

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

DATE: DECEMBER 6, 2023

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, was duly called and held on Wednesday, December 6, 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.

Board of Education

Ms. Jennifer Messina, President
Ms. Peggy Marengi, 1st Vice-President
Ms. Christina Lang, 2nd Vice-President
Ms. Marianne Adrian, Trustee (Excused Absence)
Ms. Phyllis Dalton, Trustee
Ms. James Moran, Trustee (Excused Absence)
Mr. Michael Pappas, Trustee

Central Administration

Mr. Todd Winch, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Michael Fabiano, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance
Ms. Debbie Rifkin, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Dr. Beth Ziropiannis, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

Others:

Mr. Robert H. Cohen, Counsel
Ms. Melissa Durnin, District Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER

Recommended Motion: "BE IT RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, move to Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations."

I. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Peggy Marengi, 1 st Vice President
SECONDER:	Christina Lang, 2 nd Vice President
AYES:	Pappas, Dalton, Messina, Marengi, Lang
ABSENT:	James Moran, Marianne Adrian

Meeting reconvened at 7:32pm

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Moment of Silence

Ms. Messina asked that we have a moment of silence to honor our troops fighting at home and overseas.

II. REPORTS

- A. Student Presentations
 - i. MacArthur Wind Ensemble
 - ii. MacArthur High School - Academic Presentation
- B. Recognition
 - i. Student Art Recognition - Gardiners Avenue School
- C. Superintendent
 - 1. Comments and Reports

Mr. Winch thanked the Wind Ensemble and invited Mr. Sheehan up to talk about the 5 Star ABA Program. He presented a video overview of the 5-Star Program.

Here is the link to the video presentation:

[5-Star Program](#)

- A. ENL Overview Presentation - M. Ortiz

Here is the link to the presentation:

[ENL Overview Presentation](#)

Comments from the Board:

Christina Lang commented how important it is to highlight the ENL program having been an ENL student herself.

- B. BoardDocs Virtual Overview

BoardDocs is a program that the District would use in place of their existing program to document agendas and minutes of past, current and future Board meetings, as well as policies.

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| 2. | Follow-up to Prior Public Be Heard Questions | N/A |
| 3. | Follow-up to Board Questions | N/A |

D. Board of Education

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|-----|
| 1. | Comments and Reports | N/A |
| 2. | Correspondence | N/A |

III. PUBLIC BE HEARD

The guidelines pertaining to Public Be Heard were read.

Matthew Kondrop of 3605 Northview Avenue, Wantagh, NY, spoke of his concerns regarding the Nursing staff at the Elementary level. The Board resolved to look into the situation and get back to him.

Mr. Winch notified the meeting that Ms. Debbie Rifkin, the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, will be retiring at the end of the school year. Thanked her for the amazing job she has done thus far and the loss that the Levittown community will feel upon her retirement. So grateful for her service.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Warrants

RESOLUTION # 120623-001

Recommended Motion: "WHEREAS, all claims, warrants and charges against the School District have been reviewed by the Claims Auditor and have been certified by the Claims Auditor for payment,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NOVEMBER 2023 report of the Claims Auditor be accepted."

2. Business Office Reports

RESOLUTION # 120623-002

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, accept the following reports from the Business Office:

- Appropriation and Revenue Reports for the period 7/1/23 to 10/31/23
- Trial Balance Report for the period 7/1/23 to 10/31/23
- Treasurers Report for the month ending October 2023"

3. Settlement Agreement

RESOLUTION # 120623-003

Recommended Motion: "Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, it is hereby RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves and ratifies a certain Settlement Agreement between the District and DF and authorizes the Board president to sign same."

4. Agreement with CSEA

RESOLUTION # 120623-004

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby ratifies the Agreement between the District and the CSEA dated November 27, 2023."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education President is, hereby, authorized to execute the agreement."

5. Release with Teachers Pets Child Care Center, Inc.

RESOLUTION # 120623-005

Recommended Motion: "Be It Resolved, that upon recommendation of district counsel and the superintendent of schools, the board of education accepts the sum of \$24,000 received from Teachers Pet in full settlement of its rent arrears owed to the district, and the board president is authorized to sign a Release."

6. Appointment of New Members of the Food Service Committee

RESOLUTION # 120623-006

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, appoint Diana Murphy and Camille Rella as a members of the Food Service Committee as a representative for Salk Middle School and MacArthur High School, respectively, for the 2023-2024 school year."

7. Long Island University - Field Experience in Teacher Education Agreement

RESOLUTION # 120623-007

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education approve an agreement with Long Island University, with terms as outlined in the attached agreement, to cover student teachers and observers seeking certification for the period of November 2023 through November 2024 at no cost to the District;

and that the President of the Board of Education is, hereby, authorized to execute same."

8. Inter-municipal Agreement - Transportation

RESOLUTION # 120623-008

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, pursuant to Article 156.5 of the New York State Education Law, the Levittown Board of Education, does, hereby, approve the attached inter-municipal agreement between the Levittown Public Schools and the Island Trees Union Free School District for the purpose of Island Trees providing transportation services to students of the Levittown School District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education President is, hereby, authorized to execute the agreement and the coordinating contract."

9. Special Education Contract

RESOLUTION # 120623-009

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract between the Levittown Public Schools and the following vendor to provide special education services as indicated:

- Anderson Center for Autism

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education President is, hereby, authorized to execute the contract.”

10. Schedules RESOLUTION # 120623-010
“RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the following schedules:

- 1001 “Resignations/Terminations, Certified Personnel”
- 1002 “Resignations/Terminations, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1003 “Appointments, Certified Personnel”
- 1004 “Coaching”
- 1005 “Appointments, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1006 “Permanent Status”
- 1007 “Students with Disabilities”

11. Personnel Agreement RESOLUTION # 120623-011
BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby ratifies the agreement between the Levittown Union Free School District and Employee No. 8302.”

12. Appointment of Attorney - Keane and Beane RESOLUTION # 120623-012
Recommended Motion: “WHEREAS, the Board has been notified that the attorneys representing the District are leaving Lamb & Barnosky, LLP; and

WHEREAS, the Board has been notified that Richard Zuckerman, Sharon Berlin, Adam Ross and Alyssa Zuckerman are joining Keane and Beane PC; and

WHEREAS, the Board would like to appoint Keane and Beane as its Labor Counsel.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby terminates its relationship with Lamb & Barnosky, LLP effective close of business on December 31, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby retains Keane and Beane PC effective January 1, 2024 to act as Labor Counsel on the same terms and conditions contained in

the current retainer agreement with Lamb & Barnosky, LLP (minus the portions which were for the General Retainer); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Board President to execute the retainer agreement with Keane & Beane PC which contains the same terms as the current retainer (minus the General Retainer portions) at a rate of \$20,000 for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.”

13. Appointment of Attorney - Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC RESOLUTION # 120623-013
Recommended Motion: “WHEREAS, the Board has been notified that the attorneys representing the District are leaving Lamb & Barnosky, LLP; and

WHEREAS, the Board has been notified that Robert H. Cohen, Eugene R. Barnosky, Mara N. Harvey, Lauren Schnitzer and Lindsey Crocker are joining Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC; and

WHEREAS, the Board would like to appoint Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC as its General Counsel.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby terminates its relationship with Lamb & Barnosky, LLP effective close of business on December 31, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby retains Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC effective January 1, 2024 to act as the General Counsel on the same terms and conditions contained in the current retainer agreement with Lamb & Barnosky, LLP (minus the portions which were for the Labor Retainer); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Board President to execute the retainer agreement with Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC which contains the same terms as the current retainer (minus the Labor Retainer portions) at a rate of \$20,000 for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.”

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Phyllis Dalton, Trustee
SECONDER:	Christina Lang, 2 nd Vice President
AYES:	Pappas, Dalton, Messina, Marenghi, Lang
ABSENT:	James Moran, Marianne Adrian

14. Suspension of 24 Hour Rule

RESOLUTION # 120623-014

Recommended Motion: “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, suspend the policy rules to add an agenda item #15.”

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Phyllis Dalton, Trustee
SECONDER:	Christina Lang, 2 nd Vice President
AYES:	Pappas, Dalton, Messina, Marenghi, Lang
ABSENT:	James Moran, Marianne Adrian

15. Settlement Agreement

RESOLUTION # 120623-015

Recommended Motion: "Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, it is hereby RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves and ratifies a certain Settlement Agreement between the District and CK and authorizes the Board president to sign same."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Peggy Marenghi, 1 st Vice President
SECONDER:	Christina Lang, 2 nd Vice President
AYES:	Pappas, Dalton, Messina, Marenghi, Lang
ABSENT:	James Moran, Marianne Adrian

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. New Business N/A

VI. AD HOC N/A

VII. UPCOMING DATES

January 10 - Regular Meeting

January 24 - Budget Planning Session #1

Ms. Messina: On behalf of the of the Board of Education, we wish all of the families of the Levittown School District Community as well as our faculty staff and students a wonderful holiday season and a happy and healthy start to 2024.

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael Pappas, Trustee
SECONDER:	Christina Lang, 2 nd Vice President
AYES:	Pappas, Dalton, Messina, Marengi, Lang
ABSENT:	James Moran, Marianne Adrian

Meeting adjourned at 9:32pm