

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEVITTOWN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
LEVITTOWN, NY**

DATE: April 17, 2013

SPECIAL MEETING

THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, was duly called and held on Wednesday, April 17, 2013 in the Board Meeting Room of the Levittown Memorial Education Center.

CERTIFICATION:

The District Clerk certified that pursuant to Section 104, Open Meetings Law, notice of meeting was sent to the local newspapers, the Public Library and posted on the district's website. Further, all members of the Board of Education had due notice of said meeting.

PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Peggy Marengi
Mr. James Moran
Mr. Michael Pappas – President
Mr. Peter Porrazzo – Vice President
Mr. Edward Powers
Mr. Kevin Regan – Secretary (excused absence)
Mr. Frank Ward

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. James Grossane – Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Darlene Rhatigan – Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Debbie Rifkin – Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Mark Flower – Assistant Superintendent

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Mr. Pappas, called the Special Meeting to order at 6:30 PM. On a motion by Mr. Porrazzo, seconded by Mr. Moran and approved (6-0) that the Board adjourn to Executive Session to discuss items on the Executive Session Agenda relating to negotiations.
- C. The Board reconvened to Public Session at 7:44 PM at which time Mr. Pappas asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our troops fighting overseas and for those killed and injured in the bombing in Boston.

II. REPORTS

- A. Recognition:
 - 1. Cheerleading Team – Division Avenue H.S. – Long Island Finalists
 - 2. Cheerleading Team – MacArthur H.S. – Long Island Finalists
 - 3. Bowling Team - Division Avenue H.S. – All County Champions

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II. REPORTS (continued)

Mr. Snyder, Director of Physical Education, Athletics Health & Health Services, called upon the principals of the high schools to congratulate the coaches and students from the teams. The coaches spoke about their teams and introduced the members. Dr. Grossane remarked that he was proud of all the teams. Mr. Pappas congratulated everyone on accomplishments in the competitions. He stated what impressed him the most is what the girls teams have done for the community. They gave back with numerous service activities and fundraisers.

MOTION: Mr. Powers moved, "That the Board go into Executive Session at 8: 09 PM to discuss procedure.

Executive Session

Seconded: Ms. Marenghi

MOTION CARRIED. Six members voting yes.

APPROVED 6-0.

The Board reconvened in public at 8:13 PM.

III. PUBLIC BE HEARD
(See attached)

IV. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS.

1. **MOTION:** Mr. Ward moved, "WHEREAS, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County (herein called "BOCES") has proposed and presented its tentative administrative budget for the 2013-2014 school year (July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014),

RESOLUTION# 12-13-194
Approval of BOCES
Budget and Candidates

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the BOCES proposed Administrative Operations Budget for the 2013-2014 school year in the amount of \$19,686,115 be, and hereby is, approved by the Levittown Board of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, cast a vote for Robert "B.A." Shoen, Fran N. Langsner and Ronald Ellerbe to be the three candidates for the BOCES Board of Education."

Seconded: Mr. Moran

MOTION CARRIED. Six members present voting yes.

APPROVED 6-0.

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IV. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS (continued).

2. **MOTION:** Mr. Powers moved, "RESOLVED, that the Levittown School District does, hereby, appoint Dora Lasinger as Impartial Hearing officer in a matter regarding student I.D. #1122018."

RESOLUTION# 12-13-195
Appointment of Impartial
Hearing Officer

Seconded: Ms. Marenghi

MOTION CARRIED. Six members present voting yes.

APPROVED 6-0.

3. **MOTION:** Mr. Powers moved, "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, waive the twenty-four hour notice and add the following item to the agenda."

RESOLUTION# 12-13-196
Waiver of Twenty-four
Hour Notice.

Seconded: Mr. Porrazzo

MOTION CARRIED. Six members present voting yes.

APPROVED 6-0.

4. **MOTION:** Mr. Powers moved, "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, accept with thanks the following gift:

RESOLUTION# 12-13-197
Approval of Gift

a. 10' x 10' concrete slab behind the backstop of Gardiners Avenue baseball field, with 7' x 10' metal man shed installed on top of slab, given by Levittown North Baseball, P. O. Box 593, Levittown, NY 11756."

NOTE: Mr. Porrazzo asked if this item would be coordinated through the Building and Ground Director. The answer was yes. Mr. Pappas thanked the baseball league for its donation to the school district.

Seconded: Mr. Ward

MOTION CARRIED. Six members present voting yes.

APPROVED 6-0.

V. ADJOURN

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Powers and seconded by Mr. Ward that the meeting be adjourned at 8:17 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted

Elizabeth Appelbaum
District Clerk

NOTE: TAPES OF THE MEETING ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT THE LEVITTOWN LIBRARY.

ATTACHMENTS TO BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

OF MEETING OF April 17, 2013

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V. PUBLIC BE HEARD

PLEASE NOTE: COPIES OF ATTACHMENTS SUBMITTED ARE GIVEN TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THEN KEPT WITH THE OFFICIAL MINUTES IN THE DISTRICT CLERK OFFICE.

The guidelines pertaining to Public Be Heard were read. Dr. Grossane and/or Board members will respond to questions, after the last speaker is heard.

Therese Rogers 79 Periwinkle Road, Levittown, NY

Ms. Rogers, LUT President, invited the Board of Education to an educational symposium on Wednesday, May 1, 2013. She handed out an invitation with details on the conference.

Colleen Napoli 523 Sand Hill Rd, Wantagh, NY

Ms. Napoli was concerned about the Common Core and the scheduled tests. She is opposed to the high stakes testing and its one size fits all approach with little regard to the current performance of our district and the emotional and physical toll taken on the students and teachers. Ms. Napoli stated that the mandated tests bring with it unfunded costs that strain our district's budget while benefiting no one. She discussed some of the research she has done on these tests. Ms. Napoli remarked that several districts throughout the state have adopted resolutions, informing the state that the testing is not appropriate for our children. In looking at the Common Core, she believes that testing is for districts on the watch list. Ms. Napoli is extremely pleased with the education her children are receiving but feels there is too much testing. She handed out copies of resolutions others districts have adopted regarding standardized testing along with other pertinent information. She requested that the Board consider adopting a similar resolution.

RESPONSE:

In response to Ms. Napoli's concerns:

Mr. Pappas responded that the Board would review the data but could not promise a resolution would be adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Appelbaum,
District Clerk