

November 17, 2009

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD, NASSAU COUNTY, NEW YORK, HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE WINTHROP AVENUE SCHOOL ON TUESDAY, November 17, 2009 AT 8:00 P.M.

Those present:

Janet Goller, President

Marion Blane

Brian Desmond

Steven Traum

Joseph S. Famularo, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Deborah DeLuca, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services

Deirdre Gambino, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Technology

Jack S. Feldman, Esq.

Randy Yee, District Clerk

Jay L. T. Breakstone, Vice President was absent.

Ms. Goller, President, called the work session to order at 7:30 p.m. at which time the Board:

- Reviewed the agenda
- Discussed the stay well campaign. The District is continually promoting flu prevention practices for staff, students and parents

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Traum and seconded by Ms. Blane to enter executive session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

The motion was carried 4-0.

The Board re-entered public session at 8:02 p.m. at which time Ms. Goller, President, called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Traum seconded by Mr. Desmond to accept the minutes of the Board meetings of October 6 and October 20, 2009.

The motion was carried 4-0.

Treasurer's Report

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Traum seconded by Ms. Blane to accept the treasurer's reports for the months ending October 31, 2009.

The motion was carried 4-0.

Correspondence

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Ms. Yee noted the Board had received a thank you note for a sympathy card. Ms. Goller noted Nassau BOCES sent a letter inviting school board members to participate in the BOCES budget meetings.

Purchasing

Ms. Blane proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Desmond and unanimously approved 4-0.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of its Claims Auditor to approve the warrants of Fund A – 8 and 9; Fund C – 2; Fund F – 5; Fund HC – 2; and Fund T – 10 and 11, which are on file in the District Office.

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Famularo began his report by thanking the PTA for facilitating a wonderful Fall Festival, which he said had an old-fashioned community feeling. He also said there was a great turnout even though there were many other things going on in the community on the same day.

Dr. Famularo congratulated Mrs. Rostholder and the students of the Shore Road Chamber Orchestra for an outstanding at Senator Fuschillo's recent Golden Gathering at the Freeport Recreation Center.

Dr. Famularo shared that Mrs. Rosemary Segerdahl was recently honored as this year's recipient of the 2009 Alexinia Baldwin Educator of the Year Award from AGATE (Advocacy for Gifted and Talented Education in NY State) for her efforts and service on behalf of gifted children. A special awards luncheon was held at C.W. Post. He said the award was well deserved as Mrs. Segerdahl is a dedicated teacher who is always searching for innovative approaches to teaching. Ms. Goller presented Mrs. Segerdahl with a certificate acknowledging her as a *Star Polisher* along with a pin. Ms. Goller said she everyone is proud of Mrs. Segerdahl's accomplishment.

Maria Nolan

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Ms. Blane and seconded by Mr. Desmond to accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement of school nurse Maria Nolan effective January 4, 2010.

The motion was carried 4-0.

Ms. Goller stated that Mrs. Nolan has been a wonderful member of the Bellmore Schools staff for many years and will be missed.

Danielle Vuolo

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Desmond and seconded by Ms. Blane to accept the resignation of building substitute Danielle Vuolo effective November 13, 2009.

The motion was carried 4-0.

Elaine Stephan

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A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Desmond and seconded by Ms. Blane to approve a family medical leave of absence for speech/language pathologist Elaine Stephan effective February 24, 2010 for a period of 12 weeks, followed by an unpaid childcare leave of absence through the remainder of the school year.

The motion was carried 4-0.

CSE/CPSE

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Traum and seconded by Mr. Desmond that the recommendations of the CSE/CPSE be approved, for the students as per an attachment on file in the District office.

The motion was carried 4-0.

Visitors

Gloria Panella, BFO President, Cliff Molinelli, BAA President, Jeanne Quinn, CSEA President, and Barbara Haimson, PTA Co-President all congratulated Mrs. Segerdahl on her award and recognition by the Board for the outstanding work she does on behalf of children and her colleagues.

Report of the Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services

Dr. DeLuca reported that the fifth grade students took the New York State Social Studies Assessment. This assessment has four components: multiple choice questions, short answer questions, document based questions, and an essay in which the students must use information from the historical sources provided.

Over the summer, the 6th grade teachers worked on a Curriculum Area Project (CAP) for English Language Arts. This project focused on Ruth Culham's 6+1 Traits of Writing. The traits include the following domains:

- Ideas
- Organization
- Word Choice
- Sentence Fluency
- Voice
- Conventions

The teachers created differentiated lessons to meet the needs of all our students. The lessons were developed using a variety of picture books and related to each of the writing traits and Mrs. Stacey Reiner would present the work of the committee later in the meeting.

The Kindergarten classes all walked to the fire station as an extension of classroom instruction on fire safety.

All first grade classes visited the Theodore Roosevelt Bird Sanctuary. This field trip provided them with an opportunity to explore the life of Native Americans long ago.

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A major component of the second grade social studies curriculum is the study of urban, suburban, and rural communities. As an extension of this classroom instruction, second grade classes visited the Suffolk County Farm. Through this hands-on experience, students were exposed to life in a rural community.

Students at the Early Childhood Center are bringing canned and boxed food items into school to be distributed to families within our school community who can benefit from these donation in order to have a bountiful Thanksgiving celebration. Thanks to the local Kiwanis Club, gift certificates to a local supermarket will also be included in the baskets.

Reinhard SAC is sponsoring a used coat drive in connection with an effort supported by Legislator Denenberg.

A staff developer from Tequipment presented an early morning workshop for all Reinhard teachers to introduce them to the use of document cameras. This technology allows teachers to project a document onto the SMART Board and then use the document in interactive lessons.

The 4th Grade Halloween Chorus Concert, conducted by Mrs. Davis, was a spooky and delightful event.

Several classes participated in a video conference with the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum in Michigan. The lesson was about states of matter.

A fourth grade class participated in a ghost stories video conference with the Early Works Museum focusing on American history ghost stories.

Another 4th grade class teamed up with classes in Washington and Missouri to share facts about their home states.

Two of the fourth grade classes that visited the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum were there the day the USSNY, a newly built warship made from steel from the World Trade Center, was docked next to the Intrepid.

Winthrop Student Advisory Council elections are underway.

Mrs. Leibowitz's class, with help from Mrs. Falabella, created a Winning Star Veterans Wall. After reading the book, The Wall, by Eve Bunting, the students wrote about a veteran in their own family. The veteran's name and key information were written on a star placed on the wall.

Fifth grade students attended a field trip to the historic Morris-Jumel Mansion in Washington Heights, headquarters for George Washington when planning to defeat the British during one of the battles of the Revolutionary War.

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Sixth grade classes attended Project Adventure, a VOCES outdoor environmental program which challenges students to work as a team to accomplish a series of tasks.

PTA Halloween Bingo Blast at Shore Road was well attended and proceeds will benefit the graduating class.

At Shore Road, fifth and sixth grade students enjoyed a "Mix It Up at Lunch Day". Students sat with classmates other than their usual "lunch crowd" to better get to know each other.

This successful activity provided students with the opportunity to meet new classmates and celebrate each other's unique qualities.

6+1 Writing Presentation

Sixth grade teacher, Stacey Reiner, presented the results of the Curriculum Area Project in which several teachers focused on Ruth Culham's 6 + 1 Traits of Writing. Specifically she focused on the traits of sentence fluency and voice. She stressed that this program will be used in all grades K-6, providing for the alignment of vocabulary and encouraging the continuity of language and student creativity.

Ms. Goller thanked Mrs. Reiner for a very good presentation.

Report of the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Technology

Budget Transfers

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Traum and seconded by Mr. Desmond to approve budget transfers for amounts over \$5,000 as per a Request for Budgetary Transfers on file in the District Office.

The motion was carried 4-0.

Obsolete Items

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Traum and seconded by Mr. Desmond to declare two Royal typewriters in the superintendent's office obsolete and ready for discard as per a memorandum on file in the District Office.

The motion was carried 4-0.

Technology Update

During the month, SMART Technologies Document Cameras have been distributed throughout the buildings for use in conjunction with the SMART Boards and Notebook software. The document cameras can instantly display real-time images of any object and can capture images or video and transform them into digital content used in lessons.

Interest Income

Mrs. Gambino reported that total interest received from all funds for the time period July 1, 2009 through October 31, 2009 is \$36,456.74

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Report of the Director of Facilities

Mr. Hendrickson, Director of Facilities and Transportation reported that Phase II of the Solar Project, the installation of the solar panels has begun, and the project completion is scheduled November 20th.

Community Relations

Ms. Goller reported that the Winthrop Halloween concert and the Book Character Parade at Reinhard were outstanding events.

Central High School District

Ms. Blane reported that the CHSD Board was treated to a performance from the Merrick Ave. Middle School Choral Group and the art department presented each board member with a portrait of themselves for board recognition. She said the external auditor gave a report and answered many questions from the community. She also noted there continues to be a significant amount of discussion about turf fields, and the committee formed to review this topic is continuing their work.

Legislative

No report

Bylaws

No report

Old /NewBusiness

None

Visitors

Mr. Jeffrey Spiller asked a question about the writing program which was answered by Dr. DeLuca

Ms. Goller noted the next meeting is scheduled for December 15, 2009, and there will be a work session on December 1, 2009, and wished everyone a very happy Thanksgiving.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Mr. Traum and seconded by Ms. Blane to enter executive session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss particular personnel matters.

The motion was carried 4-0.

The Board re-entered public session at 9:20 p.m. There being no further business, **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Mr. Traum and seconded by Ms. Blane to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Yee, District Clerk