

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

Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting

January 22, 2003

The regular action meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, January 22, 2003, in the Library of the Caroline G. Atkinson School, 58 West Seaman Avenue, Freeport, New York. Ms. Sunday Coward, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and she led in the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were:

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

Absent were:

- none

Also present were:

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

Also absent was:

- Dr. Joshua Starr, Executive Director of Operations

Guests were:

- Dr. Howard Koenig, Executive Director of R.E.F.I.T.
- Mr. Robert "B. A." Schoen, President of R.E.F.I.T.

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was approximately 75.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Eversley, Superintendent of Schools, informed the Board of Education and public that Freeport Public Schools had hosted the Nassau County Music Educators Association rehearsal at Freeport High School. The Superintendent commended and thanked Mr. Charles Puricelli, Coordinator for the Arts, his staff, custodians and all those who took part in hosting the music rehearsals. He informed everyone that Freeport High School received rave reviews for everything they did to accommodate the event. Dr. Eversley showed the Board and assembled public a plaque that was presented to Freeport Public Schools in recognition and thanks from the Nassau County Music Educators Association. Mr. Puricelli also thanked the Board of Education, the Central Administration, faculty and students, who helped make the event a tremendous success.

Dr. Eversley introduced Dr. Howard Koenig, Executive Director of R.E.F.I.T. and Mr. Robert "B. A." Schoen, President of R.E.F.I.T. Mr. Schoen spoke about the work R.E.F.I.T. has been doing over the last 30 years regarding the inequities in school funding. Dr. Koenig spoke to everyone about the inequities in school funding and the bleak outlook for state aid in the future due to the massive state deficits.

Dr. Eversley and the Board of Education continued their discussion on the Board Meeting format and the possibility of using a consent agenda.

Questions on the Items for Action

At this time, the public was given the opportunity to address the Board of Education. Each speaker was allowed to address the Board for 6 minutes. The Board and administration addressed the comments from the public.

Items for Action

Acceptance of the Minutes

Ms. Pineyro offered the following resolution for adoption: RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the following meetings as written: December 16, 2002, December 18, 2002, January 8, 2003.

Dr. Cattano seconded the motion and the motion carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Leave of Absence

Mr. Ellerbe offered the following resolution for adoption, RESOLVED that the Board hereby grants a request for leave as listed in the following: Jeanne Dipolito, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective November 18, 2002 through January 31, 2003, extension of a leave for health reasons. Marianna Hernandez, part-time Teaching Assistant, effective January 7, 2003 through February 24, 2003, for health reasons.

Mr. Raab seconded the motion and the motion carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Granting of Tenure

Mr. Raab offered the following resolution for adoption: RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby grants tenure status to the following individual: Laura Randazzo, Teaching Assistant, effective February 15, 2003.

Dr. Cattano seconded the motion and the motion carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Retirement of Staff

Dr. Cattano offered the following resolution for adoption: RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letters of retirement from the following staff members:

- Marilyn Stuzin, Director of Adult, Alternative, Family and Workforce Prep Education, effective July 1, 2003, after serving the children, adults and community of Freeport for more than 18 years.
- Katherine Hynes, Principal, effective July 1, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 36 years.
- Michael Campbell, Principal, effective July 1, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 31 years.

Mr. Ellerbe seconded the motion and the motion carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Resignation of Staff

Ms. Pineyro offered the following resolution for adoption: **Resolved** that the Board of Education the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letter(s) of resignation from the following staff members as listed: Kaia Mahler, part-time Teaching Assistant, effective January 24, 2003. Dela Bediako, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective January 10, 2003. Artemis Parais, Elementary Teacher, effective January 6, 2003. Paraskevi Liadakis, Food Service Worker, effective January 5, 2003. Martha Escobar, Food Service Worker, effective January 5, 2003. Elaine Jenkins, Food Service Worker, effective January 5, 2003. Carolyn Valenti, Assistant Cook, effective December 15, 2002. Michael DeGennaro, Elementary Teacher, effective February 2, 2003. Timothy Smallwood, Security Aide, effective December 20, 2002. Sandra Lewis, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective January 10, 2003. Theresa

Gochez, part-time Teaching Assistant, effective January 24, 2003.

Mr. Raab seconded the motion, and the motion carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Termination of Staff

Mr. Ellerbe offered the following resolution for adoption: Resolved that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby terminates the services of the following employee: Elisha Trahan, Security Aide, effective December 18, 2002, poor attendance and poor performance.

Dr. Cattano seconded the motion and the motion carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Appointment of Staff

Mr. Raab offered the following resolutions for adoption:

Administrative Probationary

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 - Probationary, 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: Artemis Parais, Elementary Teacher, (new) a probationary appointment effective January 7, 2003 through August 31, 2005. Compensation will be on step 1-1B of the U3C Schedule at \$42,343. Assignment: Giblyn.

Michael DeGennaro, Elementary Teacher, (replacing R. Hirschfield, retired) a probationary appointment effective February 3, 2003 through August 31, 2005. Compensation will be on step 1-1A of the U3C Schedule at \$41,163. Assignment: New Visions.

Temporary Assignment

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 - Teacher Category, 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: Katherine Inserra, Elementary Teacher, (replacing C. Rodgers, LOA) a temporary appointment effective January 13, 2003 through June 30, 2003. Compensation will be on step 3-2A of the U3D Schedule at \$52,727. Assignment: Archer.

Teacher Assistant and Permanent Substitutes

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 - Teacher

Assistant Category, 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: Debra Allison, Permanent Substitute, (replacing T. Bove, resigned) a temporary appointment effective January 6, 2003 through June 30, 2003. Compensation will be at the Substitute pay rate of \$125 per day. Assignment: Atkinson. Tiffany McKenna, Permanent Substitute, (replacing A. Cilento, resigned) a temporary appointment effective January 13, 2003 through June 30, 2003. Compensation will be at the Substitute pay rate of \$125 per day. Assignment: Atkinson. Sharon Power, full-time Teaching Assistant, (replacing K. Mahler, resigned) a probationary appointment effective January 27, 2003 through January 26, 2006. Compensation will be according to the FTAA Contract at \$12,073. Assignment: Columbus. Jodi Guida, part-time Teaching Assistant, (replacing P. Lapide, resigned) this appointment is effective January 13, 2003. Compensation will be according to the FTAA Contract at \$6,899. Assignment: Atkinson. Jasmin Joseph, part-time Teaching Assistant, (replacing K. Feinstein, resigned) this appointment is effective January 6, 2003. Compensation will be according to the FTAA Contract at \$6,899. Assignment: Bayview. Lauren First, part-time Teaching Assistant, (replacing J. Ryches, LOA) this appointment is effective January 17, 2003 through June 30, 2003. Compensation will be according to the FTAA Contract at \$6,899. Assignment: Archer.

Appointment of Non-Instructional Staff

RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby appoints the individuals as listed in the attached Appointment of Staff Report - Civil Service, in accordance with Civil Service Rules and Regulations: Arthalia Brown, Information Technology Specialist, (replacing K. Birmingham, retired) a provisional appointment effective January 6, 2003 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be according to the Clerical Salary Schedule at \$35,000. Assignment: Administration. Martha Escobar, Food Service Worker, (C. Cassidy, transferred) a probationary appointment effective January 6, 2003. Compensation will be step 3 according to the Cafeteria Salary Schedule at \$10,413. Assignment: Atkinson. Paraskevi Liadakis, Food Service Worker, (P. Wesselhoft, transferred) a probationary appointment effective January 6, 2003. Compensation will be step 3 according to the Cafeteria Salary Schedule at \$10,413. Assignment: Atkinson.

Elaine Jenkins, Assistant Cook, (replacing G. Pizzillo, retired) a probationary appointment effective January 6, 2003 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be on step 6 of the Cafeteria Salary Schedule at \$14,450. Assignment: Atkinson. Carolyn Valenti, Cook, (new) a probationary appointment effective December 16, 2002 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be on step 4 of the Cafeteria (Cook) Salary Schedule at \$15,386. Assignment: New Visions.

Michael Barrett, Security Aide, (replacing E. Trahan, terminated) a probationary appointment effective January 6, 2003 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be \$14,640. Assignment: Dodd. Carrie Saylor, Food Service Worker, (replacing M. Escobar, resigned) a probationary appointment effective January 6, 2003 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be step 1 according to the Cafeteria Salary Schedule at \$8,673. Assignment: Dodd. Clara Reyna, Food Service Worker, (replacing P. Liadakis, resigned) a probationary appointment effective January 6, 2003 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be step 1 according to the Cafeteria Salary Schedule at \$8,673. Assignment: Dodd. Fanny Hermidia, Food Service Worker, (replacing E. Jenkins, resigned) a probationary appointment effective January 6,

2003 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be step 1 according to the Cafeteria Salary Schedule at \$8,996. Assignment: New Visions.

Ms. Pineyro seconded the motions and the motions carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

CSE/CPSE Minutes

Dr. Cattano made the following motion: **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 11, 2002, December 19, 2002, January 7, 2003, January 9, 2003, January 13, 2003, January 14, 2003. January 16, 2003.

Mr. Raab seconded the motion and the motion carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Authorization to Proceed with the Atkinson/Administration Parking Lot Extension Project

Ms. Pineyro made the following motion: ***Be It Resolved*** by the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District, after a thorough review of the Atkinson/Administration Parking Lot Extension Project, which was approved by the voters as a capital project for the 1999-2000 budget, hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to proceed with the project.

After a failure to obtain a second, the motion was lost.

After some discussion Mr. Ellerbe made a motion to table the resolution regarding the Atkinson/Administration Parking Lot Extension Project. The motion failed, the vote was:

- Yeas: Ellerbe
- Abstentions: 0
- Nays: Cattano, Coward, Pineyro and Raab.

A continuing discussion was held regarding the issue and Mr. Ellerbe made the following motion: ***Be It Resolved*** by the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District, after a thorough review of the Atkinson/Administration Parking Lot Extension Project, which was approved by the voters as a capital project for the 1999-2000 budget, hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to proceed with the project and incorporate the rendering for 17 parking spaces.

Dr. Cattano seconded the motion and the motion carried, the vote was:

- Yeas: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe and Pineyro.
- Abstentions; Raab.
- Nays: 0

Acceptance of Bids

Mr. Ellerbe made the following motion: Resolved that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the following bid as listed in the attached Bid Award Report and as recommended in the attached bid recommendation, accepting the lowest responsible bid as per bid specifications, and reserving the right to increase or decrease quantities of each item as needed.

Ms. Pineyro seconded the motion and the motion carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Executive Session

At 9:30 p.m. Ms. Coward moved to adjourn to executive session for personnel, litigation and negotiations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellerbe, and unanimously carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro, and Raab.

At 10:25 p.m. Dr. Cattano moved to adjourn to open session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pineyro, and unanimously carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro, and Raab.

Adjournment

At 10:27 p.m., with no other business, on a motion by Dr. Cattano and seconded by Mr. Ellerbe, the Board adjourned the meeting. The vote was unanimous: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be a planning/action meeting, held on February 5, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Bediako, Ed.D.
Clerk of the Board

