



FREEPORT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda **Planning/Action Meeting** **June 6, 2012**
7:30 p.m. **Caroline G. Atkinson School** **Cafeteria**

I **Determination of Quorum and Call to Order**

II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

III. **Board Announcements**

IV. **Superintendent's Report**

1. Recognition of Retirees
2. First Reading of the Revised Code of Conduct
3. First Reading of the Revised Policies
4. Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR)

V. **Questions/Comments from the Public**

The public is given the opportunity to address the Board of Education on any topic. Each speaker will be allowed to address the Board once, for a maximum of **four** minutes.

The Board of Education and/or the Administration may respond at the conclusion of the question and comment portion of the meeting, or they may respond, verbally or in writing, at a later date.

VII. **Items for Action**

1. Acceptance of the Minutes from the Committees on Special Education and Preschool Special Education
2. Approval of Overnight Student Travel
3. Acceptance of a Scholarship
4. Acceptance of the First Reading of the Revised Code of Conduct
5. Acceptance of the First Reading of Revised Policies

6. Appointment of an Underwriter for Qualified School
Construction Bonds

- VIII. Review of the tentative Agenda for the June 20, 2012,
Board of Education Action Meeting.**
- IX. Board Comments**
- X. Superintendent's Comments**
- XI. Adjournment**
- XII. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Board of Education will be held on June 20, 2012, at New Visions School.

All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Register to vote: Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Administration Building, 235 N. Ocean Avenue.

Visit our website at www.freeportschools.org

1.

CSE/CPSE Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the minutes of the meetings of the Committees on Special Education and Preschool Special Education for the following dates:

March 5, 8, 9, 12, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 2012.

April 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 16, 19, 20, 23, 26, 30, 2012.

May 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 18, 20, 2012.

2.

Education

Resolution to Approve Overnight Student Travel

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes Freeport High School to conduct a field trip to Lakehurst Air Force Base in Wrightstown, New Jersey from June 1st through June 3rd, 2012 for NJROTC students for the purpose of communication skill development and Leadership Training in an actual military setting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said authorization is subject to availability of chaperones and to Freeport High School's compliance with all insurance, health, safety and financial guidelines as indicated in the Administrative Procedures.

3.

Finance

Acceptance of a Scholarship

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts with gratitude a scholarship to be known as the Mr. Ernest Kight, Jr. Scholarship. The award will be in the amount of \$100 and is to be awarded to a Freeport High School Senior to keep the memory of Mr. Kight and his legacy in the minds of the students and faculty. The criteria for the award are as follows: a graduating senior who has earned the highest score on either the Global History or U.S. History Advance Placement Exams; Student has been accepted to a College/University and will pursue his or her studies in a Social Studies related field; Student must demonstrate Mr. Kight's passion for travel and exemplify his character. This scholarship is made possible by the Faculty and Clubs at Freeport High School.

4.

Education

Acceptance of the First Reading of the Revised Code of Conduct

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts as a first reading, the revised Code of Conduct for 2012-2013 School Year.

(as attached)

5.

Education

Acceptance of the First Reading of the Board of Education Revised Policies

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District, that as a first reading, hereby acknowledges the receipt of and has had the opportunity to review the Board of Education Revised Policies as attached;

Dignity for All Students #7550

Civility, Citizenship and Character Education/Interpersonal Violence Prevention

Education #8242.

2012 7550

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Students

SUBJECT: DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT

The Board of Education recognizes that learning environments that are safe and supportive can increase student attendance and improve academic achievement. A student's ability to learn and achieve high academic standards, and a school's ability to educate students, is compromised by incidents of discrimination or harassment, including but not limited to bullying, taunting and intimidation. Therefore, in accordance with the Dignity for All Students Act, Education Law, Article 2, the District will strive to create an environment free of discrimination and harassment and will foster civility in the schools to prevent and prohibit conduct which is inconsistent with the District's educational mission.

The District condemns and prohibits all forms of discrimination and harassment of students based on actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex by school employees or students on school property and at school-sponsored activities and events that take place at locations off school property. In addition, any act of discrimination or harassment, outside of school sponsored events, which can reasonably be expected to materially and substantially disrupt the education process may be subject to discipline.

Dignity Act Coordinator

At least one (1) employee at every school shall be designated as the Dignity Act Coordinator(s). The Dignity Act Coordinator(s) will be thoroughly trained to handle human relations in the areas of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender (identity or expression) and sex. The Board of Education shall appoint the Dignity Act Coordinator(s) and share the name(s) and contact information with all school personnel, students, and parents/persons in parental relation.

If a Dignity Act Coordinator vacates his/her position, another school employee shall immediately be designated for an interim appointment as Coordinator, pending approval from the Board of Education, within thirty (30) days of the date the position was vacated. In the event a Coordinator is unable to perform the duties of the position for an extended period of time, another school employee shall immediately be designated for an interim appointment as Coordinator, pending return of the previous Coordinator to the position.

Training

Training will be provided each school year for all District employees in conjunction with existing professional development training to raise staff awareness and sensitivity of harassment and discrimination directed at students that are committed by students or school employees on school property or at a school function. Training will include ways to promote a supportive school environment that is free from discrimination and harassment, emphasize positive relationships, and demonstrate prevention and intervention techniques to assist employees in recognizing and responding to harassment and discrimination, as well as ensuring the safety of the victims.

2012 7550

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Students

SUBJECT: DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT

Instruction in grades Kindergarten through 12 shall include a component on civility, citizenship and character education. Such component shall instruct students on the principles of honesty, tolerance, personal responsibility, respect for others, observance of laws and rules, courtesy, dignity and other traits which will enhance the quality of their experiences in, and contributions to, the community. For the purposes of this policy, "tolerance," "respect for others" and "dignity" shall include awareness and sensitivity to discrimination or harassment and civility in the relations of people of different races, weights, national origins, ethnic groups, religions, religious practices, mental or physical abilities, sexual orientations, genders and sexes.

Rules against discrimination and harassment will be included in the Code of Conduct, publicized District-wide and disseminated to all staff and parents. An age-appropriate summary shall be distributed to all students at a school assembly at the beginning of each school year.

Reports and Investigations of Discrimination and Harassment

The District will investigate all complaints of harassment and discrimination, either formal or informal, and take prompt corrective measures, as necessary. Complaints will be investigated in accordance with applicable policies and regulations. If, after an appropriate investigation, the District finds that this policy has been violated, corrective action will be taken in accordance with District policies and regulations, the Code of Conduct, and all appropriate federal or state laws.

The District will annually report material incidents of discrimination and harassment to the State Education Department as part of the Uniform Violent and Disruptive Incident Reporting System (VADIR).

Prohibition of Retaliatory Behavior (Commonly Known as "Whistle-Blower" Protection)

Any person who has reasonable cause to suspect that a student has been subjected to discrimination or harassment by an employee or student, on school grounds or at a school function, who acts reasonably and in good faith and reports such information to school officials or law enforcement authorities, shall have immunity from any civil liability that may arise from making such report. The Board prohibits any retaliatory behavior directed at complainants, victims, witnesses and/or any other individuals who participated in the investigation of a complaint of discrimination or harassment.

Education Law Sections 10-18 and 801-a

8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Section 100.2(jj)

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Students

SUBJECT: DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT (Cont'd.)

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #3410 -- Code of Conduct on School Property

#3420 -- Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment in the School

District

#3430 -- Uniform Violent and Disruptive Incident Reporting System

(VADIR)

#7551 -- Sexual Harassment of Students

#7552 -- Bullying in the Schools

#7553 -- Hazing of Students

#8130 -- Equal Educational Opportunities

#8242 -- Civility, Citizenship and Character Education/Interpersonal

Violence Prevention Education

Adoption Date

Instruction

**SUBJECT: CIVILITY, CITIZENSHIP AND CHARACTER EDUCATION/
INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION**

Civility, Citizenship and Character Education

The Board of Education recognizes that teaching students respect, civility and understanding toward others, as well as the practice and reinforcement of appropriate behavior and values of our society, is an important function of the School System.

The School District wishes to foster an environment where students exhibit behavior that promotes positive educational practices, allows students to grow socially and academically, and encourages healthy dialogue in respectful ways. By presenting teachers and staff as positive role models, the District stresses positive communication and discourages disrespectful treatment. This policy is not intended to deprive and/or restrict any student of his/her right to freedom of expression but, rather, seeks to maintain, to the extent possible and reasonable, a safe, harassment free and educationally conducive environment for our students and staff.

Furthermore, the District shall ensure that the course of instruction in grades K through 12 includes a component on civility, citizenship and character education in accordance with Education Law. Character education is the deliberate effort to help students understand, care about, and act upon core ethical values.

Character education shall instruct students on the principles of:

- a) Honesty;
- b) Tolerance;
- c) Personal responsibility;
- d) Respect for others;
- e) Observance of laws and rules;
- f) Courtesy; and
- g) Dignity, and other traits which will enhance the quality of students' experiences in, and contributions to, the community.

For purposes of this policy, "tolerance," "respect for others" and "dignity" shall include awareness and sensitivity to discrimination or harassment and civility in the relations of people of different races, weights, national origins, ethnic groups, religions, religious practices, mental or physical abilities, sexual orientations, genders, and sexes.

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Instruction

**SUBJECT: CIVILITY, CITIZENSHIP AND CHARACTER EDUCATION/
INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION (Cont'd.)**

As determined by the Board of Regents, and as further enumerated in Commissioner's Regulations, the components of character education shall be incorporated in existing School District curricula as applicable.

The District encourages the involvement of staff, students, parents and community members in the implementation and reinforcement of character education in the schools.

Education Law Sections 801 and 801-a
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Section 100.2(c)

Policy 7550, Dignity for All Students Act

Interpersonal Violence Prevention Education

The District will utilize the interpersonal violence prevention education package provided by the State Education Department. These materials will be incorporated as part of the health or other related curricula or programs for students in grades K through 12.

Education Law Section 804(4)

6.

Finance

Appointment of an Underwriter for Qualified School Construction Bonds

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby appoints Roosevelt and Cross, Incorporated, as the underwriter for the sale of the \$5 million Qualified School Construction Bonds per the District's schedule for the bond sale.