

**MINUTES OF BABYLON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

**DATE OF MEETING:** December 13, 2021

**PLACE:** Babylon Junior-Senior High School, 50 Railroad Avenue, Babylon, NY 11702

Members Present

Mrs. Carol Ann Dell’Erba, President  
Mrs. Linda Jurs, Vice President  
Mr. Dominick Montalto  
Mrs. Donna Noesi  
Mrs. Theresa Patiri  
Mr. David Sonkin

District Superintendent

Mrs. Linda J. Rozzi

Central Office Administration

Mr. Travis Davey, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Ms. Deirdre Lunetta, Assistant Superintendent for Business

District Clerk

Carol Feudi

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mrs. Dell’Erba, President. A motion to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular individual and advice from counsel was made by D. Noesi, seconded by L. Jurs and approved. (6-0) Public session resumed at 7:30 p.m. at which time Mrs. Dell’Erba, President, led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COUNSEL STATEMENT**

Mr. Steffanetta, District Counsel, explained the new regulation from the New York State Department of Health regarding face masks and in terms of how it affects schools and school board meetings.

**BOARD PRESIDENT STATEMENT**

Mrs. Dell’Erba thanked everyone for attending this evening’s meeting and explained that there is a full agenda of important business to conduct following student athlete recognition this evening. She stated that the Board would dedicate a portion of the meeting to public comments at the end of the agenda and asked that those who wish to comment to approach the podium, state their full name and speak directly to the Board. She stated that the Board would be adhering to three minutes per speaker and requested that all members of the audience remain respectful of all in attendance. She further stated, that for reasons of privacy, comments regarding individual students and/or staff are not permitted. She thanked the alumni in the community who reached out, adding that it takes a lot of courage to do so and even more courage to now cooperate with the necessary authorities. Mrs. Dell’Erba stated that the Board also encourages any victim or first-hand witness to contact either the district or the Crime Victims Center (Mrs. Laura A’Hearn). The district has also assured the Crime Victims Unit, the District Attorney, the Police Department, Independent Counsel and the Attorney General of the district’s full cooperation throughout the investigations.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of November 15, 2021 and Special Meeting of November 22, 2021 were approved on motion by D. Sonkin and seconded by D. Noesi. (6-0)

**APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S AND BUSINESS OFFICE FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Treasurer’s Report and Business Office Financial Reports and Extra Curricular Fund Report for November 2021 were approved on motion by L. Jurs and seconded by T. Patiri (6-0)

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Mrs. Rozzi introduced Mr. DeJoseph, Athletic Director, who was present this evening to recognize 2021 Long Island Champion varsity boys soccer team (coaches Dennis McGovern, Kyle Cropsey and Mike Birnbaum); Kayla Hayes and Jeilinne Bonilla, who qualified for New York State Championships varsity girls’ cross country (coach Adam Geller); Jack DeVoe, who qualified for New York State Championships varsity boys’ cross country (coach Chris Pedersen); and, Kate O’Brien, who qualified for New York State Championship varsity girls’ swimming (coach Jaime Harrison). Recognized on the boys’ varsity soccer team were: Carlos Berrios, Kye Castelluccio, Cole Conboy, Jack Dellafranca, Luca Giammarino, Nicolas Giammarino, Michael Gimeli, Eric Hoffman, Jameson Howard, Aidan Krollage, Nicholas Marinelli, Dean McDonough, Austin Merrigan; Michael Mineo, Lucas Montalto, Owen Morris, Brennan O’Halloran,

Lucas Parise, Macallan Ringstad, Quinnlan Ringstad, Troy Schipf, Colin Schmidt, Eric Ciaran Stein, Benjamin Stricoff, and Dylan Tenety.

Student delegates reported on the senior high school student events, including Safe Halloween (in which they raised \$600 to support local families and the Jingle Walk. They gave an update on the Fine Arts Department, World Languages Department, Practical Arts, Science Department, Honor Societies and the high school production of “Clue.”

Mrs. Rozzi reviewed the following important dates: December 14, 2021 – Junior High Winter Concert; December 15, 2021 – Elementary School Teacher Conferences; December 16, 2021 – Grade School Parent Teacher Conferences and SEPTA Meeting; December 17, 2021 – K-6 Parent Teacher Conferences, with schools being closed for all K-6 students. Mrs. Rozzi reported on the Elementary School concerts, which were held last week, with excellent attendance. At each concert, parents & family members were screened with health surveys and the temperature scanners. Everyone abided by the protocols and were just thrilled to be back inside our schools. She gave a special thanks to all children, teachers, staff and Ms. Foster, our music teacher, for her time and preparation to ensure wonderful festive shows. Mrs. Rozzi congratulated the high school theatre department for their production of “Clue” which took place this past weekend and said it was so wonderful to present in-person shows once again. Mrs. Rozzi reported that Parents for Megan’s Law parent programs were held last week and alerted that the Fall Newsletter was posted on the web and that the winter newsletter is underway. Mrs. Rozzi announced that a letter would be sent to parents later this week and updates to the district’s website.

Mrs. Rozzi recognized and congratulated Mrs. Chatfield, elementary teacher, who was awarded tenure this evening.

Mrs. Rozzi reported that two donations were included on the Board agenda this evening, one being from Mr. Robert McKeown and Roman from Hope Floats Long Island. She announced that a \$1,000 donation was being made to the Safe Space Program at Babylon High School under the direction of Mrs. Carey, and thanked both organizations.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Audit Committee – Mrs. Patiri reported that the committee met this evening just prior to executive session where the committee reviewed the draft audit report. The next committee meeting is scheduled for January 24 at 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee – Mrs. Jurs reported that the committee would be meeting January 24, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds Committee – Mr. Montalto reported that the committee met with the architect about finalizing pricing for flooring in the high school lunchroom and grade school hallways. They also spoke about pricing for air conditioning, which would most likely be done through a bond. Technology Committee – Mr. Sonkin reported that as of October 22 all K-6 students have devices. The technology committee is working on the 2022-2025 technology plan with the first draft proposed for early 2022. He also reported on the New York State student digital survey and the updated network infrastructure. Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Noesi reported that the committee received a presentation from the guidance department and discussed how the guidance department can help with the District’s Comprehensive Improvement Plan. Policy Committee – Mrs. Dell’Erba stated that there were no updates to report.

Mr. Steffanetta once again gave an update from the New York State Department of Health regarding face masks and how it pertains to school districts and Board of Education meetings.

Mrs. Dell’Erba once again thanked those alumni in our community who reached out to the Board and recognized their courage for coming forward. She reiterated her prior statement this evening regarding the agenda and community comments and asked for everyone’s full cooperation.

Mrs. Rozzi introduced Mr. McKeown from Hope Floats Long Island, who was donating \$1000 to the Safe Space Program. Mr. McKeown stated that it was his honor and privilege to be part of a committee to support all students in our community.

Mrs. Dell’Erba asked if there were any questions on agenda items only. No questions were presented.

## **OMNIBUS MOTION**

On motion by L. Jurs, seconded by D. Sonkin, a motion to omnibus Resolutions 1-23 were approved (6-0).

On omnibus motion by N. Montalto, seconded by T. Patiri, an omnibus motion to approve Resolutions 1-23 were approved (6-0)

**TENURE  
APPOINTMENT**

1. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Maryann Chatfield, as elementary teacher.

**RESIGNATION**

2. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Christopher Baio, Network & Systems Technician, effective January 3, 2022, with best wishes on his future professional endeavors.

**RESCIND  
APPOINTMENT**

3. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education rescinds the appointment of Christian Murphy as Junior High girls' basketball coach effective January 18, 2022.

**LEAVE OF  
ABSENCE**

4. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the unpaid leave of absence for Margaret Fasano, special education aide, effective November 16, 2021 to January 2, 2022.

**LEAVE OF  
ABSENCE**

5. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the unpaid leave of absence for Stephanie Kiriakopoulos, elementary teacher, effective January 24, 2022 through June 30, 2022.

**LEAVE  
REPLACEMENT  
APPOINTMENT**

6. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment extension of Nicole Bartolotta as a leave replacement elementary education teacher effective January 24, 2022 to June 30, 2022. Compensation for this assignment to be Step 1/MA of the 2021/2022 Babylon Teachers' Association salary schedule. (\$65,115 prorated).

**INCREASE IN  
MATH TEACHER  
APPOINTMENT**

7. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the increase in assignment of Christian Falcaro, math teacher, from .6 FTE to .7 FTE effective December 14, 2021. Compensation for this assignment to be Step 1/MA of the 2021-2022 Babylon Teachers' Association contract. (\$65,115 prorated).

**SPECIAL  
EDUCATION AIDE  
APPOINTMENT**

8. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Jasmine Robinson, as special education aide at the jr./sr. high school effective December 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Compensation for this assignment to be in accordance with the 2021-2022 aides and monitors association contract (Step 1-\$18.26; Step 2-18.56; Step 3-\$18.92).

**PART-TIME  
MONITOR  
APPOINTMENTS**

9. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the part-time monitor appointments listed below. Compensation for these appointments to be in accordance with the 2021-2022 aides and monitors association contract (Step 1-\$16.98; Step 2-\$17.29; Step 3-\$17.65)

Janet Archbold (effective 10/19/21)

Kristen Pyes (effective 12/14/21)

**MENTOR  
APPOINTMENT**

10. **RESOLVED** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following teacher as mentor for the 2021-2022 school year. Compensation for this position to be as specified in the 2021-2022 Babylon Teachers' Association Contract (\$1120 for the 2021-2022 school year or three (3) in-service credits per semester)

New Teacher  
Ian Walsh

Mentor  
Barbara O'Halloran

**PER DIEM  
SUBSTITUTE  
APPOINTMENT**

11. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Josephine Poio as per diem substitute teacher at the elementary school effective December 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Compensation for this assignment to be at the substitute teacher rate of pay scale: Days 1-30 \$110.00; Days 31-60 \$120.00; Days 61-90 \$130.00; Over 91 days \$140.00.

**STUDENT  
TEACHER  
APPOINTMENT**

12. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following student teaching placement for the Spring 2022 semester:
- | <u>Student Teacher</u> | <u>Area</u>        | <u>Cooperating Teacher</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Steven Marx            | Physical Education | Melissa Pascarella         |

**CASUAL  
APPOINTMENTS**

13. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints the following coaches for the 2021/2022 school year:
- | <u>Name</u>       | <u>Appointment</u>              | <u>Compensation</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Stephanie Greaney | Jr. High Girls Basketball Coach | \$4,790.00          |
| Kyle Cropsy       | Volunteer Wrestling Coach.      |                     |

**SUBSTITUTE  
AIDE/MONITOR  
APPOINTMENTS**

14. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following substitute/aid appointments effective December 14, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Compensation for these assignments to be in accordance with the substitute monitor/aide pay. (\$14.00).

|                          |                          |               |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Mya Valenti (GS)<br>(GS) | Yuko Doll (GS)           | Ashley Tanner |
| Hunter Howard (ES)       | Sara Ramirez-Deleon (GS) |               |

**PROPOSED  
BUDGET  
DEVELOPMENT  
SCHEDULE**

15. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the Proposed Budget Development Schedule for the 2022-2023 proposed budget.

**DISCLOSURE &  
CONSENT  
AGREEMENT**

16. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the Disclosure and Consent Agreement with Ingerman Smith, LLP and further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to sign the agreement.

**PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES  
AGREEMENT**

17. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the professional development service agreement between Lakretz Creative Support Service, Inc. and the Babylon Union Free School District.

**TUTORING  
SERVICES  
AGREEMENT**

18. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the tutoring services agreement between Emily Kerr and the Babylon Union Free School District effective December 14, 2021.

**SPECIAL  
EDUCATION  
SERVICES  
CONTRACT**

19. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the special education services agreement between the West Islip School District and the Babylon Union Free School District.

**COMMITTEE ON  
SPECIAL  
EDUCATION  
SERVICES**

20. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the recommendations from the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education for cases dated November 8, 2021 through December 8, 2021.

**DONATION**

21. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation of \$1,000 for the Safe Space Program at Babylon High School by Robert McKeown & Roman of Hope Floats Long Island.

**DONATION**

**22. DONATION: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation of eight cases of student Personal Protective Masks from Dominick Pepito of American Patriot Masks.

**DISCARD**

**23. OBSOLETE: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the discard of an upright piano (inventory tag number 0381) from the elementary school. The piano is in disrepair and a potential safety hazard.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Mrs. Rozzi reported that she is proposing training for all staff by the Crime Victims' Center on topics including sexual harassment, reporting procedures and reporting requirements. January 14 is a Superintendent's Conference Day, will schools would be closed for students, and the training will take place. The Board agreed.

**REPRESENTATIVES  
OF  
ORGANIZATIONS**

There were no reports from representatives of organizations.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Former students and members of the audience shared their experiences and comments regarding the recent investigations. Members included the following (not all names were audible or given at the time of speaking): B. Maier; R. McKeown, M. Gumpel; J. Gumpel.

**MOTION TO ENTER  
EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

On motion by D. Noesi, seconded by T. Patiri, the Board entered executive session to address technical issues with the recording of the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Public comment continued with the following members: D. Benet, P. Funk; A. Gilbert, M. Candelora; K. Cafaro; E. Berry; K. Bender

**FUTURE BOARD  
MEETINGS**

The Board of Education will hold a Regular Business Meeting on Monday, January 22, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:31 p.m., there being no other items for discussion, the meeting was adjourned on motion by L. Jurs; seconded by D. Noesi and approved (6-0)

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
CAROL FEUDI, DISTRICT CLERK**