

**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, December 11, 2019 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 MEMBERS

Ms. Peggy Marengi, President
Mr. Dillon Cain, Vice President
Ms. Marianne Adrian
Ms. Christina Lang – excused absence
Ms. Jennifer Messina
Mr. James Moran
Mr. Michael Pappas

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Tonie McDonald – Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Chris Dillon– Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Debbie Rifkin – Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Todd Winch – Assistant Superintendent

OTHERS

Mr. Bob Cohen – Legal Counsel
Ms. Elizabeth Appelbaum – District Clerk
Mr. Evan Peters – Alternate Student Liaison MacArthur High School
Ms. Emily Fuchs – Student Liaison Division Avenue High School

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. The Board reconvened to Public Session at 7:30 PM on a motion by Mr. Cain seconded by Ms. Adrian and approved (6-0). Ms. Marengi asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by the Student Liaisons. She requested a moment of silence for all those serving our country at home and abroad and for Detective Joseph Seals who was recently killed in the line of duty.

II. REPORTS

A. Student Presentations
(none)

B. Recognition (in Auditorium)

i. MacArthur High School Wind Ensemble

Dr. McDonald thanked the musicians who performed several holiday songs for a wonderful performance.

ii. Fall Sports Recognition

Mr. Winch introduced Mr. Snyder, Director of Physical Education, Athletics, Health and Health Services, who introduced the students who were to be honored tonight for their achievements in the following Fall sports: Cheerleading; Cross Country Track; Boys and Girls Soccer; Girls Tennis; Girls Swimming and Diving; Boys Volleyball and Golf. He noted that this was a banner year for these sports and that a lot of the team members are multi-sport athletes. Mr. Snyder thanked all the coaches for doing an unbelievable job of coaching and teaching the students life lessons that will help them become better citizens. He congratulated Jamie San Filippo for his honor as all Long Island Coach of the Year. Additionally, he thanked the parents for coming out and supporting the teams.

NOTE: At 8:00 PM the Board returned to the Large Board Room to continue the Regular Board Meeting

iii. Coca Cola Scholarship Semi-Finalist Recognition

Ms. Guidice, the Assistant Principal from Division Avenue High School, gave a brief description of this award. She noted that the Coca-Cola Scholars Program Scholarship is an achievement-based scholarship awarded to graduating high school seniors. Students are recognized for their capacity to lead and serve as well as their commitment to make a significant impact on their schools and communities. She reported that this year we have one Semi-Finalist who is from Division Avenue. Ms. Guidice spoke about Ms. Devani and all of her achievements. Ms. Devani was asked to come up front to receive her certificate.

iv. Art Display – Wisdom Lane School

Ms. Marengi commented on the beautiful art display created by the students at Wisdom Lane School.

v. NYSEC Program of Excellence Award

Ms. Kelly, Director of Elementary Education, spoke about this award. She explained that New York State English Council instituted this program to recognize outstanding English Language Arts Programs throughout New York State. She noted that they looked for unique and effective programs which have been in place for at least three years that have enriched English Language Arts instruction by offering creative opportunities for students and teachers. Ms. Kelly was happy to announce that Levittown's Literacy Program was selected for the Program of Excellence Award. She commented that our teachers' commitment to student learning has earned recognition for both being innovating and of exceptional merit. Ms. Kelly remarked that she is grateful to work with such wonderful educators and looks forward to continuing to develop more opportunities for our students to learn. She asked the teachers and assistants to come forward to receive this award.

C. Superintendent

1. Comments and Reports

A. HPV Vaccination Proposed Mandate

Dr. McDonald reported that there was a lot of talk about the proposed legislation regarding the HPV Vaccination. She asked if the Board wanted to write a letter on this topic. Ms. Marengi noted when she recently attended the Nassau Suffolk School Board Executive Committee Meeting this subject was addressed. She commented that the representatives of the school districts that were present felt that this is not something that schools need to be involved in. She suggested that Dr. McDonald draft a letter stating that the school district does not feel that it is in our purview to be deciding on this issue. The Board was in agreement.

B. Calendar Holidays

Dr. McDonald noted that this item would be discussed at the next Board Meetings since we are still waiting for the BOCES calendar.

4. Follow-up to Prior Public Be Heard Questions
(none)5. Follow-up to Board Questions
(none)**D. Board of Education**

1. Comments and Reports

Ms. Adrian shared her experience regarding the parent/teacher conferences at the high school. She commented that it was very informative and worthwhile. Dr. McDonald noted that there was a tremendous amount of effort from the staff to make sure it went smoothly.

2. Correspondence
(none)

3. Student Liaisons

Mr. Peters, the alternate student representative from MacArthur High School, reported that the performance of "Into the Woods" was a huge success; the Environmental Awareness Club hosted the first ever Trivia Night which was a fun-filled evening; the Honor Society conducted a Gingerbread House Workshop for all elementary students; several student athletes committed to play their sport of choice at the collegiate level; numerous music students were selected to perform in the 2020 Nassau Music Educators Association's All-County Festival in January; and congratulations to Mr. Fehrenback, head football coach, for receiving the Lou Rettino high school coach of the week for week number 8.

The Student Liaison for Division, Ms. Fuchs announced that: how amazing athletes signed National Letter of Intent to play college sports; a total of 37 families in Levittown were helped through the Thanksgiving Food Drive; seniors from the National Honor Society had the opportunity to teach Summit Lane Elementary School students about the importance of economics; seven students were selected for the 2020 Nassau Music Educators Association's All-County Festival; the Annual Blue and Silver Luncheon was held to honor the top 40 achievers from the graduating class; the Lady Dragons basketball team won the Kim Klein Basketball Tournament and 52 DECA and business students participated in the Nassau County Regional Competition.

IV. PUBLIC BE HEARD

Comments appear at the end of the minutes.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes - Approval of Minutes

RESOLUTION # 19-20-157

MOTION: "Make the necessary corrections and move the approval of the minutes of the November 14, 2019 Regular Board Meeting and Audit Committee Meetings."

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

RESOLUTION #19-20-158

2. Warrants

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 NOVEMBER 2019 report of the Claims Auditor be accepted."

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

RESOLUTION # 19-20-159

3. Business Office Reports

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

- Appropriation and Revenue reports for the period 7/1/19 ending 10/31/19
- Claims Auditors Report for November 2019
- Treasurer's report for the month ending October 2019
- Trial Balance for the period 7/1/2019 to 10/31/2019
- Credit card statement from Citibank for statement date 11/6/2019."

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

RESOLUTION # 19-20-160

4. Budget Transfer

MOTION: "WHEREAS, in compliance with New York State Government Accounting practices, the attached budget transfer have 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> |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| A2250.4000-00-3450 | Spec Ed Relatd Serv/In-Dist | \$215,000.00 | |
| A2250.4700-00-3450 | Spec Ed Pvt Sch Tuition | | \$215,000.00 |

Reason: Required to pay the educational tuition cost for two additional students, who were not originally budgeted for that needed to be placed in residential settings. In addition to rate increases set by the NYSED.

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

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

5. External Audit and Corrective Action Plan

RESOLUTION #19-20-161

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, accept the attached External Audit Management Letter and the Corrective Action Plan in response to the External Auditor's recommendations contained in the report dated June 30, 2019.

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

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

6. Internal Audit/Risk Assessment and Corrective Action Plan

RESOLUTION #19-20-162

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, accept the attached Risk Assesment Update and the Corrective Action Plan in response to the External Auditor's recommendations contained in the report dated June 30, 2019.

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

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

RESOLUTION # 19-20-163

7. Cullen and Danowski Engagement Letter

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached engagement letter from Cullen and Danowski dated November 18, 2019 for the previously-agreed upon procedures.

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

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

RESOLUTION # 19-20-164

8. Change Order

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the following Change Order (contract decreases):

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Change Order #1 Division Avenue High School-General Construction | |
| ACL Construction Corp. - Credit Allowance for Money Not Used | \$-3,150.00 |
| Change Order #2 MacArthur High School-General Construction | |
| ACL Construction Corp. - Credit Allowance for Money Not Used | \$-3,850.00 |
| Change Order #1 Plumbing | |
| Ambrosio & Company, Inc. - Credit Allowance for Money Not Used | \$-5,000.00 |
| Change Order #2 - Plumbing | |
| Ambrosio & Company, Inc. - Credit Allowance for Money Not Used | \$-5,000.00 |

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Levittown Board of Education is, hereby, authorized to sign the attached change order."

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

9. Bid Approval BID #19-010 District Mail Cargo Van

PULLED

Recommended Motion: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, award the BID #LPS 19-010: District Mail Cargo Van to _____ as per attached specifications."

10. Bid Approval - BID # LPS-19-009: Cafeteria/Kitchen
Equipment, Installation, Repairs & Service

RESOLUTION # 19-20-165

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, award the BID # LPS-19-009: Cafeteria/Kitchen Equipment, Installation, Repairs & Service to Summit Restaurant Repairs as per attached specifications."

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

RESOLUTION # 19-20-166

11. Lease of Little Red School House to Teachers Pets Child Care Center, Inc.

MOTION: "Whereas, it is mutually beneficial to the Levittown Public Schools and Teachers Pets Child Care Center, Inc. to amend the lease agreement for the "Little Red School House";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education approve the attached updated fourth amendment to the lease agreement between the Levittown Public Schools and Teachers Pets Child Care Center, Inc. and that the President of the Board of Education is, hereby, authorized to sign the attached amended lease agreement. "

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

RESOLUTION # 19-20-167

12. Stipulation of Agreement with Levittown United Teachers

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, ratify and approve the attached stipulation of agreement with the Levittown United Teachers (LUT) dated December 2, 2019."

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

RESOLUTION # 19-20-168

13. Contract with Music Theatre International (MTI)

MOTION: "RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education approve a contract with Music Theatre International (MTI), with terms as outlined in the attached contract for licensing for "Aladdin, Jr." for Lee Road School for March 18 and 19, 2020;

and that the President of the Board of Education is, hereby, authorized to execute same."

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

RESOLUTION # 19-20-169

14. Contract with Tams Witmark

MOTION: "RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education approve a contract with Tams-Witmark LLC, with terms as outlined in the attached contract for licensing for "You're A Good Man Charlie Brown" for MacArthur High School for the 2019-2020 school year;

and that the President of the Board of Education is, hereby, authorized to execute same."

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

RESOLUTION # 19-20-170

15. Contract with Heritage Club

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract with Heritage Club for the Salk Middle School 8th Grade Dance on June 12, 2020.

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

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

RESOLUTION # 19-20-171

16. Establish Scholarship

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, establish the Teresa Senior Scholarship for a graduating senior who attended Division Avenue High School in the amount of \$1,000."

| | |
|------------------|--|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marenghi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

17. Approval of Board of Education Policies

RESOLUTION #19-20-172

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the following revised policies:

Policy No. 6430 Employee Activities

| | |
|------------------|--|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marenghi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

18. Special Education Contracts

RESOLUTION #19-20-173

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 as indicated.

- All About Kids/Mid Island Therapy Assoc.
- The Charlton School
- Hempstead UFSD (Parentally Placed)
- Hempstead UFSD (District Placed)
- Bellmore Public Schools
- Elizabeth Axel, PhD

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

| | |
|------------------|--|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marenghi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

19. Obsolete Books

RESOLUTION # 19-20-174

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: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marenghi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

20. Obsolete Equipment

RESOLUTION # 19-20-175

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

| | |
|------------------|--|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marenghi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

21. Schedules

RESOLUTION # 19-20-180

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

- 1001 “Resignations/Terminations, Certified Personnel”
- 1002 “Resignations/Terminations, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1003 “Appointments, Certified Personnel”
- 1004 “Designation, Coaching”
- 1005 “Designation, Consultants”
- 1006 “Appoints, Extra-Curricular”
- 1007 “Appointments, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1008 “Leave of Absence, Certified Personnel”
- 1009 “Leave of Absence, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1010 “Tenure, Certified Personnel”
- 1011 “Permanent Status, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1012 “Students with Disabilities”

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Jennifer Messina |
| SECONDER: | Dillon Cain |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. New Business

1. Gifts to Schools

RESOLUTION # 19-20-181

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

- A check in the amount of \$2500 to be donated to Division Avenue High School for students to have the opportunity to enroll in AP courses from Stephen Leshner, 144 E Missouri Avenue, Suite 275, Phoenix, AZ 85014-2462
- A wheelchair to be donated to Wisdom Lane Middle School from Carol Ferrantino, 178 Shelter Lane, Levittown, NY 11756
- Two checks each in the amount of \$1000, one to be donated to Division Avenue Varsity Cheerleading and one to be donated to MacArthur Varsity Cheerleading for trips to the national competition from Levittown Pride Competition Cheerleading, Ms. AnneMarie Guerra, 7 Appletree Lane, Levittown, NY 11756
- A check in the amount of \$100.00 to be awarded to two graduating fifth graders from the class of 2020 (The James Woolwhich Award) at East Broadway School from Mrs. Kerry Couture, 160 Poplar Street, Garden City, NY 11530."

NOTE: The Board thanked all the generous donors.

| | |
|------------------|---|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Marianne Adrian |
| SECONDER: | James Moran |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marengi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

VI. AD HOC

1. Board Policies - First Read

Policy No. 7440 Student Voter Registration and Pre-Registration

Mr. Winch explained that this new required policy is a practice we already do. He remarked that promoting student registration is done in our senior social studies classes. He reported that a law will go into effect in January that the language of this policy is based on which is trying to encourage voter registration. Dr. McDonald recommended that we forgo a second reading and adopt this policy at the next Board Meeting. The Board agreed.

Policy No. 8370 Instruction on Days of Religious Observations

Dr. McDonald noted that after review from our attorney, a few small changes were made to the policy. She commented that this policy represents what we already do and we are just putting it in written form. She recommended that we forgo a second reading and adopt this policy at the next Board Meeting. The Board agreed.

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

| | |
|------------------|--|
| RESULT: | MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0) |
| MOVER: | Marianne Adrian |
| SECONDER: | Jennifer Messina |
| AYES: | Adrian, Marenghi, Pappas, Cain, Moran, Messina |
| ABSENT: | Christina Lang |

The Board wished everyone Happy Holidays and adjourned the public meeting at 8:30 PM.

Elizabeth Appelbaum
District Clerk

NOTE: Tapes of the meetings are available for review at the Levittown Library.