
Freeport Public Schools
235 N Ocean Avenue
Freeport, NY 11520-2135

Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of
October 6, 2004

The regular planning/action meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, October 6, 2004 , in the cafeteria of the Caroline G. Atkinson School . Ms. Piñeyro, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. She then led in the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were:

- Ms. Carmen J. Piñeyro, President
- Ms. Debra McQuillan, Vice President
- Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Trustee
- Mr. Michael Raab, 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, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, School Improvement, Professional Development and Planning
- Mr. Michael Singleton, Interim Executive Director of Operations

Also absent were:

- Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Clerk of the Board

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was 30.

In the absence of Dr. Bediako, Mr. Raab made a motion to appoint Mr. Michael Singleton, Interim Executive Director of Operations as Clerk Pro Tem. The motion was seconded by Ms. McQuillan and the motion passed. The vote was: Coward, Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro and Raab.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Eversley, Superintendent of Schools, introduced Mr. Kishore Kuncham, Assistant Superintendent for Business. Mr. Kuncham spoke about the need for new uniforms for our Security Staff. He then introduced Mr. William Schmitz, Security Director for Freeport Schools. Mr. Schmitz also spoke about the uniforms and he had members of our Security Staff wearing the new uniform and the old uniform.

Dr. Eversley then asked Mr. Kuncham to give an overview of the 2003-2004 District Financial Audit. Mr. Kuncham said that all opinions were positive in the report. He then called upon Mr. Peter Rodriguez, of Coughlin Foundotos Cullen & Danowski, LLP Certified Public Accountants. Mr. Rodriguez went over the report with the Board, and answered any questions they had.

Mr. Kuncham then discussed the Long Island Municipal Banking Consortium (L.I.M.B.C.) and why it was prudent for Freeport to participate.

Mr. Kuncham also discussed with the Board the preparations for the 2005-2006 Budget. He explained that the schedule for the upcoming Budget was being moved up and this should make an improved timeline for everyone.

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 on the items for action on the agenda. The Board and administration addressed the comments from the public.

Items for Action

Approval of CSE and PSE Meetings

Ms. McQuillan offered the following resolution for adoption:

BE IT 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:

September 13, 2004; September 14, 2004; September 15, 2004; September 22, 2004 .

The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellerbe and unanimously carried: Coward, Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro and Raab.

Acceptance of the Financial Statements

Mr. Ellerbe offered the following resolution for adoption

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the Financial Statements for the fiscal year 2003/2004 as prepared by our independent auditors.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellerbe and unanimously carried: Coward, Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro and Raab.

Resolution to Join the Consortium

Mr. Ellerbe offered the following resolution for adoption

WHEREAS, the New York State Comptroller's Office issued a press release on November 20, 2003, on a report titled "Intermunicipal Consolidation and Cooperation Can Improve Government Efficiency and Effectiveness," and

WHEREAS, the report describes the benefits and challenges of intermunicipal cooperation and consolidation, assesses the current level of collaborative activity around the state, and offers strategies for approaching cooperative ventures; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Sections 1709(8)(c) and 1723-a of the Education Law and Sections 10 and 11 of the New York General Municipal Law, school districts are permitted to designate a bank for the deposit of public funds and/or are permitted to temporarily invest money not required for immediate expenditures as provided for therein;

WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the New York General Municipal Law authorizes municipal corporations, defined to include school districts, to participate in municipal cooperative activities;

WHEREAS, the school districts, villages, and libraries have joined together to form a consortium, known as the Long Island Municipal Banking Consortium (L.I.M.B.C.), to bid on banking services with the goal of maximizing interest earnings on their investments; and

WHEREAS, the consortium is recommending the award for banking services on a money market account and general fund checking account to the highest responsible bidder, Commerce Bank, and

WHEREAS, each municipality will maintain its own separate bank accounts with separate bank agreements between each municipality and Commerce Bank, and

WHEREAS, Commerce Bank shall provide banking services in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of the Request for Proposal dated March 15, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the L.I.M.B.C. will meet quarterly with Commerce Bank to discuss member issues, concerns, rates, etc., in order to better meet the banking needs of all of its members; and

WHEREAS, the Freeport Union Free School District wishes to join the L.I.M.B.C. and may at any time withdraw from the consortium, with no bank or consortium imposed penalty and with no liability.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Board of Education authorizes the participation of the Freeport Union Free School District in the L.I.M.B.C. and authorizes the Freeport Union Free School District to participate in all matters pertaining to the consortium to the extent such participation remains in the best interest of the School District .

The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellerbe and unanimously carried: Coward, Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro and Raab.

Acceptance of a Bid for Columbus Avenue School Masonry, Repairing and Partial Roof Replacements

Mr. Ellerbe offered the following resolution for adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the following bids as listed in the Bid Award Reports and as recommended in the attached bid recommendations, accepting the lowest responsible bid as per bid specifications, and reserving the right to increase or decrease quantities of each item as needed. (attached)

The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellerbe and unanimously carried: Coward, Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro and Raab.

Acceptance of a Bid for the John W. Dodd Middle School Roof Removal and Replacement

Mr. Ellerbe offered the following resolution for adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the following bids as listed in the Bid Award Reports and as recommended in the attached bid recommendations, accepting the lowest responsible bid as per bid specifications, and reserving the right to increase or decrease quantities of each item as needed. (attached)

The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellerbe and unanimously carried: Coward, Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro and Raab.

Acceptance of a Bid for the Archer Street School Boilers

Mr. Ellerbe offered the following resolution for adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the following bids as listed in the Bid Award Reports and as recommended in the attached bid recommendations, accepting the lowest responsible bid as per bid specifications, and reserving the right to increase or decrease quantities of each item as needed. (attached)

The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellerbe and unanimously carried: Coward, Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro and Raab.

The Board then reviewed the tentative agenda for the October 20, 2004 meeting.

Board Committee Reports

- Ms. Carmen Piñeyro, Board President, introduced Mr. Michael Raab, Trustee.
- Mr. Raab presented a report and a short video on a program called "Good Touch/Bad Touch.
- Ms. Debra McQuillan, Board Vice President, then presented a report on the Budget Committee.

Adjournment

At 10:05 p.m. , with no other business, Mr. Ellerbe moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Coward and unanimously carried: Coward, Ellerbe, McQuillan, Piñeyro, and Raab.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be an action meeting on October 20 , 2004 .

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Singleton
Clerk Pro Tem