to read; assessing every child; sharing of data between Principals. Mr. McGrath commented that he expected this and inquired of the Principals if their staff were excited to see that what they are doing is working. Ms. Molloy stated that they are happy to see the children moving forward and their efforts are being acknowledged. Mr. McGrath asked the Principals how they were celebrating in their buildings and asked if the students were aware of the improvement. Mr. Gaven responded that he discusses strategies with the students prior to a test. He promised one 3<sup>rd</sup> grader that if he did well he would do a dance.

Mr. Hornberger was concerned with the drop off of ELA 4s in other grades to 3s. Ms. Hochhauser explained that the amount of questions on the test increased, and the 3s would have been high 4s. Mr. Hornberger inquired what the district was doing to maintain 4s. Ms. Goffman responded that the range of every level is so vast, improvement could be within range. Last year the cut offs were different than they had been before and in some cases one question could make the difference between a 3 and 4. The Superintendent of Schools stated that the proof is in how the children improve over time, 30% positive improvement means we are on the money. Mr. McGrath requested to see an analysis of level 4 drop offs.

Mr. Siwinski inquired about the 5<sup>th</sup> grade transition to the Middle School. Ms. Molloy responded that there are many transition activities schedule by the Middle School staff. Ms. Small stated there are a series of meetings where each student is discussed. When the students go to the Middle School for transitioning events their teachers are sitting down with Middle School Guidance.

Mr. Siwinski inquired if students lose something when they are moved to another building. Ms. Molloy responded that it was hard to say because they have not experienced it, but acknowledged there are benefits. Dr. Fleischmann stated an advantage of having smaller schools is that all teachers know all students and the students know they care. The Superintendent of Schools stated the accomplishments were the result of students that are motivated to learn, dedicated skilled teachers, supported by exemplary Principals and Administrators who are student centered educational leaders.

The Superintendent of Schools discussed the following: Board of Education and Administration being faced with tremendous financial and budgetary challenges; finding resources to maintain current levels of support; structure and team in place works; data, levels of conversation, and practices all point to a system that works; difficult decisions in reducing expenses; 3 ways to address these tough financial times and preserve progress (speak opening and think out loud, brainstorm; decisions need to be clearly understood; look outside the box, working with other districts, sharing transportation costs, certain maintenance & operation functions with public municipalities). The Superintendent of Schools' top priority is ensure the preservation of practices that bring about school success; that decisions are evidence based; and strategically target resources where they have the most impact for student learning.

The Superintendent of Schools further stated that it will be a tough call; small schools, and what the community can afford.

|             |   |            |      |
|-------------|---|------------|------|
| <b>Yes:</b> | Terence Hale<br>William Hornberger<br>John McGrath<br>Laraine Salvatore<br>Stephen Siwinski | <b>No:</b> | None |
|-------------|---|------------|------|

**Passed:** Yes

### **3. 2009-2010 Cost Reduction Scenarios**

#### **RESOLUTION #48 – No action required.**

That the Board of Education reviewed cost reduction scenarios as presented by Administration:

- 3 year budget forecasting using the scenarios of maintaining small schools and consolidation of schools.
- Tax levy not greater than 4% for each of 3 years.

- 2009-2010 budget increase of 1.5% with 2 million in reductions for a tax levy of 3.97%.
- Next Board meeting Administration will have a 95 to 97% completed Educational Plan and Budget.
- 2010-2011 budget to be reduced by 1.1 million dollars in order to bring in a tax levy of 3.9% and 2011-2012 reduce 2 million dollars for a tax levy of 1.6%.
- The Superintendent cautioned against reducing too much in one year.
- Presented the executive summary of the Governor's budget outlining the problems, recommendations, possibility of instituting a property tax cap, elimination and/or re-examination of the STAR Program, changing State Law and mandate relief, decrease school district personnel, limit other school district operations, school district consolidation, improve special education, seek economies of scale and enhanced educational opportunities, and shared service delivery.
- Closing of a school preserves all programs in the 1<sup>st</sup> year, but no guarantees for year 2.
- Excessing 10 teachers in a year if a school closes.
- Examination of non-mandated services.
- Not replacing a clerical retirement at the end of March.
- Custodial personnel appropriate for the current number of buildings.
- Ms. Salvatore inquired if AMSA has a clause in their contract regarding excessing and Dr. Nagler responded no.
- Reducing capital upgrade line to \$400,000.
- Generating a fund balance when budgeting at 98.5%.
- Inter-fund budget transfer (\$685,000).
- Increases in health insurance, TRS and ERS.
- Reduce debt obligation with an inter-fund budget transfer.
- Transportation mileage and possibly a proposition to voters to increase transportation mileage. Mileage affects public students as well as private students.
- A bus lease is up this year (\$80,000 less) and next year 2 buses are slated for replacement.
- Mr. Hornberger requested a copy of Dr. Nagler's report.
- Need to communicate "What it is" and "Why we are doing it".
- Avoid cutting too deep too fast because the following year would be difficult to maintain a 4% tax levy.
- Ms. Salvatore needed clarification if the Board would determine what cuts are to be made. Dr. Nagler responded Administration will come up with 2 million that minimally affect programs.
- The Superintendent of Schools stated the question that needs to be asked, will the additional classes created for 2008-2009 be rescinded (Brings district closer to 2 million dollars in reductions).
- Mr. Siwinski inquired about a status quo 2009-2010 budget just being a roll over. Mr. Waters responded with salary increases, benefits and using a 4% increase which gets the district to an 82 or 83 million dollar budget.
- Mr. Siwinski inquired about the State Aid reduction (\$600,000) for next year and being reduced the same amount in following budgets. The

Superintendent of Schools stated that Administration is anticipating that for the next 3 years.

- Mr. Siwinski inquired if Administration has heard any information about the recent Economic Summit. The Superintendent of Schools responded he met with Legislators on the issue of Triboro, which they are not going to support. Mr. Feldman explained the meaning of Triboro (All benefits apply under an expired contract until an agreement is reached). It is an incentive not to reach a settlement.
- Dr. Nagler stated that Federal money is anticipated coming to the State.
- Mr. Siwinski inquired if the budget fails what is lost. Dr. Nagler responded, equipment.
- Mr. McGrath inquired what the contingency tax levy would be. Mr. Waters responded approximately 5.4%, but he will get back to him.
- Mr. Siwinski commented that he sees a problem with cutting back capital projects in the preventive maintenance budget.
- Mr. Siwinski inquired about the fund balance. Mr. Waters responded that currently the district is over 4%, which has not been touched. Mr. Siwinski stated to possibly reduce it to 3%. Mr. McGrath stated the law allows 4%. Mr. Waters responded yes and the district will have in excess of 4%, additional monies to further pay down the BAN or reduce the tax levy. Mr. Hornberger inquired about the excess of 4% fund balance for 2009-2010. Mr. Waters responded no use of the fund balance is in the scenario. Mr. Siwinski inquired about 2.8 million. Dr. Nagler responded those are expense side reductions. Mr. Waters stated that in order to reduce the budget of 82 million 2 million of the fund balance would need to be used. Mr. Feldman interjected it can only be used once. The Superintendent of Schools stated if you use the fund balance you will be looking at a huge hike the following year.
- Mr. Hornberger expressed concern about health insurance increases. Mr. Waters responded that they were factored in.
- Mr. McGrath inquired as to the TRS increase. Mr. Waters responded that the district can expect a significant increase in 2009-2010 and the State suggested using the 2008-2009 TRS numbers.
- Mr. Hornberger inquired about Dr. Nagler's report for year 2010-2011 under the consolidation scenario regarding non-mandated items that it shows no increase in services. The Superintendent of Schools responded that it reduces duplication of services. Mr. Hornberger inquired if under the consolidation scenario would they be able to maintain current class sizes with the reduction of 10 teachers. Dr. Nagler responded yes. Mr. Hornberger referred to year 2011-2012 and the teaching staff would be reduced by 7 asked if that would have an impact to class sizes. Dr. Nagler responded yes and the program.
- Rezoning enrollment areas.
- Mr. McGrath inquired if closing Cross would provide the flexibility of redistricting. Dr. Nagler responded that without looking at the numbers he does not know. The Superintendent of Schools stated that students would go to Meadow and some to Hampton, and Hampton to Jackson and areas in Jackson would go to Hampton. He further stated that Central Office is committed to a 2 million dollar reduction.
- The Superintendent of Schools also stated that a list of reductions would be given to the Board for their consideration.

- Mr. Hornberger requested clarification that 9 or 10 scenarios would be presented to the Board for review and to choose 2 million dollars of reductions. The Superintendent of Schools responded yes. Mr. Hornberger inquired if a vote was needed. Mr. Siwinski responded no, only direction. Mr. McGrath asked how the scenarios would be presented. The Superintendent of Schools responded various ways in getting to the 2 million dollars. Mr. McGrath is not agreeing to a 4% tax levy. He wants to see a contingent proposal.
- A resident commented that the Board should resolve the issue of closing schools. Mr. Siwinski responded that the Board did make a decision not to close any schools for next year and in July it will be addressed again. The resident felt that this Board should make a decision. Mr. McGrath made a point of order that the Board is not at the public session portion of the meeting.

**4. Participation in the Local Government Efficiency Grant**

**RESOLUTION #49** – **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the following resolution for the participation of the Mineola Union Free School District in the Local Government Efficiency Grant along with BOCES of Nassau County and other school districts:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A JOINT APPLICATION FOR  
A LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY GRANT**

**WHEREAS**, Nassau County, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) of Nassau County, the \_\_\_\_\_ (name) \_\_\_\_\_ School District, and other school districts within the county desire to create and implement plans for consolidation of school district support services to improve operating efficiencies and save tax dollars, and to seek to implement such plans as may as having great potential for saving tax dollars, and

**WHEREAS**, it is understood that, notwithstanding the approval of this resolution in support of a grant application, the participation of any school district in any portion of this effort to consolidate support services will be strictly voluntary, and

**WHEREAS**, the \_\_\_\_\_ (name) \_\_\_\_\_ School District would like to join in submitting an application for a Twenty-First Century Demonstration Project Grant under the New York State Local Government Efficiency Grant Program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as follows that the Board of Education of the \_\_\_\_\_ (name) \_\_\_\_\_ School District ("the Board"):

1. Authorizes the lead applicant contact person to submit an application on behalf of the Board for financial assistance to the 2008-09 Local Government Efficiency Grant Program, and to execute all financial and administrative processes and instruments relating to the grant program.
2. Authorizes BOCES of Nassau County to act as the "Lead Applicant" for the grant application, and Tom Stokes, Deputy County Executive for Budget and Finance, to act as the "Lead Applicant Contact Person" on the grant application form.
3. Agrees to act as a "Co-Applicant" and hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute all financial and administrative processes and instruments relating to the grant program. Other co-applicants will include Nassau County, Nassau BOCES and a majority of the school districts within Nassau County. A list of all participating school districts will be included in the grant application.
4. Joins in a grant application to be submitted for a Local Government Efficiency Grant award that would enable the applicant and co-applicants to identify and implement cooperative back office functions that allow school districts to save money while maintaining high quality educational programs. The project will provide for shared or consolidated back office functions in several areas, including information technology and telecommunications, cooperative purchasing, audit services, and non-public pupil transportation. The project name is the "Nassau School and Municipal Savings Initiative."
5. Agrees that the amount of the grant applied for shall not exceed \$1,000,000, with a maximum local match of up to \$111,111.
6. Understands that it is anticipated that the local match sum referenced in Item 5, above, will be funded via already-existing grant funds, and if such funds should for any reason not become available, the maximum local match to be requested from the Board, for participation in the grant activities, shall not exceed \$1000 and such sum shall not be due and payable unless the Board shall pass an enabling resolution.
7. Will work with the lead applicant and other co-applicants to prepare and execute any necessary intermunicipal agreements setting forth individual responsibilities related to Nassau School and Municipal Support Services Partnership.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** William Hornberger  
**Discussion:** The Superintendent of Schools explained Resolution #49 (Approximately 30 school district were participating as a cooperative studying cost feasibilities at the suggestion of Nassau County Supervisor Suozzi).

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

**Passed:** Yes

## I. Consensus Agenda

### 1. Accepting of Minutes

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the December 4, 2008 (Workshop); December 18, 2008 (Business); December 23, 2008 (Special) Meetings as presented.

### 2. Instruction

#### a. Resignations/Leave of Absence

1. That the Board of Education grants a request to Elizabeth Goldman for an extension to her unpaid leave of absence, for child-rearing purposes, effective January 9, 2009 to June 30, 2009.
2. That the Board of Education grants a request to Vanessa Franklin for a leave of absence, using accumulated sick days following a possible Family Medical Leave of Absence, for child-rearing purposes, effective approximately April 30, 2009 to on or before June 30, 2009.

#### b. Appointments

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Daniel Guido as Equipment Manager for the 2008-2009 school year at a stipend of \$4,000.00 as per the MTA contract.
2. That the Board of Education approves the addition of the following individual to the Per Diem Substitute Teacher List at a daily rate of pay of \$90.00 for the 2008-2009 school year:

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Stanley Kowalski | Physical Education, Pending Fingerprint Clearance |
| Tony Duffy       | English 7-12                                      |

**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, 2008 to December 31, 2008 as set forth in Confidential Attachment “A”.

**2.2. Instruction: Contracted Instructional Services**

**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, with regret, of Carol Lally, Stenographer, effective March 30, 2009.

b. Appointments

- 1. That the Board of Education approves the addition of the following individuals to the support staff substitute list for the 2008-2009 school year:

|                 |               |                  |
|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| Courtney Barry  | Clerical Sub. | \$12.32 per hour |
| Catherine Morse | Clerical Sub. | \$12.32 per hour |
| Karen Winski    | Nurse Sub.    | \$90.00 per day  |

- 2. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Concetta Ribeiro to the position of Greeter, effective January 20, 2009; salary, Step 1, \$10.00 per hour; probationary period 26 weeks.
- 3. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Christine Flynn to the position of Teacher Aide, effective January 20, 2009; salary, Step 1, \$13.74 per hour; probationary period 26 weeks. This is a mandated position the IEP.

**4. Business/Finance**

a. Treasurer’s Report

- 1. That the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer’s Report for the period ending November 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 December 31, 2008.

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Warrant #11           | \$ 498,088.56        |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> | <b>\$ 498,088.56</b> |

PAYROLL #11 & #12

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| General              | \$3,946,517.50        |
| Fund F               | \$ 63,062.48          |
| <b>TOTAL PAYROLL</b> | <b>\$4,009,579.98</b> |

c. Budget Transfer

1. That the Board of Education approves the following budget transfers:

| <u>FROM</u>      | <u>TO</u>        | <u>AMOUNT</u> |
|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 9760.700.00.7399 | 2110.403.00.6830 | \$19,500.00   |
| 9760.700.00.7399 | 2110.502.00.2330 | \$ 7,000.00   |

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

- a. That the Board of Education appoints Coughlin, Foundotos, Cullen & Danowski as Internal Auditors at a pro-rated annual fee of \$26,000.00.

**4.2. Business/Finance: Bids**

- a. That the Board of Education approves the participation of the Mineola Union Free School District in the East Meadow UFSD 08/09 Asphalt and Concrete Replacement and Repair bid for the 2008-2009 school year.

**4.3. Business/Finance: Change Orders**

- a. That the Board of Education approves Change Order EC-05 with Eldor Contracting for a decrease to their contract in the amount of (\$348.00).

**5. Other**

a. Annual Election and Budget Vote Resolution

1. That the Board of Education approves the Annual Election and Budget Vote Resolution scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2009 as follows:

RESOLVED that:

- (a) The District's Annual Election will be held on **Tuesday, May 19, 2009**.

- (b) The 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 19, 2009**, 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 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 Clerk and annexed hereto, be approved.
- (g) Dr. Licopoli and Mrs. Martillo be designated as Poll Clerks to canvass "affidavit ballots" to meet at the Superintendent's Office on **Wednesday, May 20, 2009**, at 3:00 p.m. for such purpose.
- (h) The Budget Hearing will take place on **Thursday, May 7, 2009** at 7:00 p.m., at the Willis Avenue School, with regard to the special meeting.
- (i) The date for registration of voters shall take place on **Tuesday, May 5, 2009**, 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.

**RESOLUTION #50** – **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Education approves Consensus Agenda items I.1. through I.5.a. as presented.

**Motion:** Laraine Salvatore  
**Second:** William Hornberger

Discussion: Mr. Hornberger stated that he did not receive the Broderick report in the Board's Friday packet. The Superintendent of Schools stated that it will be on a DVD.

Ms. Salvatore recommended having students give their input on tenure candidates. She believes most students would give a good evaluation which would be an additional tool for the district to use. The Superintendent of Schools stated he would be very happy to implement that, but it would require negotiations. He further stated that before he prepares a tenure recommendation he meets with students. Mr. Siwinski stated the goal is to improve teachers.

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

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

**J. Public Comments**

- ❖ A resident inquired about the result of a meeting with Atronix. Dr. Nagler responded the district is close to closing the contract.
- ❖ A resident thanked the Board for putting district phone numbers on the website and suggested eliminating the mailing of calendars to residents who opt out of receiving it by mail. The Superintendent of Schools responded that it is only mailed to parent residents. Ms. Goffman stated she will bring it to the attention of the Communications Committee next month.
- ❖ Two residents requested a copy of Dr. Nagler's report.

**K. Board of Education Reports**

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

The Superintendent of Schools made the following announcements: Parent University will be held January 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Jackson; the school district received a small grant for the Jackson Avenue trip to Albany; there will be a traffic light meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

- Educational Plan and Budget Status Report
- Table Reports
  - Finance and Operations Report
    - Monthly Financial Report
    - Building & Grounds Report
  - Capital Updates
    - 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

**L. Adjournment**

At 11:35 p.m. a motion was made to adjourn this meeting of the Board of Education.

**Motion:** Laraine Salvatore  
**Second:** William Hornberger

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

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Martillo  
District Clerk