

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

**DATE: NOVEMBER 17, 2021**

**PLANNING SESSION**

**MINUTES**

**THE PLANNING SESSION MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**, was duly called and held on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 in the Large Board 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. Peggy Marengi, President  
Ms. Jennifer Messina, Vice President  
Mr. James Moran, Secretary  
Ms. Marianne Adrian, Trustee  
Mr. Dillon Cain, Trustee (Excused Absence)  
Ms. Christina Lang, Trustee (Excused Absence)  
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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**A. Recognitions**

- i. 2021 Triple Impact Competitor Scholarship Winner – Simar Parmar received this award but was unable to attend tonight's meeting. She will be recognized at a future Board meeting.
- ii. National Merit Scholarship Awardees:

Mr. John Coscia, Division Principal recognized Isabelle Saint, who was recently honored by the College Board National Recognition Program by being named a scholar in the National Hispanic Recognition Program for her academic achievement and outstanding performances on the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

Mr. Joseph Sheehan, MacArthur Principal recognized the following students for their outstanding accomplishments this year:

National Merit Scholarship Corporation Commended students:

Eunice Lee is a member of Tri-M, World Language, Math and National Honor Societies, a continuous member of Principal's honor roll, a member of chamber orchestra and science Olympiad, badminton and tennis teams and received 1500 on last year's SAT exam. She plans on studying nursing in college.

Andrew Baek is also a continuous member of the Principal's Honor Roll, member of the Math, World Language and National Honor societies. He also is a member of the Model Congress team, Science Olympiad and Orchestra. He plans on attending college for nursing.

Jordan Flores who was recognized by College Board as a National Hispanic Scholar. Jordan is a Renaissance Platinum card holder, a member of the World Language and National Honor Societies and is a standout performer on the Winter and Spring Track and Field teams. He plans on majoring in Biomedical engineering in college.

Khalil Garrett was recognized by College Board as a National African-American scholar for his spectacular score on last year's PSAT exam. He is a consistent member of the High Principal's Honor roll, renaissance gold card holder and a member of the Business, World Language and National Honor Societies. His talents also include acting, playing 3 different roles in the musical "Hello Dolly". His accomplishments on the Winter and Spring Track and Field team are valued and he hopes to major in the business/music in College.

The Board of Education, Central Office and everyone present congratulated all these wonderful students on their incredible accomplishments.

ii. Outstanding Heroic Actions –

Mr. Frank Mortillaro, Principal of Northside Elementary School honored Ms. Hailey Slama, Northside's Occupational Therapist, who jumped into action when a student she was helping was choking on an apple slice. She performed the Heimlich maneuver and was able to dislodge the apple slice from the student's throat. The student was calmed and brought to the nurse for observation.

Mr. Mortillaro also honored Mr. Michael Cullen, lunch monitor at Northside for his quick thinking in saving a young boy's life. At the beginning of the lunch period, after serving the students their food, the boy tried to get the attention of Mr. Cullen, tugging at his shirt, the universal sign for choking. Mr. Cullen immediately sprang into action, performing the Heimlich maneuver several times, dislodging the food from the student's throat. This student was also escorted to the nurse for observation.

Without the quick thinking of these two incredible people, the situation may have turned out very differently. The Board of Education, Central Office, and the entire District are very thankful for these two individuals.

i. State of the District: Mr. Todd Winch, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, provided a detailed, comprehensive look at the State of the District, the impact of COVID and the programs the District intends to put in place to meet the needs of all students. The Board thanked Mr. Winch for his in-depth presentation and thanked all Administrators in attendance for everything they did and continue to do to make sure our students are getting the best education possible. They've worked through trying times and the Board is very grateful to each and every one of them.

### III. MOTION TO ADJOURN

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [5-0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Trustee
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jennifer Messina, Vice-President
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Marengi, Messina, Moran, Pappas
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Cain, Lang

Suzanne Mallozzi  
District Clerk

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