

January 8, 2014

The regular Planning/Action Meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, January 8, 2014, in the cafeteria of the Caroline G. Atkinson Intermediate School. Debra Mulé, President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. She then led the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were: Ms. Debra Mulé, President
Ms. Vilma Lancaster, Vice President (arrived 7:34 pm)
Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Trustee (arrived 7:34 pm)
Mr. Anthony J. Miller, Trustee
Mr. Michael Pomerico, Trustee

Absent were: none

Also present were: Dr. Kishore Kuncham, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel,
Special Projects & District Clerk
Mr. Gerard Poole, Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Michael Singleton, Executive Director of Operations
Mr. James Robinson, Executive Director for Business

Also absent were: none

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was 7.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kuncham welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a very Happy New Year. The Superintendent updated everyone on current items as follows:

- Everything is going well with Bauman Bus Company. All the Drivers and the Dispatcher have remained with the new company. The contract is good through June 30, 2014. We will evaluate their performance at that time.
- The Freeport Armory has not been transferred to a private company. This is good news for Freeport Schools. Thank you to everyone for their advocacy and the many phone calls, emails and letters to the Governor opposing the transfer.
- The State Education Department has filed for a waiver for 7th and 8th grade student testing this spring. This will avoid double testing over 60,000 students in a move to avoid over testing.
- We were all surprised at the resignation of Senator Charles Fuschillo. I have been in contact with his office and offered our support. The Governor will decide whether there will be an election or the position will be left vacant until the November elections. Senator Fuschillo was a friend to Freeport Schools and will be missed.

- Columbus Avenue will be celebrating its 100th Birthday this year. We will celebrate next month to mark the occasion.
- The budget process is in progress and we hope to see the State Aid proposal soon. It is possible that there will be a 4% increase in state aid. When the figures are released we will have a Board of Education Budget Committee meeting and a public forum to discuss the options.

Questions from the Public

The public was given the opportunity to address the Board of Education. Each speaker was allowed to address the Board for four minutes on any topic. The Board and administration addressed the comments from the public.

Items for Action

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a seconded by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

CSE/CPSE Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the minutes of the meetings of the committees on special education and preschool special education for the following dates:
November 18, 21, 26, 2013; December 18, 2013.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a seconded by Mr. Miller the following item was approved:

Approval for Student Travel to Orlando, Florida

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes Freeport High School to conduct a field trip to the city of Orlando, Florida, scheduled for February 6th through February 10th, 2014 for the purpose of the Freeport HS Cheerleading Team's participation in the UCA National High School Cheerleading Championships.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said authorization is subject to availability of chaperones and to Freeport High School's compliance with all insurance, health, safety, and financial guidelines as indicated in the Administrative Procedure for overnight, off-Long Island, field trips.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

Executive Session

At 8:11 p.m. Mr. Pomerico moved to adjourn to executive session for two specific matters of negotiations.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellerbe and passed unanimously.

The vote was: Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

At 9:10 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Mr. Miller the Board returned to open session. The motion carried unanimously.

The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

Adjournment

At 9:11 p.m. with no other business on a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and seconded by Mr. Pomerico, the Board adjourned the meeting.

The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Miller, Mulé and Pomerico.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Action meeting of the Board of Education will be on January 22, 2014, 7:30 p.m., at Caroline G. Atkinson Intermediate School.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary R. Bediako, Ed. D.
District Clerk