

Minutes of School Board Meeting – December 20, 2010

Board Room – Administration Building – Mattlin Middle School

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

Also Present: Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Jonas, Ms. Gierasch, Mr. Ruf,  
Mr. Gregory Guercio, Ms. Aloe, Mr. Christopher Guercio,  
Mrs. Fischer.

Acting District Clerk

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mr. Cepeda that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Jonas Acting District Clerk.

Executive Session

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

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas  
Acting District Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Bettan, President

There were approximately 30 district residents and staff members present.

Mr. Bettan called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Bettan welcomed everyone to this evening's Board of Education meeting. Our next board meeting, scheduled for January 10 will be a workshop meeting. At that meeting we will be hearing from our department chair people and discussing their future plans and proposals for their departments. We invite everyone to attend and to listen to the reports and the discussions that follow. We will not have public participation. However we do welcome you to come back to the following meeting on January 24 to share your thoughts and feedback.

Tonight we will hear several reports, the first two focusing on Curriculum. The first will be an overview of our Math department given by our interim Chairperson, Mr. Ron Labrocca. The second report will be given by our Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Ms. Jill Gierasch. She will update us on the work of our Project Challenge Committee. Mr. Ryan Ruf will update us on the latest news which will be affecting the financial situation of our district over the next year. Our final report will be an update from Superintendent Dempsey on the Dignity for All Students Committee which had its first meeting last week.

### High School Update

██████████, our high school representative updated the Board on events at the high school.

### Board Announcements

Mrs. Rothman stated that at the last meeting Mrs. Pierno and she spoke briefly of a law conference they attended that day. Mrs. Rothman stated that we will not receive any of the \$700 million in Federal Funds that New York State was awarded. Mrs. Rothman stated that New York State adopted a series of reforms including establishing a new teacher and principal evaluation system, called APPR—Annual Professional Performance Review. She noted that it is important for all of us to be aware of the new Federal and State Requirements because it will impact our educational system in many different ways. She discussed the questions and concerns involved in this rating process. Mrs. Rothman stated that all school districts must develop plans that include procedure for APPR, teacher improvement plans, principal improvement plans and the appeals process.

Mrs. Schulman announced that she attended a concert at Pasadena Elementary School. The kids and staff did a beautiful job. Mrs. Schulman stated this concert is an example of the great music department we have.

Mr. Bettan spoke of the total lunar eclipse that will occur this evening.

### Superintendent's Announcements

Mr. Dempsey stated there will be a Juried Art Exhibit in the Patrons Lounge of the Tilles Center. It will run through January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Dempsey noted there will be a lot of holiday concerts. He invited everyone to attend. He stated that after the holidays, 126 of our music students will perform at the Tilles Center. He is very proud of these students.

Mr. Dempsey stated that on December 10, he and members of the Board of Education attended the Senior Citizen Holiday Celebration. It was a wonderful afternoon.

Ms. Gierasch stated that the MAP Leadership groups at POB Middle School were inspired by Veteran's Day and organized a Veteran's Tea on Friday, December 17 during extended MAP. Local veterans were invited for a light breakfast served by the students. It was hosted in the main lobby.

Ms. Gierasch stated that over 300 students entered this year's PTA Reflections at H. B. Mattlin Middle School. Antonia Brogna placed as a Nassau County Regional Finalist. She wrote a poem related to the theme, "Together We Can." Ms. Gierasch congratulated Mrs. Stefanie Hernandez, Antonia's ELA teacher. She also thanked Mrs. Bock for her leadership with this year's Reflections.

### Reports

#### 1. Mathematics Overview

Mr. Labrocca discussed the completion of Algebra in one year. He discussed Algebra with a Lab. He spoke of the benefits of this. He spoke of AIS in grade 8. He discussed the collaborative model.

Mr. Bettan spoke of Math A and B.

Mrs. Schulman asked when this would be offered.

Mr. Labrocca stated that it is just a talking point at this time.

Mrs. Pierno asked if students have time to fit a lab in their schedules.

Mr. Labrocca stated it will take creative scheduling.

Mrs. Pierno asked if we have looked at the kids who will take this. If it were offered this year, who would take it.

Ms. Gierasch stated it could work with creative scheduling

Mr. Bettan asked if the student would have the same teacher for the lab as he would have for the math class.

Ms. Gierasch stated we would hope they have the same teacher for both. It is not a definite. It is the recommendation.

We are required to have three years of math. It may be required to have four years.

Mr. Labrocca discussed Algebra for Almost all. He stated the current acceleration is approximately 45%. Acceleration levels should be increased gradually in hopes of getting to 85%-90%. We have to offer support similar to the high school model. We have to change the curriculum in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades. We have to look at the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and change the curriculum in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. He discussed self-selection. He spoke of getting students ready to take higher level classes. He would like to see the same lab model in the middle schools as is in the high school.

Mrs. Bernstein asked Mr. Labrocca if there have been discussions regarding this with special education teachers and getting their feedback.

Mr. Labrocca stated he has and they are in favor. It is very positive.

Mrs. Pierno asked if any thought has been given to what happens at their end. Are there other things we can offer the kids in the math realm.

Mr. Labrocca outlined the courses that would be available.

Mrs. Pierno suggested that perhaps we could offer the students something in the way of SAT's.

Mr. Labrocca stated that by taking courses earlier, students will be able to take AP science classes.

Mrs. Schulman spoke of students taking math 7-1 now. Is there any thought of having an honors class or other options.

Mr. Labrocca stated that maybe every other day we can have a math enrichment class.

Mrs. Schulman spoke of the students that might have trouble with math. What do we envision for those students.

Mr. Labrocca stated we would have to have one or two math 8 sections.

Mrs. Lieberman discussed raising the bar. The Board has always talked about and wanted to raise the bar. She asked about kids at the end of the spectrum. Will we have things for them. She is very pleased with what she is hearing.

Mr. Bettan asked what percentage of our students take calculus. He spoke of things that he has read regarding calculus and the importance of calculus.

Mr. Labrocca stated that we have five sections of calculus. We have about one third of the high school population taking calculus. Calculus is very good if you intend to go to college.

Mr. Bettan expressed his views that wherever the State goes, we should go higher.

Mrs. Pierno stated that the middle school curriculum will have to finish by the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

Mrs. Schulman noted that Mr. Labrocca spoke hopefully of a 9 period day. We do not have a 9 period day. We have to work with what we have.

Mrs. Lieberman noted that we would have to rewrite the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum. When would this take place.

Mr. Labrocca stated we would have to look at it pretty soon.

Mrs. Lieberman asked if the Board will have an opportunity to see if there are any gaps in our math program.

Mr. Labrocca stated we will have to look at the math program K-12.

Mr. Bettan expressed his views that math is cumulative. Why don't we start acceleration in the elementary schools. He believes our kids are capable of a lot more than they do.

Mr. Labrocca stated that the projected implementation date is September 2012. It won't be finalized until the Board of Regents adopts them. There will be more emphasis on problem solving and modeling. In the middle school there will be hands on learning in Algebra, geometry and probability and statistics. He spoke of graphing calculators in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. In the high school the major thrust is to get students ready for college and careers and students should take 4 years of mathematics.

Mr. Dempsey discussed the changes in the assessments.

Mr. Labrocca stated there will be more modeling and more of a spiral curriculum.

Mrs. Pierno spoke of college and career readiness. Perhaps we could offer more courses that satisfy math and science.

Mr. Labrocca spoke of staffing. He discussed technology and how to fit everything into a student's schedule.

Mr. Bettan thanked Mr. Labrocca for his very informative report.

## 2. Project Challenge

Ms. Gierasch reviewed the profile of the student. She reviewed how you identify the difference between the bright child and the gifted child. We want it to be a truly gifted program

Ms. Gierasch reviewed the differences between the bright child and the gifted learner. She spoke of what the District does to identify the gifted child.

Mrs. Rothman expressed her views that we short change the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders in the gifted program by giving them an abbreviated day.

Ms. Gierasch stated that there is a loss of seven days over the year.

Mrs. Lieberman expressed her views that for the children, the day is over before a project is finished. She asked what it would be like if the children had a full day. They could accomplish considerably more.

Mrs. Rothman asked why curriculum writing couldn't be done in the summer when Project Challenge classes are not going on.

Ms. Gierasch explained why this is very difficult

Mrs. Schulman asked if we know class sizes and schedules for next year.

Ms. Gierasch stated that we add every year and the classes are getting larger.

Ms. Gierasch reviewed what is done in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 in Project Challenge. She went over the units of study and curriculum writing. She reviewed the OLSAT test and the CogAT test. She discussed the input from teachers.

Mr. Cepeda asked if we would test the same way if we went to the CogAT.

Mr. Bettan expressed his views that we are not addressing whether a child is truly gifted or not. Project Challenge is supposed to be for the gifted. IQ tests are not necessarily accurate. He questions whether the gifted population in Plainview-Old Bethpage is really 15%-20%. IQ gifted population should be 5% - 6%.

Mrs. Rothman noted that many school districts just don't give the CogAT in isolation. They use other tests. Are we talking about students who function at a certain level or are we watering down this program. She asked how we conduct these tests. Are they in large or small groups.

Ms. Gierasch stated they are given in a classroom setting.

Mrs. Lieberman asked if this is a true gifted program or are we watering it down. Years ago it was a gifted program. We seem to keep retesting until the child gets in. How many times do we test. If the child gets a certain score and the teacher has recommendations, we should have a real sense of the child's ability. She too believes 25% is not an accurate figure. We have to state what the criteria is. Teachers know their kids.

Mr. Bettan expressed his views that 25% represents grouping.

Ms. Gierasch stated we need to look at a different instrument.

Mr. Dempsey stated there are multiple pieces. 2% to 3% is what research says are truly gifted.

Mrs. Pierno stated that a lot of the Project Challenge is science heavy. She asked if we are missing other areas in which students are gifted.

Ms. Gierasch stated the program is not centered around the arts.

Mrs. Pierno asked if the philosophy is to mirror the curriculum in each grade and then bring it to another level.

Ms. Gierasch stated it is about half and half.

Mrs. Bernstein asked where the committee is now.

Mr. Bettan thanked Ms. Gierasch for her fine report. On behalf of the Board of Education, he thanked the Project Challenge Committee for all their work.

Mr. Dempsey stated that he received a letter and a photograph taken in the early 1900's from Mr. Paul Zadrozny showing the Manetto Hill Elementary School with its principal the assistant principal and the pupils. He is 91 years old. In the letter he spoke of his memories of attending this two room school in Plainview. Mr. Dempsey will be in touch with Mr. Zadrozny.

3. Finance - Update

Mr. Ruf stated that the \$608 million Federal Education Jobs Fund legislation has been approved by the State. Plainview-Old Bethpage is scheduled to receive \$622,000. He stated that Federal law allows the District until September 2012 to spread it out.

Mr. Ruf noted there has been a lot of talk about the property tax cap issue. He spoke of an article in THE NEW YORK TIMES where Governor elect Cuomo is pushing for a property tax cap. Mr. Ruf will keep the community informed of this very important issue.

4. Dignity for All Students - Update

Mr. Dempsey stated the first meeting of the Committee took place December 14<sup>th</sup>. Teachers, parents, administrators and community residents shared their views. They reviewed the requirements of the Dignity for All Students law. Mr. Dempsey stated that we have a draft policy and we're continuing to work on it.

Public Participation

Mrs. Jane Pace asked if anything has changed over the past few weeks in terms of fund raising at the high school.

Mr. Dempsey stated we are investigating new things. We are talking with Principal Murray.

Mrs. Pace spoke of how hard it is to fund raise. She wished everyone a happy holiday and a healthy New Year.

Mrs. Susan Stewart expressed her views about bringing Algebra in earlier. She offered her suggestions for an honors program in the high school. She currently has a child in the gifted program. Another child graduated from the program. She discussed Project Challenge.

Mr. Rocko Figalora, a veteran, extended his thanks to the MAP students at Plainview Middle School who organized the Veteran’s Tea. He stated that all the veterans that attended the breakfast had a wonderful time. He extended his thanks to Principal John McNamara, Sue Ferrara and the MAP Leadership group. The veterans were very appreciative of what the students did.

Routine Business

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

1. Students

Student Placements

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

2. Personnel

Professional Staff – Returning from Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Denise Siele	Special Ed Teacher POBJFK High School	Dec. 20, 2010	\$114,556 Step 15MA 45L2 To be Prorated
Sharon S. Smith	Special Ed Teacher Stratford Road E.S.	Jan. 3, 2011	\$74,206 Step 5MA To be Prorated

Professional Staff – Leave of Absence Without Pay

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Maureen Egglinger	Elementary Teacher Parkway Elementary	Jan. 3, 2011 thru Jan. 28, 2011 (up to 12 weeks To be covered under the FMLA)	
Lauren Steinberg	Special Education Teacher Pasadena Elementary School	Jan. 5, 2011 thru April 6, 2011 (up to 12 weeks to be covered under the FMLA)	

Professional Staff – Regular Substitute Position

Stacey C. Grasso	Special Education Teacher-Regular Substitute—Assign: Pasadena Elementary (Replacing L. Steinberg On Leave of Absence)	Jan. 5, 2011 thru April 6, 2011 or earlier at the discretion of the Board of Education	\$56,449 Step 1BA 15 To be prorated
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Non-Teaching Personnel – Return from Leave of Absence

Sherry Johnson	Principal Typist Clerk POBJFK High School	Dec. 16, 2010	
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Non-Teaching Personnel – Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Marie Marsac	Typist Clerk 11 Months Old Bethpage/Parkway	Dec. 20, 2010 -- June 20, 2011	
Ronald Lawson	Mail and Supply Clerk Buildings & Grounds	Jan. 9, 2010 – Jan. 9, 2011	

Non-Teaching Personnel – Probationary Appointment

Marie Marsac	Senior Typist Clerk Curriculum Office 12 Month Position Replaced Catherine Amato	11/22/2010	*\$54,551.+ \$500 Step 11+L1 prorated
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\*Salary effective 12/21/2010

Non-Teaching Personnel – Permanent Employee Recommendation

Julio Cammareri	Cleaner POBJFK High School	12/21/2010	
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Non-Teaching Personnel – Change of Status

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Position</u>	<u>Proposed Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Janine Ercolano	Library Monitor Mattlin M.S. 4 hours per day	School Monitor PT Mattlin M.S. 2 ¾ hours per day (replacing M. Carmardi)	Jan. 3, 2011	\$10,174.01 To be prorated
Anna Macaluso	Bus Attendant Transportation 4 hours per day	Bus Attendant Transportation 2 ½ hours per day	Nov. 29, 2010	\$9,249.10 To be prorated

Personnel Recommendation – Facilitators – Staff Development

<u>Facilitator</u>				
Meryl Menashe	Grade 8 Leadership Program – Collegial Circle	2 hours	School Year 2010/2011	\$53.76 ph

3. Finance

- a. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment – K-Center, Old Bethpage Elementary School, POBJFK High School

That the Board of Education declare obsolete for disposal purposes the items listed on the memos from Ms. Fran Leiboff dated December 3, 2010, Mr. Bradley Richman dated December 3, 2010 and Mr. Christopher Donarummo dated December 13, 2010.

b. Donation – Music Department

Resolved upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Bernstein that the Board of Education authorize the acceptance of the following donation to the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District:

- 1) Avid Key Studio Music Keyboard
- 2) Estrada Guitar – Model FW605
- 3) Juzek Violin
- 4) Montana Guitar Model CL4

On the motion:

Ayes: Mrs. Pierno, Mrs. Bernstein, Mrs. Rothman, Mrs. Bernstein, Mr. Cepeda, Mrs. Schulman.

Abstentions: Mr. Bettan

Motion Carried.

c. Award of Bids #573 and #575 – Rejection of Bid #574

That the Board of Education award Bids #573 and #575 for Elevator Replacement projects at POBMS and POBJFK High School to Mercury Elevator Corporation and reject Bid #574 for the Chair Lift Replacement project at Mattlin Middle School.

d. Budget Report

- Informational Transfers as of December 20, 2010
- Budget Status Report as of November 30, 201
- Revenue Status Report as of November 30, 2010

e. Treasurer Reports

That the Board of Education approve the following:

- Treasurer’s Report for October, 2010
- Trial Balance as of October 31, 2010
- Cash Flow Projection as of October 31, 2010

f. Extra Class Activity Funds- Treasurer’s Report

That the Board of Education approve the Treasurer’s Report for Extra Class Activity Funds for POB Middle School, Mattlin Middle School and POBJFK High School for October, 2010

g. Payment of Bills

December 15, 2010

General Fund A	\$741,629.01
Trust & Agency	\$ 174.00
Federal	\$ 52,564.13
School Lunch	\$130,742.16
Capital	\$ 2,641.00
Child Care	\$ 191.56

4. Miscellaneous

Approval of Minutes

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting of December 6, 2010.

New Business

1. Resolution – Snow Days (unaffiliated)

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mr. Cepeda that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

“Resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education agrees to grant a credit of one-half (1/2) day of vacation for each vacation day charged by the District when schools were closed due to inclement weather during the 2009/2010 school year to the following employees: Arthur Jonas, Teresa Aiello, Harriet Fischer, in exchange for a written release of such related claims from each employee, as approved by District Counsel.”

2. Staff Development Course and Facilitator – 2010-2011

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education approve the following additional staff development course and facilitator for the 2010-2011 school year:

8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Leadership Program-Collegial	- 2 hours	Meryl Menashe
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3. Terms and Conditions of Employment – Claims Auditor

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Mrs. Pierno that the Board of Education approve the Terms and Conditions of Employment for Ms. Dianne Sheffield, Claims Auditor for the period July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011.

Executive Session

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

The meeting was recessed at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harriet Fischer  
District Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Bettan, President

The meeting was reconvened at 12:05 a.m.

Acting District Clerk

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Jonas Acting District Clerk.

Adjournment

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mrs. Pierno that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas  
Acting District Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Bettan, President

Minutes of School Board Meeting – December 6, 2010

Board Room – Administration Building – Mattlin Middle School

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

Also Present: Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Jonas, Ms. Gierasch, Mr. Ruf,  
Mr. Gregory Guercio, Ms. Aloe, Mr. Christopher Guercio,  
Mrs. Fischer.

Acting District Clerk

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

Executive Session

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

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas  
Acting District Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Bettan, President

There were approximately 35 district residents and staff members present.

Mr. Bettan called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Bettan welcomed everyone to this evening's Board of Education meeting. He stated Mr. Jeffery Yageloff our English Language Arts Chairperson will be reporting on the curriculum writing efforts going on in the district. These efforts aim to strengthen our English program and raise academic standards.

Mr. Bettan noted that earlier in the year we heard from the Social Studies and Science Chair people. Over the next few meetings, the Board and the community will be hearing reports from the remaining chair people.

Mr. Bettan stated there is a tremendous amount of work going on in our district with regards to curriculum writing. He thanked our administrators and teachers for their collaborative efforts in this area. He expressed his views that when people work together as a team, sharing best practices, their experiences the latest research, many good things can happen.

He stated the second report we will hear tonight is an update and discussion of the economic forces that will significantly impact our 2011/2012 budget and those budgets that immediately follow. Mr. Bettan spoke of the funding "Cliff" that school districts across the state would be facing. Last year everyone was concerned about drastic reductions in State Aid. We received ARRA and Jobs Bill money from the federal government that resulted in a relatively small impact on our total aid for the 2010/2011 school year. This aid, however, will not be renewed.

Mr. Bettan stated that Nassau County Executive Mangano has put in place several new policies that will have a negative impact on school districts. He spoke of the County's efforts to shift costs and make us pay for things that up until now the County paid for. He expressed his views that this simply passes the buck and provides no benefits at all to our children or to our community. We also have the State implementing a property tax cap. Mr. Bettan further stated that we have additional costs, less state and federal aid combined with a limit on the amount of money we can get from our largest source of revenue.

Mr. Bettan stated that Mr. Dempsey will update the Board on the District's Dignity for all Students Task Force/Committee.

Mr. Bettan stated we will be taking the tenure recommendations out of order this evening.

Tenure Recommendation

Mr. Jim Murray was very pleased to recommend Ms. Loeven and Mr. Miller for tenure. He spoke of the outstanding jobs they do.

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Rothman that the Board of Education approve the following tenure recommendations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>
Jason Miller	Guidance Counselor POBJFK High School	Jan. 2, 2011
Carla Loeven	Art Teacher POBJFK High School	Feb. 12, 2011

Mr. Bettan congratulated Mr. Miller and Ms. Loeven and wished them continued success in their teaching careers.

High School Report

██████████, our high school representative, updated the Board of events at the high school.

Board Announcements

Mrs. Rothman stated she and Mrs. Lieberman attended an Internet Safety and Bullying Prevention Conference at Hofstra University. The conference was sold out. There will be another conference in the Spring. The keynote speaker was John Halligan. Mr. Halligan was a speaker at a conference the Plainview School District hosted several months ago. She noted that Mrs. Lieberman and her co-director, Ms. Benson were presenters

Mrs. Lieberman stated that it is very important for parents to know what sites their children log on to. If you suspect something, check it out. Kids are getting involved in sites they should not be. She explained what “sextortion” is. Kids are being blackmailed for inappropriate things they do and say on line. Mrs. Lieberman reiterated that parents must talk to their children and ask them questions. We have a responsibility to question our children. The kids today are very savvy.

Mrs. Rothman stated that on February 2, 2011, our district is presenting a program on how to keep our kids safe.

Mrs. Schulman stated that The New York Times had an excellent article on internet safety. She also spoke of a training session for parents provided by Pupil Personnel Services dealing with the issue of children leaving the district. There will be further training for parents of classified older children.

Mrs. Rothman spoke of a school law conference she and Mrs. Pierno attended today on “Navigating Troubled Waters”. She attended a seminar dealing with layoffs, preferred eligibility lists, seniority, retirement incentives, fund balances, tax certiorari, State aid, budget caps and reserve funds. She also attended a seminar on the New APPRs for Teacher and Principal Evaluations on which Mr. Gregory Guercio was a presenter.

Mrs. Pierno stated that she attended a very interesting seminar on Special Education and another seminar on Unfunded Mandates which reviewed Medicaid, Healthcare Reform Act, Response to Intervention, No Child Left Behind Act, Pensions and Health Insurance Issue.

Both Mrs. Pierno and Mrs. Rothman will present a more detailed report of the seminars they attended at a future meeting.

### Superintendent’s Announcements

Mr. Dempsey stated that on December 13<sup>th</sup> POBPTA Council is sponsoring a Blood Drive. He is recommending that something be put on our website regarding this very worthwhile event.

Mr. Dempsey stated that during this time of year, our outstanding musical groups perform. The evening performances are open to the public and everyone is invited. The times and dates of these events will be posted on our website.

Mr. Dempsey stated the Dignity for All Students Committee will be having a meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Barbara Aloe, our attorney will be speaking to our administrators on this new law.

Ms. Gierasch was very pleased to update the Board of things that happened in our schools. She spoke of the physical fitness program at Pasadena School which combines physical movement and the arts. Three of our schools had programs and projects on school climate. Two students from Plainview-Old Bethpage Middle School had letters published in NEWSDAY regarding bullying. At Stratford Road there was a program on bullying for 4<sup>th</sup> graders. There will be a program for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders as well in January. At Mattlin Middle School there was student forum on bullying run by students for students.

### Reports

#### 1. ELA Curriculum

Ms. Gierasch gave a brief overview of the ELA curriculum. She introduced Mr. Jeffrey Yagaloff, the English Chair.

Mr. Yagaloff discussed the summer writing project. Things were changed this year. Two thirds of the time, teachers worked together. Different grade levels worked together. Original materials were created by teachers rather than photocopying. He noted that when photocopies were made, we stayed within the copyright laws. The New York State Standards and literacy skills that are mandated were used as a basis for presented materials. All teachers that are curriculum writers put material together. He discussed Project "Roll-Out". He stated we built it into mandatory staff development.

Mrs. Lieberman asked if the created lessons could be used on smart boards.

Mr. Yagaloff stated they could.

Mr. Cepeda asked if instead of giving hard copies, are we saving this electronically. He wants all teachers to have easy access.

Mr. Yagaloff will check with Mr. Lodico.

Mr. Yagaloff stated new curriculum projects have already been created for kindergarten, grade three and grade 4. They have been shared with the faculty of each building at staff development workshops. Grade 1 curriculum will be written over the winter. We are trying to secure multiple writers for grade 2. High School Writing for College I/II will be written this summer.

At the middle schools Mr. Yagaloff discussed “Always Learning” consultants. They brought in many resources and best practices. He discussed Great Books. He spoke of questioning techniques. He discussed collaborative work and sharing ideas during the collegial circles.

Mrs. Rothman noted that Great Books raises learning to a certain level. Are our special education students reaching this level.

Mr. Yagaloff stated they are.

Mr. Yagaloff discussed grammar and mechanics. He stated that we are attempting to hold students accountable for grammar in their writing.

Mrs. Lieberman asked if we are doing grammar lessons in the buildings. Do we dialogue grammar.

Mr. Yagaloff stated we don't have a full period of grammar instruction.

Mrs. Schulman noted that research shows that grammar lessons are not as effective when done alone. They are better when done collaboratively.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that kids do their work on a computer. It is very easy to spell check and grammar check. They don't know how to do it without a computer.

Mrs. Pierno discussed the literacy collaborative.

Mr. Yagaloff stated it has a great future in our district. It gives students choices.

Mrs. Pierno asked if we have a balanced literacy approach in both middle schools.

Ms. Gierasch stated we do.

Mr. Bettan expressed his views that we expect our district to have higher standards than the State. We should not lower our expectations.

Mr. Yagaloff discussed our preparation for the ELA tests.

Mrs. Bernstein discussed curriculum writing projects. Will we access, perhaps a year after so teachers can get feedback.

Mr. Yagaloff responded.

Mrs. Lieberman asked about grades 3 and 4 curriculum skills. Can we make sure that grade level teachers receive feed back on the skills of children coming into their classes.

Mrs. Pierno discussed Read 180. Is there a trend that students don't need Read 180 as much now as they did in the past.

Mr. Yagaloff stated that with early intervention, it can be phased out.

Mrs. Schulman discussed cut scores. In terms of the older students have we seen any decrease in Read 180.

Mrs. Schulman asked how many years have we had Read 180. She would like this information tracked.

Mr. Bettan thanked Mr. Yagaloff for his very comprehensive report. He expressed his views that there is a lot of good curriculum writing going on. The Board is very excited to hear about it.

## 2. State and Federal Finance Update

Mr. Dempsey spoke about the Regents Plan for State Aid. Governor elect Cuomo will produce a budget and present it to the legislature. NEWSDAY stated that Long Island may be in a better situation this year than it was last year. There is a nine billion dollar hole in the budget.

Mr. Ruf gave an overview of the State's budget. There will be a \$238,000 cut in state aid. There may be another round of cuts. He reiterated that next year the projected deficit is about nine billion dollars. He reviewed expense driven aid. He spoke about the possibility of charging school district \$6.00 per regent test. This could be very costly.

Mr. Dempsey stated that administration plans to have updates on finances at every meeting.

Public Participation

Mr. Andrew Luskin stated that his daughter's IEP is not being met by the speech teacher. He stated his daughter has seen the speech teacher only 60% of the time. He stated that Old Bethpage is not the only school that is not meeting the IEP requirements. He spoke about teachers being "pulled out" for staff development.

Mr. David Pollack spoke about his tax increase of \$2,800. He spoke of articles in NEWSDAY dealing with this subject. He stated we have to work on the State to get things changed. He spoke of duplication throughout Nassau County. He discussed the tax base.

Mr. Dempsey spoke of tax assessed valuations that went up and those that went down.

Mr. Ruf stated that the District had a public presentation on this topic a few weeks ago in which the increases were explained.

Mr. Guercio discussed the consolidation of school districts. He stated that the combining of school districts cost big money. Every school district has unions and union contracts. You save a little money at the top. Teachers at different schools make different salaries. He spoke of two districts that recently combined of which he was the attorney. Salaries were leveled up. Combining schools doesn't save money.

Ms. Jane Pace discussed fund raising. She expressed her views that clubs are suffering. She also discussed the Wellness Policy.

Ms. Jill Schechter discussed the frequency that teachers are being "pulled out" for staff development. Her daughter is in the first grade. It is important to consider the children's needs when scheduling staff development.

Mr. David Radish asked if housing foreclosures were calculated into our budget numbers next year.

Mr. Dempsey stated we don't have knowledge of the impact of foreclosures.

Routine Business

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mr. Cepeda 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 – Leave of Absence Without Pay

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Denise Siele	Special Ed Teacher POBJFK High School	Dec. 10, 2010 thru Dec. 17, 2010 (up to 12 weeks to be covered under the FMLA)	

Non-Teaching Personnel – Appointment

Thomas Blank	Night Cleaner Jamaica Ave. School (replacing Walden Flores who resigned)	Dec. 13, 2010	\$36,678+\$750 Step 3+N. Diff. To be prorated
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Non-Teaching Personnel – Change of Status

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Position</u>	<u>Proposed Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Mary Dezervos	Collaborative Special Ed. Teacher Aide Stratford Road 5 ¼ hours per Day	Collaborative Special Ed. Teacher Aide Stratford Road 6 hours per day	11/ 23/ 2010	\$22,577.94 To be prorated

Personnel Recommendation – Facilitators

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
<u>Facilitators</u>			
Joan Chryssos	Using Data Management in LLI	School Year 2010/2011	\$53.76 ph 2 hours
Joanne Spindler	The Daily Five Collegial Circle	“	\$53.75 ph 6 hours

Coaching Recommendation – Change of Status

	<u>Present Position</u>	<u>Proposed Position</u>		
Jessica Baker	Head Coach, JV Cheerleading -Wtr.	Asst. Coach Varsity Cheerleading-Wtr.	Immediately	\$3960
Matt Gentile	Head Coach, JV Lacrosse-Men	Asst. Coach Varsity Lacrosse Men	3/10	\$5556

Coaching Recommendations – School Year – 2010/2011

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Joshua Cohen	Asst. Coach, JV Mens Basketball	11/10	\$4239
Ivan Dunat	Asst. Coach, Wrestling	11/10	\$4711

Co-Curricular Activities – School Year 2010/2011- POBJFK High School

Raymond Horton	Anime Advisor	School Year 2010/2011	\$920
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Note: This appointment is for a second advisor for the 2010/2011 school year only

Personnel Recommendation – Consultant – Professional Development

Gina T. Conrad	Foundations Trainer/ Consultant Course: Lesson Planning With Foundations Reading Program	School Year 2010/2011	2 hour sessions not to \$1,000
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Personnel Recommendation – Appointments – Swim Program – School Year 2010/2011

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Dylan Siragusa	Lifeguard PT	School Year 2010/2011	\$10.00/hr
	Instructor Coach	“	\$12.50/hr.
Stephen O’Leary	Lifeguard PT	“	\$10.00/hr.
	Instructor Coach	“	\$12.50/hr.
	Supervisor	“	\$16.50/hr.

Non-Teaching Personnel – Child Care

██████████	Child Care Worker	Dec. 7, 2010	\$7.75 ph.
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Personnel Recommendations – Chaperones

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Joshua Cohen	Chaperone	School Year 2010/2011	\$90.36/sess.
Joanna Gentile	Chaperone	“	\$90.36/sess.
William Tarantino	Chaperone	“	\$90.36/sess.
Nicholas Tomasulo	Chaperone	“	\$90.36/sess.

Non-Teaching personnel – Substitute

Michael Wood	Security Guard PT Substitute	Dec. 7, 2010	\$24.27 ph
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3. Finance

a. Contract – Health and Welfare Services – 2010-2011

That the Board of Education authorize the President of the Board to sign a contract for the 2010-2011 school year with Hempstead UFSD to provide one student with health and welfare services as listed in the contract.

b. Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD 2010 SEC Filing

That the President of the Board of Education be authorized to sign the Statement of Annual Financial and Operating Information dated December 7, 2010 and that Munistat Services Inc. be authorized to file this statement on behalf of the district pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the SEC.

c. Service Contract for Fitness Center Machines

That the Board of Education authorize the Board President to sign a contract with Action Fitness, 1330 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge, New York at a cost of \$1,599.00.

d. Firewall/IT Vulnerability Test

That the Board of Education authorize the Board President to sign an agreement with NYSTEC to perform a vulnerability analysis of the district's Internet connectivity for a one time fee of \$3,059.

e. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment – Stratford Road Elementary School

That the Board of Education declare obsolete for disposal purposes the items listed on the memo from Mr. Greg Scesney dated November 18, 2010 from Stratford Road School.

f. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment – Parkway Elementary School

That the Board of Education declare obsolete for disposal purposes the following item from Parkway School:

Apple II E, S/N 1322140

g. Approval of Third Party Collateral Agreement with HSBC Bank

That the Board of Education authorize the Board President to sign the third party collateral agreement with HSBC Bank (as bank) and JP Morgan Chase (as collateral agent). The Board of Education also authorizes the following:

- Arthur Venezia, District Treasurer, and Sammy Gergis, Assistant Business Administrator, to sign Exhibit B of the third party collateral agreement as Certificate of authorized persons, and,
- Arthur Venezia, District Treasurer, and Teresa Aiello, Deputy Treasurer, as authorized signers on the municipal resolution with Harriet Fischer, District Clerk, as the authorized signature on the municipal resolution.

h. Donation – Music Department

That the Board of Education authorize the acceptance of a trombone from Mr. Chris Ripley to the Plainview-Old Bethpage School District.

i. Payment of Bills

December, 2010

General Fund A	\$2,996,568.75
Trust & Agency	\$1,455,370.15
Federal	\$ 41,239.85
School Lunch	\$ 3,208.50
Capital	\$ 19,300.27
Child Care	\$ 175.02
Net Payroll	\$1,945,453.90

4. Miscellaneous

Approval of Minutes

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of November 22, 2010.

New Business

1. Additional Staff Development Courses and Facilitators

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein seconded by Mrs. Lieberman that the Board of Education approve the following additional staff development courses and facilitators for the 2010/2011 school year:

Using Data Management in LLI	-	2 hours
The Daily Five Collegial Circle	-	6 hours

2. Attendance at Conference – 2010 School Law Conference, “Navigating Troubled Waters”

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mrs. Lieberman that the Board of Education approve the attendance of Mrs. Pierno and Mrs. Rothman at the 2010 School Law Conference, “Navigating Troubled Waters”, on Monday December 6, 2010 at the Sheraton Long Island Hotel.

3. Attendance at Conference – NYSSBA - 2010 Winter Law Conference, “Teacher and Principal Evaluations”

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education approve the attendance of the following Board Members at the above conference on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at the Islandia Marriott Long Island Hotel:

Mr. Gary Bettan

Mrs. Emily Schulman

Mrs. Evy Rothman

Mrs. Amy Pierno

Mr. Angel Cepeda

Mrs. Lieberman

Executive Session

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

The meeting was recessed at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harriet Fischer  
Acting District Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Bettan, President

The meeting was reconvened at 10:00 p.m.

Acting District Clerk

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Bernstein that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Jonas Acting District Clerk.

Adjournment

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Cepeda, seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas  
Acting District Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Bettan, President