

Monthly School Board Meeting (Tuesday, December 8, 2020)**Members present**

Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

1. OPENING

Procedural: A. Call to order

Megan Ryan, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Action, Procedural: B. Executive Session 6:05

The Board of Education approves entering into executive session for matters of personnel, contracts and negotiations at 6:02PM.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella

Action, Procedural: C. Reconvene to public at 7:00 PM

Action, Procedural: E. Pledge

Ms. Ryan led in the pledge

Board President Megan Ryan thanked faculty, staff, administration, parents and students for their continued resilience. She also thanked Dr. Seniuk for providing letters to the community regarding cases of COVID-19 in the district. She noted that when a class must quarantine, the principals contact the parents of the students in the class, and the parents come to school to pick up their children that day. Ms. Ryan said she recognizes how the community is cooperating together. She wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday season with their families over the next few weeks.

2. ROUTINE APPROVALS

Action, Minutes, Procedural: A. Approval of Minutes - November 10, 2020

Approval of minutes - November 10, 2020 as a consent agenda - Items A, B, C.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Michelle Gordon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Action, Information: B. Approval of Warrants, Wires, Budget Transfers

The Board of Education approves the warrant, wires, budget transfers as a consent agenda - Items A, B, C.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Michelle Gordon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Action, Information: C. Approval of Treasurer's Report

The Board of Education approves the treasurer's report as a consent agenda, Items A, B, C.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Michelle Gordon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Information, Procedural: A. Superintendent's comments

Superintendent Dr. Seniuk spoke about the following topics:

- Enrichment for All
- PTA District Council
- Mental health survey
- Chromebooks
- Zones and testing

- Phone call with County Executive Laura Curran

Ms. Ryan then thanked Dr. Seniuk for her report. She explained that North Merrick is in close partnership with the Nassau County Department of Health, and Dr. Seniuk and the Board of Education are working hard to keep the schools open safely.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT VIA EMAIL

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the following: WHEREAS, the State of New York, along with the entire nation and world, is in the midst of the COVID-19 (AKA the novel coronavirus) pandemic, a public health emergency unprecedented in modern times; WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor Cuomo issued Executive Order 202.4 which suspended the requirements of the Open Meetings Law concerning board of education meetings; and WHEREAS, as permitted by Executive Order 202.1, the Board of Education's meeting tonight will be conducted via www.youtube.com with no public participation. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby suspends all policies pertaining to the format for this meeting, including Policy 1120 which provides for public participation and comment at Board of Education meetings.

Discussion, Information, Procedural: B. Public Comments via email
Lee Gomes, questioned the definition of ABA and how we are supporting this program.

Dr. Seniuk explained that the (ABA) program in our district incorporates the scientific principles of learning in order to best educate students. The students in this program also receive a variety of related services such as speech and language, occupational therapy, and physical therapy depending on the students' individual needs. The program is also extended into the summer during our extended school year program. Our ultimate goals are to foster more independence, teach new academic skills, and work with students to not just adapt, but to thrive in a public-school setting.

5. BUSINESS

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the 2021 monthly Empire Plan premium rates for employers.
The Board of Education approves the 2021 monthly Empire Plan premium rates for employers, as a consent agenda - Items 5A through 5H.

Motion by Michelle Gordon, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Action: B. The Board of Education approves an additional route to the regional transportation consortium contract with Bellmore-Merrick CHSD to transport a North Merrick student to Notre Dame School.

The Board of Education approves an additional route to the regional transportation consortium contract with Bellmore-Merrick CHSD to transport a North Merrick student to Notre Dame School, as a consent agenda - Items 5A through 5H.

Motion by Michelle Gordon, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Action: C. The Board of Education approves the 2021 HIP HMO renewal rate sheet.

The Board of Education approves the 2021 HIP HMO renewal rate sheet, as a consent agenda - Items 5A through 5H.

Motion by Michelle Gordon, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Action: D. The Board of Education approves the 2020/21 Summer Food Service Program contract with Aramark Educational Services LLC.

The Board of Education approves the 2020/21 Summer Food Service Program contract with Aramark Educational Services LLC, as a consent agenda - Items 5A through 5H.

Motion by Michelle Gordon, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Action: E. The Board of Education approves the New York State 457b Plan for the voluntary participation of all eligible employees, at not cost to the District.

The Board of Education approves the New York State 457b Plan for the voluntary participation of all eligible employees, at not cost to the District, as a consent agenda - Items 5A through 5H.

Motion by Michelle Gordon, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Action, Procedural: F. The Board of Education approves the donation from the Ammirati family of a drum set to the North Merrick School District.

The Board of Education approves the donation from the Ammirati family of a drum set to the North Merrick School District, as a consent agenda - Items 5A through 5H.

Motion by Michelle Gordon, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Action, Procedural: G. The Board of Education approves the revised Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein. FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with Article 57-A: (a) only those records will be disposed of that are described in Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein; (b) only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods.

The Board of Education approves the revised Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), as a consent agenda - Items 5A through 5H. issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein. FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with Article 57-A:

(a) only those records will be disposed of that are described in Retention

and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein;

(b) only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient

administrative, fiscal, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods.

Motion by Michelle Gordon, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Action, Procedural: H. The Board of Education approves the executed Amended Agreement dated December 8, 2020 with the North Merrick Faculty Association regarding the employment of temporary teachers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and utilization of paid leave time for a qualifying event under the Family First Coronavirus Response Act.

The Board of Education approves the executed Amended Agreement dated December 8, 2020 with the North Merrick Faculty Association regarding the employment of temporary teachers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and utilization of paid leave time for a qualifying event under the Family First Coronavirus Response Act, as a consent agenda - Items 5A through 5H.

Motion by Michelle Gordon, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

6. PERSONNEL ACTIONS REPORT

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the Personnel Actions Report, as detailed in the mailing.

The Board of Education approves the Personnel Actions Report, as detailed in the mailing.

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Vincent Lentini.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

7. SPECIAL SERVICES

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the nineteen (19) Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

The Board of Education approves the nineteen (19) Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Special Education, as detailed in the mailing, as a consent agenda - Items 7A and 7B.

Motion by Vincent Lentini, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

Action: B. The Board of Education approves the six (6) Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Pre-school Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.

The Board of Education approves the six (6) Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Pre-school Special Education, as detailed in the mailing, as a consent agenda - Items 7A and 7B.

Motion by Vincent Lentini, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella

8. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Procedural: A. High School

HIGH SCHOOL

The Bellmore-Merrick Board of Education held its meeting virtually. There was a discussion about yellow and orange zone designations for communities with elevated COVID-19 cases and that there was not a lot of information about how a community was designated as yellow or orange, and what would happen if it did, except for the 20% weekly testing of students and staff to keep the schools open. Additionally, a search has begun to replace Michael Harrington as assistant superintendent since he will be assuming the position of superintendent for the 2021-22 school year.

Procedural: B. PTA District Council

PTA COUNCIL

Trustee Ed Corona said the PTA Council meeting took place virtually. He said there have been many virtual PTA-sponsored events throughout the district, such as the Reflections program and holiday boutiques. He said the yearbook committee is collecting photos from sixth grade parents for the yearbook. SEPTA held a virtual read aloud and Santa drive-by and are working on bringing back Awareness Day in January. He suggested that building principals make announcements because the PTAs are unable to distribute flyers for their events. He said COVID-19 updates and kindergarten registration were also discussed with PTA. He noted that kindergarten registration will be solely online, and a Google form and documents can be uploaded. The registration will be in alphabetical order, which has no impact on school choice. It was also announced that there will be another Parent University held after the holiday break and an additional 750 Chromebooks will be distributed in a one-on-one initiative for each student in the district.

Megan Ryan then thanked the PTAs for their support and for being creative and working extra hard for the district, stating that families appreciate it, and the board as well.

Procedural: C. Buildings & Grounds

Buildings and Grounds

Sam Carder, Director of Facilities, spoke about a new product the district is using that combines a disinfectant (hypochlorous) and cleaner (sodium hydroxide) with the brand name of Annihilare. It is on the EPA-approved list for COVID-19 and also Green Seal™ certified, which Mr. Carder said are usually mutually exclusive. He explained it is a one-product disinfectant that has zero harmful effects and utilizes the same technology used in saltwater pools. It is environmentally friendly because after a certain amount of time the formula reverts back to salt water.

Mr. Carder said there is exciting news with the ongoing data project. He noted that Fayette is completed, and the Internet in the building is faster, and the Wi-Fi is amazing. There is now full coverage in the building, with no dead zones, and service is just as strong in the conference room as it is in the cafeteria or the gym or the library. Mr. Carder said the update at Camp will begin in the new year, when he hopes to have the entire project wrapped up, which he said is so important with all the students using so many electronic devices.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

Information, Procedural: A. Communication received

Ms. Ryan stated forty-two correspondences were received.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion, Information, Procedural: A. Items for discussion

None

11. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion, Information, Procedural: A. Items for discussion

None

12. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS (BOE only)

Procedural: A. Absences of Five Consecutive Days; Investments; Workers' Compensation Filed; Appropriation Status Report; Revenue Status Report; Trial Balance; Cash Flow

Information: B. Building & Grounds Reports

Information, Procedural: C. Enrollment; health office report; student/adult accidents

13. ADJOURNMENT

Action: A. Adjournment

Adjournment at 7:25 PM

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Vincent Lentini.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Vincent Lentini, Tracey Miller, Michelle Gordon, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Robert Crowley, Steve Enella