

March 14, 2012

The regular Planning/Action/Budget Meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, March 14, 2012, in the cafeteria of the Caroline G. Atkinson Intermediate School. Debra Mulé, Vice President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. She then led the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were: Ms. Debra Mulé, Vice President
Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Trustee (arrived 7:43 p.m.)
Ms. Vilma Lancaster, Trustee
Mr. Michael Pomerico, Trustee

Absent were: Ms. Debra McQuillan, President

Also present were: Dr. Kishore Kuncham, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel,
Special Projects & District Clerk
Dr. Wafa Westervelt, Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Kenneth Rodgers, Assistant Superintendent for
Business
Mr. Michael Singleton, Executive Director of Operations

Also absent were: none

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was 18.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kuncham welcomed everyone. He made the following remarks:

- Tonight we will spend time on the 2012-2013 budget
- I am delighted to recommend tenure for our Principal Mr. Ernie Kight and Assistant Principal Mr. Nelson Holland. Congratulations and great job!
- Caroline G. Atkinson Intermediate students under the leadership of Ms. Nina Sasso, created a modern day quilt, honoring the September 11th Hero's from Nassau County. They expressed themselves in a wonderful way and almost every student participated. There are 920 squares and it is being donated to the Firefighters Museum.
- There is a surprise tenure also being granted tonight to Dr. Wafa Westervelt in honor of the spectacular job she is doing.
- The last several meetings we have been talking about the budget, the decline in revenues, (specifically State Aid and the Property Tax Cap) and the devastating effect on Freeport Public Schools. We may be seeing more cuts in the next few weeks.

- Tonight we will present two components, Administrative and Capital.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a seconded by Ms. Lancaster the additional tenure item was added to the agenda.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

Dr. Kenneth Rodgers, Assistant Superintendent for Business, gave a power point presentation of the Administrative and the Capital Components, as attached.

Dr. Kuncham remarked that there has been a lot of action and advocacy for the schools. Our Board Trustee, Ron Ellerbe as well as the PTA Officers and members have been attending Lobbying Day in Albany as well as the Superintendent and parents. Local Legislators have been contacted and there is a letter and e-mail campaign to make our lawmakers aware about how the Tax Cap will be effecting our children.

The Superintendent shared some good news that indicates that the Assembly and Senate have paid attention. They have rejected the Governors proposal to keep \$200 Million as competitive grants and have pushed for the money to be returned to Districts as General School Aid. We may receive an additional \$600,000; however it won't fill the gap. The State Budget is expected to be on time.

The Superintendent further announced:

- March 15, 2012 the Rotary Club will be honoring Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Board Trustee, Ms. Linda Carter, Intermediate School Principal and Mr. Russ Cellan, Teacher and Coach. They will be receiving the Civic Leadership award for all their hard work.
- March 17th, 2012, at Cleveland Avenue Field, Boys Lacrosse Jamboree.
- Saturday March 1t, 2013, Early College Awareness at Hofstra University.
- March 22, 2012, Science and Engineering Fair at Freeport High School.
- Advocacy is important!!

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 four minutes on any topic. The Board and administration addressed the comments from the public.

Items for Action

On a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a seconded by Mr. Pomerico the following item was approved:

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:

December 10, 12, 20, 2011

January 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 18, 23, 24, 25, 27, 31, 2012

February 1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 28, 29, 2012

March 1, 2012

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a seconded by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

Granting of Tenure

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby grants tenure status to the following individual(s):

Administrator(s)			
Name	School	Tenure Area	Tenure Date
Ernest J. Kight, Jr.	FHS	Principal	March 26, 2012
Nelson Holland	FHS	Assistant Principal	March 26, 2012

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a seconded by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby grants tenure status to Dr. Wafa Westervelt, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, effective March 15, 2012.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a seconded by Mr. Pomerico the following item was approved:

Acceptance of a Bid Award Recommendation for Freeport High School – Synthetic Turf Field/Lighting Project

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District, hereby awards a combined contract for the Synthetic Turf Field construction and the Field Lighting electrical work, along with the selected Alternates #3 and #6 at

Freeport High School to the LandTek Group, Inc. at a negotiated combined contract cost of \$1,606,000.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a seconded by Ms. Lancaster the following item was approved:

Authorization to Sign a Letter of Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to sign the Letter of Agreement between the Freeport Union Free School District and Nassau BOCES for the BoTIE Fiber Optic Network for Nassau County School Districts, for a total authorization of \$250, 275.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

Executive Session

At 8:40 p.m. Mr. Ellerbe moved to adjourn to executive session for one specific matter of negotiations. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lancaster and passed unanimously.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

At 9:25 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Ms. Mulé the Board returned to open session. The motion carried unanimously.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

Adjournment

At 9:26 p.m. with no other business on a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and seconded by Ms. Lancaster, the Board adjourned the meeting.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Action meeting of the Board of Education will be on March 28, 2012, 7:30 p.m., at Freeport High School.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary R. Bediako, Ed. D.
District Clerk