

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

DATE: MARCH 6, 2024

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, was duly called and held on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 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.

CALL TO ORDER

Board of Education

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

Ms. Vanessa Esposito, District Clerk
Mr. Bob Cohen, Attorney

Ms. Messina called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marenghi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marenghi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight's meeting.

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marengi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight's meeting.

I. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marengi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight's meeting.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Messina led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Moment of Silence

Ms. Messina requested a moment of silence in honor of all fighting for our country, at home and overseas.

II. REPORTS

A. Student Presentations

i. Drama Performance - Division Avenue High School

Students from Division Avenue performed three songs from their musical, *The Addams Family*, in the Auditorium.

B. Recognition

i. Art Display - MacArthur High School

Ms. Messina introduced the new art that was hung in the Board Room from students at MacArthur High School.

C. Superintendent

1. Comments and Reports

Mr. Winch introduced Mr. John Zampaglione from Salk Middle School and congratulated him as he was named the 2024 Administrator for Long Island by the Empire State Supervisors and Administrators Association. Recipients of this award are recognized for exemplifying the highest

qualities of school leadership, having vision, being innovative, and exhibiting exemplary communications with parents, students and staff. He will be presented with this award at the ESSA meeting on Friday, April 26th in Rye, NY.

Mr. Winch was thrilled to announce that MacArthur High School junior Melody Ham took first place in the Annual Brain B competition at Hofstra University, it is the first time first place has ever been achieved from our district in the Neuro Science Competition. She will represent the District in Florida this Spring, as well as playing the cello as a soloist in the Spring performance at Adelphi University. Mr. Winch acknowledged Division Avenue's Nick Castanao for placing 8th in the State at the NYS Swim competition for his 100 meter butterfly.

2. Follow-up to Prior Public Be Heard Questions

There were no public be heard questions.

3. Follow-up to Board Questions

D. Board of Education

1. Comments and Reports

Mr. Moran said that he traveled to Binghamton with the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent to cheer on the girls as they won the State Title in Cheerleading. He stated it was very exciting and he enjoyed being there to cheer them on and he also attended the Division Avenue MacArthur girls basketball game which he enjoyed as well. He commended all on a wonderful season.

Mr. Pappas stated that he also attended the State Cheer Championship and this was his first experience and it was invigorating and a fantastic experience.

2. Correspondence

3. Student Liaisons

Ms. Messina introduced Ronald Gray Jr. from Division Avenue High School who read his update for the month as follows:

The Junior class were the winners of Spirit Night on Friday, March 1st.

Congratulations to the Division Avenue Class of 2024 Valedictorian, Syeda Nowroz, and Salutatorian, Ceyda Nazli. We congratulate them on a remarkable academic career at DAHS and wish them well in all future endeavors. On Wednesday, February 7th, DAHS Italian students enjoyed an in school field trip involving a program organized by Ms. Fuentes and Ms. Nielsen. The program was led by the BOCES sponsored Incanto Productions. Students learned about history, costumes, famous characters and many special qualities of each region of Italy during the world famous Carneavale. They participated by dancing, singing and asking questions to the artists and presenters; this cultural and educational experience was a great success. The DAHS robotics team competed at the Vex meet at Farmingdale HS on February 10th. The Art Department's talents were on full display in the Art Show at the Levittown Public Library on February 15th. Many thanks to Mr. Ryan, Ms. Cordiello, Ms. Roth, Mr. Brown, Ms. Lundy and the District Director, Mr. Creter for their unwavering support and efforts to the students of Division Avenue. The Science Olympiad team earned 4th place at Nassau East Regionals. They are headed to the NYS Finals in Syracuse for the 16th consecutive year at LeMoyne College on

Page - 4

March 15th. Boys basketball made the playoffs. Girls basketball won their first playoff game, in spite of losing a tough game to MacArthur in the second round. Emma Robins is in the top 10 in Nassau County scoring 17.5 points per game, and leading in foul shots, 8th grader Alice Beckett is averaging 13 points per game, 12 rebounds and 5 blocked shots, Junior Ashley Anderson is averaging 11 points per game. The Cheer team finished 16th out of 88 teams in the Nationals at Disney. They won the first Nassau County Championship for Cheer. The wrestling team had a great finish to the season with 12 all league wrestlers, 7 county qualifiers, 3 all county; Shane Moore, Santiago Pelaez and Caiden Siegel and all Long Island girls champ, Sam Bultron and one all state, Shane Moore. In winter track, our boys 4x200 meter team broke the school record and achieved the number 2 time in all of Nassau. The 4x400 team won the conference and Eleni Georgatos was the conference champion. The 4x200 team won county champs, the girls 4x200 and boys 4x800 both placed 4th. The DAHS girls basketball team dedicated their basketball court to former girls coach Steve Kissane, who had a 30 year career and won 352 games, 24 playoffs won a LI championship and built a program that continues to thrive. The bowling team will compete in the county tournament on Saturday, March 10th. The boys swim team placed 4th in Division C Championship meet. Junior Nick Castano finished 2nd place in the 100 fly, 100 back and will be competing on March 1st at Ithaca College. Noah Stern finished in 3rd place in the 200, 500 and 400 freestyle relays. Both will be competing in the County Championship meet on Friday, February 9th. Challenger homecoming is March 5th. DAHS sweeps is March 8th. *The Addams Family* performances will be Match 22 at 7:30 and March 23rd at 1:00 and 7:30.

Ms. Messina introduced Olivia DeMarco from MacArthur High School who read her update for the month as follows:

Since our last meeting, there have been a lot of great happenings in General Nation, as a result of the snow day on February 13th, we utilized our rescheduled snow date to conduct our final concert of the winter season, along with our Tri-M music honor society induction ceremony. Our jazz ensemble under the direction of Mr. Romano, performed several soothing and cooling pieces much to the audience's delight. The Tri M music honor society advisors, Ms. Levenberg and Ms. Musial inducted 6 new members into this prestigious honor society. On February 15th, Mr. Sheehan and building administration conducted their annual 9th grade survey breakfast. On February 15th the Levittown Public library showcased art from the students. The exhibit hosted a large crowd and was enjoyed by all. Thanks to the staff of art teachers including Mr. Bobal, Ms. Brisken, Ms. Gomez-Vance, Mr. Merz, Ms. Muir, Ms. McCreedy and all students. On February 28th, we conducted the annual seniors superlatives ceremony. Categories such as most likely to succeed, nicest smile and most likely to be Broadway bound were some examples. They were voted on and winners for each were revealed. Thanks to Ms. Causeman and Mr. Reynolds and congratulations to all the winners. On February 24th, the Generals science research team participated in the ignite stem challenge at Princeton University. Students were given a variety of prompts relating to specific world problems and were tasked to make a new technology to combat these issues within 45 minutes. At the end of the session, our team presented their project to Princeton professors. On March 1st, our science research students competed at the NY American Chemagination tournament at St Johns University. Congratulations to Alyssa Aquino, Meghan Campbell and Catherine Purirogejanon for taking second place in the environmental category and to Cody Linn, Zarif Jamal and Matthew Wazio for taking 3rd place in the energy section. On March 1st, we conducted the Battle of the Classes. Events such as scooter race, pizza box race and the human caterpillar are just some of the fun battles we had. The sophomore class

pulled an upset and won the title. Our badminton tournament is being held as we speak, *Mean Girls* will be performed on March 8th at 7 pm as well as on March 9th at 2 and 7 pm. March 12th will be the mandatory parent pre prom workshop, on March 13th Mr. Donovan is accompanying his physics Olympic team to SUNY Farmingdale to compete in a tournament. The junior banquet was rescheduled to Friday, March 15th. On March 21st, Ms. Musial will be accompanying her string orchestra students to Carnegie Hall to see the New York Philharmonic perform. On March 27th, Mr. Fazalari, Mr. Layhee and Mr. Farney will accompany their business students to Smokin Ales in Massapequa to see how a successful business is run. Our Science Olympiad team will be competing on March 15th and 16th in the NYS Science Olympiad Finals. Congratulations to junior, Melody Hing for winning the prestigious brain-bee competition which was held at Hofstra University. Congratulations to all of our winter sports teams and best of luck to all our Spring Teams. Melody Hong won the first place at the neuro science competition. She will compete in the National competition on April 19th in Florida. The 2024 MacArthur salutatorian is Benjamin Campbell and the valedictorian is Zarif Jamal.

III. PUBLIC BE HEARD

The guidelines pertaining to Public Be Heard were read..

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes - Approval of Minutes

RESOLUTION # 030624-001

Recommended Motion: "Make the necessary corrections and move the approval of the minutes of the February 7 regular meeting and budget meeting of the Board of Education."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marenghi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marenghi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight’s meeting.

2. Business Office Reports

RESOLUTION # 030624-002

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 1/31/24
- Trial Balance Report for the period 7/1/23 to 1/31/24
- Treasurers Report for the month ending January 2024”

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marengi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight’s meeting.

3. Internal Audit/Risk Assessment and Corrective Action Plan RESOLUTION # 030624-003
 Recommend Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, accept the attached Risk Assessment Update Report and the Corrective Action Plan in response to the Internal Auditor's recommendations contained in the report dated December 6, 2023.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marengi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight’s meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance is authorized to submit the Corrective Action Plan to New York State.”

4. Memorandum of Agreement with Nassau County Board of Elections RESOLUTION # 030624-004
 Recommended Motion: “RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the attached Memorandum of Agreement with Nassau County Board of Elections and authorizes the Board President to sign.”

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marengi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight’s meeting.

5. Employee Agreement RESOLUTION # 030624-005
 Recommended Motion: “BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby ratifies an agreement with Employee No. 6446 regarding employment.”

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marengi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight’s meeting.

6. Approval of Board of Education Policies RESOLUTION # 030624-006
 Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the following revised policies:

Policy No. 5230 Acceptance of Gifts, Grants and Bequests to the School District

Policy No. 6121 Policy Against Workplace Sexual Harassment

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marengi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight’s meeting.

7. Out of District Contracts for Health and Welfare Services RESOLUTION # 030624-007
 Recommended 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 2023-2024 school year:

- Smithtown Central UFSD
- Jericho UFSD
- Hicksville UFSD

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marengi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight’s meeting.

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

8. Special Education Contracts

RESOLUTION # 030624-008

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:

- BOCES - Summer School Contract

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marenghi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marenghi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight’s meeting.

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

9. Obsolete Equipment

RESOLUTION # 030624-009

Recommended 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)
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marenghi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marenghi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight’s meeting.

10. Schedules

RESOLUTION # 030624-0010

“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”

Page - 9

- 1004 “Coaching”
- 1005 “Consultants”
- 1006 “Appointments, Non-Instructional”
- 1007 “LOA, Certified Personnel:
- 1008 “LOA, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1009 “Salary Change
- 1010 “Tenure”
- 1011 “Permanent Status”, Non-Instructional Personnel
- 1012 “Students w/Disabilities”

Mr. Winch stated that there is one change to the agenda, to pull item 1006.1. they are pulling item number 1.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(5-1)
MOVER:	Michael Pappas
SECONDER:	Christina Lang
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, Marianne Adrian, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton
NAY:	James Moran

Mr. Moran made a motion to schedule 1006.1 and the whole page.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(5-1)
MOVER:	James Moran
SECONDER:	Christina Lang
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, Marianne Adrian, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton
NAY:	James Moran

Ms. Messina made a motion to accept items 1-10 separating out schedule 1006.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Jennifer Messina
SECONDER:	Christina Lang
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, Marianne Adrian, Michael Pappas, James Moran, Christina Lang, Jennifer Messina
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Marengi made a motion to accept schedule 1006.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Peggy Marengi
SECONDER:	Christina Lang
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, Marianne Adrian, Michael Pappas, James Moran, Christina Lang, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. New Business

Mr. Winch discussed the three presentations to be given, a brief budget presentation, a Curricular presentation and a Special Ed Presentation.

1. Gifts to Schools

RESOLUTION #

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

A check in the amount of \$5000 to be donated to the Division Avenue High School General Student Fund from Shutterfly/Lifetouch, 10 Almaden Blvd., San Jose, CA 95113

Books as listed on the attached to be donated to the MacArthur High School library from Scholastic Book Company, Scholastic Dollars, 557 Broadway, New York, NY 10012-3999."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Peggy Marengi
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, James Moran, Michael Pappas, Christina Lang, Marianne Adrian, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton

Ms. Dalton is excused from tonight's meeting.

VI. AD HOC

VII. UPCOMING DATES

March 20 - Budget Planning Session #4 and Special Meeting - Board Adopts Budget

April 16 - Regular Meeting; BOCES Vote

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Ms. Messina made a motion to adjourn at 8:36 PM.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED(6-0)
MOVER:	Jennifer Messina
SECONDER:	Christina Lang
AYES:	Jennifer Messina, Marianne Adrian, Michael Pappas, James Moran, Peggy Marengi
ABSENT:	Phyllis Dalton