

MINUTES OF BABYLON SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

DATE OF MEETING: March 13, 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
Mr. David Sonkin

APPROVED

Interim Superintendent
Mr. Brian L. Conboy

Central Office Administration
Ms. Deirdre Lunetta, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Ms. Carisa Manza, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

District Clerk
Linda McGarvey

School Attorneys
Nicole Murphy
Doug Spencer

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. Montalto, 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 Work/Study Meeting of February 27, 2023 were approved on motion by D. Noesi and seconded by D. Montalto. (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 January 2023 were approved on motion by L. Jurs and seconded by D. Sonkin. (7-0)

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Conboy reported that Brady and Maeve, students from the Jr./Sr. High School, are going to fill us in on various exciting things that are happening at the Jr./Sr. High School. Student Delegates, Brady and Maeve, reported the following:
Senior High Student Council Events: Student Council has put together a fantastic opportunity to showcase the many talented students we have at BHS. BHS Presents is scheduled for Thursday, March 30th at 7pm. All are welcome.
Some spring fun events are also in the works. Details to follow.
Fine Arts: March is Youth Art Month. The art department is busy with lots of activities. We participated in the SEL day on Friday and had the senior high students create a tape mural and a painted mural. The junior high created drip drawings that will be put together into a mural. 24 of our kindergarteners through 8th graders have their artwork in the SCALA children’s show at Babylon old Town Hall this month. 10 of our K to 12th grade students will have their artwork displayed in the NYSATA virtual legislative show this month too. During art week this week, students will learn about different artists during morning announcements and have an art challenge each day. There will be a mindful weave project available for all to participate in. And finally, today, all of the art students participated in a “Make mindful art Monday” and created small pieces of artwork that will be put together into one large mural.
Math Department: The Math Department will be celebrating Pi Day on March 14th (3/14) in all math classes. Teachers have various activities planned throughout the day. To tie everything in with

SEL/Mental Awareness Month, students will be creating a "Pi Chain of Kindness." Students will choose a kindness quote that they will write on a strip of colored paper, and then the quotes will be linked into a paper chain following the digits of Pi. The day will culminate in a contest to see who can memorize the digits of Pi out the farthest.

Science Department: Mr. Inguanta and Dr. Scholl had the privilege of interviewing Babylon's Science Fair finalists. Through following the scientific method students became scientists; it was evident that students learned how to identify a problem, form a hypothesis, design an experiment, and report their findings. We were blown away with the students' enthusiasm for science and knowledge of an array of topics. Students in 6th grade were able to apply the concepts of their projects to real world scenarios. All participants should be extremely proud of themselves!

Big Congratulations to our 1st place winners heading to Brookhaven National Lab:

3rd grade – Andrew Margolis – "A-Maze-ing Guinea Pigs"

4th grade – Alicia Gimberlein – "Rollercoaster Science"

5th grade – Cathryn Doherty – "Behold the Mold"

6th grade – Nora Sobral – "Do Peanuts Make Eggs Bigger"

Thank you to the PTA Science Fair Committee, led by Mr. Nava and all teachers from the grade school who inspired these young scientists. You all helped make this day memorable.

World Languages: This week was fantastic, filled with Languages for a Peaceful World!

We began the week with a Landmark Scavenger Hunt where world landmarks were hidden throughout the building and students brought them to a World Language Advisor for a prize!

Tuesday was very special as a group of HS students accompanied by Mrs. Anderson, Ms. Caldwell and Mr. Cropsey traveled to the Elementary and Grade Schools to spread World Language Week cheer by way of activities in multiple languages centered around a book called How do you say Peace? At the HS, students completed a history webquest for prizes!

Wednesday featured a music battle called Musique Miércoles during which WL teachers played Spanish & French music videos and the student body voted with the winner being "La Gozadera" by Gente de Zona & Marc Anthony.

After school on Wednesday, the WL Club, Spanish, French and American Sign Language Honor Societies presented an International Fair to which the 6th graders were invited to come and see the wonders that the WL Department offer, along with 7-12 students, they enjoyed various activities including games, crafts, learning experiences and even an Italian Ice!

Thursday was also an exciting day with a scavenger hunt for National Flowers and those who found them won a prize!

Friday was the piece de resistance with our International Games facilitated by the World Language Department and The Physical Education Department, specifically Mr. Sinclair who was our International Sports Rockstar! Students enjoyed games from all over the world and fun was had by all, even teachers!!

English Department: The English department has begun its school-wide writing initiative, Ride the Wave of Kindness. Students in English classes will write about kindness. As part of the initiative, if students, faculty, or staff spot peers, teachers, or colleagues demonstrating kindness, they can submit the name of the individual to a digital form accessed on Teams. Names will be displayed throughout the school and on the Wave of Kindness banner. The more names, the bigger the wave. So, let's create a tidal wave of kindness here at BHS. Get yourself nominated by demonstrating kindness!

Next Thursday, March 16th, everyone will wear blue to be part of the great, big wave.

And remember: "The world is full of kind people... If you can't find one, be one."

The 9th grade English classes will be seeing West Side Story at the Argyle Theatre on March 29th. This will be a tremendous support to their upcoming study of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. After the show, the students will get to chat with the cast members, and then they will all have pizza back at the school.

Mr. Conboy then reported on the following: One of the things that came to mind this week was that three years ago this week all the schools in New York State shut down, that was March 16th. We have come a long way from that time, but we all still have to be mindful of the impact that that had on our students, particularly the seniors that are graduating this year. They had a high school experience like no other. They were freshmen when the school shut down and returning to school wearing masks and the number of things that they had to endure. So, the kids that are graduating this year will be a great celebration as they graduate and move on to the next stage in their lives. It doesn't seem like three years, but that's been a tough three years worldwide. I am happy to say that Babylon has survived it well.

We also had a very special day here in the district. At the Grade School, Ms. Manza, Ms. Lunetta, and I all attended the SEL kickoff ceremony which was a really spirited and great morning. The whole student body was in the gym and sang songs and it was a great energy. Then back here at the Jr./Sr. high school, it was SEL day. They reworked and rescheduled the entire day and had guest speakers all about social emotional learning. That was a tremendous effort by the team. Just walking around, the students were well engaged in all of those activities, so kudos to all of them.

Today is our first day of Spring sports with very lousy weather, but they were all out there and they seemed to be having fun.

On our agenda tonight, unfortunately we are accepting the resignation, for retirement purposes, of Dr. Mark Malaszczyk. Not always when you get retirements it is something that you celebrate, he has been a great professional here at Babylon for a long long time, but we wish Dr. Malaszczyk well. We are busy with our budget planning, which is ongoing. Our next meeting, which is two weeks from today, we will be focusing in more about budget challenges that we have. The pandemic created some budget challenges, and other things that are going on, so we need to come up with a budget that helps us maintain what we are used to having here at Babylon. That is what we have been working on for the last several weeks. On April 10th, which is four weeks from today, we have to make sure that the budget is ready to go and be approved by the Board.

Just one more reminder regarding the emergency dismissal day, which was left off of the calendar this year. We are going to have that on the Friday, March 31st, which is the Friday before Spring break. Everybody will be dismissed 15 minutes early. We will put out a school messenger so that everybody is aware.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/
QUESTIONS**

The Board of Education addressed questions/comments from Danielle Skarulis regarding Policy #5695 Students and Personal Electronic Devices; being able to attend policy committee meetings; and the survey regarding the new superintendent. Caitlyn McAleavy spoke about the Extended School Year services; and the public being able to see treasurer's reports and financials.

OMNIBUS MOTION

On motion by A. McKenzie, seconded by D. Noesi, a motion to omnibus resolutions 1-14 and 17-20 was approved (7-0).

On omnibus motion by D. Sonkin, seconded by D. Montalto, resolutions 1-14 and 17-20 were approved (7-0).

C. Dell'Erba went on to acknowledge Robert McKeown and M. Roman of Hope Floats Long Island, for their very generous gift for the Safe Space Program. C. Dell'Erba also acknowledged the Babylon Jr. Sr. High School PTSA for their very generous donation for an SEL speaker.

On motion by D. Noesi, seconded by L. Jurs, resolution 15 was approved. (7-0) On motion by T. Patiri, seconded by D. Noesi, resolution 16 was approved. (7-0)

New Business

1. **RESIGNATION: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Danielle Alveari from the Citizens Advisory Committee, effective March 14, 2023.

2. **RETIREMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Mark Malaszczyk, social studies teacher at the Babylon Jr./Sr. High School, effective July 1, 2023, with best wishes on his retirement.

3. **LEAVE OF ABSENCE: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves an unpaid Family and Medical Leave of Absence of Matthew Turk, custodial worker at Babylon Memorial Grade School, effective March 27, 2023 through April 21, 2023.

4. **PART-TIME AIDE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following part-time aide appointment from March 14, 2023 to June 30, 2023. Compensation for this position to be in accordance with the 2022-2023 Aides and Monitors Association contract. (Step 1-\$18.62, Step 2-\$18.93, Step 3-\$19.30)

South Bay Junior Academy
Danielle Perreira

5. **PART-TIME MONITOR APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following part-time monitor appointment from March 14, 2023 to June 30, 2023. Compensation for this position to be in accordance with the 2022-2023 Aides and Monitors Association contract. (Step 1-\$17.32, Step 2-\$17.63, Step 3-\$18.00)

Babylon Memorial Grade School

Ann Marie Mitchell

6. **AFTER-SCHOOL AIDE APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Gabrielle Cetta as a 1:1 Aide in the Best Buddies Club (February 14-April 18, 2023). Compensation for this position to be in accordance with the 2022-2023 Aides and Monitors Association contract. (Step 1-\$18.62)

7. **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 collective bargaining agreement covering the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026, as more fully discussed in executive session, and hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute a contract setting forth such terms on behalf of the Board.

8. **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ADDITION: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the addition to the Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education of the Babylon Union Free School District and John A. Striffolino, to include CSE Chairperson. The Memorandum of Agreement was approved at the BOE meeting on January 9, 2023.

9. **CASUAL APPOINTMENTS: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints the following coaching appointments for the Spring 2023 season. Compensation for these appointments to be in accordance with the 2022/2023 Babylon Teachers' Association Contract.

JV Softball Coach Alexa Murray \$5,996

Volunteer Varsity Girls

Lacrosse Coach Peyton Ryan N/A

10. **CASUAL APPOINTMENT CORRECTION: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following corrected casual appointment for the 2022-2023 school year. Compensation for this position to be in accordance with the Babylon Teachers' Association Contract for the 2022-2023 school year:

JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL

COMPETITION/PERFORMANCE

Extra-Curricular Music

Select Chorus Edward Storey \$2,741 (not \$1,566 as noted on the 9/12/2022 BOE Agenda)

11. **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING DATE CHANGE: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the change in date of the April 24, 2023 Work/Study Meeting to now take place on Tuesday, April 25, 2023. A revised calendar of meeting dates is attached to this agenda.

12. **FIRST READING OF POLICY 5695 – STUDENTS AND PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education conducts a first reading of Policy 5695-Students and Personal Electronic Devices; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education waives the formal first reading of policy 5695-Students and Personal Electronic Devices, as attached.

13. **SCOPE EDUCATION SERVICES: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the 2023-2024 SCOPE Child Care Program to be held at Babylon Elementary and Grade Schools for the 2022-2023 school year.

14. **JOINT MUNICIPAL COOPERATIVE BIDDING PROGRAM RESOLUTION (A), RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following resolution for the 2023-2024 school year :

WHEREAS, various educational and municipal corporations located within the State of New York desire to bid jointly for generally needed services and standardized supply and equipment items; and

WHEREAS, the Babylon Union Free School District, an educational/municipal corporation (hereinafter the "Participant") is desirous of selectively participating with other educational and/or municipal corporations in the State of New York in joint bidding in the areas mentioned above pursuant to General Municipal Law § 119-o and Education Law Section 1950; and **WHEREAS**, the Participant is a municipality within the meaning of General Municipal Law § 119-n and is eligible to participate in the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, First Supervisory District of Suffolk County (hereinafter Eastern Suffolk BOCES) Joint Municipal Cooperative Bidding Program (hereinafter the "Program") in the areas mentioned above; and **WHEREAS**, the Participant acknowledges receipt of the Program description inclusive of Eastern Suffolk BOCES' standard bid packet and the general conditions relating to said Program; and

WHEREAS, with respect to all activities conducted by the Program, the Participant wishes to delegate to Eastern Suffolk BOCES the responsibility for drafting of bid specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, evaluating bids, awarding via Eastern Suffolk BOCES Board approval, and reporting the results to the Participant.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Participant hereby appoints Eastern Suffolk BOCES to represent it and to act as the lead agent in all matters related to the Program as described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Participant hereby authorizes Eastern Suffolk BOCES to place all legal advertisements for any required cooperative bidding in Newsday, which is designated as the official newspaper for the Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Participant Meeting shall be held annually consisting of a representative from each Program Participant. Notice of the meeting shall be given to each representative at least five (5) days prior to such meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Advisory Committee will be formed consisting of five to ten representatives of Program Participants for a term of three (3) years as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o.2.j.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Agreement with the Participant shall be for a term of one (1) year as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o.2.j.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Participant agrees to pay Eastern Suffolk BOCES an annual fee as determined annually by Eastern Suffolk BOCES to act as the lead agent for the Program.

15. **DONATION: 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 and M. Roman of Hope Floats Long Island, with appreciation for this very generous gift.

16. **DONATION/GRANT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation/grant of \$500.00 from the Babylon Jr. Sr. High School PTSA for an SEL Speaker, with appreciation for this very generous donation.

17. **OBSOLETE: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the discard and recycling of the following IT equipment that is no longer used due to being obsolete or beyond repair:

106 personal computing devices (desktops, laptops, tablets), 3 LED screens, 4 projectors, 10 access points, 2 servers, 1 rolling cart and associated accessories.

18. **HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICE AGREEMENT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve health service agreement between the Babylon Union Free School District and Bay Shore Union Free School District for the 2022-2023 school year.

19. **CONSULTANT SERVICES CONTRACT: RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the consultant services contract between the Babylon Union Free School District and South Shore Center for Speech, Language & Swallowing Disorders, LLP, from January 24, 2023 through June 30, 2023.

20. **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 January 24, 2023 through March 9, 2023.

OTHER BUSINESS

D. Montalto reported on the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting. They met with Energia, which is a firm that comes in and audits everything in the schools regarding energy, lighting, HVAC, and all of that. We are going to bring them in after we vote on the budget, probably the work/study meeting after that. They have a lot to offer, it is pretty exciting, and a lot of it will pay for itself. The gentleman that came to meet with us is a BHS 2015 graduate, Justin Benoit. He is an engineer and he was sharp.

T. Patiri reported that they had a Policy Committee meeting today and discussed policies that NYSSBA reviewed. They are reviewing the notes received from NYSSBA and hope to have a first reading of these policies at our next meeting.

REPRESENTATIVES OF ORGANIZATIONS

As there was no one here to report from other organizations, the meeting moved on to the next item on the agenda.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education will hold a Work/Study Meeting on March 27, 2023, and a Regular Business Meeting on April 10, 2023, both at 7:30 p.m. in the library of the Babylon Junior-Senior High School.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by L. Jurs, seconded by D. Noesi, the Board adjourned the executive session at 7:58 p.m. Approved (7-0)

**RESPECTFULLY
SUBMITTED,**



Linda McGarvey

**LINDA MCGARVEY
DISTRICT CLERK**