

April 17, 2013

The regular Action Meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Tuesday, April 17, 2012, in the Auditorium of Archer Street School. Debra Mulé, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m., she then led the pledge of allegiance.

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

Absent were: None

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
Mr. James Robinson Executive Director 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 158.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Kishore Kuncham, welcomed everyone to the Board of Education Action meeting. He congratulated Ms. Vilma Lancaster, our Board of Education Vice President upon her appointment as Freeport Village Assessor.

Mrs. Lein, Principal of Archer Street School, introduced the 2nd Grade Dual Language Class. They presented a short play with songs in honor of Earth Day. The presentation was enjoyed by all.

Ms. Lein then recognized the Archer Street School Unsung Hero, Mrs. Florence Harff and her dog, Winston. Mrs. Harff and Winston visit the students every week and encourage the children to become confident readers. Some children who may be reluctant to read aloud, do so willingly when they read to Winston. Mrs. Harff is also an active member of "Pet Partners" and trains "therapy dogs". She was presented with a plaque by Ms. Lein and a pin from the Board of Education by Ms. Mulé and the Superintendent, to thank her for her outstanding work for the children of Freeport.

The Student Government, under the direction of Mr. Josh Levitt, presented their report on the activities at Freeport High School.

Dr. Kuncham informed everyone that April 14th through 20th, 2013 is National Library Week. He introduced the Coordinator for English Language Arts, Ms. Pamela Maltese. Ms. Maltese introduced several of Freeport School Districts Media Library Specialists. They gave a power point presentation highlighting the services and resources available through the District and their importance in implementing the Common Core Standards.

The Superintendent thanked Ms. Maltese and the Library Specialists for the presentation and for all they do. He pointed out that we value our libraries and that they will remain intact for the 2013-2014 School Year.

The Superintendent also made the following announcements:

- The 2013 Librarian of the year chosen by BOCES is Archer Street Librarian, Deborah Bergen.
- Library Journal's Movers and Shakers for 2013 is Rose Luna, FHS Librarian.

Dr. Kuncham told the community that we are adopting the 2013-2014 proposed budget at tonight's meeting. He stated that while the district was able to stay within the tax cap, it came at a cost of 3.5 million dollars in cuts, however the proposed budget keeps the core educational programs intact and maintains full-day Kindergarten.

Mr. James Robinson, Executive Director for Business, gave a power point presentation of the budget.

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 the Agenda only. The Board and administration addressed the comments from the public.

Items for Action

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following items were approved on a Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

Acceptance of the Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the minutes of the following meetings as written: March 20, 2013; April 3, 2013 Special; April 3, 2013.

Leave of Absence

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby grants a request for leave of absence as listed below:

Tiffany Leotaud-Shinkonde, full-time Teaching Assistant, an extension effective April 7, 2013 through June 30, 2013, for child care.

Margarite Izquierdo, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective March 12, 2013 through June 30, 2013, for health reasons.

Celenia. Torres, Food Service Worker, effective April 4, 2013 through June 30, 2013, for health reasons.

Kristen Fagan, Guidance Counselor, effective March 4, 2013 through June 30, 2013, for health reasons.

Gina Rocker, Special Education Teacher, an extension effective March 27, 2013 through June 30, 2013, for health reasons.

Resignation of Staff

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letter(s) of resignation from the following staff member(s) as listed below:

Danielle Barry, part-time Teaching Assistant, effective April 5, 2013, to accept another position in the District.

Jeanine Morsch, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective April 12, 2013, for personal reasons.

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:

January 29, 2013; February 1, 4, 6, 8, 11, 15, 22, 27, 28, 2013; March 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 2013; April 3, 4, 5, 2013.

Other Items for Action

On a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Ms. Lancaster the following item was approved:

Retirement of Staff

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from the following staff member as listed:

Wendy Cave, Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2013, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 25 years.

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

On a motion by Ms. Lancaster and a second by Mr. Miller the following item was approved:

Finance

Resolution to Adopt the 2013-2014 Proposed Expenditure Budget

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District, that the proposed Expenditure Budget for the 2013-2014 School Year in the amount of **\$156,362,834** is hereby adopted.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Miller and a second by Mr. Ellerbe, the following item was approved:

Resolution–Budget Transfer-General Fund

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District here by approves a Budget Transfer within the General Fund for April 2013.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

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

BOCES Administrative Operations Budget Vote

WHEREAS, the Board of Cooperative Education Services of Nassau County (hereinafter “BOCES”) has proposed and presented its tentative Administrative Operations Budget for the 2013/2014 school year (July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014), now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the BOCES tentative administrative budget for the 2013/2014 school year in the amount of nineteen million, six hundred eighty-six thousand, one hundred fifteen dollars (**\$19,686,115**) be, and hereby is **APPROVED** by Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

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

BOCES Trustee Election

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby casts one vote each for **three vacant seats** on the Nassau BOCES Board:

Ronald Ellerbe, Freeport UFSD
B. A. Schoen, Baldwin UFSD
Fran N. Langsner, Wantagh UFSD

The motion carried and the vote was;
Yeas: Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.
Nays: none.
Abstained: Ellerbe.

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.

Adjournment

At 10:02 p.m., with no other business, on a motion by Mr. Pomerico and seconded by Ms. Lancaster, the Board adjourned the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary R. Bediako, Ed.D.,
District Clerk