

November 6, 2013

The regular Planning/Action Meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, November 6, 2013, in the cafeteria of the Caroline G. Atkinson Intermediate School. Debra Mulé, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:30 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
Mr. Gerard Poole, Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Michael Singleton, Executive Director of Operations

Also absent were: Mr. James Robinson, Executive Director for Business

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was 9.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kuncham welcomed everyone to the meeting and said he had many things to share, he also wanted to continue the dialogue about education and financial challenges.

- The Top-Ten students of the Class of 2014 were announced at Freeport High School on October 30, 2013, and they are:
 1. Karolynn Ellis
 2. Javier Otero
 3. Lee Stetson
 4. Graciela Jamieson
 5. Alana Ezeji
 6. Danny Piñeyro
 7. Kaylinn Ellis
 8. Adia Matthew
 9. Celine Orosco
 10. Alanna Gordon
- Congratulations go out to all of the A. P. Scholars. Many of our students have been identified as A. P. Scholars, A. P. Scholars with Honors, A. P. Scholars with Distinction and National A. P. Scholars.

- Freeport will be highly represented once again at the All County Festival due to outstanding scores they received last May at the NYSSMA/All State Adjudication.
- The German Exchange Program is going strong and 21 students along with 2 chaperones will be arriving on November 30, 2013.
- Congratulations to the FHS Select Choral and their participation in Senator Fuschillo's "Golden Gathering".
- Dr. Kuncham, as the leader of Freeport Union Free School District, spoke at a Candlelight Vigil to remember Lewis (Lou) Reed. Freeport Graduate and music icon. There was much coverage by the press.
- Nassau County is donating five panic alarms to each school district in Nassau County. We are looking into obtaining additional alarms for our other schools.
- Shannon Welcome broke her own record at the Divisional Swim Championships on October 30, 2013 in the 100 yard butterfly. The previous week she broke the record that had been standing since 1998. She is now qualified to compete in the County preliminaries in the 100 yard butterfly as well as the 200 yard individual medley event.
- Courtesy Bus Company, parent company of Atlantic Bus Company (the company we use) filed for Chapter 11 last night. We have been assured that it will be business as usual. Our legal team is making sure that we will be protected.
- Negotiations are ongoing with the Freeport Teachers Association.
- Budget meetings for the 2014-2015 School Year will be starting in early December.
- The State has released the School District's contribution to the Teachers Retirement System for the coming year. The Teachers Retirement contribution for this year was up 37%, this coming year it will be 9.23%. Even though it is reduced from this year the increase for that line on the budget next year puts Freeport over the cap.

Educational and Fiscal Challenges

Dr. Kuncham introduced Mr. Gerard Poole, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. Mr. Poole made the following remarks.

ESEA Waiver request:

- Would exempt students that take the Regents exam in eighth grade from taking the NYS eighth grade math test.
- Students that do so would be required to pass an additional math Regents in High School.

NYSESLAT:

- Last year the exams became aligned to the CCLS and included more grade bands. This year the test will be more aligned to the CCLS and the

identification exam (LAB-R) has changed as well to a new CCLS aligned exam aligned to the NYSESLAT.

CCLS Regents:

- This year students that take a commencement level math course for the first time must be enrolled in a CCLS aligned course and will take a CCLS Regents exam. This is typically Integrated Algebra 1. For this year only, they may take both the CCLS and the 2005 aligned Regents and use the higher grade. This also applies for ELA, however students will not be assessed until grade 11 in a CCLS aligned ELA Regents exam.
- The Regents is considering changing the scale score from the current 0-100 scale to a new scale range. They will then create a conversion document to give schools a “percentage” score to use for course averages.
- The Regents is considering a new Research paper commencement requirement.

PARCC:

- The start of web based testing has been delayed for a year. The new projected start is the 2015-16 school year. Projected price of \$29.50 per student for NYS. Districts would have option to purchase start of the school year and mid- year formative exams.

Alternate Pathway for Special Education Students:

- The IEP diploma has been eliminated. And a Career and Occupational Studies Commencement credential is in its place.
- Must offer to all students with an IEP. It is designed to have students become credentialed in workplace skills. Students must still be allowed to continue in school if they desire in order to earn a Regents diploma. Full implementation 2015.

Data Portal

- RTTT districts were required to select a portal from a list of three provided by the state at no cost to Districts for the next two years. Freeport is an RTTT District.
- Portal is designed to create a central warehouse of student information for schools. They are designed to be longitudinal.
- Freeport selected “Datacation.” District may switch providers at the end of the year.
No Freeport student data has been uploaded yet, a midwinter date is projected to be the time that Districts will be asked to upload.

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:

September 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 30, 2013.

October 1, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18, 23, 2013.

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

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

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 Revised Board of Education following Policies;

1330,1338,1510,3310,3410,3420,5110,5120,5130,5150,5230,5634,5650,6170,
6470,6510,7220,7222,7240,7242,7315,7513,7551,7552,7555,7610,7610,7640
8130,8242,8243,8271.

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

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

Adoption of the 2013-2014 Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) Plan

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District herewith approves and adopts the attached documents as the District's 2013-2014 Annual Professional Performance Review plan for classroom teachers in compliance with the Education Law §3012-c, 8 N.Y.C.R.R. 30-2 and 8 N.Y.C.R.R. 100.2; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent or his designee to submit the plan via the online portal, "Review Room", or via any other means allowable by law, to the Commissioner of Education for review.

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

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

Authorization

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District has become aware that its transportation contractor, Courtesy Bus, has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in the United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District; and

WHEREAS, as a result of said filing, counsel has advised that it is required to and is prepared to file such necessary documents with the Bankruptcy Court as will protect the interests of the School District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes counsel to take any and all necessary steps and to file any and all such documents in the Bankruptcy Court or such other court as in its professional judgment will protect the School District's interests

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

Executive Session

At 8:40 p.m. Mr. Pomerico moved to adjourn to executive session for one specific matter of personnel and one matter of negotiation.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and passed unanimously.

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

At 9:15 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Mr. Miller the Board returned to open session. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Adjournment

At 9:16 p.m. with no other business on a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and seconded by Mr. Pomerico, the Board adjourned the meeting.

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

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Action meeting of the Board of Education will be on November 20, 2013, 7:30 p.m., at John W. Dodd Middle School.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary R. Bediako, Ed. D.
District Clerk