

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 8, 2025 – Beach Street Middle School

PRESENT: Mr. Tussie, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Antonello, Mr. Bedell, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Marks, Mr. McCann

ABSENT: None

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Romanelli, Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Pellati, Mr. Cameron

ABSENT: None

ATTORNEY: Mr. Vigliotta

Meeting called to order 7:32 p.m. followed by the Pledge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Representative Report:

Krista Williams and Taylor Riley stated that AP testing has started and so far has been successful. The students have been studying and working hard.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Student Board Members ~ Noah Butler and Veronica Ramos (alternate)

Dr. Romanelli spoke about New York State's proposal that all Boards of Education in the State of New York take on a student Board of Education member effective July 1, 2025. He stated that the district was very excited about this and immediately embraced the idea. Mr. O'Farrell and his team at the High School developed a process to see which students would be interested in becoming a student Board of Education member. Approximately 20 students applied and underwent a rigorous selection process, which included submitting videos and participating in interviews.

The Constitutional Oath of Office was administered by Attorney Michael Vigliotta to Noah Butler, Student Board Member and Veronica Ramos, Student Board Member alternate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2025 Regular Meeting.

PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANT: RETIREMENT: Louise Distefano, Teaching Assistant, effective June 30, 2025.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

TA-1

RETIREMENT

Louise Distefano, Teaching Assistant
Effective June 30, 2025
(Oquenock and Manetuck)

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CIVIL SERVICE: RETIREMENT: Helen Coppola, Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective May 12, 2025 (32 years).

CIVIL SERVICE

CL-2

RETIREMENT

Helen Coppola, Part-Time Food Service Worker
Effective May 12, 2025
(32 years)

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve consent agenda CL-1 and Other as listed:

CL-1

RESIGNATION

Christina Chiarelli, Paraprofessional
Effective April 22, 2025
(Paul J. Bellew)

OTHER

ADULT EDUCATION 2025-2026

Kevin Murphy, Director (\$4,418 per semester)
Michelle Grover, Secretary (\$3,917 per semester)

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL and HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION 2025-2026

Daniel Marquardt, Co-Coordinator (\$25,016 per year)
John Mullins, Co-Coordinator (\$25,016 per year)

DEAN 2025-2026

Richard Ippoliti, High School

DRIVER EDUCATION 2025-2026

Lorraine Kolar, Secretary (\$1,410/semester)

ENRICHMENT 2025-2026

John Ruggiero, Director (\$1,962 per semester)
Lorraine Kolar, Secretary (\$865 per semester)

EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM (ESY) 2025-2026

Jeanne Dowling, Administrator (\$12,045)

MENTOR PROGRAM 2025-2026

Karen McCarthy, Coordinator (\$1,673)

OTHER, continued

NEW TEACHER PROGRAM COORDINATOR 2025-2026

Donna Flynn, Co-Coordinator (\$2,861 per year)
Lauren Lay, Co-Coordinator (\$2,861 per year)

SUMMER INVESTIGATIONS PROGRAM 2025-2026

Rhonda Pratt, Coordinator (\$5,100)

REGENTS REVIEW 2024-2025

Earth Science
Alexandra Nohowec

PERMANENT SUBSTITUTE TEACHER RESIGNATION

Lynsey Jensen, effective May 1, 2025
(Manetuck)

SUBSTITUTE TEACHING ASSISTANT(\$105 per diem)

Gina Calderone, effective April 28, 2025

FALL 2025 HIGH SCHOOL COACHES

FIELD HOCKEY

Catherine Brudi, Assistant Varsity Coach

CURRICULUM REPORT

Mrs. Morrison spoke about the AP and IB testing if off to a good start at the high school and will continue until 5/16/25. This year the AP tests are being administered digitally with a hybrid model for our math and science tests. Mrs. Morrison wished continued luck to all of the students taking the tests for the remaining days of the administration.

Mrs. Morrison stated that the district will once again be hosting a Summer Investigations Program for current kindergarten through 5th grade students. Information was recently sent out via ParentSquare to all K–5 parents. The program is thematically based and designed to support students in reading and math, helping ensure they achieve grade-level skills. The s PFundationrogram and the Ready to Rise Program are utilized to support literacy development. Additionally, small, targeted math groups help students acquire the fundamental math skills necessary for success in the upcoming school year.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Buildings & Grounds Committee: Peter McCann reported on the meeting that was held on 5/6/2025. Items reviewed included construction projects: Masera parking lot and kitchen renovation; district office secure entrance vestibule; pool expansion; fire alarm system replacement at the High School, Beach Street, and Paul J. Bellew; kitchen renovation projects; Udall orchestra room floor leveling; boiler controller upgrades; Manetuck recess soccer field; Manetuck gym ceiling, lights, speakers, paint; High School parking lot asphalt repairs and curb apron; Udall tennis court crack repairs; preparing for summer cleaning, camps, field use, etc.; High School boiler flooding issues; Oquenock playground rubber surface damage.

Education Committee: Richard Antoniello reported on the meeting that was held on 05/06/2025. Items reviewed included kindergarten screening; Governor Hochul's new Bell-to-Bell Cell Phone Ban in schools effective September 2025; updates regarding the exemptions from diploma assessment requirements for major life events; attendance policy committee regarding lateness to school; Mastery Learning and Equitable Grading Practices.

Finance Committee: Grace Kelly reported on the meeting that was held on 05/6/2025. Items reviewed included treasurer's report; March's school district funds, payroll summary and financial statements; April's internal claims audit report and system manager audit trail; payroll certification for 4/2/25, 4/21/25, 4/30/25; review of warrants; approval of budget transfers; approval of surplus; approval of contracts; approval of lease agreement; approval of bids. R.S. Abrams will be on-site 6/4/2025 and 6/5/2025 for interim 2024-2025 audit testing; Audit Committee with R.S. Abrams, LLP to review and approve our 2024-25 audit results will be held on October 9, 2025, prior to the Board Meeting; internal auditors Cullen & Danowski, LLP will be on-site for benefits testing in mid-May.

Special Education Committee: Christina Marks reported on the meeting that was held on 5/07/25. Items discussed Items reviewed included IEP, CSE and CPSE recommendations from respective committees and will be approved at this evening's meeting.

SEPTA President Mara D'Amico joined for the non-confidential portion of the meeting. SEPTA Kindness Night which was held on 5/2/2025 was a successful event.

Policy Committee: Items reviewed included second readings of Sexual Harassment Policies 6121 Sexual Harassment, 6121.1 Sexual Harassment of Employees, 6121.1-R Sexual Harassment of Employees Regulation, 6121.1-E Sexual Harassment of Employees Exhibit, 7551 Sexual Harassment of Students, 7551.1-R Sexual Harassment of Students Regulation, 7551.1-E Sexual Harassment of Students Exhibit. Recent changes to Sexual Harassment Policy in New York State schools has been driven by several key reasons, reflecting a broader effort to improve safety, accountability, and support for students and staff. Some of the main reasons include aligning with State and Federal laws, increasing awareness and transparency, and promoting a culture of respect and safety.

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antoniello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve policies in their revised format as listed:

1. 6121 Sexual Harassment
2. 6121.1 Sexual Harassment of Employees
3. 6121.1-R Sexual Harassment of Employees Regulation
4. 6121.1-E Sexual Harassment of Employees Exhibit
5. 7551 Sexual Harassment of Students
6. 7551.1-R Sexual Harassment of Students
7. 7551.1-R Sexual Harassment of Students Regulation

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antoniello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve removal of obsolete policies as listed:

1. 3231 Complaints and Grievances by Employees
2. 3232 Complaints and Grievances by Students

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Motion was made by Debbie Brown seconded by Richard Antoniello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2024-2025 General and School Lunch Fund budget transfers # 4501-4503, 4505-4507, 4509-4517 and Capital Fund #4500 and 4508.

Motion was made Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antoniello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve contracts:

1. Amityville UFSD Health and Welfare Services 2024-2025
2. South Huntington UFSD Health and Welfare Services 2024-2025

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antoniello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve surplus items:

1. Miscellaneous Books ~ Udall Road Middle School ELA Collection
2. Miscellaneous Books ~ Beach Street Middle School ELA Collection
3. Miscellaneous Books ~ Bayview Elementary Library
4. Miscellaneous Books ~ Beach Street Middle School Library
5. Miscellaneous I.T. Equipment ~ District-wide

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antoniello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve bids 2025-2026:

1. #2501 Refrigeration Repair and Services ~ Traditional Air Conditioning Systems & Service
2. #2502 Gates and Chain Link Fencing ~ All Island Fence & Railings
3. #2503 Printing ~ Tobay Printing Company, Inc.
4. #2504 Athletic Uniforms ~ Sportsman's and BSN Sports
5. #2505 Buildings & Grounds Uniforms ~ Woods Men and Boys Clothing
6. #2506 Metrology Grade 3D Scanner ~ Cimquest, Inc.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Tussie took a moment to acknowledge Teacher Appreciation Week and extended his deepest gratitude to the incredible teachers who serve our students every day. Their dedication, creativity, and compassion shape not only young minds but also the future of our community. During Teacher Appreciation Week—and every week—he thanked teachers for the countless ways they go above and beyond, inspire, and empower. He stated that teachers truly make a difference, and is sincerely grateful for all they do.

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antoniello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve BOCES Multi-Year Service Agreement – Xerox networked Copiers (Project #WI-49-031325-2025-2029 ~ 48 months).

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antoniello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve resolutions re: the Board of Education approves the recommendations of the Special Education Committee of students as listed in the District's backup and authorizes the District to arrange for appropriate services.

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antoniello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Memorandum of Agreement re: Local 237 Operations - Summer Hours.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Romanelli also echoed Mr. Tussie's sentiments and gave a special shout-out to all of the district's school nurses in honor of Nurses Appreciation Week. Dr. Romanelli shared that his father was a teacher and his mother was a school nurse - two groups that hold a special place in his heart. He expressed deep appreciation for both. Dr. Romanelli noted that the role of school nurses has expanded significantly over the past few years, bringing with it tremendous responsibility within the school buildings. He emphasized that our school nurses work every day to keep students safe and promote wellness, enabling students to learn optimally across all schools in the district.

Dr. Romanelli remarked that it's hard to believe we are approaching the end of the school year. He recently attended a track meet, marking the final season for Mr. Lavery as a track coach before his retirement at the completion of next year.

A heartfelt tribute was also given to Mr. Kraus, who has dedicated 36 years to music education in the district, during the High School's band concert. A large number of alumni returned to honor him, showing their deep appreciation for his lasting impact.

Dr. Romanelli provided an update regarding New York state aid. The district had been awaiting the Governor's finalized budget since April 1st and just received the final state aid runs as of last night. The good news is that the district budgeted accurately, and the final figures align closely with the projected amount of state aid. However, the district did not receive the increase in aid it had hoped for at this point in the year.

Mr. Tussie reminded all that Tuesday, May 20, 2025 is the Budget Vote and Board of Trustee Election and encouraged all to vote.

Motion was made by Debbie Brown, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 8:42 p.m. on motion by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m. on motion by Peter McCann, seconded by Richard Antonello, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth Davis
District Clerk

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