

Minutes of School Board Meeting – February 10, 2014

Board Room - Administration Building – Mattlin Middle School

Present: Mrs. Lieberman, Mrs. Schulman, Mrs. Rothman, Mrs. Bernstein,
Mrs. Pierno, Mr. Bettan, Mr. Greenberg.

Also Present: Dr. Lewis, Ms. Gierasch, Dr. Eagen, Mr. Ruf, Mr. Gregory Guercio,
Ms. Aloe, Mrs. Tyler.

Acting District Clerk

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mr. Greenberg that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Ruf Acting District Clerk.

Executive Session

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Pierno, seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education recess to Executive Session for the purpose of personnel matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Ruf
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Ginger Lieberman, President

There were approximately 45 district residents and staff members present.

Mrs. Lieberman called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

High School Up-Date

Our high school representative was not present.

Board Announcements

Mrs. Rothman spoke about the terrific job that the POB Middle School students did in their performance of Shrek. She congratulated all of the students and faculty.

Mrs. Bernstein wanted to express her thanks for all of the kind words of condolences during this difficult weekend. She expressed what a lovely and wonderful community she lives in.

Mr. Greenberg also saw the production of Shrek with 2 of his children and said kudos to all that were involved. He also mentioned that the Race Palace was not an option anymore. Mr. Greenberg spoke about 2 items in the news. The first was how the Town Board of North Hempstead was the first in Nassau County to live stream their board meetings. The second was Social Media and how 75% of U.S. School Districts are getting messages out using Facebook.

Mrs. Pierno also saw Shrek and thought it was adorable. She said how much fun it was to see the joy and pride in the children's faces. She went on to speak about the Financial Forum she attended hosted by the Nassau County Council of Superintendents. She spoke about the Governor's take on the budget and school aide, The Gap Elimination Adjustments and how Pre-K costs will come out of our aide. She went onto mention that on Thursday the school district Audit Committee met with three external auditors, a recommendation will be made to the Board a few weeks after that.

Mr. Bettan spoke about funding to cover the costs for Pre-K, including start-up costs, desks, chairs, buildings, and how it could cost hundreds & thousands of dollars. He wants to know who is going to cover the costs. The Governor will cover the direct costs but the indirect cost will have to be picked up by the school district.

Mrs. Lieberman spoke about staffing the building, getting a nurse's office, library, busing and what it will really cost. She stated that they will probably use upstate numbers and that the costs will fall on the district. She also spoke about the impact on local businesses which are providing Pre-K.

She also stated that social media will be on the next agenda. The Veteran's Tax Exempt public hearing resolution will also be held back to back at the next board meeting.

Mr. Ruf stated that the plan is for the public session to be 6:30 and 6:45.

Mrs. Lieberman honored Mr. Steve Wolfson, a community member for his years he served on our audit committee and the difference he has made to our school district.

Superintendent's Announcements

Dr. Lewis spoke about all of the challenges Shrek had with the snow days, and how many of the cast members got sick but came back with spirit. The show was a success and bravo to our POBMS students.

Dr. Lewis pointed out that in the upper left corner on the districts web page there is new "Ask the Superintendent" button in which questions can go directly to her. Also on the same page under special notice is an update on the 2013-2014 school calendar in regards to the snow days, She stated that she sent out an e-mail blast and February vacation is still intact.

Dr. Lewis spoke about the Legislator Breakfast brought together by the PCT, ASA and PTA. It was very well attended by both POB and Syosset residents; Also attending were Senator Carl Marcellino, Congressman Steve Israel and Assemblymen Chuck Lavine. Senator John Flanagan took a question from Mia a fourth grade student at POB. She spoke from the heart of the issues and the impact that all of the testing has had on her. Senator Flanagan gave Mia a hand written note inviting himself to her classroom. Dr. Lewis really felt that her small voice can make a difference and she really showed us what courage looks like. Kudus to Mia.

Dr. Lewis spoke about what a huge day it was in advocacy, and how the senators and legislators acted on 19 specific items. The first class to be held to the common core standard for graduation will be the class of 2022. The frustrations with the curriculum modular this year, coming out so late should not be an issue as it will be in place earlier for next year. The concept for grading is a little confusing; the old level 2 will now be level 3. They are preserving the 1-100 grading due to the fact that the 1-5 does not translate onto college transcripts. Special Education and ESL information will be linked to the website. She stated that we are not there yet, but we are getting there.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that the Governor is not taking the blame, and power to the people who sent letters, postcard, went to Albany and lobbied saying enough is enough!

Dr. Lewis mentioned that the 2015-2016 school calendar will be adopted at the next board meeting, and that looking ahead, it is a unique year. She wanted to give two years notice that February vacation will not happen due to the fact that Labor Day is late, and that Passover and Easter are a month apart. She stated that it was very difficult to come up with 181 days.

Mrs. Lieberman said that we need to put up signs pray to the anti- snow gods.

Report

Common Core – ELA & Math

Ms. Gierasch introduced the presenters of the leadership team for the Common Core , ELA and Math Update, Ms. Eileen Annino, Ms. Maria Carnesi and Mr. Jeff Yagaloff. Mr. Christian Bowen was unable to attend.

Ms. Gierasch gave an overview on the report. She spoke about how the Common Core website is in its early stages of development. Some of the things that will be available on the site: Common Core writing samples and rubrics, reading list, assessments and protocols. PARCC assessment information and links to NYSED and Teach channel videos. She spoke of ways to keep the community informed such as Parent University and informational nights. She spoke about the focus areas in math and what's ahead such as changes to assessments and review sessions.

Ms. Gierasch gave some additional information on the increases in AMC, Long Island Math Fair Participation, and administrative support to teachers, collaboration amongst teachers and an increase in resources to students, parents and teachers.

Ms. Annino spoke about the 4 ELA strands- reading, writing, speaking and listening and language. She also spoke about the Common Core learning standards and how the majority of instruction be spent on: careful examination of specific texts, close reading of texts, writing in response to and about texts, participation in conversations about texts, draw evidence and knowledge from the texts and instruction of academic vocabulary.

She went on to speak about the shift in instructional writing and how they are looking at trajectories to establish grade level foundational skills to support strong critical thinking and argument.

Ms. Gierasch said that there is a big benefit to classroom reading and AIS teachers.

Mr. Yagaloff spoke about the College Writing Articulation Project; how he has met with college English chairs, Directors of college writing initiatives and writing center supervisors. Major topics included research writing ability, academic integrity, the role of technology and narrative writing. A spring conference is being planned.

Mr. Yagaloff also spoke about ongoing staff development and Common Core activities.

Ms. Carnesi spoke about structured department meetings in which ongoing discussion of teacher evidences of Common Core instructional alignment. She discussed Hess' Cognitive Rigor Matrix and how we move students through the "Depths of Knowledge Levels" in grades 7-12. She mentioned staff development and what needs to be addressed.

Ms. Gierasch spoke about the team effort of the Administrators and teachers; how rewarding it is to see everyone roll up their sleeves' and come with up a plan.

Discussion:

Mrs. Lieberman thanked Ms. Gierasch and the other administrators for all their hard work. She said when we started this journey we didn't know where we were going and look how far we've come.

Mrs. Rothman also thanked everyone and asked for clarification on close reading compared to other programs we have and what is the learning trajectory.

Ms. Annino started with the learning trajectory stating that they need to go backwards to develop the skills, starting in the primary grade to make a solid plan grade by grade, so that by the time the students are in the upper grades the extensive tasks are not out of range.

Mrs. Rothman spoke about some of the samples of persuasive writing she had seen and how impressed she was with the work these young kids were doing.

Mr. Yagaloff spoke about the close reading and how they look at texts that are the appropriate size, and they read and re-read and not depend solely on the teacher, for understanding. It also helps the students look at the text in a deeper way.

Mrs. Schulman asked about cognitive pieces and not to focus on the author's context; to set higher level goals, with the same set of skills.

Mr. Yagaloff said yes there is a balance with text base evidence.

Mr. Bettan spoke about the shift of reading more non-fiction as opposed to fiction. He feels that it would be better to get the students to read whole books and more books instead of parts of books.

Mrs. Pierno asked if the curriculum and the Common Core were aligned.

Mr. Yagaloff said that they have been updating the curriculum to align with the Common Core.

Mrs. Pierno asked why with all the work that's been done are the students, especially on the elementary level, so stressed out.

Mr. Yagaloff stated that the parents of the students can't rely on what they know. Kids are learning more context, but it will be worthwhile later on.

Mrs. Rothman asked how we can foster the love of reading.

Mr. Yagaloff said that we look for value within the text.

Ms. Gierasch spoke about Title 1 funding, and how they are getting better books for the classrooms; Teachers can recommend books that are "just right books".

Mrs. Lieberman thanked the administrators. She said that failure is not an event it's a moment in time. There is a lot of good and bad in regards to the Common Core and for some children it is harder, but for those who fail we need to build self esteem.

Mrs. Schulman said she can relate to what Mrs. Lieberman said and went on to ask if there had been any conversation with the Special Education Teachers.

Ms. Carnesi said that we've done a good job and we are focusing on building the skills that work well.

Mrs. Lieberman thanked them for their input.

Public Participation

Mr. Jacque Wolfner asked for a full discussion of several agenda items.

Mr. Limmer stated that he was still disappointed that POB is one of seventeen districts not having a policy on Sit and Stare. He also wanted to know what the plan was for the eighth grade math. He likes the idea of the possibility of the Board having a Facebook page. He stated that Dr. Lewis should have a blog. He ended saying that with faced with the challenging issues the schools administrators have encountered they were doing a fantastic job.

Dr. Lewis responded that she will not be doing a blog. Also, a memo will be coming after the break covering how the assessments will be handled, with guidance from the state. She said that we will be very clear on what we will be doing.

Ms. Nina Melzer expressed her views on the issue of Common Core and the high expectation that are being put on the children. She feels that some of the lessons are inappropriate and that the children are just not grasping them. She doesn't like that kids are getting discouraged, going home crying saying that they hate school. She stated that we need to take the time to carefully look at the expectations.

Mr. Edward Lederer supports the Veterans' Tax Exemption and hope that it gets passed. He is upset about the Common Core. He feels that there is negativity around the community. He also feels that as a parent of a fourth grader it's not fair that they are the ones getting slammed. He really feels that it is shameful that there is not a plan in place for Sit and Stare. He also feels that it's a form of bullying to make a student Sit and Stare.

Mrs. Lieberman responded that they need to come to closure and that it's not fair to the children. She stated that Dr. Lewis will have a plan soon.

Ms. Stefanie Nelkens wanted an explanation of the Common Core math regents scoring, and also on the double learning track in math.

Dr. Lewis spoke that the Board of Regents set the scoring and the details were just put out today; it will be on both a 1-5 range and also 1-100. She also stated that the district opted to do the two tracks. She also said that it should be clearer moving forward.

Mr. Angel Cepeda spoke about how he attended the last Board meeting because he was very interested in the Technology Vision Presentation. He feels that it is fundamental in moving forward. He also spoke about the public/private partnerships and how Long Island has a hot bed of companies to partner with about applying for more grants. He thanked the Board for what they have done.

Dr. Eagen welcomed Andrea Luzzu a new Guidance Counselor at Mattlin MS.

Routine Business

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education approve the following routine business items:

1. Students

Student Placements

That the Board of Education approve the student placements as recommended by Pupil Personnel Services.

2. Personnel

Professional Staff – Regular Substitute Position

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Andrea Luzzu	Guidance Counselor Regular Substitute	1/3/14 thru 2/12/14	Step 2MA +GUID \$65,353 +\$428 (Salary to be prorated)
	(Assign: POB Middle School Replacing D. Orgonik on Leave of Absence)		

Professional Staff – Probationary Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Andrea Luzzu	Guidance Counselor/ Guidance (Assign: Mattlin MS Replacing L. Spaterella Who is retiring)	2/13/14	Step 2MA +GUID \$65,353 +\$428 (salary to be prorated)

Professional Staff – Regular Substitute Position

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Sara Kuitwaard	Guidance Regular Substitute (Assign: POB Middle School Replacing D. Orgonik on Leave of Absence)	2/11/14 thru 6/30/14	Step 1MA +GUID \$62,396 +\$428 (salary to be prorated)

Non-Teaching Personnel – Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
John Patterson	Security Aide Part Time 7.5 hrs Monday, Tuesday & Thursday (Replacing S. Zanetis who Resigned)	2/11/14	\$24.85 PH

Non-Teaching Personnel – Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>
Cheryl Hertz	Special Ed. Teacher Aide 6 hrs. POBJFK	Personal Illness	1/31/14 thru 6/27/14 (previously exhausted 12 weeks FLMA)

Non-Teaching Personnel – Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>
Linda Maggio	School Monitor PT K- Center 2 hrs.	Family Child Care	3/10/14 thru 9/1/14

Non-Teaching Personnel– Changes of Status

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Position</u>	<u>Proposed Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Jeryl Israel	Lifeguard 1	Water Safety Supervisor PT (Pool, Gr.1)	2/10/14	\$92.17 Per session up to 3hrs.

Non-Teaching Personnel – Additional Hours

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Elizabeth Carollo	ABA Special Ed. Teacher Aide	2013-2014 School year	\$21.38 PH
Julie Weinstein	Classroom Special Ed. Teacher Aide	2013-2014 School year	\$21.38 PH

Co-Curricular Activities - POBJFK High School

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Kimberly Preston	ASL Honor Society	2013-2014 School year	\$469. (Level 1 prorated)

Personnel Recommendation – Tutor for Homebound Students

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Carole Green	Home Tutor	2013-2014 School year	\$53.76 PH
Jordan Pekar	Home Tutor	2013-2014 School year	\$53.76 PH

Non-Teaching Personnel – Appointments Child Care Program

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Nicole Survilla	Child Care Worker	2/11/14	\$12.75 PH
Brittany D'Angelis	Child Care Worker	2/11/14	\$12.75 PH

Appointment– Per Diem Substitute Teacher

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Nicole Landow	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	2/10/2014	Step 1
Casey Naftol	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	2/10/2014	Step 1
Lisa Zimmerman	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	2/10/2014	Step 1
Sheran Kohn	Per Diem Substitute Teacher Rehire	2/10/2014	Step 1

Non-Teaching Personnel – Substitutes

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Edward Carlino	Security Guard PT. Substitute	2/11/14	\$24.85/hr

3. Finance

a. Extra Classroom Reports – September, October, 2013

The Board of Education approve the Extra Classroom Treasure’s Report for November, 2013

b. Contract – Nassau County Emergency Medical Services

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign a contract for the 2013-2014 school year with Nassau County Emergency Medical Services Academy.

4. Miscellaneous

Approval of Minutes

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting of January 27, 2014.

Unfinished Business

Single Audit Report for Federal Funds

1. Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Schulman, seconded by Mrs. Pierno that the Board of Education approve the single audit report from R.S. Abrams & Co. LLP, the District's external auditors, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013.

Discussion

Mrs. Pierno stated that the district received a favorable report.

New Business

1. Code of Conduct – K-4

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education approve Code of Conduct – K-4.

2. Resolution – Certification for Lead Evaluators

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mr. Bettan that the Board of Education approve Certification for Lead Evaluators.

3. Policy Numbers 5640, 5675 & 5675R

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education approve Regulation No. 5640 – Smoking.

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mr. Greenberg that the Board of Education approve Regulation No. 5675 – Information Security Breach and Notification.

Policy Numbers 5640, 5675 & 5675R (continued)

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education approve Regulation No. 5675R – Information Security Breach and Notification Reg. and Code of Conduct.

Discussion

Mrs. Pierno asked if the clothing situation has been addressed.

Dr. Lewis replied that it was being addressed at the building level.

4. Additional Staff Development Courses - 2013/2014

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Schulman, seconded by Mrs. Rothman that the Board of Education approve the following additional staff development courses for the 2013/2014 school year:

- Data Collection Collegial Circle (POBMS)
- Content Literacy Collegial Circle (Elementary)

Executive Session

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Bettan seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education recess to Executive Session for the matter of personnel items.

The meeting was recessed at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Tyler
District Clerk

Approved: _____
Ginger Lieberman, President

