

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

DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

PLANNING SESSION

MINUTES

THE PLANNING SESSION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, was duly called and held on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 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.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Messina called the planning session to order.

II. RECOGNITIONS

Ms. Messina thanked Northside School for the beautiful artwork around the building. Mr. Winch agreed that it looks great.

A. Student Art Work - Northside School

III. PRESENTATION

A. Presentation on Graduation Requirements - Dr. Zirotiannis

At this time Mr. Winch noted there will be two brief presentations tonight.

Mr. Winch introduced Dr. Zirotiannis who outlined the presentation on updating the graduation requirements for Levittown Public School. Dr. Zirotiannis noted a committee was formed to discuss these updated requirements. The committee consisted of principals, guidance chairs, and directors to explore recent options. After researching numerous districts on Long Island, considering the Strategic Plan and taking feedback from the senior exit survey, the committee identified some initial recommendations. These recommendations were then discussed with the teachers in the department who would be most impacted and to gain any other feedback. Dr. Zirotiannis then outlined what the District believes will enhance the graduation recommendations. The entire presentation can be viewed on our website.

<https://www.levittownschoools.com/boe/minutes/2023-2024/2023-09-27/2023-09-27%20Graduation%20Requirements%20Presentation.pdf?v=2023100307>

Questions were asked by Jennifer Messina regarding the research project beginning in 9th grade. She asked if the research project will be incorporated into the regular classes. She wanted to make sure the course is still rigorous as it is so worthwhile. Dr. Zirotiannis confirmed that the research project will continue in the classrooms and grow throughout the years.

Ms. Marengi asked what grade the financial literary course will begin to be required. Dr. Zirotiannis explained that the course will be phased in with the 9th grade class in 2024 - 2025. Dr. Zirotiannis assured Ms. Marengi that she will speak with the guidance chairs about implementing the course as soon as feasible and report back to the Board.

Ms. Lang asked how the financial literacy course would be offered. Dr. Ziropiannis reported that the course would be offered either half year or every other day; but the District will determine what fits better into the students' schedules. Ms. Lang had additional questions about the research course which Dr. Ziropiannis addressed. Mr. Winch commented that when he was a social studies teacher, a research project was imbedded into the curriculum. In this way the research project will be supported by the teachers from each of the classes. He stated that we want to put in requirements that are right for all students. Ms. Lang also spoke about chatbot and research. Dr. Ziropiannis spoke about how the District has begun to explore how this is going to affect the District and how we are going to harness the changes.

B. Presentation on Wisdom Lane Field Options

Mr. Winch then introduced Mr. Fabiano as he presented on the Wisdom Lane Field Options Presentation. Mr. Fabiano spoke about the approved five year plan which included a track behind Wisdom Lane Middle School. He outlined the choices for the Board.

The entire presentation can be viewed at

<https://www.levittownschoools.com/boe/minutes/2023-2024/2023-09-27/2023-09-27%20Wisdom%20Lane%20Field%20Options%20Presentation.pdf?v=2023100307>

Questions and comments followed. Mr. Winch said that both High Schools and Salk MS have tennis teams of about 20 students. Wisdom has no tennis team. Unfortunately, with the bus situation as it is that is not an option to bus tennis players to the other schools. Turf fields are easier to maintain and playable faster in the inclement weather. The field lighting should be considered now before we start the construction.

Mr. Moran felt that the lights may be beneficial to the varsity and JV teams in the District. He asked about the fence in the outfield; but Mr. Fabiano stated that the fence would cut into the available space.

Ms. Lang asked about the money availability. Mr. Fabiano said that the add-ons were not part of the plan. He said some changes could be made now and the money is available at this time for any combination of these projects. Ms. Lang talked about the need for security with lighted fields.

Ms. Messina wanted more information about the add-on costs. Mr. Fabiano stated that these are additional costs. Ms. Messina suggested that we could perhaps receive revenue from the new fields from outside groups using the fields. Mr. Winch did say that District could charge anyone using the fields but Bob Cohen stated that there are requirements about who and how the fields are used. He would be happy to review the policy when it is revised.

Ms. Marengi was not comfortable with the spending for all the additional options but was in favor of the turf field.

More discussion continued about the enhancements. The Board decided that due to the fact that the Board had only four members present, the vote was tabled until next meeting.

IV. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

No informational items

V. MOTION TO ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [4 - 0]
MOVER:	Christina Lang, Trustee
SECONDER	Peggy Marengi, Trustee
AYES:	Messina, Marengi, Moran, Lang
EXCUSED:	Dalton, Pappas, Adrian