



**ATTACHMENTS TO BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**OF MEETING OF July 5, 2011**

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**Jane Finkelstein**

**848 Mayer Drive, Wantagh, NY**

Ms. Finkelstein welcomed Dr. Grossane and Mr. Ward. She had questions regarding the unpaid lunch money. She asked if there was a policy implemented. Additionally, Ms. Finkelstein reported on the conditions of the track at MacArthur High School. She noted it is littered with bottles and filth, and she is offended that the community does not respect property. Ms. Finkelstein asked who is responsible for this upkeep and perhaps a policy is needed to address this issue.

**Al Matousek**

**83 Anchor Lane, Levittown**

Mr. Matousek, a parent of an autistic child, handed out a letter to the Board requesting them to reconsider the decision to eliminate new student placement at out-of-district vocational programs. He reported that his son was scheduled to attend the Animal Care Skills Course at Nassau BOCES. This placement would have fulfilled his son's personal goal to work with animals. It was determined by professionals and special education assessments, that this would be the most appropriate educational environment to provide essential and meaningful life skills in addition to establishing a foundation for a future career. Mr. Matousek remarked that success for his son depends on preparing him for life.

**RESPONSES:**

**In response to the Ms. Lachow comments:**

Mr. Powers thanked Ms. Lachow for a great job as Council President and noted he appreciated everything she did.

**In response to the Ms. Finkelstein concerns:**

Mr. Moran commented that the Board had discussions regarding the unclaimed funds of the lunch program and will try to implement a policy.

Mr. Pappas acknowledged that the problem lies with the outgoing seniors. Ms. Haas reported on the progress of her efforts and offered several suggestions. The Board discussed possible options to collect this money and also asked Dr. Chesterton to investigate such alternatives as a discounted yearly meal tickets and an automatic replenish system.

Dr. Grossane recommended surveying our surrounding districts to view their plans.

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**In response to Ms. Crehan and Mr. Matousek request:**

Dr. Grossane thanked these parents for bring their concerns to his attention and said these situations will be looked into. He noted he would speak to Central Office and the Special Education Department and get back to them shortly.

**In response to the concerns regarding elementary class size:**

Mr. Powers addressed this issue by stating that their concerns are a constant source of conversation with the Board. He noted that sections and enrollment is being watched constantly, and final decisions have not been made. Mr. Powers stressed that the Board knows how important this is to everyone. He commented that school is out but the Board is not.

Ms. Marengi responded to Ms. Xenios by assuring her that she had her support. She noted that the Board is aware of how important it is for children in the self-contained classrooms to be mainstreamed as often as possible. Ms. Marengi commented that those numbers need to be considered in the numbers when sections are reviewed. This will be investigated.

Mr. Pappas thanked Ms. Rhatigan for a good job managing class size under the restrictions placed upon her. He commented that classes were being monitored.

Dr. Grossane reported that he has been discussing their concerns with Central Office and looking at the numbers very closely. He commented that a recommendation will be presented to the Board and a good decision will be made. Ms. Rhatigan noted she is watching the classes in several schools and will keep him apprised of the situation.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Appelbaum,  
District Clerk



