

Minutes of Special School Board Meeting – March 23, 2010

Board Room – Administration Building – Mattlin Middle School

Present: Mrs. Weinstein, Mr. Bettan, Mrs. Lieberman, Mrs. Bernstein, Mr. Cepeda,
Mrs. Pierno.

Also Present: Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Jonas, Ms. Gierasch, Mr. Ruf.

Absent: Mrs. Rothman, Mr. Guercio, Mrs. Fischer

Mrs. Weinstein called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Acting District Clerk

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

Personnel

Professional Staff – Termination of Probation

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Bernstein that the Board of Education approve the following recommendation:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>
Jaime Cerbini	Special Education Teacher H. B. Mattlin Middle School	April 22, 2010 (Close of day)

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Ruf
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

Minutes of School Board Meeting – March 22, 2010

Board Room – Administration Building - Mattlin Middle School

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

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

Acting District Clerk

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

Executive Session

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Cepeda, 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: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

There were approximately 50 district residents and staff members present.

Mrs. Weinstein called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to this evening's Board of Education meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

High School Report

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

Board Announcements

Mrs. Rothman stated that in celebration of Woman's History Month, Nassau County honored women who volunteer and help others. Mrs. Rothman was very pleased to announce that Ginger Lieberman was one of the women honored. She and Mrs. Weinstein were pleased to attend the ceremony today. Mrs. Rothman stated that Mrs. Lieberman was very deserving of this honor and she was very proud of her and the work she does.

Mrs. Lieberman congratulated all of the women that were honored by Nassau County today. She noted that everyone makes a difference. Volunteering makes a difference in peoples lives.

Mrs. Rothman thanked the PTA at Stratford Road for inviting her to read to the kids. It was a wonderful experience.

Mrs. Bernstein and other Board members visited Parkway School and saw some of the wonderful things that go on there everyday. She noted that Parkway was the last of the elementary buildings that members of the Board visited. They observed a teacher working with two students—each student using a different reading program. They saw a reading teacher working on a leveled literacy lesson with a small group of students and observed a math lesson and a science/social studies lesson using a smart board.

Mrs. Bernstein thanked all our elementary school administrators and staff for welcoming the Board into their buildings and classrooms. She noted that each building while different are wonderful learning environments for our children. Their staff has much to be proud of. She expressed her views that as Board Members it is both valuable and important to have the opportunity to see them first hand. She looks forward to the Board's visits to the middle and high schools.

Mr. Bettan stated that last week he had the opportunity to participate in a special Dr. Seuss reading celebration at Old Bethpage School. Mr. Givargidze's class sent him thank you notes. He read one thank you letter. Mr. Bettan thanked the administrators and staff. It was a wonderful experience.

Mrs. Lieberman and many other Board Members had the pleasure of attending Founder's Day. She stated it was a wonderful evening. She congratulated the recipients and she thanked the planners for a doing such a wonderful job.

Mr. Cepeda stated he was in Albany advocating for public education from our legislators. Some funding issues were discussed. There is a bill that may bring some relief to school districts. It caps some unfunded mandates. He will continue to work with our legislators.

Superintendent's Announcements

Mr. Dempsey stated that two weeks from tomorrow night, April 6th, we will be adopting the budget.

He noted schools will be closed next week for the spring recess.

Mr. Dempsey stated that at the Board Meeting of May 17, we will have Board recognition of the achievements of our students.

Mr. Gierasch reviewed the wonderful things that are going on in each of our schools. She congratulated the students, their teachers and our administrators.

Mr. Dempsey reviewed state budget issues. He discussed the state contingency bill. Assemblyman Lavine will be meeting with Board Members to discuss this matter.

Mr. Dempsey discussed a bill regarding a tax cap. He stated there may be relief for unfunded mandates. Our website has the names and addresses of our legislators. He urged everyone to be proactive.

Reports

Capital Reserve Proposition

Mr. Ruf stated that the Business Office has been looking into the benefits of establishing a capital reserve fund. A benefit would be to continue long range planning to meet the District's capital needs. It would create a resource to address the District's infrastructure without adding additional debt. It would create a reserve that could be used to potentially lower future tax levy increases.

Voter approval is necessary for the establishment of a capital reserve. The purpose of the reserve would be funding capital improvements to the schools. The amount would not exceed \$5,000,000. The term would be seven years. The funding source would be by the unexpended appropriation and/or excess revenue in any given school year.

Discussion

Mrs. Weinstein asked how we get our reserve.

Mr. Ruf stated reserves come from efficiencies in our budget. We appropriate a certain amount of fund balance. We try to make sure we meet our obligations. Anything in addition to that would be placed in our reserve. It allows us a resource to use to offset the tax levy.

Mrs. Weinstein asked how much we anticipate we can fund.

Mr. Ruf stated between two to three million in the reserve.

Mr. Bettan noted that over the past year we have increased the spending in our budget for capital repairs. By building a capital reserve, we can continue to invest in our capital repairs. We might be able to do larger repairs. We could do a long term fix rather than just patching. Mr. Bettan stated that this is a very fiscally responsible step. He applauds the efforts of the business office.

Mrs. Weinstein discussed state aid for capital projects.

Mr. Cepeda stated that we need to emphasize that it would give us flexibility. It is a very helpful tool to plan for long term needs.

Mrs. Bernstein asked what would happen to the money that is still in the reserve fund at the end of seven years.

Ms. Aloe explained the statute. Voters can agree to liquidate the fund or reduce the tax levy.

Mr. Ruf further explained what would be done.

Mrs. Weinstein asked if this reserve is approved, would projects be brought to a vote for the full amount. She also asked if at the end of the seven years, voter approval is necessary on how the remaining funds are to be used.

Ms. Pierno asked if \$5,000,000 is sufficient.

Mr. Ruf expressed his views that if this were a different climate, we probably would put in for a higher number.

Mrs. Rothman stated that money that sits in this fund accrues interest.

Ms. Aloe noted you can't have more money in the fund than the amount that was established.

Mrs. Rothman asked how the establishment of such a fund would affect our credit rating.

Mr. Ruf stated it would be positive.

Public Participation

Mrs. Linda Gould, President of PTA Council shared a few of their concerns. She asked for an explanation of the three full time staff positions that are being cut. Next year's scheduling has not been completed. She feels this will limit options for some students and cause others to be closed out of classes.

Mr. Dempsey responded that he feels it is safe to make these reductions based on enrollment. He reviewed the breakage positions. He believes it is reasonable to take the money out while we have three breakage positions.

Mrs. Gould noted that the breakage positions are for the entire school district. She wants all students to have all opportunities.

Mrs. Gould also discussed the purchase of books. She asked what makes one book acceptable for the district to purchase and one not acceptable. Parents have to pay twice. They pay with their taxes and pay again when they purchase the book. She asked what guidelines are being used to distinguish between a family's personal expense and the school district's responsibility.

Mr. Goldberg thanked the high school for the senior prom. It was great. He asked where the money for the capital reserve fund comes from.

Mr. Ruf explained.

Mr. Wolfner asked for an explanation of several items under Finance.

He asked if the capital reserve fund is a revolving fund.

Mr. Ruf stated it wasn't

Ms. Cathy Shapp stated that having the money for a capital reserve fund is a good thing. She questioned the MTA tax.

Mr. Ruf explained that we pay the MTA tax and we get the money back. It is tax neutral.

Mrs. Shapp asked which codes the money that was left in the budget went to.

Mr. Ruf responded.

Mr. Dempsey stated that we have a reserve amount that the Comptroller deems reasonable.

Mrs. Shapp discussed the increase in the ERS over the past two years.

Mr. Ruf explained the reasons for this.

Mrs. Shapp asked about the \$8,000,000 that wasn't used last year.

Mr. Ruf explained into which codes this money went.

Mrs. Shapp asked what the undesignated fund balance would be this year.

Mrs. Shapp asked if we could put more money toward the tax levy. She doesn't understand why we are talking about cuts when we have so much money in reserve.

Mr. Dempsey stated that in terms of the reductions, we are doing this based on what is happening this year and what is going to happen next year. We are cautious with regard to spending. He spoke of what we could be facing.

Ms. Joanne Levy, Coordinator of Libraries read a letter urging the Board to reconsider the possible elimination of two elementary library clerk positions. She spoke of why they are so important.

Ms. Stefanie Nelkens stated that March 14-20, 2010 is Sunshine Week. She explained what this is. She reviewed the Freedom of Information Act and what it was designed to promote. She noted that the Plainview-Old Bethpage School District is working on and presenting budget information to the community through Board of Education and budget meetings.

Ms. Nelkens reviewed her many requests for a breakdown for school textbooks. School textbooks budget information was initially presented to the public on February 22, 2010. She requested the textbook information at that time. She again requested this information at the March 1st, and March 8th, 2010 Board meetings. Ms. Nelkens stated she received some information on March 12th. It was not complete. On subsequent dates, she again questioned the breakdown. On March 15 she filed a formal FOIL request. She was unhappy with the response she received.

Ms. Nelkens expressed her views that she has tried to work with the Board to receive detailed information about the textbook budgets. She noted that it is now March 22nd and she still has not received the requested information.

Mr. Dempsey stated the information would be available tomorrow, Wednesday, March 23, 2010.

Elissa Friedman, Stratford Road PTA President, urged the Board to reconsider the possible elimination of the library clerk. She also stated that Stratford Road PTA is opposed to having four classes in the second grade. She is concerned about the number of children in each class and the possible addition of more children coming into the grade.

Margo Garcia, High School PTA Vice President discussed the elimination of the three positions at the high school.

Mr. Dempsey discussed enrollment projections.

Mr. Jonas discussed the development of the master schedule.

Ms. Garcia discussed the 1.4 special education cut. Where will this happen.

Mr. Dempsey responded.

A brief recess was called at 9:25 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 p.m.

Routine Business

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

1. Students

- Student Placements

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

2. Personnel

Professional Staff – Termination of Probation - TABLE

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mr. Bettan that the Board of Education table the following professional staff recommendation:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Jaime Cerbini	Special Education Teacher H.B. Mattlin Middle School	April 21, 2010 (close of day)	

Administrative Staff – Resignation

Jonathan Silkowitz	Assistant Principal POBJFK High School	June 30, 2010	
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Professional Staff – Resignation

Andrea Geraci	Elementary Teacher POB Middle School	June 30, 2010	
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Professional Staff – Leave of Absence Without Pay

Jacqueline Impennato	Mathematics Teacher H.B. Mattlin M.S.	Mar. 26, 2010 thru May 14, 2010 (up to 12 weeks to be covered under the FMLA)	
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Non-Teaching Personnel – Permanent Employee Recommendation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Nancy Napoli	Teacher Aide Parkway Elementary School	3/24/2010	

Non-Teaching Personnel – Temporary Appointment

Joan Jackson	Senior Account Clerk Business Office – Replacing Christine Gerrity-Yacuk who is provisionally appointed as a Principal Account Clerk in Payroll	4/6/2010	\$42,634 Step 3 prorated
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Non-Teaching Personnel - Appointment

Carly Rutter	ABA Special Ed. Aide 6 hours – Mattlin M.S. Replacing Ashley Levy who resigned	Mar. 23, 2010	\$20,319.06 Prorated
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Non-Teaching Personnel – Temporary Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Michelle Aguis	ABA Temporary Special Ed. Aide 6 hours – K-Center Replacing Eileen Smith who took a leave without pay for personal illness	Mar. 23, 2010	\$20,319.06 Prorated
Regina Macri	ABA Temporary Special Ed. Aide 6 hours – Stratford Road Replacing Rachel Schwab who took a leave replacement position	Mar. 23, 2010	\$20,319.06 Prorated

Non-Teaching Personnel – Leave of Absence

Eileen Smith	ABA Special Ed Aide 7 hours Mattlin Middle School	3/09/2010 – 6/25/2010
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NOTE: Rescind Leave of Absence at Board of Education meeting of March 8, 2010.

Coaching Recommendation – Change of Status

FROM

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Francis Buck	Head Coach, Men’s JV Lacrosse	Immediately	\$5407
Mathew Gentile	Ass’t Coach, Men’s JV Lacrosse	Immediately	\$4957
Ryan Reece	Ass’t Coach, Women’s MS Lacrosse	Immediately	\$3400

TO:

Francis Buck	Ass’t Coach, Men’s JV Lacrosse	Immediately	\$4957
Mathew Gentile	Head Coach, Men’s JV Lacrosse	Immediately	\$5407
Ryan Reece	Ass’t Coach, Women’s MS Lacrosse	Immediately	\$2659

Co-Curricular Activities – School Year 2009/2010 – H. B. Mattlin Middle School

Kaitlin Schneekloth	Piano Accompanist Grade 7/8 Spring Concert	School Year 2009/2010 3 Rehearsals @\$50/per rehearsal 2 Concerts @\$50/per concert
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Personnel Recommendation – School Year 2009/10 – Evening ELA Review Classes – Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Simone Nager	Reading Teacher Grade 5	School Year - one-180 2009/2010 minute session	1.333 of own hourly rate of pay
Deanna Sabino	Reading Teacher Grade 8	School Year four-180 2009/2010 minute sessions	1.333 of own hourly rate of pay

Personnel Recommendations – Chaperones

Brian Hershkowitz	Chaperone	School Year 2009/2010	\$87.94/sess.
Raymond Horton	“	“	\$87.94/sess.
Susan Minichello	“	“	\$87.94/sess.
Rochelle Morgan	“	“	\$87.94/sess.
Richard Shapp	“	“	\$87.94/sess.
Barbara Siniscalchi	“	“	\$87.94/sess.

Appointments – Per Diem Substitute Teacher

Carolyn Pederson	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	3/22/10	\$133.19
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Non-Teaching Personnel – Substitute

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Carolina Izzo	Cleaner Part Time Substitute	3/23/2010	\$12.25 p.h.

Professional Staff – Resignation

Vanessa Valentin	Music Teacher POBMS/MMS	June 30, 2010
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Administrative Staff – Retirement

Roberta Silver	Math Chairperson District Wide	June 30, 2010 (Close of Business)
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3. Financea. Contract – Health and Welfare Services - 2009/2010

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign a contract for the 2009/2010 school year with Hempstead U.F.S.D. to provide one student with health and welfare services as listed in the contract.

b. Contract – Health & Welfare – 2009/2010

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign the Health & Welfare contracts for students residing in the following school districts and attending either HANC or Good Shepherd School for the 2009/2010 school year:

Bellmore	East Meadow	Hicksville
Massapequa	Oyster Bay	Bethpage
East Williston	Huntington	Merrick
Roslyn	Cold Spring Harbor	Great Neck
Jericho	Mineola	Syosset
Commack	Half Hollow	Levittown
North Bellmore	Wantagh	Connetquot
Herricks	Locust Valley	North Merrick
Westbury		

c. Contract – Health and Welfare – 2009/2010

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign a contract for the 2009/2010 school year with Uniondale U.F.S.D. to provide sixty-four students with health and welfare services as listed in the contract.

d. Capital Asset Valuation Services with CBIZ Valuation, Group, LLC

That the Board of Education approve the proposal to perform an on-site physical valuation of the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District's buildings and contents with CBIZ Valuation Group, LLC., at no cost to the district, and authorize the President to sign the proposal.

e. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment

That the Board of Education declare obsolete for disposal purposes the following:

Vulyte II Projector	Serial #B2779
Opa-scope Projector	Serial #G4727

f. Cooperative Bids – 2010-11

That the Board of Education approve participation in an additional cooperative bid for the 2010-11 school year for the following:

Rubbish Removal

g. Budget Reports

That the Board of Education approve the following:

- Informational Transfers as of March 22, 2010
- Recommended Budget Transfers for Negotiations as of March 22, 2010
- Approval Transfers as of March 22, 2010
- Approval Transfers for ARRA Reporting Purposes of March 22, 2010
- Budget Status Report as of February 26, 2010
- Revenue Status Report as of February 26, 2010

h. Treasurer Reports

That the Board of Education approve the following:

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

i. Payment of Bills

March 2010

General Fund A	\$1,555,640.59
Trust & Agency	\$1,420,895.70
Federal	\$ 2,925.53
School Lunch	\$ 3,391.30
Capital	0
Child Care	\$ 2,470.15
Net Payroll	\$1,730,251.28

4. Miscellaneous

Approval of Minutes

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Board of Education meetings of March 1, and the corrected minutes of February 22, 2010.

Unfinished Business

Policy No. 8244 and Regulation No. 8244-R – Student Attendance at Reimbursable Career/Technical Education Programs

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Bettan, seconded by Mrs. Bernstein that the Board of Education approve Policy No. 8244 and Regulation No. 8244-R, Student Attendance at Reimbursable Career/Technical Education Programs.

Discussion:

Mr. Jonas reviewed the policy.

Mrs. Pierno asked if the courses we are adding are the ones the students are interested in.

New Business

1. Field Trips

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mrs. Rothman that the Board of Education approve the Field Trips noted in the memo dated March 22, 2010.

Discussion:

Mrs. Bernstein congratulated all the DECA students who will be travelling to the International Competition.

She asked if we have funds to pay for this conference.

Mr. Dempsey stated we have the funds. Travel and hotel costs will be paid for with the club's funds and by the students' families.

2. Attendance at Conferences

a. NYSSBA Webinars– “Communicating the Hard Truth on This Year’s School Budget”

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mrs. Lieberman that the Board of Education approve the attendance of Mr. Angel Cepeda at the NYSSBA Webinar, “Communicating the Hard Truth on This Year’s School Budget” which was held on March 10, 2010.

b. N-SSBA “NSBA 2010 Federal Relations Network”

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Bettan, seconded by Mrs. Rothman that the Board of Education approve the attendance of Mr. Angel Cepeda at the “NSBA 2010 Federal Relations Network” Dinner in Washington, D.C. on February 1, 2010.

c. Capital Reserve Proposition

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman seconded by Mr. Cepeda that the Board of Education adopt the following resolution to declare that a proposition be established for a capital reserve fund and submitted for approval by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District at the annual meeting and budget vote to be held on May 18, 2010:

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools , the Board of Education hereby declares that a proposition to establish a capital reserve fund, to be known as the Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD Capital Reserve Fund shall be submitted for approval by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the District at the annual meeting and budget vote to be held on May 18, 2010 for the purpose of funding capital improvements to the facilities of the District, including but not limited to, reconstruction and renovation of facilities, roofing, asbestos abatement, heating/ventilation, masonry work, windows, site work and related work;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the ultimate amount of the proposed capital reserve fund shall be five million dollars (\$5,000,000) and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the proposed capital reserve fund shall have a probable term of seven (7) years and shall be funded by end of year budget surplus funds and/or budget appropriations and the interest accrued on such funds over the term of the capital reserve fund.

Discussion:

Mrs. Lieberman expressed her views that we should be putting something on our website informing the community that this proposition represents no cost to the taxpayer. We should get this information out in anyway we can.

Mr. Rothman suggested that we keep it simple.

Mrs. Bernstein suggested that we place questions that have been asked regarding the capital reserve proposition along with answers on our website.

Budget Presentation

BOCES

Mr. Ruf reviewed the BOCES codes.

Mrs. Lieberman asked for a breakdown of the number of hours the vision teacher teaches.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that it was unconscionable the amount of money we are charged.

Mrs. Lieberman asked Mr. Wolfner the amount that BOCES reduced their budget.

Mr. Wolfner responded that they increased it.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that it is important that BOCES understand that there are reductions that can be made in their budget. They should reduce their cost to us. There has to be a conversation with BOCES about their costs.

Mrs. Weinstein asked what happens if we don't vote for their budget.

Mr. Wolfner stated he has expressed our Board's concerns to BOCES regarding their budget increase.

BUSINESS OFFICE

Mr. Gergis, the Assistant Business Manager, presented the 2010-2011 business office budget. He reviewed the codes and stated the Business Office budget has been reduced.

Mr. Cepeda asked if there is anything in the works about streamlining reporting requirements. It is beholden upon us to get efficiencies.

Mr. Gergis reviewed areas of our reporting that have become more efficient.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Ruf highlighted several codes under Miscellaneous in which we have saved money.

Mr. Ruf spoke of the savings in our Xerox contract.

Mr. Cepeda asked if the Xerox machines have scanning capabilities.

Mr. Ruf stated some of them do.

UNDISTRIBUTED/BENEFITS/DEBT SERVICE

Mr. Ruf reviewed these codes.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Mr. Ruf reviewed the following projects for the 2010-2011 school year:

- Roof Replacement – Jamaica Avenue School
- Partial Roof Replacements at JFK High School and POB Middle School
- Masonry Reconstruction – Jamaica Avenue School
- Partial Masonry Reconstruction – JFK High School
- Complete Work at Parkway and Pasadena E.S.

Mrs. Pierno asked about the Fern Place parking lot. She questioned the priority of this project.

Mr. Ruf explained why this project does not have a high priority.

Mrs. Rothman asked about the increase in Workman's Compensation. Who sets these fees.

Mr. Ruf stated that we belong to a Workman's Compensation Consortium. The fee is set by the consortium.

Mrs. Rothman discussed consumables. She asked if we have enough money in the budget to purchase what is missing from the athletic teams.

Mr. Ruf stated we will be looking into this.

Modifications to Budget

Code 2280-494-35 - (\$72,748)

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mr. Bettan that the Board of Education approve reducing Code 2280-494-35 by \$72,748.

There are 6 less students projected for the BOCES Career Education Program.

Code 1010-430-00 – (\$2,500)

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mrs. Lieberman that the Board of Education approve reducing Code 1010-430-00 by \$2,500.

The Board of Education is reducing their conference and travel code.

Code 1620-260-48 – (\$11,276)

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Rothman that the Board of Education approve reducing Code 1620-260-48 by \$11,276.

The Board of Education is reducing the equipment code for 12 cafeteria tables at POB Middle School.

Code 2010-504-52 52 – (\$4,500)

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mr. Bettan that the Board of Education approve reducing Code 2010-504 by \$4,500.

The Board of Education is reducing the Rubicon Atlas Mapping code by \$4,500.

Discussion:

Mrs. Pierno asked if we will be able to print out the information.

Mr. Dempsey stated we will.

Code 1620-425-48 – (\$10,000)

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Bettan, seconded by Mr. Cepeda that the Board of Education reduce Code 1620-425-48, Natural Gas by \$10,000.

Various Codes – (\$77,388) TABLE

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Bettan, seconded by Mrs. Rothman that the Board of Education approve the request to table the recommendation to reduce various codes by \$77,388.

Code 1060-402-00 - +\$8,191

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mr. Bettan that the Board of Education approve increasing Code 1060-402-00 by \$8,191.

Mr. Ruf explained that we have to publicize the legal advertisement in NEWSDAY as well as the PLAINVIEW-HERALD.

Revenue Budget 2010-2011

Mr. Ruf reviewed the revenue budget. He discussed the Appropriated Fund Balance.

Discussion:

Mrs. Pierno discussed the MTA tax reimbursement.

Mr. Cepeda stated it is like a shell game.

Mrs. Weinstein noted the Child Care Account is growing. She asked if we can consider using some of these funds against our tax levy.

Mr. Cepeda expressed his views that as our state and federal source of funds continue to dwindle, we have to reduce our expenses and improve our efficiencies.

Mrs. Pierno asked about the copy aides.

Mr. Dempsey stated we will look into this.

Public Participation on the Budget

Mr. Wolfner stated that because we are looking at increasing the school budget, some people will have to economize on other necessary things in their lives when the budget is passed.

Mr. Mosenson, POBJFK High School PTA President, stated that materials, if they are part of the curriculum, must be funded by the district. Parents may not be able to afford the cost of materials. If it is part of the education program, it must be paid for by the district.

Mr. Mosenson stated that cuts like the LOTE Chairperson should be discussed throughout the year. Mr. Mosenson discussed the affect the elimination of the full time positions would have on the students in the high school. He also discussed electives at the high school.

Executive Session

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

The meeting was recessed at 11:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harriet Fischer
District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

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

Acting District Clerk

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

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

Minutes of School Board Meeting – March 8, 2010

Board Room – Administration Building – Mattlin Middle School

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

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

Acting District Clerk

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

Executive Session

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

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

There were approximately 30 district residents and staff members present.

Mrs. Weinstein called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m. and welcomed everyone to this evening's Board of Education meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Report from POBJFK High School Student Government

██████████, our high school representative, updated the Board of Education on events at the High School.

Board of Education Announcements

Evy Rothman attended a program in our district titled, “If We Only Knew”, dealing with cyberbullying. It was presented by John Halligan whose son committed suicide due to cyberbullying. It was an excellent program. Mrs. Rothman thanked the middle school staff, PTA, the professionals and psychologists who helped bring this program to us..

Ms. Lieberman stated that parents have a responsibility, and must be aware of who their children’s friends are. They should be aware of who are they on line with and who they are chatting with. Communication between parents and children is a must.

Mr. Bettan stated that kids started a Facebook fan page that had over 400 fans. Parents must understand that privacy settings come as “none” and must be set. Allowing “friends of friends” is not OK. It can potentially be harmful. Parents must learn about the privacy settings and invest the time in setting them so that safeguards can be in place.

Ms. Lieberman noted that when you delete something, it doesn’t necessarily delete the item. It is always there.

Ms. Rothman said that Mr. Halligan stated that the internet becomes your child’s resume. We should review policy regarding texting, sexting and chatting. We should look at our policies so that they are inclusive to protect the children, as well as staff.

Mr. Bettan noted that we posted two things from the presentation on our website - one regarding safety tips, and the other was the overall presentation.

Mr. Dempsey noted that there are many sites that relate to this topic on the internet. He extended his thanks to the two principals who put this presentation together. Social and emotional supports must be in place so that children don’t feel lost and desperate. He hoped that this will be an on-going effort and there will be continued conversation on cyber-bullying.

Mrs. Weinstein noted that Mrs. Lieberman will be recognized on Monday, March 22nd by the Nassau County Legislature for being a trailblazer, and her cyber-bullying work is being recognized. Congratulations!

Ms. Rothman congratulated Mrs. Lieberman on her award. Ms. Rothman noted that she had an opportunity to visit Stratford Road School and wanted to thank Mrs. Clark and Mr. Scesney for the tour and the programs. . They saw the reading and writing workshops, foundation programs, AVA program and got to see the Chinese program as well.

Superintendent’s Announcements

Mr. Dempsey then asked Mr. Jonas to speak about the Wellness Policy.

Mr. Jonas stated that draft #2 was circulated. The draft included additions based on comments by the community. The deadline for submission is March 24th. This will allow for further discussion at the next Board meeting on April 6th.

Mr. Dempsey then spoke about the “Race to the Top” competition. New York has been selected as one of the semi-finalists. There is no commitment that New York will receive one of the grants but the possibility is good. Two weeks from tonight, on March 22nd, there will be a regular Board meeting and budget session as well. The budget is anticipated to be adopted by the Board on Tuesday, April 6th, which is a regular BOE meeting as well. The website states the snow day changes and all the adjusted dates are outlined. We are making up days on April 6th, May 27th and May 28th. Should we have any additional snow, we would still be obligated to make up those dates.

Ms. Gierasch then spoke of the Odyssey of the Mind teams and how 3 of 5 teams won first place, with another receiving second. As a result, we will be sending 4 teams to the state level on March 26th and we wish them well. Three students have been asked to the final round of the Long Island Math Fair at Hofstra University. on April 30th. Our thanks to Mrs. Silver and Marylou O’Donnell. Finally, congratulations to the Toshiba Explorer Vision Award winners. Four of the Project Challenge teams received Honorable Mention.

Discussion & Reports

Mr. Ruf updated the Board regarding the POBJFK Pool and gave a presentation regarding the Proposals presented by ENECON Northeast to repair the pool, and by Delta Contracting, Painting and Design Inc. to remove the drop ceiling at POBJFK HS and then paint. Mr. Ruf outlined the issues regarding the pool and how \$15,000 has been spent to correct the problems with the filter and water lines. A full test of the pool was provided and is completed. The work is being warranted for two years.

Mr. Cepeda asked whether or not there is a projected number of years that we can use this pool? Mr. Ruf stated that approximately ten years was gained by doing this project. There is a secondary issue regarding safety. The drop ceiling above the pool is not stable and we are concerned about it falling. We are planning on removing the drop ceiling so that this situation is alleviated. Since the pool has not been filled in a while, we don’t want to have an issue with the ceiling once this pump issue has been fixed. \$76,460 is allocated for the pool projects to be completed.

Ms. Weinstein asked if we are going to fill the pool?

Mr. Ruf responded yes and we will monitor it. It will be filled, then drained after a week.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that if the ceiling is bad, why don’t we do that first, so nothing falls in or causes damage? Why are we not doing it in reverse?

Mr. Ruf indicated that the company recommends doing it this way. The pool should be done before the ceiling. The pool will be totally lined and covered in the pool. They will be responsible for the liner. The ceiling should be fine by then.

Ms. Rothman asked about the time frame for repairs to the pool and ceiling.

Mr. Ruf indicated that once the contract is signed, it should take 2-3 days to make the repairs, 72 hours to cure, and then 1-2 weeks later we'll be OK.

Mr. Cepeda questioned if there is a way, once operational, that others can utilize the pool?

Mr. Dempsey stated that we do have community groups who use the pool at no cost.

Mr. Cepeda asked about groups such as the Red Cross.

Mr. Dempsey stated that we haven't looked at that as a revenue source, but we certainly can.

Ms. Gierasch discussed the Great Books Middle School Literacy program. This program has been in place for two years at the middle schools. Shared Inquiry provides structure for the students. It also gives teachers a better understanding of how to facilitate the "student talk". Ms. Gierasch would like to thank the two principals and noted that teachers have prepared an extensive summary of their experiences for us.

The principals then spoke about the Shared Inquiry program in grades 5 through 8. It is important to engage the readers in thinking and the social and emotional aspects. Robin Zacharius, a general education teacher and Sherry Kinstler, a 7th grade Special Ed teacher from Mattlin will share their experiences with the Board. Lauren Whitaker a reading specialist and Laura Infranca, grades 5-8 in the middle schools also spoke. The teachers were impressed with the success of the program.

Laura Infranca teaches at POB middle school and shared her experiences with the Board. There was wonderful participation by all and they really seemed to enjoy the program and teaching techniques. She noted that weaker students seemed to excel and were very receptive to the program.

Sherry Kinstler, a teacher at Mattlin MS, has used "Shared Inquiry" for over a year now and was impressed with how well it works

Lauren Winick, a teacher at POB Middle School, said that she loves the Shared Inquiry program in her classroom and liked that the guidelines allow for adjustment. Ms. Winick finds that children are comfortable with the way that there can be more than one response to any particular question

Mrs. Weinstein thanked the teachers for their presentations and the principals who are here tonight and participated in this program.

Ms. Pierno asked if we are going to move this program into the HS level or down to the 4th grade, and also asked about social studies?

Ms. Gierasch replied that we have included teachers at the MS level from the areas of Science, Social Studies and English. We will be expanding it to the HS level in the English department this May.

Ms. Rothman asked how we are fitting this into our schedule.

Ms. Gierasch responded that it is part of the curriculum.

Ms. Rothman asked for more insight on how this is working with Special Ed.

Ms. Gierasch indicated that it is the same and that there will be training for all levels.

Mrs. Bernstein stated that she is thrilled about the students' passion for this program. She asked if Ms. Gierasch anticipated group discussions with teachers to share their experiences?

Ms. Gierasch stated that there are a couple of ways to move forward. The staff wants to expand this program and anticipate study groups being formed.

Mrs. Weinstein thanked all for participating in this program.

Public Participation

Jacque Wolfner wants to hear a discussion regarding the sick leave entitlement and disposal of obsolete equipment at the high school HS.

Mr. Jonas responded that it is actually a contractual question and not policy. A teacher gets one day for every three days of unused sick leave upon retirement.

Emily Schulman stated that she wanted to reiterate her belief that it is not good for the district to remove the cap on collaborative classes.

Mr. Dempsey stated he doesn't know what will happen in the future, but there is no policy cap at the present time.

Ms. Schulman respectfully disagreed and stated that it goes back several years and spoke about the flyer that she had made copies of. Ms. Schulman stated that she was told that the cap was removed and there was a commitment to keep the numbers low – around 7 per class. She stated that Administration is asked about these numbers every year and she doesn't think it is fair to say that there is no cap.

Chris D'Alessando stated that despite her son's disabilities, she is thankful that Plainview Old-Bethpage helped him to pass all his exams. She thinks that the program is successful and hopes

that the Board thinks twice about messing with something that has worked so well. Secondly, the books lists for parochial schools are coming in next month and she doesn't want a repeat of last year, and hopes it goes smoothly.

Mr. Jonas indicated that steps have been taken to avoid that.

Stefanie Nelkens spoke last week about a break-down of certain budget items, and wants to know when she can receive them.

Mr. Dempsey said that they are working on the document. We will be sharing it with the PTA and will give it to Ms. Nelkens by the end of the week.

Ms. Nelkens then spoke about the 4th grade curriculum that NYS puts out and is not sure that there is evidence of that happening in her son's case. She appreciates the time Ms. Gierasch has spent with her.

Routine Business

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Evy Rothman, seconded by Ginger Lieberman, 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 Service.

2. Personnel

Professional Staff – Leave of Absence Without Pay

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>
Cara-Lynn Fitzgerald	Elementary Teacher MMS	Child Care	Dec. 8, 2009 thru March 24, 2010
		(up to 12 weeks to be covered under the FMLA)	

Professional Staff – Extension of Leave of Absence Without Pay

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Reason</u>
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Seema Sumod	Foreign Language Teacher POBMS	3/26/2010 thru 6/30/2010	Child Care
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Professional Staff – Returning from Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>
Cara-Lynn Fitzgerald	Elementary Teacher MMS	Returning from Leave of Absence	3/26/2010 Step 6MA *74,525
			*Salary to be prorated

Professional Staff – Regular Substitute Position

<u>Name & Address</u>	<u>Position/Tenure Area</u>	<u>Eff. Date Salary</u>	<u>Certification/ Training</u>	<u>Experience</u>
Douglas Brickel	Foreign Language Teacher Regular Substitute Assign: POBMS (Replacing S. Sumod on Leave of Absence)	3/26/2010 thru 6/30/2010 Or earlier at the discretion of the BOE Step 1BA15 *\$54,938	NYS Initial Certification Spanish 7-12 BA – Queens College	9/09 – Present Per Diem/Reg. Substitute POBCSD 2/09 – 6/09 L/R Foreign Language Tchr. Hauppauge UFSC 9/90 – 6/09 P/T Foreign Language Tchr. POBSCD

* Salary to be prorated

Professional Staff – Regular Substitute Position

<u>Name & Address</u>	<u>Position/Tenure Area</u>	<u>Eff. Date Salary</u>	<u>Certification/ Training</u>	<u>Experience</u>
Michelle Homan	Elementary Teacher Regular Substitute Assign: HB Mattlin MS (Replacing C. Fitzgerald, on Leave of Absence)	12/8/2009 thru 3/24/2010 Or earlier at the discretion of the BOE Step 4MA30 *\$74,930	NYS Prov. Cert Elementary & Spec. Ed NYS Initial PE Cert. MS – Stony Brook BA – St. Joseph's College	10/06 – Present Per Diem/Reg Sub & Part Time Teacher POBCSD 11/05 – 3/06 Special Ed. Teacher Roslyn UFSD

9/02 – 12/04
 Inclusion Teacher
 Middle Country
 CSD

* Salary to be prorated

Non-Teaching Personnel – Resignation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Steven Zanetis	Security Aide POBJFK HS	1/11/2010	Personal Reasons (was on a LWOP from 6/17/09)

Non-Teaching Personnel – Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Lucy Fairclough	Special Ed. Aide 5.5 hours POB JFK High School	2/26/2010 – 6/25/2010	Leave without Pay Personal Illness

Non-Teaching Personnel – Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Henry Grossman	Recreation Aide 2 hours Parkway School	3/18/2010 – 6/25/2010	Leave without Pay Personal Illness

Non-Teaching Personnel – Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Eileen Smith	ABA Special Ed. Aide 7 hours Mattlin Middle School	3/5/2010 – 6/25/2010	Leave without Pay Personal Illness

Non-Teaching Personnel – Probationary Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Comments</u>
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Debra Riemann	Senior Typist Clerk Pupil Personnel Replacing Marie Kelian	3/8/2010	\$38,961 Step 3 prorated	Appointed from Civil Service list
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Professional Staff – K Center Incoming Parent Only Evening Orientation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>		<u>Salary</u>
Dawn Castagne	Elementary Teacher	June 1, 2010	6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	At own hourly rate of pay
Lynn Davis	Elementary Teacher	“	“	“
Angela DeRosa	Elementary Teacher	“	“	“
Frances Ferucci	Elementary Teacher	“	“	“
Patricia Gagliano	Elementary Teacher	“	“	“
Lisanne Guerriero	Elementary Teacher	“	“	“
Amy Isaacson	Elementary Teacher	“	“	“
Michele LaLima	Elementary Teacher	“	“	“
Nina Meltzer	Elementary Teacher	“	“	“
Judith Nelson	Special Ed Teacher	“	“	“
Robbin Sigman	Special Ed Teacher	“	“	“
Laura Sipperly	Elementary Teacher	“	“	“

Personnel Recommendation – School Year 2009-10 Evening ELA Review Class - Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
<u>Mattlin MS</u>			
Kathy Abbene	Librarian/Grade 5	School Yr. 2009-10/Four-180 min. sessions	1.333 of own hourly rate of pay
Rachel Bunin	Reading Tchr./Grade 6	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Christine Bianco	English Tchr./Grade 7	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Darlene Curran	English Tchr./Grade 7	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Toby Epstein	Reading Tchr./Grade 8	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Pamela Leeb	Reading Tchr./Grade 6	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Christine Krowles	Elementary Tchr./Grade 5	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Richard Olivari	Elementary Tchr./Grade 8	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
<u>POBMS</u>			
Stacey Bowden	Elem.-Sci Enrichment Tchr./Grade 6	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Lorraine Charletta	Special Ed Tchr./Grade 6	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Stephanie Dobbins	Special Ed Tchr./Grade 7	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Carol Green	Elementary Tchr./Grade 5	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Paula Jasser	English Tchr./Grade 8	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Patricia Schaumburg	Reading Tchr./Grade 7	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Joanne Spindler	Reading Tchr.-Coordinator/Grade 5	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “

Personnel Recommendation – School Year 2009-10 Evening Math Review Classes - Appointments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
<u>Mattlin MS</u>			
Dina Baccoli	Mathematics Tchr./Grade 7 & 8	School Yr. 2009-10/Four-180 min. sessions	1.333 of own hourly rate of pay
Edward Broad	Elementary Tchr./Grade 6	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Louise Cataldo	Elementary Tchr./Grade 7 & 8	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Cori Cohen	Elementary Tchr./Grade 5	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Deanna Consiglio	Elementary Tchr./Grade 5	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Christine Sardinia	Elementary Tchr./Grade 6	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
<u>POBMS</u>			
Marjorie Alford	Elementary Tchr./Grade 6	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Stacey Bowden	Elem-Sci Enrichment Tchr./Grade 6	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Carey Campana	Mathematics Tchr./Grade 7	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Jodi Goldstein	Mathematics Tchr./Grade 8	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Yardena Goldstein	Elementary Tchr./Grade 5	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Carol Green	Elementary Tchr./Grade 5	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Frank Monteforte	Mathematics Tchr./Grade 7	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “
Joseph Ruggiero	Mathematics Tchr./Grade 8	“ “ “ “ “ “	“ “ “ “

Coaching Recommendations – School Year 2009-2010

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>EFF.</u>	<u>CAT/LEV</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Ryan Reece	Assistant Coach, MS Women’s Lacrosse	4-10	9 1	\$3400	Out of district

Unused Sick Leave Entitlement – Professional Staff

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Total Days As of:</u>	<u>1 FOR 3</u>	<u>Annual Salary</u>	<u>Daily Rate</u>	<u>Entitlement</u>
Estate of Sandi Vanderpool	Health Teacher POBJFK High School	55.5	18.5	\$108,534	\$542.67	\$10,039.40

Unused Sick Leave & Vacation Entitlement – Non-Teaching

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Total Days as of 2/26/10</u>	<u>1 for 2 Over 100 Days</u>	<u>Vacation Days</u>	<u>Annual Salary</u>	<u>Daily Rate</u>	<u>Entitlement</u>
MaryAnn Bruder	Principal Account Clerk	141.50	20.75		\$63,981.	240.89	\$4,998.47
	Business Office			26.50	\$63,981.	240.89	\$6,383.59

Unused Sick Leave & Vacation Entitlement – Non-Teaching

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Total Days as of 8/10/2009</u>	<u>1 for 2 Over 100 Days</u>	<u>Vacation Days</u>	<u>Annual Salary</u>	<u>Daily Rate</u>	<u>Entitlement</u>
Adrienne Hawkins	Typist Clerk Stratford Road			18	\$43,518.	207.23	\$3,730.14

Unused Sick Leave & Vacation Entitlement – Non-Teaching

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Total Days as of 2/26/2010</u>	<u>1 for 2 Over 100 Days</u>	<u>Vacation Days</u>	<u>Annual Salary</u>	<u>Daily Rate</u>	<u>Entitlement</u>
Carmela Serani	POB Middle School Athletic Office			23	\$60,569.	225.84	\$5,194.32

Non-Teaching Personnel – Child Care

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Andrea Darvas	Child Care	3/9/2010	\$14.75	Certified Teacher

Appointment – Per Diem Substitute Teacher

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Dominique Faber	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	3/8/2010	\$133.19

Appointments – Non-Teaching Personnel - Substitutes

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Walden Flores	Cleaner Part Time Substitute	3/9/2010	\$12.25 PH
Jack Remini	Cleaner Part Time Substitute	3/9/2010	\$12.25 PH
Frank Artale	Cleaner Part Time Substitute	3/9/2010	\$12.25 PH
Daniel McQuaid	Cleaner Part Time Substitute	3/9/2010	\$12.25 PH

Personnel Recommendations – Chaperones

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date/Salary</u>	<u>Experience</u>
Michael McDermott	Chaperone	School Year 2009/10 87.94/sess.	Per Diem Substitute Tchr.
Dana Amir	Chaperone	“ “ “ “ “	Per Diem Substitute Tchr.
George Argyrou	Chaperone	“ “ “ “ “	In District Aide

3. Finance

a. Contract –Health & Welfare 2009-2010

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign a contract for the 2009-2010 school year with Hicksville U.F.S.D. to provide ninety eight students with health & welfare services as listed in the contract.

b. Contract – Wilson Language Training

That the Board of Education approve the service agreement between the Plainview Old-Bethpage CSD and Wilson Language for a total amount of \$4,000.

c. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment

That the Board of Education declare obsolete for disposal purposes three (3) Hild Floor Scrubbing Machines that are beyond repair.

d. Cooperative Bids – 2010-11

That the Board of Education approve a resolution authorizing participation in an additional cooperative bid for the 2010-11 school year for the following:

Swimming Pool Supplies

e. Proposal – ENECON Northeast – HS Pool Repair

That the Board of Education approve ENECON Northeast Polymer Systems, Inc. to repair the pool at the Plainview Old-Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School pool.

f. Proposal – JD Delta – HS Ceiling Removal – Pool Area

That the Board of Education approve JD Delta to remove and repair the ceiling at the Plainview Old-Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School.

g. Budget Reports

- Approval Transfer as of March 8, 2010
- Informational Transfers as of March 8, 2010

h. Warrants

General Fund A	\$1,514,291.53
Trust & Agency	\$1,599,965.23
Federal	\$121,846.60
School Lunch	\$122,621.66
Capital	\$8,172.24
Child Care	\$950.00
Net Payroll	\$2,086,368.60

4. Miscellaneous

Approval of Minutes

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting of February 22, 2010.

New Business

Field Trips

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Ginger Lieberman, seconded by Debbie Bernstein, that the BOE approve the scheduled Field Trips listed in the Field Trips 2009-2010 Memo.

Board Member Attendance at State Issues Conference – March 14-15

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Gary Bettan, seconded by Evy Rothman, that the BOE approve the attendance of Mr. Angel Cepeda at the State Issues Conference being held on March 14th to March 15th, 2010.

2010-2011 School Calendar

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Debbie Bernstein, seconded by Angel Cepeda, that the BOE approve the 2010-2011 School Calendar.

Mr. Dempsey noted that school calendar for next year presents some challenging issues.

Ms. Pierno questioned the three snow days. Since April 26th is a day of Passover, can it be moved higher in the list? Mr. Dempsey indicated that it is reversed and restored to a day of instruction.

Ms. Bernstein asked whether or not we will have 2 ½ days.

Mr. Dempsey indicated that we don't vote on this but if there are specific questions, we will then prepare something so that everyone understands how that will work. The only issue up for discussion is that we cannot start before Labor Day and the rest of the year fits nicely with that Tuesday. If we had only a half day of instruction it would not.

Mr. Ruf spoke about the obsolete equipment at the HS. Those are scrubber machines which were purchased in the 1970's and are past their life expectancy.

Mr. Cepeda welcomes letters and emails from the community so that he can bring the voices of the community with him when he attends the conference in Albany.

Budget Presentation:

Curriculum

Ms. Gierasch spoke about the Staff Development Code for teachers. We will be working with consultants this year in various capacities and will continue next year.

Ms. Weinstein asked about curriculum writing consultants.

Ms. Gierasch indicated that there are different people working on different things. There isn't just one area but a few consultants. There are units of study, which will be outlined on paper.

Evy Rothman questioned whether the Superintendent's speaker is also in that code.

Mr. Dempsey stated that we use the money for the Superintendents Conference Day on Election Day, not for the first day of school year.

Ms. Gierasch explained that we are working with the Project Challenge Committee and are looking at all aspects of that, assessing entry into program and curriculums to see how it can be enhanced regarding outside consultants.

Ms. Bernstein stated that she would like the literacy consultants expanded on.

Ms. Gierasch stated that 1st grade teachers received a half day of training on foundations and a consultant is coming back for the kindergarten teachers. Support staff is going to look at how they can support this next year. We will coach teachers as they are going through the curriculum and also want to look at an in-house person. We do have a teacher working with a HS student for two years and believe that the teacher will be able to bring this student up to acceptable reading levels by the end of the year. Ms. Gierasch indicated that it's a really important piece to this program. We need to differentiate the instruction and it is better coming from a peer. She would like to keep the support for our staff. The goal is to build capacity. It is not always the same teachers that will be called upon. We are looking to bring others up through the ranks who have a passion for this.

Mr. Cepeda asked about the savings regarding using someone on staff.

Ms. Gierasch reviewed the literacy code. We want to partner up with Teachers College to provide some of the training and work with the literacy coaches.

Ms. Gierasch stated that grades 1-4 are using the new science program. There is work that is going to be done over the summer.

Ms. Weinstein asked what happened from September to March?

Ms. Gierasch stated that we've given people the opportunity to dig in and ask questions and provide some level of training.

Ms. Pierno asked if it is normal to roll out a program like that?

Ms. Gierasch indicated that assessments have been put in place, but we want to explore different programs as well.

Mr. Dempsey indicated that we did the math all at one time. There are times when you implement incrementally and times when it is a whole scale.

Ms. Gierasch thinks that ESP science kits are really outdated for the 5th and 6th grade level. It has changed quite a bit.

Ms. Lieberman indicated that we have to make sure that there is proper funding in this area.

Ms. Gierasch said that we are trying to provide the support materials. There will not necessarily be more projects, but there will be details in what we do have.

Ms. Bernstein noted that we haven't yet fully implemented or assessed what we are doing with foundations and questioned expanding the program into 2nd grade before it is fully implemented and assessed.

Ms. Gierasch replied that based on student results, it will determine what additional support students will need.

Ms. Rothman wanted to know about the IB conferences. What is our progress and where are we going?

Mr. Dempsey said that we don't have an answer for that right now.

Mr. Weinstein asked about Atlas Mapping. Are we still using it?

Mr. Dempsey indicated that there are two departments that are. That is an area that could possibly be reduced.

Ms. Gierasch stated that the Science Department and the Art Department are using it at this time, but it can be looked at. We can share specific lessons, via smart board, etc.

Ms. Pierno then asked about supplies for the elementary science research specialists.

Ms. Gierasch said that it is for basic supplies and materials that are needed for the program.

A brief discussion on the Enrichment Program and the supplies for it then ensued.

Athletics

Mr. Jonas spoke about a few key items, including scholastic and curriculum programs as well as recreation programs. Mr. Jonas spoke about the equipment code, and safety standards including padding at the gym and some equipment. He also indicated that a public address system is needed. He discussed the health code funds. He reviewed the reconditioning code. A major expense is the athletic transportation code.

Mr. Ruf discussed the 595 trips under the transportation code last year.

Ms. Bernstein thanked Mr. McDermott for the breakdown of uniforms.

Ms. Rothman asked if we also have enough funding for consumables related to safety issues.

Mr. Jonas said that as an example, in regard to baseballs, which are a consumable item, we are down to bear bones, but we think this is a reasonable budget.

Mr. Cepeda stated that the bulk of money is for transportation. Have we sought to cut down on the number of games played so that transportation gets reduced.

Mr. McDermott responded.

Mr. Cepeda noted that the only other way to reduce is to reduce the number of teams.

Kevin indicated that it is about \$1,100 per team, which is not excessive. We're at the point now that we're running out of supplies.

Mr. Bettan asked about loop busses. Do we extend busses we already have for an hour or so?

Mr. McDermott indicated that in certain months there are more students participating than others.

Ms. Lieberman asked for a list of consumables that are dwindling to see what they are.

Kevin indicated that it is an extensive list, but will provide what he can.

Personnel

Mr. Jonas indicated that this budget has decreased by 5%. The personnel budget also includes our public relations firm and our district newsletter, as well as our attendance code. This also includes our retainer fee for our attorneys.

Board of Education/District Clerk

Mr. Ruf discussed the Conference and Travel code, which includes the state and national conference. Next code is the memberships for the BOE, and an allocation for temporary clerk for next year.

Ms. Pierno asked if we can reduce the conference and travel code. Can we take out the National conference which is \$6,000?

Mr. Dempsey indicated that the actual expenditure in 2008-09, when we did not go to the National conference, still exceeded the budget.

Ms. Bernstein suggested that maybe we can cut back the number of people who go to some of the conferences so that we can reduce those numbers.

Ms. Weinstein then asked for an analysis of this code so that we can see where we can cut.

Superintendent

Mr. Dempsey stated that conference and travel is below the budget, as he is not attending anything nationally. There is an increase in membership dues, materials and supplies that are used for Board supplies which stem from the Superintendent's office.

Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Ruf indicated that there is a 2.9% increase in budget overall. Mr. Ruf reviewed the codes under Buildings and Grounds.

Ms. Pierno asked about the reconditioning of restroom tile of \$17,000. Is this a single bathroom or multiple rooms? Also, regarding the telephone bill – do we pay for long distance?

Mr. Ruf indicated that it is for multiple bathrooms, not just one bathroom. Regarding the telephone lines we are looking into an IP telephony phone system to save costs.

Transportation

Mr. Ruf discussed Safety code, and the equipment code.. The largest code is the contractual transportation code.

Mr. Bettan spoke about the bus stops and transportation. Busses are used by the hour, not by child or by number of stops. We need to tighten this number up if we possibly can.

Mr. Ruf then spoke about bus monitors (matrons) and a discussion ensued regarding bus stops and the different bus runs. Mr. Ruf then spoke about the final budget code in this section, which is the BOCES transportation code.

Ms. Pierno asked if Special Ed has a district code?

Mr. Ruf responded that the BOCES transportation code has multiple locations. The district driver can make a run; if we had flex time with one of our vans, it could be done that way as well.

Field Trips

Mr. Ruf spoke about the field trips. Overall there is a decrease.

Ms. Pierno asked about independent research. Why is it so high?

Mr. Ruf responded that there are some long distance trips. Some trips may be able to be changed or cut, based on destination and length.

Adult Ed

The increase in this budget is mainly due to one thing. In the past we used to pay the Adult Ed instructors through payroll, this was reduced down from \$22,000 to \$2,838. We had to shift the way we were paying the instructors. They are really not employees of the district. Overall the budget is not up that dollar amount. The revenue that we received last year was \$27,000, and the total expense for this budget was \$45,000.

Senior Citizens

The first code is for the art teacher and the exercise teacher. This is for people who come in to work with the members. There is also an allocation for equipment.

Revenue Budget

The current budget has a reduction in state aid. There is a reduction of \$1.5 million and is broken up via gap elimination adjustment of \$2.2 million dollars. However we have a federal restoration of \$743,000. We were able to minimize this.

Mr. Dempsey indicated that we are still hopeful as to what the Governor has yet to say. We are hopeful that our letters might help for reconsideration of the Special Ed budget.

Mr. Bettan stated that he would like to see Special Ed funding laid out better within our budget and wants to see the break-down, including stimulus monies.

Mr. Ruf then went through the individual line items under the Other Revenue section. Mr. Ruf indicated that draft #1 is now at 3.63% and future modifications will change it further.

Possible Budget Reductions – Continued Discussion

Mr. Dempsey stated we will look at the first eight reductions.

Recommendation:

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Ms. Lieberman, seconded by Debbie Bernstein that we accept reductions #1 to #8 on the reductions schedule.

Recommendation:

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Evy Rothman, seconded by Ginger Lieberman that we accept reduction #9 on the reductions schedule.

Recommendation:

Resolved unanimously upon motion made by Ms. Rothman, seconded by Gary Bettan that we accept reduction #10 on the reductions schedule.

Recommendation:

Resolved unanimously upon motion made by Ms. Bernstein, seconded by Angel Cepeda that we accept reduction #11 on the reductions schedule.

Item #12 was discussed by Mr. Jonas. It reduces 29 students down to 25 students so there may be a reduction in this area, but we are not sure yet. Will know more next week. This should be reduced by \$45,000, as well as a reduction in transportation costs.

Recommendation:

Resolved unanimously upon motion made by Angel Cepeda, seconded by Evy Rothman that we accept reduction #13 on the reductions schedule.

Recommendation:

An explanation was given by Mr. Dempsey and Ms. Gierasch regarding Item #14.

Resolved upon motion made by Gary Bettan, seconded by Angel Cepeda that we accept reduction #14 on the reductions schedule.

On the Motion:

Aye: Mr. Bettan, Mr. Cepeda, Mrs. Weinstein, Mrs. Pierno.

Opposed: Mrs. Rothman, Mrs. Bernstein, Mrs. Lieberman.

Motion Passed:

Recommendation:

Motion was made by Mr. Cepeda that we accept reduction #15 on the reduction schedule. No second was made on the Motion. Item #15 was not removed.

Recommendation:

Motion made by Mr. Cepeda that we accept reduction #16 on the reduction schedule. No second was made on the Motion. Item #16 was not removed.

A discussion ensued regarding the two items numbers that were not approved.

Consideration of Capital Reserve

Mr. Dempsey stated that one of the options that a district has, beyond what we are holding as a reserve, is what is an appropriate fund that we can place money into? One is a capital reserve, which would require voter support, and then would also involve a second voter approval in order to expend the money.

Mr. Ruf stated that we were unable to meet the needs of certain capital items. We thought it may be good to establish a capital reserve fund, which would delay the issuance of a bond, and could help us control future tax levy increases. Based on current projections, we could have between \$2 and \$3 million dollars to establish, at year end, a capital reserve fund.

Mrs. Weinstein asked if we were looking first to establish the proposition. We would have to allot time to expend the funds?

Mr. Dempsey explained that the voters create the fund. Another vote is necessary to disburse monies. Total dollar amounts must be specified and the projects must be outlined. The maximum number must be identified upon opening the account and for a particular project.

Mr. Ruf stated that the higher the maximum, the more flexibility you have for future years.

Mr. Guercio then stated that what is tricky about this is that the real purpose for this type of fund is for long term planning. Generally speaking, an amount is determined that out-strips your ability to currently fund. So you develop a fund for 5 or 10 years, with the plan being that over that course of time, you will periodically be depositing into the fund. It isn't funded all in one year. To the extent that you limit your capacity to the short term, you obviously reduce the amount of the fund; thereby reducing your ability to deal with long term issues. The down side is it is not that easy to explain to the public that \$5 or \$10 million dollars, is not going to be funded in the year that the people are voting. It will be funded over long term and you can't explain that in the little tab in the voting machine. It requires effort to explain that all you are going to be doing in year one will more than likely be seed money over the long term.

Mr. Dempsey stated that we would rather see this fund at the \$10 million level. That wouldn't be understandable at a difficult time like this, so after discussion, we reduced the number to \$5 million with \$3 million being the minimum number.

Mrs. Weinstein asked if there was a time frame in the reserve? Do you have to use it by a certain time?

Mr. Guercio indicated that in the language of the proposition that Ms. Aloe has provided, you actually have to put the number of years on the tab.

Mrs. Weinstein stated that we have to figure out if we want to do this, and we have to think about the maximum, and for how long.

Mr. Dempsey said that at the last building condition survey, there were a number of priority items which we have made some movement towards. But that is way in excess of the \$10 million that fits within that category.

Mr. Cepeda wants clarity of capital reserve fund. We have to see if we can have it and then agree to set the maximum, say \$10 million. But we also have to state how long it's going to be to be able to take out that money? Say \$10 million for five years.

Mr. Guercio stated that if voters approve 10 million and you only can afford whatever revenue you decide to utilize, then that's all you have.

Mr. Cepeda asked if you are still committed for five years?

Mr. Guercio said that was also subject to voter approval. It reverts to the general fund, to be used for capital projects. The restrictions are not lifted. When the time is up that doesn't mean a free for all; you can't add money after the expiration of the term.

Mr. Bettan asked if this is done at the budget vote or when you want to put more money into the fund.

Mr. Guercio stated that once your voters have approved the maximum, you don't need any more approval to put more money in. Generally, as you're looking at fund balance, which is part of the budgetary process, just as you make a decision to set aside a certain amount of your fund balance towards tax rate reduction, you would do the same thing. You set aside money toward your capital reserve fund.

Mr. Cepeda asked if you put in \$5 million or \$6 million into the reserve, and voters say to spend \$3 million, can you still go up to \$10 million?

Mr. Guercio stated that you get two authorizations. One to make deposits, and the other to make withdrawals. Whatever the maximum is, over the course of time you can fund it to the \$10 million dollars, not the balance.

Mr. Bettan asked about our AAA bond rating, and we've been cited as being an outstanding district. This is the next step in long term financial planning for the district. If we have the opportunity to do this, I think we should. We can do this bigger and properly if we think about repairs and such on these buildings. It would be a wise financial step for the district to take.

Mr. Cepeda stated that it is a good financial vehicle, but am hesitant about some of the restrictions. We'll need voter approval. He asked what happens if we don't get it

Mr. Guercio indicated that the main purpose of this would be to avoid borrowing.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the time limits, voter approval and items involved with opening such an account, as well as other districts having and using such an account. A synopsis was requested by the Board outlining all of the details and will be provided by Mr. Guercio.

Public Participation for Budget Questions Only:

Stefanie Nelkens stated that she'd like clarification about the ELA workbooks. She feels that workbooks and reference materials are two different things. To her a workbook is written in by the kids and reference material doesn't.

Mr. Dempsey stated that we would use it not as a workbook, since kids do write in it. Students would use the workbook in the classroom but use a separate piece of paper for their work so that we can use them for a number of years as text material.

Ms. Nelkens doesn't feel that the books would have the physical capacity to last.

Mr. Dempsey stated that we know they are paper bound and therefore are more cost effective. Some grade levels do not use the entire book. We feel that maybe we can get longer use out of them this way.

Ms. Nelkens said that she would like to see what the plan is for 5th grade ELA. She would like to see what the materials are.

Mr. Dempsey stated that we'd have to present it to the faculty beforehand.

Ms. Nelkens stated that 5th graders in Syosset are getting a review book. Student needs are very important to look at, grade by grade, as well as other districts and counties. She expressed her disappointment with the decision that's been made.

Jacques Wolfner stated that his emphasis is on actual vs. proposed. He understands that there is a 2 year difference between our last actual and this year's proposal. This year is roughly \$13.7 million higher than actual of 2008-2009 year. Also, the budget for 2009-2010 was \$14.5 million higher than actuals from 2007-2008. He stated that budget proposals are much higher than the actual history.

Mr. Dempsey stated that he was not taking into account salary increases for those two years. The other thing is, last year and this year are the two lowest years in fifteen years. We are closing the gap.

Mr. Ruf indicated that the fund balance is also built in.

Mr. Wolfner stated he has some observations on the budget and would like to discuss the details of them.

Ms. Lieberman suggested that due to the time restraints of this meeting, Mr. Ruf would be happy to go over his concerns with him if he would give Mr. Ruf a list. Mr. Wolfner agreed.

Executive Session:

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Ginger Lieberman, seconded by Evy Rothman, that the Board of Education recess to Executive Session for the purpose of negotiation.

The meeting was recessed at 11:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne D. Walti
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

The meeting was reconvened at 11:55 p.m.

Acting District Clerk

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

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

Minutes of School Board Meeting – March 1, 2010

Board Room – Administration Building – Mattlin Middle School

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

Also Present: Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Jonas, Mr. Ruf, Ms. Gierasch

Acting District Clerk

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

Executive Session

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

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

There were approximately 45 district residents and staff members present.

Mrs. Weinstein called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. and welcomed everyone to this evening's Board of Education meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Announcements

Mr. Dempsey announced that there will be an additional change to the calendar. We will be adding April 6th to the calendar as a school day, due to last Friday's snow day, along with the two days which were announced last week (May 27th and May 28th). If it should snow again, we will have to address it at that time. These changes will also be placed on the website.

Mr. Dempsey indicated that this is a budget meeting only. March 8th will be a regular meeting plus budget. Also, March 22nd will be another regular Board meeting plus budget. Tuesday, April 6th will be the fifth meeting for the budget which is the planned night for adoption of the budget. Petitions for BOE will be due on April 19th. On April 26th the property tax report card must be prepared. We will distribute the budget brochure the week of May 3rd. On May 4th we will have our public hearing; voter registration is May 11th and May 18th is the actual budget vote and election of school board members. This will all be posted on the website so that everyone is aware of everything. Last thing, we just did a parent link communication for the community regarding a special presentation at POB Middle School on cyber-bullying, which will be given by a parent whose child committed suicide as a result of cyber-bullying. We encourage everyone in the district to attend. It will be at 7PM tomorrow at the POB Middle School.

Mrs. Bernstein stated that she would like to hear about follow-ups that take place after the presentation.

Mr. Dempsey said that we would be glad to do that. Pre-activities have been put together. There is so much about this topic, the cyber aspects of this that we have to continue working on, but the human aspects of the pain and suffering is important and we need to continue addressing the topic.

Mr. Dempsey spoke briefly of the possible budget reductions. He stated that handouts have been provided to everyone and asked Mr. Ruf to speak on this.

Possible Budget Reductions:

Mr. Ruf stated last week draft #1 was presented and is what everyone should have. Staffing budgets and all schools were discussed at that time.

Line 1 – Technology Equipment code, we are proposing that line could possibly be reduced by \$25,000, due to a grant that has been secured to purchase equipment, so we can remove those items from the technology proposal. The second item is the Electrical Panel Installation at POB middle school, and that is being reviewed next week under the Buildings and Grounds Budget. The fourth line is a reduction in the LIPA code, which will be reviewed in detail next week. We have reviewed this code and fuel oil codes (using futures market) to predict per-gallon pricing and we are looking into these numbers. Line six will also be reviewed regarding the purchase of new vehicle for the grounds department. Line seven, there is an allocation to repair fencing and gates and at POB middle school. There was some damage done last year, so there are safety

concerns as well as the appearance. Also in draft #1 budget there were five security lighting poles throughout the district, so that will be reduced to two. All will be reviewed in depth next week. In line nine, Jill Gierasch will discuss this section.

Ms. Gierasch stated that in line 9, at the middle school level, there are the ELA test prep books for grade 5 through 8. The middle school has not been using these books for every student in the past, yet pieces of the books were utilized. There are new math assessments being generated at the state level which we have yet to be privy to. It would behoove us to order the same type of material to support the exam. We can also explore additional reproducibles which could take the place of these materials in the future.

Mrs. Lieberman asked if they were requested.

Ms. Gierasch responded that they were, but we have been working with the two building principals to take a look at other options.

Mr. Dempsey stated it would not have to be repurchased each year, as it is an on-going cost. With reproducibles, we could invest a lot less and get something that would not have to be repurchased down the road.

Ms. Gierasch stated that reproducibles was one option and that there has to be some work done in the summer to create our own.

Mr. Ruf stated that in line ten, health insurance, we are proposing that be reduced. The Empire Plan's rates run on a calendar year. We know the rates for 2010 and not 2011. Line 11 is the reconditioning of uniforms code. There is equipment that must be sent out for servicing and reconditioning of uniforms. Line 12-the number is blank because we haven't finalized what our projected enrollment is at the career education program.

Mrs. Weinstein asked when was that application is due?

Mr. Jonas responded by tomorrow, and subsequently BOCES does an evaluation of the student.

Mrs. Lieberman asked if BOCES ever turns down a child?

Mr. Jonas stated yes, last year.

Mrs. Bernstein asked when have we been notified in the past?

Mr. Jonas said that we should have numbers before we adopt this budget.

Mr. Dempsey stated that BOCES knows about this and that parents and students need to be aware as well.

Mr. Jonas then spoke about personnel items. Several staffing items were spoken about last week. The number of positions for special education could be reduced by 1.4 positions. The next

consideration is the librarians and librarian clericals. Making reductions in this area is not something we relish doing, but in these economic times, must be considered. Reducing one librarian position at the elementary level is a consideration. Our elementary schools are relatively small, so there a limited number of scheduled classes being taught by our librarians. However, one of the goals is moving towards a 21st century library. Reducing a librarian would make that goal more difficult, but still we may want to consider that. Rather than have individual librarians, maybe one can be shared.

Mrs. Lieberman asked if travel time had been considered.

Mr. Jonas indicated yes. In some buildings librarians are the regular education representative for CSE meetings. Using librarians in that fashion does offset expenses for substitute teachers.

Mrs. Lieberman asked if it could be costed out? Clerical positions – are we being penny wise and pound foolish?

Mr. Jonas stated that cutting some teams (volleyball and basketball), where currently we have 16 teams is the next item. What we could do is cut that number of teams in half by combining 7th and 8th grade teams. Financial benefit could be between \$70,000 and \$75,000, which would be reductions in uniforms, supervisions and coaching. Those teams carry about 17 students per team. If you cut them out, as many as 136 children may not be able to participate.

Mrs. Weinstein asked about other opportunities during the season?

Mr. Jonas indicated that he didn't know, but would have to find out.

Ms. Bernstein stated that in the past we have had combined teams. Are you talking about keeping the POB teams at POB MS and the Mattlin teams at Mattin?

Mr. Jonas said yes. It would be a school team, only combined.

Mrs. Bernstein asked if he could tell us, based upon similar situations in the past, how combined teams have worked out. Did the students try out for other teams, or did they not participate in sports.

Mr. Jonas said that would be hard to determine. I can tell you overall how many kids are participating; we have 98 teams.

Mrs. Bernstein stated that the middle school teams are something she feels strongly about. Our middle school philosophy has always been about exposing children to as many experiences as possible and she fears this would reduce opportunities for the children. Additionally, reducing athletic opportunities doesn't seem consistent with our wellness policy

Mrs. Weinstein said that by cutting basketball and volley ball there would be limited opportunity for after school athletics.

Mr. Dempsey said that there might be some slots in another team that could be filled in.

Mr. Jonas indicated that we are talking about limitations regarding uniforms and the like. He said that these are things that we're not necessarily comfortable with, but we had to look at.

Mr. Dempsey stated that we created a budget which was a program forward budget. There are 3 kinds of reductions (1) the easiest which is finding resources now and help our budget without impact on our programs; (2) are fund balance budget cuts where we are reducing from a potential code; and (3) is the more painful type which is a reduction of service to students, programs, etc. What we normally ask the board to do is to actually vote on these. My recommendation is to not ask you to vote tonight but to have conversations and look into additional research and we will get back to you next week.

Mr. Bettan said that he appreciates all the hard work, but was hoping we could find things regarding efficiencies. When you talk about cutting things for the kids – I'm hopeful we don't have to do that next year. We have to continue looking at other areas.

Ms. Pierno questioned the athletic teams. Is there another walk on team available at Mattlin?

Mr. Jonas indicated that they were considered.

Mr. Dempsey said as a follow up that one of the things we would do is would continue to refine our reductions and determine what would be the least harmful.

Mr. Cepeda stated we have to make tough choices. We want to preserve programs and find efficiencies. However, we may need to make some adjustments. It is not something that we'd prefer to do.

Budget Review:

Mr. Ruf then spoke on the budget review.

Pupil Personnel Services

Mr. Ruf began with PPS budget and will highlight specific codes. The first is Tuition paid to public school for foster students.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that the draft indicates the cost is for 3 children but the back-up says 2.

Mr. Ruf indicated that he didn't want to budget for all 3 and was comfortable budgeting with only 2.

Mrs. Lieberman asked if this number holds a pattern? She sees there are 2 kids this year? One child didn't finish past September, and the other, are they still with us?

Mr. Ruf stated that he knows there are 2 students and it is our responsibility to pay for these students.

Next is ABA Services. We have 30 students in district, 5 out of district which includes funds for the in district consultation program and others. The next code is contractual and other evaluations. These are psychiatric disorders and the like, which are typically specialized evaluations and must be outsourced to specialists.

Mrs. Lieberman has a question regarding ABA services and consultants. How much goes for consultants? Would it behoove us to have them as permanent staff instead of consultants?

Mr. Dempsey stated that we have looked into this. We have one ABA consultant on staff. We are considering adding another staff member and we would reduce consultant money.

Mr. Jonas said that we are currently looking to do that and an ad has been placed in *The New York Times* so we are looking for qualified individuals.

Mr. Ruf indicated that we had to increase the budget due to the special aid fund. If you look at the inter-fund transfers for special aid summer school, has been increased due to the Governor's proposed budget. There is \$67,000 in budget which is 20% of the cost of summer for the summer of 2009. This would reduce from 80% to 26% - which means our cost goes from \$67,000 to \$230,000.

Mr. Bettan said that we all need to lobby hard to get the Governor to not do this. We need to lobby hard now and not just when we vote.

Mrs. Lieberman said that we might have to also go to our representatives – not just to the Governor.

Mrs. Weinstein stated that we wrote to the Governor and got a response back which said “We’ve evaluated every program to make sure nothing gets overlooked. Just like in any family’s finances, when times get tough we have to make the hard choices necessary to reduce our expenses to more affordable levels. Again, thank you for your comments.”

Mr. Dempsey said that the letter was sent directly to the Governor regarding his proposal but was also sent to all of our legislative representatives. In any case, the district would have to pay an increase in taxes.

Mr. Cepeda said that there is no choice if this goes through.

Mr. Bettan indicated that we have to let legislatures know not to pass this.

Mrs. Rothman questioned the increase in home tutoring for Special Education.

Mr. Jonas said it is dependant on the needs of our students. Some become very ill. Other years we’re more fortunate. Home tutoring is dependent on a host of issues ranging from emotional to physical issues. It can vary from year to year.

Mr. Ruf stated that the next code in the budget is the related services code for students who live in POB and attend outside of district. We are responsible for those costs and we bill back to the districts where the students live. Mr. Ruf explained that we've experienced some sizeable expense in that code and that it is likely that we will be close to that budget amount.

Mr. Dempsey stated that you will find other places within the PPS budget where there is a contingency.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that the average is about \$45,000 per student.

Mr. Ruf stated there is a range depending on the location.

Mr. Bettan stated that children are driven by CSE and IEP. The State sets this, not us. For children who need more, this is the reality of what it costs.

Ms. Bernstein stated that she has seen a tremendous effort to bring back our students. There is a financial impact, but for those students it is a priceless impact. She commends everyone who has brought back students.

Mr. Ruf spoke about the final two codes. These codes have swings; the first code is for the related services in the summer which is not part of the summer program and the second code is for the summer tuition for one student for July and August.

Mrs. Pierno asked about the nursing services for summer. It seems like a very high number.

Mrs. Bernstein questioned that we have two service contracts for different devices, but on the same sheet we're paying for repairs.

Ellie Becker expanded this issue for the Board.

Technology

Mr. Ruf explained the equipment budget is scheduled to decrease by \$25,000. There are funds in the budget to buy 61 smart boards district wide. 63% of rooms would then have white boards. Also there are funds to purchase ceiling mounted projectors. 86% would then have ceiling mounted projectors and installing audio systems, 60 district wide, which comes out to 55% of our classrooms having these items. There are also funds for 34 classroom printers, 5 mobile projectors, 2 computers and 2 scanners and an allocation of \$18,500 to support ongoing upgrades to our network and servers. Mr. Ruf wanted to highlight the software code. We build that code based on the State giving us \$14.98 per student.

Guy Lodico then expanded on the Technology items within the budget, as well as spoke about wireless routers and the libraries.

Mr. Cepeda stated that he appreciates the initiative, but what about the security aspect? Not only are students using these computers, but others use their own laptops. Are the proper fire-walls and security settings in place and what about parental type controls to access? The audience members spoke further about this as well.

Mr. Bettan asked about the smart boards for use by teachers and students. Guy Lodico then spoke in detail about smart boards and answered inquiries from the Board about them and about moving to wireless in the future.

Art

Mr. Ruf highlighted the equipment for the art budget and the purchase of 8 cameras for media arts program, some shelving, and a cart for the clay to help with the drying process. In supply budget, this is built for 17 art teachers, and is an enrollment driven supply code budget.

Mrs. Bernstein stated that in the past few years we had begun purchasing kilns for our elementary schools and asked if we've purchased them for all of our elementary buildings.

Mr. Ruf indicated that we have a kiln at Parkway. We've purchased one for Pasadena. It has not been installed yet. There are environmental issues.

Mr. Bernstein stated that we only want to do what is safe. She further asked if the art curriculum is different from one building to another?

Mr. Dempsey then asked Judith Chen, the Director of Art, if we can use only one kiln per multiple building?

Judith then responded that it would be very difficult, as the items are fragile.

Music

We intend to continue purchasing approximately ten instruments. The next code is the non-instructional equipment code; a cello rack and metal racks for the high school guitar program. The repair code is for repairs for instruments. There are also funds, approximately \$20,000 to rent 145 instruments, as we do not own all of the instruments. For the music transportation code, we do provide bussing for NYSMA major events, so when we have a whole orchestra attending events the district would pay for the transportation.

Mrs. Bernstein asked if we still have students who rent instruments?

The Board asked Josh Golbert, the Director of Music, to respond and explained instrument rentals and procedures regarding larger instruments, such as a bass, cello or tuba, as well as binders and music folders.

Science Research & Media

Mr. Ruf discussed the Science Research and Media codes.

Mr. Ruf then asked Joyce Barry to explain more about the leagues, and the teams, including transportation costs, registration fees, various materials and uniforms.

Library

Mr. Ruf explained that there are funds in this budget item to purchase two rugs, one for Parkway and one for Old Bethpage, as well as still cameras and flip cameras for student presentations. The rest of the codes are self-explanatory. There is also \$15,000 for periodicals, reference books, etc. for the library.

Mr. Bettan stated that he understands that the younger students use picture books, and the like, but on the high school level, can't they use information on line instead? Encyclopedias were great at the time, but not now. We shouldn't continue investing in paper books.

Joanne Levy, the library coordinator responded to Mr. Bettan by indicating that there isn't always a lab available for class instruction. Not everyone can be on-line at the same time, but believes that there still needs to be back-up.

Mr. Dempsey stated that maybe we can do a more thorough study to see what the alternatives are. Public library usage has increased over the years. In hard material, magazine or book, there is much more technology. We can look at specific titles and see if there is something on-line instead.

Mr. Cepeda stated that he doesn't think we're there yet. We are not prepared as a district yet, and should continue to look at it, but the cost of printing material is going up and digital will continue to go down. We need to look at what is going to happen regarding a 21st century library. We have to start preparing and see how we are going to make this type of technology available.

Ms. Pierno indicated that we have to have our kids know how to use a library.

Joanne Levy elaborated on how a child needs to learn how to use index, main topic, sub-topic, much more effective in a book. Maybe every 5 years a new set of encyclopedias can be purchased instead. Can we maintain services with fewer clerks? I don't agree. The library clerks do much more work than we realize, they bind books, laminate items, make transparencies for teachers and much more. The clerks are pulled into the main office as well. I gave Mr. Jonas a list of duties. Mr. Dempsey responded that he just gave the list to the BOE today. Every librarian needs time to maintain the collections, a minimum of 15,000 items. One administrative period per day is not much to ask for maintenance. These are things that are not on the schedule and I would be happy to come back for further questions.

Private & Parochial Textbooks

Mr. Ruf stated that we are responsible for providing textbooks, and 470 students meet this criteria. There is \$70,000 for the purchase of these books. We're coming close to last year which was about \$65,000.

Mrs. Weinstein stated that last year we had issues with having appropriate textbooks. What changes are being made?

Mr. Jonas stated that he and Joann had spent a lot of time on this. We've made plans in terms of scheduling time for clerical and for ordering and inventory. Planned additional time in terms of ordering and distributing the books, we think that will assist in distribution of books. This budget also includes a youth worker to assist in the distribution of books and we think is a cost effective way of handling this.

Mrs. Weinstein indicated that in Suffolk County, they used BOCES, - is that not available in Nassau?

Mrs. Lieberman stated that she knows a few years ago there was a problem with duplicate books. Regarding the replacement of books, is there a cap on how much can be spent? Ms Levy replied that they are supposed to wait 5 years. Mr. Dempsey stated that they have not seen major shifts.

4th R

Mr. Ruf stated that this is an after school program and the most popular is the Mad Science Program, as well as art classes, baking classes, and the like. It is an enrollment driven program. In 2009 we collected just about \$33,000 while expenses were about \$31,000.

Ms. Pierno indicated that the Mad Science Program at one time was a cultural arts program and at one time was a BOCES program.

Mr. Dempsey indicated that he spoke with a parent about expanding program opportunities, and that it is not necessarily the right time to expand, but it may be an option for the future.

Mrs. Rothman stated that it used to be a one ten-week program. It is such a benefit to the community for kids going to child care, then going to 4R; it is a benefit to parents. 349 students in the fall participated in this program. There are over 200 students that are not part of child care.

WPOB

Mr. Ruf indicated that the majority of this budget is for tower rental. The equipment in the budget is to upgrade to current AM/FM receiver.

Mrs. Weinstein asked if there are any questions before we move on to the discussion of capital reserve?

Ms. Pierno asked about copy aides in the middle schools.

Mr. Jonas said that principals said that is something that they have inherited. However machines tend to break down. It turns out to be an effective way to get that work done. Teachers are then able to focus on their meetings, which is a significant reason why we have copy aides.

Mrs. Weinstein asked about Regents review books and AP/English review books. Regents can be found on-line. I question why they are being bought for one class and not for all.

Mr. Dempsey stated that one of the issues raised last week was whether the review books were a substantial part of the instructional program. In many cases they are. Regent books are usually purchased by the student or the family. Copying some of the elements from those review books, is something we are not permitted to do. Those types of materials can be purchased by students. We have to look at the content of the AP book and figure out if it is an essential part of the curriculum. AP books are not on-line. For now, we don't have further information on them

Ms. Pierno stated that elementary schools order various books and her question is if teachers or the schools share that information? Maybe they don't want to use a certain book?

Ms. Gierasch stated that when we were creating these budgets we did share with each of the buildings; not specifically certain books, but what each were ordering and were able to align certain things. We don't have a unified handwriting program in place. A handwriting program that is district wide - we'll have to look into that going forward.

Discussion of Capital Reserve

Mr. Dempsey stated that reserves have brought up by the Governor and Comptroller, and there has been criticism and reserves are too high. A teachers' retirement system reserve is the most obvious example and we are hopeful it will be approved in this budget session. One of our thoughts is a capital projects reserve which works differently from others. A capital reserve must be created through approval of the voters, and when you want to spend it, you must go back to the voters. We think it's one of the few options in terms of reserves that the district could still access. We are aware that this may not be easily understood by the community.

Mr. Ruf then spoke about the Capital Reserve Fund. He explained that it is a good match for our district. In next week's budget meeting we can get into that further. In regard to repairs to POB middle school - we were not able to finish that project. Regarding the decay of brick work at POB, our buildings are very old and require significant upkeep. In 2005 there was a survey done and there was over \$50 million for those projects. A way to acquire the money without paying such interest, such as a bond, could help us in terms of budget allocations for the future. We are

also pursuing grants and are also looking at energy performance contracts, but are being cautious. Those are our initial thoughts regarding the Capital Reserve Fund.

Mr. Dempsey stated that if the Board is interested in exploring this, then we have to have our attorneys look at this. The budget calendar would have to apply but there are legal steps that we would need advice on. If the Board accepts that then we should have them come to the next meeting, unless we want to forgo that.

Mr. Cepeda felt that this is a wise thing to do in order to level off the spikes that we have from year to year. We should ask legal for their input on that. Ryan, how much would we be funding towards capital reserve?

Mr. Ruf responded that we'd have a better number at the next meeting.

Mrs. Lieberman said that it is like taking care of your house when something starts to fall apart. Things are going to change in terms of priority. We can't go out for a bond at least for a few years. We could go to the taxpayers and ask permission to use it. It's an easier way of doing it.

Mrs. Bernstein said that she agrees with everyone but is wondering if it is the time and if it is the time, we have to have a good communication campaign with the community so that they know exactly what is involved.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that it is also the amount. We can start out with something smaller. You have to do everything in moderation.

Mrs. Rothman asked if we know of other districts that are doing this?

Mr. Ruf responded that he believes that it is likely that more than half of them would have a capital reserve fund established.

Mrs. Rothman said that she'd like to know their experience and see some of their materials to see what they did to advertise to the community about the program, and why it's important and what the advantages are. She wants to see what has been successful in other districts.

Ms. Pierno said that we need to educate the community but asked if there a down side?

Mrs. Weinstein stated that it links into the budget and might have a negative vote on the budget.

Mr. Bettan said that he would have more comfort with it if we had some actual numbers in what we need to fund.

Mrs. Wenstein asked if we had a consensus?

Mr. Dempsey said yes and that we'll ask the attorneys for the information.

Public Participation for Budget Questions Only

Stefanie Nelkens said that she would like to see back-up for the budget presented at the last meeting for elementary and middle school textbooks and materials. She wanted to know if the public would have an opportunity to speak on the budget before and after the district's presentation. Mrs. Nelkens had questioned the ELA test prep for grades 5-8. These grades may have different educational needs that should be considered separately.

Mark Rosenthal previously presented to the Board a plan regarding a teacher incentive payout that he believes would save the district money. Mr. Bettan stated there are 7-8 retirements per year. Mr. Rosenthal went on to explain his plan in detail and explained how it works. Mr. Dempsey then asked about the payment in the proposal. Mr. Rosenthal indicated that you need to give people an incentive and asked if the Board would reconsider his plan. Mr. Bettan asked if Mr. Rosenthal would re-work his numbers and the Board would look at it again. Mr. Rosenthal agreed.

Emily Schulman had questions regarding the collaborative classes and the proposed budget cuts for special education teachers. She also questioned the number of students in a class. Mr. Dempsey stated that we look at a projected number and, if in fact students materialize, we have to provide those teachers. Ms. Schulman said that she understands that the number can't be set in stone. She understands there are budgetary constraints, but smaller classes and smaller numbers will give them the attention that they need.

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.

The meeting was recessed at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne D. Walti
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Mrs. Wenstein, President

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

Acting District Clerk

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

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President