

MINEOLA UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINEOLA, NY

**Retreat Meeting MINUTES**

*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.*

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**Board Goals – 2008-2009**

- *To be determined*

\*\*\*\*\*

**DATE: July 23, 2008**

**LOCATION: Willis Avenue School**

**OPEN BUSINESS MEETING**

**9:00 a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> FLOOR CAFETERIA**

**4:00 – 5:00: Board to take action on Class Size and Staffing Needs**

**Board of Education**

Stephen Siwinski, President  
Laraine Salvatore, Vice President  
John McGrath  
William Hornberger  
Terence Hale

**Central Office**

Dr. Lorenzo Licopoli, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Michael Nagler, Deputy Superintendent  
Sherri Goffman, Asst. Supt. of Curr. & Instruction  
Jack Waters, Asst. Supt. of Finance & Operations  
Lori Dolan, Asst. District Clerk

**A. Call to Order**

At 9:00 a.m. the meeting was called to order by President Siwinski.

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

**D. Reading of Mission**

**E. Moment of Silent Meditation**

**F. Dais & Visitor Introductions**

**G. Retreat Agenda – see attached**

**1. BOE Goals** \* Board/Superintendent discuss needs and goals - - - not limited and should be data driven.

- Self Evaluation
- Educational
- School Quality
- Fiscal Stability

- Operations and Preventive Maintenance

**2. Superintendent Evaluation, 2006-2007 and 2007-2008**

- Goal Setting for 2008-2009

**H. Board Action Items: Start 4:00 p.m.**

**1. Staffing Requests**

**RESOLUTION #8– BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the following additional staffing request:

**3<sup>d</sup> Grade Teacher – Cross**

Reason: Request via petition class sizes are close to the guideline maximum – plus needs of class.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

A motion was made to open Resolution # 8 for public comment.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Terence Hale

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
 William Hornberger  
 John McGrath  
 Laraine Salvatore  
 Stephen Siwinski

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

Discussion:

- ❖ A member of the public asked the Superintendent what his recommendation was for Cross 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, and the Superintendent replied that he supported adding another section.
- ❖ A member of the public, a student at Cross, stated that if his classroom had been less crowded, he would have learned more.
- ❖ A member of the public thanked the Superintendent for his recommendation of an additional section for Cross 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

The Board then voted on Resolution #8.

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
 William Hornberger  
 John McGrath  
 Laraine Salvatore  
 Stephen Siwinski

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

**RESOLUTION #9**– **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the following additional staffing request:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher – Meadow**

Reason: Issue concerning 2 full time classes rather than 1 classroom with 1.5 Teachers and .5 Teacher Aide.

\*Literacy Collaborative Teacher.

**Motion:** John McGrath

**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

A motion was made to open Resolution # 9 for public comment.

**Motion:** John McGrath

**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

<b>Yes:</b>	Terence Hale	<b>No:</b>	None
	William Hornberger		
	John McGrath		
	Laraine Salvatore		
	Stephen Siwinski		

**Passed:** Yes

Discussion:

- ❖ Mr. McGrath stated that the class was over the guidelines that the Board was committed to.
- ❖ Ms. Salvatore stated that she understood that the teacher could handle the class size with the extra teacher aide.
- ❖ A member of the public thanked the Administration and the Board for voting to add an extra section at Cross, and asked the Superintendent if he supported the additional section for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at Meadow, and the Superintendent responded that he did.

The Board then voted on Resolution #9.

<b>Yes:</b>	Terence Hale	<b>No:</b>	William Hornberger
	John McGrath		Laraine Salvatore
	Stephen Siwinski		

**Passed:** Yes

**RESOLUTION #10**– **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the following additional staffing request:

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher – Meadow**

Reason: Exceeds guidelines by one student.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

A motion was made to open Resolution # 10 for public comment.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** William Hornberger

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
William Hornberger  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski  
**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

Discussion:

❖ A member of the public asked the Superintendent if he supported the additional section for 1<sup>st</sup> grade at Meadow, and the Superintendent responded that he did.

The Board then voted on Resolution #10.

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
William Hornberger  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski  
**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

**RESOLUTION #11**– **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the following additional staffing request:

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher – Cross Street**

Reason: Class sizes at close to maximum and needs of class.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski  
**No:** None  
**Abstention:** William Hornberger

**Passed:** Yes

**RESOLUTION #12– BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the revised start and ending times for all schools, as noted below, pending negotiations with the Mineola Teachers Association.

School	Length of Day	Teachers Report		Students Schedule	
		AM	PM	AM	PM
<b>HS</b>	6:55	7:30	2:25	7:33	2:25
<b>MS</b>	6:55	7:53	2:48	7:56	2:48
<b>Hampton/Jackson</b>	6:44	8:08	2:52	8:12	2:49
<b>Meadow/Cross</b>	6:44	8:38	3:22	8:42	3:19
<b>Willis</b>	6:44	8:40	3:24	9:10	3:20

**Motion:** John McGrath

**Second:** Terence Hale

A motion was made to amend the start and ending times for all schools as noted below, pending negotiations with the Mineola Teachers Association.

School	Length of Day	Teachers Report		Students Schedule	
		AM	PM	AM	PM
<b>HS</b>	6:55	7:30	2:25	7:33	2:25
<b>MS</b>	6:55	7:53	2:48	7:56	2:48
<b>Hampton/Jackson</b>	6:44	8:38	3:22	8:42	3:19
<b>Meadow/Cross</b>	6:44	8:08	2:52	8:12	2:49
<b>Willis</b>	6:44	8:40	3:24	9:10	3:20

**Motion:** John McGrath

**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
William Hornberger  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

Discussion:

- ❖ The Superintendent of Schools stated that 15 minutes were being added to the instructional day at each school. He added that the reason for the switch of dismissal time for Jackson was a safety concern with Jackson dismissing at the same time as Chaminade. He further stated that they also needed to consider the transportation needs of 500 private school students in the district. He also reiterated that the start

and end times were pending further negotiations with the Mineola Teachers Association.

- ❖ A member of the public stated that she thought that the 15 minutes would be added to the end of the day, and that the current proposed times would be difficult for working parents.
- ❖ A member of the public expresses concern regarding the new proposed times and asked when they would know what the MTA agreed to. The Superintendent replied that they should know by the following Friday.
- ❖ A member of the public asked if there was any discussion regarding before school care for students impacted by this change. The Superintendent replied that there was not. He further stated that the transportation issue could be alleviated by adding \$1.5 million to the transportation budget.
- ❖ A member of the public expressed concern with lack of communication to the public regarding the new start and end times.

The Board then voted on Resolution #12 as amended.

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
William Hornberger  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

**RESOLUTION #13**– **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the Building Use request from Advantage Test Prep, at the profit Mineola rate.

**Motion:** Terence Hale  
**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

A motion was made to table Resolution #13.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Terence Hale

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
John McGrath

**No:** William Hornberger  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski

**Passed:** No

The Board then voted on Resolution #13.

**Yes:** Stephen Siwinski

**No:** Terence Hale  
William Hornberger  
Laraine Salvatore

**Abstention:** John McGrath

**Passed:** No

**RESOLUTION #14– BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the following additional staffing request:

**.5 FTE Pre-K Teacher**

Reason: Increase in students and funded through increase in revenue.

**Motion:** John McGrath  
**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
William Hornberger  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

**I. Adjournment**

At 5:50 p.m. a motion was made to adjourn this meeting of the Board of Education.

**Motion:** Terence Hale  
**Second:** Laraine Salvatore

Discussion: The Superintendent of Schools and the Board stated that they would continue with a second Retreat day on Wednesday, August 6, 2008.

**Yes:** Terence Hale  
William Hornberger  
John McGrath  
Laraine Salvatore  
Stephen Siwinski

**No:** None

**Passed:** Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Dolan  
Assistant District Clerk