

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

DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2021

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, was duly called and held on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 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.

1. CALL TO ORDER

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Ms. Peggy Marenghi, President
Ms. Jennifer Messina, Vice President
Mr. James Moran, Secretary
Ms. Marianne Adrian, Trustee (Excused Absence)
Mr. Dillon Cain, Trustee
Ms. Christina Lang, Trustee
Mr. Michael Pappas, Trustee

ADMINISTRATION:

Dr. Tonie McDonald, Superintendent
Dr. Christopher Dillon, Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Debbie Rifkin, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Todd Winch, Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS:

Ms. Suzanne Mallozzi, District Clerk

A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Ms. Marenghi, President, called the regular Board meeting to order at 6:30pm. She asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recommended Motion: "BE IT RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, move to Executive Session for the purpose of seeking legal advice from the Board's Attorney."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	Christina Lang, Trustee
SECONDER:	Michael Pappas, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marenghi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

I. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION

A. Pledge of Allegiance/B. Moment of Silence

Ms. Marenghi, President, reconvened the Regular Board Meeting, calling it to order at 7:30pm. She asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, led by the students of MacArthur HS. She requested a moment of silence for all those serving our Country at home and abroad and to remember Diane Shapiro, former Board of Education President, who passed away this week. For the record, Ms. Marenghi noted that Trustee Marianne Adrian is excused from tonight's meeting.

Ms. Marenghi read the following statement from the Board of Education: "The Board has received several emails asking why we do not say the Pledge of Allegiance at our meetings. I am happy to say that we open every meeting at 6:30 with the Pledge and a moment of silence for our soldiers and then adjourn to our Executive Session. When we have students making presentations, we had them also say the pledge at 7:30pm, when we returned from Executive Session. Now that we are streaming our meetings, it seems that since people do not tune in until 7:30pm, they have assumed that we no longer say the pledge. Going forward, we will say the pledge when we reconvene the meeting at 7:30pm. We will continue to have the students say the pledge when they are making a presentation.

The Board is happy to see that our community has been attending our meetings of late. This is the place where concerns, comments and opinions are welcome and we will do our best, as elected representatives of the community, to address concerns within a timely manner. Your thoughts and concerns are important to us and we thank you for providing us with the opportunity to hear them."

II. REPORTS

A. Student Presentations

i. Student Presentation - MacArthur High School

Mr. Joseph Sheehan, Principal, introduced Senior Khalil Garrett who presented a video by the senior members of WMHS, a student run station, detailing what it takes to put on the daily morning announcements, under the direction of Business Teacher, Mr. William Farney, Board President Peggy Marenghi thanked all who participated for their enthusiasm and hard work.

B. Recognition

i. Board Recognition

Ms. Marenghi recognized former Board of Education President, Gina Interdonato for attending as well as many faculty members and building administrators for showing up and thanked them for attending.

Mr. Winch noted that the District is proud to take part in the annual School Board Recognition week and to thank the Levittown Board of Education for their hard work and commitment to the Levittown community and its children. It is a time for us to promote awareness and understanding of the important work performed by School Board members across the State. He commented that it takes strong school bonds to build a strong community and the individuals here devote countless hours to making sure that our schools are helping every child learn at a high level. They make tough decisions every month and spend many hours studying education issues and regulations in order to provide the kind of program that our citizens expect. School Board members statewide collectively oversee more 2.4 million K-12 students. We are extremely proud of the efforts that each of our Board members have put forward in order to truly provide "success for every student." We recognize the accomplishments and years of service for all our Board members : Ms. Peggy Marenghi, President (12 years), VP Jennifer Messina (5 years), Secretary James Moran (23 years), Trustee Marianne

Adrian (7 years), Trustee Dillon Cain (5 years), Trustee Christina Lang (6 years) and Trustee Michael Pappas (14 years). Many elected officials have added their congratulations, including County

Executive Laura Curran, State Senators Dave McDonough and Kevin Thomas, NYS Assemblyman John Mikulin, and County Legislators John Ferretti and Tom McKeivitt, as well as PTA Council and various student groups from Salk, MacArthur, Division and Wisdom Lane. Mr. Winch also made mention of the beautiful posters from the six elementary schools that adorn the back wall of the Board Room.

Dinner for the Board was provided, with thanks, by our three bargaining units, CSEA (Tom Duwe President), LUT (John Caufield, President) and ALSA (John Avena, President).

Ms. Marengi spoke for the entire Board of Education saying they are humbled and thankful for parents, students, faculty, staff, administrators, PTA, and central office who have always functioned as a community of togetherness. There is nothing more important to the Board than having a community where our kids feel safe coming to school, they receive a good education and they have the freedom to be who they are supposed to be.

ii. Art Display - Summit Lane School

Ms. Marengi asked those in attendance to look around the room at the spectacular artwork done by the student of Summit Lane and asked Principal Keith Squillacioti to extend the Board's gratitude to students and faculty members who participated in this.

A. Superintendent:

Dr. McDonald followed up on an insurance questions indicating BOCES has confirmed that all cultural arts programs that the PTA uses in our schools will be covered by insurance.

Board President, Ms. Marengi, read the following statement:

"Tonight is bittersweet. With a unanimous vote, the Board of Education has accepted the resignation of Dr. McDonald for the purpose of retirement. Dr. McDonald is Levittown. From her time at Memorial as a student to her years in Division as a teacher and administrator to these last eight years as our Superintendent of Schools, she has always put Levittown first. Her love for and commitment to our students, staff and the Levittown Community will be missed.

During her tenure, the District has boosted its academic offerings, including additional Advanced Placement opportunities through the AP Capstone program; implemented and expanded upon its one-to-one technology initiative; increased its focus on social-emotional learning; expanded its Summer learning opportunities and introduced flexible learning spaces and outdoor learning opportunities.

We thank Dr. McDonald for her years of dedication to the Levittown Public School and community. Over the next few weeks, we will be reviewing our options as to how best to fill the position of our next Superintendent of Schools."

Dr. McDonald thanked everyone including the best administrative staff, an amazing Central Office staff, and an incredible Board of Education.

1. Comments and Reports

A. Mental Health Support in Our Schools - S. Farber

Ms. Debbie Rifkin, introduced Dr. Susan Farber to explain the SEL (Social Emotional Learning) programs available to our Community.

Dr. Susan Farber, Director of Pupil Services, presented the details of the programs, divided into Elementary, Middle and High School and how the District is providing support to students, staff and the Levittown community to make sure that everyone has the access they need. There were several questions from Ms. Marengi (Middle school classroom push-ins, who pushes in, frequency, growth mindset, in-house or programs brought in) and Ms. Messina, (resources through NY Project Hope, transitioning students back from pandemic, team meetings, identifying students who may be of concern, locations of Beautiful Me program). Dr. McDonald asked Ms. Marengi & Ms. Messina to submit those questions in writing to her which will be forwarded to Dr. Farber for a response. The Board thanked Dr. Farber noting that the District has truly grown our outreach programs and that's a huge upgrade in the past years.

2. Follow-up to Prior Public Be Heard Questions

Dr. McDonald responded to the public-be-heard questions from the September 22nd meeting, reading correspondence to Ms. Michelle Gartelman, Ms. Beth Lyons and Mr. Joseph Massoni. Ms. Lillian Conroy's response was not read.

3. Follow-up to Board Questions - NONE

D. Board of Education

1. Comments and Reports - NONE

2. Correspondence - NONE

3. Student Liaisons

Mr. Sheehan introduced the new student representative to the Superintendent from MacArthur HS, Khalil Garrett. Khalil is a Senior, member of business, world language and national honor societies. He's a Renaissance gold card holder and recently was designated by College Board as a National African American scholar. In addition, he possesses enormous acting & performing talents, including 3 parts in the MacArthur presentation of Hello Dolly, Mac's got talent 2019 champion, equity diversity and inclusion team, Maccept, Pride for all and key clubs. He is a valued member of winter and spring track teams. Congratulations to Khalil on this appointment.

Khalil spoke about Pep Rally and homecoming, including the parade and the crowning of homecoming king (Jack Butler) and homecoming queen (Kylie Zanelli). The Class of 2022 Senior group photo has been taken and will be placed in the yearbook. Congratulations to Eunice Lee and Andrew Baek for being named National Merit Commended Students by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation for their outstanding scores on last year's PSAT exams, finishing in the top 3.5 % of all test takers in the Country. Thank you to Ms Savage and Ms. Mayer for spear-heading this year's "Pink Out" with all proceeds being donated to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Social Studies teacher Mrs. Fritch will be taking her Facing History students to the Glen Cove Holocaust museum on October 28th.

Chris Powers, Division Student representative, noted that Division welcomed 50 new students this year with a breakfast meeting peer leaders, administration, counselors and support staff. 9th grade students were also welcomed on October 6th, eating lunch outdoors and participating in conversations with other students. Peer tutoring is starting up again and anyone who needs help, please contact Mr.

Pierce. Sports related news included information about the alumni baseball game, dig pink volleyball, varsity boys & girls soccer senior nights and boys football senior night.

III. PUBLIC BE HEARD

The guidelines pertaining to Public Be Heard were read.

Mr. James Hudak, 20 Wood Lane, Levittown - Mr. Hudak requested information on purchase of night-vision goggles. "Who authorized payment and who will be trained to use them? Also, questioned if former employees will be required to reimburse the District for "stolen" time?"

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes - Approval of Minutes

RESOLUTION # 21-22-469

Recommended Motion: "Make the necessary corrections and move the approval of the minutes of the September 22, 2021 meeting."

Correction to Minutes from September 22 meeting, Consent Agenda, Item #4 Budget Transfers:

Mr. Pappas noted that "Amazon drivers are making \$25 per hour delivering cellphone packages. If we're not getting drivers, we have to look at an increase in pay or signing bonuses, like private companies are doing." Ms. Marengi agreed.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

2. Warrants

RESOLUTION # 21-22-470

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 SEPTEMBER 2021 report of the Claims Auditor be accepted."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

3. Business Office Reports

RESOLUTION # 21-22-471

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

- Credit card statement from Citibank for statement ending 8/22/21 and 9/6/21.
- Claims Audit Report for the month of September 2021."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

4. Budget Transfers

RESOLUTION # 21-22-472

Recommended Motion: "WHEREAS, in compliance with New York State Government

Accounting practices, the attached budget transfers have been prepared and recommended by the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance,

<u>Code</u>	<u>Code Description</u>	<u>Amount From</u>	<u>Amount To</u>
2020.4500.00.2200	Material & Supplies	\$30,000	
2855.4000.00.0000	Interschool Athletic Contractual Expense		\$30,000

Reason: Increased cost of athletic trainers.

A2250.4900.00.0000	Spec Ed BOCES Services	\$40,000	
A2250.4080.00.3450	Residential Maintenance		\$40,000

Reason: There have been multiple vendor rate increases that require an increase to purchase order.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached budget transfers."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

5. Town of Hempstead Land Swap

RESOLUTION #21-22-473

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education approve the payment to the Town of Hempstead in the amount of \$18,200 to cover survey and engineering costs associated with land swap and;

Be it further RESOLVED that the President of the Levittown Board of Education is hereby approved to authorize payment."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

6. Intermunicipal Agreement with County of Nassau RESOLUTION # 21-22-474
 Recommended Motion: “WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Levittown Union Free School District desires to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with the County of Nassau for the purchase, upgrade and installation of new audio and video equipment for Division Avenue High School, and for the receipt of an \$39,500.00 Grant from Nassau County to be applied toward the purchase of this equipment (“the Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Project is subject to classification pursuant to the State Environmental Review Act (“SEQRA”); and

WHEREAS, the purchase of the baseball field is classified as a Type II Action pursuant to SEQRA regulations; and

WHEREAS, SEQRA regulations declare Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review pursuant to SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, as the lead agency involved, has examined the information related to the Project and has determined that the Project is properly classified as a Type II Action; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares itself as the lead agency in connection with the requirements of SEQRA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares that the Project is a Type II Action which requires no further SEQRA review.”

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

7. Intermunicipal Agreements - Fuel RESOLUTION # 21-22-475
 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 Intermunicipal Agreement between the Levittown Union Free School District and the following school district for the purpose of Levittown providing access to the fueling station;

- Wantagh School District

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

8. Agreement with Synovia Solutions, LLC for GPS units RESOLUTION # 21-22-476
 Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education approve two three-year lease agreements with Synovia Solutions, LLC for the installation of GPS units and monitoring services, and,

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

9. Contract with Jostens Yearbook 2023-2025 RESOLUTION # 21-22-477
 Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract with Jostens Yearbook to provide yearbook services for Wisdom Lane Middle School.

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

10. Approval of School Clubs RESOLUTION #21-22-478
 Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached Extra Classroom Activity Club Charters for the 2021-2022 school year."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

11. Special Education Contracts

RESOLUTION # 21-22-479

Recommended 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 as indicated:

- Islip UFSD
- Copiague Public Schools UFSD
- Milestones in Home Care, Inc.
- Bellmore UFSD
- East Meadow UFSD
- Apex Therapeutic Services, LLD
- Out East Therapy 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]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

12. Obsolete Books/Calculators

RESOLUTION # 21-22-480

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

13. Schedules

RESOLUTION # 21-22-481

“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 “Consultants”
- 1006 “Extra-Curricular”
- 1007 “Leave of Absence, Certified Personnel”
- 1008 “Appointments, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1009 “Salary Change, Certified Personnel”
- 1010 “Students with Disabilities”

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	James Moran, Secretary
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. New Business

1. Gifts to Schools

RESOLUTION # 21-22-482

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

- One box of ladies handkerchiefs from the 1960s and 1970s to be donated to the Division Avenue High School Art Department from Mr. Barry “Jake” Richter, 3487 Jerusalem Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793
- Approximately 10 – 12 cartons of assorted magazines as listed on the attached to be donated to the Division Avenue High School Art Department from Mr. Barry “Jake” Richter, 3487 Jerusalem Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793.”

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	Michael Pappas, Trustee
SECONDER:	Jennifer Messina, Vice President
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

VI. AD HOC - NONE

VII. UPCOMING DATES

November 3 - Regular Meeting

November 17 - Planning Session

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0]
MOVER:	Christina Lang, Trustee
SECONDER:	Dillon Cain, Trustee
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Cain, Marengi, Lang, Messina
ABSENT:	Adrian

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Suzanne Mallozzi
District Clerk

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