

*on March 22*

January 18, 2018

**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 - 2017-2018**

***Educational***

- Continue to actively engage parents in the District Mission.
- 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 Queensborough certificate program to enable students to graduate HS with a full year of college credit
- Implement a districtwide initiative to introduce and develop a Growth Mindset for students, staff and parents

***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

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**DATE: January 18, 2018**

**LOCATION: Willis Avenue**

**OPEN WORK SESSION 7:00 p.m.**

**Board of Education**

Christine Napolitano, President  
Dr. Margaret Ballantyne-Mannion, V.P.  
Brian Widman  
Cheryl Lampasona  
Patrick Talty - absent

**Central Office**

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

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

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Reading of Mission - Cheryl Lampasona**

**D. Moment of Silent Meditation**

**E. Dais & Visitor Introductions**

**F. Student Organization Report - none**

Dr. Nagler introduced Jodi Helming to discuss our students accomplishments this school year. She thanked the administrators and the board of education for their support of the writing initiative. It has been exciting to work with the boys and girls and teachers. Tonight's theme for writing is about stories we have to tell. The following students read their stories; from Hampton Street: Ewelina Morelli-Grade 1, Eduardo Pepen Taveras-Kindergarten, Sajni Patel-Grade 1, Logan Vescovi-Grade 2. From Meadow Drive: Cassidy Coutur-Kindergarten, Katelynn Hung-Grade 1, Andrew Murray IV-Grade 2. And from Jackson Avenue: Jasmine Ferreira-Grade 3, Ryan Manu-Grade 4. Ms. Helming stated she is very proud of these authors and congratulated them.

Dr. Nagler reminded the board that this was an initiative from two years ago where we dedicated a staff member to concentrate in kindergarten and 4th grade on writing. Not a lot of districts make that commitment. We felt there was a need because we were not producing the writers we wanted across all grade levels. It's a testament to how well it's working with these students. What is most impressive to Dr. Nagler is not just writing the story but standing up in front of an audience and speaking so clearly and passionately is very impressive. This is a skill we all need throughout our lives.

Mr. Escobar introduced Katelynn Rouskas, the science teacher from Meadow Drive. She thanked the board and the administrators for supporting STEAM education. In the STEAM lab we value the creativity and with the help of Twitter, as one of her resources, this year she found a group of inventors from London who have a you tube channel called "Kids Invent Stuff". And through Twitter she saw they created a December challenge; if kids could create a crazy Christmas contraption. She thought this would be perfect for her students. She taught them an engineering process. The students rose to the occasion. She introduced students who won the challenge; James Bertrand-Grade 5 and Andrew Bertrand-Grade 2 created "The Illuminator". They explained the Illuminator is a jacket that has lights that can change colors and is battery operated so if you are in a dark place at night you can turn the switch on and you will have light. Their challenge was to create a piece of clothing that could solve a problem. Rhett Pace built a Snowy Blaster which makes snow. The students were interviewed by newspapers and they face-timed with the inventors in London. She stated she is very proud of them.

Mr. Escobar introduced Eagle Scout, Joseph Mueller, Grade 12 who spoke about his eagle scout project. Nathan Bischoff, Grade 12 also earned his Eagle Scout.

Mr. Matt DeLuca, the middle school musical director, spoke about this year's production of Aladdin. He introduced Ashley Green who will play Jasmin and Alexis Capobianco who will play the Genie in this year's production of Aladdin. Each girl spoke about what it means to be in these plays. Matt DeLuca thanked the board for their support.

**G. BOE Reports**

Christine Napolitano stated that Mr. Talty was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to a prior commitment.

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**a. Comments from Board Trustees**

Cheryl Lampasona stated she attended the joint Hampton Meadow Jackson PTA meeting. It's a district council initiative this year to combine them and it makes it extremely easy for parents to come out once a month if you have little ones in two different schools. She felt it was very well attended. Dr. Janet Gonzalez did a very nice presentation on Kid OYO digital badging enrichment courses.

Brian Widman congratulated the district and everyone who participated in the Read2Succeed Nine Million Words Challenge. Nine million words were achieved in December. They had planned to go to June. On January 3rd, Mr. Widman had the opportunity to see Dr. Steven Dewey, a neuro scientist from the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research in Manhasset. Dr. Dewey gave a talk on substance abuse and the teenage brain. Mr. Widman thanked Dr. Smith and the staff for hosting it. He said it was very informative and frightening. Dr. Dewey showed scans of normal teenage brains and brains of students on marijuana, alcohol and a range of different drugs. The scans showed the huge differences in the brains. The scans showed the parts of the brain that produce dopamine. Dr. Dewey explained that after a while when students do drugs the brain will stop making dopamine on its own and it will take more and more drugs to create dopamine. Such drugs like crystal meth will kill parts of the brain that make dopamine and the lack of making dopamine is associated with several diseases of the nervous system such as Parkinson's. Mr. Widman's takeaway from this meeting was to talk to your children. Maintain an open dialog with them. He stated Dr. Dewey will be returning to the district to speak to the high school and the middle school.

Dr. Margaret Ballantyne-Mannion thanked the music department for all the wonderful concerts. She visited Hampton today to see dual language kindergarten and read them a story. She found it very enjoyable. She wanted to, on behalf of the board, officially congratulate Christine Napolitano because she is one of the 2018 Nassau BOCES Education Partners award winners. Fifteen people or organizations in the county have been chosen for having a profound effect on public education in Nassau County. There were 3 board of education members recognized this time and Christine was one of them. We are so proud of her. She is happy that somebody else recognizes the great work that Christine Napolitano has done for our district.

**b. Comments from Board President**

Christine Napolitano thanked Dr. Mannion for making this announcement. She stated she is deeply honored and proud to have the smartest and most gracious board members. Ms. Napolitano stated she feels this award not just for herself but for all of our board members. They all work very hard and what people tend to forget is this is all volunteer work. We do not get paid. Ms. Napolitano said 'hats off' to the board members because it is all team work. She is very honored to work with such wonderful people and to have been given this award. She thanked the staff for the great job they did with the snow removal.

**c. Comments from Superintendent**

Dr. Nagler stated that snow days are the least favorite part of his job. There is a very small window to make a very big decision that will affect the entire district. He stated he is in touch with the local superintendents and BOCES has a computer interface where he can see every district that closes if they enter it on the map. This enables him to see the pattern of districts closing. The first snow day was a bad storm. Dr. Nagler reported, that the second day, if we absolutely had to, we could have been open. Our staff did a wonderful job clearing the snow. It was in his opinion it would have been dangerous for children to be out on the streets in poor conditions and the cold weather. He feels it was in the best interest of everyone to call the second snow day.

Dr. Nagler reported that we are doing something unique this year that seems to have caused some confusion with our NWEA exam. We will be administering the exam as usual but in grades 3, 4 & 5 we will be participating in what we are calling a POC pilot or a proof of concept pilot. There is a consortium of seven districts in Nassau County that

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are working with NWEA to see if we can prove that NWEA could be the state exam. We need to do some field testing and to prove to the state that it is an appropriate standardized exam for children to take instead of the state exam we currently take.

Dr. Nagler thanked the Board and Joe Owens for agreeing to host the Nassau Music Educators Association All County Festival. For three days last week, Mineola High School held rehearsals and then over the last weekend the students performed. We had 30 children that made these performing groups which is pretty impressive. Dr. Nagler reported the state aid numbers were in the newspapers today. Mineola received \$123,000 only 10,000 was new money. The rest of the money is reimbursement back to the district or what they call expense-based aid for monies already spent. We spend money through BOCES and we get reimbursed through BOCES. Dr. Nagler thanked Brian Widman for giving a synopsis of Dr. Dewey's presentation on substance abuse and the teenage brain. Dr. Nagler had a discussion on the school calendar for next year.

**H. Old Business - no old business this evening**

**I. New Business**

**Approval of CAP - Financial Statements**

**RESOLUTION # 31** - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District hereby accepts the Corrective Action Plan ("CAP") for the 2017 Audited Financial Statements by Nawrocki Smith and hereby instructs the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations to file such a plan with the NYSED Office of Audit Services.

**Motion:** Cheryl Lampasona

**Second:** Brian Widman

**Yes:**

Christine Napolitano  
Dr. Margaret Ballantyne-Mannion  
Brian Widman  
Cheryl Lampastona  
Patrick Talty

**No:**

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**Passed: Yes**

**J. CONSENSUS AGENDA**

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**RESOLUTION # 32 - BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the consensus agenda items J.1.a. through J.4.d., as presented.

**Motion:** Dr. Margaret Ballantyne-Mannion

**Second:** Brian Widman

**Yes:**

**No:**

Christine Napolitano

Dr. Margaret Ballantyne-Mannion

Brian Widman

Cheryl Lampastona

Patrick Talty

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**Passed:** Yes

1. **ACCEPTING OF MINUTES**

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the November 9, 2017 Workshop Meeting, the November 30, 2017 Business Meeting, and the December 14, 2017 Business Meeting, as presented.

2. **INSTRUCTION**

a. **Resignations**

- 1. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Lauren M. Siemann, Permanent Substitute Teacher, effective January 16, 2018.
- 2. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of John J. Lee, Permanent Substitute Teacher at Jackson Avenue, effective January 26, 2018.

b. **Retirements**

- 1. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of retirement, of Thomas C. Nucci, Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2018.
- 2. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of retirement, of Vincent Russo, Social Studies Teacher, effective June 30, 2018.
- 3. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of retirement, of Jane Whearty, Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2018.
- 4. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of retirement, of Frank J. Massaro, Math Teacher, effective June 30, 2018.
- 5. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of retirement, of Eileen Burke, English Teacher, effective June 30, 2018.
- 6. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of retirement, of Wendy L. Forte, Foreign Language Teacher, effective June 30, 2018.
- 7. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of retirement, of Maria Arroyo-Fazio, Social Worker, effective June 30, 2018.

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c. **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 \$100 for 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.:

	<b><u>Employee Name</u></b>	<b><u>Certification</u></b>
1.	Deanna N. Weber	Early Childhood Education (Birth - 2)
2.	Michael O. McVeigh	Physical Ed

d. **45 Day Sub Appointments**

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Michael O. McVeigh, to the position of 45 Day Substitute Teacher for Hilary Hunter, starting approximately January 21, 2018 to on or before June 30, 2018. Salary: \$100 for days 0-10, \$110 after 11-20 consecutive days, \$120 after 21-30 consecutive days, \$130 after 31-45 consecutive days, Day 46 contract salary BA, Step 1, \$61,161.

e. **Appointment(s) - Clubs/Stipends**

That the Board of Education approves the following Clubs/Stipends for the current school year:

	<b><u>Club</u></b>	<b><u>Teacher</u></b>	<b><u>Stipend</u></b>
1.	Art Club co-advisor	Melinda DiGiovanna (replacing Andrea Antonelli as of 2/1/18)	\$230.75 (2nd half of stipend for co-advisor)
2.	Winter Guard Director	Theresa L. Bapst	\$4,368
3.	Winter Guard Assistant Dir	Rebecca Meyer	1/2 of \$1,456
4.	Winter Guard Assistant Dir	Rebecca N. Stollberger	1/2 of \$1,456
5.	Winter Guard Coach	Rebecca Meyer	\$1,000
6.	Winter Guard Coach	Rebecca N. Stollberger	\$1,000
7.	Winter Guard Drill Writer	Theresa L. Bapst	\$3,435

f. **Instruction: Creation of New Position**

That the Board of Education approves the creation of the following new position:

1. Part Time (.5) A.I.S. position at Jackson Avenue, effective January 22, 2018.

g. **Instruction: Student Actions**

1. That the Board of Education approves the following overnight/out-of-state field trip:  
- American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), March 7-10, 2018, Pittsburgh, PA

h. **Appointment(s) - Part Time Teachers**

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Gina Principato, to the position of Part Time (.5) A.I.S. Teacher, effective January 22, 2018 to June 30, 2018. Salary: .5 of BA, Step 1, \$61,161 equaling \$30,580.

3. **CIVIL SERVICE**

a. **Appointment(s)**

1. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Jessica Romano, to the position of part time Lunch Aide at Jackson Avenue School, effective January 2, 2018. Salary is \$13.95 per hour on Step 1.

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2. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Rocio Barreto from part time to full time Teacher Aide at Hampton Street School, effective January 5, 2018. Salary is \$22,221 on Step 1; probation is 26 weeks.
3. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Diane Hein, to the position of part time Bus Attendant for Transportation, effective January 2, 2018. Salary is \$11.00 per hour on Step 1.
4. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Daniel Ferreiras, to the position of 5 Hour Bus Driver to replace Steven Maniaci, who resigned, effective January 2, 2018. Salary is \$21,819 on Step 1; probation is 26 weeks.
5. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Marlon R. Yanes Zecena, to the position of 5 Hour Bus Driver for Transportation, effective January 2, 2018. Salary is \$21,819 on Step 1; probation is 26 weeks.
6. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mary E. McDermott, to the position of Registered Nurse, effective January 23, 2018 with a salary of Nurse Step 10, \$62,619.00.

b. **Leave of Absence - Personal**

1. That the Board of Education grant a request to Olga Ventura, 5 Hour Bus Driver for Transportation, for an Unpaid Leave of Absence, due to personal reasons, effective January 5, 2018 through January 15, 2018.

c. **Retirement(s)**

1. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Steven Christiansen, 12 month Bus Driver, for the purpose of retirement, effective January 31, 2018.

d. **Leave of Absence - Paid Medical**

1. That the Board of Education approve an extension of a paid Medical Leave of Absence to Steven Christiansen, 12 month Bus Driver, effective December 2, 2017 through January 31, 2018.
2. That the Board of Education approves a paid Medical Leave of Absence to Joan DiFranco, PT Teacher Aide, effective February 17, 2018 to on or about May 29, 2018.

4. **BUSINESS / FINANCE**

a. **Treasurer's Report**

That the Board of Education approves the Treasurer's Report for the period ending November 30, 2017.

b. **Approval of Invoices and Payroll**

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1. That the Board of Education accepts the Invoices and Payroll for the period ending December 31, 2017.

A/P Warrant #11	Dec. 20, 2017	\$2,159,498.12
A/P Warrant #12 Pro Leave	Dec. 20, 2017	\$4,286.29

**TOTAL EXPENSES**                      **\$2,163,784.41**

PAYROLL #11 and #12		
General		\$4,347,815.16
Federal Fund		\$58,907.81

**TOTAL PAYROLL**                      **\$4,406,722.97**

c. **Budget Appropriation Adjustment**

1. That the Board of Education approves the transfer of funds, in the amount of \$145,000 from Budget Code: 9010 800 00 8096 to Budget Code: 2630 460 00 2930 to cover the software licensing agreement with DecisionEd Group. The Board of Education approved the purchase at the December 14, 2017 board meeting with transfer required to cover said purchase.

d. **Business: Other**

1. That the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District approves entering an agreement for part-time accounting services at a rate of \$2800 per month with Keeping Your Books, effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

e. **Internal Claims Audit Report**

1. That the Board of Education approves the Internal Claims Audit Report for November 1, 2017 through November 30, 2017 and December 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

f. **Business/Finance: Disposal of District Property**

That the Board of Education approves the disposal of the following district property, according to Policy #5250, declaring them obsolete.

Microscopes:

- 12 Accu-scope
- 11 Monolux
- 6 Wards
- 2 Pasco
- 3 Bausch and Lomb
- 1 Swift



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**K. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent of Schools' Reports

Presentations: can be seen under "LiveStream" board meetings on our website.

- 1. Student Writing Presentation
- 2. Discussion of the 2018-2019 school calendar
- 3. Humanities K-4

Superintendent Comments

**L. Public Comments - none**

**M. Executive Session Time: 8:59 p.m.**

**Motion:** Dr. Margaret Ballantyne-Mannion

**Second:** Brian Widman

**Yes:** **No:**

Christine Napolitano

Dr Margaret Ballantyne-Mannion

Brian Widman

Cheryl Lampasona

Patrick Talty

**Passed: Yes**

**N. Adjournment Time: \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.**

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

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

**Yes:** **No:**

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

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Linda M. Spagnola**

**District Clerk**