

**MINEOLA UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINEOLA, NY**

Budget Hearing/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 - 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*

DATE: May 3, 2012

LOCATION: Willis Ave. School

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

Board of Education

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

Central Office

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

A. Call to Order- 7:05pm

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Reading of Mission- Irene Parrino

D. Moment of Silent Meditation

E. Dais & Visitor Introductions- Late: Mr. McGrath- 7:15pm

F. High School Student Organization Report

Tonight's report was by Matthew Moro. He reported that May 1st was the day by which seniors had to decide on colleges. Matt reported that it was a good feeling to have the decision made. He stated that students got into great schools and many also benefitted from the on the spot interviews. AP exams will take place over the next two weeks. It was reported that the 7th graders had visited the high school for tours and they went well. The Juniors (PE Leader students) took them on the tours. In sports, there are three teams fighting for playoffs: Boys Lacrosse, Softball and the Track team. The Superintendent asked Matt what college he will be attending in the fall and Matt stated that he had committed to Fordham. The Superintendent thanked Matt for his presentation.

G. Old Business

Ms. Napolitano asked the Board if there was any old business. Mr. Hale stated that he saw dog walkers on the new softball field and he recommended that the gate should be kept closed at night and people should be kept off. He also added that the gate at the Willis Avenue School on the Lincoln side should be closed. Mr. Hornberger raised the issue again of families with multiple students at schools get replication of mail. He stated as part of our goal to be "green", as a district we should try to correct this problem. The Superintendent stated that here is a feature in E-School that should cut down on this problem. Mr. Hornberger stated that a parent had raised to him the following: that from the state level there is money available for a "true" AGP program. The Superintendent stated that he is not aware of it, but he will look into it. Ms. Napolitano asked about the orange cone in the softball field. The Superintendent stated that the cone is there to mark a plate that covers a drain in that spot. He added that once the home run fence is up, that area will be brought out of play.

RESOLUTION #71- BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District takes from the table Resolution #68 Item I.3.a.(Instruction: Contracted- Contract with Robert Leder).

Motion: William Hornberger

Second: Terence Hale

Yes: Terence Hale **No:** None

Irene Parrino

John McGrath

William Hornberger

Christine Napolitano

Passed: Yes

RESOLUTION #68 Item I.3.a.- BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District approves a contract between the Mineola School District and Mr. Robert Leder from March 17, 2012 through June 30, 2012.

Motion: Terence Hale

Second: William Hornberger

Discussion: None.

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

No: None

Passed: Yes

H. New Business

There was no new business.

I. Consensus Agenda

RESOLUTION #72-BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the consensus agenda items I.1.a. through I.2.c., as presented.

Motion: John McGrath
Second: William Hornberger

Discussion: Mr. McGrath stated that he had a concern about an item on the claims report- the invoice from 2009. Mr. McGrath asked if there is a time limit on paying an invoice. He suggested that in the future, the district should stipulate time frames for submitting claims. Mr. Hornberger would like to know what best practice is for addressing this issue. The Superintendent stated that if the service is not contracted, this may be complicated. Mr. Waters stated that he would look into this issue. Mr. Hale asked the Superintendent about the bus report; he wanted to know if the rise in students riding the buses is typical. The Superintendent stated that typically, we do see a lot of movement. There was no further discussion.

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

No: None

Passed: Yes

1. **Instruction**

a. **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.	Rory I. Reis	Biology 7-12

b. Appointment(s) Coaches

That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following coaches for 2011-2012 year:

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE NAME</u>	<u>STEP</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>
Lacrosse-Varsity	Matthew Antoniou	3	\$8,283.00, pro-rated
Lacrosse-Varsity Asst	Daniel Guido	3	\$5,635.00, pro-rated

2. Business /Finance

a. Treasurer's Report

That the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer's report for the period ending February 29, 2012 and directs that it be placed on file.

b. Approval of Invoices and Payroll

That the Board of Education accepts the Invoices and Payroll for the period ending March 31, 2012

Warrant #17	\$ 367,914.89
Warrant #18	\$1,032,402.82
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,400,317.71

PAYROLL #17 & #18

General	\$4,104,407.69
F Fund	\$ 78,961.77

TOTAL PAYROLL \$4,183,369.46

c. **Budget Appropriation Adjustment**

1. That the Board of Education approves the following budget transfer for \$50,000.00 from Tax Interest account 9760700007399 to Attorney Fees account 1420447000199, to cover costs related to Special Education Legal fees for the 2011- 2012 fiscal year.

Walk On Agenda Item:

RESOLUTION # 73 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the extension of the current license agreement between the Mineola Union Free School District and Harbor Day Care Center, Inc. for the period June 25, 2012 ending August 31, 2012.

Motion: John McGrath

Second: William Hornberger

Discussion: Ms. Napolitano asked the Superintendent to clarify this item. The Superintendent stated that currently, we have a license agreement with Harbor Day Care for an after school program. This is an extension of that agreement for the summer. No further discussion.

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

No: None

Passed: Yes

J. Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent stated that tonight is the official Budget Hearing and he added that the 2012/13 line by line Budget and Educational Plan can be found on the district website. The Superintendent stated that levy to levy there is a 1.93% increase; it is a misnomer that there is a 2% cap. The state aide for the district went down slightly. The Superintendent reviewed the presentation from April 17th and this presentation can be seen on the district website. The Superintendent highlighted a few items from the budget. Next year, there will be a Science lab at Jackson Avenue and in the middle school grades 5 and 6, will cycle through science lab. The language program will be expanded in the upcoming year. The Superintendent stated that the budget includes a \$600,000 transfer to Capital for the Meadow library and the Jackson bus loop. This allows the district to set aside the money if it is needed and the money can be returned to fund balance if not used. The budget maintains a 4% fund balance. He stated that Phase I and II of the High School Art room project will happen simultaneously. The Superintendent stated that at this point in time, the location of where UPK will be held is still undecided.

The Board asked the Board if there were any questions or Comments regarding the Budget. Ms. Napolitano asked how many years is the Nextel Lease? The Superintendent stated that it is a 15 year lease and we are in year 7 or 8. Mr. Hornberger stated that he had seen a ranking of 115 current proposed budgets increases and tax levies, with #1 being the highest and #115 being the lowest. He stated that Mineola is ranked #109 for the Budget and #98 for the tax levy. Mr. Hornberger stated that Mineola is at the low end of both on Long Island. He added that he appreciates all of the work being done and thanked everyone involved. But, Mr. Hornberger stated that there is more work to be done on the employee contracts.

Ms. Napolitano allowed for comments/questions from the public. Mr. Otto, a resident, stated that he had children the Mineola Schools years ago. He thanked the Board for the Outreach communication, and added that the district was not always like this. He stated that he likes how the district is moving forward and it is very important that they continue to keep the community informed. Mr. Otto stated that on May 15th, he will be voting for the budget and he stated that he is in favor of the early childhood programs. The next speaker was Mrs. Kowalczyk, a parent, who stated that she had not been able to attend a previous meeting when recess was discussed. She read a letter that she prepared emphasizing the importance of recess and how children benefit both socially and cognitively from a recess time. The Superintendent addressed the concerns presented. He stated that recess is not being eliminated and that recess will be three days per week. The reason for this change is not standardized test but the district is trying to fit everything into the day: art, music, physical education, language and library. He stated that we are not trying to punish the children. The parent stated that she feels that recess is a necessary part of the child's day. The last speaker, a resident, suggested when the district is replacing buses, they should look into getting buses with doors on the opposite side to address the problems at Jackson Avenue.

The Superintendent stated that he had a few other items to mention. He stated that the Strategic Planning Committee has completed the survey for families to give their opinions of the district. The survey will be released on 5/7 and there will be a press release tomorrow. The Superintendent stated that the survey will be sent via e-mail, if the district has an address, and there will also be a link on the website. He added that this survey can be sent to any group with a listserv. The survey can be completed through 5/21. The Superintendent stated that the survey cannot be replicated in print, as it would lose its effectiveness. It is an anonymous survey and the feedback goes to a company to be compiled. The district will know if families complete the survey and it is informational. The Superintendent stated that Ms. Parrino and Ms. Napolitano are both on the committee.

The Superintendent stated that on Tuesday, the state released a 98 page document on the APPR. This document stated that the entire process must be negotiated; it was put out on 5/1 and it states that the

proposed APPR must be returned by 7/1. Districts would then be notified by 9/1, if it has been approved. It also states that if the APPR is not approved by 1/1, there would be a loss of funding. The Superintendent stated that this document is incredibly complicated. The lawyers have not yet approved a working document and a majority of the time will be spent on negotiations with teachers and administrators.

The Superintendent reminded everyone that the School Budget Vote is Tuesday, May 15th from 6:00am to 9:00pm. There will be a Board Meeting that evening at Jackson Avenue to confirm the vote results. The Superintendent stated that he would like to make a motion to move the June 7th Workshop meeting to Wednesday, June 6th due to a conflict with the High School Senior Prom. All were in favor of this motion and the move was approved. The Superintendent added that the Tenure appointments will take place at the June 6th meeting.

K. Executive Session Time: 8:15 p.m.

At 8:15 pm, a motion was made for the Board of Education to go into executive session to discuss contract negotiations.

Motion: John McGrath

Second: William Hornberger

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

No: None

Passed: Yes

L. Adjournment Time: _____ p.m.

Motion: _____

Second: _____

Yes: _____

No: _____

Passed: _____

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Paggi