

May 2, 2012

The Budget Public Hearing/Planning/Action Meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, May 2, 2012, in the cafeteria of the Caroline G. Atkinson School. Ms. Mulé, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. She then led in the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were: Ms. Debra Mulé, Vice President
Mr. Ronald Ellerbe,
Ms. Vilma Lancaster, Trustee
Mr. Michael Pomerico, Trustee

Absent were: Ms. Debra McQuillan, President

Also present were: Dr. Kishore Kuncham, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Wafa Westervelt, Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Kenneth Rodgers, Assistant Superintendent for
Business
Mr. Michael Singleton, Executive Director of Operations
(arrived 8:23 p.m.)

Absent were: Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel
and District Clerk

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was approximately 30.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe, Dr. Kenneth Rodgers, Assistant Superintendent for Business was appointed Clerk Pro Tem. The vote was: Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé, and Pomerico.

Budget Hearing

Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Kishore Kuncham, Superintendent of Schools, welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then reminded everyone that the budget had been adopted by the Board of Education on April 17, 2012. Tonight was about presenting the budget in detail. There are copies with several different components available to the public. Dr. Kuncham introduced Mr. Kenneth Bellafiore, Director of the Freeport Memorial Library to present the proposed Library Budget for 2012-2013.

Proposed Library Budget 2012-2013

Mr. Kenneth Bellafiore, Director of the Freeport Memorial Library discussed the Proposed 2012/2013 Library Budget (as attached) and gave an update on various exciting projects happening at the Library to better serve the public.

Questions from the Public

The public was given the opportunity to address Mr. Bellafiore about the Proposed 2012/2013 Library Budget.

School Budget 2012-2013

The Superintendent spoke about the difficulties facing the District in building the 2012-2013 budget. He said that it has not been easy but the district has done its best to preserve programs and keep it under the cap that has been imposed. The budget to budget increase, at 1.03%, is the lowest in two decades, accompanied with a tax levy increase of 2.37%. There were reductions in equipment, supplies, programs, services and staffing. We were fortunate that the Administrators and Cabinet took freezes to their salary and teachers took deferments to their salary.

Dr. Kuncham then introduced Dr. Kenneth Rodgers, Assistant Superintendent for Business, who gave a detailed presentation of the Proposed 2012/2013 School Budget. Dr. Kuncham also announced the following;

At the May 23, 2012 meeting we will present the report card for the 2010-2011 School Year.

Questions from the Public

The public was given the opportunity to address the Board of Education and Administration regarding the 2012/2013 Proposed School Budget.

Dr. Kuncham asked the public to please come out and vote, don't hesitate to call with any questions. This is a fiscally responsible budget. He added that registration to vote was on-going through May 8, 2012, and absentee ballots were available until May 14, 2012 for this election.

Adjournment

At 9:05, with no other business, on a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Mr. Pomerico, the Board adjourned the meeting. The vote was: Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be the Annual Budget Vote and Trustee Election meeting at 9:30 p.m. on May 17, 2012 at the Caroline G. Atkinson School.

Respectfully submitted

Kenneth Rodgers
Clerk Pro Tem