

March 3, 2010

The regular Budget Workshop of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, March 3, 2010, in the cafeteria of the Atkinson School. Debra McQuillan, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. She then led the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were: Ms. Debra McQuillan, President
Mr. Michael Pomerico, Vice President
Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Trustee
Ms. Debra Mulé, Trustee

Absent were: Ms. Carmen Piñeyro-Mendoza, Trustee

Also present were: Dr. Kishore Kuncham, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Wafa Westervelt, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Edward J. Price, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Michael Singleton, Executive Director of Operations
Ms. Nora Orlando, District Clerk

Also absent were: Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Special Projects

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was approximately 60.

Board Announcements

The Board made several announcements.

Superintendent's Report

- The February 10th meeting was cancelled due to snow.
- Dr. Kishore Kuncham, Superintendent of Schools, welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced honorees for this year's SCOPE'S 9th Annual Awards Dinner to be held on March 22nd. The recipients and categories are: Debbie McQuillan, School Board Service, Dianne Clark, Community Service, Joel Destil, Support Service Staff, and our Superintendent, for Administrator Service.
- The Superintendent introduced Ms. Joan Townley, from Western Suffolk BOCES who give a PowerPoint Presentation regarding Long Range Planning. Ms Townley gave an overview of the enrollment and projections of the District and also gave the opportunity for questions to be answered.

- 8:20 p.m. Dr. Kuncham gave a brief update of the Proposed Administrative and Capital Component for 2010/2011 presented at the Board meeting on 2/24/2010 and spoke in detail of the Governor's Aid Proposal and how it's impacting Freeport.
- The Superintendent gave a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the Proposed Program Component for the 2010/2011 Budget. The current year's total budget increase is 2.71% or \$3.8 million.
- There has been no increase in the tax levy for the current year or last year and in the last four (4) years the tax rate has not gone up. He explained a Contingent Budget to the community.
- The Superintendent announced there is a Rally in Suffolk County at the Longwood High School Library on Thursday, 3/04/2010 at 12:00 p.m. and a State Legislative Issues Conference on March 14 and 15th in Albany that he and Board Members will be attending. It is important to get communities to convey the impact of state aid cuts and costly mandates.

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.

Board Comments

Mr. Ellerbe recently went to Albany with REFIT to address many issues of concern regarding Wicks Law, Foundation Aid, mandates, etc.

Ms. McQuillan thanked Mr. Ellerbe for persistently fighting for the benefits of the Freeport Community.

Executive Session

At 9:21 p.m. Mr. Ellerbe moved to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pomerico and unanimously carried. The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Mulé and Pomerico.

At 9:35 p.m., on a motion by Ms. Mulé and seconded by Mr. Ellerbe, the Board returned to public session. The vote was unanimous: The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Mulé and Pomerico.

Adjournment

At 9:37 p.m. with no other business on a motion by Mr. Pomerico and seconded by Mr. Ellerbe, the Board adjourned the meeting. The vote was unanimous: The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Mulé and Pomerico.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled Budget Workshop/Planning/Action Meeting of the Board of Education will be on March 10, 2010 at 7:30 p.m., at the Atkinson School.

Respectfully submitted,

Nora Orlando
District Clerk