

**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, February 5, 2020 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 Marenghi, President
Mr. Dillon Cain, Vice President
Ms. Marianne Adrian, excused absence
Ms. Christina Lang
Ms. Jennifer Messina
Mr. James Moran
Mr. Michael Pappas

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Tonie McDonald – Superintendent of Schools, excused absence
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. Caroline Johnson– Student Liaison MacArthur High School
Ms. Emily Fuchs – Student Liaison Division Avenue High School

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Ms. Marenghi, President, called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30 PM. On a motion by Mr. Cain, seconded by Ms. Messina and approved (6-0) that the Board adjourn to move to Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations conducted pursuant to the Taylor Law involving the ALSA.”
- 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. Marenghi asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance led by students from Lee Road Elementary School and requested a moment of silence for all those serving our country at home and abroad.

II. REPORTS

A. Student Presentations

i. Mindfulness Buddies – Lee Road School

Mr. Winch commented that he was very proud to have the students and staff from Lee Road elementary school present on Mindfulness Buddies. Ms. Anspach, Principal of Lee Road, announced that teachers and students will speak tonight about the impact of mindfulness on our students and school community. She thanked parents, students, staff and the Board for all their support. She explained that mindfulness is paying attention in a particular way; on purpose, in the present moment and non-judgmentally. Ms. Anspach, noted that the third grade Mindfulness Buddies class joined the self-contained Kindergarten class at Lee Road and an amazing connection was formed. The two teachers involved in this collaboration, Ms. Anderson and Ms. Roland spoke about the Mindfulness Program with a focus on the Mindfulness Buddies Program. The Mindfulness Program has been a part of Lee Road for the past five years and throughout that time the program has grown from short classroom lessons to a more mindful culture in the building. Ms. Anderson remarked that what the programs have done at Lee Road is profound and has affected the students and their families. These programs help students to learn specific strategies; to focus their attention; manage difficult emotions; engage in a healthy lifestyle; cultivate and grow compassion, empathy, gratitude and forgiveness, all of which are the new hallmarks of the new state mental health standards. She reported on the different programs on Mindfulness that are offered at Lee Road. Ms. Roland reflected on the bond formed between the Buddies and her Kindergarten Class. She shared that when it is mindfulness time her class is ready, focused and fully engaged. She noted that the evolution of the partnership between the two classes has been amazing to watch as it blossoms and grows and has prompted tolerance and acceptance. A short video was shown after which several students from the third grade Mindfulness Buddies program guided the audience in a mindfulness practice.

**B. Recognition
(none)**

C. Superintendent

1. Comments and Reports

A. Preliminary Revenue and Tax Cap Calculation

Dr. Dillon remarked that at this point the budget is very preliminary and nothing is final. He noted that there are some changes to the tax levy this year but we are still in the budget process in terms of examining the expense side. He shared that he would go over a possible scenario in terms of where we could be with the tax levy in terms of our allowable limit. Dr. Dillon commented that tonight he would discuss two primary focuses, one of which is the Executive Run of the State Aid which were recently released. The other is the tax levy formula. He mentioned that the Governor's proposal is looking to combine and/or cap various expense-based aid categories into foundation aid. Mr. Cohen, Legal Advisor, stated that what the Governor is trying to do through budget is to shift aid to be need-based rather than expense based. Dr. Dillon reported that the actual State Aid increase after deducting expense based aid is 0.30% or \$119,502. He talked at length about Pilot Programs (Payment in Lieu of Taxes). He commented that a hot topic among the different Associations is State Aid and the Tax Levy which are your primary sources of revenue. Dr. Dillon stated he would keep the Board informed of all updates. The Board discussed these findings.

B. Strategic Planning Update

Mr. Winch reported that the meeting for the Strategic Planning Committee is forthcoming and he will give the Board a complete update after they meet. Ms. Marengi explained that the Strategic Plan is a yearlong systematic process to develop different ways to improve the District overall by creating a vision and mission. She noted that it is very research oriented and will help to move the Levittown School District forward.

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 she and several members of the Board recently attended the Nassau Suffolk School Boards Association Dinner Meeting where the Governor's Budget was discussed. She remarked that it was very dismal in terms of what school district's will be receiving in terms of State Aid and how greatly it will have a negative impact. Ms. Marengi shared that she is part of the Nassau Suffolk Legislative Committee where they worked on a pamphlet with all of their concerns. She noted that we are very much aware of what is going on. She advised that we should all speak to our Assemblymen and Legislators to try to make a difference.

2. Correspondence
(none)

3. Student Liaisons

Carolyn Johnson, the student representative from MacArthur High School, reported on the events at her school: there was a ribbon cutting ceremony for the beautiful and brand new auditorium; the Science Olympiad Team won 11 metals and won the Spirit Award; the ninth grade survey breakfast was held where freshman completed a survey on their transition from middle school to high school; the Varsity Cheerleaders are leaving tomorrow to compete in the UCAA Tournament in Orlando; congratulations to the Varsity Wrestling Team for being crowned Nassau County Champions; the final Winter Concert is coming up along with the Annual Battle of the Classes.

Alternative Student Liaison, Jasmeet Sahota, shared the events at Division Avenue High School: the Science Olympiad team earned 20 out of 26 medals and placed 3rd out of 40 teams at the Science Olympiad Regionals; the Tri-M Music Honor Society ran a workshop which was led by conductor Dr. David Fryling; the girls Varsity Bowling Team had an undefeated season and won their Conference; and the students in AP Seminar classes are presenting their team's multi-media research presentations this week to their classmates.

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REGULAR MEETING****III. PUBLIC BE HEARD**

COMMENTS APPEAR AT THE END OF THE MINUTES

IV. CONSENT AGENDA**1. Minutes - Approval of Minutes****RESOLUTION # 19-20-197**

MOTION: "Make the necessary corrections and move the approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 8, 2020 and the Special Meeting of January 22, 2020."

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

2. Business Office Reports**RESOLUTION #19-20-198**

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 ending 7/1/2019 to 12/31/2019
- Treasurer's report for the month ending December 31, 2019
- Trial Balance for the period ending 7/1/2019 to 12/31/2019
- Credit card statement from Citibank for the statement dates 12/22/2019 and 1/6/2020
- Claims Audit Report for January 2020."

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

NOTE: Mr. Pappas asked Dr. Dillon about the spike in confirming Purchase Orders. Dr. Dillon responded that he would review the report and get back to him.

3. Board Meeting Calendar – 2020-2021 School Year

RESOLUTION #19-20-199

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, adopt the attached updated calendar of the Board of Education meeting dates for the Levittown Public Schools for the 2020-2021 school year."

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

4. Asset Valuation and Inventory Updating Service

RESOLUTION #19-20-200

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract between the Levittown Public Schools and CBIZ Valuation Group, LLC to review the district's asset valuation and perform an inventory update for insurance and auditing purposes;

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

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

5. RFP #LPS 19-011 - Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program

RESOLUTION #19-20-201

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, award RFP #LPS 19-011 Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program to Tender Garden Early Childhood and Kiddie Junction Preschool, the proposers whose proposals met all mandatory requirements and obtained the highest composite scores, inclusive of both cost and technical components as highlighted in the attached tabulation sheet as per the Business Office."

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

6. Cooperative RFP for Special Education Services

RESOLUTION #19-20-202

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, authorize the participation in the attached outlined Cooperative for Special Education Related Services on or before February 5, 2020.

This agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but which together shall constitute a single instrument. Further, a copy of a signature on a facsimile or electronic transmission of the Agreement shall have the same force and effect as if it were an original signature."

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

7. Amendment to Name Change - NYU Grossman School of Medicine RESOLUTION #19-20-203

MOTION: "RESOLVED that the previously approved Athletic Trainer Contract with NYU Winthrop Hospital dated September 12, 2019 be amended to change the name of the provider to NYU Grossman School of Medicine as per the attached letter dated December 12, 2019

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Levittown Board of Education is, hereby, authorized to sign the attached letter."

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

8. Authorization for Foreign Field Trip

RESOLUTION #19-20-204

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, authorize students from Division Avenue and General Douglas MacArthur High Schools to participate in a foreign field trip to Quebec City, Canada from October 22 through October 25, 2020."

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

9. National Inventors Hall of Fame, Inc.

RESOLUTION #19-20-205

MOTION: “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract with National Inventors Hall of Fame, Inc. to provide curricula and course materials for use by Levittown Schools in a summer education enrichment program from July 13 through July 24, 2020 at no cost to the District.

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

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

10. Approval of Board of Education Policies

RESOLUTION #19-20-206

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the following revised policies:

Policy #3420 Policy Against Workplace Discrimination and Harassment

Policy #6121 Policy Against Workplace Sexual Harassment

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

11. Special Education Contract

RESOLUTION #19-20-207

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:

- Psychological Diagnostic Evaluations of New York

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

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

12. Out of District Contracts for Health and Welfare Services

RESOLUTION 19-20-208

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 2019-2020 school year:

- West Islip School District

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

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

13. Obsolete Books

RESOLUTION #19-20-209

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

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

14. Obsolete Equipment

RESOLUTION #19-20-210

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

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

15. Schedules

RESOLUTION #19-20-211

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”
- 1003.2 “Appointments, Administrators”
- 1004 “Appointments, Coaching”
- 1005 “Appointments, Consultants”
- 1006 “Appointments, Extra Curricular
- 1007 “Appointments, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1008 “Leave of Absence, Certified Personnel”
- 1009 “Leave of Absence, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1010 “Salary Change, Certified Personnel”
- 1011 “Permanent Status, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1012 “Students with Disabilities”

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

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. New Business

1. Gifts to School

RESOLUTION #19-20-212

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

- A check in the amount of \$500.00 payable to Levittown School District for Abbey Lane School to sponsor a Literacy Fair from Long Island School District, DBA Lilac, 29 Lilac Drive, Syosset, NY 11791
- A check in the amount of \$281.00 payable to Abbey Lane Elementary School for the Student Activity Fund from Box Tops for Education, 13700 Oakland Avenue, Highland Park, MI 48203
- A check in the amount of \$178.10 payable to Summit Lane School Activity Fund from Boxtops for Education, 13700 Oakland Avenue, Highland Park, MI 48203
- A refrigerator and a check in the amount of \$2380 for the purchase of desk bands and desks for the ABA program at MacArthur High School from The YOLO Strong Foundation, PO Box 332, Oyster Bay, NY 11771
- Two boxes of photography equipment to be donated to Division Avenue High School from Mr. Nicholas Derenzo, 78 Bluespruce Road, Levittown, NY 11756
- A check in the amount of \$10.00 to be donated to Northside School's Student Activity Fund from YourCause, LLC Trustee for Neiman Marcus Group Associates, 6111 W. Plano, Parkway, Suite 1000YC, Plano, TX 75093
- A check in the amount of \$199.25 to be donated to Northside School for the purchase of tee shirts for incoming kindergarten students from A Hold Delhaise USA A+ Awards, PO Box 7200, Carlisle, PA 17013."

NOTE: The Board thanked all the generous donors.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	Christina Lang
AYES:	Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Messina, Moran, Lang
ABSENT:	Marianne Adrian

VI. AD HOC

(NONE)

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (5-0-0)
MOVER:	Jennifer Messina
SECONDER:	Christina Lang
AYES:	Lang, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Messina, Moran
ABSENT:	Marianne Adrian

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.

Gregory Maurer 62 Pinetree Lane, Levittown, NY

Mr. Maurer reported that there have been multiple issues with the bus company that the District has sub contracted out to provide service to the students attending private school. He commented that the buses have been repeatedly late, schedule changes and have had mechanical breakdowns. Mr. Maurer feels that the students safety is at risk here because of the these issues. He has had to take his son to school because of these problems. He suggested that the District cancel our contract with this bus company and make arrangements with another company or provide Levittown buses to get these students to school.

Ms. Marengi informed Mr. Maurer that someone from the District would be in touch with him to discuss these issues.