

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

**Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting**

**April 29, 2003**

The regular action meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Tuesday, April 29, 2003, in the Library of the Caroline G. Atkinson School, 58 West Seaman Avenue, Freeport, New York. In a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Ms. Pineyro, Mr. Michael Raab was elected President Pro Tem of the Board of Education. The motion was passed unanimously; Ellerbe, Pineyro, and Raab.

Mr. Raab called the meeting to order at 8:20 p.m. and he led in the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were:

- Ms. Sunday F. Coward, President (arrived 8:35 p.m.)
- Dr. Joseph Cattano, Vice President (arrived 9:00 p.m.)
- 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
- Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Clerk of the Board
- Mr. Kishore Kuncham, Assistant Superintendent for Business
- Mr. Robert Harris, Executive Director for Curriculum, School Improvement, Professional Development and Planning
- Dr. Joshua Starr, Executive Director of Operations

Also absent was:

- none

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was approximately 53.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Eversley, Superintendent of Schools, introduced Mr. Charles Puricelli, District Coordinator of the Arts. Mr. Puricelli informed the Board and the public that the Odyssey of the Mind teams had great success this year. Eight teams from Freeport participated in a regional competition at SUNY Farmingdale and three of our teams achieved third place honors in each of the three divisions. This was quite an accomplishment and the excitement among the students and their mentors was well earned. Mr. Puricelli then introduced the Odyssey of the Mind 2002-2003 coaches and team members.

#### Freeport High School:

- *Coach, Joseph D'Agostino*
  - Brittany Aksnes
  - Heidi Bonilla
  - Melissa Losee
  - Brian Fitzgerald
  - Layla Nadeen
  - Alexa Pomerico
  - William Tetreault
- *Coach, Craig Michel*
  - Marilyn Brendel
  - Simone Grauer
  - Domenica Beauford
  - Amanada Kistela
  - Emily Stevens
  - Martine Edmond
  - Meghan Drew

#### Dodd Middle School:

- *Coach, Giselle Campbell-Ham*
  - Joseph MacPartlin
  - Melissa Herrera
  - Sabrina Gonzales
  - Justin Moskowitz
  - Deirdre Williams
  - Nelly Medina
  - Ashley Walker
- Coach, Nancy Cirina

- Julia Klimas
- Stephanie Tabaco
- Michelle Mikolajczyk
- Veronica Brendel
- Margaret Reddington
- Cindy Khan
- Coach, James Wandzilak
- Zachery Allen
- Laura Gutierrez
- Stephanie Heins
- Catherine Jewels
- Frankie McGoldrick
- Kirsten Preston
- Shamir Wilkinson

Atkinson School:

- *Coaches, Mary-Kate Gunther/Carrie Fredericks*
  - David Bently
  - Oliva Ocasio
  - Bianca Badurina
  - Emily Adams
  - Jack Williams
  - Diandra Brown
  
- *Coaches, Mary-Kate Gunther/Carrie Fredericks*
  - Shelia Garcia
  - Joseph Smith
  - Shainna Beasly
  - Sarah Gugliotto
  - Monique Gaynor
  - Yaniris Marte
  
- *Coaches, Mary-Kate Gunther/Carrie Fredericks*
  - Spencer Cammarano
  - Annamarie Bellifiore
  - Johnathan Lagnese
  - Lindsey Riso
  - Brooke Aksnes
  - Tyneesha Anderson
  
- *Coaches, Mary-Kate Gunther/Carrie Fredericks*
  - Daniel Hinton
  - Nick Giovanniello
  - Robert Southwick
  - Keith Bedney
  - Zach Drew

- Chris Frey

Dr. Eversley then turned the meeting over to Mr. Robert Harris, Executive Director for Curriculum, School Improvement, Professional Development and Planning. Mr. Harris congratulated the New York State Science Honor Society Members. The students are:

- Melissa Bernardez
- Joshua Clarke
- John Cochol
- Bryn Donovan
- Michael Drapala
- Sybil Ferguson
- Michelle Fitzgerald
- Samantha Geraci-Yee
- John Gillespie
- Brian Halton
- Lourdes Inglesias
- Patrick Lewis
- Alexander Naidoo
- Robert Notheis
- Krystal Ortiz
- Jessica Seifert
- Gillian Shea
- Vanessa Smith-Torres
- Jennifer Wiener

The Superintendent thanked Mr. Harris and added his congratulations to Mr. Harris's.

The Superintendent then introduced Dr. Joshua Starr, Executive Director of Operations. Dr. Starr presented the revised draft Vision Statement.

Dr. Eversley announced that the dedication of New Visions will be on April 30th, 2003. A ceremony will take place at 9:45 a.m. for the students and at 7:00 p.m. for the parents.

Dr. Eversley then introduced Mr. Kishore Kuncham, Assistant Superintendent for Business. Mr. Kuncham gave a budget update on the 2003-2004 Budget.

Dr. Eversley called upon Mr. Harris to present the 2001-2002 School Report Card.

#### **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 6 minutes. The Board and administration addressed the comments from the public.

## **Board of Education Committee Reports**

Mr. Ellerbe reported that the Legislative Committee will be going to Albany on May 3, 2003 to participate in the "March on Albany" to encourage the Legislator to refund cuts to education. He reported that the bus will leave at 7:00 a.m.

## **Items for Action**

On a motion by Ms. Pineyro and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following items, on a consent agenda, were approved:

### **Acceptance of the Minutes**

Resolved that the Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the following meetings as written: March 17, 2003; March 26, 2003; April 9, 2003

### **Leave of Absence**

**Resolved** that the Board hereby grants a request for leave as listed in the following:

- Joseph Chetti, Health Education Teacher, effective March 5, 2003 through March 19, 2003, for health reasons.
- Josephine Dempsey, part-time Teaching Assistant, effective March 10, 2003 through April 7, 2003, for health reasons.
- Amy Ferris, Elementary Teacher, effective March 25, 2003 through June 30, 2003, for childcare.
- Tim Russer, Audio Visual Helper, effective March 27, 2003 through July 12, 2003, Military Duty.
- Norris Nugent, part-time Teaching Assistant, effective March 7, 2003 through April 28, 2003, for health reasons.
- Spiro Colaitis, Director of Buildings and Grounds, effective April 7, 2003 through July 29, 2003, Military Duty. Jeanne Dipolito, part-time Teaching Assistant, extension of a leave of absence through April 30, 2003.
- Linda Huestis, part-time Teaching Assistant, extension of a leave of absence through September 1, 2003.
- Linda Gooden, Security Aide, effective February 3, 2003, as per section 71 of Civil Service Law.

### **Resignation of Staff**

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:

- Tobias Daempfle Science Coordinator, effective May 1, 2003.
- Melissa Orshowitz, part-time Teaching Assistant, effective March 28, 2003.

- James Mason, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective March 18, 2003.
- Sean Caldwell, part-time Teaching Assistant, effective April 9, 2003.
- Kathleen Paige, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective May 9, 2003.
- Thomas Hirtzel, Custodian, effective March 28, 2003.
- Thomas Volpe, Assistant Business Manager, effective April 28, 2003.
- Jimmy Jones, Jr., Permanent Substitute, effective March 31, 2003.

#### **Retirement of Staff**

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letters of retirement from the following staff member:

- Janet De Flora, Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 29 years.
- Paulette Pearsall, Physical Education Teacher, effective July 1, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 33 years.
- Marsha Jensky, Elementary Teacher, effective July 1, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 23 years.
- Susan Edwards, Elementary Teacher, effective July 1, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 27 years.
- Vicki Fuller, Elementary Teacher, effective July 1, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 32 years.
- Judy Holtzman, ESL Teacher, effective July 1, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 35 years.
- Susan McCafferty, Special Education Teacher, effective July 1, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 31 years.
- Geraldine Borzello, Science Teacher, effective June 30, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 18 years.
- Barbara Stewart, Special Education Teacher, effective June 30, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 18 years.
- Jack Porzio, Mathematics Teacher, effective June 30, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 32 years.
- Ira Schildkraut, Social Studies Teacher, effective June 30, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 34 years.
- Jennie Berkman, Library/Media Specialist Teacher, effective August 16, 2003, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 12 years.

#### **Appointment of Staff**

##### **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:

- Jimmy L. Jones, Jr., Physical Education Teacher, (replacing M. McKinnon, retired) a probationary appointment effective April 1, 2003 through March 31, 2006. Compensation will be on step 1-1A of the U3C Schedule at \$41,163. Assignment: Dodd.

#### **Teacher Assistant**

**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:

- Michael Filaski, Permanent Substitute, (replacing J. Jones, resigned) a temporary appointment effective April 28, 2003 through June 30, 2003. Compensation will be according to the Substitute Pay Rate of \$125 per day. Assignment: Dodd.

#### **Teacher Assistant**

**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.

- Sean Caldwell, full-time Teaching Assistant, (replacing J. Mason, resigned) a probationary appointment effective April 10, 2003 through April 9, 2006. Compensation will be according to the FTAA Contract at \$12,073. Assignment: Atkinson.
- Stephanie Lecoin, part-time Teaching Assistant, (replacing M. Solomon, resigned) this appointment is effective April 28, 2003. Compensation will be according to the FTAA Contract at \$6,899. Assignment: Columbus.

#### **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:

- Paula Mills, Clerk Typist, (replacing R. Mevorah, LOA) a probationary appointment effective April 1, 2003 for 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation for this position will be according to the Clerical Salary Schedule at \$27,645. Assignment: FHS.
- Lafayette Skinner, Security Aide, (replacing J. Francis, terminated) a probationary appointment effective April 2, 2003 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be \$14,640. Assignment: FHS.

- Stephen Michael, Security Aide, (replacing B. Peralta, resigned) a probationary appointment effective April 2, 2003 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be \$14,640. Assignment: FHS.

#### **CSE/CPSE Minutes**

**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:

March 17, 2003; March 24, 2003; March 25, 2003; March 26, 2003; March 28, 2003; April 3, 2003; April 4, 2003; April 8, 2003; April 9, 2003; April 10, 2003; April 15, 2003.

The motions carried unanimously: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro, and Raab.

#### **CALENDAR ADOPTION 2003/2004**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education for the Freeport Union Free School District hereby adopts the Board of Education Meeting calendar for 2003-2004 as in the attached.

#### **Individual Action Items**

##### ***Granting of Tenure***

Mr. Ellerbe offered the following resolution for adoption:

**Be it Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby grants tenure status to the following individuals:

School District Administrator:

- Diane Ditchfield, Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel Services, effective June 19, 2003.
- Robert Zifchock, Director of Health, Physical Education, Athletics and Safety Education. Effective July 1, 2003.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Raab and unanimously carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

##### ***BOCES Administrative Operations Budget Vote and Trustee Election***

Mr. Ellerbe made the following motion:

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Cooperative Education Services of Nassau County (hereinafter "BOCES") has proposed and presented its tentative administrative operations budget for the 2003/2004 school year (July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004), now therefore be it



**RESOLVED**, that the BOCES tentative administrative budget for the 2003/2004 school year in the amount of fourteen million three hundred thousand seven hundred forty six dollars (\$14,300,746) be, and hereby is **APPROVED** by this Board.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby casts one vote each for three vacant seats on the Nassau BOCES Board:

Charles R. Russell, Jr., Westbury UFSD

Michael Weinick, Bellmore UFSD, Bellmore-Merrick CHSD, Merrick UFSD, North Merrick, UFSD

Iris Wolfson, Hicksville UFSD

The motion was seconded by Mr. Raab and unanimously carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Resolution To Adopt The 2003-2004 Proposed Expenditure Budget

Dr. Cattano offered the following motion:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Freeport Board of Education adopts the 2003-2004 proposed Expenditure Budget in the amount of \$105,195,417.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Raab and unanimously carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

#### **Executive Session**

At 10:10 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Coward to go into Executive Session to discuss two particular matters of personnel.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Raab, and the motion passed.

The vote was: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

At 10:25 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Raab and a second Ms. Pineyro the Board returned to open session. The vote was: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

#### **Other Business**

Ms. Coward offered the following motion:

**Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes the President of the Board to execute a certain settlement agreement between the District and a member of the non-instructional staff dated April 29, 2003.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Raab and unanimously carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

### **Executive Session**

At 10:27 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Coward to go back into Executive Session to discuss a particular matter of personnel.

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

At 11:02 p.m., Mr. Raab moved to adjourn to Open Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pineyro and unanimously carried: Cattano, Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

### **Adjournment**

At 11:03 p.m., with no other business, on a motion by Mr. Raab and seconded by Dr. Cattano 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 May 7, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Bediako, Ed.D.  
Clerk of the Board

---

### ***Calendar of Events***

APR 29 BOE Action Meeting & BOCES Trustee Election & Budget Adoption; Archer Puente Program 7:00 PM

APR 30 Bayview PTA Slate & Vote 7:30 PM

MAY 1 Kindergarten Exhibit Night

MAY 2 Registration Deadline for June 7th SAT I & SAT II

MAY 3 SAT I & SAT II

MAY 5 NYS Math Assessment Grade 4

MAY 5 NYS Math Assessment Grade 8

MAY 7 BOE Budget – Public Hearing/Planning Meeting 7:30 PM

MAY 8 NYSSMA Solo Fest All State

MAY 12 Atkinson Spring Concert 7:30 PM FHS

MAY 13 Dodd Festival of the Arts 7:30 PM; FHS Sports Boosters Meeting 7:30 PM; Giblyn PTA Slate & Vote/Volunteer Appreciation 7:30 PM

MAY 14 Dodd PTA Slate & Vote/Volunteer Appreciation 6:30 PM; PTA Council BOE Trustee Candidates Forum 7:30 PM Dodd

MAY 15 Kindergarten Registration Begins; FHS Festival of the Arts 7:30 PM; New Visions PTA Meeting/Volunteer Appreciation 7:30 PM

MAY 16 FHS Festival of the Arts 7:30 PM

MAY 19 Kindergarten Orientation 2:35 PM & 7:30 PM

MAY 20 Board of Education Annual Budget Vote & Trustee Election/Action Meeting at Atkinson 7:30 PM

***2003-2004 BOE Calendar***

July 1 Annual Reorganization/Planning Meeting (please note this is a Tuesday)

August 13 Levy/Planning/Action Meeting – Board Room

20 Action Meeting – Board Room

September 10 Planning/Action Meeting

24 Action Meeting at Columbus Avenue School

October 8 Planning/Action Meeting

29 Action Meeting at Dodd Middle School

November 12 Planning/Action Meeting

25 Action Meeting (please note this is a Tuesday) at New Visions

December 3 Planning/Action Meeting

17 Action Meeting at Bayview Avenue

- |          |    |   |
|----------|----|---|
| January  | 7  | Planning/Action Meeting   |
|          | 21 | Action Meeting at Atkinson School   |
| February | 4  | Planning/Action Meeting   |
|          | 11 | Action Meeting at Giblyn School   |
|          | 25 | Budget Workshop   |
| March    | 10 | Planning/Action/Budget Meeting  |
|          | 24 | 24 Action Meeting at Freeport High School   |
|          | 31 | Budget Workshop   |
| April    | 14 | Planning/Action Meeting   |
|          | 21 | Budget Workshop   |
|          | 27 | Action Meeting and BOCES Administrative Operations Budget Vote and BOCES<br>Trustee Election and Budget Adoption (note this is a Tuesday) |
| May      | 5  | Budget - Public Hearing/Planning Meeting  |
|          | 18 | Annual Budget Vote and Trustee Election and Action Meeting at Atkinson (please note<br>this is a Tuesday)                                 |
| June     | 2  | Planning/Action Meeting   |
|          | 23 | Action Meeting at Archer  |

Board of Education meetings begin at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise posted.

