

**MINUTES OF  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
COMMACK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Education Regular Meeting  
February 25, 2014**

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Date: February 25, 2014  
Place: Hubbs Administration Center  
Members Present: Mr. Wunsch, Mr. Hartman, Mrs. Guber, Mrs. Masciello, Mr. Tampellini  
Members Absent: None  
Administration  
Present: Dr. James, Mrs. Newman, Mrs. Ryan, Mr. Kolahifar  
Counsel Present: Mr. Barnosky, Ms. Harvey, Ms. Matthews

Meeting called to order by Mr. Wunsch at 6:30 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. Wunsch, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously (4-0) to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of:

- Discussing a request made by a particular parent;
- Discussing negotiations conducted pursuant to the Taylor Law involving the Commack Teachers' Association;
- Discussing pending grievances with the Commack Teachers' Association and UPSEU (buildings and grounds);
- Discussing pending litigation in the matter of *Renzi v. Commack UFSD, et al*; and
- For the purpose of seeking legal advice from the Board's attorney.

Mr. Tampellini arrived at 6:36 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. Hartman, seconded by Mr. Tampellini and carried unanimously to adjourn Executive Session and return to public meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Members Present: Mr. Wunsch, Mr. Hartman, Mrs. Guber, Mrs. Masciello, Mr. Tampellini  
Members Absent: None  
Administration  
Present: Dr. James, Mrs. Newman, Mrs. Ryan, Mr. Kolahifar; Mrs. Fanwick  
Counsel Present: Mr. Barnosky, Ms. Harvey  
Guests: Approximately 30 guests

Meeting reconvened at 8 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Motion made by Mr. Wunsch, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously to appoint Ms. Susan Fanwick as acting Confidential District Clerk until the close of business on February 28, 2014.

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

The Board of Education recognized Commack Middle School and Commack High School students for their achievements:

- in the Suffolk County Music Educators' Association 2014 All-County French Horn Ensemble;
- earning first place in the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association Stock Market Game;
- being a semifinalist in the Intel Science Talent Search
- in having published an article co-published; and
- having been awarded \$2,000 for a proposal that was submitted to an interactive problem/solution based challenge organization called InnoCentive.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Heard the following reports:

- Public Hearing 1: For the purpose of discussing the adoption of the Alternative Veterans' Exemption pursuant to Section 458-a(2)(a), (b) and (c) of the Real Property Tax Law;
- Ms. Newman gave a presentation concerning the Alternative Veterans' Exemption.

Motion made by Mr. Wunsch, seconded by Mr. Hartman:

WHEREAS, veterans have provided an invaluable service to this country by risking their lives to protect the freedoms enjoyed by all citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this service and the sacrifices that it entailed, on December 18, 2013 Governor Cuomo signed a bill, Chapter 518 of the Laws of 2013, to allow school districts to partially exempt property owned by certain qualified veterans; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 518 requires the governing body of a school district to pass a resolution to provide the relief set forth in Real Property Tax Law ("RPTL") § 458-a;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commack Union Free School District Board of Education adopts the exemptions provided for in RPTL § 458-a.(2)(a), (b) and (c).

RESOLVED, that the Commack Union Free School District Board of Education adopts the expanded definition of the term "qualified owner" to include a "Gold Star Parent" as those terms are defined pursuant to RPTL § 458-a.

RESOLVED, that the Commack Union Free School District Board of Education will allow a cooperative apartment corporation to be eligible to receive an exemption pursuant to RPTL § 458-a(6)(d).

RESOLVED, that the Commack Union Free School District will allow a veteran, the spouse of the veteran or unremarried surviving spouse already receiving an exemption pursuant to RPTL § 458-a to transfer, on a pro-rated basis, his or her exemption to another home purchased within the Commack Union Free School District.

YES

Ms. Guber  
Mr. Hartman  
Mr. Tampellini  
Mr. Wunsch

NO

None

ABSTENTIONS

Ms. Masciello

Heard the following reports:

- Response(s) to Questions from Prior Meeting; and
- Facilities and Security Highlights.

The Board of Education took a brief recess at 9:25 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 9:27 p.m.

**MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Tampellini, seconded by Ms. Guber and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2014, Board of Education meeting.

**PERSONNEL**

Motion made by Ms. Masciello, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously to approve all personnel as recommended (see attached).

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**BIDS**

There were no bids.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Motion made by Mr. Hartman, seconded by Mr. Tampellini and carried unanimously to approve the district of location contract with Connetquot Central School District for the 2012-2013 school year and authorize the President of the Board to sign same
- B. Motion made by Ms. Masciello, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously to approve the 2013-2014 health services contract with the following provider and authorize the President of the Board to sign same: Jericho Union Free School District.

- C. Motion made by Ms. Masciello, seconded by Mr. Wunsch and carried unanimously to approve the transportation renewal contracts.
- D. Motion made by Mr. Tampellini, seconded by Ms. Guber and carried unanimously to accept the following donations:
1. Donation from the Commack Road Runners Booster Club offering \$2,935 to Commack High School Track Teams to be used for the purchase of a high jump platform.
  2. Donation of \$150 from Elaine M. Lass and Lanie J. Lass to the Music Department Scholarship Fund.
  3. Donation of an acoustic guitar and two music stands from Mr. Kevin Swenson to the Commack UFSD.
- E. Motion made by Mr. Hartman, seconded by Ms. Masciello and carried unanimously to approve the following field trips:
1. Field Trip – Commack High School  
NYC Financial District  
9/11 Memorial Park  
New York, New York  
May 29, 2014
  2. Field Trip – Commack Middle School  
Grand Hyatt Washington (Grade 8)  
Washington, D.C.  
May 16 – 17, 2014
- F. Motion made by Mr. Tampellini, seconded by Ms. Masciello and carried unanimously to adopt Board Policy 9280 – Audit Committee.
- G. Motion made by Ms. Guber, seconded by Ms. Masciello and carried unanimously to approve the 2013-2014 RTI Plan.

**LEGAL**

There was no legal business.

**BOARD BUSINESS**

- A. Announced the following dates of the Board of Education Budget Workshops to be held at Commack High School at 8 p.m.:

Budget Workshop #1 – Thursday, March 13, 2014

Budget Workshop #2 – Thursday, March 27, 2014

Budget Workshop #3 (Informal Budget Hearing) – Thursday, April 3, 2014

- B. Motion made by Mr. Wunsch, seconded by Ms. Guber and carried unanimously to acknowledge receipt of the CSE/CPSE recommendations approved on the following dates: September 26, 2013; October 25, 2013; December 18, 2013; January 6, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 17, 23, 27, 29, 30, 31, 2014.
- C. Motion made by Mr. Wunsch, seconded by Ms. Masciello and carried unanimously to acknowledge receipt of the following financial reports:
1. Claims Auditor's Report;
  2. CD Rates 2013/2014;
  3. Treasurer's Summary and Bank Reconciliation Report;
  4. Budget Transfer Report 12/1/13 – 12/31/13;
  5. General Fund Trial Balance for Fiscal Year 2014 – Post Dates 7/1/13 to 12/31/13; and
  6. Revenue Status Report as of 12/31/13 – Fiscal Year 2014 – General Fund.
- D. Motion made by Ms. Masciello, seconded by Mr. Tampellini and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

Be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Commack Union Free School District shall hold a special meeting on Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at Hubbs Administration Center, East Northport, New York. It is anticipated that the Board will make a motion for the purpose of adjourning into Executive Session at this time. It is anticipated that no public business will be conducted at this meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Wunsch, seconded by Mr. Hartman and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

Be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Commack Union Free School District shall hold a regular meeting on Thursday, March 13, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at Commack High School, Scholar Lane, Commack, New York. It is anticipated that the Board will make a motion for the purpose of adjourning into Executive Session at this time and at 7:00 p.m. the Board will reconvene in Public Session for the purpose of holding its Regular Business Meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Tampellini, seconded by Ms. Guber and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

Be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Commack Union Free School District shall hold a Special Meeting on March 27, 2014, at 7 p.m. at Commack High School, Scholar Lane, Commack, New York. It is anticipated that the Board of Education will make a motion for the purpose of adjourning into Executive Session at this time and at 8 p.m. the Board will reconvene in Public Session for the purpose of conducting a Budget Workshop.

E. Motion made by Mr. Tampellini, seconded by Mr. Hartman:

That the Board of Education videotape the entire Board of Education meetings to be posted on the District's website.

Vote: Yes - 2 (Mr. Hartman, Mr. Tampellini)

No - 3 (Ms. Guber, Ms. Masciello, Mr. Wunsch)

Motion fails.

F. Motion made by Ms. Masciello, seconded by Mr. Wunsch:

That the Board of Education only videotape the Administrative Reports portion of Board of Education meetings.

Vote: Yes - 3 (Ms. Guber, Mr. Hartman, Ms. Masciello)

No - 2 (Mr. Tampellini, Mr. Wunsch)

Motion passes.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Heard comments/questions from the audience regarding the following topics: Veterans' tax exemption; videotaping meetings; security/volunteers; transportation during inclement weather; Marion Carll Property.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Tampellini, seconded by Ms. Guber and carried unanimously (4-0) to adjourn public session at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Susan Fanwick

Acting District Clerk