

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

**DATE: JULY 15, 2015**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**, was duly called and held on Wednesday, July 15, 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 local newspapers, the Public Library and posted on the district's website. Further, all members of the Board of Education had due notice of said meeting.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**PRESENT:**

Ms. Peggy Marengi, President  
Mr. Kevin Regan, Vice President  
Ms. Karen Quinones-Smith, Secretary  
Ms. Marianne Adrian  
Mr. James Moran (excused absence)  
Mr. Michael Pappas (excused absence)  
Mr. Frank Ward

**ADMINISTRATION**

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

**OTHERS**

Mr. Bob Cohen, School attorney

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Ms. Marengi, President, called the Special Board Meeting to order at 6:30 PM. On a motion by Mr. Ward seconded by Mr. Regan and approved (5-0) that the Board adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the following items: personnel matters.
- C. The Board reconvened to Public Session at 7:30 PM at which time Ms. Marengi asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for all those protecting our country at home and abroad.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Rifkin stated that she had previously reported on Gardiners Avenue being cited as a LAP School. She explained that this is a school in need of improvement based on the gap between the scores on the state assessments and special education population scores on the state assessments. She reported that the district had to put together an extensive plan that had many measures. Ms. Rifkin was happy to report that based on results of the assessments, Gardiners Avenue is no longer a LAP school. Dr. McDonald thanked Ms. Rifkin and the administration for all their hard work to remove that designation.

Ms. Marengi shared with the Board and audience a personal matter. She stated that her daughter-in-law has worked for the district for the past three years, as a CSR teacher and as a long term leave replacement. Last year her daughter-in-law was hired by the Board of Education as a probationary special education teacher with a unanimous vote of approval. Last month her name was placed on the agenda for a special education summer school position. Ms. Marengi noted that the Board knows her daughter-in-law's name. She reported that there were comments in the community that she was doing something sneaky and backhanded and trying to get her daughter-in-law slipped onto the agenda. She remarked that the Board does not put names on the agenda that is done by the Superintendent. Ms. Marengi is addressing this issue personally because she feels it is a direct attack on her character which is based on integrity. She noted that having been in the field of education for 32 years, she has made many mistakes which she always tries to rectify. She feels no mistake was made in this case.

III. REPORTS

A. Superintendent

1. Follow-up to Prior Public Be Heard Questions

Dr. McDonald read a letter that was sent home addressing the questions asked at the last Board meeting by Ms. Vaughn Ware and Ms. Finkelstein regarding the steps the district took to prepare students and teachers for the new standards of the Common Core.

2. Follow-up to Board Questions  
(none)

B. Board of Education

1. Comments and Reports  
(none)
2. Correspondence  
(none)
3. Student Liaisons

The student liaisons were not present at this Board meeting.

IV. PUBLIC BE HEARD

The guidelines pertaining to Public Be Heard were read. Dr. McDonald and/or board members will respond to questions, after the last speaker is heard.

**V. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS**

1. Business Office Reports - Credit Card

RESOLUTION # 14-15-71

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

- Credit card for period ending June 22, 2015."

**RESULT:** MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Frank Ward  
**SECONDER:** Karen Quinones-Smith, Secretary  
**AYES:** Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi  
**ABSENT:** Mike Pappas and James Moran

2. Budget Transfer

RESOLUTION # 15-16-72

**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 from</u>	<u>Code to</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A19894000 Planned Fund Balance	A21104700 Tuition-Other Districts	\$15,000

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

**RESULT:** MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Frank Ward  
**SECONDER:** Karen Quinones-Smith, Secretary  
**AYES:** Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi  
**ABSENT:** Mike Pappas and James Moran

3. Appointment of Central Treasurers for Extraclassroom Activity Funds

RESOLUTION # 15-16-73

**MOTION:** "The following be appointed as Central Treasurers for the Extraclassroom Activity Funds for their assigned schools for the 2015-16 school year.

- Alice LoGiudice            Division Avenue
- Diana Benevento            MacArthur
- Virginia Wezwick            Jonas Salk
- Janice Friedman            Wisdom Lane
- Cristy Lombarski            GC Tech"

**RESULT:** MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Frank Ward  
**SECONDER:** Karen Quinones-Smith, Secretary  
**AYES:** Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi  
**ABSENT:** Mike Pappas and James Moran

4. Contract with MTI Production

RESOLUTION # 14-15-74

**MOTION:** "RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education approve a contract with MTI Production, with terms as outlined in the attached contract for a license for an amateur production of Legally Blonde at MacArthur High School (3 performances) for the 2015-16 school year; and that the President of the Board of Education is, hereby, authorized to execute same."

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Frank Ward
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mike Pappas and James Moran

5. Contract with Sound Actuarial Consulting

RESOLUTION # 14-15-75

**MOTION:** "RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education approve a contract with Sound Actuarial Consulting with terms as outlined in the attached contract, to perform an actuarial review of the District's Workers Compensation Program;  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED and that the President of the Board of Education is, hereby, authorized to execute same."

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Frank Ward
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mike Pappas and James Moran

6. Contract with Hofstra University

RESOLUTION # 14-15-76

**MOTION:** "RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education approve a contract with Hofstra University, with terms as outlined in the attached contract, to cover student teachers and observers seeking certification for the 2015-16 school year at no cost to the District;  
and that the President of the Board of Education is, hereby, authorized to execute same."

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Frank Ward
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mike Pappas and James Moran

7. Obsolete Equipment

RESOLUTION # 15-16-77

**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
Building & Grounds	1998 Toro Tractor	7/6/15
Building & Grounds	1999 Ford pickup Truck	7/6/15
Building & Grounds	1999 Chevy Rack Truck	7/6/15
Division Ave	1 Tan leather amp	6/2/15
Division Ave	7 Speakers	6/2/15
Division Ave	1 Stereo module	6/2/15
Division Ave	1 VHS player	6/2/15
Division Ave	1 Cassette player	6/2/15”

**RESULT:** MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Marianne Adrian  
**SECONDER:** Karen Quinones-Smith, Secretary  
**AYES:** Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi  
**ABSENT:** Mike Pappas and James Moran

8. Obsolete Computer Equipment

RESOLUTION # 15-16-78

**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
LMEC	28	Dell PCs	7/1/15
LMEC	220	Dell PCs	7/6/15”

**RESULT:** MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Kevin Regan, Vice President  
**SECONDER:** Frank Ward  
**AYES:** Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi  
**ABSENT:** Mike Pappas and James Moran

9. Obsolete Library Books

RESOLUTION # 15-16-79

**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:

<u>School</u>	<u>Quantity/type of book</u>	<u>Date of List</u>
Salk Middle School	87 library books (list attached)	June 29, 2015”

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Kevin Regan, Vice President
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Frank Ward
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mike Pappas and James Moran

10. Gifts to School

RESOLUTION # 15-16-80

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

- a. a check in the amount of \$25.00 donated to Division Avenue High School, donated by Target Take Charge of Education, PO Box 1296, Minneapolis, MN 55459-0214;
- b. a check in the amount of \$151.35 donated to Division Avenue High School, donated by Stop & Shop, PO Box 7200, Carlisle, PA 17013-0249.
- c. a check for \$1,000 donated by Janet Smith, 68 Hewlett Drive, Sound Beach, NY 11789 to establish a Scholarship Fund in the name of Allan Smith (former Guidance Counselor at MacArthur High School) beginning with the MacArthur Class of 2016
- d. an Epson Stytlus Pro 9880m Model K132A printer, donated by Benjamin Garcia, 235 E. 45<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10017 to be used in the graphic arts classroom at MacArthur high school."

**NOTE: The Board thanked everyone for their generous donations.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Marianne Adrian
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Karen Quinones-Smith, Secretary
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mike Pappas and James Moran

11. Bid - Approval of Bid Food Services

RESOLUTION # 15-16-81

**MOTION:** "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the following bid:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Awarded to:</u>
Food Services	"TBD" Chartwells

**NOTE: Mr. Pastore asked that the motion be amended to read:**

**MOTION:** "RESOLVED, THAT THE Levittown Board of Education does, hereby award the Food Service Management Bid to Chartwells upon the following conditions:

that David DiNuzzo will be assigned the position of Food Service Director of the Levittown School Lunch Program for the school year 2015-2016 in accordance with Schedule G-3, item 4(h) of the bid specifications, and:

Be available to meet with Levittown Administration during the normal business hours of the district central office (8:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M.), and:

Is able and willing to begin the position of Food Service Director on August 3, 2015

**RESULT:** APPROVED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Frank Ward  
**SECONDER:** Karen Quinones-Smith, Secretary  
**AYES:** Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi  
**ABSENT:** Mike Pappas and James Moran

12. Memorandum of Understanding

RESOLUTION # 15-16-82

**MOTION:** “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Levittown Union Free School District and Helen P. Freund, as per the terms of the attached Memorandum of Understanding;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to sign the attached Memorandum of Understanding.”

**RESULT:** MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Frank Ward  
**SECONDER:** Marianne Adrian  
**AYES:** Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi  
**ABSENT:** Mike Pappas and James Moran

13. Appointment Police Science Teacher

RESOLUTION # 15-16-83

**MOTION:** "WHEREAS it has become necessary to hire a police science (public and private security) teacher at GC Tech, and;

WHEREAS, after substantial efforts to secure a satisfactory teacher, the only acceptable applicant is a retired police officer;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the hire of Robert Mackay as the aforementioned police science teacher for the period September 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016."

**RESULT:** MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Karen Quinones-Smith, Secretary  
**SECONDER:** Kevin Regan, Vice President  
**AYES:** Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi  
**ABSENT:** Mike Pappas and James Moran

14. RFP for Cafeteria Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment

RESOLUTION # 15-16-84

**MOTION:** "It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the following resolution be adopted: RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, award the RFP to furnish and install cafeteria furniture, fixtures and equipment for the 2015-16 school year to Bar Boy Products,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to sign the agreement."

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Kevin Regan, Vice President
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Karen Quinones-Smith, Secretary
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mike Pappas and James Moran

15. RFP for Aquatic Pond Installation

RESOLUTION # 15-16-85

**MOTION:** "It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the following resolution be adopted: RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, award the RFP for Aquatic Pond Installation for the 2015-16 school year to Paradise Ponds by Ed Dedicke, Inc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to sign the agreement."

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Kevin Regan, Vice President
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Frank Ward
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mike Pappas and James Moran

16. Schedules

RESOLUTION # 15-16-86

- 1001 2015-GG- No.2 Resignation/Termination - Certified Personnel
- 1002 2015-H-No.2 Appointments - Certified Personnel
- 1003 2015- H-No.2a Appointments - Administrators
- 1004 2015-H-No.2-c Designation, Consultants
- 1005 2015-H-No.2f2 Appointments, Summer School
- 1006 2015-HH-No.2 Appointments, Non-Instructional Personnel
- 1007 2015-KK-No.2 Leave of Absence – Non-Instructional Personnel
- 1008 2015-T-No.2 Textbooks

**NOTE: On behalf of the Board, Ms. Marengi welcomed back Mr. Sturz to the Levittown School District.**



<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Kevin Regan, Vice President
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Karen Quinones-Smith, Secretary
<b>AYES:</b>	Adrian, Ward, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mike Pappas and James Moran

VI. AD HOC

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Kevin Regan, Vice President
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Frank Ward
<b>AYES:</b>	Ward, Adrian, Pappas, Quinones-Smith, Regan, Marengi, Moran

**The Board adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:00 PM and continued with the Planning Session.**

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.**

**Eileen O'Rourke**                      **43 Cove Lane, Levittown, NY**

Ms. O'Rourke was inquiring about personal schedules on the July 1, 2015 Board meeting. She stated that she was informed that several people on the schedules were isolated for a separate vote and one individual was not approved. She wanted to know why the Board was not approving someone that Administration has recommended and on what basis was this decision made. Additionally, she asked if Administration was aware before the Board meeting that this was the Board's intention.

**Fred Gray**                              **6 Hollyhock Road, Levittown, NY**

Mr. Gray had a questions on how people are approved/not approved for jobs in the district by the Board of Education. He wanted to know if the Board is given the names of the individuals on the personal schedules prior to the Board meeting. Additionally, does the Board have ample time to inquire about the possible new hires prior to the day of the said meeting.

**RESPONSE:**

Dr. McDonald commented that the Board is given the schedules which contain the names of people being hired the Friday before a Board meeting.

**Brooke McKinney****7 Elmtree Lane, Levittown, NY**

Ms. McKinney reported that she and husband were born and raised in Levittown and grew up with a great sense of community. She shared that they were involved in many of the communities extra-curricular activities as their two girls are now. She noted that as a young couple, it is difficult to be a homeowner in Levittown but they appreciate the Board of Education, Superintendent and Central Office for making every attempt to keep our taxes down while providing an excellent school system. Ms. McKinney is a teacher in the Levittown school district and is extremely grateful for the opportunity to be a part of Levittown's extensive special education program.

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

Ms. Finkelstein stated she was speaking tonight about the maintenance of the track and field at MacArthur high school. As a community member and tax payer who uses the track on a daily basis, Ms. Finkelstein is quite disturbed by the filth. She wanted to know who is responsible for the cleanup. She noted that this has been brought to the attention of administration repeatedly. Ms. Finkelstein reported that she had many calls from residents regarding the condition of the track. She noted that she respects the property of the community and would like something done about this situation. Ms. Finkelstein commented that she would be happy to supply the board with suggestions for a game plan.

**RESPONSE:**

Ms. Marengi thanked Ms. Finkelstein for her comments and asked her to put her suggestions in writing for the Board and Administration. She remarked that insight and ideas gives the Board more options. Additionally, Ms. Marengi advised Ms. Finkelstein to refer those community members who call her, to the Superintendent.