

MINUTES OF BABYLON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING

DATE OF MEETING: February 10, 2014

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

Members Present

Mr. Roger A. Katz, President
Mrs. Lisa McKeown, Vice President
Mr. Gregory Antolini
Mr. Dominic P. Bencivenga
Ms. Alena Berenblatt
Mrs. Ann Donaldson
Mr. Dominick Montalto

District Superintendent

Mr. Richard S. Rozakis

Central Office Administration

Dr. Peter Daly, Deputy Superintendent

District Clerk

Linda Pesce

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mr. Katz, President. At this time a motion to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of particular individuals, proposed inter-municipal agreement and advice from counsel was made by G. Antolini, seconded by D. Bencivenga and approved. (7-0) Public Session resumed at 7:35 p.m. at which time Mr. Katz, President, led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 13, 2014 and Work/Study Meeting of January 27, 2014 was approved on motion by D. Bencivenga and seconded by A. Donaldson. (7-0)

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's and Business Office Financial Reports and Extra Curricular Fund Report for December 2013 was approved on motion by A. Donaldson and seconded by D. Montalto. (7-0)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Student Delegates, Ronnie Pashen and Max O'Handley, reported that BHS Presents was a huge success and preparations for Powder Puff have begun and the event will be held on March 8 at 1:00 p.m. Two art students will have their artwork displayed at the NYSATA legislative art exhibit from February 24-March 6, 2014 in Albany, NY. The science research class will be competing at the Long Island Science & Engineering Fair. This is Babylon's first time bringing their research projects to an INTEL level fair. On January 25th students competed at the National Science Bowl at Brookhaven National Laboratory. The U.S. Department of Energy's National Science Bowl is a nationwide academic competition that tests students' knowledge in all areas of science and mathematics. Ninth grade cabinet sponsored a Babylon Buddies Rec Night. The Drama Club and International Thespian Society will host a movie night on Wednesday, February 12th. Admission is \$5 to the original Footloose starring Kevin Bacon. Mr. Rozakis, Superintendent, reported that NYS requires 180 days of School. Since we used three snow days, we now have 180, which meets the State requirement. If we should need another snow day between now and April, we will designate Friday, May 23 as a school day (right now it is a pre-Memorial Day holiday). If we need a second snow day, Monday, April 21 will revert to being a school day. The building principals reported on events in their respective buildings. Mr. Cirone reported that report cards are on the parent portal and the scheduling process for next year has begun. The curriculum guides have been updated and two new courses have been added, Freshman Seminar and Virtual Enterprise. Dr. Daly discussed the Veteran's Tax Exemption proposal signed into law by Governor Cuomo on December 18th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Donaldson, audit committee chair, scheduled a meeting at 6:15 p.m. on February 24. L. McKeown, finance committee chair, reported that the committee met on January 27th. We are in the budget process phase and a budget presentation will be held on February 24th at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Bencivenga, buildings and grounds committee chair, reported that Mr. Smith attended a work/study meeting and spoke on the bond schedule. Mr. Katz reported on behalf of Mr. Montalto, technology committee chair, that the committee met and discussed how google books are working and financing plan. A technology presentation will be held on February 24. Mrs. Berenblatt, policy committee chair, reported that the committee met at the elementary school and spoke about the entrance age policy and possibly changing the policy to an earlier cut-off date of either July 1 or September 1. A committee meeting to discuss selection classification will be held on February 13 at 7 pm. A second reading of policies will be held this evening.

The following second readings was presented:

SECOND READING OF POLICIES 5252-STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUNDS MANAGEMENT, 9420-EVALUATION OF STAFF, 9420.1-BUILDING PRINCIPAL AND CLASSROOM TEACHER EVALUATION

1. **SECOND READING OF POLICIES 5252-STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUNDS MANAGEMENT, 9420-EVALUATION OF STAFF, 9420.1-BUILDING PRINCIPAL AND CLASSROOM TEACHER EVALUATION: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education conduct a second reading of policies 5252-Student Activities Funds Management, 9420-Evaluation of Staff, 9420.1-Building Principal and Classroom Teacher Evaluation and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education waive the formal second reading of policies 5252-Student Activities Funds Management, 9420-Evaluation of Staff, 9420.1-Building Principal and Classroom Teacher Evaluation, as attached.

On motion by D. Bencivenga, seconded by A. Berenblatt, the Board of Education conducted a second reading of policies 5252-Student Activities Funds Management, 9420-Evaluation of Staff, 9420.1-Building Principal and Classroom Teacher Evaluation and waived the formal second reading of policies 5252-Student Activities Funds Management, 9420-Evaluation of Staff, 9420.1-Building Principal and Classroom Teacher Evaluation, as attached.

BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

Comments and/or questions from visitors on agenda items, state assessments and high school courses were addressed.

New Business

SCHOOL CALENDAR

1. **SCHOOL CALENDAR: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the proposed school calendar for the school year 2014-2015, as attached.
On motion by D. Bencivenga, seconded by L. McKeown, Resolution 1 was approved. (7-0)

FEDERAL SINGLE AUDIT REPORT

2. **FEDERAL SINGLE AUDIT REPORT: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the Federal Single Audit Report conducted by Cullen & Danowski, LLP for the 2012-2013 school year.
On motion by D. Bencivenga, seconded by A. Donaldson, Resolution 2 was approved. (7-0)

OMNIBUS MOTION

On motion by L. McKeown, seconded by D. Bencivenga a motion to omnibus Items 3-8, and 10-15 was approved (7-0).
On omnibus motion by L. McKeown, seconded by D. Montalto, Items 3-8 and 10-15 was approved (7-0).

PROMOTIONAL APPOINTMENT GROUNDSKEEPER II

3. **PROMOTIONAL APPOINTMENT GROUNDSKEEPER II: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the promotional appointment of Jose Velasquez, groundskeeper I, to groundskeeper II effective February 11, 2014. Compensation for this assignment to be Step 3, Column G of the 2013-2014 Custodial Association Contract.

APPOINTMENT PART-TIME SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER/SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

4. **APPOINTMENT PART-TIME SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER /SUBSTITUTE TEACHER: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of Lisa Necroto as a part-time (.4 FTE) special education teacher and part-time (.6 FTE) substitute teacher, assigned to the Babylon Memorial Grade School, effective February 11, 2014 to June 30, 2014. Compensation for this assignment to be .4 FTE of Step 5 of the MA column of the 2013-2014 Babylon Teachers' Association Contract and .6 FTE substitute teacher at the rate of \$100/day prorated.

CASUAL APPOINTMENTS

5. **CASUAL APPOINTMENTS: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the following casual appointments for the 2013-2014 school year. Compensation for these positions to be in accordance with the Babylon Teachers' Association Contract.

High School

LI Science Fair Liaison Advisor

Claire Birone

Coaching Appointments

Varsity Baseball Coach

Anthony Sparacio

Junior Varsity Baseball Coach

Andrew Slawson

Junior High Baseball Coach

Rich Villanueva

Varsity Golf Coach

Brian Kroll

Junior High Gymnastics Coach (2)

Jeanne Allen

Varsity Boys Lacrosse Coach

Nancy O'Donnell

Assistant Varsity Boys Lacrosse Coach

John Greaney

Junior Varsity Boys Lacrosse Coach (2)

Daniel Sparby

Dennis McGovern

Daniel DeBetta

Junior High Boys Lacrosse Coach (2)

Eddie Hilbert

Hans Wiederkehr

Varsity Girls Lacrosse Coach

Tim Harrison

Assistant Varsity Girls Lacrosse Coach

Grace McMahan

Junior Varsity Girls Lacrosse Coach

Kristie Hirten

Junior High Girls Lacrosse Coach (2)

Catrina Christensen

Brenda Mayo

Varsity Softball Coach

Rick Punzone

Junior Varsity Softball Coach

William Singleton

Varsity Boys Tennis Coach

Rob Andrews

Junior Varsity Boys Tennis Coach

Peter Mankes

Junior High Boys Tennis Coach

Chris Egan

Varsity Boys Spring Track Coach

Craig Washington

Varsity Girls Spring Track Coach

Jess Prochilo

Junior High Track Coach

Chris Morra

Athletic Trainer (South Bay Physical Therapy)

Cole Buschmann

Intramural JH Girls Basketball

Timothy Harrison

VOLUNTEER COACHING APPOINTMENTS

6. **VOLUNTEER COACHING APPOINTMENTS: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the following volunteer coaching appointments for the 2013-2014 school year in accordance with Board of Education Policy 4532-School Volunteers:

Varsity Boys Lacrosse Volunteer

Daniel Royle

Varsity Softball Volunteer

Stephen Fasciani

APPOINTMENT SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAL WORKER

7. **APPOINTMENT SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAL WORKER: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve Mercedes Bautista as a substitute custodial worker effective February 11, 2014 to June 30, 2014. Compensation for this assignment to be \$11.00/hour.

STUDENT TEACHERS

8. **STUDENT TEACHERS: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the placement of the following student teachers for the 2013-2014 Spring semester.

Phillip Cangro

Mathematics

HS

Lindsey Baird

Mathematics

HS

HIGH STAKES TESTING RESOLUTION

9. **HIGH STAKES TESTING RESOLUTION:** WHEREAS, every student deserves a quality public education dedicated to preparing engaged citizens, creative and critical thinkers and lifelong learners ready for college and careers; and

WHEREAS, the decline in state aid and support for public schools has forced our district to reduce programs and limited our ability to fully implement new programs mandated by the State such as the Common Core standards thereby creating an uneven rollout of the standards among school districts around the State; and

WHEREAS, while the implementation of the Common Core standards will ultimately help students, teachers and the teaching and learning process, the growing reliance on, and mismanagement of, standardized testing is eroding student learning time, narrowing the curriculum and jeopardizing the rich, meaningful education our students need and deserve; and

WHEREAS, there has been a reliance upon the Common Core standards in the development of state testing despite the fact that students have not been exposed to these standards for a sufficient amount of their school experience; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that research recommends the use of multiple measures to gauge student performance and teacher effectiveness, the State's growing reliance on standardized testing is adversely affecting students across all spectrums and the morale of our educators and is further draining already scarce resources; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act's testing policies fail to appropriately accommodate the unique needs of students with disabilities and English language learners in assessing their academic achievements which results in test scores that do not accurately represent a true measure of the impact of teachers and schools; and

WHEREAS, it is time for policymakers to reconsider the number, duration and appropriate use of standardized tests so that our schools can refocus their efforts on improving student learning outcomes; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we call upon Governor Andrew M. Cuomo; State Education Department Commissioner John B. King; Chancellor of the Board of Regents Meryll Tisch; Chair of the Senate Committee on Education John Flanagan; State Senator Phil Boyle; Chair of the Assembly Committee on Education Catherine Nolan; State Assemblyman Joseph Saladino and other policymakers to reduce the use of, and overreliance on, standardized testing.

On motion by A. Donaldson, seconded by A. Berenblatt, Resolution 9 was approved. (7-0)

OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP RESCHEDULED

10. **OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP RESCHEDULED: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the rescheduled dates for student participation to Disney World Performing Arts On Stage in Orlando, Florida from February 27-March 2, 2014 to March 19-22, 2014.

OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP

11. **OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve a request from Mrs. Schweider and Mrs. Stork, art teachers, for student participation to Philadelphia, PA from Saturday, April 26, 2014 to Sunday, April 27, 2014 for the purpose of visiting different museums and community art projects.

ADOPTION OF POLICIES 5252, 9420, 9420.1

12. **ADOPTION OF POLICIES 5252-STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUNDS MANAGEMENT, 9420-EVALUATION OF STAFF, 9420.1-BUILDING PRINCIPAL AND CLASSROOM TEACHER EVALUATION: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve and adopt policies 5252-Student Activities Funds Management, 9420-Evaluation of Staff, 9420.1-Building Principal and Classroom Teacher Evaluation, as attached.

HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES AGREEMENTS

13. **HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES AGREEMENTS: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve health and welfare services agreements between the Babylon UFSD and the following school districts for the 2013-2014 school year: Seaford UFSD and Sayville UFSD.

SPECIAL EDUCATION CONSULTANT AND SERVICES AGREEMENTS

14. **SPECIAL EDUCATION CONSULTANT AND SERVICES AGREEMENTS: RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the special education consultant and services agreements between the Babylon UFSD and United Cerebral Palsy Association (SE# 24) and William Davis (SE#25) for the 2013-2014 school year.

COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION AND PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION

15. **COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMITTEE ON PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION: RESOLVED**, that the recommendations from the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Preschool Special Education for cases from December 2013 to January 2014 be approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

A Board member reiterated that there is not a district policy for test opt-out.

REPRESENTATIVES OF ORGANIZATION

As there was no report from representatives of organizations the Board moved to the next item.

QUESTIONS FROM VISITORS

The Board addressed questions and/or listened to concerns from visitors regarding using microphones at meetings, Read 180, Dyslexia Conference, bond referendum, high stakes testing.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

A Work/Study Meeting will be held on Monday, February 24, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Babylon Junior-Senior High School library. Topics: Budget Presentation and Technology Presentation. A Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, March 10, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Grade School Cafeteria. Topic: Budget Presentation

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m. on motion by L. McKeown, seconded by G. Antolini and approved. (7-0)
