

**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.

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**DATE: January 15, 2015**

**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 - 7:05pm**

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Reading of Mission- Nicole Matzer**

**D. Moment of Silent Meditation**

**E. Dais & Visitor Introductions**

Mr. Barnett stated that Christine Napolitano was not here tonight because she was representing the Board at the dinner for Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy.

**F. High School Student Organization Report**

There was no Student Organization report this evening.

**G. BOE Reports**

**a. Comments from Board Trustees**

Margaret Ballantyne wished everyone a Happy New Year. She sends her congratulations to the two Intel Semifinalists from the High School.

Nicole Matzer also wished everyone a Happy New Year and congratulated the Intel finalist. She stated that she is looking forward to all of the upcoming events.

Patricia Navarra also wished everyone a Happy New Year. Ms. Navarra stated that it was nice to hear the positive views of the school district from the seniors in the community at the recent Village meeting.

**b. Comments from Board President**

Artie Barnett expressed his congratulations to the two Intel Semi-finalists, Dr. McGlade McCullough, the teachers and Ed Escobar. Mr. Barnett stated that he had the opportunity to participate in the final Round Table discussion with Commissioner King, before he left to pursue his new position. Mr. Barnett felt honored that the Commissioner pointed out the accomplishments of the Mineola School District during the event.

**c. Comments from Superintendent**

The Superintendent reported that at the 3/5 Board Meeting, he will be making an announcement about another award that Mineola will be receiving. Dr. Nagler stated that he wanted to talk a little about the Intel Semi-finalists. First, he would like to acknowledge that in addition to Monika Dharia and Charlotte Ring, there were two other students from the High School that entered the competition, Craig VandeStouwe and Kevin Augustine. All described the application process to him as being "the worst of their lives" and it took place in the middle of the college application process. The report that they were required to submit was 25 pages. He added that the research starts in January of their junior year. Dr. Nagler also reported that Charlotte Ring completed all of her research in the old lab at the High School. He congratulated each of the students.

Dr. Nagler stated that the School Climate Survey for Jackson Avenue, the Middle School and the High School has gone out to parents, students and faculty. He thanked those individuals who have already completed the survey. This is the third year for the climate survey for the High School. This survey is asking how we are doing and how can we improve. Dr. Nagler would like to have more parents participate (only 13% have participated). The survey takes approximately 5- 7 minutes to complete and there is a link to the survey on the website.

Dr. Nagler reported that Michael Mark, architect, will be at the January 29th Business Meeting to do a follow-up presentation regarding the turf field. Mr. Mark has filed with the State to get Mineola into the system, for when the project is ready to be submitted for approval. Mr. Mark will be back to address the issues that were raised at the time of his first presentation: field in-fill options, concession building options, cost for replacement and cost for resurfacing the track at the High School. The Superintendent also reported that the First Lego League Tournament will take place on January 31st at Mineola High School. It is expected that there will be approximately 1200 students and their parents attending this event. Also, on January 31st, the Booster Club's biggest fundraising event the Mustang Stakes will be held at the Mineola Knights of Columbus. Septa will be sponsoring a Flapjack Fundraiser at AppleBee's on 2/28 from 8am to 10 am.

## **H. Old Business**

Mr. Barnett asked the Board if there was any old business, but they did not have any. Mr. Barnett asked the Superintendent if there were any updates on projects. The Superintendent reported that bids would open tomorrow for the window, door and pointing projects by building. Mr. Barnett requested that the Board set-up two public policy meeting dates in March and April and hopes that this review will be completed by May. The Superintendent stated that this process is near completion and feels it will be done by May. There was no other old business.

## **I. New Business**

There was no new business this evening.

## J. Consensus Agenda

**RESOLUTION # 28 -BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the consensus agenda items J.1.a. through J.6.c., as presented.

**Motion:** Margaret Ballantyne

**Second:** Nicole Matzer

Discussion: The Superintendent commented there are several retirements listed in this agenda. He stated that these are all quality teachers that will be missed and he wishes them all well. He noted that this is a particularly high number of retirements. The Board members also expressed their best wishes to the teachers. There were no other comments or discussion.

**Yes:** Margaret Ballantyne

**No:** None

Nicole Matzer

Patricia Navarra

Arthur Barnett

**Passed:** Yes

### 1. Accepting of Minutes

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the December 11, 2014 Business Meeting as presented.

### 2. Instruction

#### a. Resignation(s)

1. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Allison M. Doyle, Permanent Substitute Teacher, effective December 5, 2014.
2. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Denise E. Zunno, Health Teacher, for the purposes of retirement, effective June 30, 2015.
3. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Suzanne Sabatini, Math Teacher, for the purposes of retirement, effective June 30, 2015.
4. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Michael S. Robilotto, Physical Education Teacher, for the purposes of retirement, effective June 30, 2015.
5. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Judith L. Shaughnessy, Librarian, for the purposes of retirement, effective June 30, 2015.
6. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Vincenzina Dziorny, Special Education Teacher, for the purposes of retirement, effective June 30, 2015.
7. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Maryanne Beach, English Teacher, for the purposes of retirement, effective January 1, 2015.
8. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Lucy A. Long, Special Education Teacher, for the purposes of retirement, effective June 30, 2015.

#### b. Appointments Instruction

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Maryanne Beach, to the position of part time Reading Teacher, effective January 5, 2015.

c. 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.	Michelle C. Rodriguez	Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)
2.	Maria Kaloudis	Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)
3.	Virginia Barrezueta	Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)

d. Appointments 45 Day Subs

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Lauren Miraglia, to the position of 45 Day Substitute Teacher for Stephen Mitchell, effective January 5, 2015 to on or before June 30, 2015. Salary: Days 1-20, \$100.00, Days 21-39 \$110.00, Days 40-45 \$120, Day 46 BA, Step1, \$58,706.

e. Appointment(S) Perm Sub

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Michelle C. Rodriguez, to the position of Permanent Substitute Teacher, effective approximately January 12, 2015 to May 31, 2015. Salary: \$100 per day.
2. The Board of Education approves the appointment of Maria Kaloudis, to the position of Permanent Substitute Teacher, effective January 5, 2015 to May 31, 2015. Salary: \$100 per day.
3. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Virginia Barrezueta, to the position of Permanent Substitute Teacher, effective January 12, 2015 to May 31, 2015. Salary: \$100 per day.

3. Civil Service

a. Resignation(s)

1. That the Board of Education accept the resignation of Donna Renda, part time Teacher Aide at the Jackson Avenue School, effective December 23, 2014.

b. Appointments

1. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Barbara Wenz, to the position of 12 month Sr. Typist Clerk in the Main Office of the High School, to replace Marie DeSpirito, effective January 6, 2015. Salary will be \$65,072 on Step14.
2. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of John Hassell, Cleaner Sub, to the position of Maintainer Sub, for Joe Filomena who is on a Medical Leave of Absence, effective 01/06/2015. Salary is \$20 per hour.
3. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Meghan Marie Tiangco, to the position of Nurse Sub, effective January 20, 2015. Salary is \$125 per day.

c. Leave(s) of Absence

1. That the Board of Education approve a paid Medical Leave of Absence to Anthony Reid, 10 month Bus Driver, due to surgery, effective December 12, 2014. He will be on leave for approximately three weeks.
2. That the Board of Education approve a paid Medical Leave of Absence to Jose Ayala, Cleaner at the High School, due to surgery, effective December 19, 2014 through March 23, 2015.

d. Resignation(s)

1. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Elaine T. Cook, for the purpose of retirement, effective April 29, 2015.

e. Leave(s) of Absence

1. That the Board of Education grant a request to Joseph Filomena, Maintainer, for an Unpaid Medical Leave of Absence, due to post-surgery restrictions, effective December 8, 2014. Recommendation by doctor is a four month leave.
2. That the Board of Education extends a request to Niloofar Lahijani, part time Teacher Aide at Meadow Drive, for an Unpaid Medical Leave of Absence, effective December 18, 2014 until further notice.

f. Civil Service: Other

1. That the Board of Education approve a change in title from Stenographic Secretary to Senior Typist Clerk for the secretary to the principal position at Mineola High School, effective January 6, 2015.
2. That the Board of Education approve a change in title from Senior Typist Clerk to Typist Clerk for the IL secretary position at Mineola High School, effective January 5, 2015.

4. **Business /Finance**

a. **Budget Appropriation Adjustment**

1. That the Board of Education approves the transfer of funds, in the amount of \$24,000 from Budget code: 9760 700 00 7399 to Budget code: 1620 450 00 0000 to cover annual Sprint charges for Ipad's for students that do not have internet service available at home.
2. That the Board of Education approves the transfer of funds, in the amounts of \$3,000 from Budget code: 1310 200 00 0000, \$3,000 from Budget code: 2110 200 00 0000, and \$2000 from Budget code: 2110 200 07 0000 for a total of \$8000 to Budget code: 2110 200 00 2400 to cover the purchase of drums.

5. **Other**

Approval of New 2015 Standard Mileage Rate

- a. That the Board of Education approves the new 2015 IRS Mileage Reimbursement Rate for approved travel at a rate of 57.5 cents per mile effective January 1, 2015.

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

That the Board of Education approves the disposal of the following district property, according to Policy #6900, declaring them obsolete:

- a. Wheeler Balancer- outdated and does not work on newer buses.
- b. Tire Changer- outdated and does not work on newer buses.
- c. Various textbooks which are no longer being used in the textbook loan program and cannot be sold.

## **K. Superintendent's Report**

### Superintendent of Schools' Reports for 1/15/15

#### Presentations:

1. The Future of K-12 Specials
2. Senior Projects

The Superintendent introduced Ed Escobar, Gary Desire and students Elizabeth Brown and Jonathan Wilson to present "Senior Projects- Mineola High School". \*This presentation can be found on the District website, on the Board of Education page, under the heading presentations. Ed Escobar stated that before he begins tonight, he would like to first acknowledge the two Intel Semi-finalists, Monika Dharia and Charlotte Ring. Mr. Escobar stated that this is a credit to the District and the Board of Education. This is a great honor and hopefully they will continue in the competition.

Mr. Escobar reported that the Senior Projects ties to making students college and career ready. It has been interesting to hear what the students come back with when they have completed their projects. Mr. Escobar introduced, Gary Desiree, Instructional Leader. Mr. Desire stated that he has been at the High School for 13 years and in his opinion, Senior Project is the 2nd most important course (after math). This is his first year overseeing this course. He stated that this course provides an important bridge from high school to college and the world of work by having students extend their learning beyond the school's walls. The students design and implement independent learning plans to explore an area of personal interest. Mr. Desire explained the requirements of the Senior Project course: one semester of the senior year, every other day in the class schedule and 1/4 credit. Students have three options to choose from:

Choice A: 5-7 page paper, 10 hours field work and a presentation.

Choice B: 12- 15 page paper, no field work and a presentation.

Choice C: Internship; or Creative Endeavor; or Service Project.

Mr. Desire stated the emphasis is on looking for career oriented projects. He displayed a list of some examples of projects from the class of 2015: Nassau County Museum of Art, Veterinarian, Sports Marketing, Music Production, Real Estate, Nursing, Physicians Assistant, Dentistry, Law, Physical Therapy, Speech Pathology, Elementary School Teaching, Cosmetology, Computer Science and Texting and Driving: A Simulation.

Mr. Desire introduced two of the current seniors from the High School to present their senior projects to the group. First, Elizabeth Brown presented "Careers in Health Professions: Nursing". She described her internship which took place at the Belleayre Mountain First Aid Office. Elizabeth Brown was able to see the daily procedures of the head nurse as well observe the different patients and scenarios that arise. She would like to go into the medical field after graduation. Elizabeth presented a few of her experiences from the internship. In her final reflection, Elizabeth stated that this internship helped to reinforce her desire to pursue a career in the medical field and she had learned a great deal during this experience. Mr. Desire introduced Jonathan Wilson, who completed his internship at the Nassau County Museum of Art. Jonathan explained that he developed an interest in art after visiting Europe this past summer. He wanted to see how people can make it a career. He explained the process that he went through to secure an internship including emailing potential employers, interviewing, setting up a schedule and learning his responsibilities. Jonathan listed what he learned from this internship. Some of the items included: dealing with people and their problems, commitment to the job, time management skills and more information about specific art and exhibits. Jonathan reflected on this experience and he stated that it was a great learning experience which helped with some of his personal goals. He also stated that it created a new appreciation for museums and opened his eyes to see art in a different way. Mr. Desire concluded the presentation. He stated that Senior Projects are the culmination of career exploration that begins in grade 8 with an exploration of careers and clusters; "Strengths Explorer" in 9th grade; Career Profiler (Overview, Knowledge and skill, Tasks and Activities,

Wages) in the 10th grade, and Career Day in the 11th grade. He added that students develop many skills including presenting, interpersonal and practical, on the job experience. Next there were questions and comments from the Board. Mr. Barnett stated that he has seen some changes in the senior projects over the years and they seem to be shifting from service projects to career oriented. Mr. Escobar feels that the students passion really comes out in these projects. Dr. Nagler thanked Elizabeth and Jonathan for their presentations and asked why they did not choose to just write a paper. Both of them expressed that they wanted a hands-on experience and both felt that they learned a lot. Elizabeth stated that she feels that it is a good thing that students have three different options when selecting a senior project.

Tonight's second presentation by Dr. Nagler was an "Update on Board Goals and Initiatives for K-12 Electives". \*This presentation can be found on the District website, on the Board of Education page, under the heading presentations. Dr. Nagler would be presenting various considerations for the Board with respect to the K-12 Electives. Dr. Nagler began by presenting the major goals and initiatives: Coding, Dual language/Language Immersion/Elementary Spanish, STEAM, and CTE- career and technical exposure.

The Superintendent discussed Jackson's Extension Program and stated what's old is new again. Currently, they are using a Science rotation and it is working well. We are now looking how it can be expanded for recess and physical education. The use of the rotation will restore recess 5 times per week, fully complies with the PE mandate and opens up additional time for specials. Dr. Nagler stated that for PE- 1/2 the students from 4 classes would participate in PE with two teachers. The rest of the students would work with their teachers on guided reading; this could run in all three programs. Dr. Nagler displayed a chart for coding in each grade and the frequency.

Next, Dr. Nagler discussed Spanish in the schools. Currently, the three options are: Dual-language, Immersion and 2 times per week. The plan is to phase out the option of Spanish- two times per week and replace with the other options. The future considerations include: Jackson combination, what to do in the Middle School and do we maintain 2 times per week and if so what are the expectations of this program. Dr. Nagler displayed a chart of Spanish options and timelines by grades. Some of the highlights include: for k-12 the parent choice will be either dual language or immersion and phase out 2x Spanish; Jackson Avenue- parent choice to continue dual language or immersion and phase out 2x Spanish; at the Middle School- students continue dual language and immersion as they enter and current 4th grade will have the option to continue. A voluntary hybrid online course is being created. At the High School students will have five language choices- Spanish, French, Italian, Latin and Portuguese. Dr. Nagler stated that the goal is for the dual language and immersion students will take the regents in grade 8.

Next, the Superintendent discussed STEAM. Dr. Nagler stated the plan would include adding a science teacher at Meadow Drive and Hampton Street. For the 7th grade, an alternate day of math will be added. In the High School, there will be a change in the math offerings to students including:

- Eliminate pre-geometry and intermediate algebra and reduce probability and statistics to 1 section.
- Offer extended time for regents level coursework: 8th grade- double period Algebra, 9th grade- 1.5 periods of Geometry, 10th grade double period Algebra II and Trigonometry, and 12th grade add College Algebra.
- New electives to be offered: AP computer science A, game maker programming, robotics, digital production.

The final area of discussion by the Superintendent was CTE- Career and Technical "Exposure". Dr. Nagler stated that the goal would be to ensure that all students have an experience in the specific career coursework. By 11th and 12th grade, we would make enough electives available so students can pursue areas of interest: STEAM, Communications and Health. The final piece would be establishing the Partnership with Queensboro.

Dr. Nagler asked the Board if there were questions or comments. Ms. Navarra stated that she is very happy



with the science rotation program and how it is working. Dr. Ballantyne loves to see the integrated learning and to see that PE and recess will be back. She also stated that the foreign language offerings are exactly as they should be. Mr. Barnett asked a question with respect to CTE- will there be some students who are not ready to take advantage of the 11th and 12th grade electives. Dr. Nagler stated that there will be student (approximately 10%) who will need this time for graduation requirements. He added that more students should be able to pass trigonometry and we need to plan for how to accomplish it. Dr. Nagler stated that the High School is on board with this plan and is working very hard. Ms. Napolitano asked about the type of feedback given by students about coding. Dr. Nagler stated that the feedback is different based upon the students asked. He added that the best indicator of interest will be what courses are running. Mr. Escobar stated that the new programs are a work in progress. He added that by giving students the opportunity to explore their interests, students are having fun and geared towards achieving. Mr. Escobar said that it is refreshing to see the work that is going on at the High School. Ms. Napolitano asked Mr. Escobar if these changes have been discussed at the PTSA meetings. He replied that he had not discussed these changes yet, but he will at upcoming meetings. Ms. Navarra stated that she is very excited about all that is going on at the high school. Dr. Nagler had one final comment regarding this presentation; next week a language survey will be sent out.

### Superintendent Comments

The Superintendent had no additional comments this evening, but stated that he was in need of an Executive Session.

### **L. Executive Session    Time: 8:45 p.m.**

At 8:45pm, a motion was made for the Board of Education to go into Executive Session to discuss negotiations.

**Motion:** Nicole Matzer

**Second:** Margaret Ballantyne

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

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

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

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

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

**Yes:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**No:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Andrea M. Paggi**