

**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 – 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: June 2, 2011

LOCATION: Willis Avenue School

OPEN WORK SESSION

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

Board of Education

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

Central Office

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

Absent: Irene Parrino

A. Call to Order

At 7:05 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Hale.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Reading of Mission – Terence Hale

D. Moment of Silent Meditation

E. Dais & Visitor Introductions

Also in attendance: Ed Escobar, Principal of Mineola High School; Sue-Caryl Fleischmann, Principal of Hampton; Matt Gaven, Principal of Jackson; Deborah Shaw, Principal of Willis; and Devra Small, Principal of Cross; George Maurer, Assistant Principal of Mineola High School; Larry Puccio, Assistant Principal of Mineola High School; Larry Butti, Instructional Leader; John Gollisz, Instructional Leader.

F. Old Business

Mr. Hornberger and Mr. Hale inquired about the following: status of Cafeteria Fund; delinquency payment policy; spending; surplus; and cafeterias. The Superintendent of Schools responded as follows: currently there is \$250,000 in the fund, which will go to the replacement of equipment associated with the lunch program; Point of Sale; Jackson's lunch room will be re-designed for better utilization; filing of design with SED; will forward list of equipment's age to the Board; replacing equipment will depend on the surplus of funds generated from the food program.

Mr. McGrath inquired about Jackson's cafeteria. The Superintendent of Schools discussed the following: the need for a new lunch line; not changing the room size; and possibly adding a new door. Mr. Hornberger inquired if the account will be depleted, followed by Mr. McGrath inquiring the length of time to generate the current balance. Mr. Waters responded at least since he has been employed by Mineola.

The Superintendent of Schools addressed delinquent accounts of students, and asked the Board for direction on the threshold in terms of length of time, as well as the type of lunch given to students who are delinquent. President Hale stated it is something the Board will address at the next meeting. Mr. Hornberger referred to a policy as it relates to Administration recouping funds. The Superintendent of Schools stated a regulation will follow. Mr. Hornberger stated he would like the threshold set for each building. The Board inquired as to the cost of lunch at the High School. Mr. Escobar responded \$1.80. Mr. Hornberger commented that accounts may need to be increased. The Superintendent of Schools suggested a one week time limit and stated he will get the policy to the Board by Friday.

G. New Business

H. Consensus Agenda

1. Leave of Absence

- a. That the Board of Education grants a request to Jessica Perry, for a leave of absence, using accumulated sick days, for child-rearing purposes, effective May 9, 2011 to June 20, 2011.

2. Tenure Appointments

- a. That the Board of Education approves the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to grant tenure to the following teachers:

Name	Building	Tenure Date	Tenure Area
Laura Kligman	Cross	9/1/2011	Elementary
Iyla Wilson	Cross	9/1/2011	Elementary
Maureen Wojis	Cross	9/1/2011	Elementary
Amanda Bernard	Jackson	9/1/2011	Elementary
Kimberly Martino	Jackson	9/1/2011	Elementary
Morgan Mercaldi	Jackson	9/1/2011	Elementary
Courtney Zaleski	Jackson	9/8/2011	Elementary
Jenny Amendolare	Willis	9/1/2011	Elementary
Jaclyn Manouvrier	Willis	9/1/2011	Art
Stacey Biondi-Andrzejewski	High	9/1/2011	Reading
Giuseppa Iaboni	High	9/1/2011	For. Lang.
Ellen McGlade-McCulloh	High	9/1/2011	Science

RESOLUTION #84 – BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District approves of the Consensus Agenda Items H.1.a. through H.2.a. as presented.

Motion: John McGrath
Second: Christine Napolitano

Discussion: Mr. Hale made the following comments regarding tenure candidates: reviewed each candidate's portfolio; he was most interested in the tenure candidates' philosophies, and quoted some of them, i.e. "*Knowledge is power...*", by *Ellen McGlade-McCulloh*.

The Superintendent of Schools explained the tenure process as follows: tenure is not automatic; it is a big deal; candidates must work hard to assimilate into a school district, and become better at what they do; willing to listen and learn and always out to impress; engaging students to learn; all teachers are automatically enrolled in the professional residency program; all candidates meet with him and the Central Office team; by law only the Superintendent of Schools can recommend tenure to the Board of Education; he has gotten to know each candidate; development of portfolios; video taping themselves; very proud of all 12 candidates and recommends them for tenure.

Mr. Escobar asked Mr. Maurer, Mr. Butti, and Mr. Gollisz to join him, and introduced the High School tenure candidates: Stacey Biondi-Andrzejewski; Guisseppa Iaboni; and Ellen McGlade-McCulloh. Mr. Escobar congratulated the candidates this evening and spoke a little about each (Stacey Biondi-Andrzejewski – hit the ground running when she was hired; helps students navigate through their years at the High School; is part of the group that encourages students to attend a decision making meeting where 95% of students attend. Guisseppa (Josie) Iaboni – has a good heart; relayed a story of her taking her class to Italy during her 2nd teaching year and her calming persona during a snowstorm when they were preparing to leave. Ellen McGlade-McCulloh – also hit the ground running; developed an integral Science research program to assist students interested in entering Intel Research Contest; this was the 1st year 3

students applied for the program and 1 was a semi-finalist and much of the credit goes to Dr. McGlade-McCulloh). Mr. Escobar congratulated the 3 High School tenure candidates. The Superintendent of Schools echoed Mr. Escobar's sentiments and added that the High School isn't the most warm and fuzzy place, and stated that Ms. Iaboni replaced a dynamo, Sonia Mirkovic, but Josie is as vibrant.

Ms. Small introduced Cross Street's tenure candidates: Iyla Wilson, Laura Kligman, and Maureen Wojis. Ms. Small spoke about each candidate as follows: Iyla Wilson – places big emphasis on literacy; her blog is well planned out; work with students is outstanding; she is demanding and has high expectations for her students; her classroom is management child friendly; transition routines that help children. Laura Kligman – she is a master at differentiating instruction; is an instructional leader for NWEA planning; manages lesson activities for all levels; works well with her colleagues. Maureen Wojis – is very caring and child centered; parents and children speak highly of her; works with parents who are regularly involved in her room; is a workshop literacy coach. Ms. Small is very proud to recommend these candidates to the Superintendent of School for tenure. The Superintendent of Schools spoke about interviewing Ms. Wojis and how comparisons were made when he worked along with his mother and how it is a complimentary. He further stated that he is proud of all 3 of these candidates.

Mr. Gaven made an announcement regarding Jackson's production of the Jungle Book. Mr. Gaven introduced and spoke about Amanda Bernard; Kimberly Martino; Morgan Mercaldi; and Courtney Zaleski. He further stated the following: that all of these candidates have shown a dedication and commitment to life-long learning for the students of Mineola; they understand how necessary it is for them to learn about their students, always helping them to succeed (Amanda Bernard – excellent teacher; co-moderator of student council and oversees many community service projects; raised \$7,000 from a Mets fund raiser for Winthrop University Hospital Children's Oncology Department; strong team player; always looks to meet the needs of students; creates an environment conducive to learning; and who will be a positive influence on students as well as serve as a valued resource for the district. Morgan Mercaldi – dedicated to life-long learning by taking classes and reading books; pursuing a Master's Degree in literacy; volunteers to model lessons for literacy collaborative training; grown from a new teacher to a respected team leader; adept in using NWEA; serves as a resource for her colleagues; makes many outstanding contributions; dedicated advocate for her students; outstanding co-teacher; proud of her development as a teacher and human being; and who will be a positive influence on students as well as serve as a valued resource for the district. Kimberly Martino – started as a permanent sub; excellent teacher who creates an environment conducive to learning; captain for Rockville Centre Fire Department; she is outstanding in a crisis situation, and sited there were several; works in the best interest of the students; she can be counted on; excellent friend and supportive of her colleagues; and highly recommends her for tenure. Courtney Zaleski –

continues to demonstrate her dedication to life-long learning; takes professional learning seriously; involved in iPad pilot project; wonderful to see her start as a novice teacher and turn into a team leader; advocate for students and those who are struggling; dynamic teacher with a thorough understanding of literacy collaborative; and will be going to the Middle School next year to teach 7th grade which will be a highlight of the district. Mr. Gaven further stated that all four of these candidates are fantastic teachers and it is an honor to recommend them to the Superintendent of Schools for tenure. The Superintendent of Schools stated he is impressed with what they are doing with the students; they make Mr. Gaven look good, and he is very proud of them.

Dr. Fleischmann and Ms. Shaw presented the following tenure candidates and spoke about them individually: Jaclyn Manouvrier and Jenny Amendolare. Dr. Fleischmann spoke about Jacklyn Manouvrier stating: described her first encounter in seeing Ms. Manouvrier's Art Fair at Jackson; Ms. Manouvrier engages children in Fine Art; works in areas of Art History; field trips to the Tiffany Exhibit; combines all disciplines in her Art curriculum; always with a smile; and is proud to highly recommend Ms. Manouvrier to the Superintendent of Schools for tenure. Ms. Shaw also spoke about Ms Manouvrier: always impressed in how well she teaches young children; elevates art lessons; brings an understanding to young children and gives them something to strive for; and she is confident in what she does. Ms. Shaw spoke about Jenny Amendolare: can rise to any challenge given her; hit the ground running; parents impressed with her; is a co-teacher and received training to be a literacy coach; her responsibility for students shines; staff is open to her experience; works 1 to 1 with teachers; dedicated to students, families, and colleagues; continues to learn; and it is an honor to present her to the Superintendent of Schools for tenure. The Superintendent of Schools stated that both these individuals have impressed him over the years with their work ethic and commitment, which is evident by the students' work and he is proud to have them in the district.

Ms. Napolitano stated that it has been a rough year and it is delightful to talk about wonderful teachers and children. She also thanked the tenure candidates for reminding her why it is an honor to sit on the Board of Education and listen to their accomplishments and congratulated all of the candidates.

Mr. Hale suggested that the candidates not worry about the students listening, but worry about them watching you. The students are trying to emulate you and will always remember you.

Yes:

William Hornberger
John McGrath
Christine Napolitano
Terence Hale

No: None

Passed: Yes

I. Superintendent's Reports

The Superintendent of Schools reported on the following regarding the Copy Center: status; tracking; history (2001); accountability; process in funneling work to the Center; reduced number of copy machines in the district; established a quota system; issuance of ID cards; scanning/e-mailing capabilities; types of copy machines throughout the district; manner in which copies are returned to requestor from Copy Center; turn around time; cost and savings; reduction in paper usage; possibly eliminating hard copies and go to electronic copies; and mobile solution for iPad printing. Mr. McGrath inquired if it was in network. The Superintendent responded yes.

The Superintendent of Schools introduced Vince Interrante and recognized his accomplishment with Microsoft as a result of attending an April seminar. He also stated that Mr. Interrante will also be recognized by Microsoft for his work and will be going to Washington to enter into a national competition. Mr. Interrante will be trained as a Microsoft Educator. The Superintendent of Schools also discussed Mr. Interrante's work at the Middle School (Netbook), which will be demonstrated at the next Board meeting.

Mr. McGrath inquired about the district using Google docs. The Superintendent of Schools responded that students need to be 13 years or older. The Superintendent of Schools further discussed the following: pushing things to the Cloud and explained the term "Cloud" (Internet; storing and retrieving and it being secure); not about the device but about the collaboration; students videoing themselves and embedding it into the project.

Ms. Napolitano inquired about the 7th graders. The Superintendent of Schools responded it depends on what products become available. He further stated that 7th graders were never intended to have machines, only 5th because the district already had 100 iPads and there is money set aside to purchase 300 more. It is being debated what platform to use. Mr. Interrante is forsaking Macs to move to new technology. There is trepidation, but the kids will get a great experience with both. The Superintendent of Schools requested the Board think about this for the June 16th meeting.

Ms. Napolitano inquired as to the length of time it takes students to become comfortable using a different platform. Mr. Interrante responded 10 minutes; students engage immediately; his lesson on weather enhanced students' learning experience in the classroom; students collaborating together; when given enough background they will jump to the experimentation aspect, build and form opinions about why clouds form. The Superintendent of Schools stated it is about structuring the lesson.

Ms. Napolitano inquired about staff rolling out this program. The Superintendent of Schools responded that the teachers will be trained by Microsoft as a certified educator, Mr. Interrante, who can then certify others.

The Superintendent of Schools stated that Mr. Gaven also received technology training and now the district has 2 individuals trained who were chosen from all of Long Island.

Mr. Hornberger requested clarification as to what the Superintendent of Schools was asking of the Board for the June 16th Board meeting; 5th and 6th grades receive iPads and moving to another platform. The Superintendent of Schools stated that there is not a device available that runs and APP for Microsoft Office. Mr. Hornberger inquired if the district is waiting for time until software becomes available, because he wants to make sure the Boards chooses a direction is best for short term as well. The Superintendent of Schools stated that the biggest success is in the engagement of students. Mr. Hornberger wants all pieces in place for success and doesn't want to make a judgment that fails. The Superintendent of Schools stated that the notion of a 21st century skills is a fuzzy area and there is no concrete answer of what they are. He believes that skills include collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking, but how they are delivered in content area is very unclear. The Superintendent of Schools also discussed: 8 pieces of Project Based Learning Initiative; the iPad program and its expansion; stated that the district will have some type of device, but doesn't want to be an advocate for one platform over another; and the district has to teach children skills.

Ms. Napolitano inquired about a different teaching style. Mr. Interrante discussed the following: apply his training to designing lessons, i.e. weather and stated it was 100% student driven; he helps the students through their experiences; the students taught themselves about weather; students will solve or locate answers that they will understand; this is a platform students can use skills they have learned and take it to another level, it is a natural progression.

Ms. Napolitano inquired what students had to achieve at the end of the unit. Mr. Interrante explained they had to satisfy the content answers, collaboration part, present themselves via photo collage, or create a movie as another part.

Ms. Napolitano inquired about assessment. Mr. Interrante responded that it was not an open and reporting test. Mr. Napolitano inquired about the end product. Mr. Interrante responded the end product will be next week. Mr. Napolitano inquired if he thought the students understand the work better. Mr. Interrante replied the students are getting it quicker. They know meteorology better and when they get into 8th grade they will remember it because they experienced creating it.

The Superintendent of Schools stated the Board has to decide where to go. Assessments won't be known for the next few years. Exams weren't fair to kids; that's why the district moved to NWEA.

Mr. McGrath inquired if this technology is increasing student content knowledge. The Superintendent of Schools responded that they want to increase content knowledge. The device allows teachers to engage kids and the success will be their ability. Everything is centered on content.

Mr. Hornberger expressed concern over rolling out 2 different platforms. The Superintendent of Schools responded as follows: district could slow it down; when the device is given to the teachers the students will make the teachers do something with it; the district will provide training to the teachers; and the teachers don't have to be experts in technology the kids will be.

Mr. Hornberger inquired about the type of training in September. The Superintendent of Schools responded that first the equipment needs to be received and training will be in August, and stated there is enthusiasm. He is leaning toward Microsoft Suite more so than the Apple; and on June 16th the Board will decide.

The Superintendent of Schools also discussed: clarification on MSG, whether or not the district plans to participate this year; the district will advertise to ascertain if there is interest in managing the program. Mr. McGrath inquired if the district was required to post it. The Superintendent of Schools responded no. Mr. McGrath is okay with Mr. Amitrano and Mr. Maurer. Mr. Hornberger inquired about the stipend. The Superintendent of Schools responded it has been decreased. Mr. Hornberger inquired about the scholarship allowance. The Superintendent of Schools responded the district still has \$2,000; contingent upon the number of assets posted to the blog; and does not know if the scholarship money will be increased. He further stated that he doesn't have a recommendation yet, but will at the next meeting.

The Superintendent of Schools also discussed: Sr. Prom on June 9th; Sr. Awards Breakfast June 8th; 8th grade dance June 10th; and he was in need of an executive session.

J. Executive Session

At 9:01 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: Terence Hale

Yes: William Hornberger
John McGrath
Christine Napolitano

No: Terence Hale

Passed: Yes

President Hale stated that the Board may return at any time.

At 10:00 p.m. the Board returned to open session.

K. Adjournment

At 10:00 p.m. a motion was made to adjourn this meeting of the Board of Education.

Motion: John McGrath

Second: Christine Napolitano

Yes: William Hornberger
John McGrath
Christine Napolitano
Terence Hale

No: None

Passed: Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Martillo
District Clerk