

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

**Business 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 - 2016-2017**

***Educational***

- Develop a comprehensive series of activities that actively engage parents in the District Mission.
  - o Seek to engage parents in answering the question "How can Mineola best prepare students for the rapidly evolving and changing world of work and study"
- Continue to actualize the District's Mission and Strategic Objectives and measure progress toward these goals
  - o Emphasis on increasing student choice
  - o Emphasis on student portfolios
- Continue to expand and develop Queensboro certificate program to enable students to graduate HS with a full year of college credit

***Facilities***

- Continue to plan and fund a 5 year Capital improvement plan that addresses the outstanding items in the Building Condition Survey. Plan should include multiple funding sources- Energy performance contracts, Capital reserve fund, and budget transfers

***Finance***

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

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**DATE: January 12, 2017**

**LOCATION: Willis Avenue School**

**OPEN WORK SESSION 7:00 p.m. 2nd Floor Board Room**

**Board of Education**

Christine Napolitano  
Margaret Ballantyne  
Nicole Matzer  
Brian Widman  
Cheryl Lampasona

**Central Office**

Dr. Michael Nagler, Superintendent of Schools  
Jack Waters, Asst. Supt. of Finance & Operations  
Edward Escobar, Asst. Supt. Human Resources  
Matthew Gaven, Asst. Supt. CIA & Technology  
Dr. Michael Nagler, District Clerk, ProTem

**A. Call to Order**

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**B.a. RESOLUTION #37 - BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the appointment of Linda M. Spagnola, to the position of District Clerk, effective January 3, 2017 and direct that she is administered the Oath of Office.

**Motion: Christine Napolitano**

**Second: Margaret Ballantyne**

**C. Reading of Mission - Matthew Gaven**

**D. Moment of Silent Meditation**

**E. Dais & Visitor Introductions**

**F. High School Student Organization Report**

Before tonight's Student Organization Report, the Dr. Nagler stated we are committed this year to recognizing our students publicly. He introduced Matt DeLuca, 5th grade teacher and director of the middle school musical. Mr. DeLuca stated this is his 11th year as the middle school musical director. This year the drama club will be performing the first musical he directed, Once On This Island which is the story about a girl from the wrong side of the island in love with a boy from the right side of the island and the people and gods keeping the two apart. Three students each sang a song they will sing in the play. Mr. DeLuca asked all to come see their production on February 3rd and 4th. Mr. DeLuca thanked the district for their continued support. Dr. Nagler stated it never ceases to amaze him how talented our students are.

Ed Escobar stated we are going recognize three sets of students this evening; high school fall all county athletes, 4 high school students who were awarded achievement for the congressional app challenge and students in their narrative writing.

Mr. Ralph Amitrano, Supervisor of the Athletic Department reported Mineola had a great fall season and students had wonderful experiences. Tonight we are going to recognize students who were all county. Several of our teams had a great season lead by these athletes. These students truly dedicate themselves. They practice and train year round. Two of our athletes could not be here tonight because they are at a practice. They were also recognized at their county dinners and our pep rally. We are very proud of our students and they deserve all the accolades. Three coaches attended this evening: Mr. Pereira boys varsity soccer coach, Mr. Cavalluzzo assistant coach boys varsity soccer and Mr. Fretz boys varsity winter track. The students recognized tonight were Allison Mendes, Luis Tinoco, Dimas Cabrera, Brandon Mendes, Gabriel Silva, Matteo Itri, Ryan DeMagistris, Colette Maloney and Samantha Schroeder.

Mr. Smith, high school principal, was asked to speak about the Congressional App Challenge. He thanked the board and Dr. Nagler for supporting this program. Mr. Smith stated this program is the first of its kind on Long Island. This came out of a partnership with Queens Borough Community College. It's a 30 credit certificate program in internet information technology. The goal is for the students to graduate with a high school diploma plus a certificate from Queens Borough college which will get them ready for jobs that are very much in demand in the science area. The program could not be successful without Kuri DiFede teaching the courses the students need for their first year. We are finalizing our plans for year two where the students will actually go to Queens borough for the remaining courses. He explained the Congressional App Challenge by saying 4 students from Mineola high school were selected as a winning team in the 2016 Congressional App Challenge. Announced by members of the US House of

Representatives the challenge promotes the importance of coding and stem education. More than 2000 students participated in this national competition which yielded over 650 original student created apps. Mineola's winning team consists of Bryan Guda, Malcolm Hylton, Joseph Mueller and Vincent Rodrigues. They developed an app called Chow Chow which connects people who are in need of dog sitting services with someone who can take care of the dog. The app users create a profile and fill out a questionnaire. Then the app makes recommended pairing based on location of services. The winners will have the opportunity to showcase their apps to members of congress this april in Washington DC. Congratulations to of Bryan Guda, Malcolm Hylton, Joseph Mueller and Vincent Rodrigues.

Ed Escobar introduced Jodi Helming, the coordinator for writing. This is the first workshop meeting we are recognizing k-4 students. Our K-4 principals are here this evening: Dr. Fleischmann, Ms. Maravel and Dr. Gonzalez. And he thanked all the parents, grandparents and families of the children who are here tonight.

Ms. Helming quoted Beatrix Potter, "There is something delicious about writing the first words of a story. You never quite know they will take you". Ms. Helming reported the students who are being recognized this evening during this presentation have demonstrated a commitment to the writing process. They began by generating ideas in their writer's notebooks. They then selected one of those ideas to develop and wrote a first draft of their personal narratives. They learned and applied various strategies that enabled them to lift the quality of their writing pieces. And finally they prepared their writing for publication. Their final products are representations of themselves as writers and they serve to demonstrate what we have all learned about writing. I has been my honor to work alongside these students and their teachers as well as we have shared this writing journey together.

The students who presented here tonight from Hampton Street were Simran Pamnani (Kindergarten), Robert Kearns (Grade 1), Zaid Badoolah (Grade 2). Students from Meadow Drive were Isabella Saldana (Kindergarten), Kelly DaSilva (1), Sean Luning (2). And students from Jackson Avenue were Brian Barros (Grade 3), and Liliana DeJesus (4).

Tonight's Student Organization Report was by Danny Pires.

Key Club & the National Honor Society teamed together for the holiday drive to help families this holiday season to have a happier holiday season. Boys Bowling team is amazing, Tony Macchietto bowled a game of 290. We are ranked in the top 5 long island bowling teams and stands in the best overall average in Nassau County. Our spring musical is Seussical on March 24th and 25th. Mineola high school hosted the Nassau County division 3 all county music festival the last three days. Congratulations to Zack Sloan who is all state chorus and performed December 4th in Rochester. Tech 8 classes began using started using adobe illustrator as well as the HTC Vive VR system and the Oculus Rift VR system.

On Alumni Day last years seniors came to see this year's seniors to discuss what college life was really like for them. John Venus and Liz Ryan received the Reggie Carter award. Junior parent night was January 18th. The end of marking period was January 27th. On January 28th and 29th we are hosting the First Lego League Robotics competition.

## **G. BOE Reports**

### **a. Comments from Board Trustees**

Cheryl Lampasona hoped everyone had a wonderful and relaxing holiday. She congratulated Mr. Gaven on his first official board meeting tonight. She is looking forward to continuing a wonderful school year and surviving the winter.

Brian Widman wishes everyone had a happy new year.

Nicole Matzer wished everyone a happy healthy new year.

Maurie wished everyone a great new year and welcomed Mr. Gaven. She is looking forward to the semester.

### **b. Comments from Board President**

Christine Napolitano stated it is so much fun when the students come to our board meetings. She particularly enjoyed the writing of

our young students and seeing the joy in their faces and their families.

### **c. Comments from Superintendent**

Dr. Nagler stated it is a great initiative the board asked for this year having our students come to our workshop meetings. Thanked the parents and administrators coming out tonight. He commented on the books on the dais how the writing and punctuation was so nicely done. He stated another board initiative to have Ms. Helming as our full time writing coordinator this school year. Tonight we saw the fruits of that labor. He was very happy to see the children tonight. He stated he visited the fab lab and loved watching the students working and seeing things coming together. Dr. Nagler reported Liz Ryan is applying to west point and the air force academy and has secured her nomination from senator Gillibrand. He is very proud of her and wishes her success. Dr. Nagler reported we hosted the Division 3 all county rehearsals for the past 3 days. We have had 600 students in the high school practicing for a performance at the Tilles Center tomorrow night. In addition to our Mineola students we had other students from across the county. Dr. Nagler will be giving a welcome address at the Tilles Center. He stated he is proud of everyone. Dr. Nagler reported we broke ground on Hampton field today. The field is official closed and locked off. He hopes to deliver the new field for the spring. Dr. Nagler spoke about snow days. He stated he is up at 4:00 am and in communication with his colleagues from other school districts. This way we will know what other districts are doing. He is well aware that parents do not like 2 hour delays. It's worse than closing school. We do this with all consideration for all.

Dr. Nagler spoke about his revised version of the calendar. He suggested school will be open on election day and he would like to move superintendent's conference day to Friday, May 25th. On election day, we will be able to secure the voting area and have additional guards. The board agreed to have school on election day based on the condition of having added security. Our next meeting is January 26th not February 2nd as stated on the calendar. We moved the date and it will be a workshop meeting. Christine Napolitano and Dr. Nagler welcomed Linda Spagnola as the new district clerk.

### **H. Old Business**

Christine Napolitano made a motion to take off the table from the December 22nd board meeting Resolution #36 J.5.1. that the Board of Education approved the appointment of Cristina Santos to the position of Teacher Aide at Meadow Drive School, to replace Donna LaRose who retired, effective January 3, 2017. Salary will be \$22,221 on Step 1,; probation is 26 weeks.

**Motion: Margaret Ballantyne**

**Second: Cheryl Lampasona**

**I. New Business - There was no new business this evening.**

### **J. Consensus Agenda**

**RESOLUTION #38 - BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the consensus agenda items J.1.a. through J., as presented.

**Motion: Cheryl Lampasona**

**Second: Nicole Matzer**

**Passed: Yes**

#### **1. Accepting of Minutes**

- a. That the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the December 22, 2016 Business Meeting as presented.

#### **2. Instruction**

- a. Appointments Instruction

1. That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Eilis Oconnell, to the position of Leave Replacement Teacher, for Susan Palladino, effective January 23, 2017 to June 30, 2017 with a salary of MA+30, Step 1, \$72,828.

b. Appointment(s) Sub Teacher per diem

That the Board of Education approves the following individual(s) as Per Diem Substitute Teacher (s) for the current school year, at a daily rate of \$100 days 0-10, \$110 after 11-20 consecutive days, \$120 after 21-30 consecutive days, \$130 after 31+ consecutive days; and retirees at a daily rate of \$125.00 per day, \$130 per day after 30 days.:

EMPLOYEE NAME

EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATION

1. Zachary St. John Music

c. Appointment(s) Permanent Substitute Teachers

That the Board of Education approves the following individual(s) as Permanent Substitute Teacher(s) for the current school year, at a daily rate of \$100 days 0-10, \$110 after 11-20 consecutive days, \$120 after 21-30 consecutive days, \$130 after 31+ consecutive days; and retirees at a daily rate of \$125.00 per day, \$130 per day after 30 days.:

EMPLOYEE NAME

EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATION

1. Taylor Gabel Mathematics 7-12

3. Instruction: Student Actions

- a. Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017 Bridgewater Main Show  
Bridgewater, NJ  
District Bus
  
- Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017 West Orange Main Show  
West Orange, NJ  
District Bus
  
- Saturday, Feb. 4, 2017 WGI Trumbull Show Regional  
Trumbull, NJ  
District Bus
  
- Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017 Deptford Main Show  
Deptford, NJ  
District Bus
  
- Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017 WGI South Brunswick Regional  
South Brunswick, NJ  
District Bus
  
- Saturday, March 4, 2017 South Brunswick Main Show  
South Brunswick, NJ  
District Bus
  
- Saturday, March 11, 2017 Matawan Main Show  
Matawan, NJ  
District Bus
  
- Saturday, March 18, 2017 WGI Regional West Long Branch Show  
West Long Branch, NJ  
District Bus
  
- Sunday, March 19, 2017 WGI Regional West Long Branch Show  
West Long Branch, NJ  
District Bus
  
- Saturday, April 1, 2017 Somerville Show  
Somerville, NJ  
District Bus
  
- Thurs., April 6-Sat. 8, 2017 WGI World Championships  
(Overnight) Dayton, Ohio  
Coach Bus
  
- Saturday, April 22, 2017 Main Championships  
South Brunswick, NJ  
District Bus

4. **Civil Service**

a. **Appointments**

1. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Esmirna Pena, to the position of Teacher Aid Sub, effective January 16, 2017. Salary is \$13.95 per hour.
2. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Michelle Rescigno, to the position of 11 month Bilingual Typist Clerk at the High School, effective January 23, 2017. Salary is \$38,742 on Step 1.
3. That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Jennifer Amy, to the position of part time Teacher Aide at the Middle School to replace Alice Boos, who retired, effective January 16, 2017. Salary is \$13.95 per hour on Step 1.

5. **Business /Finance**

a. **Treasurer's Report**

That the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer's report for the period ending November 30, 2016 and directs that it be placed on file.

b. **Approval of Invoices and Payroll**

That the Board of Education accepts the Invoices and Payroll for the period ending December 31, 2016.

A/P Warrant #11 December 8, 2016 \$167,461.90  
A/P Warrant #12 December 21, 2016 \$1,284,911.45  
A/P Warrant #12A Decembe 21, 2016 \$2,301.96

**TOTAL EXPENSES \$1,454,675.31**

PAYROLL #11 & #12

General Fund \$4,064,875.18  
Federal Fund \$48,536.55

**TOTAL PAYROLL \$4,113,411.73**

c. **Other**

**Approval of New 2017 Standard Mileage Rate**

- a. That the Board of Education approves the new 2017 IRS Mileage Reimbursement Rate for approved travel at a rate of \$.53.5 cents per mile, effective January 1, 2017.

**K. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent of Schools' Reports for 1/12/17  
Presentations:

1. School Calendar for 2017-2018

Superintendent Comments

**L. Public Comments**

**M. Executive Session    Time: 8:10 p.m.**

**Motion:    Margaret Ballantyne**

**Second:    Cheryl Lampasona**

**N. Adjournment Time: 9:50 p.m.**

**Motion:    Christine Napolitano**

**Second:    Margaret Ballantyne**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Linda M. Spagnola**

**District Clerk**