

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

Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting

June 11, 2003

The regular planning/action meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, June 11, 2003, in the Library of the Caroline G. Atkinson School. Ms. Coward, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. She then led in the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were:

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

Absent were:

- Dr. Joseph Cattano, Vice President

Also present were:

- Dr. Eric L. Eversley, Superintendent of Schools
- Mr. Kishore Kuncham, Assistant Superintendent for Business
- Dr. Joshua Starr, Executive Director of Operations
- Mr. Robert Harris, Executive Director for Curriculum, School Improvement, Professional Development and Planning

Also absent were:

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

Guests were:

- none

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was 11.

Before the start of the meeting Ms. Coward called for a resolution to appoint a Clerk Pro Tem due to the absence of Dr. Bediako.

A motion by Mr. Raab was made as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District that Robert W. Harris be appointed Clerk Pro Tem.

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

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Eversley, Superintendent of Schools, thanked the public for their support and for the passing of the 2003-2004 budget. Dr. Eversley pointed out to the Board that one of the items for action would be "Removing From the Table" a resolution regarding the first reading of the proposed Vision Statement.

Dr. Eversley then introduced Dr. Joshua Starr, Executive Director of Operations, and congratulated him on the birth of his son. Dr. Starr gave a preliminary report on the Attendance Policy. He discussed the formation of a committee and the guiding principles that the committee followed in order to meet their goal of revising the current policy for the 2003-2004 year.

Dr. Starr addressed questions from the Board.

Questions From the Public

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

Mr. Raab reported that the Library Committee had met and that it was a productive meeting. He informed the Board and public that they had found some wonderful ways to involve our students in the public library and the many programs that are offered by the library.

The Board reviewed the tentative agenda for June 25, 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 30, 2003; May 8, 2003; May 9, 2003; May 12, 2003; May 15, 2003; May 20, 2003; May 21, 2003; May 22, 2003; May 28, 2003; May 29, 2003; June 3, 2003; June 4, 2003; June 5, 2003.

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

Ratification of a Memorandum of Agreement

Mr. Ellerbe offered the following resolution for adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby ratifies a Memorandum of Agreement between the Freeport Educational Office Staff Association and the Freeport Union Free School District (as attached)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to sign said contract.

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

Removal of a Motion from the Table

Ms. Pineyro offered the following resolution for adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District that a motion to approve the First Reading of the Vision Statement be taken from the table and be considered for action

Mr. Ellerbe spoke about his concerns before removing the resolution regarding the Visioning Statement from the table. Ms. Coward addressed the concerns of Mr. Ellerbe and explained that this was the first reading and the Board was acknowledging receipt not taking any action to adopt the motion.

The motion was made again as follows:

Mr. Raab offered the following resolution for adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District that a motion to approve the First Reading of the Vision Statement be taken from the table and be considered for action

Ms. Pineyro seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The vote was:

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

First Reading of the Proposed Vision Statement

Mr. Raab offered the following resolution for adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED that as a first reading the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby acknowledges the receipt of and has had the opportunity to review the proposed vision statement as follows:

*The vision of the Freeport Public Schools is to inspire in all the desire to learn and succeed.
Our schools will be safe learning communities that celebrate our achievements and
encourage active partnerships with families and the entire community. We will empower
students to embrace the challenges and opportunities of the future.*

Ms. Pineyro seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The vote was:

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

Acceptance/Rejection of Bids

Ms. Pineyro offered the following resolution for adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED that Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the bids as listed in the attached Bid Award Report for Atkinson Plumbing and Freeport High School Plumbing and rejects the bids as listed in the attached Bid Award Report for Atkinson Electrical and Mechanical, and Freeport High School Mechanical and Electrical as recommended in the attached bid recommendations. Freeport Public Schools reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities of each item as needed.

Mr. Raab seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The vote was:

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

Agreement to Participate in a Cooperative Bid

Mr. Raab offered the following resolution for adoption:

WHEREAS, It is the plan of a number of public school districts in Nassau/Suffolk Counties, New York to bid jointly on food and supplies for the 2003-2004 school year.

WHEREAS, The Freeport Union Free School District is desirous of participating with other districts in Nassau/Suffolk Counties in the joint bidding of the commodities mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, section 119-o and

WHEREAS, The Freeport Union Free School District wishes to appoint a committee to assume the responsibility of drafting specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, reporting the results to the Board of Education and making recommendations thereon: therefore.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District, hereby appoints the Long Island School Food Service Directors Association Cooperative Bid Committee to represent it in all matters related above, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Freeport Union Free School District Board of Education authorizes the above mentioned committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned commodities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Freeport Union Free School District Board of Education agrees to assume its equitable share of the costs of the cooperative bidding, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Freeport Union Free School District Board of Education agrees 1) to abide by the majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards; 2) that unless all bids are rejected, it will award contracts according to the recommendations of the committee; 3) that after award of contract(s) it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

Mr. Ellerbe seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The vote was:

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

Board Comments

Ms. Pineyro reported to the Board that Mr. Raab and she visited a school District in Chatham North Carolina, at their own expense, who presented at the National School Board Association Conference in San Francisco. She stated that the main reason for the trip was to see which of the programs were the most effective being that they had a very large Hispanic Migrant Population. In Freeport historically we have had a Transient population; they move down to the south, they move back to their country which in ways is similar to the Migrant Population of this School District (Chatham). We also learned about Title VII grants which dealt with migrant workers. In addition, another reason for the trip was to learn from their Intake Welcoming process. It would be an excellent idea if we can integrate into our welcoming procedures some of the ones used by the Chatham District. One idea would be to partner up with the

Mayor offices, Chamber of Commerce and have a welcoming video in possibly three to four languages showing the Village of Freeport and the different agencies.

Mr. Ellerbe informed the public of the passing of Dr. Anthony Ciaglia, former Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum. He commended Dr. Ciaglia for his years of service and the sacrifices he made in his tenure here. A moment of silence was observed.

Executive Session

At 9:00 p.m., it was moved by Ms. Coward to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations and two particular matters of personnel.

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

At 10:15 p.m., Mr. Raab moved to adjourn to Open Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pineyro and unanimously carried: Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Adjournment

At 10:16 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: Coward, Ellerbe, Pineyro and Raab.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be on June 25, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Wayne Harris
Clerk Pro Tem

