

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

**DATE: JULY 27, 2022**

**PLANNING SESSION**

**MINUTES**

**THE PLANNING MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**, was duly called and held on Wednesday, July 27, 2022 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:**

Ms. Jennifer Messina, President  
Ms. Peggy Marengi, 1st Vice-President (Excused Absence)  
Ms. Christina Lang, 2nd Vice-President (Excused Absence)  
Ms. Marianne Adrian, Trustee  
Mr. Dillon Cain, Trustee  
Mr. James Moran, Trustee  
Mr. Michael Pappas, Trustee

**Administration:**

Mr. Todd Winch, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Michael Fabiano, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Finance  
Ms. Debbie Rifkin, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources  
Dr. Beth Ziogiannis, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

**Others:**

Mr. Robert H. Cohen, Counsel  
Ms. Suzanne Mallozzi, District Clerk

Ms. Messina, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [5-0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Moran, Trustee
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Dillon Cain, Trustee
<b>AYES:</b>	Moran, Adrian, Pappas, Cain, Messina
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Marengi, Lang

Ms. Messina requested a motion to adjourn to executive session to confer with Counsel and noted that the Pledge of Allegiance will be read when the meeting reconvenes at 7:30pm.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [5-0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Michael Pappas, Trustee
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Trustee
<b>AYES:</b>	Moran, Adrian, Pappas, Cain, Messina
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Marengi, Lang

## RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION:

The Board of Education meeting reconvened at 7:30pm.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [5-0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Marianne Adrian, Trustee
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Michael Pappas, Trustee
<b>AYES:</b>	Moran, Adrian, Pappas, Cain, Messina
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Marenghi, Lang

Ms. Messina asked all in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and to observe a moment of silence to remember all those serving our Country at home and abroad. Please note, Peggy Marenghi and Christina Lang are excused from tonight's meeting.

## II. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

### A. Recognition - Chris Milano and Mike Gunn:

Mr. Winch thanked Mr. Christopher Milano, Facilities Director and Mr. Michael Gunn, Maintenance Supervisor for their many years of service to the Levittown Community. The task of managing nearly 200 acres of property and over 2,000,000 square feet of space seamlessly, always putting the safety and security of our students first, keeping buildings open during the worst types of weather and being on-call, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year was no easy task. For that, the Levittown District thanked them and presented them with a gift in remembrance of their service.

B. Energy Performance Contract Presentation: Mr. Michael Fabiano introduced tonight's presentation from Johnson Controls, a follow-up to last year's presentation. Danny Haffel, Developer, Johnson Controls, discussed many aspects of the contract, including with the 6 energy conservation measures, hoping to generate approximately \$6.4 positive cash flow for the District. Energy performance contract is available to view on the District website.

Q - Mr. Pappas asked to confirm the 8 buildings receiving solar.

A. Mr. Haffel: "Division, Wisdom, Abbey, EB, Gardiners, Lee, Northside, Summit."

Q - Mr. Pappas: Why isn't MacArthur on the list?

A. Mr. Haffel: "PSEG noted that the grid cannot handle the flow. When you get over 500k to over a megawatt in energy, you're going to put a tremendous amount of strain on the grid. And with the cost savings vs. upgrading the grid, there is not a lot of incentive for PSEG to upgrade. There is a hope that this portion of the project may be done in the near future."

Q - Mr. Pappas: "Doesn't make sense that the energy flow can be handled one way, but not the return way. With all the green initiatives going on in NYS, perhaps there is an opportunity to speak to our representatives in Albany to discuss this?"

Q - Ms. Adrian - "What are the rooftop units at Wisdom?"

A. D. Haffel: "Air handlers which are designed to pump heat into the building. No Air conditioning used."

Q – Mr. Pappas “These are air handlers, not air conditioners. Could we replace the handlers with air conditioners?”

A – Mr. Haffel “ No, you cannot replace an air handler with A/C. NYS will not allow it as more energy would be used if the A/C were to be installed.”

Q – Mr. Pappas: “Are your estimates for savings showing inflated rates or are they previous year’s rates?”

A – Mr. Haffel: “2019 rates are being used.”

Mr. Haffel noted that Levittown School District, with the upgrades planned, should be a model for other Districts in terms of reducing our carbon footprint and the anticipated savings planned.

C. Strategic Plan Update – Mr. Winch - Prior to COVID, the Board had developed values and beliefs for the plan, but was interrupted by the pandemic in March 2020. The District intends to provide the board with a new plan, which will be introduced at the August 2022 Board meeting. Mr. Winch reviewed the current status and planned initiatives.

D. ELA Program Selection Update: Dr. Beth Ziropiannis - Explained the process of selecting new ELA programs. Noted that 4 new programs, Wit & Wisdom, CKLA, Into Reading, and My View will be tested at all the schools in the District at every grade level. Thank you to Michelle Kelly and Mr. Winch for this large undertaking.

Q – Ms. Messina: “Are there any secondary teachers involved in choosing these programs, do they see any deficits in these programs?”

A - Mr. Winch responded that he will check with 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to see if there were any of them on the selection committee. Dr. Ziropiannis will keep the Board updated on the roll-out of these programs.

Q – Ms. Messina: “HMH Used to make journeys and now are making Into Reading. Are they making changes to the journeys programs or is this an entirely new program?”

A – T. Winch – Whether the program has improved in the writing, will only come out in the first few months. Dr. Ziropiannis added that the original programs did not all start with authentic text and the quickest way to lost a reader is to provide canned literature. These new programs look promising.

Ms. Messina – So exciting that we get to pilot all these programs.

Q – Mr. Pappas – “So, one program will be selected after one year?”

A – Dr. Ziropiannis – The programs will be evaluated all year, will get together in the Spring, evaluate all them and select one.

Q – Mr. Pappas: “Any possible way that we have staff here that may like different aspects of each program and can take a bit from each?”

A - Dr. Ziropiannis: “No program is perfect, but the part of the success of a program is the delivery and that means it’s only as good as the teacher delivering it. With research based programs, you don’t want to start picking and choosing from different places, but we will have staff input to fill in gaps. You want to deliver these programs with fidelity.”

E. Summer Programs Update – Mr. Winch: American Rescue Plan grant has allowed the District summer programs to continue to be offered. All Summer programs have an academic component to them. There are over 1300 students attending these programs. Mr. Pappas noted that some districts don’t even have 1300 students attend their programs on a full-time basis.

Q – Mr. Pappas – Has the price of Driver’s Ed gone down with the ARP and is it in person?

A – Mr. Winch: “Our price of \$495 has not changed and we have been in-person since Spring. Driver’s Ed was not subsidized by the ARP plan. Not sure how long we will be able to keep these costs down.

Q – Mr. Pappas – “Kudos to Debbie Rifkin, who was tasked to keep the costs down, what is HANCS charging now?”

A – Mr. Winch: HANCS is charging around \$700. Driver’s Ed is a program that is a tremendous value and something that parents want the District to continue to do.”

Finally, Mr. Winch thanked all the teachers who are working the Summer programs for their commitment to the District and for making the programs happen.

Mr. Pappas wanted to give Mr. Milano thanks. A woman on social media who mentioned that her backyard was overgrown with Ivy, with her backyard facing District property, with just a word, the area was cleaned up and she was all over social media thanking the District for their swift response.

Mr. Moran – Commended Mr. Winch for “hitting the ground running”. For his upbeat attitude and commitment to the District, giving Mr. Moran a preview of the new programs the District has planned.

Mr. Pappas commended Ms. Messina for also hitting the ground running. She’s doing an excellent job.

### III. MOTION TO ADJOURN

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED [5-0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Dillon Cain, Trustee
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jennifer Messina, President
<b>AYES:</b>	Moran, Adrian, Pappas, Cain, Messina
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Marengi, Lang

The meeting adjourned at 8:32pm and moved to Special meeting.

Suzanne Mallozzi  
District Clerk