

**Commack Union Free School District  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, December 14, 2023  
*Generated by Debbie Virga***

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

Board Members Absent: None

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

Counsel Present: Eugene Barnosky

**OPENING OF MEETING**

Meeting called to order by Mr. Hartman at 6:05 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a) Negotiations conducted pursuant to the Taylor Law involving CSQA
- b) The employment history of particular employees
- c) Matters leading to the appointment of a particular employee
- d) Matters leading to the potential discipline of particular individuals
- e) Matters that would impact public safety
- f) In order to obtain legal advice

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

Motion to exit Executive Session and return to Public Meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Motion made by Steve Hartman, seconded by William Hender and carried unanimously (5-0).

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

Meeting called to order by Mr. Varughese at 8:00 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

**B. OPENING CEREMONIES**

1. Roll Call

**C. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

1. State of the District – Secondary Education

## **D. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Multi-Cultural Committee
2. Legislative Advocacy

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

## **F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

- Communicated about the policy
- Renewal of contract with law firm

## **G. CORRESPONDENCE**

- Acknowledged Correspondence

## **H. DONATIONS**

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

- a. Bryan Bonin Memorial Scholarships (2) - for CHS Students - \$1,500.00 each scholarship for a total of \$3,000.00 to be deposited in CM 105037
- b. Ryan James McGauley Scholarship - for CHS Student - \$1,000.00 to be deposited in CM 105038

Motion made by Gus Hueber, seconded by William Hender

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carried (5-0)

## **I. MINUTES**

Approved the Minutes from the November 9, 2023 Board of Education meeting.

Motion made 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)

## **J. PERSONNEL**

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

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)

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

1. Approved Consent Agenda items as presented and/or amended 2-14
2. The Board of Education approved Jeffrey Schiro to serve as Impartial Hearing Officer
3. The Board of Education is requested to approved the following field trips:
  - a. World Trade Center/Federal Reserve  
World Trade Center  
285 Fulton Street  
New York, NY 10007  
December 20, 2023  
Commack High School
4. The Board of Education rescinds the previous Petty Cash Funds and replace it with the corrected copy.
5. The Board of Education accepted the Internal Audit Report for Payroll Processing, reflecting a date change in the Payroll Processing Report previously accepted at the November 9, 2023 Board of Education meeting, and to accept the listed Corrective Action Plans which correspond to the Risk Assessment and Payroll Processing Reports as listed.
6. The Board of Education approved the Memorandum of Agreement between the Commack Union Free School District and the Commack Teachers Association (CTA) regarding the payment for the Bee Keeper and the Head and Assistant Coach for Flag Football and authorize the Board President to sign same.
7. Approved the obsolescence or obsolescence and disposal of the listed items.
  - a. Library Books - Obsolescence - 10,890 books - CHS Library Collection - to accommodate new titles and the new construction (see attached list)
  - b. Minuteman Scrubber - Obsolescence and Disposal - Tag #014256 - Long Acres - item cannot be repaired and no useable parts
8. Acknowledged receipt of the listed grants.
  - a. Blackbaud Giving Fund Grant in partnership with Land O'Lakes - for Commack High School to use at their discretion - Deposit \$101.43 in BLKB24-2110-450-000
9. Approved the contract, and rider where applicable, with the listed vendors for their services for the 2023-2024 school year and authorize the President of the Board to sign same.
  - a. Traceytalk Speech Pathologist - Provide AAC Evaluations and Consult and Prompt Speech Therapy

10. Approved contracts with the listed school districts for their students to receive special education services from our district during Summer 2023 and/or the 2023-2024 school year (as indicated) and authorize the President of the Board to sign same.

a. Harborfields CSD - 2023-2024

b. Hauppauge Public Schools - Summer 2023/ 2023-2024

c. North Babylon UFSD - 2023-2024

d. South Huntington UFSD - Summer 2023 / 2023-2024

e. Middle Country CSD - Summer 2023 / 2023-2024

f. Manhasset Public Schools - 2023-2024

11. Approved the 2023-2024 District of Residence contracts for students who require special education services, reside in the Commack UFSD and attend private/parochial schools in the listed district(s), and authorize President of the Board to sign same.

a. Half Hollow Hills UFSD

12. Approved the 2023-2024 Health Services Contract with the Babylon School District for students who reside in the Commack UFSD and attend private/parochial schools in the listed school district(s), and authorize the President of the Board to sign same.

13. The Board of Education accepted the Statement of Annual Financial and Operating Information for Year Ended 6/30/23 as prepared by Munistat Services, Inc. for required filing with the SEC and authorize the President of the Board to sign same.

14. Board of Education rescinds the previous Policy #4211, Organizational Structure and replace it with the updated copy.

Motion made 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)

#### **L. CONSENT AGENDA – LEGAL**

None

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

WHEREAS, the Board has been notified that the primary attorneys representing the District are leaving Lamb & Barnosky, LLP to join Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby terminates its relationship with Lamb & Barnosky, LLP effective close of business on December 31, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby retains Bond, Schoeneck, and King, PLLC effective January 1, 2024 on the same terms and conditions contained in the current retainer agreement with Lamb & Barnosky, LLP, and authorizes the Board President to execute the attached retainer agreement with Bond, Schoeneck and King, PLLC

## **N. NEW BUSINESS**

### **O. BOARD BUSINESS**

1. Acknowledged Statement of Professional Services rendered by Lamb & Barnosky, LLP for the month ending October 31, 2023 in the amount of \$10,505.50

2. Acknowledged receipt of the Financial Reports listed below:

- Budgetary Transfer: July 2023, August 2023
- Budget Status: July 2023, August 2024
- Budget Status – Function Code: July 2023, August 2024
- Revenue Status Reports: July 2023, August 2024
- Trial Balances: July 2023, August 2024
- CD Rates Report: Monthly 2023-2024
- Treasurer Reports: July 2023, August 2023
- Collateral Statement Summary: July 2023, August 2023

3. Acknowledged receipt of the Internal Claims Auditor's Monthly Update for 10/4/23 – 11/17/23

4. Acknowledged receipt of Committee on Special Education: 11/13/23; 11/14/23; 11/15/23; 11/16/23; 11/17/23; 11/20/23; 11/21/23; 11/27/23; 11/28/23; 11/29/23; 11/30/23; 12/1/23; 12/4/23; 12/5/23; 12/6/23; 12/7/23; 12/8/23; 12/11/23; 12/12/23; 12/13/23; 12/14/23.

Acknowledged receipt of Committee on Preschool Special Education: 11/14/23; 11/15/23; 11/29/23; 12/6/23; 12/13/23.

5. Announcement of upcoming Board Meeting:

- The Board of Education of the Commack Union Free School District shall hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 11, 2024 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**

- Comments on Curriculum
- Multi-Cultural event

## **Q. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:33 p.m.

Motion made 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)