

Mineola Union Free School District, Mineola, NY
Business Meeting Minutes - BUDGET ADOPTION

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 for 2024 - 2025

Educational

- Continue to expand our professional understanding of the Science of Reading and Scarborough's Rope as it applies to learners in upper elementary, middle and high school
- Prepare teachers for the shifts in the Math Expressions curriculum and platforms (K-6)
- Expand learning opportunities for students emphasizing self - direction (managing one's own time and resources to pursue individual interests) and career readiness
- Develop and pilot the new concept of competency based education that allows learners to choose assignments and level of rigor entitled "Build your own grade"
- Expand the elementary health curriculum to include engaging video content on topics of health, nutrition, and social-emotional well being

Facilities

- Create a new 5 year Capital improvement plan that addresses outstanding items in the Building Condition Survey (BCS) as well as address future bus electrification plans for the Mineola fleet

Finance

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

DATE: Thursday, April 10, 2025 / High School Auditorium - 7:00 p.m.

Board of Education

Dr. Margaret Ballantyne, President
Cheryl Lampasona, Vice President
Brian Widman
Patrick Talty
Stacey DeCillis

Central Office

Michael Nagler, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Catherine Fishman, Deputy Superintendent
Will Herman, Asst. Superintendent for Business & Operations
Cindy Velez, District Clerk

- A. Call to Order - 7:01 pm**
- B. Pledge of Allegiance**
- C. Reading of Mission - Patrick Talty**
- D. Moment of Silent Meditation**
- E. Dais & Visitor Introductions**
- F. Student Organization Report and Student Recognitions - ** No student organization report ****

Leigh Shaw, Amy Trojanowski, Lisa Richards, Gabriella Deninno

- IACS Challenge (Institute for Advanced Computational Science)
- FLL Robotics "Robo Sharks" MMS

Karen Bernstein

- NYSATA Middle School Flag Design Winner
- ASA - Art Supervisors Association
- Nassau All County-Art Exhibit

Chris McCann, Dan Guido

- All Conference - Boys Basketball
- All County - Boys Basketball
- All League - Girls Bowling
- All Conference - Girls Winter Track
- All Conference-Boys Winter Track
- All Conference - Wrestling
- All Class - Girls Basketball

G. BOE Reports

1. Comments from Board Trustees - Stacey Decillis, Patrick Talty, Brian Widman, Cheryl Lampasona
2. Comments from Board President - Dr. Margaret Ballantyne
3. Comments from Superintendent - Michael Nagler

H. Old Business

None

I. New Business

RESOLUTION #58 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mineola UFSD waives the second formal reading of the following revised board policies due to their availability on the information table and website and moves to their adoption.

- Policy 1530 - Minutes
- Policy 3420 - Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment in the District
- Policy 3421 - Title IX and Sex Discrimination
- Policy 5630 - Facilities: Inspection, Operation and Maintenance
- Policy 5681 - School Safety Plans
- Policy 5683 - Evacuation, Lockdown, and Emergency Dismissal Drills
- Policy 6130 - Evaluation of Personnel
- Policy 6214 - Incidental Teaching
- Policy 6215 - Probation and Tenure
- Policy 6550 - Leaves of Absence
- Policy 6560 - Determination of Employment Status: Employee or Independent Contractor
- Policy 7220 - Graduation Requirements
- Policy 7420 - Sports and the Athletic Program
- Policy 7440 - Student Voter Registration and Pre-Registration
- Policy 7512 - Student Physicals
- Policy 7522 - Concussion Management
- Policy 7530 - Child Abuse and Maltreatment
- Policy 7554 - Equal Educational Opportunities (Replaces 8130)
- Policy 7670 - Due Process Complaints: Selection and Board Appointment of Impartial Hearing Officers
- Policy 8240 - Instruction in Certain Subjects
- Policy 8320 - Textbooks, Library Materials, and Other Instructional Materials
- Policy 8330 - Objection to Instructional Materials

Motion: Cheryl Lampasona

Second: Stacey DeCillis

Yes:

- Dr. Margaret Ballantyne
- Cheryl Lampasona
- Brian Widman
- Patrick Talty
- Stacey DeCillis

No:

Passed: **Yes**

RESOLUTION #59 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mineola UFSD waives the second formal reading of the following new board policies due to their availability on the information table and website and moves to their adoption.

- Policy 5840 - Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Policy 7223 - Advanced Coursework
- Policy 7224 - Virtual Instruction
- Policy 7470 - Student Government
- Policy 7540 - Suicide
- Policy 8110 - Curriculum Development, Resources, and Evaluation

Motion: Patrick Talty
Second: Brian Widman

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Yes: | No: |
| Dr. Margaret Ballantyne | _____ |
| Cheryl Lampasona | _____ |
| Brian Widman | _____ |
| Patrick Talty | _____ |
| Stacey DeCillis | _____ |

Passed: **Yes**

RESOLUTION #60 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Mineola UFSD waives the first formal reading of the following revised board policy due to their availability on the information table and website.

Policy 5661 - Wellness

Motion: Cheryl Lampasona
Second: Brian Widman

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Yes: | No: |
| Dr. Margaret Ballantyne | _____ |
| Cheryl Lampasona | _____ |
| Brian Widman | _____ |
| Patrick Talty | _____ |
| Stacey DeCillis | _____ |

Passed: **Yes**

RESOLUTION #61 - Cafeteria Project at Mineola Middle School: SEQRA Resolution

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Mineola Public Schools plans to renovate the existing cafeteria of Mineola Middle School, which will consist of demolition, general construction, interior finishes, abatement, plumbing, electrical, ventilation, lighting, masonry, equipment, and furnishings (the "Proposed Cafeteria Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Cafeteria Project is subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, in Section 617.5 (a), the SEQRA Regulations define Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the scope of the Proposed Cafeteria Project has been examined by the Board of Education and has been found to fall within the action types that are included in the SEQRA Type II Actions, specifically, Sections 617.5 (c) (2) and (10) which respectively read as follows "replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 of this part" and "routine activities of educational institutions, including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area and school closings, but not changes in use related to such closings";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Mineola Public Schools hereby declares that the Proposed Cafeteria Project is a Type II Action which requires no further review under SEQRA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education directs the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations, through or with the assistance of the architect for the Proposed Cafeteria Project, to forward an certified copy of this Resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the correspondence from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in connection with its request for approval of the Proposed Cafeteria Project from the New York State Education Department.

Motion: Cheryl Lampasona

Second: Patrick Talty

Yes:

Dr. Margaret Ballantyne
Cheryl Lampasona
Brian Widman
Patrick Talty
Stacey DeCillis

No:

Passed: **Yes**

RESOLUTION #62 - Adoption of the 2025-2026 Budget and Property Tax Report Card

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mineola Board of Education approves the Adoption of the 2025-2026 Educational Plan and Budget in the amount of \$112,197,493, as submitted or, if necessary, with revisions, and further

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mineola Board of Education approves the Real Property Tax Report Card prepared by the District's Business Office for the 2025 Annual District Meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of said report card shall be submitted to the State Education Department by the end of the next business day following this approval.

**** BUDGET PRESENTATION by Will Heman ****

Motion: Patrick Talty

Second: Brian Widman

Yes:

Dr. Margaret Ballantyne

Cheryl Lampasona

Brian Widman

Patrick Talty

Stacey DeCillis

No:

Passed: **Yes**

J. CONSENSUS AGENDA

RESOLUTION #63 - BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the consensus agenda items J.1.a. through J.4.c.6. , as presented.

Motion: Brian Widman

Second: Stacey DeCillis

Yes:

Dr. Margaret Ballantyne

Cheryl Lampasona

Brian Widman

Patrick Talty

Stacey DeCillis

No:

Passed: **Yes**

1. **Accepting of Minutes**

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the March 20, 2025, Business Meeting as presented.

2. **Instruction**

a. **Retirements**

1. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of retirement, of Robin Barkan, Music Teacher, effective June 30, 2025.

b. **Leave of Absence - Personal Unpaid**

1. That the Board of Education grants a request Nikole Hazel, for an unpaid Leave of Absence, due to personal reasons, for the 2025/2026 school year.

c. **Leave of Absence - Child-Rearing**

1. That the Board of Education grants a request to Sabrina M. Knopf, for a unpaid Leave of Absence, for child-rearing purposes, to on or about January 31, 2026.

d. **Appointments**

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Jeremy Wainright, to the position of Probationary Music Teacher, effective August 28, 2025 with a salary of MA Step 1 \$77,974.00 and a Probationary Period from August 28, 2025 to August 27, 2029.
2. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Danielle Cady, to the position of Probationary Business Education Teacher, effective August 28, 2025 with a salary of MA Step 1 \$77,974.00 and a Probationary Period from August 28, 2025 to August 27, 2029.

e. **Instruction: Student Actions**

1. That the Board of Education approves the Athletic Advanced Placement Process request for the following students:
 - Jackson Galanga - Lacrosse
 - Maddux Ramalhete- Lacrosse
 - Diane Galea - Softball
 - Daniella Porcelli - Softball
2. That the Board of Education approves the following exchange trips between Estrarreja Secundar School in Estrarreja, Portugal and Mineola High School in the 2025-2026 school year.

Destination: Estrarreja, Portugal
To Portugal: February 13 - February 21, 2026 (Tentative)
From Portugal: March 27 - April 3, 2026 (Tentative)
Exchange Leader: Mr. Paul Pereira
Transportation: Airlines

3. That the Board of Education approves the following overnight/out of state trip - Robotics Competition

Destination: Houston, Texas
Dates: April 15-20, 2025
Number of students: 14
Transportation: Airlines
Supervisor: Kuri DiFede and Andrew Woolsey

f. **Leave of Absence - Personal**

1. That the Board of Education grants a request Stacey Biondi-Andrzejewski, for a paid Leave of Absence using accrued sick time, for personal reasons, starting April 3, 2025.

3. **CIVIL SERVICE**

a. **Resignation(s)**

1. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Michael Lawler, Cleaner, effective March 22, 2025.
2. That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Lori Crosdale, Teacher Aide, effective March 20, 2025.

b. **Appointment(s)**

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Jaime Alas, to the position of Substitute Cleaner, retroactive to March 20, 2025 with a salary of \$16.50/hr.
2. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Chad S. Lauri, to the position of Cleaner, effective April 4, 2025 with a salary of Step 2 \$48,101.
3. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Latif Taylor, to the position of Substitute Cleaner, retroactive to April 9, 2025 with a salary of \$16.50/hr.

c. **Leave of Absence - Personal**

1. That the Board of Education grants a request to Maria David, for a paid Leave of Absence, due to personal reasons, effective April 8, 2025 to on or about May 6, 2025.

d. **Retirement(s)**

1. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Barbara Miller for the purpose of retirement, effective April 30, 2025.
2. That the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Jhonny Pizarro for the purpose of retirement, effective April 30, 2025.

e. **Termination(s)**

1. That the Board of Education approves the termination of Chad Lauri, Provisional Custodian, effective April 3, 2025.

4. **BUSINESS / FINANCE**

a. **Approval of Invoices and Payroll**

1. That the Board of Education accepts the Invoices and Payroll for the period ending, March 2025

Invoices

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| A/P Warrant #20 | March 12, 2025 | \$2,510,229.14 |
| A/P Warrant #21 | March 26, 2025 | <u>\$ 570,415.50</u> |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | \$3,080,644.64 |

Payroll #19 (March 14, 2025) & Payroll #20 (March 31, 2025)

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| General Fund | \$ 4,706,031.07 |
| Federal Fund | <u>\$ 96,976.92</u> |
| TOTAL PAYROLL | \$ 4,803,007.99 |

b. **Business: Other**

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following individuals to serve as Inspectors and Registrars at the Annual Election and Budget Vote, May 20, 2025, Synergy Building, at the rate of \$16.50 per hour.

- Anthony Bellini
- Gladys Gaines
- Sabrina Matzer
- Karen Dombeck

c. **Business/Finance - Contract Approvals**

1. That the Board of Education approves a contract with Scope Education Services for school year 2025-2026 for before and after school childcare programs.
2. That the Board of Education approves a contract with Quantas Advisors (formerly Seneca) for school year 2025-2026 for Affordable Care Act Administration and Consulting at an annual cost of \$13,908.04.
3. The Board of Education approves the Data Security and Privacy Plan between Learnie, Inc (d/b/a Thinkverse) and Mineola Union Free School District for the 2024-2025 school year.
4. The Board of Education approves a contract and data privacy agreement with Learnie Inc. d/b/a/ Thinkverse for the period of March 3, 2025, and ends on June 30, 2025, and authorizes the Board President to execute said agreement.
5. That the Board of Education accepts the Agreement between Great Neck UFSD and Mineola UFSD for the 2024-2025 School Year.

6. That the Board of Education approves Health contracts between the following districts(s) and Mineola UFSD, whereby said districts provide health and welfare services for the 2024-2025 school year.
 - Uniondale UFSD
 - Hempstead UFSD
 - Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD

K. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent of Schools' Reports

Presentations:

1. Budget Update - Will Herman
2. Blue Ribbon Commission and Education Law 818 - Sara Ortiz

Superintendent Comments

- L. Public Comments** - Ms. Jill Henriksen
- Mr. Costa Sevdinoglou

M. Executive Session Time: _____ p.m.

Motion: _____

Second: _____

| | |
|-------|-------|
| Yes: | No: |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

Passed: _____

N. Adjournment Time: 8:57 p.m.

Motion: Cheryl Lampasona

Second: Patrick Talty

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Yes: | No: |
| Dr. Margaret Ballantyne | _____ |
| Cheryl Lampasona | _____ |
| Brian Widman | _____ |
| Patrick Talty | _____ |
| Stacey DeCillis | _____ |

Passed: **Yes**

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Velez
District Clerk