

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

**MINUTES**

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION** was duly called and held on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 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 Public Library and posted on the district's website. Further, all members of the Board of Education had due notice of said meeting.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Ms. Peggy Marengi, President  
Ms. Marianne Adrian, Vice President  
Mr. Dillon Cain  
Ms. Christina Lang  
Ms. Jennifer Messina – excused absence  
Mr. James Moran  
Mr. Michael Pappas

**ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Tonie McDonald – Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Chris Dillon – Assistant Superintendent  
Ms. Debbie Rifkin – Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Todd Winch – Assistant Superintendent

**OTHERS**

Mr. Bob Cohen – Legal Counsel  
Ms. Elizabeth Appelbaum – District Clerk  
Mr. David Marciano – Student Liaison MacArthur High School  
Ms. Emily Fuchs – Student Liaison Division Avenue High School

A. Ms. Marengi, President, called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30 PM. On a motion by Ms. Adrian, seconded by Ms. Lang and approved (6-0) that the Board adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations conducted pursuant to the Taylor Law involving the LUT.

B. The Board reconvened to Public Session at 7:35 PM on a motion by Mr. Cain seconded by Ms. Lang and approved (6-0). Ms. Marengi asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by students from Division Avenue and MacArthur High Schools and requested a moment of silence for all the men and women serving our country at home and abroad.

**II. REPORTS**

**A. Student Presentations**

**i. New Classroom Design**

Mr. Winch introduced Mr. Sheehan, Principal of MacArthur High School, who talked about the new innovative classroom design for both Division and MacArthur High Schools that have been incorporated into some classrooms. Mr. Sheehan explained that in lieu of the traditional classroom set up with standard student desks placed in rows, large circular tables or whiteboard tables have been installed.. He commented that through this design and promotion of collaborative learning, he feels confident that students have been provided with new learning opportunities and methods that have enhanced their education in a profound way. He went on to say that the benefits of collaborative learning include the use of higher level thinking, oral presentation skills, and independence and leadership skills. In addition, Mr. Sheehan stated that the innovative classroom design promotes a high level of student faculty interaction along with an increase in student retention, self-esteem and responsibility. The teachers and students were introduced and spoke about their feeling about the new classrooms. The teachers shared that the desks allow for access to student's progress, team teaching, small group instruction and ownership of education. The students felt that they provide a friendly environment, more room, encourage communication and allow you to work at your own pace. The Board was thanked for approving these classrooms. Dr. McDonald commended the teachers for doing something different. She noted that it is very hard to give up control in the classroom and this gives some control to the students which helps them take ownership to their learning. Additionally, she thanked the students for embracing this concept.

**B. Recognition**

**i. 2018 Excelsior Award Winner – Michael Gunn**

Mr. Sheehan was pleased to announce that Michael Gunn, head custodian at General Douglas MacArthur High School, was recently selected as the recipient of the 2018 Excelsior Award from the New York State Public High School Athletic Association and the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA). He noted that this award is given to an exceptional person that is a member of the CSEA Union and has helped promote and foster athletic success in their school district. Mr. Sheehan commented that this recognition is well deserved and long overdue. The Board congratulated Mr. Gunn on his award.

**ii. Student Art Presentation - Northside School**

Ms. Marengi thanked the students for their beautiful art work on display.

**C. Superintendent**

**1. Comments and Reports**

**A. 2019 – 2020 Rollover Budget Draft**

Dr. Dillon gave a Budget Overview where he went over the Budget Planning Calendar which outlines the steps being taken moving forward, Board of Education Goals, Procedures and Assumptions, Preliminary Expenditure Budget, and the Proposed Budget for 2019-2020. He noted that the District's goal is to create a budget that maintains and supports our current programs while staying within the tax levy limit. He advised that the District recently upgraded its operating software program and therefore, all budget codes had to be revised in order to comply with the new Federal mandates of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in terms of

transparency among schools. Dr. Dillon stated that a major theme in the budget this year is “cost containment.” The Board had questions on the new format and on expenditures and revenue. Dr. Dillon thanked Central Office and Mr. Milano and everyone for all their help in obtaining the data necessary to compile the budget. Ms. Marengi thanked Dr. Dillon and remarked that the new format was easier to understand.

2. Follow-up to Prior Public Be Heard Questions  
(none)
3. Follow-up to Board Questions  
(none)

- D. Board of Education
  1. Comments and Reports

Ms. Marengi reported that several Board Members along with Dr. McDonald will be attending the 2019 National School Boards Association Annual Convention in Philadelphia in March. She remarked that this year our District will be presenting.

2. Correspondence  
(none)
3. Student Liaisons

David Marcano, the student representative from MacArthur High School, reported on the events at his school: the Annual Generals Breakfast was held where 72 of our top academic achieving seniors were honored; the second Winter Concert will preformed in the coming weeks as well as Midterms.

Student Liaison, Emily Fuchs shared the events at Division Avenue High School: the Winter’s Captains Breakfast was held where Captains received certificates for their leadership and athletic abilities; the Business Honor Society presented the US Marine Corps with a sack full of new toys to give to less fortunate children this holiday season; midterm exams are coming up.

### **III. PUBLIC BE HEARD**

Comments appear at the end of the minutes.

### **IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Minutes - Approval of Minutes

RESOLUTION # 18-19-186

**MOTION:** "Make the necessary corrections and move the approval of the minutes of the December 12, 2018 Regular Board Meeting."

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marenghi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

2. Warrants

RESOLUTION # 18-19-187

**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 DECEMBER 2018 report of the Claims Auditor be accepted."

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marenghi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

3. Business Office Reports

RESOLUTION # 18-19-188

**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 7/1/18 to 11/30/18
- Claims Auditors Report for the month of December
- Treasurer's report for the period 7/1/18 to 11/30/18
- Trial Balance for the month ending 11/30/16
- Credit card statement from Citibank for statement date 11/22/18."

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marenghi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

5. Reporting of Appointed Officials for 2018-19

RESOLUTION # 18-19-189

**MOTION:** “RESOLVED, pursuant to Section 315.4 of the regulations of the NYCRR (New York Codes, Rules and Regulations), the Levittown Public Schools hereby establishes the following as Standard Work Days for appointed officials and will report the days worked to the New York State and Local Employees’ Retirement System based on the daily records of time worked as maintained by the Levittown Public Schools:

Title	Name	SS# - last 4 digits	Registration number	Standard work day	Terms begins/ends	Participates in employees time keeping	Days/Months (based on record of activities)
District Clerk	Elizabeth Appelbaum	XXXX	XXXXXXXX	6 hours/day	7/1/18 to 6/30/19	Yes	N/A

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marenghi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

6. Appointment of Additional Members of the Food Service Committee

RESOLUTION #18-19-190

**MOTION:** “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, appoint Jill Meyerowitz as the new member of the Food Service Committee for the 2018-2019 school year as a representative for the Division Avenue High School.”

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marenghi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

7. Contract for June 2019 Commencement - Hofstra University      RESOLUTION #18-19-191

**MOTION:** “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract between the Levittown Public Schools and Hofstra University in the amount of \$18,961.40 for two high school graduation rehearsals and ceremonies for Division Avenue HS and MacArthur HS to be held at the David S. Mack Sports Complex of Hofstra University on May 30, 2019 and June 22, 2019;

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

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

8. Out of District Contracts for Health and Welfare Services      RESOLUTION #18-19-192

**MOTION:** “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract between the Levittown Public Schools and the following school districts to provide health and welfare services to students attending schools in these districts for the 2018-19 school year:

- West Islip School District

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

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

9. Special Education Contracts

RESOLUTION # 18-19-193

**MOTION:** “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contracts between the Levittown Public Schools and the following vendors to provide special education services for the period 7/1/18 through 6/30/19.

- Bellmore UFSD
- Jodi Mishkin
- Dr. Jodi Tarafella Kunz

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

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

10. Obsolete Books

RESOLUTION # 18-19-194

**MOTION:** “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, declare the books on the attached lists obsolete and that the items may be discarded and/or donated as possible or sold at the highest salvage value.”

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

11. Obsolete Equipment

RESOLUTION # 18-19-195

**MOTION:** “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, declare the equipment on the attached list obsolete and that the item may be discarded and/or sold at the highest possible salvage value.”

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

12. Contract with Music Theatre International (MTI)

RESOLUTION #18-19-196

**MOTION:** "RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education approve a contract with Music Theatre International (MTI), with terms as outlined in the attached contract for licensing for “Little Shop of Horrors” for MacArthur High School for the 2018-19 school year;  
and that the President of the Board of Education is, hereby, authorized to execute same."

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marenghi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

13. Lease of Little Red School House to Teachers Pets Child Care RESOLUTION #18-19-197  
Center, Inc.

**MOTION:** "Whereas, it is mutually beneficial to the Levittown Public Schools and Teachers Pets Child Care Center, Inc. to amend the lease agreement for the "Little Red School House;"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education approve the attached updated third amendment to the lease agreement for five years (August 1, 2017 to July 31, 2020) between the Levittown Public Schools and Teachers Pets Child Care Center, Inc. and that the President of the Board of Education is, hereby, authorized to sign the attached amended lease agreement. "

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marenghi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

14. Schedules

RESOLUTION # 18-19-198

**MOTION:** That the Levittown Board of Education approve the following Schedules:

- 1001 "Resignations/Terminations, Certified Personnel"
- 1002 "Resignations/Terminations, Non-Instructional Personnel"
- 1003 "Appointments, Certified Personnel"
- 1004 "Designation, Coaching"
- 1005 "Designation, Consultants"
- 1006 "Extra-Curricular"
- 1007 "Salary Change, Certified Personnel"
- 1007a "Leave of Absence, Certified Personnel"
- 1008 "Appointments, Non-Instructional Personnel"
- 1008a "Permanent Status"
- 1009 "Students with Disabilities"

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marenghi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina



**V. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS**

2. Gifts to School

RESOLUTION # 18-19-199

**MOTION:** "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, accept with thanks the following gifts:

- A check in the amount of \$38.00 to be deposited in the East Broadway Student Activity Fund from Customs Sportswear, Inc., 8 Enterprise Court, Sewell, NJ 08080
- Thirteen book titles to be donated to the Division Avenue High School Library and English Classes from BJ's Wholesale Club, 25 Research Drive, Westborough MA 01582
- Books as listed on the attached to be donated to the Wisdom Lane Library from Scholastic Book Fair - 14, PO Box 3745, Jefferson City, MO 65102."

**NOTE: The Board thanked everyone for their generous donations.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Vice President
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Mike Pappas
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

**VI. AD HOC**

**VII. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [6-0-0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Dillon Cain
<b>SECONDER:</b>	James Moran
<b>AYES:</b>	Moran, Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Lang, Cain
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Jennifer Messina

**The Board adjourned the public meeting at 8:45 PM.**

Elizabeth Appelbaum  
District Clerk

**NOTE: Tapes of the meeting are available for review at the Levittown Library.**

**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'S OFFICE.**

The guidelines pertaining to Public Be Heard were read by the Board President.

**Claire Patton 279 Orchid Drive, Levittown, NY**

Ms. Patton asked the Board to reconsider reinstating the late buses for the parochial schools. She noted that she received a letter stating that the late buses would be cancelled because there were not enough students to meet the requirement of five students. Ms. Patton commented that it was a hardship to have the bus taken away. She wondered if there was some way they could reconfigure the routes so the parochial students could share the bus.

**Ms. Marengi commented that the District would look into different ways to try to make this work. She noted that the District will be reevaluating the routes when the Spring sports begin.**

**Dr. McDonald mentioned that all late buses were cancelled for everyone not just the parochial schools.**