

**MINEOLA UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINEOLA, NY**

Workshop 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.

Board Goals - 2013-2014

Educational

- To continue to integrate the Common Core standards with an emphasis on new grade level assessments which measure student progress in specific standards
- Develop and implement a plan to encourage HS students to challenge AP and/ or College level coursework with the goal of every student gaining this experience before they graduate
- Develop a system to assess the District's Strategic Objectives and report on progress toward those objectives
- Explore the feasibility of 5 day Pre-K for all students

Facilities

- Explore the feasibility of green technologies as part of the projects associated with our Capital reserve expenditures
- Implement and maintain a comprehensive security plan

Finance

- Not to exceed the allowable tax levy cap while continuing to maintain and enhance all of our programs.

DATE: June 5, 2014

LOCATION: Mineola Middle School

OPEN WORK SESSION 7:00 p.m. Band Room

Board of Education

Arthur Barnett, President
Christine Napolitano, Vice President
Patricia Navarra, Trustee
Nicole Matzer, Trustee
William Hornberger, Trustee

Central Office

Dr. Michael Nagler, Superintendent of Schools
Jack Waters, Asst. Supt. for Finance & Operations
Patricia Burns, Asst. Supt. of Curr.,Instr.,&Assess.
Andrea Paggi, District Clerk

A. Call to Order- 7:05pm

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Reading of Mission- Artie Barnett

D. Moment of Silent Meditation

E. Dais & Visitor Introductions

F. High School Student Organization Report

There was no Student Organization Report this evening.

Mr. Barnett stated with the Board's approval, he would like to change the order of this evening's meeting. The Presentations will be moved to the beginning of the meeting, followed by the vote on item J and items G, H, and I will be moved to the end of the meeting. The Board was in agreement with the adjustment of the order of tonight's meeting. *Please see presentation section for minutes for the presentations.

G. BOE Reports

a. Comments from Board Trustees

Nicole Matzer thanked everyone who came out and voted at the May Election. She also congratulated all of the students recognized tonight and is amazed with their accomplishments. Ms. Matzer thanked Mr. Gaven for his presentation tonight and the teachers and students for their demonstrations.

Patricia Navarra was able to see the High School Art Show and feels the work really talked to the STEAM curriculum and she acknowledged Ms. Antonelli. She added that it is nice to be here at the Middle School tonight.

Christine Napolitano also attended the High School art show and was very impressed by the caliber of talent.

b. Comments from Board President

Artie Barnett thanked the public for passing the budget. Mr. Barnett stated that it is concert season and he was humbled at the High School Concert when he was given the Jenkins Award during a special presentation. Last night, he attended the 4th grade concert and was impressed with the number of children on stage.

c. Comments from Superintendent

The Superintendent is amazed with the talent of the Middle School and the High School artists. He thanked Ms. Messina and the Treble Chorus for their performance of "Let It Go" at the High School concert. Dr. Nagler added that Ms. Messina actually wrote music for the song since it was not available. He stated that the talent of our kids is amazing. Dr. Nagler attended the 4th grade concert and added that from experience we are way ahead of the game. He said he would like to send his well wishes to Mr. Bennett, who had a heart attack last night.

The Superintendent stated that he will be attending the Valedictorian and Salutatorian Breakfast tomorrow. The senior week events at the High School include: 6/10- Boat Trip, 6/11 Awards Breakfast and 6/12 Prom. Regents week runs from 6/17 through 6/24. Dr. Nagler has been invited to be part of a Superintendent Round

Table with the Commissioner in Albany on June 16th. He and Mr. Gaven have also been asked to be part of a film series with APPLE August 3, 4 and 5th. The Booster Club Spring Fling is tomorrow night. Dr. Nagler stated that Ralph Amitrano and Joe Cerulli have requested permission to explore a wrestling camp, which would be self-funded and utilize the school facilities. It would be geared toward Middle School and younger, with the goal of building the program. Mr. Amitrano would send out information. The Board approved of this plan.

The Superintendent stated that the window and door project is currently being reviewed in Albany. He stated that he hopes to go out to bid the masonry project. Dr. Nagler feels that the window project will probably be done in the buildings at night during the fall. Dr. Nagler added that the HVAC project is not yet being reviewed in Albany. He does not have a plan yet for how this project will be completed. The Retreat Date for the Board is scheduled for August 28th at 6pm.

Mr. Hornberger asked for the status of the Jackson cafeteria project. Dr. Nagler stated that the project will begin as soon as school ends and it is anticipated that the job will take six weeks to complete. Mr. Hornberger asked for an update on the fuel depot project. Dr. Nagler stated that there was an issue with the asphalt due to the weather and a change order was needed for additional asphalt. It is anticipated that the project will be complete by mid-July.

H. Old Business

Mr. Barnett asked the Board if there was any old business this evening. Mr. Hornberger stated that there have been questions raised about the continuation of Latin at the High School and he asked the Superintendent for some comments on the issue. The Superintendent stated that there has been some informal talk that the current Latin teacher has plans to retire within the next 2 years. He stated that the issue is that Latin teachers are difficult to come by; this raises the question of whether or not the High School should offer Latin to the 8th graders. Dr. Nagler recommends not offering because the language requirement for graduation is three years plus the point exam. If the District was unable to hire a new teacher and students could not complete the sequence for Latin, then they would need to start with a new language. This could result in the student not meeting the requirement in time for graduation. Ms. Matzer asked the Superintendent for the interest level and Dr. Nagler responded that 15 incoming students would like to take Latin. Mr. Hornberger inquired if students are aware that Latin may not be offered. Dr. Nagler stated that students were asked to give their three choices for language. Mr. Hornberger asked if we have explored all options. The Superintendent stated that we would have to be creative to continue the language in the event that the District could not find a new teacher. One option could be online credit work for Latin; this could be our plan b. Students would need to be notified that there is a possibility that Latin 3 could be online. Mr. Hornberger asked the Board for their opinion on this topic. Mr. Barnett asked if the High School does offer Latin with no guarantee, what is the number of students needed for the course to be run and the Superintendent responded that we need 12 students. He added that the issue with finding a teacher is that Latin is an unusual certification. Ms. Navarra asked how many of the older students are interested in Latin and the response was eight juniors. Ms. Napolitano inquired if Mr. Escobar or Dr. Nagler have been formally notified by this teacher that she is actually planning on retiring. Dr. Nagler stated that contractually she is not obligated to do so. His concern is that if indeed it does happen, he does not want to leave students without a program. Dr. Nagler would rather be prepared and he is okay with offering Latin and making students aware that there is the possibility that the 3rd year could be online. He will ask Dr. Smith to draw up a letter to parents notifying them of this information. The Board was in agreement with this option.

Mr. Hornberger raised the issue of the NYSSMA scores and comments made to students. He stated that in 2013 the students did very well but for some grade levels there was a slippage in the results this year. The

Superintendent stated that he printed out the comparison of scores and in some groups there is work to be done. The issue that was raised is the manner in which the students were spoken to and how comments were presented. The Superintendent has directed Mr. Owens to inquire about the comments, which are usually presented in a positive manner but with some groups this was not the case.

Ms Navarra asked for an update on the hiring of a teacher for Driver's Education. Dr. Nagler stated that a teacher has been hired and will be approved at the next meeting once all of his paperwork is in order.

Mr. Barnett asked the Superintendent if the District knows the organizers of the event to be held at Hampton Stadium this weekend and do they have insurance. Dr. Nagler stated that the Portuguese Center of Mineola has said that they are the organizers and they have liability insurance. The District will need to hire someone to open the gates and clean the bathrooms. Mr. Barnett asked the Superintendent for details of Hampton Stadium usage. Dr. Nagler stated that it will be used for 4 hours and the parade will proceed through Hampton in a manner similar to the Homecoming parade. Vehicles will be on the track only not on the actual field. Mr. Barnett stated that he would have liked to have received clearer information on the event and does approve of the usage of Hampton stadium. Dr. Nagler stated that the group has liability insurance and did give a plan of usage. Mineola is home to a large Portuguese community and we like to support their events. Mr. Hornberger stated that he shares Mr. Barnett's concerns but looks forward to the event.

Mr. Barnett asked for an update on negotiations, has the fact finder been requested and Dr. Nagler responded that the lawyers have made the request. Mr. Barnett inquired about the status of the Residency Program with Adelphi. Dr. Nagler stated that the program will continue and we have the commitment of 5 teachers to Jackson Avenue. We have also requested some changes be made to the program.

Ms. Matzer asked for an update on I pads for the summer. The Superintendent stated that letters have been sent home to the Middle School families to determine interest and Edmodo will be used for summer reading. A letter will be sent to the Jackson Avenue families and eSpark will be used for summer reading for the 3rd and 4th grade students. The teachers will be paid to monitor the students work over the summer. At this point, the usage of the I pads over the summer is purely voluntary and nothing is set yet for the summer for 7th graders going into 8th grade.

Ms. Napolitano stated that she would like to see the Superintendent's blog in the local paper. Mr. Hornberger is in agreement with this suggestion and feels it would open up new opportunities of keeping the community informed of all that is going on in the District. Ms. Napolitano added that there are many members of the community that do not use the computer or the district website and feels that this would be a great initiative. The Superintendent stated that he will work on this task.

Finally, Mr. Barnett stated that he would like to make people aware that a few items were missing from the locker room in the High School recently. These items had not been locked in locker, but had been left out by students. The missing phones have been retrieved. On the day which this occurred, the locker room attendant was not on duty. The Superintendent stated that Mr. Escobar was right on top of this situation and knew who to look for. The items were retrieved and the student has been suspended. This situation was wrapped up very quickly. Dr. Nagler emphasized that our students are safe in their environment and sometimes do not take into consideration that someone may go through their items. Mr. Barnett stated that the majority of our students are model citizens. He just wanted to bring this item up as a matter of transparency. There was no additional old business.

I. New Business

Memorandum of Agreement

RESOLUTION # 71- BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Mineola Union Free School District hereby authorizes and approves the memorandum of agreement between the Board of Education and the Association of Mineola School Administrators, dated June 5, 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to incorporate said memorandum of agreement into a more formal written agreement and further authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said formal written agreement

Motion: Christine Napolitano

Second: Nicole Matzer

Discussion: The Superintendent stated that there was an omission in the contract signed in January and this clarifies the language. There was no additional discussion.

Yes: William Hornberger
Nicole Matzer
Patricia Navarra
Christine Napolitano
Arthur Barnett

No: None

Passed: Yes

J. Consensus Agenda

RESOLUTION # 72 -BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the consensus agenda items J.1.a. through J.4.e.1., as presented.

Motion: Nicole Matzer
Second: Patricia Navarra

Yes: William Hornberger
Nicole Matzer
Patricia Navarra
Christine Napolitano
Arthur Barnett

No: None

Passed: Yes

1. **Instruction**

a. Abolish Position

1. That the Board of Education approves to abolish the following positions:
- Two (2)- ESL teaching positions.

b. Preferred Eligibility List

1. That the Board of Education approve the excessing of Charyn Restituyo, ESL Teacher, effective June 30, 2014. She will be placed on the Preferred Eligibility List.
2. That the Board of Education approve the excessing of Carmen Vazquez, ESL Teacher, effective June 30, 2014. She will be placed on the Preferred Eligibility List.

c. Appointments Instruction

1. The Board of Education approves the appointment of Carmen Vazquez, to the position of Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2014. Probationary Period: September 1, 2014 to February 10, 2015. Salary: MA+30, Step 3, \$78,522.

d. Appointment(S) Tenure

That the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to appoint the following Teachers and/ or Administrators to tenure:

| | <u>EMPLOYEE</u> | <u>TENURE AREA</u> | <u>EFFECTIVE</u> | <u>SCHOOL</u> |
|----|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | <u>NAME</u> | | <u>DATE</u> | |
| 1. | Joseph Cerulli | Physical Education | Sept. 1, 2014 | Hampton Street |
| 2. | Diane Nodell | Librarian | Sept. 1, 2014 | Hampton Street |
| 3. | Mary Owens | Mathematics | Sept. 1, 2014 | Mineola High School |

2. **Instruction: Contracted**

- a. That the Board of Education approves the Educational Agreement (AGP) between Long Island University and the Mineola UFSD for the 2014- 2015 school year.

3. **Instruction: Student Actions**

- a. That the Board of Education approves the following 2014-2015 Marching Band and Guard Trip:
- Band Camp: Monday, August 18th - Saturday, August 23rd- Circle Lodge/ Camp Kinder Ring, Hopewell Junction, NY.

4. **Civil Service**

a. Appointments

1. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Donna Condon, to the position of part time Lunch/Teacher Aide at Meadow Drive School, effective June 6, 2014.

b. Leave(s) of Absence

1. That the Board of Education approve a paid Medical Leave of Absence to James Carlson, 12 month Bus Driver, effective May 16, 2014 through July 7, 2014, due to surgery.
2. That the Board of Education approve an extension of a paid Medical Leave of Absence to Gonzalo Gonzalez, Cleaner at the High School, effective May 14, 2014. He will be re-evaluated by his doctor in three months.

3. That the Board of Education approve a paid Medical Leave of Absence to Marie Verzi, PT Teacher Aide at Meadow Drive School, effective June 3, 2014 through June 26, 2014 due to surgery.

c. Resignation(s)

1. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, her letter of resignation for Patricia M. Rella, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 26, 2014.
2. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, her letter of resignation, for Janette E. Stoner, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 27, 2014.

d. Section 211

1. That the Board of Education approve the authorization for the Superintendent of Schools to sign the waiver of a Section 211 for Daniel McNamara, Bus Driver, in order for him to continue to work for the Mineola UFSD for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2015.

e. Creation of New Position

1. That the Board of Education approve a temporary 10 week, summer part time Typist Clerk position for the Office of Curriculum, for a special project, effective June 23, 2014. Salary will be \$21.03 per hour.

K. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent of Schools' Reports for 6/5/14

Presentations:

1. Science Research Recognition
2. Tenure Presentations
3. Middle School Technology

Science Research Recognition: The Superintendent stated that it is nice to take the time to celebrate what we do and tonight we will be recognizing the High School Science Research Students. He also thanked Ms. Napolitano for suggesting that the students be invited tonight. Dr. Nagler introduced Mr. Escobar, High School principal. Mr. Escobar thanked Dr. Nagler, the Board and the community for their support of the Science Research program. He also acknowledged Dr. McClade-McCulloh. He added that this summer there will be construction to enlarge the room for research. Mr. Escobar introduced the students (Juniors and Seniors) and stated that he can truly say from experience that these students put in a great deal of hard work on their projects. The students recognized this evening include: Raymond Agrelo, Mallory Brady, Caroline Mueller, Kristen Sze-Tu, Joyce Hwang, Michelle Senra, Jacob Escobar, Brandon Sia, Jenn Godinho, Scott Shannon, Craig Vanderstowe, Emily Abrams, Monika Dharia and Charlotte Ring. The list of the individual research topics and formal recognition of each of these student can be found on the Superintendent's blog on the district website.

Ms. Napolitano attended one of her favorite events at the High School, the Science Symposium and was very impressed with the students' critical thinking. She hopes that the STEAM curriculum will help the research program grow and would like to see this event District wide. She congratulated each of the students on their hard work. Ms. Napolitano thanked Dr. McClade-McCulloh, Mr. Hepworth and Mr. Escobar and added that the Board is very proud of all that is going on. The Superintendent stated that we can build the programs but they must be embraced by the students. It is evident when you hear the titles of the projects that the program is important to them. The district will continue to support this program and the plan is to expand this type of work from K-12.

Middle School Technology: The Superintendent introduce Matt Gaven, principal, to present the Middle School Technology program. Mr. Gaven began by thanking Mr. Escobar and the High School students for being great role models. He thanked the Board of Education and Dr. Nagler for their continued support and leadership. Mr. Gaven stated that it was a great year at the Middle School; it was named an "Apple Distinguished School". The school has been visited this year by Commissioner King and 40 districts from 3 states. They came to see the students and teachers in action. Mr. Gaven stated that tonight students and teachers will be front and center and he thanked them all for coming. Mr. Gaven discussed the Middle School progression with technology: Social- all students are on edmodo; Mobility- students working in classrooms, from home and on vacation; Visualization- Showme videos for helping students visualize new math concepts and School4One; Storytelling- iMovie, Keynote, stop motion, iauthor for textbook and digital resource creation and Gaming- Minecraft consulting group. The Superintendent stated that we would break for 15 minutes in order to give everyone the opportunity to visit the Student -Teacher Stations. The Stations include: Ms. Kopp and students- Kahoot; Mrs. Hoisik and students- MobyMax; Ms. Murphy and students- Knowing Science K-6 program based on NGSS; Mrs. Carretta and Mrs. Amzler and students- School4One; Mrs. Marvel- RAZ kids; and Minecraft Consulting Group.

The meeting resumed at 7:50pm and the Superintendent thanked the students and teachers for sharing their knowledge. Dr. Nagler added that all of the teachers here tonight are volunteering their time. He stated that visitors to the Middle School are always impressed when they come to the classes.

Tenure Presentations: The Superintendent stated that there are three individuals up for tenure this evening and he has the pleasure of knowing all three. He introduced Devra Small, Hampton Street principal to discuss Diane Nodell, Librarian. Ms. Small reported that when Ms. Nodell was hired the new library had just been completed and there was not a book on a shelf. Ms. Nodell set-up the library and displayed a lot of initiative. She works very collaboratively with teachers on student research projects and is an asset to the program. Dr. Nagler stated that when he met Ms. Nodell, she had just been excessed from South Huntington. Ms. Nodell did a great deal of work in a short time. He described Ms. Nodell as a "Can Do" person who is always ready to jump in and help. Her interactions with teachers and students are always positive. Dr. Nagler recommends Ms. Nodell highly for tenure.

The Superintendent introduced Ralph Amitrano and Ms. Small to discuss the next tenure candidate, Joe Cerulli, Physical Education teacher. Mr. Amitrano described Joe Cerulli as a tremendous educator and a caring person. He rewrote the K-2 curriculum in physical education and teaches to the standards. Mr. Cerulli coaches in the Middle School and the High School and is able to get the most out of the students. Ms. Small stated that Joe is very good with helping the children deal with frustration. Dr. Nagler stated that he was principal of the High School when Joe was a student. As a junior and senior, Joe displayed the qualities of a student leader. He added that you do not always get to see how your students turn out and he is very proud to have Joe back in District. Dr. Nagler highly recommends Joe Cerulli for tenure.

The Superintendent introduced Mr. Escobar and Mr. Desire to discuss the final candidate for tenure, Mary Owens, Mathematics teacher. Mr. Escobar stated that Mary Owens has many of the same qualities as were stated for Joe Cerulli and she is also a former Mineola student. She started teaching at the High School when first hired; then Mary was moved to the Middle School and finally back to the High School after reconfiguration. He stated that Ms. Owens is teaching young people how to act as adults. Mr. Escobar is very glad to have Mary at the High School. Mr. Desire stated that he knows Mary from when she was a student. He related a story about Mary when she was a student teacher at the High School. Mr. Desire had Ms. Owens do a lesson in his classroom and he observed and watched the student reaction. After the class was over, he asked Ms. Owens about how she felt the class went. Ms. Owens stated that she was not happy with how it went but she knew what she had done wrong. Mr. Desire reported that the next day, Ms. Owens came back and had adjusted the lesson to meet the needs of the students in the classroom. Mr. Desire knew at that point that Ms. Owens would be a good teacher and he is happy that he was right. Dr. Nagler stated has known Mary for many years and knew what she would bring to the District. He added that you can lose students quickly, if you do not have good teachers. Mary believes that every student can learn. Dr. Nagler highly recommends Ms. Owens for tenure.

The Superintendent recommends all three candidates without reservation. Ms. Napolitano stated that teachers are very important and she thanked the three candidates for all that they do. She added that she has known Mary for a long time and is happy to be approving her for tenure. Mr. Barnett compared tenure to a marriage and added that it is easier to get out of a marriage. He stated that he has full faith in these three individuals and reminded them to never forget why we are all here. Mr. Barnett stated that the Board would now vote on Resolution #72. After the vote, the Superintendent congratulated the three for having received tenure.

Superintendent Comments

The Superintendent had no additional comments this evening, but he was in need of an executive session to discuss negotiations.

L. Executive Session Time: 9:30 p.m.

At 9:30pm, a motion was made for the Board of Education to go into Executive Session to discuss negotiations.

Motion: William Hornberger

Second: Nicole Matzer

Yes: William Hornberger
Nicole Matzer
Patricia Navarra
Christine Napolitano
Arthur Barnett

No: None

Passed: Yes

M. Adjournment Time: _____ p.m.

Motion: _____

Second: _____

Yes: _____

No: _____

Passed: _____

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Paggi