

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.*

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**Board Goals – 2011-2012**

- *Educational*
- *Facilities*
- *Finance*

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**Date: October 6, 2011**

**LOCATION:** Willis Avenue School

**OPEN WORK SESSION**

**7:00 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Staff Lounge**

**Board Members**

Christine Napolitano, President  
William Hornberger, Vice President  
Irene Parrino  
John McGrath  
Terence Hale

**Central Office**

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

- A. Call to Order            Time: 7:04 p.m.**
- B. Pledge of Allegiance**
- C. Reading of Mission- Terence Hale**
- D. Moment of Silent Meditation**
- E. Dais & Visitor Introductions**

Mr. Hornberger was running late and will join the meeting shortly.

Also in attendance: Jonathan Heidelberg

Vincent Interrante, 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher

Christine Napolitano introduced Robin Bischoff and Phyllis Badinger in order for them to give an update on the Golden Rule Project. Ms. Badinger stated that she would like to thank the Board, Dr. Nagler and the community for all of their support. The response received has been overwhelming. Ms. Bischoff stated that there were many volunteers and donations. Ms. Bischoff also stated that she would like to thank Ed Escobar, at the high school, for gathering a group of strong students to assist with moving the donations. She added that special thanks go to the custodians who helped pack the truck. The event was covered by the Patch, The Mineola American and News 12. Ms. Bischoff stated that Dr. Nagler drove the truck with them to

Binghamton, where they arrived to a crowd including community members, school officials, and local news station and news papers. The truck was packed with furniture, 100+ boxes of school supplies and \$1500 in gift cards. The Golden Rule Project had an enormous impact on the people in Binghamton. Ms. Bischoff stated that they have received many e-mails and thank you notes. Ms. Badinger stated that this experience has taken on a life of its own. Christine Napolitano thanked Phyllis and Robin on behalf of the Board for organizing this project. Ms. Napolitano stated that the Golden Rule Project is a true reflection of the District Mission. Dr. Nagler, Superintendent of Schools, added that he is not often humbled or embarrassed but being part of this project and the reaction received has done just that to him. It has turned into something very special. The Superintendent thanked Phyllis and Robin for spearheading this project. He stated that he had received many expressions of thanks from the community in Binghamton. The Superintendent stated that the success of this project is a true testament of our community.

**F. Old Business**

1. The Board of Education hereby reaffirms its resolution dated September 1, 2011, **Resolution #18** wherein the following action was taken:

**RESOLUTION #18- BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby approves a Stipulation of Settlement with Steven Oliveri, regarding a disciplinary matter initiated pursuant to Section 75 of the Civil Service Law, and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said agreement, and be it further

**Resolved** that the Board of Education hereby accepts a letter of resignation tendered by, Steven Oliveri effective October 31, 2011 pursuant to the terms of said agreement.

**Motion:** John McGrath

**Second:** Terence Hale

Discussion: Mr. McGrath inquired as to why these Resolutions are being reaffirmed. The Superintendent explained that when these resolutions were originally put forth, the necessary paperwork was not on hand.

**Yes:** Terence Hale

Irene Parrino

John McGrath

Christine Napolitano

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

2. That the Board of Education hereby reaffirms its resolution dated September 1, 2011, **Resolution # 19**, wherein the following action was taken:

**RESOLUTION #19- BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby approves a Stipulation of Settlement with Paul Krumholz, regarding a disciplinary

matter initiated pursuant to Section of the Civil Service Law, and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said agreement, and be it further

**Resolved** that the Board of Education hereby accepts a letter of resignation tendered by Paul Krumholz, effective October 31, 2011, pursuant to the terms of said agreement.

**Motion:** John McGrath

**Second:** Terence Hale

**Yes:** Terence Hale

**No:** None

Irene Parrino

John McGrath

Christine Napolitano

**Passed:** Yes

Mr. Hornberger arrived at 7:15pm just after the vote.

## G. New Business

### 1. Stipulation of Settlement

**RESOLUTION #23- BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute a Stipulation of Settlement with employee, Thomas Hickey and the UPSEU, the contents of which have been reviewed by the Board in Executive session, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Thomas Hickey effective September 12, 2011.

**Motion:** Terence Hale

**Second:** John McGrath

No discussion.

**Yes:** Terence Hale

**No:** None

Irene Parrino

John McGrath

William Hornberger

Christine Napolitano

**Passed:** Yes

2. **License Agreement with Harbor Day Care**

**RESOLUTION #24-WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has determined that the portion of the Willis Avenue Elementary School proposed to be licensed to Harbor Day Care, Inc., during certain hours after the school day is not currently and will not be needed for School District purposes during the 2011-2012 school year, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education further determines that the proposed licensing of that portion of the Willis Avenue Elementary School to Harbor Day Care, Inc., during certain hours after the school day, is in the best interests of the School District, and that the license fees provided by the proposed license are not less than the fair market license value, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the proposed license of the Willis Avenue Elementary School to Harbor Day Care, Inc., be and the same is hereby approved, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the President of the Board of Education be and hereby is authorized and directed to execute the said license.

**Motion:** Terence Hale

**Second:** William Hornberger

Discussion: The Superintendent provided the Board with an explanation of this resolution. The Superintendent stated that Harbor Day Care approached him about leasing two rooms (the multipurpose room and the cafeteria) in order to run their after school program. Mr. Hornberger asked how many students would be serviced and the age range. The Superintendent stated that there would be between 30- 40 students, up to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. McGrath inquired about the value of the lease and the length. The Superintendent stated that Harbor Day Care would pay \$1500 per month and at this point it is just for this year. The Superintendent added that they did express interest in using the rooms next year as well. There is also a provision in the lease that if in extraordinary situation a custodian is needed, one would be provided for a fee.

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
Irene Parrino  
John McGrath  
William Hornberger  
Christine Napolitano

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

**H. Consensus Agenda**

**RESOLUTION #25** - **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the consensus agenda H. 1. a. through H. 3.a..4 , as presented

**Motion:** John McGrath

**Second:** William Hornberger

No discussion.

**Yes:** Terence Hale

Irene Parrino

John McGrath

William Hornberger

Christine Napolitano

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

**1. Accepting of the Minutes**

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the September 1, 2011 (Workshop) as presented.

**2. Instruction**

a. Appointments

1. That the Board of Education appoint the following teacher, to the position of Permanent Substitute Teacher, effective October 1, 2011 to May 31, 2012. Salary: \$100 per day.
  - Ashley Barros, Willis Avenue School
2. That the Board of Education appoints the following teacher, to the position of Permanent Substitute Teacher, effective October 1, 2011 to May 31, 2012. Salary: \$100 per day.
  - Susan Kingsepp, Middle School
3. That the Board of Education appoints the following teacher, to the position of Permanent Substitute Teacher, effective October 1, 2011 to May 31, 2012. Salary: \$100 per day.
  - Michelle Topol, Hampton Street
4. That the Board of Education approves the following coaching amendments:

- Tara McDonald, Varsity Soccer Coach- to fill vacancy left by Katherine Bennett
- Frank Massaro, Assistant Varsity Soccer Coach- to fill the vacancy left by Tara McDonald

5. That the Board of Education accepts the following addition(s) to the Per Diem Substitute Teacher List: Salary: \$90 per day.

Ashley Barros	Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), Early Childhood Ed. (Birth-2)
Jill Simons-Cole	Art
John Fretz	Social Studies 7-12
Jaclyn Flynn	Physical Education, Health
Christie Holub	Music
Phyllis Landon	N-6, Reading
Jaqueline Donelan	English 7-12
Ingrid Corpuz	Early Childhood Ed (Birth-2), Childhood Ed (Grades 1-6)
Nicholas Tonini	Physical Education
Laura Lupo	Childhood Ed (Grades 1-6), Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6)
Michael Robilotto Jr.	Physical Education, Health
Mark Indiviglio	Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)
Kristen Dexter	Physical Education
Sarah Mooney	Childhood Ed (Grades 1-6), Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6)
Ashley Stacy	Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)
James Hambel	Physical Education
Michael Perro	Physical Education
Tracy Feeney	Special Education
Michelle Staloff	Childhood Education(Grades 1-6)

b. Leave of Absence

1. That the Board of Education grants a request to Luciana Tuman, for leave of absence, using accumulated sick days, for child-rearing purposes, starting approximately December 30, 2011.
2. That the Board of Education grants a request to Barbara Peters, for a leave of absence, using accumulated sick days, for child-rearing purposes, starting approximately March 4, 2012.

**2.1 Instruction : Contracted Instructional Services**

- a. That the Board of Education approves the Individual Related Service Contract between Diane Kopitowsky and the Mineola UFSD for July 2011 and August 2011.

**2.2 Instruction: Student Actions**

- a. That the Board of Education approves a field trip to Italy, for the Italian Students, February 18- 25, 2012, at no cost to the district. The students will not miss any school.

### 3 Civil Service

#### a. Appointments

1. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Andrew Greenberg to the position of 10 month, 5/8ths Bus Driver, to replace Frank Juliano who retired, effective October 3, 2011. Salary will be \$21,819 on Step 1 (2009/2010 Transportation Salary Schedule). Probation is 26 weeks.
2. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of David Chung as a Student Worker, effective September 13, 2011. Salary is \$8.50 per hour.
3. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Ronald Albano to the position of Substitute Bus Driver, effective October 11, 2011. Salary will be \$21.81 per hour.
4. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Roosevelt Etienne to the position of Substitute Cleaner, effective October 11, 2011. Salary will be \$12.25 per hour.

Prior to the Superintendent's report Ms. Napolitano asked the Board if there was any Old Business to be discussed.

Mr. Hale stated that there was a great turnout this year at Homecoming. He stated that the half-time show was wonderful. The Community demonstrated Great Spirit. The floats and the stadium all looked great.

Mr. Hale asked the Superintendent for an update on the delinquent lunch funds. The amount of funds uncollected is down to \$1700 district wide, with many students owing less than \$10. The Superintendent stated that the policy has definitely helped the situation.

Ms. Parrino asked for the status of the Jackson Avenue project. The Superintendent stated that the drawings are complete and the new equipment is being priced. Once that has been completed, a final cost of the project will be determined. Ms. Parrino asked how it is working out with the middle school children attending SCOPE at Jackson Avenue. The Superintendent reported that it is running smoothly.

Mr. Hornberger inquired about the High School Parking lot and the job not being completed. The Superintendent stated that the job was not done to standard and must be re-done. The company will not be paid until the job is done correctly. Mr. Hornberger further inquired when this would be done and the Superintendent stated either 10/15- 10/16 or 10/22- 10/23. The lighting in the parking lot will also be completed at that time. The Superintendent also stated that parking at the high school is working out and there have been no problems reported.

Mr. Hornberger asked if the Superintendent had received any complaints from neighbors or St. Aidan's re: the Cross Street location. The Superintendent stated that none have been received. Ms. Napolitano added that the Mayor of Williston Park had stated that parking and traffic are much more organized now.

Mr. Hornberger asked for an update on the class size at Willis Avenue. The Superintendent stated that on October 17, a new bi-lingual class will be opening. This is a result of a state mandate which requires a class to be formed when there are 20 children whose native language is not English. There will be 22 children in the class and the remaining classrooms will be balanced out. The opening of this class was not based upon the guidelines. Mr. Hornberger stated that this would bring the remaining class numbers within our self-imposed guidelines. Ms. Parrino asked if this would impact next year. The Superintendent stated it would probably not have an impact because there is a lot of movement within this district each year; many leave and others come back.

Ms. Napolitano asked about the White boards from Cross Street and if they had all been moved. The Superintendent stated that the boards have been taken out of Cross Street and moved to other buildings. Jackson Avenue has been completed and Meadow and Hampton will be next.

Ms. Napolitano stated that some parents have reported that they are having difficulty using the new website. The Superintendent stated that all parents should have received their code to gain access to the website. The E-school portal is for high school and middle school parents only. They are able to check their student's attendance, schedule and report card. Last year's user name and password should still be valid. The Superintendent stated that his main concern is that this website is a safe place for the students to use. Ms. Napolitano also inquired if teachers have been given a guideline on how to use the website. The Superintendent stated that they have received training on how to use and set-up their page. On-going professional development will also take place.

Ms. Parrino inquired if the I Pads had been distributed yet. The Superintendent stated that they would be given out next Wednesday because they had been waiting for the cases for them. The Superintendent also thanked Mr. Interrante for coming in on his day off to get the devices ready.

The Superintendent stated that there will be a Parent University on 10/25/11 to discuss NWEA scores and provide on-line resources to help address weakness. The Superintendent stated that his biggest push is for the student, parent and teachers to be working together to address the weaknesses. It should not be a secret.

Mr. McGrath stated that he had a few more questions about the website. He asked why you need to sign in to see a teacher's page. The Superintendent stated that you do not need to sign in. Mr. McGrath asked what percentage of teachers is using their webpage. The Superintendent stated 50. This number is not where it should be. The Superintendent stated that it is not just a web page; this has been set up to help organize the students. They will be able to store their work and send homework directly to the teacher.

Mr. Hornberger stated that at the last meeting the Superintendent referenced 10/15 as the date for having teachers using the website. He asked how we can guarantee that this will happen. The Superintendent stated that the reality is that there is a limit to what is being asked and what is being done, particularly at the Middle School. Many initiatives have been put in place at once, so that it is necessary to cut the teachers some slack. The Superintendent stated that many of the high school teachers are utilizing the website. He added that we need to let the principals monitor the situation and determine which teachers are using the website. They must also determine if further training is needed. The Superintendent stated that he will provide the Board with actual numbers of teachers using the webpage. Mr. McGrath asked if teachers can use their prep time to update their pages. The Superintendent stated they can use that time to update. Mr. McGrath



stated that it will be a great thing if the website could eventually be linked to mobile devices. The Superintendent stated that a few years from now this should be a reality. The Superintendent stated that technology has to be introduced and we must engage the students. The goal is to keep moving forward. Mr. McGrath stated that it sound as though we are on the right track.

The Superintendent stated that Mr. Interrante will be embarking on a project online with other countries, where they will all be collaborating. The project involves the students making Water powered bottle rockets.

Mr. Hornberger stated that he is very happy that we have this technology available; however he is frustrated at the fact that it is not being utilized by so many teachers yet. The Superintendent stated that this is not just a simple change for the teachers. They are learning a different way of teaching students. Mr. McGrath stated that he feels the teachers should at least be posting homework assignments at this point. The Superintendent stated that his vision for this website is more than just the basics and he understands that change is not coming fast enough. But, in the long run he feels this change will benefit the children. Mr. McGrath stated that it will also be best for the teachers as well. Ms. Napolitano stated that she had stopped at Meadow Drive and let the teachers know that the Board wants to see change and expects everyone to step-up. Ms. Parrino stated that two different things are being referenced here: Dr. Nagler is speaking about utilizing the website as a teaching tool and Mr. Hornberger wants to at least see the basics being done. Eventually the two will merge, however we need to insure that we are mandating that the small steps are being done. The Superintendent stated that the building principals need to take the lead on this in each of their programs.

## **I. Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent stated that 90% of students have finished their NWEA testing. Time has been freed up for teachers to go over the results. Based on the results, teachers will be able to differentiate for the students and parents will be given information regarding the child's weakness. Mr. McGrath stated that he will be interested to see how the NWEA results will compare to the Common Core results. The Superintendent stated that if we continue to focus on the NWEA, we should be on the right track.

The Superintendent presented the Board Goals for 2011- 2012. He stated that he has received a good amount of interest from individuals that want to be part of the strategic planning committee. The Superintendent will be attending the District Council meeting on 10/19, in order to discuss this committee. He hopes to start meeting in November.

The following are the Board Goals for 2011- 2012:

### **Board of Education Goals 2011-2012**

#### *Educational*

- To increase the use of assessment data (NWEA) to inform differentiated instruction thereby increasing individual student achievement.
- To continue our growth as professional learning communities focusing on common formative assessments to demonstrate individual student growth.

- Re-engage the community in the District's Strategic Plan with a specific focus on the quality indicators that define Mineola's expectations of academic excellence.
- Increase opportunities for participation in science and math research at the elementary and middle school levels

*Facilities*

- Continue projects that incorporate 'green' technologies that over time will decrease our dependency on fossil fuels

*Finance*

- To continue the district initiative to actualize a five year plan to maintain a stable tax levy while minimizing loss of program.

The Board discussed the goals. Mr. McGrath asked the Superintendent what he is looking to accomplish with the Strategic Planning Committee. The Superintendent stated that he wants to look at whether our standards are being met and whether these are the standards that we still want. Mr. McGrath inquired as to why the Superintendent feels this process will be successful now. The Superintendent stated that we avoided this process in the past. He really wants to look at what we value most as a district; do we just value state scores or are the services that are delivered just as important? Ms. Napolitano asked if the Board can be part of the strategic planning process. The Superintendent stated that there should be Board representation. Ms. Napolitano stated that she feels it is important that the Board is part of the process, not just the Board stamp of approval after the process is complete. A Board member asked the Superintendent who he wanted to be part of the strategic planning committee. He stated that he was looking for both young families in the district as well as some more experienced parents. The Superintendent stated that each have different perspectives on what they would like to see take place.

Mr. Hornberger had a few questions regarding the goals. He asked when we discuss typical growth targets, what are we as a Board looking for. The Superintendent stated that we want all students to make some growth, no matter where they are at; we want them to demonstrate that they have learned. Mr. Hornberger would like to see the Intel program back in the goals and feels we should continue to strengthen science and math programs. The Superintendent stated that if money is received back from the state he will be recommending a new science lab. Ms. Napolitano stated that she would like to see the district tap into some other types of science competitions.

The Superintendent stated that the finance goal takes on new meaning with the 2% budget cap. This will become more of a challenge.

**J. Executive Session** Time: 9:12 p.m.

At 9:12pm, a motion was made for the Board of Education to go into executive session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

**Motion:** Terence Hale  
**Second:** John McGrath

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
Irene Parrino  
John McGrath  
William Hornberger  
Christine Napolitano

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

Returned: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Paggi

