

MINUTES OF BABYLON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

DATE OF MEETING: June 12, 2023
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. Ari McKenzie
Mr. Dominick Montalto
Mrs. Donna Noesi
Mrs. Theresa Patiri – Via Zoom

Mr. David Sonkin

Interim Superintendent

Mr. Brian L. Conboy

Central Office Administration

Ms. Deirdre Lunetta, Assistant Superintendent for Business

Ms. Carisa Manza, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

School Attorneys

Nicole Murphy

Doug Spencer – Executive Session Only

District Clerk

Linda McGarvey

APPROVED

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Regular Business Meeting and Budget Hearing of May 8, 2023, the Special Meeting of May 16, 2023 and Work/Study Meeting of May 22, 2023 were approved by D. Sonkin and seconded by A. McKenzie. (7-0)

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S AND BUSINESS OFFICE FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Treasurer's and Business Office Financial Reports and Extra Curricular Fund Reports for April 2023 were approved on motion by D. Noesi and seconded by D. Sonkin. (7-0)

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Good evening, everyone. We are going to begin with our students who will report tonight. They are Maeve Graham, Brady Cuneen and Caitlyn Watral. The students reported the following:
Senior High Student Council Events: The Student Council recently hosted a spring carnival for the community alongside several other clubs who ran fun activities for all attendees. We've had a wonderful year, and we are already looking ahead to what we will do next year. Please see the forthcoming school calendar which will include the dates of most of our planned events.
Fine Arts: 12 Art Honor Society student artists from the high school participated in the Monster project in collaboration with Mrs. Marinelli's class. 12 Media student artists entered artwork into the Five Towns college media art show last month. 7 Portfolio and 5 Advanced Media student artists participated in the NYSATA portfolio review this month. They were recognized at the Fine Arts awards last week. May 17th was the National Art Honor Society induction. 26 student artists were recognized. Three student artists along with their art teachers, entered work into the SCALA Invitational show which is going on at the Islip Gallery in the Bay Shore mall, next to Dicks sporting goods. Halle Santamaria and Abby Hannon were sponsored by Babylon village arts council and participated in the Art by the Falls show last month. They each created approximately 10 new pieces of artwork, outside their school day, to show at Argyle. The work is now on display in the lobby at the Webster Bank on Main Street for this month.
Practical Arts: World Languages: The French National Honor Society sent over \$2000 worth of donations to the Be Like Brit Foundation in Haiti. To thank the students for their generous donation, Cheryl Ann Gengel, founder of the Be Like Brit Foundation, and mom to the Lynn University student who died in the 2010 earthquake, made a ZOOM visit to meet with the students! During the visit, Ms. Gengel shared details about their foundation, a little bit of the history of the home, and anecdotes about these children's everyday lives. She fielded questions from the students on everything from

educational life, recreational hobbies and how they are dealing with the everyday turmoil in Haiti. She has also promised to be try and be here for the 2023 talent show!

The world languages teachers are pleased to share that the following students have achieved the 2023 New York State Seal of Biliteracy and will be recognized at the Principal's High Honor Awards and at graduation by way of the program and their medals adorned. As you know, this is quite an accomplishment, and the world language teachers are so proud of their hard work and dedication to language learning and this process. Olivia Conti, Jameson Howard, Lisa Petraitis, Olivia Cavallo, Madeline Romaine, Nico Giammarino, Jackson Esposito, Matthew Nyman, Caroline Cassidy.

Mr. Conboy continued: Tonight, we would like to honor our championship athletes and I will say that the majority of my career was spent in a small district in Nassau County and every time our athletes made it to a state tournament, our opponent was always Babylon. So apparently this year, actually twice this year, that district was Seaford. Our girls played in the Long Island Championship in soccer against Seaford, and our Baseball team played in the Long Island Championship, again, against Seaford. So, all those people that I grew up with and knew were seeing me in black and orange and they were like "exactly what is going on here." So, I said, just like Crosby, Stills and Nash, "Love the one you're with." Our athletic director, Mike DeJoseph, is going to say a few words about our championship teams and he is going to pass out certificates. Mr. DeJoseph thanked the Board of Education, Central Office, the administrative team and the building administrators for their support of the athletic program. Mr. DeJoseph went on to discuss the athletic teams and, with the help of the coaches, handed out awards.

Mr. Conboy went on the say that one of the ways he has always judged a school district is by going out into the hallways between classes and see what the kids are doing. When you are in a district where you can see school colors on a lot of the school population, that says a lot. One of the first days that I was here back in September, I was walking through the halls, seeing all the kids, and whether they were athletes or not, a lot of them were wearing their Babylon gear. That was a beautiful thing. And nothing, in my mind, changed throughout the entire year, great support, really nice, fun kids. I think that has always been one of the hallmarks of this district, and I think that it will always continue to be.

This is my last board meeting here. This has been the fastest year of my life being the Interim Superintendent here at Babylon. I can't believe that this is June already. I would like to thank all the students for inspiring me, all the members of the Board who really worked well together. We did some pretty big things this year. We had to come up with some pretty creative ways of doing things we needed to do. We spoke with one voice, we tried to collaborate with one another and I think we got a lot accomplished this year. And, as I have always said, working with the administrative team that you have here, the future of this district is extremely bright. You have wonderful people working here, wonderful teachers, great families, an extremely supportive village, and an extremely supportive school district. It has been my pleasure to be here. Thank you.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/
QUESTIONS**

The Board of Education addressed questions/comments from Ms. Skarulis, congratulating Ms. Manza on her appointment as Superintendent, commented on what can be expected regarding another assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, as well as the audit report for medical reimbursement. Ms. Healy expressed concerns about regulations for school counseling. Ms. Samon congratulated Ms. Manza and also expressed concerns about community involvement and about how the district selects new hires. Ms. Lang expressed concerns about the district not being transparent as well as commenting that now two people have resigned from the Citizen's Advisory Committee. Ms. O'Hara expressed concerns about the special education department as well as the lack of the 5th grade puberty night. Ms. Basile expressed concerns about the new bus routes, as well as concerns about puberty night not taking place this school year for 5th grade students, and the new math program.

OMNIBUS MOTION

On motion by D. Noesi, seconded by D. Sonkin, a motion to omnibus items 1-6 and 8-40 was approved. (7-0)

On omnibus motion by L. Jurs, seconded by D. Montalto, resolutions 1-6 and 8-40 were approved (7-0).

On motion by D. Noesi, seconded by D. Montalto, resolution 7 was approved (5 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain)

New Business

1. **RESIGNATION: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Karin L. Colletti, secretarial assistant to the high school principal, effective July 28, 2023, with best wishes on her retirement.
2. **RESIGNATION: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Charles Briscoe from the Citizens Advisory Committee, effective June 30, 2023.
3. **TENURE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Lauren Fretto, Assistant Principal, effective July 1, 2023.
4. **TENURE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Allison Lepore, School Psychologist, effective September 1, 2023.
5. **TENURE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Emily Moran, Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2023.
6. **TENURE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Ashley Belmonte, Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2023.
7. **TENURE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Nicole Cupo, Special Education Teacher, effective September 1, 2023.
8. **TENURE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Lindsay Carbone, ENL Teacher, effective September, 1, 2023.
9. **TENURE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Amy Malone, Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2023.
10. **TENURE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Michael Sinclair, Physical Education Teacher, effective September 1, 2023.
11. **TENURE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Kara Bochicchio, Physical Education Teacher, effective September 1, 2023.
12. **TENURE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Nicole Blair, Social Studies Teacher, effective September 1, 2023.
13. **TENURE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants tenure to Samantha Czeczotka, Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2023.
14. **RESCIND EXCESSED TEACHERS: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the need to rescind the following excessed teachers, originally excessed on the May 22, 2023 Board Agenda:

Elementary School	
Cynthia Ruiz	Reading Teacher
Kelsey Ferguson	Physical Education Teacher
Grade School	
Kelly Kane	Reading Teacher
Jamie Preziosi	Special Education Teacher
High School	
Nicole O'Donnell	ASL Teacher
Karen Pinto	.5 part time School Psychologist
Heather Adamski	Science Full Time Leave Replacement

15. **ABOLISHMENT OF POSITION: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby abolishes the position of the Assistant Principal tenure area at Babylon Memorial Grade School, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the position abolished shall be discontinued as of June 30, 2023.

16. **LEAVE OF ABSENCE: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the amended unpaid Family and Medical Leave of Absence of Matthew Turk, custodial worker at Babylon Memorial Grade School, effective June 29, 2023 through July 28, 2023.

17. **LEAVE OF ABSENCE: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves an unpaid Family Medical Leave of Absence for Alyssa Brunson September 5, 2023 through December 5, 2023 and an unpaid leave of absence from December 6, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

18. **LEAVE REPLACEMENT TEACHER APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Patrick Metzger as a full-year leave replacement teacher for Alyssa Brunson for the 2023-2024 school year. Compensation for this position to be Bachelors/Step 1 of the 2023-2024 Babylon Teachers Association Contract (\$57,334).

19. **SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Babylon Union Free School District hereby appoints Ms. Carisa Manza as Superintendent of Schools, effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028, on the terms and conditions fully set forth in an Agreement between the Board and Ms. Manza and discussed in executive session. The Board of Education further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute an Agreement for this purpose on behalf of the Board.

20. **PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT NETWORK & SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the probationary appointment of James Cole Miraval as a Network & Systems Technician effective July 1, 2023. Compensation for this position to be \$60,318 for the 2023-2024 school year.

21. **PART-TIME CUSTODIAL APPOINTMENTS: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following part-time custodial appointments effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Compensation for these positions to be at the part-time custodial rate of pay of \$16.00 per hour: Charles Jacob, Sean Loudon and Brian Ryan.

22. **SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAL APPOINTMENTS: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following substitute custodians effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Compensation for these positions to be \$15.00 per hour: Justine Alaggio, Sonia Blanco, Priscila Cruz, Richard Heuwetter, Karen Jarvis, George JaVurek, Gayle McGuickian, Jose Escobar Melgar, Madeline Rivas, Andrew Vita, Jason Witthohn and Leslie Witthohn.

23. **PART-TIME DISTRICT COURIER APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Lonell Rogers as a part-time District Courier from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023. Compensation for this position to be \$18.00 per hour.

24. **PART-TIME SECURITY GUARD APPOINTMENTS: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following part-time security guard appointments effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Compensation for these appointments to be \$19.00 per hour: Cathy Anderson, Timothy Bivona, Bobby Carlock, Thomas Coll, Santo Crocco, David Cronmeyer, Rob Cropsey, Kenny Demarest, Larry DiBlasi, Chris Elwood, Brad Fine, Elex Garcia, Dan Gargan, Michael Koubek, Robert Krollage, Joseph LaSala, Scott Lynster, Dan Malo, Ann Marshall, Thomas McGrane, John McSweeney, Maria McSweeney, Michael Mertz, Kenny Meyerback, Justin Muller, Melissa Pabon, Ed Perez, Mike Petriello, Yvette Puentes, Jason Safuto, Tom Skladel, Leeanne Strollo, Michael Tenety, Erica Vaughan, Pat Walker, Vinny Weiss, Jason Witthohn and James Woods.

25. **LEAD SECURITY GUARD: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Tom Parson as District Head of Security, effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Compensation for this appointment to be \$23.00 per hour.

26. **CASUAL APPOINTMENTS: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following casual appointments for the Extended School Year Program from July 10, 2023 through August 18, 2023, contingent upon enrollment.

Employee	Position	Compensation
Keith Fasano	Coordinator	\$4,000.00
Nina Burke	Nurse	\$47.00 per hour
Denise Glynn	Speech Therapist	\$47.00 per hour
Cynthia Ruiz	Specialized Reading	\$47.00 per hour
Nancy Murphy	Specialized Reading	\$47.00 per hour
Jessica Kurtz	Specialized Reading	\$47.00 per hour
Corinne Figoski	Specialized Math	\$47.00 per hour
Nicole Cupo	Specialized Math	\$47.00 per hour

27. **CASUAL APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Debbie Catanzaro, high school nurse's aide, for summer 2023. Compensation for this position to be in accordance with the 2023-2024 aides and monitors agreement at the hourly rates of Step 1: \$19.00; Step 2: \$19.31; Step 3: \$19.69.

28. **PART-TIME AIDE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Donna Russo as part-time aide, working three (3) days a week, from 9:00am-1:00pm, effective August 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023. Compensation for this appointment to be at the 2023-2024 contractual rate of the Non-Instructional Aides and Monitors Association (Step 3: \$19.69/hour)

29. **FOOD SERVICE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following food service appointment on an as needed basis from July 5, 2023 through August 31, 2023:

Maggie Kelland as Administrative Assistant (\$23.28/hr)

30. **REORGANIZATION MEETING/REGULAR MEETING: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Reorganization Meeting of the Board of Education of the Babylon Union Free School District be scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 5, 2023, and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Babylon Union Free School District be held immediately following the Reorganization Meeting on July 5, 2023.

31. **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves a Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education of the Babylon Union Free School District and the Babylon Teachers' Association, related to the starting time of the school day for teachers in the elementary school, which will be 8:25 a.m. and the ending time will be 3:00 p.m. beginning with the 2023-2024 school year and up to and including the 2025-2026 school year.

32. **MEMORIANDUM OF AGREEMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves a Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education of the Babylon Union Free School District and the Babylon Public Schools Cafeteria Association, related to the collective bargaining agreement covering the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2023, as more fully discussed in executive session, and herby authorized the President of the Board of Education to execute a contract setting forth such terms on behalf of the Board.

33. **APPROVAL OF CONSULTANT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Carol Feudi as Consultant to the District for the HR department and business office effective June 12, 2023 through December 31, 2023 at the hourly rate of \$50 per hour.

34. **ADOPTION OF NEW MATH PROGRAM: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopts the Ready Math Program for grades K-6 for the 2023-2024 school year.

35. **SERVICES AGREEMENT REINSTATEMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the Services Agreement Reinstatement for the continuation of 403(b)/457(b) retirement plan administration services by U.S. OMNI & TSACG Compliance Services, Inc. for the 2023-2024 school year.

36. **OBSOLETE ITEM: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the discard of a grinding machine (asset tag #0705). This item is old, obsolete, and no longer in service.

37. **APPROPRIATION CHANGE: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the appropriation in the 2022/2023 school year of an amount not to exceed \$206,000 from the district's Employee Benefits Accrued Liability Reserve (EBLAR) for payment of accumulated unused sick leave for specific employees upon their retirement from the district effective on or before June 30, 2023.

38. **APPROPRIATION CHANGES: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following appropriation changes for the 2022-2023 school year:

	Account	Account Description	Transfer Out	Transfer In
1	A2110.4810-02-000	Tch/Reg Sch – Text 3-6	63,173.05	
	A9900.9500-00-000	Interfund Transfer/Special Aid Fund		63,173.05
	This transfer is necessary for the district's portion of grant expenditures.			

39. **SPECIAL EDUCATION CONTRACT FOR RECEIPT OF FEDERAL PART B FLOW-THROUGH ALLOCATIONS: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the Receipt of Federal Part B Flow-Through allocations for the 2022-2023 school year between the Board of Education of the Babylon Union Free School District and Developmental Disabilities Institute, effective October 17, 2022.

40. **COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMITTEE ON PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION: 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 March 10, 2023 through June 8, 2023.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Conboy spoke about the two board members who will not be returning for the 2023-2024 school year, Carol Dell'Erba and Dominick Montalto. Mrs. Jurs also spoke about them. Mr. Conboy also recognized those employees being approved for tenure. Mr. Conboy was also honored for his service to the Babylon School District.

REPRESENTATIVES OF ORGANIZATIONS

Fumi Otomo, from PTSA, recognized Angela Campagna for her years of service to the Babylon Schools. Ms. Otomo also spoke about events that the PTSA was involved in. Angela Campagna, PTA president, expressed congratulations, wished Mrs. Dell'Erba and Mr. Montalto good to, and mentioned that she is moving out of district.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education will hold The Annual Reorganizational and Regular Business Meeting on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., in the library of the Babylon Junior-Senior High School.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by L. Jurs, seconded by D. Noesi, the Board re-entered executive session to discuss personnel matters. At the same time, the public session was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. Approved (7-0)

**RESPECTFULLY
SUBMITTED,**



**LINDA MCGARVEY
DISTRICT CLERK**

