

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

Business 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 – 2010-2011

- **Educational**
 - *To further expand the district initiative of differentiated instruction specifically focusing on individual student achievement.*
 - *To continue our growth as professional learning communities focusing on common formative assessments to demonstrate individual student growth*
 - *To continue to provide the resources to attain a Intel finalist within the next three years*
- **Facilities**
 - *To investigate and embrace 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*

DATE: September 14, 2010

LOCATION: Willis Avenue School

OPEN BUSINESS MEETING

7:00 p.m. 2nd Floor Staff Lounge

Board of Education

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

Central Office

Dr. Michael Nagler, Superintendent of Schools
Jack Waters, Asst. Supt. for Finance & Operations
Janice Patterson, Asst. Supt. for Pupil Pers. Services
Patricia Burns, Asst. Supt. of Curr., Instr., Assessment
Donna Martillo, District Clerk

Arriving Later: Irene Parrino

A. Call to Order

At 7:01 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Hale. Mr. Hale stated Ms. Parrino would be arriving later; she was attending the Willis PTO meeting.

At 7:02 p.m. Mr. McGrath joined the meeting.

- B. Pledge of Allegiance**
- C. Reading of Mission – Patricia Burns**
- D. Moment of Silent Meditation**
- E. Dais & Visitor Introductions**
- F. High School Student Organization Report**

The High School student representative stated he had nothing to report at this time, and added, today was their first meeting.

G. Old Business

Mr. Hornberger requested an update as to student scores on State tests. The Superintendent of Schools responded that the district has not yet received the scores or reports from the State. He further stated that a target date has been set for September 23rd. When they are received they will be mailed home to parents approximately the week after they are received.

Mr. Hornberger inquired about the status of Jackson's 5th grade iPad project. The Superintendent of Schools responded that he will be meeting with parents tomorrow regarding the use, and responsibility of the students using them at home and will ask parents to sign off on a contract with the school district. The iPads will be distributed to students on September 20, 2010.

Mr. Hornberger discussed a letter to the Editor appearing in the Mineola American written by Mr. McGrath. Mr. Hornberger stated it would be better served to debate it at this meeting instead of in the newspapers. Mr. Hornberger asked Mr. McGrath if he was comfortable with the Superintendent of Schools recommending a "radical" plan, as referred to in Mr. McGrath's letter. Mr. McGrath responded that he stands by his comments and will not debate. Mr. Hornberger asked if he felt confident in the Superintendent of School and the direction he is taking the district. Mr. McGrath responded yes. Mr. Hornberger asked if Mr. McGrath believed that the Superintendent of Schools made the statement in allowing supporters for full clustering the opportunity to vote on it. Mr. McGrath responded he is not disputing that the Superintendent of Schools made that statement. Mr. Hornberger asked if Mr. McGrath cared about the voice of the proponents for full clustering. Mr. McGrath responded sure. Mr. Hornberger commented that the resolution called for an either/or vote and the Board unanimously voted against option 1, including he and Trustee Parrino, and 3 Board Members voted for the Cluster Bond and Mr. McGrath voted for neither. Mr. Hornberger asked for suggestions from Mr. McGrath. Mr. McGrath responded that he refuses to be interrogated by Mr. Hornberger. Mr. Hornberger asked if he was still is supporting a 7 building model. Mr. McGrath responded that he is not saying he is in support of a 7 building model. He is not going to submit to an interrogation. Mr. Hornberger remarked that Mr. McGrath subjected three Board Members to an interrogation via a letter to the Editor. Mr. McGrath responded that he stated his opinions, it was not an interrogation. Mr. Hornberger stated that Mr. McGrath made misstatements in his letter. Mr. McGrath responded that it was Mr. Hornberger's opinion that they were misstatements, he felt they were not. Mr. Hornberger referred to the letter to the Editor as an "editorial" and Mr. McGrath corrected him that it was a letter to the Editor. Mr. Hornberger read excerpts of the letter, that the Board "ignored the wishes of the community who opposed moving the 5th and 8th grades", and commented that he and Trustee Parrino did the same thing by

voting no on the North/South Bond. Mr. McGrath responded that he did not think so. Mr. Hornberger commented that Mr. McGrath felt Willis is a concern to the community (Rooftop Playground) and asked Mr. McGrath about the Bond approved by the Board in 2000, to build Willis, was it his inexperience as a Board Member the reason he voted for it. Mr. McGrath responded, could be, but the other Board Members were vastly more experienced than he and they voted in favor of it. Mr. Hornberger referred to the 2000 Bond (\$ 25 million) and the interest it generated maturing over 30 years. He asked if that money was well spent. Mr. McGrath responded he believes it was because of the horrendous condition of the buildings. Mr. Hornberger again referring to Mr. McGrath's letter to the Editor stated that in it Mr. McGrath felt the primary focus was on the financial benefits. Mr. Hornberger commented that the Superintendent of Schools' reconfiguration was to preserve programs in light of runaway expenses. Mr. Hornberger further stated that since Mr. McGrath's tenure on the Board, 3 teacher contracts were approved and noted salaries increased from \$89,000 to \$130,000 (45% increase). Mr. Hornberger asked if Mr. McGrath thought district salaries equal results. Mr. McGrath responded he didn't think there was a comparison between pay and results. Mr. Hornberger stated that Mineola's MA+60 is \$9,000 over the Nassau County average and has risen from \$4,000 since Mr. McGrath's tenure. Mr. Hornberger referred to Mr. McGrath's letter that the average tax payer will not see tax relief from this plan. Mr. Hornberger compared the tax levy increases from the time Mr. McGrath was on the Board (1997) to the present (\$37 million - \$73 million) a 95% increase. Mr. Hornberger commented that Mr. McGrath picked on the Financial Planning Committee and stated the figures they based their analysis on were presented by the Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Hornberger asked if Mr. McGrath was implying the Superintendent of Schools purposely mislead the Board with these estimates. Mr. McGrath responded that he implied nothing, the letter speaks for itself. Mr. Hornberger asked Mr. McGrath if he was comfortable with a 4.4 reduction and was it "doable". Mr. McGrath did not know what Mr. Hornberger meant by "doable". Mr. Hornberger asked if Mr. McGrath felt it was not going to happen. Mr. McGrath responded he didn't say that. Mr. Hornberger stated that a full clustering was educationally sound and then recapped Ms. Goffman's previous presentations pertaining to the educational benefits of clustering. Mr. Hornberger asked if Mr. McGrath felt that Ms. Goffman was not informed in talking about educational benefits of school closings. Mr. McGrath responded no, Ms. Goffman used legal code words the Commissioner of Education uses to determine whether or not plans to close schools will be approved by the Commissioner. He clarified that statement by saying whether or not petition to the Commissioner objecting to plans to close schools will be approved or denied. Mr. Hornberger stated he was unsure of what that statement meant. Mr. Hornberger read excerpts from Ms. Goffman's report: combining schools will reduce shared staff and duplication of services; students would have better access to teachers and more support services. He then asked if Ms. Goffman was not telling the truth. Mr. McGrath responded he does not know. Mr. Hornberger asked if Mr. McGrath had the confidence in the former head of curriculum, because it seems he had limited confidence in the current Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Hornberger referred to Mr. McGrath's letter, that community members at the last meeting pointed out that it was a radical configuration in the reduction of 48 classrooms. Mr. Hornberger inquired of the Superintendent of Schools as to the number of classrooms. The Superintendent of Schools requested a few minutes to get that information. Mr. Hornberger again referred to Mr. McGrath's letter that financing the Bond over 10 years would not reduce the tax burden. Mr. Hornberger was unsure of this statement because there is a \$4.4 million projected savings. Mr. Hornberger addressed Mr. McGrath's comments to the Editor as

follows: increase class sizes; overcrowding of schools; loss of playgrounds; loss of community identity; plummeting real estate values; reducing educational opportunities; and loss of parental involvement. Mr. Hornberger asked the Superintendent of Schools if there would be overcrowding of schools. The Superintendent of Schools responded no. Mr. Hornberger inquired of the Superintendent of Schools about increasing class sizes. The Superintendent of schools responded the district will not increase class sizes over the guidelines. Mr. Hornberger asked Mr. McGrath about his comments regarding the obliteration of parental involvement, if it meant parents could not join the PTA. Mr. McGrath responded it didn't mean that. Mr. Hornberger discussed the experience of Board Members and referring to Mr. McGrath's letter asked if Mr. McGrath felt Trustee Parrino's input would have no value. Mr. McGrath responded absolutely not. Mr. Hornberger asked Mr. McGrath how Board Members get experience. Mr. McGrath responded, over time.

Mr. Hale asked Board Members if there was anymore old business. There was none. Mr. Hale stated he was upset regarding Mr. McGrath's remarks in the Mineola American, that he only had 2 years of experience in making a rational decision. Mr. Hale further stated that he has leadership capabilities resulting from: 14 years as an active community resident; in 2004 he was the recipient of the Carolyn Fiori Leadership Award given to 1 Nassau County PTA Member, where membership was over 105,000; 6 year military service and referenced a sign post in naval ports (*Either lead, follow, or get the hell out of the way*). Mr. Hale expressed his opinion that Mr. McGrath has failed to lead and won't follow and it is his promise as Board President to lead this district into the future and overcome any obstacles or diversities along the way. He further stated that instead of trying to derail the process Mr. McGrath should come up with some solutions. Veteran Board Members should bring solutions to the table not biased opinions or disparaging remarks toward fellow Board Members. Status quo is not a solution; 6.7 tax levy is not affordable to the community; the down-turn in economy; loss of State Aid; rising costs, and dwindling student population need to be addressed. Burying their heads in the sand is no longer an option.

Ms. Napolitano asked Mr. McGrath if he had a better alternative plan because she has not heard it. Mr. McGrath responded that the only persons he heard ask for his plan was Mr. Hornberger and Ms. Napolitano. He will get back to them.

A resident began to make a comment and Mr. hale stated to save comments for the public comment portion of the meeting.

H. New Business

I. Consensus Agenda

1. Accepting of Minutes

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of August 12, 2010 (Workshop/Business) Meeting, as presented.

2. Instruction

- a. Resignation(s)

None

b. Appointments

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Dale Bennett, to the position of Hourly Special Education Teacher, effective September 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011; salary \$54.77 per hour.
2. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Danielle Adams, Girls' 8th Grade Soccer Coach, Step 1, \$3,896.00 for the Fall Interscholastic Season 2010-2011 school year.
3. That the Board of Education approves the addition of the following individuals to the 2010-2011 Per Diem Substitute Teacher List at a daily rate of pay, \$90.00:

Kristen Ryan	Early Childhood Education (Birth-2)
Laura Hefele	SWD & Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)

4. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Cindy Kopp, to the position of Probationary Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2010; probationary period September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2013; salary, MA, Step 1, \$67,604.00.
5. That the Board of Education approves the following staff for the 2010-2011 APPR Facilitators:

Cross	Kim Morrissey	\$1,000
Hampton	Peggy Moroney	\$1,000
Jackson	Matt DeLuca	\$1,000
Meadow	Jeanine Gallina	\$1,000
Middle	Stephen Mitchell	\$1,000
Middle	Linda Villalta	\$1,000
High	Hilary Bernstein	\$1,000
High	Greg Greer	\$1,000
Willis Avenue	Denise Maynard	\$1,000

c. Amending Driver Ed Fall and Spring Stipends

1. That the Board of Education amends the stipends for the Driver Ed Coordinator stipends, approved at the September 2, 2010 Board of Education Workshop meeting, as follows:

Coordinator	Fall	\$3,329.00
Coordinator	Spring	\$3,329.00

d. New Teacher Positions

1. That the Board of Education creates three (3) new part time teaching positions for the CSE Extended School Day program. Salaries will be paid from the IDEA grant.
2. That the Board of Education creates one (1) new teacher position for the additional first grade class at the Cross Street School.

2.1. Instruction: Committee on Special Education Actions

- 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 August 1, 2010 to August 31, 2010 as set forth in Confidential Attachment "A".

2.2. Instruction: Contracted Instructional Services

- a. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and the Levittown Union Free School District for one special education student to attend Levittown's Basic Career & Technical Program at a cost to the district in the amount of \$12,693.00 for the 2010-2011 school year.
- b. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union School District and Gayle E. Kligman Therapeutic Resources to provide Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Resource Room, Counseling, Parent Training, Consultant Teacher, Behavior Consultants, Applied Behavior Analysis Services (ABA), ABA 1:1 Aides, and/or Transition Planning Consultations to the District for the 2010-2011 school year. Rates are as per attachment "B".
- c. That the Board of Education approves a contract between the Mineola Union Free School District and the Hicksville Union Free School District to provide Special Education Services for students parentally placed for the 2010-2011 school year.

2.3. Instruction: Student Actions

2.4. Instruction: Other

3. Civil Service

- a. Resignation(s)/Leave of Absence(s)
 1. That the Board of Education approves the resignation of Nancy Weldon, part time Teacher Aide at Jackson Avenue, effective June 28, 2010.
 2. That the Board of Education approves the resignation of Lisa Wasnofski, Permanent Nurse Substitute, effective August 24, 2010.

3. That the Board of Education approves a medical Leave of Absence for Gonzalo Gonzales, Cleaner, effective August 3, 2010, until further notice at the discretion of his doctor.
4. That the Board of Education approves a Leave of Absence for Dolores Levy for educational reasons, from September 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

b. Appointments

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following candidates for the substitute lists effective September 1, 2010:

<u>CANDIDATE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>HOURLY WAGE</u>
Kristen Ryan	Clerical Sub	\$12.32
Angela Glassman	Clerical Sub	\$12.32
Rich Figueiredo	Cleaner Sub	\$12.25

2. That the Board of Education reinstates Adele Imbrenda, part time teacher aide, who was excused in June, 2010; will now be assigned to the Cross Street School, effective September 7, 2010.

c. New Position(s)

1. That the Board of Education approves the creation of 9 after-school teacher aide positions for the Extended School Day Program effective September 21, 2010. Staff salaries will be paid out of the IDEA Grant.

4. Business/Finance

a. Treasurer's Report

1. That the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer's Report for the period ending July 31, 2010 and directed that it be placed on file.

b. Approval of Invoices and Payroll

1. That the Board of Education approves the Invoices and Payroll for the period ending August 31, 2010.

A/P Warrant Payables	\$ 48,733.03
Warrant #3	\$ 309,028.87
Warrant #4	\$ 482,880.27
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 840,642.17

PAYROLL #3 & #4

General	\$1,027,392.52
Fund F	\$ 177,862.78
TOTAL PAYROLL	\$1,205,255.30

4.1. **Business/Finance: Contract Approvals**

4.2. **Business/Finance: Bids**

5. **Other**

a. **Appointment of Registrars and Inspectors for Special District Meeting October 26, 2010**

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following individuals to serve as Registrars and Inspectors at the Special District Meeting held **Tuesday, October 26, 2010** at the hourly rate of pay, \$10.00:

CHIEF ELECTION INSPECTORS

<u>CROSS STREET</u>	<u>HAMPTON STREET</u>
Eileen Alexander (5:15 am-10:15 pm)	Helen Callahan (5:30 am – 10:30 pm)

<u>JACKSON AVENUE</u>	<u>MEADOW DRIVE</u>
Carolina Macedo (5:30 am – 10:30 pm)	Raymond Kwiatek (5:00 am–10:30 pm)

REGISTRARS

<u>CROSS STREET SCHOOL</u>	<u>HAMPTON STREET SCHOOL</u>
Kathleen Finn (5:30 am – 9:00 pm)	Marie DeStefano (5:30 am – 9:00 pm)
Joanne Fitzgerald (11:00 am – 9:00 pm)	Cathy Fabiszewski (5:30 am – 1:30 pm)
	Martha Makowski (1:30 pm – 9:00 pm)

<u>JACKSON AVENUE SCHOOL</u>	<u>MEADOW DRIVE SCHOOL</u>
Patricia Stryjewski (5:30 am-1:30 pm)	Debra Donovan (5:30 am-9:00 pm)
<u>TBD(1:30 pm – 9:30 pm)</u>	Anna Spatola (1:00 pm-9:00 pm)
Jacqueline Borstel (5:30 am-1:30 pm)	<u>TBD (5:30 am – 1:00 pm)</u>
<u>TBD (1:30 pm – 9:30 pm)</u>	

INSPECTORS

<u>CROSS STREET SCHOOL</u>	<u>HAMPTON STREET SCHOOL</u>
Ann Marie Smith (5:15 am – 9:15 pm)	Marian Kessler (5:30 am - 9:30 pm)
Loretta Piotrowski (5:15 am-1:15 pm)	Maryanne Iaquinto (5:30 am – 9:30 pm)
Lynn Clifford (1:15 am– 9:15 pm)	Frank Iaquinto (5:30 am-9:30 pm)
Margaret Mahon (5:15 am-1:15 pm)	
<u>TBD (1:15 pm-9:15 pm)</u>	

<u>JACKSON AVENUE SCHOOL</u>	<u>MEADOW DRIVE SCHOOL</u>
Joanne Wladyka (5:30 am – 9:30 pm)	Douglas Cegelski (5:00 am – 9:30 pm)
Maryanne Siwinski (5:30 am – 9:30 pm)	Nicole Peralta (5:00 am – 9:30 pm)
Flore Rowe (5:30 am – 9:30 pm)	Renee Becker (5:00 am – 9:30 pm)
Kristine Vigario (5:30 am – 1:30 pm)	
Maryanne Lovallo (1:30 pm – 9:30 pm)	
Diane Roman (5:30 am – 1:30 pm)	
<u>TBD (1:30 pm – 9:30 pm)</u>	

NOTE: In the event there should be a vacancy created in any of the positions of Inspector of Election or Registrar, the Superintendent of Schools is authorized to appoint a qualified voter of this District to fill such vacancy.

The Superintendent of Schools recommends the appointment of the following Registrars to serve on Registration Day, Tuesday, **October 12, 2010**, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the authorized rate of pay of \$10 per hour.

<u>CROSS STREET SCHOOL</u> Eileen Alexander	<u>HAMPTON STREET SCHOOL</u> Helen Callahan
<u>JACKSON AVENUE SCHOOL</u> Jacqueline Borstel	<u>MEADOW DRIVE SCHOOL</u> Anna Spatola

The Superintendent of Schools also recommends the appointment of: **Eileen Alexander** to open the Registration Books to the public on **Saturday, October 23, 2010** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the same authorized rate of pay.

A one hour workshop will be given on **Monday, October 25, 2010** from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and the attending Registrars and Inspectors will be compensated at the hourly rate of \$10.00.

b. Donation(s)

1. That the Board of Education accepts a donation of athletic bags for the Girls' Varsity Soccer Team. Mineola Soccer will be embroidered on them at a cost of \$15.00 each. The total cost of the donation will be approximately \$300.00.

RESOLUTION #23 – **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Education approves Consensus Agenda items I.1.a. through I.5.a.1., as presented.

Motion: Christine Napolitano
Second: Terence Hale

Discussion: Mr. Hale inquired about Item I.4.b.1. He stated that Ms. Parrino voiced concerns about tracking resolutions of inquiries made by the Internal Claims Auditor. The Superintendent of Schools explained the duties of the Internal Claims Auditor. He also stated that once an issued has been resolved to the satisfaction of the Internal Claims Auditor payment is released. The Board is requesting that a formal report by the district be created as to the resolution of issues. Mr. McGrath inquired if the district generated a document. The Superintendent of Schools stated that the format of the report can be changed.

Yes: William Hornberger
John McGrath
Christine Napolitano
Terence Hale

No: None

Passed: Yes

President Hale stated the public comment portion would be after the Superintendent of Schools' presentation.

J. **Board of Education Reports**

- Comments from Board President
- Board Committee Report
- Superintendent of Schools' Reports & Comments
 - Superintendent Comments

The Superintendent of Schools' comments were as follows: Announcement of Homecoming, Saturday, October 16, 2010 and the theme is, Heroes; HS Assembly with a inspirational speaker Matt Long, invited by Mr. Amitrano to speak to the High School students. Mr. Long is a New York City Fireman who was run over by a bus and survived life threatening injuries. He is also a Tri-athlete competed in the Ironman. His survival was attributed to his good physical condition. Mr. Long spoke to High School students and his message was, "*Set a goal, put your mind to it, make a plan, and do it.*" The Superintendent of Schools encouraged everyone to go to his blog for the link.

The Superintendent of Schools also discussed Willis and the reasoning in choosing Willis over another school. The Superintendent of Schools presented a facility comparison regarding Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st grade. The Superintendent of Schools discussed the following: cost to reconfigure Willis is cheaper than adding onto another school; difficult to rent Willis because it is still being paid off (only non-profit 501 C3 eligible); Willis' features (50 parking spaces; A/C throughout the building; sizes of classrooms (1,000 sq. ft.); toilets in each room; bus loop); Bond proposal for Willis (14 additional classrooms; 5,000 sq. ft. playground); a rendering of what Hampton would look like if replicated everything that Willis had at a cost of \$8,809,600; most cost effective scenario is Willis; nothing remains the same across the district next September; it may seem radical to some but it is a cost effective plan to cluster. Mr. Hale inquired if the trees in front of Hampton could be saved. The Superintendent of Schools responded, possibly. Ms. Napolitano inquired about Willis' 1000 sq. ft. classrooms if Hampton would have the same. The Superintendent of Schools responded the additions would be 1000 sq. ft. Ms. Napolitano also inquired if Hampton would have A/C throughout the building. The Superintendent of Schools responded only in the addition. Ms. Napolitano inquired as to the grades that would be in the new addition at Hampton. The Superintendent of Schools responded, Kindergarten. He further stated that classrooms at Willis that have bathrooms would be on the 1st floor. Ms. Napolitano inquired about the size of classrooms at Hampton and Meadow. The Superintendent of Schools responded 780 sq. ft. at Hampton and 930 sq. ft. at Meadow. The Superintendent of Schools used Hampton as an example comparing it to Willis (Cheaper to renovate Willis; Willis is most difficult to rent; very few children play at Willis after school; rooftop playground is recess time and has no qualm with children playing on a rooftop playground.

- Capital Updates
- Table Reports
 - Finance and Operations Report
 - Monthly Financial Report
 - Building & Grounds Report
 - Building Usage
 - Vandalism

- Work order status
 - Transportation Report
- Special Reports
 - *Public Questions - Board Committee Reports; Student Organization Report; Superintendent's Report; Table Reports (All Finance & Operation Functions); and Special Report

At 8:02 p.m. Ms. Parrino joined the meeting.

K. Public Comments

President Hale requested that the public state their name and address before addressing the Board: The public comments were:

- ❖ A resident inquired about segregating the 5th grade and 8th grade at the secondary schools. The Superintendent of Schools responded that the plan is to build two new Science rooms on the first floor of the High School and take over 8 other classrooms, but there is only 1 gym. The 8th graders would return to the Middle School for Interscholastic Sports. He further stated that there would be instances where they could not segregate 8th graders at the High School (Music, Art, Gym, and Cafeteria).
- ❖ A resident inquired about communicating to community what the plan would be if the Bond was voted down. The Superintendent of Schools responded that he would recommend to the Board to put out another bond (Putting an extension on Jackson, to keep Middle School and High School as it is, and a contingent part of the Bond would switch Hampton to house PreK-2 as the South building instead of Willis. The resident inquired as to how it would be communicated to the community. The resident suggested putting something up on the web. The Superintendent of Schools responded that he can recommend it to the Board, but does not know if the Board is in favor, it would not be appropriate to discuss it until after the Bond vote. Mr. Hale stated he and the Superintendent of Schools are going out to the community (Village of Mineola, Williston Park Village, Albertson Civic Association, Williston Park Civic, Golden Age, and waiting to hear from South Park) presenting the Bond. The Superintendent of Schools is in the process of proof reading the Bond Newsletter, *Outreach* that is dedicated to the Bond. The resident asked the Board if they would consider another Bond. Mr. Hale responded he would consider it and the Board would discuss possibilities. Mr. Hornberger stated he would take the Superintendent's recommendation for another Bond.

Ms. Irene Parrino joined the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

- ❖ A resident inquired if the Superintendent of Schools would rethink the default option if both Bonds were to fail. The Superintendent of Schools responded the second Bond would be sometime in February because there is a short window to reconfigure in order to make it happen. The resident asked the question again about rethinking the default option. The Superintendent of Schools responded yes with no cost, anything else would require construction.
- ❖ A resident inquired if there were 50 parking spaces at Willis. The Superintendent of Schools responded 50 excluding the rental. The resident inquired if the school of choice would need to lease spaces. The Superintendent of Schools responded that the district will continue renting until it gets out of the lease and once the lease is up the Board will decide if they want to supply parking for staff. An estimate of 70 spaces

will be needed for staff of a Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st grade configuration. The resident inquired about 50 spots at Hampton. The Superintendent of Schools responded it was a hypothetical scenario. The resident inquired if BOCES was considered a not-for-profit entity to possibly rent Willis. The Superintendent of Schools responded that he has spoken to BOCES and they are not interested at this time. The resident stated that prior to Cross Street opening Meadow Drive had 520 students and asked if classes were lost. The Superintendent of Schools responded that before the 6 room extension onto Meadow they had 350 students, but he does not recall 500 students at Meadow. The resident commented that 25 students per 4 classes per grade in 1 – 5, and they had ½ day Kindergarten. The Superintendent of Schools responded that if there were 400 students, they would need 32 classrooms. He is trying not to have to build additional classrooms down the road or re-open a building. The resident commented about Willis' cafeteria not being able to make hot lunches, and made reference to a Library. The Superintendent of Schools responded that it will be brought up to speed and that Willis does have a Library, but not the same caliber as other Libraries. The resident inquired about insurance regarding a roof-top playground. The Superintendent of Schools responded that he spoke to the insurance company and it is not an issue. The resident inquired if the children will be allowed to play ball. The Superintendent of Schools responded, it depends on what type of games they play. He further stated that the structure will be appropriate for growth.

- ❖ A resident inquired about housing and generating revenue as a result of an alternative High School. The Superintendent of Schools responded that he does not anticipate revenue coming in, because it will be established for Mineola students. He envisions with the passing of the Bond that Hampton will house Central Office, Board of Education, Kornreich 3 year old program, as well as an alternative High School, which is not for the worse kids. The resident inquired as to revenue from the alternative High School. The Superintendent of Schools responded if the program could handle students from other districts, approximately 50 to \$60,000 would be revenue, but not in the beginning.
- ❖ A resident inquired if Winthrop Hospital would be considered not-for-profit. The Superintendent of Schools responded he could not say definitively if they were. The resident inquired about Willis' 1000 sq. ft. per classroom. The Superintendent of Schools stated that this number is according to State Guidelines for Kindergarten. The resident inquired if changing the class size number would change the sq. footage requirements. The Superintendent of Schools responded that the Architects do not recommend it for old buildings. Mr. Hale inquired if the Village had limitations. The Superintendent of Schools responded that the Village does not restrict.
- ❖ A resident inquired about the 50 parking spaces at Willis. The Superintendent of Schools responded that they were on the grounds of Willis. The resident inquired as to the number of years remaining on the Bond for Willis. The Superintendent of Schools responded that the district is in the process of refunding the Bond to lessen payments and if it happens there will be 20 years left. The resident inquired if green space was State mandated. The Superintendent of Schools responded no. The resident inquired if Willis could be paid off with this Bond. Mr. Waters responded no.
- ❖ A resident inquired about housing an alternative High School and Community Center. The Superintendent of Schools responded that a community center could also exist at Hampton. He also stated the district could do whatever it wanted with Hampton, and he discussed the idea of Day Care for children of employees, who would pay for the

service. The resident inquired if Central Office and students could be housed at Willis. The Superintendent of Schools stated it was built for Kindergarten.

- ❖ A resident thanked the Superintendent of Schools and Board and commented that he hopes the *silver lining is bigger than the dark cloud*. The resident also commented that his main concern is the budget at the end of the year. The resident further commented on: Triple C Committee's recommendation; passing of the capital reserve fund; without Willis there would be no all day Kindergarten Program; the reason why Kindergarten was taken out of elementary buildings; presented a better plan 3 months ago to the Superintendent of Schools that had no construction costs; playground surrounded by grass and has concerns about roof-top playground; discussed the number of classrooms at each building and class sizes; using Jackson as a multi-grade school; presented a plan to eliminate one school; school districts with 7th and 8th grades in their High Schools have no problem passing budgets; all 5th graders fit into one school.
- ❖ A resident thanked Mr. Hornberger for trying to get some answers from Mr. McGrath. The resident inquired if the Board unanimously rejected Bond Option 1. Mr. Hale responded yes. The resident inquired if the Board ignored the wishes of the community. Mr. Hale and the Superintendent of Schools responded no. The resident inquired if the community overwhelmingly rejected using Willis; and will the average taxpayer see little or no tax relief. The Superintendent of Schools responded that he does not know about getting to a no increase levy. The Bond in front of the voters is the most efficient way to streamline the district. The resident inquired if the Finance Committees estimates were conservative or inflated. The Superintendent of Schools responded their projections were conservative. The resident inquired if the Triple C's recommendations were ignored. Mr. Hale responded no. The resident inquired if the Superintendent of Schools would put forth a cost savings measure that would negatively impact the kids. The Superintendent of Schools responded no. The resident inquired if overruns occurred would they come out of the budget or the reserve account. The Superintendent of Schools responded that voters had to approve taking money out of the reserve fund and the Bond has contingencies built in. The resident inquired if the Board had the experience. The Superintendent of Schools responded yes, they are doing a very good job and commended the Board for putting it before the community for a vote. The resident commented that in the future if a member of the board is signing their name to a letter there should be a disclaimer that they are speaking for themselves.

Mr. Hale requested that Board Members inform him if they intend to attend Homecoming.

Mr. Hale stated that we all have different opinions in how the school system is to be configured. He encourages everyone to vote the way you want to see the configuration and to please respect each other's opinions.

L. Executive Session

At 8:49 p.m. 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: Christine Napolitano
Second: John McGrath

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

No: None

Passed: Yes

At 10:07 p.m. the Board returned to open session.

M. Adjournment

At 10:07 p.m. a motion was made to adjourn this meeting of the Board of Education.

Motion: John McGrath
Second: William Hornberger

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

No: None

Passed: Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Martillo
District Clerk