
Freeport Public Schools
235 N Ocean Avenue
Freeport, NY 11520-2135

Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of
March 24, 2004

The regular action meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, March 24, 2004, the meeting was held in the auditorium of Freeport High School. Before the beginning of the meeting there was a musical presentation by the Freeport High School Milburn Quartet. Mr. Raab, Vice President of the Board called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Those present were:

- Mr. Michael Raab, Vice President
- Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Trustee
- Ms. Carmen J. Piñeyro, Trustee
- Ms. Sunday F. Coward, Trustee

Absent were:

- Dr. Joseph Cattano, President

Also present were:

- Dr. Eric L. Eversley, Superintendent of Schools
- Mr. Kishore Kuncham, Assistant Superintendent for Business
- Mr. Robert Harris, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, School Improvement, Professional Development and Planning
- Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Clerk of the Board
- Mr. Michael Singleton, Interim Executive Director of Operations

Also absent were:

- None

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was more than 50.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Eric Eversley introduced Mr. Raymond Johnson, Assistant Principal at Freeport High School. Mr. Johnson then introduced Major Moore, one of the instructors of the Naval Science JROTC program. The Cadets of the JROTC presented the colors and led in the pledge of allegiance. The cadets then performed a precision drill for the Board and public.

The Freeport High School top math students, the "Mathletes", were introduced with their coach, Mr. Peter Bruzzo. Mr. Bruzzo announced some of the recent accomplishments at county, state and national-level competitions. Two of the students are in the top five percent of the nation's math students.

Dr. Eric Eversley, Superintendent of Schools, thanked everyone for their wonderful presentations. The Superintendent announced that the Freeport High

School Football Team and coaches, were honored earlier in the evening at the Freeport Recreation Center.

He also spoke about the Second Annual Early College Awareness event, which took place on March 27, 2004. The event was a great success.

Dr. Eversley then introduced Mr. Robert Harris, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, School Improvement, Professional Development and Planning. Mr. Harris presented the School Report Card.

Board Discussion

The Board had a brief discussion on the issue of student membership on the Board of Education. The Board decided on a compromise idea proposed by the Superintendent, Dr. Eversley, to postpone for one year having a student as a member of the Board, in favor of inviting the Freeport High School student body President to present a report each month on events and issues at the school.

Board of Education Committee Reports

The Board heard from its Legislative Committee Chairman Ronald Ellerbe. Mr. Ellerbe presented a report from the Campaign for Fiscal Equity's Sound Basic Education Task Force, that offers a preliminary proposal to reform how local school districts receive financing.

Questions from the Public

The public was then given the opportunity to address the Board of Education. Each speaker was allowed to address the Board for six minutes. The Board and administration addressed the comments from the public.

Items for Action

On a motion by Ms. Piñeyro and a second by Ms. Coward the following items, on a consent agenda, were approved unanimously.

The vote was; Coward, Ellerbe, Piñeyro and Raab.

Acceptance of the Minutes

Resolved that the Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the following meetings as written:

February 4, 2004 ; February 11, 2004 ; February 23, 2004 ; February 25, 2004

Leave of Absence

Resolved that the Board hereby grants a request for leave as listed in the following:

- **Lisa Dais** , Guidance Counselor, effective February 2, 2004 through March 5, 2005, for health reasons.
- **Mirna Y.Zielke-Garcia** , Elementary ESL Teacher, effective March 22, 2004 through March 26, 2004, for FMLA.
- **Theresa Logatto** , full-time Teaching Assistant, extension of a leave through March 10, 2004.
- **Lina Rivera-Santana** , Special Education Teacher, effective March 8, 2004 through June 30, 2004 for childcare.
- **Lynda Bouyer** , Security Aide, effective February 25, 2004 through April 1, 2004, for health reasons.
- **Amanda Rodney** , full time Teacher Assistant, effective February 23, 2004 through June 30, 2004 for childcare.
- **Victoria Teshin-Anderson** , Elementary Teacher, effective March 31, 2004 through May 3, 2004, under FMLA.
- **Cheryl Johnson** , Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005, for childcare.

Change of Status

Resolved that the Board of Education for the Freeport Union Free School District hereby grants a request for a change of status as listed in the following:

- **Debra Gul** , from part-time Teaching Assistant to full-time Teaching Assistant, this is a probationary appointment effective March 8, 2004 through March 7, 2007. Compensation will be \$14,237.84. Assignment: Dodd.
- **Ferri Yedin** , full-time Teaching Assistant, leave replacement, extension of the contract to reflect a new ending date of June 30, 2004.
- **Donna Bailey** , from part-time Teaching Assistant to full-time Teaching Assistant, this is a probationary appointment effective March 2, 2004 through March 1, 2007. Compensation will be \$12,073.

Resignation of Staff

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letter(s) of resignation from the following staff members as listed:

- **Stephen V. Michael** , Security Aide, effective February 20, 2004.
- **Karen Lee Dorn** , full-time Teaching Assistant, effective March 1, 2004.
- **Rhunette Ferguson** , School Nurse Teacher, effective September 1, 2004.
- **Luis Medina** , 10 Month Cleaner, effective March 7, 2004.
- **Jason Rivera** , Security, effective April 4, 2004.

Retirement of Staff

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letter(s) of resignation for the purpose of retirement from the following staff member as listed:

- **Brenda Leotaud** , Home and Careers Teacher, effective June 30, 2004 after serving the children of Freeport for more than 33 years.
- **Nicholas Agostinacchio** , Guidance Counselor, effective July 1, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 32 years.
- **Jelain Hubbard** , Principal, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than thirty years.
- **Carol Lemons** , Special Education Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 16 years.
- **Fredric Hertzberg** , Assistant Principal, effective July 1, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 33 years.
- **Eric Styles** , Science Teacher, effective June 30, 2004 , , after serving the children of Freeport for more than 33 years.
- **John Wondrasch** , Technology Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 23 years.
- **Joseph Mayer** , Science Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 33 years.
- **Mark Stine** , Director of Pupil Personnel, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 5 years.
- **Sheron Habif** , Music Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 38 years.
- **Rochelle Schweiger** , Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 37 years.
- **Jeanmarie DiNoto** , ESL Teacher, effective July 1, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 13 years.
- **Abbie Horn** , ESL Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 15 years.
- **Karen Maier** , Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 18 years.
- **Leon Schmorhun** , Music Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 32 years.

- **William Watson** , Art Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more that 35 years.
- **Joyce Fischer** , Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more that 36 years.
- **Lillian Guttman** , Social Studies Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more that 37 years.
- **Donald Gatta** , Social Studies Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more that 32 years.
- **Nicholas Badame** , Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 32 years.
- **Lorraine Immoor** , Science Teacher, effective June 30, 2004, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 16 Years.

Appointment of Staff Report

Civil Service Category Appointments

Resolved that the Board of Education hereby appoints the individuals as listed in the following Appointment of Staff Report - Civil Service, in accordance with Civil Service Rules and Regulation:

- **Luis A. Medina**, 12 Month Cleaner, (new) probationary appointment effective March 8, 2004 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be according to the Custodial Unit Salary Schedule on step 1 at \$27,143. Assignment: Atkinson/Administration.
- **Michael Fromick** , Groundskeeper, a probationary appointment effective March 3, 2004 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be according to the Custodial Unit Salary Schedule at \$31,443. Assignment: Districtwide.
- **Jason Rivera** , Cleaner (10 Month), (replacing Luis Medina, resigned) a probationary appointment effective April 5, 2004 for a period of 26 weeks upon Civil Service approval. Compensation will be according to the Custodial Salary Schedule on step 1 at \$15,571. Assignment: New Visions.

Acceptance of the Minutes on the Committees on Special Education and Preschool Special Education

Resolved that the Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the meetings of the committees on special education and preschool special education for the following dates:

- February 26, 2004 ; February 27, 2004 ; March 3, 2004 ; March 4, 2004 ; March 5, 2004 ; March 8, 2004 ; March 9, 2004 ; March 10, 2004 ; March 11, 2004 ; March 12, 2004 ; March 16, 2004 ; March 17, 2004 .

Acceptance of Gifts

Be it Resolved by the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District that a scholarship in memory of Judge Patricia D.Collins be established in her name.

This scholarship shall be known as:

The Judge Patricia D.Collins Memorial Scholarship Award.

The scholarship is given in loving memory of Judge Patricia D.Collins, a longtime resident of Freeport, who made significant contributions to Freeport, Nassau County and New York State as a lawyer, judge and citizen.

This scholarship shall be awarded annually in the amount of \$250.00 to a graduating senior, who by hard work has overcome economic and language barriers to achieve academic success.

Be it also Resolved by the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts, with gratitude, a donation of \$100 from Vincente Jewelers to be used for the Early College Awareness Day.

Be it also Resolved by the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts, with gratitude, a donation of \$500 from North Fork Bank to be used for the Early College Awareness Day.

Be it also Resolved by the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District that a scholarship in memory of Eddie Tonkovich Memorial Scholarship be established in his name.

This scholarship shall be known as:

The Eddie Tonkovich Memorial Scholarship Award.

This scholarship shall be awarded annually in the amount of \$250.00 to a graduating senior, who must demonstrate a passion for fishing and is continuing with their education. The student that is chosen should be considering a marine related career.

Executive Session

At 9:45 p.m. , a motion was made by Mr.Raab to go into Executive Session to discuss two matters of Personnel and one Student matter. The motion was seconded by Ms.Coward and the motion passed.

The vote was: Coward, Ellerbe, Piñeyro and Raab.

At 11:09 p.m., on a motion by Ms.Piñeyro and a second Mr.Ellerbe, the Board returned to open session. The vote was: Coward, Ellerbe, Piñeyro and Raab.

Adjournment

At 11:09 p.m. , with no other business, on a motion by Mr.Ellerbe and seconded by Ms.Coward, the Board adjourned the meeting. The vote was unanimous: Coward, Ellerbe, Piñeyro and Raab.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary R.Bediako
Clerk of the Board

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