

**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, October 14, 2020 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
Ms. Christina Lang, Vice President
Ms. Jennifer Messina, Secretary
Mr. Marianne Adrian
Mr. Dillon Cain
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. Robert Cohen – Legal Counsel
Ms. Elizabeth Appelbaum – District Clerk
Ms. Jasmeet Sahota – Student Liaison Division Avenue High School
Mr. James Katcher – Student Liaison MacArthur High School

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Ms. Marengi, President, called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:15 PM. She asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and requested a moment of silence for all those serving our country at home and abroad. On a motion by Mr. Pappas seconded by Ms. Lang and approved (7-0) 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 7:35 on a motion by Mr. Moran seconded by Mr. Cain and approved (7-0).

II. REPORTS

A. Recognition

1. Board Recognition Night

Mr. Winch commented tonight we are proud to take part in the Annual School Board Recognition Month. It is a time for us to promote awareness and understanding of the important work performed by School Board members across the State. He commented that it takes strong school bonds to build a strong community and the individuals here devote countless hours to making sure that our schools are helping every child learn at a high level. They make tough decisions every month and spend many hours studying education issues and regulations in order to provide the kind of program that our citizens expect. School Board members statewide collectively oversee more 2.4 million K-12 students. We are extremely proud of the efforts that each of our Board members have put forward in order to truly provide “success for every student.” Mr. Winch remarked that this year has been unlike any other so it is no surprise that our celebration is a little bit different from years past but even during the current crisis it’s important to take a moment to stop and thank the individuals who make the Levittown school district the great place that it is. He then asked the audience to join him in thanking each of our Board members. Town of Hempstead State Councilman Dennis Dunne, who was in attendance, was asked to share a few words to the Board. Mr. Winch reported that there are several video messages from local politicians, the PTA Council President and student groups who would like to express their gratitude for the fine work that is done each day by our Board members.

Mr. Winch explained that the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) Recognition Program acknowledges the extensive time and effort required of school board members who continually strive to expand their knowledge and skills. This year, NYSSBA is proud to present Mike Pappas with the Lifetime Achievement Award which is the highest award that it bestows upon school board members in New York. Very few members reach that achievement. Mr. Pappas thanked NYSSBA and his colleagues for this recognition.

2. Art Display

Ms. Marengi asked everyone to view the unbelievably beautiful artwork around the room from the students at Division Avenue and Wisdom Lane Schools.

Dr. McDonald explained that as a result of the pandemic, procedures for art production and collection have been greatly altered and modified. In an effort to maintain the quality of our art shows, as aesthetics are paramount for successful exhibits, our shows will be a hybrid of buildings that will continue to represent our elementary, middle and high school students. As the works are created and safe for handling, the art department will rotate work in and out and always have work on display. Hopefully, if all goes well with schools remaining open, the original schedule for 2020/2021 may in fact be accurate for the later months. Dr. McDonald pointed out that we vote on all the pictures per building for the Superintendent Exhibit and that the particular piece of art selected is on display for the year and is part of the calendar.

B. Superintendent

1. Comments and Reports

i. State of the District

Mr. Winch gave a report on the State of the District with a slide presentation. He advised that this report usually includes results from the previous year's Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Assessments as well as Regents Exams. Last year because of COVID19, the State cancelled these exams, therefore we do not have results from those tests. Mr. Winch commented that he felt it was important to go over results from tests that we do have from last year such as the Advanced Placement and SAT Exams. He remarked that they paint a good picture of the District supporting the students of our community in the best way possible so that we still do stay true to our moto of "success for every student." Mr. Winch shared that the Strategic Planning Committee will reconvene later in October to continue the work started prior to March. He noted that the focus has been bringing normalcy to the educational process for our kids. He remarked that the school year started off well for the District with successful health protocols and instructional practices. Mr. Winch shared some of the areas of recognition or designation for the District. He commented that it is always a wonderful thing when our schools get recognized for the good job that we are doing. He noted these awards are a testament to the hard work of our students, teachers, Administrators, Central Office, the leadership of the Superintendent and the governance of the Board of Education.

Mr. Pappas remarked that everyone deserves a big round of applause for the job they have done to improve our schools to where our standings are now. Ms. Marengi stated that all these awards and recognitions truly represent what the Levittown School District stands for. The Central Office team has worked tirelessly throughout the entire summer doing graduations, getting school ready to open in September and following safety protocols to make this happen. She stated that is what she sees in the reports that were just shown. She noted that the expectation that you set for yourself certainly does filter down to the rest of your team and to the students and community. Ms. Marengi, on behalf of the Board, thanked the Superintendent, the Central Office team, the principals, faculty, staff and students of Levittown. She remarked that she is proud to sit as President of the Levittown Board of Education. Ms. Adrian, who has two children in school, reported on their experience during the first few weeks of school. She shared that it was very stressful to adapt to the Google classroom but they adjusted really well and quickly. She noted that it was great to be part of the virtual Back-to-School Night because you could feel the excitement of the teachers. Ms. Adrian feels the children are in good hands.

In regards to the opening of schools, Mr. Winch gave an brief update. He noted that there are a variety of health protocols in place which are reviewed every two weeks to make sure that we are doing things the safest way possible and providing the best program for our kids. He explained that we have an internal process that we use where we collect feedback and then discuss what our options are. Mr. Winch advised that we believe that our health protocols are really keeping our students and staff safe. He remarked that in our conversations with the Department of Health, they are very satisfied with our protocols.

2. Follow-up to Prior Public Be Heard Questions

Dr. McDonald noted that she had responded in writing to each person who spoke at the last Public Be Heard.

3. Follow-up to Board Questions
(none)

- C. Board of Education
 - 1. Comments and Reports
(none)
 - 2. Correspondence
(none)
 - 3. Student Liaisons

Student Liaison, James Katcher, shared the events at MacArthur High School: at the first ever virtual Back-to-School night an informative eight minute overview was shown about course curriculum, grading policy and the extra help schedule; the SAT exam was successfully administered to over 130 students following safety protocols and the SAT exam will be administered later this month; the morning announcement team is up and running relaying valuable and pertinent information; and a special thanks to members of the MacArthur support team for engaging in positive discussions about the current pandemic and chat about various coping skills to help benefit everyone's social and emotional wellbeing.

Jasmeet Sahota, the student representative from Division Avenue High School, reported that four students were recognized as Commended Students in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program as a result of their performance on the PSAT's; a non-profit called Patterns for Patients was created by four students to bring jobs to pediatric patients by donating care packages; a senior was selected for NYSSSMA's virtual All-State Concert as part of the String Orchestra; and congratulations to all of our Class of 2021 Homecoming King and Queen nominees.

III. PUBLIC BE HEARD

Comments appear at the end of the minutes.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes - Approval of Minutes

RESOLUTION # 20-21-139

MOTION: "Make the necessary corrections and move the approval of the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 16, 2020."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

2. Warrants

RESOLUTION # 20-21-140

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 SEPTEMBER 2020 report of the Claims Auditor be accepted."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

3. Business Office Reports

RESOLUTION # 20-21-141

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

- Appropriation and Revenue Report for the periods 7/1/2020 to 8/31/2020
- Claims Auditors Report for September
- Treasurer's Report for the month ending August 2020
- Credit card statement from Citibank for statement dated 9/6/2020"

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

4. Town of Hempstead Land Swap Study

RESOLUTION #20-21-142

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education approve the payment to the Town of Hempstead in the amount of \$3,000 to cover Phase One Environmental Study and;

Be it further RESOLVED that the President of the Levittown Board of Education is hereby approved to authorize payment."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

5. Intermunicipal Agreements - Fuel

RESOLUTION #20-21-143

MOTION: "RESOLVED, pursuant to Article 156.5 of the New York State Education Law, the Levittown Board of Education, does, hereby, approve the attached Intermunicipal Agreement between the Levittown Union Free School District and the following school district for the purpose of Levittown providing access to the fueling station;

- Wantagh School District

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

6. Contract for Nursing Services

RESOLUTION #20-21-144

MOTION: RESOLVED that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract with US Medical Staffing, to provide nursing services for students of Levittown Public Schools during 2020-2021 school year;

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

7. Contract with Bell Auto School, Inc.

RESOLUTION #20-21-145

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract with Bell Auto School, Inc. to provide driver education services, cars and instructors to Levittown students;

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

8. Johnson Controls

RESOLUTION #20-21-146

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, approve the attached contract between the Levittown Public Schools and Johnson Controls, Inc. for the fire alarm monitoring system for the 2020-2021 school year;

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

9. Food Service Committee 2020-2021

RESOLUTION # 20-21-147

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, hereby, appoint the individuals on the attached list to the Levittown School District Food Service Committee for the 2020-2021 school year."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

10. Waive Second Read of Policies

RESOLUTION #20-21-148

MOTION: "RESOLVED, that in accordance with Board Policy #1410, the Board of Education hereby waives the second reading for proposed revision of Board Policy #3140 – Flag Display, Policy #3150 – School Volunteers, Policy #3520 – Extraordinary Circumstances, and Policy #5676 - Privacy and Security for Student Data and Teacher and Principal Data – minor changes

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

11. Approval of Board of Education Policy

RESOLUTION #20-21-149

MOTION: “RESOLVED, that the Levittown Board of Education does, herby, approve the following revised policies:

Policy No. 3140 – Flag Display

Policy No. 3150 – School Volunteers

Policy # 3520 - Extraordinary Circumstances

Policy # 5676 – Privacy and Security for Student Data and Teacher and Principal Data – minor changes (effective date October 1, 2020)

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

12. Special Education Contracts

RESOLUTION # 20-21-150

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.

- United Cerebral Palsy
- Baldwin UFSD
- Bellmore UFSD - Flow Through Funds
- Bellmore UFSD - Special Education
- Martin De Porres School
- Crotched Mountain Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

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

13. Obsolete Equipment

RESOLUTION # 20-21-151

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 [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

14. Obsolete Books

RESOLUTION # 20-21-152

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

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

RESOLUTION #20-21-153

15. Schedules

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

- 1001 “Resignations, Certified Personnel”
- 1002 “Resignations, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1003 “Appointments, Certified Personnel”
- 1004 “Consultants”
- 1005 “Appointment, Extra-Curricular Clubs”
- 1006 “Appointments, Non-Instructional”
- 1007 “Leave of Absence, Certified Personnel”
- 1008 “Leave of Absence, Non-Instructional Personnel”
- 1009 “Salary Change, Certified Personnel”
- 1010 “Students with Disabilities”

AMEND AS FOLLOWS: On Schedule 1003, #13 PULLED, on Schedule 1008, #10 PULLED

RESULT:	APPROVED AS AMENDED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Mike Pappas
SECONDER:	James Moran
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. Gifts to Schools

RESOLUTION #20-21-154

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

- A check in the amount of \$642.49 to be donated to East Broadway School Student Activity Fund from Retail Business Services (Stop & Shop A+ Rewards), PO Box 7200, Carlisle, PA 17013
- A check in the amount of \$289.06 to be donated to Gardiners Avenue School Student Activity Fund from Retail Business Services, PO Box 7200, Carlisle, PA 17013."

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Christina Lang, Vice President
SECONDER:	Marianne Adrian
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

VI. AD HOC

(NONE)

VII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

RESULT:	MOTION CARRIED [7-0-0]
MOVER:	Dillon Cain
SECONDER:	Marianne Adrian
AYES:	Pappas, Adrian, Marengi, Lang, Cain, Messina, Moran

The Board adjourned the public meeting at 8:35 PM.

Elizabeth Appelbaum

District Clerk

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

PUBLIC BE HEARD

PLEASE NOTE: COPIES OF ATTACHMENTS SUBMITTED ARE GIVEN TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THEN KEPT WITH THE OFFICIAL MINUTES IN THE DISTRICT CLERK'S OFFICE.

The guidelines pertaining to Public Be Heard were read by the Board President.

James Hudak 20 Wood Lane, Levittown, NY

Mr. Hudak wanted to know where the funding comes from for the following positions in the Levittown Public School system: Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, and the Director of Facilities.