

**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 - 2014-2015

Educational

- To continue to align curriculum that assesses specific Common Core standards. These data must track individual student growth in the standards.
- Develop and implement a four-year plan to align High School coursework and partnerships in specific Career and Technical Education (CTE) strands.
- Explore partnerships with local universities to offer certificate programs to our students during his/her senior year.
- Continue to develop and encourage students to engage in college level coursework
- Continue to assess the District's Strategic Objectives and report on progress toward those objectives

Facilities

- Explore the feasibility of green technologies as part of the projects associated with our Capital reserve expenditures

Finance

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

DATE: November 6, 2014

LOCATION: Willis Avenue School

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

Board of Education

Arthur Barnett, President
Christine Napolitano, Vice President
Patricia Navarra
Nicole Matzer
Margaret Ballantyne-Mannion

Central Office

Dr. Michael Nagler, Superintendent of Schools
Jack Waters, Asst. Supt. for Finance & Operations
Patricia Burns, Asst. Supt. of Curr.,Instr.,&Assess.
Andrea Paggi, District Clerk

A. Call to Order - 7:10pm

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Reading of Mission- Artie Barnett

D. Moment of Silent Meditation

E. Dais & Visitor Introductions

F. High School Student Organization Report

There was no Student Organization report this evening.

G. BOE Reports

a. Comments from Board Trustees

Margaret Ballantyne thanked the Veterans for coming to the meeting tonight. She reported that she attended the NYSSBA convention October 26- 28 in NYC. Dr. Ballantyne stated that as a new Board member this convention brought her up to speed on issues facing School Boards. Dr. Ballantyne enjoyed touring the Middle School with John Couch from APPLE.

Nicole Matzer thanked the Veterans for coming out tonight and for their service. Ms. Matzer reported that since our last meeting, the Marching Band took second place in Syracuse. She attended the NYSSBA convention, which she was glad took place in New York City this year. Ms. Matzer stated that she came away feeling proud to say that Mineola is far ahead and doing more than other districts. She was happy that the Varsity Football team has a playoff game tomorrow at Hampton and wishes the team good luck.

Patricia Navarra also thanked the Veterans for coming out tonight. She also thanked Terry Hale, past Board President, for being here tonight and thanked him for his service.

Christine Napolitano stated that it is not very often that the meetings are this crowded and thanked everyone for attending. As Board members, they do not always know if the decisions they make matter to people and is happy that people are paying attention. Ms. Napolitano thanked the Veterans for their service.

b. Comments from Board President

Artie Barnett is sad that he is missing the Girls' Volleyball playoff game tonight and wished them good luck. The Varsity Football team has their first home playoff game tomorrow at 1:30pm, which is during the school day. He encouraged people to attend. Mr. Barnett congratulated the Marching Band- 2nd in the State but 1st in our hearts. Mr. Barnett is proud of the recent visitors to the Middle School who came to look at how technology is being used in our classrooms. These visitors included John Couch, Vice President of Education for APPLE, Governor Cuomo and the Executive Chairman of Google, Mr. Schmidt. Mr. Barnett stated that when you hear the chairman of Google saying wow, you must be doing something right.

c. Comments from Superintendent

Dr. Nagler noted that he loves having a captive audience. He stated that he wanted to begin tonight by

focusing on a statement made by Mr. Hirsch during the Hearings. The Superintendent stated that both he and the Board know that the District is supported by the Veterans and the seniors citizens. These groups understand that the community exists with a good school district. He added that they are all thankful for the support that is given throughout the year and he listed some examples including supporting the High School Seniors at their award breakfast. Dr. Nagler reported that he and the Board accepted the "Be the Change for Kids" award at the NYSSBA Convention for our innovative STEM Program. Mineola was also recognized as an exemplar school that utilizes technology by Governor Cuomo. Mineola is also in the Governor's report to support the proposition on the ballot in November. Dr. Nagler stated that it is nice to be recognized by the Governor and he is very proud of the District. Governor Cuomo has only visited four schools in the last 4 years and now Mineola Middle School is one of the schools that he has visited. Dr. Nagler reported that the sports teams are doing well. The Girls' Volleyball team is playing their playoff game right now and the Varsity Football team plays tomorrow and if they win then they will move on to the semi-finals at Hofstra.

H. Old Business

There was no old business this evening.

I. New Business

Veteran's Tax Exemption

RESOLUTION # 21 - WHEREAS, New York Real Property Tax Law section 458-a was amended to provide eligible veterans with a real property tax exemption from school taxes so long as the School District in which the real property is located, after public hearing, adopts a resolution authorizing the exemption;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Mineola UFSD, hereby authorizes the application of the Veteran Tax Exemption as contained in New York Real Property Tax Law section 458-a, as amended, and such exemption shall be applicable to school taxes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Mineola UFSD hereby adopts the following alternative maximum exemption allowable in Real Property Tax Law, section 458-a(2) (a), (b) and (c) as follows:

Wartime- \$6000. Combat Zone- \$4000. Disability- \$20,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Mineola UFSD, does hereby adopt the expanded definition of the term "qualified owner", as that term is defined under RPTL §458-a, to include a "Gold Star Parent" as that term is defined under RPTL §458-a.

Motion: Nicole Matzer

Second: Margaret Ballantyne

Discussion: Mr. Barnett asked the Board if there were any comments or discussion. Ms. Napolitano stated that she does hope that the Legislators will take note of the changes that they have requested and is hopeful that the changes will take place now that the election has been settled. Mr. Barnett stated that he wanted to make it clear that no veteran in the Mineola School District has lost anything. This exemption goes into effect next year for all and school districts have until January 2, 2015 to pass the exemption. He does hope that the Legislators will take care of the language of the law. Mr. Barnett stated that the job of the Board is to balance benefits for the Veterans with the burden for the taxpayers in the community. Mr. Barnett stated that he respects, supports and thanks the Veterans. Mr. Barnett polled the Board on the resolution.

Yes: Margaret Ballantyne
Nicole Matzer
Patricia Navarra
Christine Napolitano
Arthur Barnett

No: None

Passed: Yes

J. Consensus Agenda

RESOLUTION # 22 -BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the consensus agenda items J.1.a. through J.6.d.1., as presented.

Motion: Margaret Ballantyne
Second: Christine Napolitano

Discussion: The Superintendent stated that item J.d.1 needs to be pulled from the Consensus Agenda. Mr. Barnett asked for a motion to remove item J.d.1. The motion was made by Nicole Matzer and was second by Christine Napolitano. The Board was polled and all were in favor of pulling the item. Mr. Barnett asked if there were any other comments or discussion and there were none. The Board was polled on amended resolution # 22.

Yes: Margaret Ballantyne
Nicole Matzer
Patricia Navarra
Christine Napolitano
Arthur Barnett

No: None

Passed: Yes

1. Accepting of Minutes

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the October 9, 2014 Workshop Meeting and the October 23, 2014 Business Meeting as presented.

2. Instruction

- a. Appointments Instruction
 1. The Board of Education approves the appointment of Ana Senra-Silva, to the position of part time (.4) Science Teacher at Mineola High School, effective November 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. Salary: .4 of MA. Step 1, \$68,282 equalling \$27,313 pro-rated.
- b. Appointment(S) Sub Teacher per diem

The Board of Education accepts the following individual(s) as Per Diem Substitute Teacher(s) for the current school year, at a daily rate of \$100.00 per day; and retirees at a daily rate of \$125.00 per day.:

	<u>EMPLOYEE NAME</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATION</u>
1.	John J. Panto	Physical Ed
2.	Danielle S. Doucette	Biology 7-12, Chemistry 7-12

c. Appointment(s) Coaches

That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following coaches for the current school year:

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE NAME</u>	<u>STEP</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>
Boys Basketball - Varsity	Ezra A. Elliott	1	\$7,344.00

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE NAME</u>	<u>STEP</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>
Boys Basketball - JV	Philip A. Testa	1	\$4,941.00
Boys Basketball - 7th Grade	William G. Digennaro	3	\$5,401.00
Boys Basketball - 8th Grade	Dominick J. Tolipano	3	\$5,401.00
Girls Basketball - Varsity	Denise E. Zunno	3	\$9,220.00
Girls Basketball - JV	Caitlin T. Orlando	3	\$6,314.00
Girls Basketball - 7th Grade	William G. Digennaro	3	\$5,401.00
Girls Basketball - 8th Grade	Martin F. Joyce	3	\$5,401.00
Bowling - Varsity/JV - Boys	Helmut Bohringer	3	\$4,433.00
Bowling - Varsity/JV - Girls	Mark Miller	3	\$4,433.00
Wrestling - Varsity	Daniel Guido	3	\$8,872.00
Wrestling - JV	Frank J. Massaro	3	\$6,314.00
Wrestling - Varsity Asst	Joseph P. Cerulli	3	\$6,033.00
Wrestling - 7/8 Grades	Michael Palumbo	3	\$5,799.00
Wrestling Asst - 7/8 Grades	Gary L. Santosus	3	\$5,389.00
Volleyball - Girls 7th Grade	Hilary Pavels	3	\$4,788.00
Volleyball - Girls 8th Grade	Hyunah Park	3	\$4,788.00
Track - Girls Winter Varsity	Thomas J. Leninger	3	\$7,848.00
Track - Boys Winter Varsity	John E. Fretz	3	\$7,848.00
Track - Winter Asst Varsity	Kevin A. Murphy	3	\$5,337.00

d. Appointment(s) Club/Stipends

That the Board of Education approves the following Club/stipend recommendations for the current school year:

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE NAME</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>
MS Science Club	Michael Mildon amend to	1/2 of \$1,434.00
MS Science Club	Elena-Marie Murphy	1/2 of \$1,434.00

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

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 5/1/14- 8/31/14. Please be advised that all of the parents have received the student's IEP and a copy of their DUE process rights.

4. **Instruction: Contracted**

a. That the Board of Education approves the Job Coach Agreement for Volunteer Aide between Long Island Advocacy Center (LIAC) and the Mineola UFSD for the 2014- 2015 school year.

5. **Instruction: Other**

a. That the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's Goals and Deliverables for the 2014-2015 school year.

6. **Civil Service**

a. Appointments

1. That the Board of Education approve the temporary appointment of Renee Ryan, to the position of part time Typist Clerk for the Curriculum Office, effective October 27, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Salary is \$21.14 per hour.
2. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Sheri Ragolia, to the position of Nurse Sub, effective November 10, 2014. Salary is \$125 per day.

3. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Riki Strait, to the position of Nurse Sub, effective November 10, 2014. Salary will be \$125 per day.
 4. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Licia McCarthy, to the position of part time Teacher Aide in the cafeteria at Meadow Drive School, effective November 10, 2014. Salary is \$13.74 per hour.
 5. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of AnnMarie Christy, to the position of part time Teacher Aide to replace Christine Flynn, at the High School, effective November 10, 2014. Salary is \$13.74 per hour.
 6. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Gloria Romero, to the position of part time Teacher Aide in the Technology Department at Central Office, effective November 3, 2014. Salary is \$13.74 per hour.
 7. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Barbara Nichols, to the position of part time Bus Driver Sub, effective November 10, 2014. Salary is \$22.46 per hour.
- b. Leave(s) of Absence
1. That the Board of Education approve a paid Medical Leave of Absence to Lauren Tuomey, Bus Driver in Transportation, due to surgery, effective November 6, 2014 through November 28, 2014.
- c. Reappointments
1. That the Board of Education approve the reappointment of Adele Imbrenda, to the position of part time Teacher Aide at the Middle School, effective November 3, 2014. Salary is \$13.74 per hour on Step 1.
- d. Civil Service: Other
1. That the Board of Education recind the approval of a medical leave of absence for Kim Baker beginning October 24, 2014 through January 24, 2015, due to a postponement in surgery until a later date.

K. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent of Schools' Reports for 11/6/14

Presentations:

1. Turf Field

The Superintendent started by reviewing how we got to this point and planned to give a timeline of how we will proceed. Tonight's presentation is on possible sites for a turf field as well as building additions to be tied to the project which will make it possible to get State Aid. The Board has already commissioned an architect and the project is underway. Hopefully, following the presentation this evening the Board can give the architect some focus on the project for drawings and filing with the State. Dr. Nagler explained that once the project is filed, we are at the mercy of the State for approval, which at this point takes 14- 16 weeks. The Superintendent stated that there is money for this project in a Capital Reserve, which needs community approval to use the money. Dr. Nagler stated that we would target the regular May vote. This would be a second proposition on the ballot to approve capital spending. He explained that assuming State approval and community approval; the job would then go out to bid which takes approximately a month to award. Dr. Nagler stated that in the best case scenario, this would take us to 2015 football season. He added that a decision would be made at that time to determine when to start the project. The job will take at least two months to complete. The Superintendent stated that there is \$3 million in the fund, which we can not exceed. Dr. Nagler stated that timeline starts tonight once the Board gives focus on the project. Dr. Nagler introduced Michael Mark, Architect from Mark Design.

Michael Mark presented on "Addition and Alteration and Site Improvements". This presentation can be found on the District website on the Board of Education page, under the heading presentations. Mr. Mark stated that he began this process by exploring the various options for this project for which both the budget and site spaces are limited. Tonight, he will present the four site plan options as well as the two building options. Mr. Mark displayed photos of each option available. Site Plan Option 4- includes a new High School turf with a 400- Meter regulation track and a new Varsity baseball field at Hampton. This plan does not work space or budget-wise. Site Plan Option 3- includes a High School new turf field with a 3-lane non-regulation track and the baseball field remains at the High School and the Hampton configuration to remain. This option does not work for the district space wise. Site Plan Option 2- includes the High School configuration to remain as is and at Hampton, a new turf field and 400 meter regulation track. Due to the restricted space available, this option does not make sense. Site Plan Option 1- includes the High School configuration to remain unchanged and at Hampton a new turf field with a 3- lane non-regulation track. According to Mr. Mark, this option is the best fit and the best compromise. Mr. Mark displayed the Hampton Athletic Field concept which includes a synthetic turf field, multi-sport striping, 3-lane non-regulation walking track and a safety buffer zone with a smaller footprint. Mr. Mark next presented the two Hampton Site Plan Building options. He stated that for both options the common elements include a new turf field with 3-lane, non-regulation track and a new bus loop. Building Option 1 includes a new three classroom addition. This addition would be on the playground side of the building and it was stated that they will have the ability to move the playground equipment. The existing cafeteria would remain unchanged. Mr. Mark displayed the floor plan for this option. Hampton Site Plan Option 2 includes a new APR/ Cafeteria addition with additional classrooms as a bid alternative as well as converting the existing cafeteria into classrooms. Mr. Mark displayed the floor plan. He stated with both options, solar power would be explored. Finally, Mr. Mark also displayed rendering views of the APR/Cafeteria from different locations.

The Board was asked if there were any questions or comments. Ms. Matzer asked Mr. Mark to display another view of the bus loop. Ms. Napolitano asked about the current state of the cafeteria at Hampton Street. The Superintendent stated that the cafeteria is original to the building and he anticipates that it would need to

be re-done within the next five years. Dr. Ballantyne asked for the maximum capacity of the cafeteria and was told it was 250 individuals. Dr. Nagler stated that he feels a bus loop at Hampton would be a step in the right direction regarding safety of the students. He added that the building does not have a space currently to house students in bad weather and feels that the option which offers a new cafeteria/ AP room makes the most sense. It was also explained that the project could be phased in over time. The Superintendent added that the Smart Bond Act has passed and it is possible that Mineola will be able to use the money for Pre-K, since it will not be needed for technology. We are awaiting the particulars regarding how the money can be spent. The bid process for this project can be set up with alternate projects, for example- lights for the field. The Board raised the issue of recent reports regarding cancer scares from athletes' use of turf field. Mr. Mark stated that there are many studies available and he feels that there are many benefits to turf field. He stated that the biggest benefit is the reduction of head injuries. Mr. Mark stated he feels that the good outweighs the bad regarding the turf fields. Ms. Napolitano asked about the in-fill used for these turf fields. Mr. Mark stated that most use crumb rubber and he will forward studies to the Board. Mr. Barnett stated that he is concerned about the studies he has read regarding cancer in girl soccer players, who play goalie. He is interested in the use of an alternate in-fill- flex sand. Mr. Mark stated that no study should be disregarded and will provide a side by side study of these products. Mr. Mark also stated that he feels that the Athletic Director should be included in these discussions. The Superintendent stated that Mr. Amitrano is unable to be here tonight due to the Girls Volleyball game; but he recommends not making any changes at the High School and making a new turf field and no-regulation track at Hampton. It was asked if the track can be driven on, as it is on Homecoming. It was stated that it cannot be driven on. Mr. Mark stated that the turf field should last for ten years and maintenance should take place twice per year. Although it can be plowed, this is not recommended. Mr. Barnett stated that regarding the Building options, he feels that it makes sense to move the cafeteria. Mr. Barnett asked about the possibility of LED lighting for the field and Mr. Mark stated that it will be much more that a year before this will be available. LED lighting is great for the classrooms but it is not ready for outdoor fields yet. Mr. Barnett had questions regarding the cost of lighting for the field and if lighting is not in the project budget would the posts and conduits be in place for future installation. Mr. Mark stated that they would be in place. Dr. Nagler stated to the Board that he would like to determine the scope of the project tonight in order for drawings to be done. Mr. Barnett asked the Board for approval to open the floor to public comments and the Board was in agreement.

Mr. Barnett opened the floor for public comment regarding the turf field and building project. There were six resident/parents who had comments. the questions and comments revolved around the scope of the field project and one resident/parent had concerns regarding the bus loop. All speakers were responded to by the Superintendent.

Mr. Barnett stated that everything is preliminary and Dr. Nagler added that there will be more presentations to come. Dr. Nagler asked the Board for direction for Mr. Mark, Architect. Mr. Barnett felt that he feels that the turf field at Hampton and the relocation of the cafeteria make the most sense to him and the Board was in agreement. The Superintendent asked Mr. Mark to put together the drawing for these projects. Mr. Barnett reminded the audience that the money for this project is in capital reserve and the community must approve the use of the funds.

Superintendent Comments

There were no additional comments this evening. But, the Superintendent stated that he was in need of an executive session to discuss an employee disciplinary matter.

L. Executive Session Time: 8:25 p.m.

At 8:25pm, a motion was made for the Board of Education to go into Executive Session to discuss an Employee disciplinary proceedings.

Motion: Patricia Navarra

Second: Nicole Matzer

Yes: Margaret Ballantyne
Nicole Matzer
Patricia Navarra
Christine Napolitano
Arthur Barnett

No: None

Passed: Yes

M. Adjournment Time: _____ p.m.

Motion: _____

Second: _____

Yes: _____

No: _____

Passed: _____

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea M. Paggi