

**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 - 2013-2014

Educational

- To continue to integrate the Common Core standards with an emphasis on new grade level assessments which measure student progress in specific standards
- Develop and implement a plan to encourage HS students to challenge AP and/ or College level coursework with the goal of every student gaining this experience before they graduate
- Develop a system to assess the District's Strategic Objectives and report on progress toward those objectives
- Explore the feasibility of 5 day Pre-K for all students

Facilities

- Explore the feasibility of green technologies as part of the projects associated with our Capital reserve expenditures
- Implement and maintain a comprehensive security plan

Finance

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

DATE: October 3, 2013

LOCATION: Willis Ave. School

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

Board of Education

Arthur Barnett, President
Christine Napolitano, Vice President
Patricia Navarra, Trustee
Nicole Matzer, Trustee
William Hornberger, Trustee

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- Christine Napolitano

D. Moment of Silent Meditation

E. Dais & Visitor Introductions

F. High School Student Organization Report

There was no Student Organization report this evening.

Mr. Barnett stated that he would like to change the order of the meeting and allow the two presentations to take place at this point of the meeting, following the presentations the meeting will return to the regular order. The Board was in agreement with this change.

The first presentation was the Mineola Marching Band. Tonight's presentation was made by three Drum Majors: Megan McCabe, Kerry Barnett and Kelly Behan. The presentation was accompanied by a slide show of the band. They thanked Dr. Nagler and the Board for their support. The girls gave an overview of the Marching Bands schedule including practice, band camp and the performances. The members of the Marching Band make a huge commitment and are very dedicated. This year's theme is "Flight to a New World" and the girls discussed how this theme is a metaphor for everyone's lives. They stated that they have all learned a great deal from participating in the Marching Band. Currently, the Band is in first place in their division for performances. It was reported that on October 19th, the Home Show will take place at Tully Park at 5:30pm and they encouraged everyone to attend. The girls thanked the Board again for their support. Dr. Nagler thanked the girls for their presentation. He encouraged everyone to attend the Home Show and stated that there is a huge amount of work that goes into making it successful. The Superintendent stated that the end of the show is his favorite part- the retreat. He stated that each group has a special salute. Dr. Nagler emphasized the commitment made by the Marching Band members, which begins in May. He added that a large number of the members are honor students. Dr. Nagler told the girls that it is very easy to support the Marching Band and wished them luck this season.

Tonight's second presentation is the "Adelphi Residency Program". The Superintendent stated that it is his strong belief that teachers need cultivation in their craft. He feels that the one thing lacking in the education of teachers is actual time in the classroom. Their actual student teaching lasts one or two semesters. Dr. Nagler approached Adelphi University with the idea of a residency program, which would include one year of daily teaching in the classroom while learning all aspects of classroom management. He stated that sometimes, we forget that these student teachers have knowledge to share especially in the area of technology. This program was mobilized late, but currently there are 17 students in the building who are committed to from a couple of hours per week to a daily schedule. Dr. Nagler introduced Dr. Fayth Vaughn-Shavio, from Adelphi to speak about this program. He also pointed out there were several other professors and three students in the audience this evening.

Dr. Vaughn-Shavio thanked Dr. Nagler for taking the initiative to bring together this true partnership between Adelphi and Mineola. She stated that Dr. Nagler came and shared his idea with the professors. People did not think it could happen for this school year because it was so late and schedules had been made. But, the professors made a commitment to make this program happen. Dr. Vaughn-Shavio thanked Pat and the professors for working together and embracing the idea. The students will be groomed in the schools for 2-3 years and learn all aspects of being a teacher. At the end of their studies, students will be "road ready". Dr. Vaughn-Schavio introduced the Adelphi professors and the students in the audience. She stated that one of

the students has agreed to speak this evening about her current experience in the Residency Program. Dana McDonough is currently at the Jackson Avenue School and is in a 3rd grade co-teaching class. She stated that there are a total of 17 students from Adelphi, that will be participant observers and then student teaching. It was reported that these students have been included in all trainings for teachers and they have been made welcome by the Jackson Avenue staff. They work with a mentor teacher and she is impressed with the small group learning that takes place. Dana thanked everyone and stated that she is very excited about this partnership. Dr. Nagler thanked Dana for her presentation and asked the Board if there were any questions/comments. Ms. Napolitano asked Dana what she found to be the most surprising about this experience. Dana explained that this is her first experience in an elementary school since the time she attended. She is really beginning to understand how children learn in a classroom and all that is involved. Dana added that she also likes that the students in this program have truly been welcomed in the school. Mr. Hornberger stated that he feels that this program will truly benefit all parties. He thanked Dr. Nagler, the Adelphi professors and the students for their commitment to making this program happen. Dr. Nagler asked Dana, if a person was not sure if teaching is their true profession of choice, would this program help them decide. She stated that this program gives you a true picture of what being a teacher truly is. Dr. Nagler thanked Dana for her presentation. He stated that this experience will really bring out "true teachers" and will weed out those individuals who are not meant to be teachers. Dr. Nagler stated that he has extended the invitation to other universities to start additional partnerships.

There were no additional comments and Mr. Barnett returned to the regular meeting agenda.

G. BOE Reports

a. Comments from Board Trustees

Mr. Hornberger stated that he met with the financial committee and Mr. Waters for their kick-off meeting. He felt that there was an open and honest dialogue at the meeting. The committee discussed to Board goals for the 2013/2014 school year and will be involved in the feasibility of 5 day Pre-K discussions. The next meeting of the committee will take place on October 29th and they will be discussing the audit and financial statements. Mr. Hornberger stated that due to the new budget tax levy cap, the committee will no longer be doing a budget presentation. Finally, Mr. Hornberger stated that the Board needs to fine tune their goal for the financial committee.

Ms. Matzer stated that she did not have a report this evening, but stated that she had received a copy of the letter sent to parents regarding the student use of the IPADs. She stated that she hopes this will alleviate some of their concerns. Dr. Nagler stated that the protective cases for the IPADs were delivered and the hope is to have the IPADS to the children by Monday.

Ms. Navarra stated that she was happy to see that there were 60 AP scholars at the High School. She added that many of our students leave the High School with a large number of college credits.

Ms. Napolitano stated that she attended the Hampton PTA meeting and Dr. Nagler did his first Capital Reserve presentation. She felt that the presentation was well received by parents. She stated that the Superintendent will be doing these presentations at each of the other schools during November.

b. Comments from Board President

Mr. Barnett marched in the Homecoming Parade on 9/21 and there was a lot of rain during the actual parade. Mr. Barnett stated that the expressions on people's faces, as everyone marched in the rain were priceless, but

it did turn into a beautiful day. He stated in late October, the Board will be attending the NYSSBA Annual Convention. He is very happy that many Board members are attending and plan to be involved in attending the many information sessions. Mr. Barnett stated feels that they will come back with a great deal of information. Mr. Barnett stated that there was a recent shooting near Roosevelt Field which impacted some surrounding schools and the Superintendent will be addressing this issue. Finally, Mr. Barnett stated that last Saturday was the Ribbon Cutting for the Meadow Drive Library which is a beautiful and cool space for the students.

c. Comments from Superintendent

The Superintendent stated that he and some of the Board members attended the Middle School Welcome Back Barbecue. There was a good turn out and it went well. He also attended the Welcome Back Picnic at Meadow Drive and thanked Georgette Strobel, Renee Ryan and Dr. Fleischmann for all their hard work to make the event a success. Dr. Nagler stated that he attended the Superintendent State conference in Saratoga. The Commissioner spoke about the Common Core Standards and the State test. The Superintendent reported that he joined in on the information session with parents of students attending the CW Post gifted program. This Saturday will be the first session and 20 students from grades 3- 8 will be attending. Tomorrow, 10/4 is Friday Night Lights at Hampton, the Varsity football team will play North Shore at 7pm. Dr. Nagler stated that he will be speaking at each of the schools regarding the Capital Reserve Referendum, which will take place on November 19th. The Superintendent thanked Mr. Gaven, principal of the Middle School, for applying for the Apple Distinguished School award and stated that this is a very involved process. He added that this is a difficult award to win. Finally, Dr. Nagler stated that Sunday is the Autism Speaks Walk at Jones Beach and SEPTA invites everyone to join them.

H. Old Business

Mr. Barnett asked the Board if there was any old business. Mr. Hornberger asked the Superintendent to give an update of what contracts have not yet been settled. The Superintendent stated that the Clerical and the Aides contracts have not been settled yet. He stated that a mediator has been established with the aides and there is one session left of the four that were allotted. It was stated that the sides are not yet close to settling and both sides must agree in order to settle.

Mr. Barnett asked the Superintendent to give an update on security, discuss the shooting by Roosevelt Field and clarify the difference between a "lock-out" and a "lock-down". The Superintendent stated that in a "lock-out", the danger is outside the building and no one may enter or leave the building. A "lock-down" is more serious and the danger is in the building. During a "lock-down", the children are locked in their classrooms and stay quiet in a small area. Both of these are practiced in all of the schools, so that everyone involved will know what to do in case of an emergency. Dr. Nagler stated that a shooting had taken place last week in Garden City and police advised schools in the Garden City UFSD to go into lock-out. He stated that he contacted the 3rd Precinct and was advised against a lock-out, but they were asked to keep the seniors in at the high school. Dr. Nagler stated that as a precaution, recess was held indoors. Dr. Nagler added that as a result of new security measures we are in a constant lock-out. He stated if there was eminent danger, Dr. Nagler would have called parents to notify them of the situation. This event did not warrant a phone call. He added that the principal of Hampton Street School did call parents, with his approval, due to the proximity to the area of the shooting. Dr. Nagler stated that all cameras and panic buttons should be operational by next week.

There was no other old business.

I. New Business

Mr. Barnett asked the Board if there was any new business this evening. Ms. Napolitano stated that there has been a great deal of information regarding the Common Core Standards in the papers and on social media and not all of it is factual or accurate. She stated that she is concerned about the amount of misinformation that parents are being given. Ms. Napolitano proposed that the District hold a Town Hall meeting to give parents an overview of the Common Core Standards. She feels that this would be a good opportunity for everyone to talk about what the standards are and are not. She also recommends involving the District Council. The Superintendent stated that he agrees with Ms. Napolitano about the amount of incorrect information which is out there. He stated that Districts have adopted the Common Core Standards, however they were not told how to implement the standards. Dr. Nagler stated that only three districts represent themselves in the State and Ms. Burns has been present since the beginning. This is the second summer developing curriculum for the Common Core Standards and teachers have been involved in the process. The District has adopted the State math curriculum. The Superintendent stated that the premise is that all students should be exposed to grade level material. He added that it is important for students to know what they don't know. Dr. Nagler stated that it is very important that we do not over stress the students. He welcomes the opportunity to discuss the standards and the curriculum with parents and feels that the kids will also benefit from this meeting. Ms. Burns stated that we try very hard to give support to staff with the new standards and feels that a town hall meeting is a good idea. Ms. Napolitano again stated that there is a great deal of misinformation. Ms. Matzer agreed and stated that people incorrectly lump the standards and the new State exams together. She stated that some people only see the results of the State Exams and not all that is going on in the schools. The Superintendent stated that parents should be asking themselves, how their child feels about school and are they learning. Mr. Barnett also stated that there are many misconceptions about what the standards really are and feels a conversation needs to take place. Ms. Matzer stated that she feels a town hall meeting is a good idea. Ms. Napolitano stated that she is just worried about what people are reading and wants the District to get ahead of this. She feels it will be helpful for parents to be able to ask questions. Ms. Navarra discussed the fact that education is really changing from when we were in school and we need to move forward. The goal of the Common Core Standards is to get students to think differently and apply their knowledge. Mr. Hornberger stated that he appreciates this conversation being brought to the table. He thanked Ms. Burns for going to Albany and actually being there to be part of the Common Core discussions. Mr. Hornberger appreciates how diligently she has worked on this process. The Superintendent added that we are starting standard based report cards as of December and he feels a town hall meeting would be helpful before these report cards are introduced. Ms. Navarra stated that she was impressed to see, on her visit to Meadow Drive, that the Standards are posted in the hallways and in the classrooms. Mr. Hornberger stated that he does not want to just focus on the exams only. He stated Mineola is broader than just a test and we should be looking at all that is going on. Mr. Barnett suggested doing an exit survey at the voting locations regarding the standards, in order to target question points for the town hall meeting.

There was no additional new business, so the Board moved on to the new business agenda item.

Memorandum of Agreement

RESOLUTION #22- BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District hereby authorizes and approves the memorandum of agreement between the Board of Education and the Association of Mineola School Administrators, dated September 27, 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to incorporate said memorandum of agreement into the parties' more formal written agreement for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

Motion: Patricia Navarra
Second: William Hornberger

Discussion: The Superintendent stated that this document clarifies some of the language of the original memorandum of agreement signed on February 8, 2013. There was no further discussion.

Yes: William Hornberger
Nicole Matzer
Patricia Navarra
Christine Napolitano
Arthur Barnett

No: None

Passed: Yes

J. Consensus Agenda

RESOLUTION # 23-BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the consensus agenda items J.1.a. through J.4.a.1., as presented.

Motion: Nicole Matzer
Second: William Hornberger

Discussion: the Superintendent stated that he needed to amend item 4.1.a. for the date of return to be 10/8/13 not 10/8/14 as written. A motion was made by William Hornberger to amend item J.4.1.a and was second by Christine Napolitano. The Board was polled and all were in favor. The motion passed and the item was amended. Mr. Barnett asked the Board if there was any discussion on the amended consensus agenda. There was no discussion and the District Clerk polled the Board.

Yes: William Hornberger
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 August 29, 2013 Workshop Meeting and September 19, 2013 Business Meeting as presented.

2. **Instruction**

a. Appointments Instruction

1. That the Board of Education approves the recommendation of the Superintendent to increase the appointment of Heather Hazen, from a .5 Reading Teacher to a .6 Reading Teacher at Mineola High School, effective September 17, 2013 with a salary of .6 of MA+30, Step 9, \$97,059 equaling \$58,235.

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.	Nicholas A. Tonini	Physical Ed
2.	Bruce R. Velazquez	Childhood Ed (1-6) & Bilingual Ed Ext
3.	Matthew C. Miller	Childhood Ed (1-6)

c. 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>
Art Club Advisor	Jeanine S. Gallina	\$854.00
Book Club	Judith Shaughnessy	\$854.00
Student Council Advisor	Jeanine Gallina	\$1,427.00

3. **Instruction: Contracted**

a. That the Board of Education approves an agreement between the Mineola UFSD and Maria Dove, consultant to work with the ESL Teachers for the 2013-2014 school year.

4. **Civil Service**

a. Leave(s) of Absence

1. That the Board of Education approve a paid Medical Leave of Absence to Patricia Carlo Castaldo, 12 month Bus Driver, effective September 25, 2013 through October 8, 2013, due to surgery.

K. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent of Schools' Reports for 10/3/13

Presentations:

1. Adelphi Residency Program

This presentation took place at the beginning of the meeting.

Superintendent Comments

There were no additional comments by the Superintendent this evening.

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 negotiations.

Motion: Christine Napolitano

Second: Nicole Matzer

Yes: William Hornberger
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