

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

MINUTES

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION was duly called and held on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 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.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. James Moran, President
Ms. Peggy Marengi, Vice President
Ms. Marianne Adrian
Ms. Christina Lang
Mr. Michael Pappas
Ms. Karen Quinones-Smith
Mr. Frank Ward (in memorium)

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Tonie McDonald - Superintendent of Schools
Mr. William Pastore – Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Debbie Rifkin - Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Donald Sturz – Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Todd Winch - Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS

Mr. Robert H. Cohen - School Attorney
Ms. Elizabeth Appelbaum - District Clerk
Ms. Arianna Wynn - Student Liaison for MacArthur High School
Mr. Steven Reilly – Student Liaison for Division Avenue High School

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Mr. Moran, President, called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30 PM. On a motion by Ms. Adrian, seconded by Ms. Marengi and approved (6-0) that the Board adjourn to Executive Session to seek legal advice from the Board's Attorney.**

- B. The Board reconvened to Public Session at 7:30 PM on a motion by Ms. Marengi seconded by Ms. Adrian and approved (6-0). Mr. Moran asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by Emily Moix, a Gardiners Avenue student. Mr. Moran requested a moment of silence for our service men and women.**

II. REPORTS

A. Student Presentations

Student Academic Presentation – Gardiners Avenue School

Mr. Winch welcomed Dr. Vanderbeck, Principal of Gardiners Avenue School, and asked him to introduce the members of the STEAM Team who were presenting “Full STEAM Ahead.” Dr. Vanderbeck spoke about the number of STEAM projects being developed by the STEAM Committee. One such activity was a logo contest for tee shirts. Students were asked to design a STEAM letter for the tee shirts. This artistic project required students to research what each letter in STEAM represents. Each letter had a winner who was present and shared their research. The students asked the Board and Administration to help with an activity to demonstrate one of their projects which uses critical thinking. Dr. McDonald thanked the students for an amazing hands-on presentation that was a lot of fun.

B. Recognition

Student Art Presentation – Gardiners Avenue School

Dr. McDonald thanked the students from Gardiners Avenue for the beautiful and cute artwork especially the “runaway snowman.”

Patriot’s Pen Essay Contest Winners

Mr. Costello, Director of Social Studies and World Languages, was called up to speak about the essay contest and announce the winners. He explained that this is an annual contest held by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. This year’s theme was “The America I Believe In.” Mr. Costello shared that the students from Wisdom Middle School swept the top four awards locally. He thanked the teachers of these students for all their support. Mr. Costello urged everyone to read these outstanding essays which will be exhibited in the lobby. He stated that if you have any doubt about the future of our country you will be very encouraged by these wonderful essays.

Adopt A Family Program – Esta Lachow and Gina Interdonato

Dr. McDonald explained that every year the District has a Holiday Adopt A Family Program where people bring gifts for needy children in the community. She remarked that we have two people who work extremely hard coordinating this community event. Ms. Lachow was in attendance and Dr. McDonald and the Board thanked her for all that she does.

Regional Coach of the Year – Steve Costello

Dr. McDonald announced that Mr. Costello, has been named Region I Coach of the Year as well as New York State Coach of the Year by the National Federation of High School Coaches. She noted that this is a significant award because it encompasses Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont. She stated that he has served as head varsity coach for baseball at MacArthur High School for 25 years. Dr. McDonald commented that he is a coach’s coach and read a statement he made from the Levittown Tribune. The Board thanked Mr. Costello for his dedication.

C. Superintendent

1. Comments and Reports

A. 2017-2018 Budget Presentations

Mr. Pastore advised that he would focus his presentation on those items that have changed. He mentioned that at a recent meeting of Nassau County School Superintendents, he learned that the Governor in his proposal stated that he can reserve the right to reduce state aid across the board to school districts should the Federal revenue decline. Mr. Pastore noted that this is a big deal because after we have completed our budget and established our revenues and expenditures, the Governor can claim this right. As for changes, he reported that the Teacher's Retirement System recently came out with an estimate between 9.5% and 10.5 % and have now reduced that to 9.8%. He stated that the budget-to-budget increase is now 2.4%.

i. Special Education – Dr. Donald Sturz

Dr. Sturz gave his presentation on the Department of Pupil Services for which Special Education is a part of. He started out by thanking his staff and noted that he cannot do his job without them doing their jobs so well. He shared that his department has a tremendous number of programs and offer the full continuum of services from kindergarten to age 21 for special education students. He commented that we have a wide array of very talented staff to provide these services. He noted that State reporting has become a much bigger part of our jobs with regards to data. Dr. Sturz went on to discuss his budget development which included classification trends, high needs students, programs and technology. He advised that children are presenting with much more complex issues than in the past with multiple issues and needs that we have to adapt to. We are seeing an increase in high needs students, therefore we have to look at programs and technology that are being significantly impacted by those needs. Dr. Sturz stated that the year-to-year change is 6.76%. He noted that he is always trying to be fiscally responsible while still meeting the needs of the children.

Dr. Sturz commented that the progress the children make are our points of pride. The Board had questions on: number of children attending out of district programs such as BOCES; private day schools and residential programs; co-teaching training with scheduling; accessible playgrounds; extra pay periods; BOCES services; guidance salaries; garage maintenance salaries; contracted buses; and the Five Year Projection Report. Administration answered all questions. Mr. Pappas commented that he was glad that Dr. Sturz was back.

Dr. McDonald advised that the district has zero fiscal stress which means we can't do any better. She reported that many districts on Long Island are in fiscal stress. Mr. Pappas commented fantastic job!

2. Follow-up to Prior Public Be Heard Questions
(none)3. Follow-up to Board Questions
(none)

D. Board of Education

1. Comments and Reports

Mr. Moran commented that he had the pleasure of attending the Challenger Games with Mr. Pappas. He remarked that it is so impressive to see the students cheer each other on. Additionally, he went to the Tri M Honor Society and the Jazz Concert at MacArthur High School with Dr. McDonald and Ms. Quinones-Smith. He commented that we have some very talented students.

2. Correspondence
(none)

3. Student Liaisons

Arianna Wynn, the student representative from MacArthur High School, reported on the events at her school: the second and third Winter Concerts were conducted; 25 members of the Tri-M Music Honor Society and 7 members of the Theatre Honor Society were inducted; tickets are being sold to the Junior Banquet; six juniors were sent to Hofstra to represent our school at the Annual Student Leadership Conference; the Science Olympiad Team competed in the Annual Nassau East Regional Competition; the Annual Freshmen Survey Breakfast is coming up as well as College Information Night; congratulations to two students who recently appeared in Newsday "Way to Go" column and Mr. Costello on being chosen as the Northeast Sectional Coach of the Year; and wishing the best of luck to our Varsity Cheerleading Team as they go to Nationals.

Student Liaison, Steven Reilly who shared the events at Divisions Avenue High School: the Varsity Girls Senior game was tonight and the boys game is Friday; a senior received a Juror's Award for her artwork at LIU Post's Advanced Visions 13; two seniors were recipients of the 2017 Greater New York City Affiliate Winner of the NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing; the Varsity Cheerleading and Varsity Girls Volleyball Teams received the NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team Award; and a senior has been named a Semi-finalist for the 2017 class of the Coco-Cola Scholars Program.

III. PUBLIC BE HEARD

Comments appear at the end of the minutes.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes - Approval of Minutes

RESOLUTION # 16-17-223

MOTION: "Make the necessary corrections and move the approval of the minutes of the January 11, 2017 Regular Meeting."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

2. Warrants

RESOLUTION # 16-17-224

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 JANUARY 2017 report of the Claims Auditor be accepted."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

3. Business Office Reports

RESOLUTION # 16-17-225

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

- Appropriation and Revenue reports for the month ending 12/31/16
- Claims Auditors Report prepared by Nawrocki Smith LLP for the month of January 2017
- Treasurer's report for the month ending December 2016
- Trial Balance for the month ending 12/31/16
- Credit card statement for statement date 2/16/17."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

4. Federal Single Audit Report

RESOLUTION # 16-17-226

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, accept the Federal Single Audit Report for the Levittown Public Schools as prepared by the firm of R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP, for the period ending June 30, 2016."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

5. Cullen and Danowski Engagement Letter

RESOLUTION # 16-17-227

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached engagement letter from Cullen and Danowski dated January 27, 2017 for the agreed upon procedures; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education President is, hereby, authorized to execute the contract."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

6. Budget Transfers

RESOLUTION # 16-17-228

MOTION: "WHEREAS, in compliance with New York State Government Accounting practices, the attached budget transfer has been prepared and recommended by the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance,

<u>Code</u>	<u>Code Description</u>	<u>Amount From</u>	<u>Amount To</u>
A1620.4580	O&M Vehicle Parts & Supplies	\$10,000.00	
A1620.4550	O&M Custodial Supplies		\$10,000.00
A1620.4090	O&M Fuel Oil	\$20,000.00	
A1620.4550	O&M Custodial Supplies		\$20,000.00
A1621.4540	Maintenance Electric/Plumbing Supplies	\$15,000.00	
A1620.4550	O&M Custodial Supplies		\$15,000.00
A1621.4550	Maintenance Heat & Vent Supplies	\$15,000.00	
A1620.4550	O&M Custodial Supplies		\$15,000.00

Reason: Supplies for additional gym floors and honing of terrazzo floors (one time cost for first honing). Typically there is a surplus of materials since some of the floors are done by outside contractors but this year we did most of the floors in-house so we had to restock. In addition, we had to use about \$26,000 last year for carbon monoxide alarms so we couldn't buy the amount of supplies we normally do. Lastly, although we were using green products before, we are converting to "pure" bio-based green cleaning products system. Initially there were startup costs for these projects, but the 2017-2018 budget will sustain the cleaning and maintenance process that has been put in place.

<u>Code</u>	<u>Code Description</u>	<u>Amount From</u>	<u>Amount To</u>
A1620.1663	O&M Custodial OT/ Outside Groups	\$14,000.00	
A7310.1663	Dance Custodian Services		\$14,000.00

Reason: To reclass Dance program custodial OT to new Dance OT code.

A1620.1816	O&M Groundskeeper OT/Snow	\$15,000.00	
A1620.1664	O&M Cust. OT/Athletic/ Extraclass		\$15,000.00

Reason: To reclass funds to new codes (to better capture expenditures).

A1620.1816	O&M Groundskeeper OT/Snow	\$16,000.00	
A1620.1665	O&M Custodial OT/Snow		\$16,000.00

Reason: To reclass funds to new codes (to better capture expenditures).

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

7. Board Meeting Calendar - 2017-2018 School Year

RESOLUTION # 16-17-229

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, adopt the attached calendar of Board of Education meeting dates for the Levittown Public Schools for the 2017-18 school year."

RESULT: MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER: Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER: Mike Pappas
AYES: Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

8. Appointment of Additional Member of the Food Service Committee RESOLUTION # 16-17-230

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, appoint Diane Drescher as an additional member of the Food Service Committee for the 2016-2017 school year as a representative for the Summit Lane School."

RESULT: MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER: Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER: Mike Pappas
AYES: Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

9. Agreement with Educational Data Services

RESOLUTION # 16-17-231

MOTION: "RESOLVED, WHEREAS, it would be in the interest of the Levittown Union Free School District, as advertised and awarded by the Clarkstown Central School District and acting as the Lead Agency, as provided by General Municipal Law Section 119-0 and,

WHEREAS, the Board retains the legal authority to contract with the successful vendor(s) and shall not be bound by purchase contracts and other agreements made by the other Board(s), therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Levittown School District, hereby agrees to continue participation in such cooperative bids, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Levittown Board of Education and the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance are, hereby, authorized to sign the attached agreement."

RESULT: MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER: Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER: Mike Pappas
AYES: Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

10. Contract for Prom Venue

RESOLUTION # 16-17-232

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract with the Crest Hollow Country Club as the venue for MacArthur High School Senior Prom on Friday, June 7, 2019.

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

RESULT: MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER: Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER: Mike Pappas
AYES: Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

11. Easement Agreement - PSEGLI

RESOLUTION # 16-17-233

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the attached Easement Information Request Form with PSEGLI for the purposes of new switch gear installations at Wisdom Lane Middle School and Division Avenue High School and,

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

12. Special Education Contracts

RESOLUTION # 16-17-234

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 2016 - 17 school year.

- SCO Family of Services Madonna Heights School
- New York Therapy Placement Services
- Wyandanch UFSD
- Donna Geffner

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

13. Out of District Contracts for Health and Welfare Services

RESOLUTION # 16-17-235

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 2016-17 school year:

- Malverne Union Free School District
- Uniondale Union Free School District

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

14. Obsolete Books

RESOLUTION # 16-17-236

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.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

15. Obsolete Equipment

RESOLUTION # 16-17-237

MOTION: “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, declare the equipment on the attached list obsolete and that the item may be discarded and/or sold at the highest possible salvage value.”

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

16. Schedules

RESOLUTION # 16-17-238

MOTION: “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the following schedules:

Resignations/Terminations, Certified Personnel

Resignations/Terminations, Non-Instructional Personnel

Appointments, Certified Personnel

Designation, Coaching

Designation, Consultants

Appointments, Extra-Curricular

Salary Change, Certified Personnel

Appointments, Non-Instructional Personnel

Leave of Absence, Instructional Personnel

Leave of Absence, Non- Instructional Personnel

Permanent Status, Non-Instructional Personnel

Students with Disabilities.”

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
SECONDER:	Mike Pappas
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

V. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS

1. Gifts to School

RESOLUTION # 16-17-239

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

- A check in the amount of \$1,184.20 to be donated to Gardiners Avenue School for materials for student use during recess from Box Tops Education, 13700 Oakland Avenue, Highland Park, MI 48203.
- A check in the amount of \$591.80 to be donated to the Summit Lane School Student Activity Fund from Box Tops for Education, 13700 Oakland Avenue, Highland Park, MI 48203
- Pavers to replace the current cement to be donated to Lee Road School for walkway around the flagpole from JT Masonry, PO Box 1006, Levittown, NY 11756
- Two checks (\$500.00 and \$250.00) to be donated to Gardiners Avenue School to pay off all the student lunch balances from an anonymous donor."

NOTE: The Board thanked everyone for their generous donations.

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0)
MOVER:	Peggy Marengi
SECONDER:	Karen Quinones-Smith
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Marengi, Moran, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

VI. AD HOC

Policies - First Read

Policy #7110 - Comprehensive Student Attendance Policy

There were not questions on this policy.

VII. DATES

- A. February 15, 2017 - Budget Planning Session #2
- B. March 1, 2017 - Budget Planning Session #3
- C. March 15, 2017 - Regular Meeting
- D. March 29, 2017 - Budget Planning Session #4/Audit Committee Meeting/Special Meeting - Board Adopts Budget

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [6-0-0]
MOVER:	Marianne Adrian
SECONDER:	Christina Lang
AYES:	Adrian, Lang, Moran, Marengi, Pappas, Quinones-Smith

The Board adjourned the public meeting at 9:00 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.

Emma Adrian 17 Woodcock Lane, Levittown, NY

Ms. Adrian, a student at Northside, shared that she is a Girl Scout and involved in their activities such as a food drive for the Food Pantry and gifts for Adopt A Family. She commented that she would like to do more. Ms. Adrian asked if students her age could help with the greenhouse project. She advised that she wanted to learn how to grow food so that she could teach her mom and give this food to the food pantry. Dr. McDonald commented that this would be discussed.