

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

Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting

May 7, 2003

The regular planning/action meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, May 7, 2003, in the Library of the Caroline G. Atkinson School. Ms. Coward, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. She then led in the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were:

- Ms. Sunday F. Coward, President
- Dr. Joseph Cattano, Vice President (arrived 7:55 p.m.)
- Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Trustee
- Ms. Carmen J. Pineyro, Trustee (arrived 8:20 p.m.)
- 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
- Dr. Joshua Starr, Executive Director of Operations
- Mr. Robert Harris, Executive Director for Curriculum, School Improvement, Professional Development and Planning

Also absent were:

- none

Guests were:

- none

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was 23.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Eversley, Superintendent of Schools Informed the Board of Education and the public that the New York State Legislature had changed the date of the Budget Vote and Trustee Election this year. The date for the 2003 vote will be June 3, 2003 and the Budget Hearing will be held on May 20, 2003. Dr. Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Clerk of the Board, explained that because of the date change, all other deadlines concerning the budget and Trustee election have to be modified. The change in date has also changed the date that a candidate for School Board may file petitions. Dr. Bediako further explained that an incumbent School Board Member has now filed petitions and a candidate that had filed petitions has now withdrawn. Due to the withdrawal of a candidate that had previously filed petitions, the time frame for filing has been extended to May 21, 2003. The lottery will take place on May 22, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Kuncham, Assistant Superintendent for Business, discussed the new Legislative proposal regarding the State budget and how it will impact our schools.

Questions on the Item for Action

At this time, the public was given the opportunity to address the Board of Education on items on the agenda. Each speaker was allowed to address the Board for 6 minutes.

Board of Education Committee Reports

Ms. Pineyro reported to the Board that the Library Committee is in the process of setting a meeting date.

Mr. Ellerbe, Chairperson of the Legislative Committee, reported that the committee participated in the March on Albany on May 3, 2003 along with Board Members, Administrators, FTA and PTA Members. They were encouraged that the State Legislators would restore some funding to the schools.

The Board reviewed the tentative agenda for May 20, 2003.

Items for Action

Approval of CSE and PSE Meetings

Mr. Raab offered the following resolution for adoption:

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:

April 8, 2003; April 10, 2003; April 11, 2003; April 14, 2003; April 15, 2003; April 16, 2003; April 29, 2003.

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

Resolution to Adopt Guidelines Governing Poll Watching

Mr. Ellerbe offered the following resolution for adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby adopts the guidelines governing poll watching.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Cattano and discussion followed. After some discussion it was moved by Mr. Raab to table the motion for the next action meeting by the Board. The motion to table was seconded by Ms. Pineyro and passed. The vote was:

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

Executive Session

At 8:35 p.m., it was moved by Ms. Coward to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a particular matter of personnel.

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

At 10:05 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 10:07 p.m., with no other business, on a motion by Mr. Raab and seconded by Ms. Pineyro, 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 on May 20, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Bediako, Ed.D.

Clerk of the Board

