

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
December 10, 2020 – Virtual Meeting

PRESENT: Mr. Gellar, Mr. McCann, Mr. Antonello, Mr. Compitello, Mrs. LaRosa,
Mr. Maginniss, Mr. Tussie

ABSENT: None

ADMINISTRATORS: Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Pellati, Mr. Taylor

ABSENT: None

ATTORNEY: Mr. Volz

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Rich Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the November 24, 2020 Planning Session.

PERSONNEL:

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Rich Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: *Elizabeth Davis, Senior Office Assistant, effective January 4, 2021 (District Office; Step 1; replacing J. Brodsky {retired}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Rich Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Keiry Zelaya, Building Aide, effective January 4, 2021 (Manetuck; Step 1: replacing M. Cameron {Office Assistant}).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Rich Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: LEAVE OF ABSENCE (paid) (Pursuant to FEPSLA): Anita Diaz, Senior Account Clerk, effective December 28, 2020 – December 30, 2020 (District Office).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Rich Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: LEAVE OF ABSENCE (paid) (Pursuant to FEPSLA): Patricia Plompen, Senior Office Assistant, effective December 15, 2020 – December 18, 2020 (District Office).

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Rich Antonello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: SUBSTITUTE TEACHER (\$130 per diem):

- *Rachel Altrui, effective January 28, 2021, student teacher
- *Ashley Barrell, effective March 17, 2021, student teacher
- *Grace Bolin, effective January 25, 2021, student teacher
- *Thomas Carusillo, effective January 25, 2021, student teacher
- *Angelique DeRosa, effective January 15, 2021, student teacher
- *Deanna DiMartino, effective January 13, 2021, student teacher
- *Michael Dondero, effective January 25, 2021, student teacher
- *Danielle Ferruggiari, effective January 28, 2021, student teacher
- Angela Frammosa, effective December 9, 2021
- *Alexander Giordano, effective January 19, 2021, student teacher
- *Kristina Giordano, effective March 1, 2021, student teacher
- *Kiersten Held, effective January 26, 2021, student teacher
- *Michelle Hernandez, effective December 21, 2020

*Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance

OTHER – Substitute Teacher continued

- *Morgan Kube, effective January 25, 2021, student teacher
- *Kristy Mangiano, effective January 4, 2021, student teacher
- *Mackenzie Martocci, effective January 28, 2021, student teacher
- *Alexandra Passannante, effective January 25, 2021, student teacher
- *Savannah Rinne, effective January 25, 2021, student teacher
- *Samantha Santangelo, effective January 28, 2021, student teacher
- *Gionna Second, effective January 25, 2021, student teacher
- *Krista Virga, effective January 21, 2021, student teacher

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Rich Antoniello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: CLUBS/ADVISORS 2020-2021:

HIGH SCHOOL:

Academic Decathlon, Brainstormers, Kevin Murphy
Academic Decathlon, Jr. Brainstormers, Noreen Matthews
Art Club, Linda Marino
Audio-Visual Club Director, Ronald Weber
Band Music, David Kaufman
Chamber Singers, Melissa Senatore
Chess Club, Christine Maniscalco
Creativity Action Service, Virginia Scudder
Director, Flag Team, James Kraus
Director, Senior Play, Elaine Longo
Distributive Education Club of America, Diana Saadat
Extra-Curricular Treasurer, Kelly Sepe
Freshman Class Advisor, Tara Annunziata and Alissa Nanda
Future Business Leaders Club, Monica Krawczyk and Joanne Macrelli (shared)
Gay-Straight Alliance, John Koroneos
Junior Class Advisor, James Dooley and Colleen Reilly (shared)
Literary Magazine, David Gershfeld
Mathletes, James Como, Craig Michel and Nancy Yost (shared)
Mock Trail, Edward Jablonski
National Art Honor Society, Annette Musteric
National English Honor Society, David Gershfeld
National Honor Society, Dina Barone and Beth Crimi (shared)
New York State Business and Marketing Honor Society, Joanne Macrelli and Patricia Stack (shared)
Newspaper, Dawn DiVisconti and Christine Maniscalco (shared)
Photographer: Newspaper/Yearbook, Dawn DiVisconti and Christine Maniscalco (shared)
Robotics, Andrew Baranec
School Store, Diana Saadat
Science Honor Society, Diane Munno
Science Olympiad, Jessica Picone and Linda Tong (shared)
Senior Class Advisor, Kristie Ferruzzi and Kelly Weisenseel (shared)
Sets Director (All Productions), Michael Taranto
Sophomore Class Advisor, Diana Saadat and Shawn Wallace (shared)
Student Senate, Edward Jablonski and David Moglia (shared)
Students for the Environment Club, Brian Haldenwang
Thirst Project Club, Paola Nilsen
Tri-Music Honor Society, Ryan Jensen
Yearbook, Dawn DiVisconti and Christine Maniscalco (shared)

*Conditional pending fingerprinting clearance

OTHER – CLUBS/ADVISORS 2020-2021 – continued

BEACH STREET MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Diversity Club, Fran Ahearn
Helping Hands Club, Kathleen Crowley
Mindfulness Club, Kathleen Crowley
Mathletes Grade 7, Christopher Salerno
Mathletes Grade 8, Jeannine Conaghan
National Junior Honor Society, Christine McCann and Theresa Robertson (shared)
Newspaper, Danielle Rufrano
Photography, Robyn Southard
School Store, Kristen Grossi
Science Olympiads 6th Grade, Andrea Miller
Science Olympiads, 7th and 8th Grade, Andrea Miller
Student Council, Lisa Cosgrove
World Cultures Club, Theresa Robertson
Yearbook, Theresa Robertson

UDALL ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Art Club, Gregory Ziems
Current Events, Deborah Pulitano
Health Club, Tricia Mileti
International Club/Diversity Club, Kristina Rocco
National Junior Honor Society, Danielle Dischley
School Store, Denise LaMattina
Science Olympiads, Kristine Hagens
Student Council Grade 6, Pamela Diorio
Student Council Grades 7-8, Kristine Hagens
Yoga Club, Kristen Finnegan

BAYVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Book Club, Maria Lucie
Kahoot Club, Denise Campasano
Tech Club, Justin DeMaio

DISTRICTWIDE

Director, Chamber Orchestra, Beach Vincent Melia
Director, Chamber Orchestra, Udall, Lynnette Fawess
Director, Jazz Band, Beach, Stephen Smith
Director, Jazz Band, Udall LuAnn Peskanov
Director, Jazz Ensemble, James Kraiss
Director, Jazz Lab, David Kaufman
Director, Marching/Pep Band, James Kraiss

MANETUCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Community Service Club, Grades K-2, Kerri Ierardi and Susan Marullo (shared)
Digital Yearbook, Grades 4-5, Kristyna Acerno
Kindness Club, Grades K-1, Chistine Chocko

CURRICULUM UPDATE:

Mrs. Morrison advised that students and staff continue to work wonders in their respective classrooms despite the many challenges and disruptions presented by the COVID-19 virus. Feedback from parents and students assist the district with making instructional and procedural adjustments deemed necessary. Mrs. Morrison reminded and encouraged parents to contact their child's teacher and/or building principal directly with questions or concerns related to the classroom or building procedures.

Mrs. Morrison spoke about two matters at the high school in need of consideration. The first involves how attendance for quarantined students is recorded in Infinite Campus while students await test results. The second is related to the timeframe in which the quarantined students have to take classroom assessments being administered during the quarantine period. Dr. Bridgeman and the high school team are working to resolve these matters.

Mrs. Morrison reported on the many uplifting learning experiences through the district. Udall Road Middle School candidates running for the Student Council created FlipGrid videos sharing their running; P.J. Bellew Elementary School held a Gratitude Assembly via a live Google Meet; the World Language Society high school students are in the process of creating personalized, virtual holiday messages for the students in the Life Skills classes; and Oquenock students across the grade levels have been engaged in myriad STEM activities.

Mrs. Morrison extended her best wishes to the school community for a happy and healthy 2021.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Education Committee: Rich Antonello reported on the meeting that took place 12/8/2020. A review of the current math curriculum and programs utilized to support the standards is underway. The curriculum committee is considering the K-2 Guided Readers Program to support students in small group literacy instructions in the classroom as well as virtually, should the need arise.

The high school is in the process of finalizing a learning schedule to be used in the event the district should move to remote instruction for an extended period of time. The remote schedule adheres closely to the regular bell schedule and incorporates a teacher/student collaboration and support period at the end of the day. Elementary schools have begun to transition students back to the special area classrooms where students will receive art, music and library-media instruction. The rotating schedule allows for sanitization of the classrooms between cohort use.

Finance Committee: Ron Maginniss reported on the meeting held on 12/8/2020. Items reviewed included the October extra-curricular report; November payroll summary; October financial statements; November claims audit report; November system manager audit report; payroll certification forms; contracts; and Paul J. Bellew Leasehold Space Agreement. Mrs. Pellati advised that the Capital Reserve as of June 30, 2020 is \$4,023,645. If the reserve is used in 2021-2022, a separate proposition will be placed on the May ballot.

Buildings and Grounds: Peter McCann reported on the meeting that took place on 12/8/2020. School Construction Consultants and BBS Architects provided an update on the status of current bond work; bond fund balance and suggested Phase 6 projects were discussed along with use of the capital reserve fund. The committee discussed the paw print project for graduating seniors. The maintenance crew, improving the security of the facilities and increasing cost efficiencies, have upgraded additional pole and building lights to LED. Due to the recommendation that windows remain open in all classrooms and offices, there will be an increase in electrical and natural gas costs this year. The lack of afterschool and weekend building activities will help to mitigate some of these costs.

Special Education Committee: Tom Compitello reported on the meeting held 12/9/2020. Items included a review of district placement of special education students by building, review of budget, and the high cost of nursing services and out-of-district placements.

Safety Committee: Anthony Tussie reported on the meeting held on 12/10/2020. Items reviewed included the installation of blue lights districtwide, cameras in the high school guard booth, and remote phone dial

assistance in all rooms to call 911. Security checks are now done daily on cameras to ensure all cameras are always working. I pads are being used for incident reporting; the high school guard booth is fully operational; and additional door access swipes are on order and should be installed soon. Safety and security training is to be increased for staff covering emergencies and traffic congestion is being addressed districtwide. An assessment of district radios and budget considerations for 2021-2022 were discussed.

Health and Wellness Committee: Peter McCann reported on the meeting that took place on 11/17/2020. Items reviewed included the financial report and the positive response to the Color Fun Virtual Event. A Cyber Safety Virtual Presentation is tentatively scheduled for 1/20/2021 at 8:00 p.m.; and potential topics for the Newsletter were discussed. The committee supported WIHS Senior Dorian Scourtos' efforts to promote the Helping Hands Holiday 5K Run which raises money for struggling families. Coping with COVID virtual seminar was well attended. The committee is exploring a potential virtual Bike-A-Thon for spring and the creation of a "Kicking COVID Challenge", including a potential speaker to provide strategies for navigating through a pandemic. Students will be reminded of all available extracurricular activities and the committee will explore potential videos from DOH regarding contact tracing. The Annual West Islip Schools staff Breast Cancer fundraiser raised \$1,830 for the WI Beast Cancer Coalition bringing the total contributions to WIBCC to \$41,790.00. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 1/5/2021, at 10:00 a.m. (virtually).

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

The treasurer's report for October was presented: beginning balance \$ 55,988,292.81; ending balance \$43,744,622.39.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Rich Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve General Fund budget transfers 3982-3997 and Capital Fund transfers 3985-3996.

Motion was made by Peter McCann seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following 2020-2021 contracts: Donna Geffner, Ph.D., CCC-SP/A Consultant Services Contract; East Islip UFSD Health and Welfare Service Agreement ~ \$3,838.48.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Winkler Real Estate Amendment #10 to Contract

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve School Construction Consultants, Inc. Revised Fee Structure.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Eastern Suffolk BOCES Leasehold Space Agreement September 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Tom Compitello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Amendment to Notice of Special District Meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mrs. Burns advised that the district is regularly updating its practices whether instructional in nature, attendance procedures or safety initiatives. District protocols provide for questions from parents to be directed to the teacher first and then the relevant director or principal.

Mrs. Burns recalled how last year she was congratulating the football team on an outstanding season and encouraging parents to attend band and orchestra concerts. This year Mrs. Burns advised that music teachers and musicians continue to prepare for when they can perform again and hopefully, the athletic season can resume the after the first of the year.

Mrs. Burns encouraged residents to take a look at the high school web page and watch ‘10 Ways to Survive Life in a Quarantine’ and congratulated the student performers on their very humorous work on the virtual stage.

The district posted a parent survey inquiring if parents would allow their child to participate in COVID-19 testing. Testing would require 20% of students and staff to be tested if the district falls into a “yellow” zone. The results of the survey demonstrated that a sufficient number of parents are prepared to provide consent. Information will be sent home shortly.

Mrs. Burns wished everyone a joyous, festive, and healthy holiday season.

Mr. Gellar announced that during virtual meetings, the public should direct any questions to the Board or Superintendent e-mail that is posted on the district website.

The following two questions were sent to Mrs. Burns from West Islip resident Mrs. Julie Cannistra:

Mrs. Cannistra inquired about the results of the parent survey. Mrs. Burns advised that 2,200 parents out of 4,200 participated in the survey. 41% of elementary parents, 48% of middle school parents, and 52% of high school parents would allow their child to test for COVID-19. The district is coordinating a plan, which shall be shared shortly. Mrs. Burns advised that she visited the East Islip School District, which is presently testing.

Mrs. Cannistra asked how residents can find out if they are registered to vote. Mrs. Burns advised that if you have not voted in the last four years, you should check with the Suffolk County Board of Elections and see if you are registered. Mr. Gellar also advised that the Suffolk County Board of Elections has a feature on its website on which one can enter their registration information to determine personal registration status. If not registered, you can register through the Suffolk County Board of Elections or the District.

Mr. Gellar wished everyone a safe and well happy holiday season.

Motion was made by Peter McCann, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:08 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 9:31p.m. on motion by Peter McCann, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. on motion by Peter McCann, seconded by Tom Compitello and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted by,



Mary Hock
District Clerk

All correspondence, reports or related materials referred to in these minutes are on file in the District Office.