

Freeport Union Free School District
Freeport, New York

Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting
of January 21, 2004

The regular action meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, January 21, 2004, the meeting opened in the auditorium of the Caroline G. Atkinson School.

Dr. Cattano called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and he led in the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were:

- Dr. Joseph Cattano, President
- Mr. Michael Raab, Vice President
- Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Trustee
- Ms. Carmen J. Piñeyro, Trustee
- Ms. Sunday F. Coward, Trustee

Absent were:

- none

Also present were:

- Dr. Eric L. Eversley, Superintendent of Schools
- Mr. Kishore Kuncham, Assistant Superintendent for Business
- Mr. Robert Harris, Executive Director for Curriculum, School Improvement, Professional Development and Planning
- Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Clerk of the Board
- Mr. Michael Singleton, Interim Executive Director of Operations

Also absent were:

- none

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was over 100.

Superintendent's Report

The meeting began in the Auditorium and the 5 th grade students of the Caroling G. Atkinson School presented skits, including songs and dances highlighting the Constitution of the United States.

The presentation was enjoyed by all.

Dr. Cattano called for a short recess at 8:15.

The meeting reconvened at 8:25 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Dr. Eversley, Superintendent of Schools, discussed the 2004-2005 calendar that he was recommending for adoption.

The Superintendent also discussed the textbook procedure which will be implemented for the second semester of the 2003-2004.

Dr. Eversley discussed the procedure that the State Education Department is putting in place for the scoring of the January 2004 Math A Exam. He outlined the problems that are associated with it and some of those difficulties include:

1. That the cut off score and the conversion chart for Math A will be determined after the administration of the test. Initial Report Cards for students may not include their regents scores.
2. For those courses where regents' scores are included in the final grade, the final grades may not be included in the report cards.
3. This may affect class schedules for some students in the second semester since the schools will not know if the students have passed the Math A exam.

Parents whose students will be affected will be notified once the cut off scores have been received and new report cards will be sent home.

Mr. Kishore Kuncham, Assistant Superintendent for Business informed the public that the Governor had released his proposed budget for the 2004-2005 school year. From the information gathered, it appears that the Education budget has increased 1.75% over last year. Details will be forthcoming.

Dr. Eversley relayed to the Board and public that the Caroline G. Atkinson Library is now complete and fully operational.

Questions from the Public

The public was then given the opportunity to address the Board of Education. Each speaker was allowed to address the Board for six minutes. The Board and administration addressed the comments from the public.

The President of the Board called for another short break at 8:55 p.m.

He reconvened the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Board of Education Committee Reports

Mr. Raab requested that the Board table the discussion on Communication Boxes for Community Input. He made a motion for the discussion to be tabled and Mr. Ellerbe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, the vote was; Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Piñeyro and Raab.

Items for Action

On a motion by Ms. Piñeyro and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following items, on a consent agenda, were approved unanimously. The vote was; Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Piñeyro and Raab.

Acceptance of the Minutes

Resolved that the Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the following meetings as written:

- December 3, 2003;
- December 5, 2003;
- December 12, 2003; and,
- December 17, 2003

Leave of Absence

Resolved that the Board hereby grants a request for leave as listed in the following Change of Status Report:

- **Michelle Richardson**, Clerk-Typist, extension of a leave of absence, through June 30, 2004, for medical reasons.

Change of Status

Resolved that the Board of Education for the Freeport Union Free School District hereby grants a request for a change of status as listed in the following Change of Status Report:

- **Robert Hodge**, part-time Cleaner, change to full-time Cleaner effective January 6, 2004.

Resignation of Staff

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 :

- **John Cronin**, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective January 9, 2004.
- **Elaine Schreibman**, Permanent Substitute, effective December 19, 2003.
- **Jenise Hamma**, Permanent Substitute, effective December 19, 2003.
- **Maria Gibbs**, Lab Facilitator, effective January 30, 2004 .

Retirement of Staff

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letter(s) of resignation for the purpose of retirement from the following staff member as listed:

- **Raymond Johnson**, Assistant Principal, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 30 years

Appointment of Staff Report

Permanent Substitute

Resolved that the Board hereby approves the permanent substitute teacher(s) as listed in the attached Appointment of Staff report

- **Brenda Daniel**, Permanent Substitute, (replacing D. Trepeta, resigned) a temporary appointment effective January 5, 2004 through June 30, 2004. Compensation will be at the Substitute Pay Rate of \$125 per day. Assignment: FHS.
- **Roberta Rizzo**, Permanent Substitute, (replacing J. Hamma, resigned) a temporary appointment effective January 13, 2004 through June 30, 2004. Compensation will be at the Substitute Pay Rate of \$125 per day. Assignment: Atkinson.

Acceptance of the Minutes on the Committees on Special Education and Preschool Special Education

Resolved that the Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the meetings of the committees on special education and preschool special education for the following dates:

- December 1, 2003;
- December 2, 2003;
- December 3, 2003;
- December 9, 2003;
- December 11, 2003;
- December 12, 2003;
- December 15, 2003;
- December 18, 2003;
- January 6, 2004;
- January 7, 2004;
- January 8, 2004;
- January 9, 2004;
- January 12, 2004; and,
- January 13, 2004.

Adoption of the School Calendar 2004-3005

Be It Resolved that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby adopts the attached School Calendar for the 2004-2005 school year.

Acceptance of a gift

Be It Resolved that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts, with gratitude, a donation of \$500 from the American Legion. This generous gift has been given to the Freeport High School Select Chorale.

Executive Session

At 9:30 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Ellerbe to go into Executive Session to discuss four matters of Personnel and one matter of Collective Negotiations.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Piñeyro and the motion passed.

The vote was: Ellerbe, Piñeyro and Raab.

At 11:23 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Raab and a second Ms. Piñeyro the Board returned to open session. The vote was: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Piñeyro and Raab.

Adjournment

At 11:24 p.m., with no other business, on a motion by Mr. Raab and seconded by Ms. Piñeyro the Board adjourned the meeting. The vote was unanimous: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Piñeyro and Raab.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary R. Bediako
Clerk of the Board

Freeport Public Schools 2004-2005 School Calendar

September	1-2	Teachers Report – Staff Development Days
	6	Labor Day – Schools closed
	7	First Day of Schools for Students
	16-17	Schools closed
October	11	Columbus Day – Schools closed
November	2	Staff Development/Parent/Teacher Conf. Day - No school for students
	11	Veterans Day – school closed

	25-26	Thanksgiving Recess
December	24-31	Holiday Recess
January	17	Martin Luther King Day – school closed
February	21-25	Winter Recess
March	24-28	First Spring Recess
April	25-29	Second Spring Recess
May	27-30	Memorial Day Recess
June	24	Last Day of School for Students
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High School Graduation will be on Sunday, June 26. • If no snow days used, school will be closed April 28, 29 and May 27. • If 1 snow day is used school will be closed April 28, 29 and open May 27. • If 2 snow days are used, school will be open April 28, 29 and closed May 27. • If 3 snow days are used, school will be open April 28, 29 and May 27. 		