

**Commack Union Free School District  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, January 12, 2023  
Generated by Debbie Virga**

Board Members Present: Justin Varughese, Sue Herman, Gus Hueber, Steve Hartman

Board Members Absent: Dr. William Hender – from executive session only

Administration Present: Dr. Jordan Cox, Laura Newman, Tim Russo, Scott Oshrin

Counsel Present: Mr. Eugene Barnosky, Ms. Mara Harvey

**A. OPENING OF MEETING**

Meeting called to order by Mr. Varughese at 6:19 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a) Pending litigation in the matter(s) of CVA cases
- b) Negotiations conducted pursuant to the Taylor Law involving CTA
- c) Employment History of particular contractor
- d) Matters leading to the potential discipline of a particular individuals
- e) In order to obtain legal advice

Motion to approve executive session made by Gus Hueber, seconded by Steve Hartman and carried unanimously (4-0)

Motion to exit Executive Session and return to Public Meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Motion made by Bill Hender, seconded by Gus Hueber and carried unanimously (4-0).

**A. OPENING OF MEETING - PUBLIC MEETING**

Meeting called to order by Mr. Varughese at 8:07 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

**B. OPENING CEREMONIES**

1. Roll Call

2. Student Recognition

Students were recognized for their achievements at the Harvard Science Research Conference

**C. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

- Elementary State of the District

#### **D. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Multi-Cultural Committee
- Legislative Advocacy

#### **E. BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING STATEMENT**

#### **F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

#### **G. CORRESPONDENCE**

Acknowledged Correspondence

#### **H. DONATIONS**

The Board accepted on behalf of the District donations by the following:

- a. Marianne and Alan Bergman - \$500.00 to establish the Melissa Berman Memorial Scholarship for Resource Room Effort for a CHS Resource Room Senior going to college - Deposit \$500.00 to Scholarship Fund 105034
- b. Joseph Weiss and Francis R. Weiss Family Trust - \$30,000.00 to aid and support programs to assist and educate students suffering from ADD, Autism or other developmental disabilities at Indian Hollow, North Ridge, Rolling Hills and Wood Park Primary Schools, as Mrs. Frances R. Weiss taught at each of the listed schools and arranged for this gift in the interest in furthering the excellence of the special education programs in which she taught - Deposit \$30,000.00 to Gifts and Donations A2705

Motion by Sue Hermer, seconded by William Hender

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

#### **I. MINUTES**

Approve the minutes from the December 8, 2022 Board of Education Meeting and the December 19, 2022 Special Board of Education Meeting.

Motion made by William Hender, second by Gus Hueber

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

## **J. PERSONNEL**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the Personnel Matters.

Motion by Steve Hartman seconded by Susan Hermer

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

## **K. CONSENT AGENDA-NEW BUSINESS**

1. Approved Consent Agenda items 2-11

2. Approved Change Orders #1 and #2 for WHM Plumbing & Heating, Inc. in the Deduct Amounts of \$11,395.00 for Project #035-022 (BIS) and \$13,019.46 for Project #036-022 (MSIS), and authorize the President of the Board to sign same.

3. Approved the contract, and rider where applicable, with the listed vendors for their services for the 2022-2023 school year and authorize the President of the Board to sign same.

a. Brookville Center for Children's Services, Inc. - Special Education Program

4. Approved contracts with the listed school districts for students to receive special education services from our district during Summer 2022 and/or the 2022-2023 school year, and authorize the President of the Board to sign same.

a. Hauppauge UFSD - Summer 2022 and 2022-2023 School Year

b. Middle Country CSD - 2022-2023 School Year

5. Approved contracts with the listed school districts for our students to be placed in the listed district's Summer 2022 and/or 2022-2023 Special Education Program (as indicated), and authorize the President of the Board to sign same.

a. Three Village CSD - 2022-2023 School Year

6. Approved the obsolescence and disposal of the listed items:

a. Two (2) Wrestling Racks (96-05944 / 96-05945) - CHS Athletic Department - Items are old and broken

7. Acknowledge receipt of the following grants:

a. Project Lead the Way - \$460.00 for the purpose of enhancing CHS's Project Lead the Way Program - Deposit \$460.00 to Special Aid Lead23-2110-450-000.

8. Approved the 2022-2023 contracts with the listed districts for special education students who reside in the Commack UFSD and attend private/parochial schools in the listed districts, and authorize President of the Board to sign same.

a. South Huntington UFSD

9. Approved the 2022-2023 contract with the listed school districts for students who reside in the Commack UFSD and attend private/parochial schools in the listed school districts, and authorize the President of the Board to sign same.

a. Huntington UFSD

b. West Islip UFSD

10. The Board approved the following field trips:

a. Six Flags Great Adventure

1 Six Flags Blvd.

Jackson, NJ 08527

June 1, 2023

Commack High School

11. The Board of Education approved the APPR Independent Evaluator Hardship Waiver Application

Motion by William Hender, seconded by Steve Hartman

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

#### **L. CONSENT AGENDA – LEGAL**

None

#### **M. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approved the Memorandum of Agreement between the District and Molloy College for Molloy College's High their High School Scholars Program and authorize the Board of Education President to sign same.

Motion by Sue Hermer, seconded by Steve Hartman

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

2. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the Memorandum of Agreement between the Commack Union Free School District and the Commack Schools Office Professionals Association.

Motion by Steve Hartman, seconded by William Hender

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the first reading of Policy #7650, Time out Rooms and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the 2nd reading and moves to adopt the policy tonight.

Motion by William Hender, seconded by Susan Hermer

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

4. WHEREAS, at the July 14, 2022 reorganization meeting, Brian Grodotzke, CPA was appointed as a Deputy Purchasing Agent; and  
WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to replace Brian Grodotzke, CPA with Matthew Neuschwender as a Deputy Purchasing Agent.  
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Mr. Matthew Neuschwender as a Deputy Purchasing Agent for the 2022/2023 school year, without additional remuneration.

Motion by Steve Hartman, seconded by William Hender

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Mr. Timothy Russo as Deputy Treasurer for the 2022/2023 school year, without additional remuneration.

Motion by Steve Hartman, seconded by Gus Hueber

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

6. WHEREAS, at the July 14, 2022 reorganization meeting, Jennifer Santerello was appointed as the Title IX Coordinator for the District for the 2022/2023 school year; and  
WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to remove Ms. Santerello as the Title IX Coordinator and appoint Mr. Scott Oshrin to such position. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby removes Ms. Jennifer Santorello as the Title IX Coordinator for the 2022/2023 school year; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education

hereby appoints Mr. Scott Oshrin as the Title IX Coordinator for the 2022/2023 school year, without additional remuneration.

Motion by William Hender, seconded by Sue Hermer

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the Resolution Agreement with student number 120005023, and authorizes the Board President to execute same.

Motion by Steve Hartman, seconded by Gus Hueber

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

8. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the Memorandum of Agreement between the Commack Union Free School District and the Commack Teachers Association for a sick bank for employee #11657

Motion by Gus Hueber, seconded by Steve Hartman

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

## **N. NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **O. BOARD BUSINESS**

1. Acknowledge receipt of the Financial Reports listed below:
  - Trial Balances: October 2022
  - Revenue Status Reports: October 2022
  - Budget Status: October 2022
  - Budgetary Transfer: October 2022
  - Cash Flow Report: October 2022
  - CD Rates Report: December 2022
  - Treasurer Reports: October 2022
  - Collateral Statement Summary: September 2022, October 2022
2. Acknowledge receipt of the Internal Claims Auditor's Monthly Update – 11.01/22 – 12/16/22

3. The Board acknowledges receipt of the statement for Professional Services rendered by Lamb & Barnosky, LLP on non-retainer matters for the month ending November 20, 2022 in the amount of \$27,294.74.
4. Acknowledge receipt of Committee on Special Education: 12/9/22; 12/12/22; 12/13/22; 12/14/22; 2/15/22; 12/16/22; 12/19/22; 12/20/22; 12/21/22; 12/22/22; 12/23/22; 1/3/23; 1/4/23; 1/5/23; 1/6/23; 1/9/23; 1/10/23; 1/11/23; 1/12/23.  
Acknowledge receipt of Committee on Preschool Special Education: 12/26/22; 12/21/22; 1/4/23; 1/11/23.

#### Board Business

Steve Hartman acknowledged that the Board is looking forward to the meeting with Comptroller Mr. DiNapoli

#### **Announcement of Upcoming Board of Education Meeting**

The Board of Education of the Commack Union Free School District shall hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at Hubbs Administration Building, 480 Clay Pitts Road, 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 and at 8:00 p.m. the Board will reconvene in Public Session for the purpose of holding its Regular Business Meeting.

#### **P. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Concerns regarding the Special Education Integrated Program

#### **Q. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm.

Motion by Gus Hueber, second by Sue Hermer

Aye: William Hender, Justin Varughese, Steve Hartman, Susan J. Hermer, Gus Hueber

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)