

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

Workshop 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 - 2016-2017

Educational

- Develop a comprehensive series of activities that actively engage parents in the District Mission.
 - o Seek to engage parents in answering the question "How can Mineola best prepare students for the rapidly evolving and changing world of work and study"
- Continue to actualize the District's Mission and Strategic Objectives and measure progress toward these goals
 - o Emphasis on increasing student choice
 - o Emphasis on student portfolios
- Continue to expand and develop Queensboro certificate program to enable students to graduate HS with a full year of college credit

Facilities

- Continue to plan and fund a 5 year Capital improvement plan that addresses the outstanding items in the Building Condition Survey. Plan should include multiple funding sources- Energy performance contracts, Capital reserve fund, and budget transfers

Finance

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

DATE: January 26, 2017

LOCATION: Willis Avenue School

OPEN WORK SESSION 7:00 p.m. 2nd Floor Board Room

Board of Education

Christine Napolitano
Margaret Ballantyne
Nicole Matzer
Brian Widman
Cheryl Lampasona

Central Office

Dr. Michael Nagler, Superintendent of Schools
Jack Waters, Asst. Supt. for Finance Operations
Ed Escobar, Asst. Supt. Human Resources
Matthew Gaven, Asst. Supt. C.I.A. & Technology
Linda Spagnola, District Clerk

A. Call to Order - 7:01 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Reading of Mission by Brian Widman

D. Moment of Silent Meditation

E. Dais & Visitor Introductions

F. High School Student Organization Report

Christine Napolitano stated there will be no Student Organization Report tonight so we will begin with Dr. Nagler. He stated that two meetings ago the board asked for a video on tweeting. Mr. Gavin orchestrated a video with Dr. Smith and Robo Media. He said showing the video is a good way to start the evening off. The twitter video was narrated by Marina and Brianna. They explained how twitter is different from Facebook which is about social events and personal stories. Twitter is about news, conversations and updates and it's a great way to learn about all the amazing things going on in Mineola. Christine Napolitano stated she wanted to learn all about Twitter and enjoyed the video. She thanked the girls for making the video. Dr. Nagler stated how our students never cease to amaze him especially when you give students a little creativity, ask them to do stuff, and let them figure it out. He also thanked Marina and Brianna.

Dr. Nagler stated he wants more and more students to attend these meetings to represent and explain what they are learning. He said he is going to venture into subject areas. One of his experiments is going to be with history. He is going to work with the 11th grade AP class and he will ask them to create some videos like the one this evening.

Mr. Escobar introduced Madison Levine from Meadow Drive. She is the PTA reflection finalist and she read her story. Dr. Nagler invited Dr. Fleishman explain the reflections contest. She stated every year PTA's nationally do a Reflections contest. It is based upon a theme. This year is 'What is Your Story' and they have different categories to present projects in. Madison chose to do a writing project. She is a finalist in Nassau County and she will go onto the state level and then nationally from there. This is the first time we've had a Reflections Nassau County level winner in many years. Dr. Fleischmann applauded Madison for her accomplishment and she thanked the PTA for doing such a nice job of getting this together for the district. Chris Napolitano said she was very proud of Madison.

Mr. Escobar stated Dr. Nagler asked him to put together a presentation of clubs for the Mineola school district. Mr. Escobar felt the best people to speak but the clubs are the students themselves. Mr. Escobar reached out to Andrew Casale, middle school principal and Dr. Smith, high school principal to invite some of our students here tonight.

Mr. Escobar stated when it comes to activities it all comes down always remembering the 3 A's, academics, athletics and activities which really sums up the best schools and what really highlight schools. The Power Point presentation started with the district mission, core values, and strategic objectives. Mr. Escobar stated students should get involved in extracurricular activities whether it's a club, a sport or community service. College admissions rank extracurricular activities high in their criteria for college entry. There are 6 clubs at Jackson Avenue, 19 clubs at the middle school and 42 at the high school. Mr. Escobar invited Andrew

Casale to talk about his school clubs highlighting some of the middle school's more popular clubs.

Mr. Casale reported Math pioneers has 25 to 35 students and asked three students to speak about this program. The students stated they joined the club because they love math and they like to compete. There is a math Olympiad test each month.

Five students from the Treble Makers stated this is their favorite club. They harmonize and do melodies. They put in a lot of effort on Wednesdays when the club meets. They love to sing and make new friends. They sing different styles of songs from pop to jazz to classical and last year they did Adele. They also do solos and perform at special occasions. Last year sang at the National Junior Honor Society and sang over the loud speaker during the holidays. They stated Treble Makers is not just a club it's a family. They appreciated the board giving them time to speak tonight. They also thanked Mr. Goldman who is in charge of the club. Andrew Casale introduced the Robotics Club. The students have been working on projects for 2 to 3 months and they have a competition on Saturday. The students spoke about finding a solution to a problem that is happening in the world. They turn challenges into successes. One student spoke about finding a solution for helping bees from becoming extinct. Another student spoke about making zoos a better place for animals and safer for people. Another student spoke about how when people use laser pointers to play with their cats the laser can be harmful to the cat's eyes. The students created a mat with led lights within the mat for the cat to chase. Dr. Nagler was very impressed. Dr. Nagler thanked the board for agreeing for us to host the qualifying tournaments.

Mr. Escobar stated there are 42 clubs at the high school. There is a lot of variety and choice and that is a credit to our board and Dr. Nagler who provides the support for these clubs to exist. Many schools in Nassau County do not have the choice that the students have here in Mineola. He introduced Dr. Smith, high school principal, who reported that this year especially students can pitch an idea for a new club. The chess club and fashion club were student started clubs. Another club which is not listed on the PowerPoint is "I am that girl". Dr. Smith reported the Question Mark Newspaper has blossomed this year and has become a video news broadcast done every week. Our library is in a national contest with Follett and in the running for a \$60,000 prize. We are currently number two in the country for views.

Dr. Smith asked Jake to speak about the A Capella Club. He said being a member of this club is very rewarding fascinating and educational. He said they have a wide range of students all brought together in harmony. They perform at community events like the Greater Nassau Chorus, the Rotary Club and our very own Lunch Bunch event. The A Capella Chorus is a valuable asset to the high school.

Mr. Escobar spoke about Hands for Haiti. A banner was made by our Meadow Drive students in December and is now in Haiti. Money that was raised actually put a roof on the building in the picture. Mr. Desire arranged to have the banner sent to Haiti along with a donation.

G. BOE Reports

a. Comments from Board Trustees

Cheryl stated she recently went to the Hampton Street PTA meeting. She saw a presentation on their interest-based learning that they're doing on their recess time. She said it was awesome to see what will happen in the middle school and high school and the robotics taking place.

Brian doesn't have report he's looking forward to the robotics competition. Wished all the teams good luck.

Nicole wants to wish everybody good luck in the competition. She stated she will miss the robotics competition because she's working on something for the middle school musical. She thanked everyone for voting on the Follett.

Margaret Ballantyne wished the Asian Community a happy holiday. Congratulated our top 25 students named in the Outreach. She stated she had a great visit to Meadow Drive. Last night she said she was following the Twitter chat from digital promise and said Twitter is her new favorite way of getting information. She reported SEPTA has their fundraiser on February 11th at Applebee's.

b. Comments from Board President

Chris spoke about Twitter . It is a great source of information. Great connections. Encouraged parents to go on Twitter.

c. Comments from Superintendent

Dr. Nagler thanked Mr. Desire for organizing the donation to Hands for Haiti and getting the banner to where it was supposed to go. Middle School Musical reminder is February 3rd and 4th. He can't wait to see it. Said it's always spectacular. Calendar corrections - String Night is February 13th not 14th. Junior Lego League is on March 4th not February 25th as it states on the calendar. These dates will be updated on the website. He told the board many administrators will be participating in Shadowing a Student. They will follow a student through their entire day to experience life as a student. Dr. Nagler reported that at our next meeting there will be a preliminary budget presentation.

Dr. Nagler met with new state senator Elaine Phillips who replaced Jack Martins. He had a great conversation with her and her aide. He is looking forward to continuing good relations. He made a plug and pitched a couple of projects to her that we may receive aide for.

Our District won a \$250,000 Grant for our dual language program that is 50,000 a year for five years. This was Pat Burns parting gift to us. Dr. Nagler is pursuing a similar grant.

Dr. Nagler stated he loved the intra space learning PTA meeting. He was impressed with Ms. Nodell and Ms. Marvel. When we have a bad weather recess the children have a lot to do. He applauded them for their work.

Dr. Nagler and Mr. Escobar went to the Fairy Tale Ball. Children dressed up as characters. They made boxes and put something inside the box to show their understanding of the story.

We will be hosting an ST Math at our Hampton library. Dr. Peterson, creator of ST Math, will be speaking on February 10th at Hampton. The Mustang Stakes is February 11th. Jazz night February 9th. Dr. Nagler will be playing an instrument at jazz night .

H. Old Business - no old business

I. New Business - no new business

Approval of 2017-2018 School Calendar

RESOLUTION #39 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District approves the 2017-2018 school calendar.

Motion: Nicole Matzer
Second: Christine Napolitano

Employee Agreement

RESOLUTION #40 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute an Employment Agreement with Jack Waters, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, the terms of which have been reviewed by the Board in Executive session.

Motion: Nicole Matzer
Second: Margaret Ballantyne

Employee Agreement

RESOLUTION #41 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute an Employment Agreement with Daniel Romano, Director of School Facilities and Operations, the terms of which have been reviewed by the Board in Executive session.

Motion: Christine Napolitano
Second: Margaret Ballantyne

J. Consensus Agenda

RESOLUTION #42 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the consensus agenda items J.1.a. through J.3.a., as presented.

Motion: Nicole Matzer
Second: Brian Widman

1. **Instruction**
 - a. **Appointments Instruction**

1. That the Board of Education amends the salary of Eilis O'Connell, Leave Replacement Teacher for Susan Palladino to MA+10, Step 1, \$69,797, effective January 23, 2017 to June 30, 2017.

b. Appointment(s) Permanent Substitute Teachers

That the Board of Education approves the following individual(s) as Permanent Substitute Teacher(s) for the current school year, at a daily rate of \$100 days 0-10, \$110 after 11-20 consecutive days, \$120 after 21-30 consecutive days, \$130 after 31+ consecutive days; and retirees at a daily rate of \$125.00 per day, \$130 per day after 30 days.:

EMPLOYEE NAME

EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATION

1. Emily S. Zwiebel Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)

c. Retirement(s) Instruction

1. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Bonnie S. Stahman, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2017.
2. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Larry Puccio, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2017.
3. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Martin F. Joyce, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2017.
4. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Gail Destefano, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2017.
5. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Giuseppa Iaboni, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2017.
6. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Marjorie A. Buttgereit, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2017.

2. **Civil Service**

a. Appointments

1. That the Board of Education approve the appointment and promotion of Cindy Velez, from the position of Typist Clerk to Senior Typist Clerk at Meadow Drive School, effective January 17, 2017. Salary is \$41,746 on Step 3. Probation is waived.
2. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Mary Sloboda, to the position of Teacher Aid Substitute, effective February 1, 2017. Salary is \$13.95 per hour.

b. Leave(s) of Absence

1. That the Board of Education approve a paid Medical Leave of Absence to Nubia Garrido, 5 Hour Bus Driver for Transportation, due to surgery, effective January 20, 2017. Leave will be determined after the procedure.

c. Leave(s) of Absence

1. That the Board of Education grant a request for an extension of an Unpaid Medical Leave of Absence for Rose Higgins, part time Teacher Aide at the Midle School, effective December 27, 2016. Extended leave will be for another four weeks.

3. **Business /Finance**

- a. That the Board of Education approves the Internal Claims Audit Report for December 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.

b. **Other**
Agreement

RESOLUTION #43 - **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby approves the terms and conditions of an agreement between the Mineola UFSD and an employee whose identity has been made known to the Board of Education in Executive Session, **and be it further**

Resolved that the Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said agreement on behalf of the District.

Motion: Christine Napolitano
Second: Brian Widman

K. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent of Schools' Reports for 1/26/17
Presentations:

1. MS/HS Club Report - Ed Escobar

Superintendent Comments

L. Executive Session Time: 8:15 p.m.

Motion: Dr. Nagler
Second: Christine Napolitano

N. Adjournment Time: 10:05 p.m.

Motion: Christine Napolitano
Second: Cheryl Lampasona

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda M. Spagnola
District Clerk