

**June 18, 2014**

The regular Action Meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, June 18, 2014, in the Gymnasium of New Visions School. Debra Mulé, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Those present were: Ms. Debra Mulé, President  
Ms. Vilma Lancaster, Vice President (arrived 7:35 pm)  
Mr. Anthony J. Miller, Trustee  
Mr. Michael Pomerico, Trustee  
Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Trustee (arrived 7:35 pm)

Absent were: none

Also present were: Dr. Kishore Kuncham, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for  
Personnel, Special Projects & District Clerk  
Mr. Gerard Poole, Assistant Superintendent for  
Curriculum and Instruction  
Mr. Michael Singleton, Executive Director of  
Operations

Also absent were: none

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was 123.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Kuncham welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for supporting our children. He was pleased to announce that Freeport has received over 8 million dollars in grants.

Renee Crump-Dedmon, Principal of New Visions School introduced the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade dual language classes. In conjunction with Hofstra University the children presented an excerpt from the play "Goldfish, Destination Imagination" which combined music, dance and song. Everyone enjoyed the presentation immensely.

### **Recognition of Unsung Hero's**

The Superintendent spoke about a grassroots organization that sprang up after super storm Sandy. They operate under the motto "Just Doing Our Thing". Dr. Kuncham said he was excited and it was a privilege to honor the Friends of Freeport. The movement grew out of the Sandy rescue and recovery that combined Rich Cantwell's experience with Emergency Management. They joined together to help neighbors and with donations and outside funding the organization grew. The Friends of Freeport have helped over 150 homes and families. The group was presented a plaque and pins of appreciation by the Board President and the Superintendent.

The Superintendent then recognized District staff members who were selected by their peers as outstanding individuals who personified the theme of their building for the “Celebrating Success Program.” As part of the District Goal, The Monthly Employee Recognition Program was designed to promote morale and recognize individuals who go above and beyond the call of duty. The Principals of each building presented each honoree. The honorees were:

- **Catherine Byrne**, Columbus Avenue, Implementing New Ideas, October 2013
- **Mary Caccioppoli**, Archer Street, Demonstrating Loyalty and Commitment, November, 2013
- **Ingrid Benedetto**, Bayview Avenue, Demonstrating Pride in One’s Work, December, 2013
- **Diana Frohman**, Leo F. Giblyn, Demonstrating Innovation and Creativity, January 2014
- **Antonia Pincus**, New Visions, Pitching in to Help a Colleague/Parent, February, 2014
- **Dierdre Loughren**, Carolyn G. Atkinson, Willingly Sharing Information, March 2014
- **Diane Saunders**, Dodd Middle School, Promotes Learning to Full Potential , April , 2014
- **Betsy Funch**, Freeport High School, Demonstrating Effective Leadership, May 2014
- **Debra Ferrugia**, Administration Building, Willingly Sharing Information, June 2014

The Superintendent and the Board presented pins of appreciation to each employee.

At 8:44 p.m. a short break was taken.

The meeting was called back to order at 8569 p.m.

Dr. Kuncham spoke about the ongoing Freeport Armory issue and a bill has again been introduced regarding the use of the building and grounds. We continue to be concerned and want to protect the Freeport Community and its interests.

He continued with another issue regarding Nassau County Assessment Legislation trying to create an escrow fund for the purpose of paying tax certiorari refunds on Class 4 properties (Commercial property). This will also have consequences for the Tax Cap. He asked that everyone continue to call and write their legislators.

#### **Amendment to the agenda**

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe, a resolution was added to the agenda regarding an Administrative Appointment.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

The Board accepted the Audit Committee minutes and the Audit Reports.

### **Questions from the Public**

The public was given the opportunity to address the Board of Education. Each speaker was allowed to address the Board for four minutes on the Agenda only. The Board and administration addressed the comments from the public.

### **Items for Action**

On a motion by Mr. Miller and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following items were approved on a Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

### **Acceptance of the Minutes**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the minutes of the following meetings as written: May 21, 2014; May 28, 2014; June 4, 2014

### **Leave of Absence**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby grants a request for leave of absence as listed below:

**Linda Gooden**, Security Aide, effective May 20, 2014 through June 30, 2014, for health reasons.

### **Resignation of Staff**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letter(s) of resignation from the following staff member(s) as listed below:

**Lauren Muchnick**, Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2014, relocating out of state.

**Nilda Gentile**, Teacher Aide, effective June 24, 2014, for personal reasons.

### **Appointment of Instructional Staff - Probationary**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby appoints the individuals listed in the attached Appointment of Staff Report - Temporary, in accordance with the rules of the Board of Regents. These individuals shall possess appropriate certification allowing them to serve as teachers in the public schools of New York.

**Kristen Boshko**, Elementary Teacher, (returned from Preferred Eligibility List) (replacing L. Marino, retired) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014 through October 12, 2015 with anticipated tenure date of October 13, 2015. Compensation for this position will be on Step 3-1A of the U4D Schedule at \$68,651. Assignment: Archer.

**Samantha Liff**, Elementary Teacher, (returned from Preferred Eligibility List)

(replacing M. J. Gould, retired) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014 through August 31, 2016 with anticipated tenure date of September 1, 2016. Compensation for this position will be on Step 1-1A of the U4D Schedule at \$63,301. Assignment: Giblyn.

**Kristin Jones-Thom**, Elementary Teacher, (returned from Preferred Eligibility List) (replacing J. Corbo, transfer) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014 through August 31, 2016 with anticipated tenure date of September 1, 2016. Compensation for this position will be on Step 2-2A of the U4D Schedule at \$65,976. Assignment: Bayview.

**Danielle Sekesan**, Social Studies Teacher, (replacing J. Glass, resigned) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014 with anticipated tenure September 1, 2015. Compensation for this position will be on Step 2-1C of the U4C Schedule at \$61,440. Assignment: FHS.

**Kristen Hamilton**, English Teacher, (replacing T. Markel, retired) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014 with anticipated tenure September 1, 2016. Compensation for this position will be on Step 1-2B of the U4D Schedule at \$65,282. Assignment: FHS.

**Angela Lynam**, English Teacher, (returned from Preferred Eligibility List) (replacing M. Spanier, retired) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014. Compensation for this position will be on Step 2-2A of the U4D Schedule at \$65,976. Assignment: FHS.

**Jennifer Staehle**, English Teacher, (replacing V. Schack, resigned) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014, with anticipated tenure on September 1, 2017. Compensation for this position will be on Step 1-2B of the U4D Schedule at \$65,282. Assignment: FHS.

**Lawrence Bamberger**, Science Teacher, (replacing A. Mitchell, retired) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014, with anticipated tenure on September 1, 2017. Compensation for this position will be on Step 1-2A of the U4D Schedule at \$63,301. Assignment: FHS.

**Krista Pitman**, Elementary Teacher, (new) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014 with anticipated tenure on September 1, 2016. Compensation for this position will be on Step 1-2A of the U4D Schedule at \$63,301. Assignment: Giblyn.

On a motion by Mr. Miller and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved. The vote was;

Yea; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller and Mulé.

Abstention; Pomerico.

Nay; none.

**Nicole Pomerico**, Elementary Teacher, (new) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014 with anticipated tenure on September 1, 2017. Compensation for this position will be on Step 1-1A of the U4C Schedule at \$53,596. Assignment: Archer.

On a motion by Mr. Miller and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following items were approved on a Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

**Lauren Quezada**, Elementary Teacher, (new) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014 with anticipated tenure on September 1, 2016. Compensation for this position will be on Step 1-2A of the U4D Schedule at \$63,301. Assignment: Giblyn.

**Marisa Belasco**, Math Teacher, (returned from Preferred Eligibility List) (new) effective September 1, 2014. Compensation for this position will be on Step 5-2A of the U4D Schedule at \$74,024. Assignment: FHS.

#### **Appointment of Staff - Temporary**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby appoints the individuals listed in the attached Appointment of Staff Report - Temporary, in accordance with the rules of the Board of Regents. These individuals shall possess appropriate certification allowing them to serve as teachers in the public schools of New York.

**Cara Reiss**, Math Teacher, (new) a temporary appointment effective September 1, 2014 through August 31, 2015. Compensation for this position will be on Step 2-2A of the U4D Schedule at \$65,976. Assignment: FHS.

#### **Appointment of Staff-Non-Instructional**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby appoints the individuals as listed, in accordance with Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

**Nyron Creighton**, Security, (replacing M. Barrett, resigned) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation for this position shall be according to the Security Schedule at \$22,560. Assignment: FHS.

#### **Appointment of Summer Academy of the Arts/Enrichment Staff**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby appoints the individuals listed in accordance with the rules of the Board of Regents. These individuals shall possess appropriate certification allowing them to serve as teachers in the public schools of New York

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Ms. Ruth Breidenbach	Coordinator	\$4,673.70
Dr. Talonda Thomas	Teacher	\$3,738.96
Shannon Abramovitz	Teacher	\$3,738.96
Michael Young	Teacher	\$3,738.96
Adam Rubin	Teacher	\$3,738.96

Ronald Federici	Teacher	\$3,738.96
Ms. Jeannie Rodriguez	Teacher	\$3,738.96
Ms. Geraldine LaPenne	Teacher	\$3,738.96
Ms. Mahendra Morales	Teacher	\$3,738.96
Ms. Vanessa Mannanice	Teacher	\$3,738.96
Ms. Shenequa Thompson	Teacher	\$3,738.96
Ms. Michele Mars	Part-time clerical	\$1,296.00
Ms. Agnes Burgess	Nurse	\$3,738.96
Ms. Vida Brizill	TA	\$1,013.04

### **CSE/CPSE Minutes**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the minutes of the meetings of the Committees on Special Education and Preschool Special Education for the following dates: April 23, 25, 28, 29, 2014; May 1, 2, 8, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, 2014; June 2, 3, 8, 2014.

### **Other Items for Action**

On a motion by Mr. Miller and a second by Mr. Pomerico the following item was approved:

#### **Budget Transfer – General Fund – June, 2014**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby approves the attached Budget Transfer within the General Fund for June, 2014.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Ms. Lancaster and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

#### **Acceptance of the Internal Audit Report**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the Internal Audit Reports.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

#### **Disqualification of a Bid - Allstate Enterprises, Inc.**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District advertised for bids for QSCB Projects – Toilet Replacements J. W. Dodd Middle School, and Leo F. Giblyn School and opened the bid on May 30, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

**WHEREAS**, said bids were received and opened by the School District on May 30, 2014;

**WHEREAS**, the School District Administration has reviewed the bids submitted by the vendors;

**WHEREAS**, based upon their review, the School District Administration recommends that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District rejects the bid as incomplete.

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District has determined that the best interests of the School District are not promoted by award of this contract at this time.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Mr. Miller the following item was approved:

**Bid Award for Driver Education Road Instruction Services**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the contract for Driver Education Instruction Services to East Meadow Driving School with a total base bid of \$200 (the lowest responsible bid) per student for the 2014/2015 school year and as recommended in the attached bid specifications.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Miller and a second by Ms. Lancaster the following item was approved:

**Bid Award – QSCB Projects / Capital Reserve Fund Projects;  
Window Replacement at Freeport High School (FHS)  
Ceiling Replacement at FHS and J.W. Dodd M.S.  
Interior Elevator at Archer Street School  
Toilet Room Upgrades – J.W. Dodd M.S. and Leo F. Giblyn**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the bid for window replacement at Freeport High School with a base bid in the amount of \$444,000 to Arrow Steel Window Co.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District awards the bid for Ceiling Replacement at Freeport High School and J. W. Dodd Middle School with a base bid in the amount of \$149,900 to Hi Lume, Inc.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the bid to IJZ Associates, Inc., for Toilet Room Upgrades for the Leo F. Giblyn School with a base bid in the amount of \$145,555 to IJZ Associates, Inc.

**BE IT ALSO FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the bid Interior Elevator for the Archer Street School with a base bid in the amount of \$425,000 to Baruti Construction Corp.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Ms. Lancaster and a second by Mr. Pomerico the following item was approved:

**Approval of a Dental Plan – Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education authorizes the District to enroll in the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. Dental Insurance Plan, for the 2014-2015 School Year, upon mutually acceptable terms and conditions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools, or his designee, to execute the necessary paperwork to effectuate said enrollment.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

**Approval of a Contract for Accounting Services**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby appoints The Galamery Company, Inc., Certified Public Accountants & Consultants to provide accounting services as per the proposal beginning fiscal year 2013/2014 for a fee of \$13,000 with an option to renew on an annual basis until fiscal year 2017/2018.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Mr. Miller the following item was approved:

**Transfer of Funds to Reserves for the Fiscal Year 2013-2014**

**Capital Reserve Fund (Facilities Improvement Program)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes the transfer up to \$1,500,000 to the Capital Reserve Fund from the District's existing fund balance to finance Capital Reserve Fund (Facilities Improvement Program) – Freeport Public Schools, for the purpose of building renovations.

**Retirement Contribution Reserve**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes the transfer up to \$1,000,000 to the Retirement Contribution Reserve from the District's existing fund balance to finance



retirement contributions to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System.

### **Worker's Compensation Reserve**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes the transfer up to \$1,000,000 to the Worker's Compensation Reserve from the District's existing fund balance to finance worker's compensation claims to employees.

### **Unemployment Reserve**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes the transfer up to \$200,000 to the Unemployment Reserve from the District's existing fund balance to finance unemployment claims to employees.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Miller and a second by Ms. Lancaster the following item was approved:

### **Ratification of a Memorandum of Agreement**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby ratifies the Memorandum of Agreement and the amended Memorandum of Agreement between the Freeport Teacher Aide & Assistants Association and the Freeport Union Free School District dated June 13, 2014. This agreement is effective and covers the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017.

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to sign said agreement.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Ms. Lancaster and a second by Mr. Pomerico the following item was approved:

### **Adoption of the Revised Code of Conduct**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby adopts the revised Code of Conduct for 2014-2015 School Year.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Ms. Lancaster the following item was approved:

**Approval of a Consultant**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby approve the agreement between the following consultant(s) and the Freeport Union Free School District, as per the following list for; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (or his designee) to execute said agreements on its behalf.

<b>Consultant</b>	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Services Provided</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
John Riss	FHS	Musical Accompanist	\$608	General Fund
John Riss	FHS	Musical Conductor	\$608	General Fund

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

**Granting of Tenure**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby grants tenure status to the following individual(s):

<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>TENURE AREA</b>	<b>TENURE DATE</b>
<b>Administrator(s)</b>			
Alice Kane	District Wide	Director of Pupil Personnel Services	July 1, 2014
<b>Teacher(s)</b>			
Kristen Anisis	FHS	English	September 1, 2014
Luz Jerez-Anello	NV	ESL	September 1, 2014
Michael Addiego	FHS	Special Education	September 12, 2014
<b>Teaching Assistant(s)</b>			
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>TENURE AREA</b>	<b>TENURE DATE</b>
Adrienne Weinstein	Archer	Teaching Assistant	September 1, 2014
Maria DeBlasio	Bayview	Teaching Assistant	September 1, 2014
Virginia Ramkissoon	Bayview	Teaching Assistant	September 1, 2014
Diana Toback	Archer	Teaching Assistant	September 1, 2014

Jessica Rathbun	Giblyn	Teaching Assistant	September 1, 2014
Tiffany Grimes	NV	Teaching Assistant	September 1, 2014
Portland Lawson	FHS	Teaching Assistant	September 6, 2014
Felice Walsh	Bayview	Teaching Assistant	September 12, 2014
Mary Beth Errico	FHS	Teaching Assistant	September 29, 2014

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Mr. Miller the following item was approved:

#### **Approval of an Interim Director of the Arts**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby approves Anne Marie Hudley Simmons to serve in the capacity of an Interim Director of the Arts, effective July 1, 2014, at a per diem rate of \$600.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Miller and a second by Ms. Lancaster the following item was approved:

#### **Retirement of Staff**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from the following staff member as listed:

**Allan Brimer**, Math Specialist, effective August 20, 2014, after serving the children of Freeport for 40 years.

**Catherine Player**, Stenographic Secretary, effective July 7, 2014, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 20 years.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

#### **Questions from the Public**

The public was given the opportunity to address the Board of Education. Each speaker was allowed to address the Board for four minutes on any topic.

#### **Executive Session**

At 9:37 p.m. Mr. Miller moved to adjourn to executive session for eight specific matters of personnel and one matter of negotiations.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Pomerico and passed unanimously.

The vote was: Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

At 11:45 p.m., on a motion by Ms. Lancaster and a second by Mr. Miller the Board returned to open session. The motion carried unanimously.

The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

**Adjournment**

At 11:46 p.m., with no other business, on a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and seconded by Mr. Pomerico, the Board adjourned the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary R. Bediako  
Clerk of the Board