

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

DATE: MAY 6, 2015

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION was duly called and held on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 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
Mr. Frank Ward, Secretary
Mr. James Moran – excused absence
Mr. Michael Pappas
Mr. Peter Porrazzo
Mr. Kevin Regan

ADMINISTRATION

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

OTHERS

Mr. Gregory Gillen - School Attorney
Ms. Elizabeth Appelbaum - District Clerk
Mr. James Lunetta – Division Avenue High School Alternate Student Liaison

- A. Pledge of Allegiance

- b. Ms. Marengi, called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:15 PM. On a motion by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Regan and approved (6-0) that the Board adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the following item: to discuss disciplinary proceeding against a tenured teacher.

- C. The Board reconvened to Public Session at 7:40 PM on a motion by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Powers 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 and additionally may we please remember in our thoughts Officer Brian Moore who was shot in the line of duty and died this week.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Marengi announced that the Board would move to the auditorium for recognition of the science students and Skills USA winners.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: "Make the necessary corrections and move the approval of the minutes of the March 11, 2015 (Regular Meeting) and the March 25, 2015 (Special Meeting).

NOTE: Mr. Pappas was upset about the meeting on April 25th which he feels was started five minutes early and ended before 5:00 pm. He came to the meeting at 5:00 pm and was given an excused absence. Ms. Marengi commented that she apologized for starting the meeting early and takes full responsibility for this. She noted that the meeting was to approve the BOCES budget which took two minutes. Ms. Marengi asked the District Clerk to change the times of the meeting to reflect that it started at 4:55 pm and ended at 4:57 pm. Mr. Pappas asked the District Clerk to find out what happens to his excused absence. Corrections were reflected in the approved minutes.

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

IV. REPORTS

A. Recognition

a. Wisdom Lane Art Show

Ms. Marengi asked everyone to observe the beautiful art work from the Wisdom Lane students. She remarked that it is always nice to see our students work displayed.

b. Wisdom/Salk Student Presentation "Project Lead the Way"

Ms. Marengi welcomed the students from Wisdom and Salk who were presenting their project. Mr. Creter, Curriculum Associate for Art, Family Consumer Science and Technology, introduced the "future engineers." He commented that tonight you will see a small snapshot of the "Project Lead the Way" curriculum at the middle school. The students from 7th grade described their project which consisted of designing, building and shaping a dragster race car from a block of balsa wood. They remarked that while working on this project they learned how to work as a team and had fun creating and building their dragster. The 8th grade students, "Team Wally," spoke about their experiences in the competitions. Videos were shown. The students were congratulated by the Board and given certificates. Dr. McDonald noted that these students were participating in 21st Century Learning and these are the people that will be leading our world. Ms. Rifkin remarked that these programs had unbelievable enthusiasm from both the teachers and students.

c. Student Recognition: Excellence in Science

Dr. McDonald introduced Mr. McDermott, Science Curriculum Associate, who reported on the outstanding science program at Levittown. He spoke about the highlights of each of the programs at Division, MacArthur, Salk and Wisdom Lane schools and the awards won. Mr. McDermott introduced the Science Research Coordinators from each school. The students were announced and given certificates. The Board congratulated the students on their achievements.

d. Skill USA Winners

Dr. McDonald announced that Ms. Emeric, Club Advisor, was named “Skills USA Advisor of the Year for Long Island.” Ms. Emeric shared that tonight the district was recognizing some of the outstanding GC Tech students, who had won Regional and State Skills USA Competitions. She went on to give a brief overview of the program and noted that 14 medals were won at the competition. Ms. Emeric spoke about each winner and their accomplishment. She thanked the GC Tech staff and parents for their continued support and encouragement. Dr. McDonald commented that the parents should be proud of their children who are polite students and a pleasure to see every day. The Board congratulated the students and certificates were handed out.

e. Staff Tenure Reception

Dr. McDonald shared that this year we have seven tenure recognitions who are very special to us. Each recipient was introduced with a brief highlight of their career. The Board congratulated all.

B. Superintendent

1. Comments and Reports

a. Tax Freeze Plan

Mr. Pastore provided information on the district’s progress in relation to the Governmental Efficiency Plan that was initiated by the Governor last year and that we are required to submit. He explained that it is a two year plan. In the first year, in order for the residents to get the tax freeze, the school district had to provide a budget that was at or below the tax cap. In year two, homeowners would receive the freeze credit for taxes from the State of New York, from those districts that stayed within the property tax cap and forwards a compliant plan to save 1% of their tax levy in each of the following three years. Mr. Pastore reported that he has been working with other business officials in his quadrant and everyone seems to be struggling with what dictates a compliant plan. Dr. McDonald asked why there was a struggle. Mr. Pastor noted that there are no rules or guidelines. He remarked that the State suggested to just submit any plan but it appears that items that we think are compliant are not. Mr. Pastore handed out a spreadsheet and discussed each savings initiative and its implications. He shared that the Governor has asked districts to combine school districts, merge school districts or find efficiencies. Dr. McDonald commented that no school district has said they want to merge; therefore we are all in the same boat. Mr. Pastore remarked that most school districts are trying to find efficiencies which had to start on or after 2012. Mr. Pastore noted that our district has tried to save money by implementing efficiencies whenever we could and in most cases this was before 2012. He commented that districts that did not try to save money are the ones being rewarded. Mr. Pappas complemented Dr. McDonald and Mr. Pastore for doing the right thing and agreed that we are being punished for it.

b. Opt-out Counts

Ms. Rifkin stated that the total percent for opt-out was 62% for ELA and 67% for Math district wide. She reported that the numbers may have changed slightly since the first numbers were issued because students absent from day one were assumed to be opting out when some of them were just absent and came in on day two to take the test. Mr. Powers asked if anyone had checked by school if there is any statistical validity to the results. Dr. McDonald stated that we believe not since the numbers are not high enough to base anything on. Ms. Rifkin advised that the best participation rate across the district was 49% which means that less than half of the students participated in taking the test.

Mr. Powers pointed-out that these are challenging times for students and teachers. He believes that the Governor's remarks are a tool to bring teachers to bear on termination eventually. In his opinion, educators are existing under difficult conditions and he feels bad for the profession as a whole. Mr. Powers noted that he asked Mr. Cohen, legal counsel, what we can do to try to support the teachers. He crafted a resolution to dispel the ambiguity and fear that our staff is operating under and clarify our position as a district. Mr. Powers asked that this resolution be added as an agenda item. The Board agreed.

c. Status of LUT Incentive

Ms. Rhatigan reported that as of May 6th, six employees had submitted paperwork for the LUT retirement incentive.

d. Attorney of Record

Dr. McDonald wanted to state publicly that the district is required to have our professional services vendors submit a Request for Proposal (RFP). She noted that the Administration is recommending that we continue with our attorneys for another year since we are in the middle of negotiations and the finalization of contracts. Mr. Pappas remarked that this discussion has to be done publicly not on e-mail since the district would be contracting with tax payer money. He commented that our current attorneys, Lamb and Barnowsky, are doing a terrific job but he feels that an RFP should still be sent out for all of our services. The consensus of the Board was to allow our current attorneys to stay for another year. Dr. McDonald advised that RFP's have been put out for auditors which will be brought to the Board's attention next month and the RFP for attorneys will be put out next year in February 2016 in time for budget season.

2. Follow-up to Prior Public Be Heard Questions
(none)

3. Follow-up to Board Questions
(none)

C. Board of Education

1. Comments and Reports
(none)

2. Correspondence
(none)

3. Student Liaisons

Mr. Lunetta reported on the events at Division Avenue which were: play off season for lacrosse, baseball and softball starts next week; a lot of top athletes have signed to play at various colleges and universities. The Annual Christina Constant Walk, Night of Honor and Honor Society Induction were held. Division had a first place finish in the Brookhaven National Laboratory's Model Bridge Contest. The National Organization for Rare Disorders will honor Bailey Gribben. He noted that students were in the middle of AP's and getting ready for finals.

Ms. Rifkin shared that Mr. Lunetta recently sent a letter to the Board thanking the Board and District for their support of the DECA Club. She remarked that in reading the letter they realized

that Mr. Lunetta is a very special young man. She highlighted his accomplishments, one of which is being named a finalist in the 2015 DECA International Career Development Conference.

V. BUDGET HEARING/PUBLIC BE HEARD

Comments appear at the end of the minutes.

Mr. Pastore advised that tonight was the official Budget Hearing which must occur 7 – 14 days before the Budget vote. He noted that the Budget Newsletter was mailed out and received by many residents. The Six Day Notice is ready to be mailed. Mr. Pastore gave a brief overview of the proposed budget for the 2015- 2016 school year and went over each of the three components of the budget.

VI. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS

1. Warrants

RESOLUTION # 14-15-242

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 April 2015 report of the Claims Auditor be accepted."

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

2. Business Office Reports

RESOLUTION # 14-15-243

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 March 31, 2015;
- Claims Auditors Report- Prepared by Albrecht, Viggiano and Zureck and Company, P.C. for the month ending April 30, 2015;
- Treasurer's Report- For the month ending March 31, 2015;
- Credit card statement for the period ending April 22, 2015
- Fund balance as of April 30, 2015."

NOTE: Mr. Pappas had questions regarding the AVZ Report. He wanted to know when the quarterly report would be available. Dr. McDonald advised it would be on the next agenda.

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

3. Reaffirmation of Reserves

RESOLUTION # 14-15-244

MOTION: “WHEREAS, by action of the Levittown Board of Education, the Levittown Union Free School District has previously established certain reserves having the following balances as of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014;

<i>Reserves</i>	<i>Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/14</i>
Restricted for Workers’ Compensation	\$ 5,024,299
Restricted for Unemployment Insurance	\$ 2,940,514
Restricted for Employee Retirement	\$ 15,460,493
Restricted for Employee Benefits Accrued Liability	\$ 6,017,081
Restricted for Tax Certiorari	\$ 0
Restricted for Capital Reserve	\$ 6,796,663
Total Reserves	\$ 36,239,050

and WHEREAS, the Levittown Board of Education wishes to utilize and/or contribute additional funds where appropriate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education, hereby, authorizes transfers of 2014-2015 fund balance to any of the properly established reserves not to exceed:

<i>Reserves Transfers Not To Exceed</i>	
Restricted for Workers’ Compensation	\$ 1,000,000
Restricted for Unemployment Insurance	\$ 0
Restricted for Employee Retirement	\$ 5,000,000
Restricted for Employee Benefits Accrued Liability	\$ 0
Restricted for Capital Reserve	\$ 7,500,000
Total Reserves	\$13,500,000”

NOTE: Mr. Pappas asked for an explanation on the reaffirmation of the reserves for the number for the workers compensation. Mr. Pastore responded that at the end of the year, if we have excess funds we are allowed to put money into these accounts. He chose these numbers to be able to create a ceiling. Mr. Pastore noted that Board approval is required. Mr. Pappas commented that sometime you put money in funds and you cannot get the money out. Mr. Pastore reported that once the audit is completed, there can be discussion on where the reserves should be put. Mr. Pappas remarked that he does not like to preauthorize the money into these reserves. Mr. Pastore stated that it is more of an accounting function and gives us options. Mr. Powers commented that this allows you to move money between reserves to that amount.

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

3. Budget Increase for Use of Capital Reserve

RESOLUTION # 14-15-245

MOTION: "WHEREAS, the voters of the district approved the use of \$4,000,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund on May 20, 2014 (Proposition #2 - Capital Reserve Fund, the following budget increase to the 2014-15 budget has been prepared and recommended by the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance;

	<u>Amount</u>
Budgeted Revenues	
Appropriated Reserves	\$4,000,000
Budgeted Expenditures	
Inter-fund Transfers to the Capital Fund	\$4,000,000

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

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

5. Obsolete Equipment

RESOLUTION # 14-15-246

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	No. of Items	Date of List
Mac Arthur HS	140 band uniform pants	April 17, 2015
	145 band uniform jackets	
	140 band uniform hats	
GC Tech Automotive	2001 Jaguar shop car	April 21, 2015
	Vin #SAJDA14C91LF34076	
Salk Middle School	200 broken student/teacher desks	
	7 large carts	
	20 file cabinets	
	20 tables	

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

6. Obsolete Computer Equipment

RESOLUTION # 14-15-247

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	No of Items	Type of Items	Date of List
East Broadway	1	Smartboard	3/31/15
Summit Lane	2	Printers	4/27/15
LMEC	11	POS Terminals	4/17/15
LMEC	8	POS Terminals	4/17/15
LMEC	9	Printers, Projectors, PCs	4/27/15"

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

7. Obsolete library books

RESOLUTION # 14-15-248

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

<u>School</u>	<u>Quantity/type of book</u>	<u>Date of List</u>
Wisdom Lane	76 Library books	April 24, 2015“

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

8. Universal Pre-K Sites

RESOLUTION # 14-15-249

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve Tender Garden located at 3100 Hempstead Turnpike, Levittown, NY 11756, and Kiddie Junction located at 3 North Village Green, Levittown, NY 11756, as the two sites for the Universal Pre-K Program for the 2015-16 school year."

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

9. Election Workers

RESOLUTION # 14-15-250

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the individuals on the attached list as the Election Registrars for 2015."

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

10. Parents Bill of Rights Riders

RESOLUTION # 14-15-251

MOTION: "RESOLVED that the attached Parents Bill of Rights Riders be approved for signature by the Board of Education President in regard to the following agreements:

- Maryhaven Center for Hope."

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

11. Dance Program Tuition

RESOLUTION # 14-15-252

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the following increase to the Dance Program tuition commencing July 1, 2015:

Dance classes: \$160 per class/per year
Gymnastics classes \$180 per class/per year."

NOTE: Mr. Pappas asked for an overview of the dance program. Ms. Rifkin explained that the program is run at Gardiners Avenue School on Saturdays for classes in both dance and gymnastics. She reported that the recommendation was to increase the tuition by \$20 to keep the programs self sustaining. Ms. Rifkin pointed out that this year there were over 500 students taking classes. She noted that we are very competitive with the neighboring dance classes because we provide a good value for the cost of the program. Mr. Pappas asked if the programs are district run. Ms. Rifkin answered that the Director of the Dance Program is a district employee and that she gets a W-2 and the money goes through our General Fund. The Music Program is run by a teacher.

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

12. Summer Music Program Tuition

RESOLUTION # 14-15-253

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the increase to the Summer Music Program tuition from \$90 to \$100 commencing July 1, 2015."

NOTE: Mr. Pappas asked for an overview of this program as well. Ms. Rifkin reported that this is a small program that only had 63 students last year. Since we barely covered the cost of the program last year we are recommending a tuition increase of \$10 this year.

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

13. Gifts to School

RESOLUTION # 14-15-254

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

- a. checks for the following schools donated by General Mills, Box Tops for Education, PO Box 200, Young America, MN 55553
 - Abbey Lane \$360.00
 - Summit Lane \$369.80
 - Wisdom Lane \$173.20
- b. One alto-sax and one wood clarinet donated to East Broadway School by Mr. Lawrence Davidson, 808 Carolyn Court, Seaford, NY 11783;
- c. 100 books for the Wisdom Lane Library donated by Scholastic Book Fairs, 3030 Robinson Road, Jefferson City, MO 65111"

NOTE: The Board thanked all those that contributed.

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

14. Cooperative Bid - Levittown School District (Materials and Supplies - RESOLUTION # 14-15-255
Bus, Van and Auto Parts)

MOTION: "WHEREAS, it is the plan of the Garden City UFSD, Herricks UFSD, Mineola UFSD, Great Neck UFSD, Levittown UFSD, North Shore Central School District, Port Washington UFSD, East Rockaway School District, Roslyn UFSD, Long Beach UFSD and Island Park UFSD, Floral Park-Bellerose School District, Plainedge School District and East Williston UFSD in Nassau County, New York to bid jointly for Materials and Supplies (Bus and Auto Parts, and Transmissions), and;

WHEREAS, the Levittown School District is desirous of participating with other school districts in Nassau County in the joint bidding of the commodities mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0 and;

WHEREAS, the Levittown School District wishes to appoint a committee to assume the responsibility for drafting of specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids, reporting the results to the Boards of Education and making recommendations thereon, therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Levittown School District hereby appoints Dajuana Reeves for the Levittown School District to represent it in all matters related above, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Levittown School District Board of Education authorizes the above mentioned committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned commodities, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Levittown School District Board of Education agrees to assume its equitable share of the costs of the cooperative bidding, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Levittown School District Board of Education agrees (1) to abide by the majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards: (2) that unless all bids are rejected, it will award contracts according to the recommendations of the committee: (3) that after award of contract(s), it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).”

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

15. Wages for Seasonal Workers

RESOLUTION # 14-15-256

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the following increases to the hourly rate paid to seasonal workers commencing May 7, 2015:

First year workers: \$8.75 per hour (increased from \$8.00 - minimum wage increase)
Rehired workers \$10.20 per hour (increased from \$9.45)"

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

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

1001	2014-G-No. 12	Resignation/Termination - Certified Personnel
1002	2014-GG-No. 12	Resignation/Termination-Non-Instructional Personnel
1003	2014-H-No 14	Appointments - Certified Personnel
1004	2014-H-No. 14c	Designation – Consultants
1005	2014-H-No. 14h	Appointments - Extra-Curricular
1006	2014-HH-No. 14	Appointments - Non-Instructional Personnel
1007	2014-K-No.10	Leave of Absence – Certified Personnel
1008	2014-KK-No. 10	Leave of Absence – Non-Instructional Personne
1009	2014-O-No.10	Students with Disabilities

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

17. Add Agenda Items

RESOLUTION # 14-15-258

MOTION: “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, suspend the policy rules to add agenda items #18 and #19.

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

18. Teacher Evaluations

RESOLUTION # 14-15-259

MOTION: RESOLVED, that the Administration and the Board of the Levittown School District stand in full support of its parents teachers and staff.

In an era in which State Policymakers believe the best course of action for evaluation the effectiveness of educators to be a rigid process that relies too heavily on the results of a single examination, the Board of Education hereby declares that it does NOT agree with this methodology, and it further

Directs the Superintendent of Schools not to use the scores derived from these examinations as the sole factor in movement to dismiss a teachers, and it further

Requests that the New York State Board of Regents develop a fair weighting system for teacher evaluations that does not put undue emphasis on student test performance.

NOTE: Mr. Regan stated that he agreed with the principle of this resolution but finds it hard to believe that Board members would allow the Administration to fire someone based on one test result. He did not see the necessity of this resolution. Ms. Marengi commented that this resolution makes a strong statement and clarifies how the system works. She noted it is now spelled out that we stand behind the fact that, one indicator is not the method that a teacher should be evaluated on. Mr. Pappas remarked that Mr. Powers words in the resolution were well spoken and well put.

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

19. ALSA Separation Incentive

RESOLUTION # 14-15-260

MOTION: “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education hereby ratifies the terms of a proposed separation incentive with the Association of Levittown School Administrators.

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

NOTE: Mr. Pappas asked if the terms of the agreement needed to be discussed. Mr. Gillen advised that it was up to the Board since it was the same incentive that was previously accepted. Mr. Pappas noted that the terms were different. Mr. Gillen remarked that the only change was that the activation number would be based on three ALSA members accepting. Ms. Marenghi stated that the Board is in agreement of \$180 per day up to a maximum of 180 days.

IX. MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

The Board adjourned the meeting at 10:05 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.

Jane Finkelstein 848 Mayer Drive, Wantagh, NY

Ms. Finkelstein spoke about the percent of Opt-Out students. She noted that these numbers speak volumes. She advised that they are clearly a rejection of the heavy emphasis of high stake testing. Ms. Finkelstein would like this message considered as we move forward with Professional Development. Additionally, she had questions on other areas such as clarification on the EBLR account which has to do with the retirement incentive and on the emergency repairs that were done last year.

Ms. Finkelstein noted that she was waiting for an answer to her question on the difference in costs for the Curriculum Associates and Assistant Directors as opposed to Chairpeople.