

September 22, 2010

The regular Action Meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, September 22, 2010, in the cafeteria of the Caroline G. Atkinson School. Debra McQuillan, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m., she then led the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were: Ms. Debra McQuillan, President
Ms. Debra Mulé, Vice President
Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Trustee
Ms. Carmen Piñeyro-Mendoza, Trustee

Absent were: Mr. Michael Pomerico, Trustee

Also present were: Dr. Kishore Kuncham, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for
Personnel, Special Projects & District Clerk
Dr. Wafa Westervelt, 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 32.

Superintendent's Report

- The Superintendent congratulated the President of the Board, Ms. McQuillan and Mr. Pomerico, Board Trustee, on an article in School Board Magazine, "On Board" featuring them and their use of "social media" (Facebook).
- The Superintendent reported that three "Back to School" nights have taken place and the attendance by parents was outstanding. Dr. Kuncham also remarked that the opening of school was very smooth and the transportation office in particular had a great opening. He thanked Ms. Hardes and her staff for their hard work and preparation to make it a seamless first week.
- Dr. Kuncham announced that the new NWEA assessment tests will be administered to grades 3 through 10 from September 29 – October 29,

2010. He explained that the assessments are not additional tests, rather they are in-lieu of other assessments that the students took in the past. The NWEA assessments are great diagnostic tools that will help teachers tailor instruction to individual students.

- The Superintendent announced that there is a big push for property tax caps throughout the state however there needs to be more information and dialog before that takes place since it is a complex issue that may have a devastating negative effect on our children if not done properly.
- Dr. Kuncham made the following announcements:
 - Hofstra's Reading/Writing Learning Clinic is awarding 20 scholarships to Freeport students - five elementary and fifteen middle school scholarships. Thanks Dr. Westervelt for getting these scholarships for our students.
 - The first Science Seminar will be held at FHS on September 27, 2010, at 2:30 p.m. The Seminar will be presented by Balaji Sitharaman of State University of New York, Stony Brook. The topic is "Combating Cancer with Nanobiotechnology" All are invited.
 - Homecoming is Saturday September 25, 2010 at Freeport High School. Freeport will be playing Farmingdale.
 - This year's Peace Celebration will take place on October 5, 2010, at Freeport High School. All eight schools will be performing and it will be a fantastic evening. All are invited.
 - The date for this year's "Peace March" will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2011. We hoping for a big turn-out.
 - The German exchange students will be in Freeport from October 18 through October 25, 2010.

The Superintendent then introduced the Principal of the Caroline G. Atkinson School, Linda Carter. Ms. Carter in turn introduced the children from the 6th grade Duel Language class. The children each presented information about well known Hispanic Hero's. The presentation was enjoyed by all.

Mr. Michael Singleton, Executive Director of Operations took a moment to announce that Dr. Kuncham would be the recipient of the very prestigious Long Island Arts Council award on November 1, 2010. More information would be forthcoming.

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 Ms. Mulé and a second by Ms. Piñeyro-Mendoza the following items were approved on a Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous: The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Mulé and Piñeyro-Mendoza.

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: August 25, 2010 and September 7, 2010.

Personnel

Change of Status

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

Kevin LaBarr, Technology Teacher, change of salary to \$59,837(4-1B/U1C) effective September 1, 2010 due to submission of transcripts upon return from the Preferred Eligibility List.

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 members as listed in the following Change of Status Report - Resignation.

Dana Isaac, Guidance Teacher, effective September 8, 2010, for personal reasons.

Jennifer Wills, Permanent Substitute, effective September 15, 2010, for personal reasons.

**Appointment of Staff – Instructional
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

Elizabeth Shirian, Guidance Counselor, (replacing D. Isaac, resigned) a temporary appointment effective September 20, 2010 through August 31, 2011. Compensation will be on step 1-2B of the E1D Schedule at \$66,041. Assignment: Archer.

Appointment of Staff – Administrative Instructional-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 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.

Wendy Haise, Director-Community Evening High School, effective September 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. Compensation will be on the CEHS Schedule at \$13,700.

Jacqueline Matos, Assistant Director-Community Evening High School, effective September 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. Compensation will be on the CEHS Schedule at \$13,080

Teaching Assistant Appointments - 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 Teaching Assistants. These individuals shall possess appropriate certification allowing them to serve as Teaching Assistants in the public schools of New York.

Rachel Berg, Full-Time Temporary Teaching Assistant, (replacing A. Berg, LOA) effective September 15, 2010 through January 30, 2011. Compensation for

this appointment will be \$17,849 as per the FTAA Contract. Assignment:
Bayview.

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:

June 14, 16, 17, 20, 2010; July 22, 26, 28, 2010; August 2, 3, 23, 2010.

Other Items for Action

On a motion by Ms. Piñeyro-Mendoza and a second by Ms. Mulé the following items were approved

Retirement of Staff

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

Brenda Nehring, 10 Month Clerk Typist, effective October 1, 2010, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 25 years.

Alonzo Brickous, 12 Month Cleaner, effective November 28, 2010, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 16 years.

Mary Beth Corwin, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective August 31, 2010, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 32 years.

The vote was unanimous: The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Mulé, and Piñeyro-Mendoza.

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

Granting of Tenure

WHEREAS, on September 18, 2007, Anne-Marie Hudley Simmons was granted a probationary appointment in the tenure area of Coordinator of the Arts, to the position of Coordinator of the Arts, effective October 16, 2007; and,

WHEREAS, Anne-Marie Hudley Simmons acknowledges that her appointment was intended to be in the tenure area of Coordinator of the Arts, notwithstanding her execution of an agreement dated September 18, 2007, that identified the tenure area to which she was appointed as “School Administrator/Supervisor.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Anne-Marie Hudley Simmons, Coordinator of the Arts, is herewith granted tenure in the tenure area of Coordinator of the Arts effective October 16, 2010.

The vote was unanimous: The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Mulé, and Piñeyro-Mendoza.

Education

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

Disposal of Books

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes the disposal of outdated Science books, as attached. These books are deemed obsolete as they are no longer of use to the students and will be disposed of in accordance with District policy.

The vote was unanimous: The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Mulé, and Piñeyro-Mendoza.

Finance

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

Resolution for Approval of Capital Improvements and Type II Actions

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District desires to embark upon certain capital improvement projects at various facilities in the School District, to wit:

- Re-paving of parking lot, Installation of new gas fired hot water heaters and fuel oil tank alarm / monitoring upgrades / replacements at the J.W. Dodd Middle School;

WHEREAS, said capital improvement projects at the various facilities are subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, maintenance or repairs involving no substantial changes in existing structures or facilities are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c) (1)); and

WHEREAS, routine activities such as renovations to, or expansions of existing public school facilities by less than 10,000 square feet are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c) (8)); and

WHEREAS, the SEQR Regulations declare Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQR; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, as the only involved agency, has examined all information related to the capital improvement projects and has determined that the capital improvement projects for:

- Re-paving of parking lot, Installation of new gas fired hot water heaters and fuel oil tank alarm / monitoring upgrades / replacements at the J.W. Dodd Middle School;

are classified as Type II Actions, which require no further review under SEQR pursuant to Section 617.5 (c) (1) and 617.5 (c) (8) of the SEQR Regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby shall forward an official copy of this Resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the correspondence from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in connection with its request for approval of the above-described projects from the New York State Education Department.

The vote was unanimous: The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Mulé, and Piñeyro-Mendoza.

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. There were no comments or questions from the public.

Executive Session

At 8:30 p.m. Mr. Ellerbe moved to adjourn to executive session for one matter negotiations, one matter of litigation and one matter of personnel. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mulé and passed unanimously. The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Mulé and Piñeyro-Mendoza.

At 8:58 p.m., on a motion by Ms. Mulé and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the Board returned to open session. The motion carried unanimously. The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Mulé and Piñeyro-Mendoza.

Adjournment

At 9:00 p.m., with no other business, on a motion by Ms. Piñeyro-Mendoza and seconded by Ms. Mulé the Board adjourned the meeting. The vote was: Ellerbe, McQuillan, Mulé and Piñeyro-Mendoza.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary R. Bediako, Ed.D.,
District Clerk