

**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 - 2014-2015**

**Educational**

- To continue to align curriculum that assesses specific Common Core standards. These data must track individual student growth in the standards.
- Develop and implement a four-year plan to align High School coursework and partnerships in specific Career and Technical Education (CTE) strands.
- Explore partnerships with local universities to offer certificate programs to our students during his/her senior year.
- Continue to develop and encourage students to engage in college level coursework
- Continue to assess the District's Strategic Objectives and report on progress toward those objectives

**Facilities**

- Explore the feasibility of green technologies as part of the projects associated with our Capital reserve expenditures

**Finance**

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

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**DATE: May 7, 2015**

**LOCATION: Willis Avenue School**

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

**Board of Education**

Arthur Barnett, President  
Christine Napolitano, Vice President  
Patricia Navarra  
Nicole Matzer  
Margaret Ballantyne-Mannion

**Central Office**

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

**A. Call to Order - 7:05 pm**

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Reading of Mission- Nicole Matzer**

**D. Moment of Silent Meditation**

**E. Dais & Visitor Introductions**

**F. High School Student Organization Report**

There was no Student Organization report this evening.

**G. BOE Reports**

**a. Comments from Board Trustees**

Margaret Ballantyne wished all of the Mineola Alum good luck with their college exams. She expressed that the Class of 2015 did great with their college acceptances. Dr. Ballantyne also thanked the Guidance Department for the successful decision day at the High School. Dr. Ballantyne reported that SEPTA hosted a party about a week and a half ago, which was very well attended. There were about 100 students and their parents, as well as an amazing DJ. She thanked Terry Hale and Robin Roach for a great job. Dr. Ballantyne added that at the final SEPTA meeting for the school year, there was a presentation by an Occupational Therapist. She gave parents many good ideas for the summer and fun, informal ways to keep their childrens therapies going. Finally, Dr. Ballantyne stated that as she visited the High School today, she heard a student remark to her teacher that "I love reading this book". She said statements like these make all of this worth it.

Nicole Matzer expressed that this is a very busy time of year and much is going on. Today, she visited the Jackson Avenue plant sale. She encouraged everyone to attend and stated that there was a very large selection. Ms. Matzer looks forward to attending "Fiddler on the Roof" with her family. Ms. Matzer reported that Marching Band officially starts tonight and she looks forward to a good season.

Patricia Navarra also attended the Jackson Avenue plant sale, which she compared to a farm. There was a large selection of plants to choose from. Ms. Navarra thanked the Meadow Drive Girl Scout troop for sponsoring a Bake -Off. She was asked to be a judge of the 16 delicious, warm entries. Ms. Navarra thanked the District Council for hosting "Meet the Candidate Night". Finally, Ms. Navarra is also looking forward to the play.

Christine Napolitano attended the Art Show at Jackson Avenue and reported that the work was incredible. She particularly liked the masks. Ms. Napolitano attended that 5th grade Concert which was very enjoyable. Ms. Napolitano attended the SEPTA meeting and expressed that it was a very positive meeting and there were many good ideas for families. Ms. Napolitano was also a judge at the Girl Scout Bake Off and stated that it was the hardest job that she loved to do. She thanked the troop leaders for the invitation to participate.

**b. Comments from Board President**

Artie Barnett stated that he was going to be very brief tonight in his report. First, he thanked Dr. Nagler for his Budget presentation on Monday night for parents. Mr. Barnett also thanked the District Council for hosting the "Meet the Candidate Night".

### **c. Comments from Superintendent**

Dr. Nagler stated he would like to ask the Board for permission to move into a Student presentation at this time. He reported that he had received a message from one of the AP History students that they had the AP exam tomorrow and needed to be home studying. Dr. Nagler stated that the presentation tonight is an update of the Online AP Psychology course. Mr. Fretz, teacher and a few of his student were here this evening to report. Mr. Fretz thanked the Board and reported that he is very excited to be part of this course from the beginning. He stated that it is a very unique experience. This online course, as it has been set-up is very layered and engaging. Mr. Fretz emphasized how proud he is to be a part of this program. Tonight, Mr. Fretz and four of his student are here to share their experiences. Mr. Fretz prepared a video presentation, which demonstrated how the online course worked. The presentation showed the modules, activities, and topic specific videos. The video also showed the electronic textbook, testing component and hands-on projects available to students. Mr. Fretz explained that the site is very engaging. He reported that there are 15 students (grades 11 and 12) that take part on this course. He stated that at the end of the course, he met with students for a review session for the AP exam. Mr. Fretz reported that there were periodic meetings to discuss changes, but for the most part all of the work was online. The course is very state of the art. Mr. Fretz invited his students to come up and discuss their experience with this course. One of the students reported that this was a very different learning experience for her and it took a while for her to adjust. But, she felt that the AP exam questions were very similar to those on the online course. Dr. Nagler asked if she felt prepared for the AP exam and she felt that she was prepared. Dr. Ballantyne asked the students what were the parts that they like the best and the least. The students reported that parts that they enjoyed the most included the discussion boards and the videos. Another student reported that she was able to fit this course into her schedule because it was online and she adjusted when she completed the work. Each student talked about their adjustment to this type of learning and how they had to manage their time. Many felt that this course will help them in college with time management. One student still prefers a traditional course rather than the online format. All felt that this could be expanded and one student recommended an online Economics course. Dr. Ballantyne thanked Mr. Fretz for all of his hard work and added that an online course can be very difficult. She like that this course is multifaceted. Mr. Fretz acknowledged that there were many people involved with the development of the course and the video team in particular was a huge help. Mr. Barnett inquired about the shelf life of this course and Mr. Fretz feels that it could be used for several years and that they can continue to build upon the content. Mr. Barnett also asked for a manageable class size. Mr. Fretz stated that the 15 students was ideal, but added that it could be slightly larger. Dr. Nagler explained that this course was set-up through BOCES and we hired a videographers. He stated that Mr. Fretz put in a tremendous amount of work. BOCES would like Mineola to open this course up to other districts. Dr. Nagler emphasized that this format is not for all students Mr. Fretz stated that four have fallen behind and three students didn't sit for the AP exam. Ms. Napolitano inquired how many hours per week the student put into this course. All students agreed that the time varied and many caught up on weekends. They added that there were clear deadlines which helped keep them on target. Ms. Napolitano asked if this experience would make them take another online course. The answers varied but all students agreed that this was good preparation for college and definitely helped with time management skills. Dr. Nagler reported that Nassau BOCES is trying to build coursework that can be shared between districts. He stated that a great deal of work was put into the development of this course. BOCES would like Mineola to open our course to outside students. Dr. Nagler stated that he feels we should open it to our students first and then look into opening it to others. Dr. Ballantyne recommends capping the number of students and Dr. Nagler agreed and added that 15 students is optimal. Dr. Nagler thanked Mr. Fretz for an excellent job and an excellent course.

**Superintendent Comments:** Dr. Nagler reported that he received an email from Henry Viscardi to inquire if Mineola would host a team of teachers from Argentina to look at the Special Education Co-Teaching model in our schools. Michael Mark will be at the June 18th meeting to present on the turf field at Hampton and the High School, the scope and the cost. The Pre-K Lottery for 54 seats (5 day/full day) took place. All other student will get 5 day, 1/2 day. We are currently in the process of determining staffing. Dr. Nagler stated that he sent the list of Senior Projects to the Board as requested. The AP exams are underway at the High School. He will have a list of the various competitions that students have participated by the end of the school year for the Board. Dr. Nagler wanted parents of the 4th and 8th grade students to be aware that the Science assessment that students are taking is the traditional exam, not common core. There is a learning summit in Albany. All major unions are being represented and participation is by invitation only. One item being discussed is the teacher evaluation and student test scores.

#### **H. Old Business**

There was no old business this evening.

**I. New Business**

Mr. Barnett asked the board if there was any new business. Ms. Matzer asked for an update on the summer Ipad assignments. Dr. Nagler stated that the summer Ipad contracts are currently being revamped. Students will keep the same Ipad for the summer. The Ipad will be collected and checked the second week of June and students will have them back before summer break.

**Employee Settlement Agreement**

**RESOLUTION # 48 - BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District hereby approves the terms of a Settlement Agreement and General Release with an employee whose identity has been made known the Board in executive session, accepts the letter of resignation annexed to the Settlement Agreement, and authorizes the Board President and Superintendent of Schools to execute said agreement on behalf of the Board and take the necessary steps to implement its terms.

**Motion:** Margaret Ballantyne  
**Second:** Patrician Navarra

**Yes:** Margaret Ballantyne  
Nicole Matzer  
Patricia Navarra  
Christine Napolitano  
Arthur Barnett  
**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

**Policy- First reading of revised Board Policies # 1100 to # 8470**

**RESOLUTION # 49- BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Mineola UFSD waives the first formal reading of revised Board Policies # 1110 - # 8470, due to its availability on the information table and online on the District website.

**Motion:** Nicole Matzer  
**Second:** Christine Napolitano

Discussion: Mr Barnett stated that the copy of revised Board Policies is on the information table. He explained that this was a three year project and all policies were updated. Dr. Nagler added that a copy of the policies for review can be found in the District Clerk's office and on the District website.

**Yes:** Margaret Ballantyne  
Nicole Matzer  
Patricia Navarra  
Christine Napolitano  
Arthur Barnett  
**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

## J. Consensus Agenda

**RESOLUTION # 50- BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the consensus agenda items J.1.a. through J.6.b., as presented.

**Motion:** Margaret Ballantyne

**Second:** Patricia Navarra

Discussion: Dr. Nagler stated that he wanted to comment on a few items in the Consensus Agenda. Mr. Ed Escobar is resigning his position of High School Principal in order to move into the role of Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. According to Dr. Nagler, this position is a savings for the District due to the fact that two positions were abolished previously. He added that this is a promotion for Mr. Escobar and he will have many new responsibilities. Dr. Nagler stated that there will be some changes at the High School as well. Dr. Nagler invited Mr. Escobar to say a few words. Mr. Escobar thanked Dr. Nagler and the Board for the opportunity to be principal of the High School and stated that his passion has always been the students. Mr. Escobar highlighted various aspects of his time as principal that he is most proud of. Mr. Escobar stated that he has been in education since 1985 and looks forward to the challenges of his new position.

Dr. Nagler stated that Mr. Escobar's successor will be Dr. Whitney Smith. Dr. Nagler stated that he is currently the Assistant Principal of Guidance and highlighted some of his accomplishments. Dr. Smith is a good person with a good heart and has been at Mineola for 12 years. Dr. Smith thanked everyone and appreciates this opportunity. He has enjoyed working closely with Mr. Escobar and has learned a great deal from him. Dr. Smith looks forward to the next challenges.

Mr. Barnett spoke about Mr. Escobar and stated that he knows all of his students and details about them. He will truly be missed at the High School and Mr. Barnett thanked Ed. Mr. Barnett congratulated Dr. Smith and added that he has some very big shoes to fill.

Dr. Nagler stated that item 2.d.3. needs to be amended to reflect a four year tenure- 2019. A motion was made by Nicole Matzer to amend item 2.d.3 and was second by Margaret Ballantyne. The Board was polled and all were in favor, the motion passed.

There was no additional discussion and the Board was polled on the amended Consensus Agenda.

<b>Yes:</b>	Margaret Ballantyne	<b>No:</b>	None
	Nicole Matzer		
	Patricia Navarra		
	Christine Napolitano		
	Arthur Barnett		

**Passed:** Yes

### 1. Accepting of Minutes

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the April 21, 2015 BOCES Vote Meeting as presented.

2. **Instruction**

a. **Preferred Eligibility List**

1. That the Board of Education approve the excessing of Jennifer Capella, ESL Teacher, effective June 30, 2015. She will be placed on the Preferred Eligibility List.

b. **Resignation(s)**

1. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Virginia Barrezueta, Permanent Sub, effective Monday, April 27, 2015.
2. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Edward T. Escobar, Mineola High School Principal, effective June 30, 2015.
3. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Dr. Whitney T. Smith, Assistant Principal, effective June 30, 2015.

c. **Leave(s) of Absence/Medical**

1. That the Board of Education approves a Medical Leave of Absence using accumulated sick days to Lucy Long, Teacher, effective October 27, 2014.
2. That the Board of Education approves a Medical Leave of Absence using accumulated sick days to Stephen Mitchell, Teacher, effective January 5, 2015.
3. That the Board of Education approves a Medical Leave of Absence using accumulated sick days to William DiGennaro, Teacher, effective March 23, 2015.
4. That the Board of Education approves a paid Medical Leave of Absence to Catherine Baker, Teacher, using accumulated sick days, effective April 29, 2015 to June 30, 2015.

d. **Appointments Instruction**

1. That the Board of Education approves the transfer of Dana McDonough, to the position of Leave Replacement Teacher for Catherine Baker, effective April 29, 2015 with no change in salary.
2. The Board of Education approves the appointment of Edward T. Escobar, to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, effective July 1, 2015, and the authorizes the Board President to execute an employee agreement the terms of which have been reviewed by the Board in Executive Session.
3. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Dr. Whitney T. Smith, to the position of Principal of Mineola High School, effective July 1, 2015. Salary: \$176,274. Probationary Period: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018.

e. **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.:

**EMPLOYEE NAME**

**EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATION**

1. Jenna R. Cavuto Childhood Ed(1-6), SWD(1-6)

f. **Appointment(s) Coaches**

That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following coaches for the current school year:

<b><u>POSITION</u></b>	<b><u>EMPLOYEE NAME</u></b>	<b><u>STEP</u></b>	<b><u>STIPEND</u></b>
Strength & Conditioning	Christopher M. Schacca	Step 1	\$7,344.00

3. **Civil Service**

a. **Resignation(s)**

1. That the Board of Education accept the resignation of Stephen Graf, 10 month Bus Driver, effective June 12, 2015.

b. **Appointments**

1. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of AnaMaria Seeley, to the position of part time Teacher Aide at the High School, effective May 11, 2015. Salary will be \$13.74 per hour on Step 1.

c. **Resignation(s)**

1. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Guy Penny, part time Bus Attendant, for the purpose of retirement, effective April 1, 2015.

d. **Leave(s) of Absence**

1. That the Board of Education grant a request to Vivian Depascale, 12 month Bus Driver, for an Unpaid Medical Leave of Absence, due to injuries sustained in an accident, effective April 14, 2015.

e. **Creation of New Position**

1. That the Board of Education approve the summer position of part time Teacher Aide for the Technology Department, effective July 1, 2015 through August 31, 2015. Rate of pay would be the hourly rate and step according to the Teacher Aide schedule.

f. **Appointment(S) Summer Bus Aides**

That the Board of Education approves the following staff members as Summer Bus Aides from 7/1/15 through 8/31/15:

	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE NAME</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
1.	Bus Attendant P/T	Daisy Aviles	\$39.38	07/01/2015
2.	Bus Attendant	Kathleen M. Diskin	\$32.03	07/01/2015
3.	Bus Attendant P/T	Dolores Delape	\$18.51	07/01/2015
4.	Bus Attendant P/T	Frances Lapoff	\$32.03	07/01/2015
5.	Bus Attendant	Giovanna Randazzo Klein	\$27.90	07/01/2015
6.	Bus Attendant	Michele S. Krumholz	\$32.03	07/01/2015
7.	Bus Attendant P/T	Rhonda A. Kaletsky	\$20.32	07/01/2015
8.	Bus Attendant P/T	Olga B. Santoli	\$11.73	07/01/2015

g. **Appointment(S) Summer Bus Driver(s)**

That the Board of Education approves the following staff members as Summer Bus Drivers from 7/1/15 through 8/31/15:

	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE NAME</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
1.	Bus Driver	Julia D. Adames	\$25.00	07/01/2015
2.	Bus Driver	Maria E. Coleman	\$25.00	07/01/2015
3.	Bus Driver	Teresa Coleman	\$25.00	07/01/2015
4.	Bus Driver	Maria D. David	\$25.00	07/01/2015
5.	Bus Driver	Josefina Dasilva	\$25.00	07/01/2015
6.	Bus Driver	Lee Dunninger	\$25.00	07/01/2015
7.	Bus Driver	Joaquim M. Farinhas	\$25.00	07/01/2015
8.	Bus Driver	Francis X. Feeley	\$25.00	07/01/2015
9.	Bus Driver	Brian Flynn	\$25.00	07/01/2015

	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE NAME</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
10.	Bus Driver	James G. Gallagher	\$25.00	07/01/2015
11.	Bus Driver	Gregory Glover	\$25.00	07/01/2015
12.	Bus Driver	Andrew G. Greenberg	\$25.00	07/01/2015
13.	Bus Driver	Nancy J. Jones	\$25.00	07/01/2015
14.	Bus Driver	Daniel McNamara	\$25.00	07/01/2015
15.	Bus Driver	Cecil R. Meikle	\$25.00	07/01/2015
16.	Bus Driver	Sandra T. Moon	\$25.00	07/01/2015
17.	Bus Driver	Ramona Mujica	\$25.00	07/01/2015
18.	Bus Driver	Yale B. Napier	\$25.00	07/01/2015
19.	Bus Driver	Ronald D. Pierrot	\$25.00	07/01/2015
20.	Bus Driver	Anthony C. Reid	\$25.00	07/01/2015
21.	Bus Driver	Gustavo Rodriguez	\$25.00	07/01/2015
22.	Bus Driver	Vincent J. Sanseverino	\$25.00	07/01/2015
23.	Bus Driver	Marta L. Saravia	\$25.00	07/01/2015
24.	Bus Driver	Joan Selvin	\$25.00	07/01/2015
25.	Bus Driver	Cheryl R. Thwaites	\$25.00	07/01/2015

4. **Business /Finance**

a. **Budget Appropriation Adjustment**

1. That the Board of Education approves the transfer of funds, in the amount of \$40,000 from Budget code: 9010 800 00 8096 to Budget code: 1621 418 00 0000 to cover sidewalk and paving repairs throughout the District.

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

a. That the Board of Education approves the Fund Surplus Resolution Agreement and Release between the Board of Cooperative Educational Services Rensselaer- Columbia- Greene Counties (Questar III) and the Mineola UFSD. \*See attached Appendix A.

6. **Business/Finance: Bids**

a. That the Board of Education approves the awarding of the Irrigation Installation & Service Co-Op bid for the 2015- 2016 school year to Sipala Landscape Services, the lowest responsible bidder, meeting all specifications.

b. That the Board of Education approves the awarding of a Thirty (30) Day Emergency Transportation bid to First Student Bus Company, the lowest responsible bidder, to transport a student to South Oaks Hospital.

## **K. Superintendent's Report**

### Superintendent of Schools' Reports for 5/7/15

#### Presentations:

1. Formal Budget Hearing
2. On-line AP Psychology Course Update- John Fretz
3. Technology- Vision and Purchases
4. Update on ESL Regulation 154- Patricia Burns

#### **Formal Budget Hearing**

The Superintendent presented the Formal Budget Hearing and outlined all of the highlights of the 2015- 2016 Budget.

#### **2015-2016 Budget Highlights**

Proposed budget: 89,664,263  
Budget to Budget increase: 2.12%  
Allowable Tax levy increase: 1.37%  
Proposed Levy: 1.37% (Use \$250,000 of fund balance achieved through teacher contract settlement-last year)  
State Aid: 6,250,000 (not including monies contingent upon successful negotiation of APPR plan by November 15, 2015)

#### **Educational:**

- All current educational and co-curricular programs
- All extra-curricular activities
- All current Athletic programs
- Maintains comprehensive staff development and professional development
- Continue expansion of districts technology program
  - o Expand ipad 1:1 program for all students K-12

#### **Curricular Enhancements:**

- Maintain existing pre-K program - 54 full day seat at Harbor via lottery; 5 day, ½ day for all other students
- Continue dual language K-3; add grade 4 Jackson Avenue, Continue Spanish immersion program K-2; add grade 3
- Continuation of science laboratory (Knowing Science) for grades 3 - 7, expand the program in grades K-2; create dedicated makers spaces (science labs)
- Increase student time for regents level math courses at HS
- Increase staff for Middle school Project Based Learning initiative

#### **Operational:**

- Vehicles
  - o Amend 5 year Bus Replacement plan- 3 large buses, 3- 30 passenger vans, 1 wheelchair

accessible

- Facilities Upgrade
  - o Reconfigure wood shop at HS to create a Robotics lab
  - o Reconfigure spaces at Jackson to create Music lesson room and "Small lab" space
  - o Repair/replace damaged asphalt, concrete and/or fencing - District wide
    - Address HS track repair (if this work is not part of a Capital reserve project)
  - o Air conditioning for non-instructional spaces as needed
- Maintain 4% Fund Balance

**Equipment:** Allocated \$430,000

- o New fitness equipment at HS, new divider curtains for the HS gym, "Small lab" at Jackson, musical instrument purchases, HS choral risers, computer hardware, replacement desks and chairs district wide, 2 ATV snow removal vehicles for HS and MS

**Transfer to Capital:**

- Allocate 1.3 million dollars from fund balance to budget to finish Cross Street windows and doors and district wide masonry

**Superintendent Comments**

The Superintendent reminded everyone that the additional monies are needed to complete the Cross Street windows and doors and the district wide masonry due to the architect error with the original numbers. The other projects were previously awarded and this transfer to capitol will allow the rest of the work to be completed. Dr. Nagler also clarified that the community voted to allow the District to have the Capital Reserve fund; they also vote for how the funds are to be used. Dr. Nagler reported that the district has flat lined the budget for 8 years. The District has been recognized by the Governor for Management Efficiency and was awarded a grant. He added that only 4 other districts have kept the budget flatter than Mineola.

Mr. Barnett opened the floor to **Public Comment** specific to the budget presentation. There were no comments or questions from the public at this time.

**Technology Plan 2015- 2016**

The next presentation by the Superintendent, this evening is the "Technology Plan". \*This presentation can be found on the district website on the Board of Education page.

**Five Year Plan**

This concept began in 2005 and we are in year "10" of 5 year plan. All equipment is purchased with a five year lease. At the conclusion of the 5th year, all of the equipment is replaced from year one using the same dollar amount already in the budget. All equipment is replaced every 5 years without an increase in the budget.

**2015-2016 Budget Purchases**

- Purchase 1000 new iPads: all students in K-12 will receive an iPad.
- Purchase includes a "hard case".
- Purchase new MAC lab at the High School
- Purchase of "Small Lab" at Jackson
- Increase software allocation: School4One, LightSail, apps

### Professional Development

-Supporting the implementation of technology:

- mandated time available in the teacher contract includes 24- 50 minute periods after school
- all other times, teachers must be compensated for their time; even if compensation is offered, the teachers are not required to participate
- the only way to guarantee all teachers participate is to periodically cover them for 1/2 day for an inservice professional development (this is a common practice across the county)

### Management Efficiency Grant

- this is the last year of a 3 year allocation- \$213,000 each year
- this year, we upgraded all of our switches: increased current and future capabilities to increase bandwidth to each WAP.

### SMART Schools Money

- Mineola allocation = \$576,879
- Guidance on how it can be used was just released
- Money may be used for Pre-K
- Also received \$14,244 from NYS Instructional Technology program: limited to tablet devices-allows for 37 additional iPads

### Program Evaluation

How can we tell our investment in technology has an affect on student engagement and achievement?

- staff, parent and student surveys
- examine pre/post NWEA scores for target skills in eSpark app
- examine actual student work in standards using School 4 One app
- classroom observations

No cost /partnerships pilots- LightSail, School 4 One, eSpark, and Knowing Science

-recognized by Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA) as a best practice. Ms. Burns represented the District in San Francisco

Not effective- don't do it

-Engrade- software didn't do what the company said it did- we stopped the implementation with a FULL refund.

### Update on ESL Regulation 154

Tonight's final presentation is "Ensuring Equal Educational Opportunities for English Language Learners" by Pat Burns. \*The presentation can be found on the district website on the Board of Education page. Ms. Burns explained that ESL Regulation 154- ensuring equal educational opportunities is over 100 pages. The three amendments are the new requirements for ELL, change in the terminology, and identification and exit criteria.

Ms. Burns discussed ELL Identification which is a 3 step process which includes:

1. administration of the Home Language Questionnaire
2. individual interview with the student in their home language
3. administration of a statewide English language proficiency identification assessment (NYSITELL)

Parents may request an ELL review.

#### Retention of records:

School Districts are required to collect and maintain: records indicating the parent's preferred language and records of notices and forms generated during the identification and placement process in the student's cumulative record.

#### Parent notification and information:

School districts must distribute school related information to parents of ELLs in the language best understood by parents.

ELL identification, parent notification, signed consent and placement in a bilingual Education or ESL program is required to take place within 10 days after initiating the identification process.

Mineola will schedule a parent orientation meeting in June for our new Kindergarten entrants.

School personnel are required to meet with parents at least once a year in addition to generally required meetings.

#### Program requirements:

Each school with 20 or more ELL students of the same grade who speak the same home language continues to be required to provide a Bilingual Education Program.

Schools are required to continue providing a Bilingual Education program if at least 15 students who speak the same language are enrolled.

#### ELL Exit Criteria:

Exit Criteria has been expanded to allow qualified students to exit ELL status by:

1. scoring at the proficient/commanding level on the NYSESLAT
2. scoring at the advanced/expanding level on the NYSESLAT and
  - 3+ on a grade 3-8 ELA assessment or
  - 65+ on the Regents exam in English
3. for students with disabilities the exit criteria is pending.

#### Intervention supports for ELLS:

School districts are required to annually identify ELLs not demonstrating adequate performance and provide additional support services.

School districts are required to provide at least two years of services that monitor and support the student's language development and academic progress to students who exit out of ELL status.

#### Students with disabilities: (this contains some big changes)

Establishes identification criteria to determine accommodations that a student uses during the administration of the NYSITELL.

When a school has identified that a student with a disability may be an English Language Learner, the school must convene a Language Proficiency Team (LPT), in lieu of the CSE, to evaluate the student's second language acquisition needs. Ms. Burns reported that she and Ms. Fishman are working on this.

The LPT is responsible for making initial assessment and recommendations regarding the student's ELL status.

ELL individual exit process and criteria for eligible students with a disability will be established by the CSE annually.

#### Professional Development:

School districts are required to ensure that prescribed percentages of Professional Development hours be specific to the needs of ELLs:

- 15% total hours for all teachers
- 50% total for bilingual Education and ENL/ESL teachers



# **APPENDIX A**

## **FUND SURPLUS RESOLUTION AGREEMENT AND RELEASE**

This Fund Surplus Resolution Agreement And Release (“Agreement”) is by and between the Mineola UFSD (“District”), 121 Jackson Avenue, Mineola, NY 11501-2361, and the Board of Cooperative Educational Services Rensselaer - Columbia - Greene Counties (“Questar III”, which shall be defined to include Questar III’s Board members, administrators, officers, employees, attorneys, agents, representatives, successors and assigns), 10 Empire State Boulevard, Castleton, NY 12033. The District and Questar III may be referred to collectively herein as the “Parties.”

WHEREAS, Questar III retained D’Arcangelo & Co, LLP (“D’Arcangelo”) to conduct an independent audit of the funds that Questar III has accrued for purposes of satisfying future liabilities for post-retirement and other post-employment benefits (“OPEB”); and

WHEREAS, D’Arcangelo issued an Agreed-Upon Procedures Report on July 21, 2014 (the “Report”) which, among other things, confirmed the total balance of funds accrued by Questar III for OPEB purposes as of June 30, 2013 and, of that balance, amounts that could be returned to the component and non-component school districts who participated in the relevant programs conducted by Questar III (“Accrual Amount”); and

WHEREAS, the Questar III Board has adopted a plan by which the OPEB Accrual Amount will be returned to such component and non-component school districts (the “Plan”), utilizing the basis for return set forth in the Report, and

WHEREAS, the Plan has received approval from the State Education Department; and

WHEREAS, the Parties hereto wish to memorialize the terms by which the District will participate in the Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PARTIES HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Questar III will return to the District a total of \$885.29 (the "Payment Amount"), which by this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute the District's full and complete entitlement to its share of the OPEB Accrual Amount. The Payment Amount shall be returned over a period not to exceed five years as follows:

**District: Mineola UFSD**

<b>Year ending June 30,</b>	<b>OPEB Accruals Return to be Credited to Administrative Levy</b>	<b>% of Total Return to District</b>
<b>2016</b>	\$885.29	100
<b>Total Return of OPEB Accruals to District</b>	\$885.29	100

The Payment Amount as set forth above shall be returned in the form of a credit against the amount that the District otherwise is required to contribute to Questar III for non-component district CoSer charges in each of the school years set forth in the Payment Schedule above. If the portion of the Payment Amount to be returned in any school year exceeds the amount that the District must otherwise remit to Questar III, the excess balance shall be added to the portion of the Payment Amount to be returned in the next subsequent school year pursuant to the above Payment Schedule. If any such excess balance remains after the final year of the Payment Schedule, the excess balance shall be credited against the District's required contribution to Questar III in the next subsequent school year, and any additional school years as may be necessary to fully return the Payment Amount to the District. In no case shall Questar III be required to return any portion of the Payment Amount in the form of a cash payment to the District, or in any other manner except as set forth herein.

2. The District hereby accepts the return of the Payment Amount, as set forth herein, as full and complete satisfaction of any claim or entitlement the District would otherwise have, by law, contract, equity or otherwise, to return of any portion of the Accrual Amount.
3. In consideration for the return of the Payment Amount as set forth herein, the District hereby releases and discharges Questar III from any and all obligations, claims or liabilities, of any nature, that relate to the Accrual Amount and/or Questar III's OPEB accruals up to the date of execution of this Agreement, and the District hereby agrees that it will not commence, maintain or cooperate with any action, proceeding or claim in law or equity, of any nature or in any forum, against Questar III in relation to the Accrual Amount and/or Questar III's OPEB accruals up to the date of execution of this Agreement, which shall include but not be limited to any action, proceeding or claim in law or equity, seeking to recover (a) any portion of the Accrual Amount beyond that which is set forth in this Agreement, or (b) any other payment or relief that relates in any way to the Accrual Amount and/or Questar III's OPEB accruals up to the date of execution of this Agreement.
4. The District agrees that presentation of this Agreement shall serve as the District's unqualified and irrevocable consent to discontinue with prejudice any action, proceeding or claim in law or equity, commenced or maintained by or on behalf of the District and/or its officers in violation of the terms of this Agreement.
5. The Parties affirm that this Agreement fully and completely sets forth the agreed upon resolution of any rights, entitlements or claims that the District may have in relation to the Accrual Amount, and that no other promises or agreements have been made or would be effective in relation to the Accrual Amount.

6. The District and Questar III hereby each respectively affirm that the execution of this Agreement has been authorized by action of its Board of Education.

**FOR QUESTAR III:**

**FOR THE DISTRICT:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Robert Gibson*

*[Type or Print Name]*

President, Board of Education

President, Board of Education

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_