



FREEPORT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda

ACTION MEETING

July 21, 2014

8:00a.m.

Administration Building

Board Room

- I. **Determination of Quorum and Call to Order**
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Board Announcements**
- IV. **Superintendent's Report**
- V. **Items for Action**
Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda Items:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby approves the following items; A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; C 1.

Consent Approve

A. Acceptance of the Minutes of the Board of Education TAB 1

B. Personnel Actions

- 1. Resignation TAB 2
- 2. Appointment of Staff-Instructional TAB 3
- 3. Appointment of Staff – Non-Instructional TAB 4
- 4. Appointment of Summer School Clerical Staff TAB 5

C. Education

- 1. Acceptance of the Minutes from the Committees on Special Education and Preschool Education TAB 6

VI. Other Items for Action

A. Education

- 1. Approval of a Resolution to End the Gap Elimination Adjustment TAB 7
- 2. Approval of a Resolution to Reform the Allocation of School Aid in New York State TAB 8

VII. Board Comments

VIII. Superintendent Comments

IX. Adjournment

X. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Education will on August 27, 2014 at Caroline G. Atkinson School.

All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Register to vote: Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Administration Building, 235 N. Ocean Avenue.

Visit our website at www.freeportschools.or

Consent Agenda Items:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby approves the following items; A 1, 2, 3, 4; C 1.

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:

July 1, 2014.

Personnel

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:

1. **Ruth Hindley**, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective July 3, 2014, relocation out of state.
2. **Krista Pitman**, Elementary Teacher, effective July 8, 2014, for personal reasons.
3. **Mauricio Riveros-Villanueva**, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective August 31, 2014, to accept another position in the District.

Personnel

Appointment of Instructional 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 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.

Probationary

1. **Robin Newberg**, Reading Teacher, (new) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014, with anticipated tenure on September 1, 2017. Compensation for this position will be on Step 1-2A of the U4D Schedule at \$63,301. Assignment: Atkinson.
2. **Lisa Provenzano**, Art Teacher, (replacing J. Elias, 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: Archer.
3. **Kathryn Hoffman**, Health Teacher, (replacing D. Mulvey, 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: Dodd.
4. **Lindsey McClain**, Elementary Teacher, (replacing L. Muchnick, resigned) 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: Bayview.
5. **Angelique Scarpinato**, Reading Teacher, (new) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014, with anticipated tenure on September 1, 2017. Compensation for this position will be on Step 1-2B of the U4D Schedule at \$65,282. Assignment: Archer.
6. **Maurico Riveros-Villanueva**, Elementary Teacher, (bilingual, new) a probationary appointment effective September 1, 2014, with anticipated tenure on September 1, 2017. Compensation for this position will be on Step 1-1B of the U4C Schedule at \$55,130. Assignment: Atkinson.

Temporary

1. **Blanca Adames**, 2/5 Foreign Language Teacher, Return from Preferred Eligibility List, a temporary appointment effective September 1, 2014 through August 31, 2015. Compensation for this will be on step 9-2A on the U4D Schedule at \$34,113.20. Assignment: FHS.

Personnel

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.

1. **Rosa Nunez**, Food Service Worker (4 hour), (replacing V. Buckles, 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 Food Service Salary Schedule at \$10,505.60. Assignment: Archer.

Personnel

Appointment of Summer School 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 below in accordance with the rules of the Board of Regents. These individuals shall possess appropriate certification allowing them to serve as staff in the public schools of New York

Name	Position	Salary
Mindy Ein	Clerical	\$2,604.80
Thelma Zambrano	Clerical	\$2,604.80

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 Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education for the following dates:

May 5, 8, 9, 12, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 27, 29, 2014

June 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 2014

July 10, 2014

Education

Approval of a Resolution to End the Gap Elimination Adjustment

Whereas: The NY State Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) was implemented in 2010 as a one-time reduction in education aid to help NY State balance its budget and the GEA has continued in every budget since then; and

Whereas: The GEA since its inception has reduced state aid to the Freeport Union Free School District by \$34,720,981; and

Whereas: The **reduction** in aid associated with the GEA has resulted in a cost shift to the local property tax payer in the Freeport Union Free School District; and

Whereas: This cost shift has resulted in unsustainable measures being implemented to balance the Freeport Public Schools budget, including the reduction and **elimination** of school programs, personnel, and services, and the reductions of school district reserve funds; and

Whereas: Efforts by the Freeport Public Schools to sustain programs and services and contain budgets are simultaneously constrained by Property Tax Cap Legislation, unfunded and underfunded mandates, state mandated increases in pension costs, and mandated implementation of Common Core Learning Standards and teacher/principal performance reviews; and

Whereas: State **Funding** is constitutionally mandated and is essential to meet all mandates and obligations and to maintain the quality of education in the Freeport Public Schools; and

Whereas: New York State touts recent aid increases as generous support to schools, although overall, school districts are receiving very little additional aid when compared to 2008-09; and

Whereas: Some school districts have even experienced state aid decreases from 2008-09 to 2014-15;

Resolved, That the Freeport Public Schools Board of Education calls upon the New York State Legislature to end Gap Elimination Adjustments when they adopt New York State's 2015-16 Annual Budget.

Passed and adopted this 21st day of July, 2014 during a Board of Education meeting by the following vote:

Education

Approval of a Resolution to Reform the Allocation of School Aid in New York State

Whereas, all New York State public school students have a state constitutional right, upheld by the Court of Appeals in its 2006 ruling on the Campaign for Fiscal Equity (CFE) suit, to a “sound, basic education”, and

Whereas, the State of New York has “frozen” implementation of the Foundation Aid formula it agreed to execute to **satisfy** the Court of Appeals decision rendered in the CFE suit, and

Whereas, a comparative study of our nation’s fifty state school funding systems ranks New York State second nationally, with a letter grade of A for **Funding Adequacy**, but condemns our state’s flawed **and** inequitable approach to allocation of school aid with a letter grade of F, and a bottom-tier national ranking of 42nd in **Funding Distribution**, and

Whereas, the State of New York has shifted a significantly larger share of the costs of PK-12 education back onto local tax payers over the past decade, thus disproportionately hurting low property wealth school districts, and the students attending those districts, and

Whereas, New York State has enacted Local Property Tax Levy Cap legislation that virtually assures that existing per pupil funding disparities will widen each year, and

Whereas, the costs of resolving New York’s school funding equity problem are, based on past state legislative performance, highly likely to continue to increase in every year that school funding allocation decisions remain in the hands of the state legislature, and

Whereas, New York’s highly politicized system for allocating school funds places great pressure upon even the most conscientious state legislator to act in a selfish manner for the benefit of residents of their own **legislative** district even in violation of the state constitution’s guarantee, upheld by the Court of Appeals, that ALL children receive a “sound, basic education” with the consequence being that students of other legislative districts and regions have their educational opportunities curtailed,

Therefore, the School Board of **the** Freeport Union Free School District calls for the immediate establishment of a non-political **School Funding Equity Commission** that follows the model used by New York State when it established

the Berger Commission to resolve the politically sensitive issue of hospital closure and repurposing,

Specifically, our Board of **Education** endorses the plan calling for the following actions to occur:

1. Education funding allocation decisions be de-coupled from the legislature by empowering a team of nationally recognized school finance experts to design a new school finance system that is research based and fair to all New York students and school districts,
2. That this team of nationally recognized school finance experts be charged to operate independently of political influence, and design a system for allocating school funds that is equitable, predictable, sufficient, transparent and readily comprehensible by New York residents,
3. That the recommendation of this *School Funding Equity Commission* become law at a date certain unless that recommendation were to be specifically turned down by a vote of both houses of the legislature,
4. That the *School Funding Equity Commission* be charged to develop a plan with a three year phase-in to cushion districts from any dislocation a new funding system might impose, and
5. That after six years (three year phase-in and three years operation) a similar *Commission* be charged to review the impact of the new funding approach and make recommendations for improvements.