

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

DATE: NOVEMBER 12, 2014

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION was duly called and held on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 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.

I. CALL TO ORDER

BOARD OF EDUCATION

PRESENT:

Ms. Peggy Marengi, President
Mr. Ed Powers, Vice President – excused absence
Mr. Frank Ward, Secretary
Mr. James Moran
Mr. Michael Pappas
Ms. Karen Quinones-Smith
Mr. Kevin Regan

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Tonie McDonald - Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Darlene Rhatigan - Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Debbie Rifkin - Assistant Superintendent
Mr. William Pastore – Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS

Mr. Robert H. Cohen - School Attorney
Ms. Elizabeth Appelbaum - District Clerk
Ms. Grace Shin – MacArthur High School Student Liaison
Ms. Christina Reilly– Division Avenue High School Student Liaison

- A. Pledge of Allegiance

- B. Ms. Marengi, President, called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:15 PM. On a motion by Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Regan and approved (6-0) that the Board adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the following items: contracts and personnel matters.

- C. The Board reconvened to Public Session at 7:40 PM on a motion by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Regan and approved (6-0). Ms. Marengi asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence to remember all those fighting overseas for our freedom.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Marengi welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked the Board members and Central Office who attended that 2014 NYSSBA Annual Convention in New York City.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: "Make the necessary corrections and move the approval of the minutes of the October 8, 2014 (Regular Board Meeting).

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [5-0-1]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
AYES:	Moran, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
ABSTAIN:	Mike Pappas
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

MOTION: "Make the necessary corrections and move the approval of the minutes of the October 22, 2014 (Special Meeting).

NOTE: Mr. Pappas requested a correction to the time which were reflected in the approved minutes.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [5-0-1]
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Trustee Frank Ward, Secretary
AYES:	Ward, Pappas, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
ABSTAIN:	James Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

IV. REPORTS

A. Recognition

1. Art Display – Lee Road

Ms Marengi spoke about the beautiful art work in the Board Room and hallway and encouraged everyone to view it. She remarked they did an excellent job.

B. Superintendent

1. Comments and Reports

a. GC Tech

Ms. Rifkin announced that a Power Point presentation would be shown tonight on the new regulations from the New York State Education Department (NYSED) on the Multiple Pathways Diploma and about how our vocational program at GC Tech fits into these new criteria. She would also speak about the financials of the program. Ms. Rifkin gave an overview of this diploma. She stated that NYSED wants to ensure that all students are ready for college and a career. She noted that their goal is that by 2015 all students are offered a choice to move in a direction which their interest leads them as opposed to one defined pathway for all students. She went on to explain the current and proposed requirements for a Regents Diploma and the four pathways the State has defined that students can take. Dr. McDonald pointed out that of the four pathways; Arts, Career and Technology Education, Humanities and STEM, currently most of our GC Tech students get their Regents Diploma through the Humanities pathway. Ms. Rifkin commented that if approved in January, the changes would take effect with the students who entered ninth grade in 2011 and are due to graduate in June, 2015 although we still waiting for regulations and assessment approval.

Ms. Rifkin introduced the Chairperson of GC Tech, Ms. Fox-Wilson, who went on to describe how well we are set up for the Multiple Pathways with our Career and Technical Education Program. She went over the current eight CTE Programs; Automotive Technology; Computer Animation; Cosmetology; Culinary Arts; Electrical Technology; Graphic Arts; Medical Assisting and Police Science/EMT. Ms. Fox-Wilson shared some general information about GC Tech such as that all programs are approved by SED to provide CTE endorsed high school diplomas and offer articulation agreements; integrated academic credit is approved for all programs providing a student completes two years; highly qualified teachers and support staff; some programs offer modified curriculum for special needs students; provides opportunities for Internships/Work-based learning; and fulfills CDOS requirements. Based on a senior survey, the 2014 program statistics are 183 graduates, 79% of the graduates plan to attend a college or trade school and 21% have secured full time employment or enlisted in the military. Ms. Fox-Wilson explained the CTE Diploma endorsement which is a special seal, goes on their regular Regents Diploma. In order to obtain this endorsement they have to pass a national competency exam (NOCTI); achieve a 77% or greater average in a CTE program, have good attendance, and have experience in work/industry. Dr. McDonald commented that a student can decide to take one of the pathways and also receive a CTE Diploma endorsement. Ms. Fox-Wilson shared some of the potential new courses that are being reviewed.

Mr. Pastore went over the financial and trend information for GC Tech. He noted that enrollment is trending slightly down from four years ago. He discussed the program costs and remarked that since we bill for out-of-district students, we have a revenue source. Mr. Pastore stated that the net program cost for 2014/2015 is around a million dollars a year. He spoke about the cost per student and how it is less expensive for us to run our own program than use BOCES. Mr. Pastore remarked that it is important that we be aware that the BOCES Aid ratio is changing which may have a negative impact on the cost of the program. He mentioned that some school districts may opt to send their students to a BOCES program in order to take advantage of the aid and Tax Freeze implications. Ms. McDonald noted that if our revenue source of out-of-district students was cut in half, than we would be in a situation where the program would be very costly to run.

Mr. Pappas asked why some of our surrounding districts who receive lower aid from BOCES would still send their students to our program. Dr. McDonald remarked that it is because we run a really good program, the students identify it as a real school and it is a short bus ride. She stated that it is important that the residents are made aware that going forward districts will make a decision that they cannot send all of their students to our program because of the aid ratio. Mr. Pappas asked if we go to other schools to make them aware of our program. Ms. Fox-Wilson responded that we invite guidance counselors, Special Education Departments and PTA's to view our programs along with having open houses. She mentioned that some schools will cap the number of students they send. Ms. Marengi asked when GC Tech started. Ms. Fox-Wilson stated around 1982. She noted that a lot of hard work goes into the program and she thanked Ms. Lorelli and Ms. Fox-Wilson for all their work.

2. Follow-up to Prior Public Be Heard Questions

a. Regarding money spent on unfunded mandates; implementation of Common Core and Testing and has it been within the projected amount; what amount are we looking at for next year and how does the PARCC fit into all of this for the future?

Dr. McDonald read a letter that was sent home to Ms. Finkelstein that included several lists of unfunded mandates from 2012, the last time it was updated. She announced that these documents were available to the public on the front table. Dr. McDonald noted that while it is nearly impossible to untangle discrete costs from this list, you can get a flavor for some of the requirements with which we must comply and for which we receive no aid. These items will be brought forward during budget time.

Regarding PARCC, the exam has been put off by the state until the 2015/16 school year. A budget presentation that will outline our needs will be given at budget time.

With respect to the money spent on Common Core and testing implementation, only some of it can be quantified. In 2013/14, \$873,296 was spent with anticipation of another \$50,000+.

b. Regarding clarifying an RX English class and insight as to why letter/compacts were only sent out when students reached 11th grade?

Dr. McDonald read the letter that was sent home which explained that an RX class has the same curriculum as a Regent class; however additional support is provided to reinforce the skills necessary to prepare for the Regents exam in grade 11.

Regarding the letter sent home to 11th grade students, Dr. McDonald reviewed in detail the process used for students who do not meet proficiency on the 8th grade ELA assessment which in turn lists them as being "progress monitored." These students are eligible for AIS until they test out. The first test that the child would take that would qualify him to test out is the English Regents in 11th grade. Dr. McDonald shared that in the past; these letters were only sent out to the parents of elementary school students. This year the letter was sent to all grade levels to improve communication between the parents and the school.

3. Follow-up to Board Questions

a. Flag Pole

Dr. McDonald passed out pictures of the flag poles that she had Mr. Milano, Director of Facilities, take. Ms. Marengi stated that on the building walk through, Mr. Milano pointed out the need to replace them before they become a safety issue. Dr. McDonald announced that Senator Kemp Hannon has given us a \$75,000 legislative grant to use for the flag poles. She noted that at the next Regular Board meeting, we would have a bid to replace them. She stated that it is a good use of a one shot revenue, for a one shot replacement.

b. Posting Contracts

Mr. Pappas asked if there had been a movement forward for posting contracts on our website. Dr. McDonald commented that the contracts are available and assessable on-line on the MinuteTrac system. She asked for clarification from the Board on whether this was enough. Mr. Pappas asked if they were posted on a searchable database. He remarked otherwise you would have to sort through thousand of contracts. The Board took a consensus and decided they wanted the contracts posted with an option to sort them. Mr. Ward stated that legal counsel acknowledged that this is becoming the norm for school districts. Mr. Cohen, school attorney, advised that he meant that certain contracts are now required to be posted such as the Parent Bill of Rights. Dr. McDonald remarked aside from the required documents, posting contracts is not normal for school districts. Mr. Pappas reiterated that Nassau County, with a large budget, posts their contracts. Additionally, Dr. McDonald shared that she was not comfortable posting the Special Education contracts because there is information there that can easily lead to the identification of the student. Ms. Marengi agreed with her. Mr. Pappas stated that they would have to figure out where to draw the line. Dr. McDonald noted that she would bring this subject up again at the next Board meeting with some suggestions.

C. Board of Education

1. Comments and Reports

Ms. Marengi mentioned that she received an e-mail from Ms. Lachow regarding the Holiday Adopt-A-Family program. Dr. McDonald explained that this program where you adopt a family or child for the holiday for gifts for them. She stressed that it is a great community activity. The program is set to begin and all gifts or gift cards must be delivered to the District Clerk's office by December 12th. Dr. McDonald commented that more information can be obtained by e-mailing her or Ms. Marengi.

Mr. Pappas thanked the PTA's from Lee Road, Gardiners, Northside, East Broadway, SEPTA and PTA Council for hosting very informative meetings. He commented that boys and girls volleyball teams at MacArthur did a "Dig Pink" fundraiser which was a lot of fun. Additionally, he thanked Mr. Gallagher who prepares the Autism Awareness signs for the football stadium and used these signs for the fundraiser.

a. Citizens Advisory Committee for Budget

Ms. Marengi pointed out that the Board had set parameters for ten volunteers to participate in the committee. To date, only five residents have asked to join. She asked for comments from the Board. Mr. Pappas noted that a small group is counterproductive since they can't always make meetings and would not be able to form small groups to review a subject. Mr. Ward stressed that we should stick to the parameters. A consensus of the Board was not to convene a committee. Mr. Pappas asked the District Clerk to please send out thank you letter to the residents who were interested.

2. Correspondence

There was no correspondence at this time.

3. Student Liaisons

Ms. Shin was happy to share that the Varsity Boys Soccer team made MacArthur history in that just four years ago they had never won a game and now they are County Champs. She commented that they brought much joy and pride to the school. Similarly, the Boys Varsity Football team has had a great season, made it to quarter finals and reminded us why it is "great to be a general." Ms. Shin noted that the art department had many of its talented students' works; She reported that the theater department will hold the play Fiddler on the Roof in November.

Ms. Reilly, Student Liaison for Division, reported that annual Toys for Tots drive is starting mid November and the last date for drop off is December 17th. She commented that this drive is done in conjunction with the Marine Corps and all the toys brought in are given back to the community for children in need. Ms. Reilly mentioned that the school was having a blood drive and a Pantene Beautiful Length Haircutting drive along with bowling and badminton tournaments as fundraisers.

Dr. McDonald explained that the student liaisons are assigned the job of finding places to take our excessed books. The girls reported that they had researched many outlets. They found that places want more current books to align with their curriculum. Ms. Marengi noted that it is difficult to give away books now because of the Common Core Learning Standards. She commented that shipping and transportation costs are sometimes more that the books are worth. Ms. Marengi mentioned that some outreach organizations that ship to other countries are sometimes interested. She suggested that the liaisons put out an all call to shipping companies to see if they will transport free of charge. Ms. Finkelstein shared that there is an organization that prior Student Liaison's used called Better World Books that might be able to take the books.

V. PUBLIC BE HEARD

Comments appear at the end of the minutes.

VI. ACTION ITEMS: OLD BUSINESS

(none)

VII. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS**1. Warrants**

RESOLUTION # 14-15-128

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 October 2014 report of the Claims Auditor be accepted."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Moran, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi,
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

2. Business Office Reports

RESOLUTION # 14-15-129

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

- Appropriation/Revenue/Trial Balance – For the month ending September 30, 2014;

Note: Mr. Pappas had several question on this topic. He asked about custodial substitutions. He wanted to know why the figure was so high with nothing spent or encumbered. Mr. Pastore commented that he will have to look into this. Dr. McDonald felt the number was high because that was the amount put into the budget last year. Mr. Pappas stated that there was an issue previously with custodial substitution funds. Dr. Mc Donald stated that this is a matter that can be discussed at budget time.

Secondly, Mr. Pappas asked about the reduction of security overtime. He commented that whoever was responsible did a great job. Dr. McDonald shared that it was Mr. Milano, Director of Facilities.

Lastly, Mr. Pappas wanted to know why MacArthur's printing budget was \$4,000 and is now zero and Division's budget is \$2,400. Mr. Pastore remarked that he will look into this and get back to the Board.

- End of Year Trial Balance Report ending October 22, 2014;
- Credit card statement for the period ending October 22, 2014;
- Claims Auditors Report – Prepared by Albrecht, Viggiano and Zureck and Company, P.C. for the month ending October 31, 2014

NOTE: Mr. Pappas commended Mr. Pastore on a great job with the Claims Audit Report. He noted that the percentages were low.

- Treasurer's Report – For the month ending September 30, 2014;
- End-of-Year Treasurer's Report for the 2013-14 school year."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	James Moran
SECONDER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
AYES:	Moran, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi,
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

3. Cullen and Danowski Engagement Letter

RESOLUTION # 14-15-130

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached engagement letter from Cullen and Danowski dated October 28, 2014 for the agreed upon procedures;

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

NOTE: Mr. Pappas asked if this was a normal round robin type of event that was requested by the Board. Dr. McDonald stated that this was discussed at the Audit Committee Meeting and a recommendation was made.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
SECONDER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
AYES:	Moran, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi,
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

4. Risk Assessment Update Report and Corrective Action Plan

RESOLUTION # 14-15-131

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, accept the attached Risk Assessment Update Report dated October 17, 2014 and the Corrective Action Plan in response to the internal auditor's recommendations, and;

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

NOTE: Mr. Pastore noted that this report that was discussed at the last Audit Committee Meeting. Mr. Pappas asked if it was codified. Dr. McDonald explained that this was the Board official acceptance of the Risk Assessment Report and Corrective Action Plan. Mr. Pastore shared that this has to be done officially in order to be submitted.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
AYES:	Moran, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi,
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

5. Budget Transfers

RESOLUTION # 14-15-132

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 from</u>	<u>Code to</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1930.4000 Tax Certiorari	A5540.4000 Contract Transportation	\$35,000

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [5-1-0]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Moran, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi,
NAYS:	Mike Pappas
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

6. Memorandum of Understanding, USDA School Nutrition and Meal Cost Study RESOLUTION # 14-15-133

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached Memorandum of Understanding with the USDA for participation in the School Nutrition and Meal Cost Study;

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

NOTE: Mr. Pastore explained that this is a survey to review the nutritional programs that the government is requiring. He noted that this study will provide information on how the new school meal programs are operating and the effects of the new nutrition standards on operations and student participation. Mr. Ward asked if Aramark, our food service company, would be handling this. Mr. Pastore stated we have to agree to do this study first.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
SECONDER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
AYES:	Moran, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi,
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

7. GC Tech Tuition Contract

RESOLUTION # 14-15-134

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education, does, hereby, approve the attached tuition contract between the Levittown Public Schools and the following school district for the purpose of Levittown providing specialized educational services at the GC Tech program to children residing in the district:

- Hewlett-Woodmere School District

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
SECONDER:	Kevin Regan
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

8. Contract with HMB Consultants

RESOLUTION # 14-15-135

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract between the Levittown Public Schools and HMB Consultants at \$850 per day for a maximum of ~~ten~~ days to review the Child Nutrition Program;

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

NOTE: Mr. Pastore explained this contract is for a consultant to perform a follow up service to evaluate the performance of Armark, as it relates to the requirements of the food service contract. Mr. Ward was concerned about the amount being paid to the consultant and why we could not do this service ourselves. Mr. Pastore responded that this consultant is an expert in the Child Nutrition Program and contract compliance. He can inform us if we are spending our money wisely and will visit each of the schools and review their preparation and storage of food. Mr. Pappas suggested that the consultant's contract be reduced from ten day to five days. Dr. McDonald agreed but remarked that five days is the minimum to be able to do a good job. Mr. Pastore mentioned that the consultant would be asked to combine his services so that he will be able to complete his tasks in five days. Dr. McDonald noted that if the consultant feels he cannot accomplish his duties in the five days, she will report this information to the Board.

AMEND AS FOLLOWS: Change the motion to read: HMB Consultants at \$850 per day for a maximum of *five* days to review the Child Nutrition Program.

RESULT:	APPROVED AS AMENDED [5 - 1 - 0]
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Kevin J Regan
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
NAYS:	Frank Ward
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

9. Contract with Sound Actuarial Consulting

RESOLUTION # 14-15-136

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract between the Levittown Public Schools and Sound Actuarial Services for \$2,000 to provide actuarial services for the District's Workers' Compensation coverage;

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

NOTE: Mr. Pappas asked what this company provided. Dr. McDonald explained that they are Acturaries who will look at the amount of our Workers Compensation to determine if our reserve is correctly funded. She noted this is required every few years.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

10. Contract with Irvin Simon Photographers

RESOLUTION # 14-15-137

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract with Irvin Simon Photographers to serve as school photographer for Jonas Salk Middle School.

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

11. Contracts for Prom Venues

RESOLUTION # 14-15-138

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contracts with various vendors as the venues for the General Douglas MacArthur High School Senior Prom and Division Avenue High School Junior and Senior Proms:

- Crest Hollow Country Club: MacArthur High School Senior Prom, June 9, 2017;
- Verdi's of Westbury: Division Avenue High School Junior Prom, March 13, 2015;
- Chateau la Mer: Division Avenue High School Senior Prom, June 12, 2015.

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
SECONDER:	Kevin Regan
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

12. Special Education Contracts

RESOLUTION # 14-15-139

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 for the 2014-15 school year.

- Lexington School for the Deaf
- Alternative Tutoring, Inc.
- South Oaks Hospital
- Gayle E. Kligman
- Blessed Healthcare and Staffing Agency
- Nassau-Suffolk Services for the Autistic, Inc.
- Syosset Home Tutoring
- Bellmore UFSD
- Hagedorn Little Village School
- Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf
- Harmony Heights
- United Cerebral Palsy
- Long Island Therapy Management
- Central Park Therapy
- Bethpage UFSD
- Developmental Disabilities Institute (DDI)
- Andrew Kent, MD
- Plainedge School District
- Seaford UFSD
- Springbrook
- Wantagh UFSD

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [5- 0-1]
MOVER:	Michael Pappas
SECONDER:	Kevin J Regan
AYES:	Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
ABSTAIN:	Frank Ward
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

13. Appointment of Additional Members of the Food Service Committee

RESOLUTION # 14-15-140

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, appoint Peter Burke (East Broadway) and Jennifer Novello (Gardiners Avenue) as additional members of the Food Service Committee for the 2014-2015 school year."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

14. Response to Intervention Plan

RESOLUTION # 14-15-141

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that in compliance with the Commissioner's Regulations, the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, adopt the attached RtI Plan, Response to Intervention Plan 2014-15."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

15. Local Assistance Plan

RESOLUTION # 14-15-142

MOTION: "RESOLVED that the Board of Education does, hereby, accept the attached Local Assistance Plan for the year 2014-2015."

NOTE: Mr. Pappas asked Ms. Rifkin to explain this motion. She shared that Gardiners Avenue was identified by New York State as a Local Assistant Plan School (LAP). She noted that the reason they were identified as this is because there was a large achievement gap between their sub group of students with disabilities and the total number of students in their building. This gap increased from the prior year. Ms. Rifkin commented that even though the report was based on 2012/13 data, we needed to address it with a plan. A report template for this plan was given to us by the State which is a self review document. A committee from the building worked together to conduct this self review which included many indicators.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

16. Gifts to School

RESOLUTION # 14-15-143

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

- a. 2003 Chevy Malibu VIN#1G1ND52J63M530329 donated by Suffolk Community College/General Motors for use in the GC Tech automotive classes;
- b. various office supplies donated to East Broadway School by Mrs. Nancy Rossi, 30 Eve Lane, Levittown, NY 11756
- c. 35 office chairs donated to East Broadway School by Mrs. Nancy Rossi, 30 Eve Lane, Levittown, New York 11756 to replace office and teachers' chairs as needed ."

NOTE: Mr. Marenghi thanked everyone for their generous donations.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Kevin Regan
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marenghi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

17. Obsolete Library Books

RESOLUTION # 14-15-144

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

School	Quantity	Date of List
Jonas Salk	109	October 24, 2014"

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marenghi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

18. Obsolete Equipment

RESOLUTION # 14-15-145

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, declare the equipment on the following lists obsolete and that the items may be discarded and/or sold at the highest possible salvage value:

School/Building	Items	Date of List
Wisdom	Band Saw/Rockwell	October 1, 2014
Division	Vulcan Convection Oven	September 11, 2014"

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

19. Obsolete Computer Equipment

RESOLUTION # 14-15-146

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, declare the computer equipment on the following lists obsolete and that the items may be discarded and/or sold at the highest possible salvage value:

School / Building	No of Items	Type of Items	Date of List
Wisdom Lane MS	2	Printers	10/9/14
Special Ed / LMEC	7	Dynavox \ Victor Reader	10/9/14
Salk MS	1	Printer	10/7/14
Gardiners Ave	4	Printers	10/14/14
Lee Rd	1	Printer	10/30/14
LMEC	10	Printers \ Projectors \ Laptop	11/3/14"

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

20. Approval of Revised Board of Education Policy

RESOLUTION # 14-15-147

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, adopt the following revised policy:

Policy # 7210 Student Evaluation, Promotion and Placement "

NOTE: Ms. Rifkin noted that this is the final read of the policy which was revised to reflect New York State's requirement that we reduce testing where possible in the district and that state assessments results are not included as part of a student's permanent folder.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	Frank Ward, Secretary
AYES:	Ward, Quinones-Smith, Pappas, Regan, Marengi, Moran
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

MOTION: “That the Levittown Board of Education approve the following schedules:

1001	2014-G- No. 6	Resignation/Termination - Certified Personnel
1002	2014-GG-No. 6	Resignation/Termination-Non-Instructional Personnel
1003	2014-H-No. 6	Appointments- Certified Personnel
1004	2014-H-No. 6al	Appointments – Salary Change, Certified Personnel
1005	2014-H-No. 6c	Designation - Consultants
1006	2014-H-No. 6g	Designation - Coaches
1007	2014-H-No. 6h	Appointments, Extra-Curricular
1008	2014HH-No.6	Appointments – Non-Instructional Personnel
1009	2014-HH-No. 6al	Appointments – Salary Change, Non-Instructional Personnel
1010	2014-K-No. 5	Leave of Absence – Certified Personnel
1011	2014-KK-No. 5	Leave of Absence – Non-Instructional Personnel
1012	2014-O-No. 5	Students with Disabilities

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Moran, Ward, Pappas, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marenghi,
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

VIII. AD HOC –

a. Special Education Contracts

Dr. McDonald wanted to address a procedural issue concerning special education contracts with the Board. She explained the process used when contracts are submitted. She asked for clarification on how the Board would like her to proceed when students’ names are involved. The Board discussed this matter. Ms. Marenghi commented that with scanned documents, it is very easy to miss a student’s name that should have been redacted. Dr. McDonald suggested that if a contract only has a child’s name, that the schedule not be included. Mr. Pappas stated he had no issue with that. He was more concerned with seeing all documents that have money involved. Dr. McDonald stressed that the Board will see all financial documents.

IX. MOTION TO ADJOURN

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kevin Regan
SECONDER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
AYES:	Ward, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
EXCUSED:	Ed Powers

The Board adjourned the public meeting at 9:35 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.

The individuals listed below spoke about their concerns regarding the changes in the coaching staff for the MacArthur track team.

Linda DeSantos 754 Bruce Drive, Wantagh, NY

Ms. DeSantos spoke about her son, a senior on the track team, who received exceptional coaching his three years on the team and is being scouted by a prestigious college. She asked why this coach was fired and who makes this decision. Ms. DeSantos wanted to know, if the Board was listening to the parents and student athletes involved who excelled under the coaches direction. She was concerned about the senior athletes whose performance during the winter and spring season is critical to their future college aspirations. She commented that the Board and Administration are sending the wrong message to the students who will one day be registered voters. She praised the coach who led by example and is the reason why the track team has a strong sense of camaraderie on and off the field.

Alex Dempsey 3117 Ward Lane, Wantagh, NY

Mr. Dempsey was speaking on behalf of the track and field team. He noted that the athletes are befuddled by the decisions being with regards to the coaching staff and the future of the track team. He asked what criteria was used to select the new coaches and what experience do they bring to the team. Mr. Dempsey commented that the members of the team have been repeatedly told by the athletic director and Board that they want to take our program in a new direction. He questions why they that would want to change a winning formula. He feels that the changes being made to the program are upsetting and not made with the benefits of the athletes in mind.

Jason Russo 2837 Lawrence Drive, Wantagh, NY

Mr. Russo, a junior at MacArthur and a member of the track team, expressed his concern regarding the recent changes to the team and the future of the program. He wanted to know the reasons that the coaching staff was changed when they were responsible for creating such a great program. Mr. Russo felt this decision was unfair to the athletes on the team.

Andrea Dempsey 3117 Ward Lane, Wantagh, NY

A letter from Ms. Dempsey was read at the meeting. She is deeply concerned about the future of the track and field program because of the most recent changes in the coaching. She has apprehension regarding the training, momentum, spirit and team moral that have been lost. She believes that her son was successful on the team because of the good coaching and hard work. In addition, Ms. Dempsey has questions about how the new coaches were selected for this highly specialized team and asked what the formal hiring practice is for coaches.

In response to the above comments, Dr. McDonald read the following general statement:

Following the end of the spring track and field season and the resignation for personal reasons of MacArthur High School's varsity track and field coach, Mr. San Filippo, the district decided to consider new applicants for the coaching staff beginning with the winter 2014 season. During its October 8, 2014 meeting, after recommendation by district Administration, the Board of Education appointed Mr. Gorman as varsity head coach and Ms. Duffy as assistant coach, effective immediately. Mr. San Filippo will continue to work in our district as a physical education teacher. At the November 12, 2014 meeting, it is anticipated that Mr. Gttus will be appointed as assistant coach. It is further anticipated that a recommendation will be made to the Board of Education for a third assistant coach on November 19, 2014. We have every confidence in the staff we have chosen and thank Mr. San Filippo and his staff for the service to the district but this is a personal matter that the district cannot comment further on the issue. Mr. San Filippo will continue to work with the seniors and juniors who are pursuing scholarships. He will be actively involved in college applications. As always, we look forward to a successful track and field season.

Ms. Marengi thanked all the community members for coming out and expressing themselves so that we understand and we hear you.

Kathleen Vaughan Ware 824 Pineneck Road, Seaford, NY

Ms. Vaughan Ware wanted to know what the district is doing to help the students in the class of 2017, especially those struggling in math as a result of the Common Core implementation. She noted that an unofficial survey was taken on both sides of the turnpike and out of forty one parents, thirty six are hiring tutors for math. Ms. Vaughan Ware stressed that as a district we have to do better by our children. She suggested that we implore the state for more material since our teachers cannot teach what we do not have.

Ms. Marengi addressed Ms. Vaughan Ware's comments by responding that the Board is aware of what is going on with math. She remarked that we are reviewing the data and we hear you.

Additionally, Ms. Vaughan Ware recommended that the district form an Athletic Advisory Committee. She noted the ways that this committee would be beneficial to students such as answering questions about procedures, helping students fulfill their community service requirements with fundraising, and have peer leadership/mentors. She feels this committee is needed.

Tom Kohlman 806 Brent Drive, Wantagh, NY

Mr. Kohlman felt there was confusion in regards to the accomplishments of the MacArthur track team and the idea that track is not a sport. He noted that for the last three years, he has handed out track journals to Board members and various staff, highlighting the outstanding accomplishments of the athletes on the track team. Mr. Kohlman credited the highly dedicated coaching staff with the team's success.

Dr. McDonald commented that the Board and Administration are very aware that track and field is a lifelong sport.

Jane Finkelstein **848Mayer Drive, Wantagh, NY**

Ms. Finkelstein thanked Dr. McDonald for taking the time out of her schedule to respond in writing to her questions at Public Be Heard.

Ms. Finkelstein wanted to know why the cost of the Common Core implementation for the high school was not included the reply she received.

Dr. McDonald reported that the cost is ongoing as we continue to update the Common Core.

Ms. Finkelstein had questions on professional development; specifically what it is, what we have planned for the future and what is turn-key.

Dr. McDonald noted that the district has turn-key professional development so that not all of the teachers are out of the classroom at the same time. In this way, we do not lose a lot of instructional time. When the opportunity presents itself, a number of teachers are sent to workshops to return to the district and turn-key the information received to their colleagues.

Additionally, Ms. Finkelstein asked about the Smart School Bond and the four millions dollars that the district was awarded for this. She wanted to know if we do not accept this money, are we responsible for paying it back. Ms. Finkelstein felt that the technology involved is outdated.

Dr. McDonald advised that if you do not take the money, you do not have to pay it back.

