

# Farmingdale School District

DATE:

November 3, 2021

KIND OF MEETING:

**Board Meeting** 

**PLACE:** 

Howitt Middle School Band Room, Howitt Middle School East

Auditorium

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** 

Mr. Goldberg, Mrs. D'Amico, Mr. Espinosa, Mr. Giordano, Mrs.

Lively, Mr. Morales, Mrs. Soete

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Defendini, Dr. Ripley, Mr. Zakian, Dr. Brennan, Dr. Olsen,

Mr. Motisi, Richard Guercio, Esq., Reesa Miles, Esq., Mrs.

Celano

Call to Order Meeting called to order at 6:13 p.m. in the Band Room at the Howitt School

by Mr. Goldberg, President of the Board of Education.

Executive Session

Motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mrs. Lively to meet in executive session to discuss specific legal, collective bargaining and personnel issues

in accordance with Open Meetings Law.

Motion carried 7-0

Meeting recessed for executive session at 6:13 p.m. Meeting reconvened in the Howitt Auditorium at 8:00 p.m.

Meeting reconvened in the Howitt Auditorium at 8:00 p.m.

# Reconvene Meeting

The public portion of the meeting was called to order by Board President Michael Goldberg at 8:00 p.m. He began by explaining the format of the meeting. He stated that the Board of Education provides two opportunities for the public to express ideas and share thoughts. The first would be after we receive an update from our Superintendent. The second would be after the business portion of the meeting had concluded. He stated that both sessions would be 30 minutes in duration and all speakers would be limited to 3 minutes to give as many people a chance to speak as possible. Members of the public were asked to approach any one of the three microphones in the front of the auditorium. He asked that anyone speaking state their name and address prior to beginning your comments so that the Assistant District Clerk can accurately reflect the minutes of tonight's meeting. Mrs. Celano would let me know when you have thirty seconds left so you can wrap up your comments before the end of the three minutes. You must be stationed at a microphone to express your ideas and share your thoughts with the Board.

Mr. Goldberg stated that the Board of Education respects the varied opinions of the community Any behaviors that threaten the integrity of the meeting would not be tolerated and would cause the meeting to be adjourned. Complaints or challenges should follow procedures listed under Policies 1400, 1410 and/or 1440, which are included on the materials table. Mr. Goldberg pointed out the emergency exits. He thanked all for their cooperation. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board President Michael Goldberg asked for a motion to change the order of business.

On a motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mr. Espinosa, the order of business contained in the public meeting agenda, set forth in Policy 2350, was amended to allow the Board to vote upon the consent agenda, review and vote on the October 6, 2021 meeting of the Board of Education.

Motion carried 7-0

# Pledge of Allegiance

On a motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mr. Espinosa, the order of business contained in the public meeting agenda, set forth in Policy 2350, was amended to allow the Board to vote upon the consent agenda, review and vote on the October 6, 2021 meeting of the Board of Education.

Motion carried 7-0

# **Consideration of Consent Agenda**

Motion made by\_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_that the Consent Agenda consisting of Items I (a-f), II (a-i), and III (a-d) be approved as a whole with action recorded separately.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

Maria Faninasa Trustae

**SECONDER:** Mario Espinosa, Trustee

AYES: Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete

### **Business Report**

**RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]** MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

SECONDER: Mario Espinosa, Trustee

Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete AYES:

### **Acceptance for File of Financial Reports**

Acceptance of the Claims **Auditor** Report -

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept for file the Claims Auditor Report for the month of September 2021 pursuant to the authority contained in Section 170.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education and in accordance with Board Policy 6600.

September

2021

Acceptance of the Extra

Curricular

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept for file the extra curricular report for Farmingdale High School, Weldon E. Howitt Middle School, Albany Avenue Elementary School,

Northside Elementary School, Saltzman East Memorial Report -

Elementary School and Woodward Parkway Elementary School for the June & September months of June & September 2021 pursuant to the authority contained in 2021

Section 170.2 of the regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

Acceptance of the Revenue

and Expenditure Report -June & September 2021

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept for file the Revenue and Expenditure Report for the months of June & September 2021 pursuant to the authority contained in 170.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education and in accordance with Board Policy 6600.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report -June & September

2021

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept for file the Treasurer's Report for the months of June & September 2021 pursuant to the authority contained in Section 170.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education and in accordance with Board Policy 6600.

# **Approval of Contracts and Agreements**

Approval of **Special Education** 

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale UFSD Board of Education approve the following contracts for Special Education and General Education services for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and that the Board President and General **Education Contracts** 

be authorized to sign said contracts.

GLEN COVE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT LI ORIENTATION & MOBILITY, LLC.

LITTLE FLOWER UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF

WADING RIVER

LIVES IN THE BALANCE, INC.

Approval of a Consulting **Services** Agreement with **DocDeana Enterprises** LLC

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve an Agreement between the Farmingdale School District and DocDeana Enterprises for the purpose of professional development and to authorize the Board President to sign said agreement.

Approval of Change Order #1 with Hirsch & Company, LLC

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept Change Order #1 to Hirsch & Company, LLC (Contract P -Plumbing Work) for securing permits and licensing for the sewer work associated with the aquatic center at Howitt Middle School.

(Contract P - Plumbing Work) for

This change order has been agreed to by the district's architect and contractor at our request.

Securing **Permits and** Licensing for the **Sewer Work** Associated with the Aquatic Center at

Howitt Middle **School** 

Change Order #1 Additional \$4,462.13

Approval of Change Order #3 with Construction **Consultants** 

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept Change Order #3 to Construction Consultants of Long Island, Inc., for the curtain wall system associated with the Aquatic Center at Howitt Middle School.

of Long Island, Inc., for the **Curtain Wall System Associated** with the Aquatic

This change order has been agreed to by the district's architect and contractor at our request.

Change Order #3 Additional \$37,393.93 Center at Howitt Middle School

Acceptance of Funds and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accepts \$120.00 for the purpose of student participation in the All County Music Virtual Festival.

and
Increase the
2021/22
Budget for
the All
County
Music

Virtual Festival BE IT RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District will increase the 2021/22 budget in accordance with the fees collected.

Approval of Declaration of Obsolete Equipment -November 2021 RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education declare the attached items as obsolete and disposed of in accordance with Board Policy 6900.

### **Items for Action**

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Mario Espinosa, Trustee

AYES: Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete

Approval of an Amendment

to Stipulation of

Settlement and Release with Employee

Named in Executive Session

Settlement Agreement and General Release Regarding a

**Former** 

Approval of

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the Amendment to Stipulation of Settlement and Release (Including Last Chance Agreement) with the employee named in executive session, and authorizes the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools to execute the Amendment to Stipulation of Settlement and Release.

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education approve a Settlement Agreement and General Release regarding a former student named in Executive Session and that the Board President be authorized to sign said agreement.

Student Named in **Executive** Session

Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of

Education approve a

with the Farmingdale **UFSD** Cafeteria

Memorandum of Agreement with the Farmingdale UFSD Cafeteria Employees Unit for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025 and that the Board

President be authorized to sign said agreement.

Approval of Salary for Substitute Cafeteria Workers

**Employees** 

Unit

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District establish the hourly salary of \$16.00 for the substitute cafeteria workers for the period of November 4, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

Approval of the 2021-22 Response to Intervention (RtI) Plan

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve the 2021-22 Response to Intervention (RtI) Plan.

Approval of **New Course ENVES (AP** 

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education

approve a new course:

Environmental

**ENVES** (AP Environmental Science and Regents Earth Science)

Science and

Grades 9 & 10

**Regents Earth** 

Science)

Grades 9 & 10

Approval of **New Course Python** 

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education

approve a new course:

**Programming** 2 (Grades 10-12)

**Python Programming 2** 

(Grades 10-12)

Approval of **New Course**  RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve

a new course:

Heritage Spanish

Heritage Spanish

(Grades 7-8 / 9-10 / 11-12) (Grades 7-8 / 9-10 / 11-

12)

Approval of New Course Civic

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve

a new course:

Readiness Capstone (Grades 11

& 12)

Civic Readiness Capstone (Grades 11 & 12)

Superintendent's Report

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Mario Espinosa, Trustee

AYES: Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete

### Personnel Items -- Instructional

Instructional:
Appointment
/ 2021-2022
- Return from

Leave of

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve an instructional personnel action: "Appointment / 2021-2022 - Return from Leave of Absence" in accordance with Board Policy 9230. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in

Absence the budget.

Instructional: Tenure

Recommendation

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District place the named staff members on tenure in accordance with Education Law of the State of New York and Board Policy 9251. In recommending tenure, the Superintendent has based his decision on the record of performance of the staff members during the tenure period as reported by the Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Administration, principals and others in supervisory positions. Tenure becomes effective on the dates noted hereon contingent upon continued satisfactory performance in the job until said date tenure becomes effective.

Instructional: Resignation / Project Read RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept an instructional personnel action: "Resignation / Project Read", effective on the dates noted hereon and for the reason stated and to approve the termination of employment.

Instructional:
Appointment
/ Project
Read (Parttime, Hourly
Position)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve an instructional personnel actions: "Appointments: Project Read (Part-time, Hourly Position)", at the stated rate per hour, in accordance with Board Policy 9230. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget. Part time positions are annual appointments.

Instructional: Appointments / 2021-2022 Correction / Update Secondary School Leadership

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / 2021-2022 Secondary School Leadership Team." Designations and stipends are in accord with the approved budget.

Instructional: Approval of Curriculum Committee / Genre-Com

Team

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Approval of Curriculum Committee / Genre-Com." Stipends are contingent upon completion of assignment.

Instructional: Coaching and Extra Curricular Appointments RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Coaching and Extra Curricular Appointments", in accordance with Board Policy 5200. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget. Stipends are contingent upon completion of assignments.

Instructional: Appointment / After School **Tutoring** Center

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School district accept an instructional personnel action: "Appointment / After School Tutoring Center." Stipends are contingent upon completion of assignment.

Appointment of On Call, Per Diem Substitute **Teachers** 

Instructional: RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Appointment of On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Teachers", subject to termination at any time.

### Personnel Items -- Non-Instructional

Non-Instructional: Changes in Assignment -**CSEA** 

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional personnel action: "Changes in Assignment / CSEA", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointment does not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Non-Instructional: Appointment / CSEA DWO

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional personnel action: "Appointment / CSEA", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission

regulations. Appointment does not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Non-Instructional: Appointment / Typist Clerk RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional personnel action: "Appointment / Typist Clerk", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointment does not exceed the number of positions

authorized in the budget.

Non-Instructional: Resignation for Retirement /

**TASM** 

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Resignation for Retirement / TASM," effective on the date noted hereon and for the reason stated.

Non-Instructional: Resignations / TASM RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Resignations / TASM," effective on the date noted hereon and for the reason stated.

Noninstructional: Leaves of Absence / TASM RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Leaves of Absence / TASM", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations.

Noninstructional: Rescind Appointments / TASM RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Rescind Appointments / TASM", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations.

Non-Instructional: Changes in Assignment / TASM RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Changes in Assignment / TASM", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Non-Instructional: Appointments / TASM RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / TASM", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Non-Instructional: Changes in Assignment / Food Service RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Changes in Assignment / Food Service", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointments do not exceed

the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Non-Instructional: Appointments / Food Service

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / Food Service", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Noninstructional: Appointment of On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Bodily Health Aide RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional personnel actions "Appointment of On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Bodily Health Aide", subject to termination at any time

Noninstructional: Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute

Cleaner

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Cleaner", subject to termination at any time.

Noninstructional:
Appointment
/ On-Call,
Per Diem
Substitute
Professional
Nurse

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel action: "Appointment / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Professional Nurse", subject to termination at any time.

Noninstructional: Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Food Service

Workers

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Food Service Workers", subject to termination at any time.

Non- RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of

instructional: Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute School

**Monitors** 

**Aides** 

Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute School Monitors", subject to termination at any time.

Noninstructional: Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Teacher RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Teacher Aides", subject to termination at any time.

Noninstructional: Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Typist Clerk RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel action: "Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Typist Clerk", subject to termination at any time.

Approval of the Committee on Special Education Placements Report and Acceptance for File of Said Report RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Farmingdale UFSD Board of Education approve and accept for file the Committee on Special Education Placements Report by the Director of Special Education dated October 10, 2021, in accordance with New York State Education Part 200 Regulations.

Approval of the Committee on Preschool Special Education Placements Report and Acceptance for File of Said Report

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Farmingdale UFSD Board of Education approve and accept for file the Committee on Preschool Special Education Placements Report by the Director of Special Education dated October10, 2021, in accordance with New York State Education Part 200 Regulations.

### Items for Discussion and Action

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

SECONDER: Mario Espinosa, Trustee

AYES: Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete

Acceptance
of
Independent
Audit Report
- Year
Ending June
30, 2021

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accepts the June 30, 2021 Independent Auditor Report for study and file.

Assistant to the Superintendent for Business, Michael Motisi introduced David Tellier, Partner with Nawrocki Smith, who presented to the Board of Education a summary of the 2020-2021 Independent Audit. Mr. Motisi stated that our books and records were closed on time. He thanked Brian Ernst and his team for all the hard work they did this summer to ensure that our books and records were closed on time and the District's state reports were also filed on time.

Mr. Nawrocki stated that his firm performs an audit of the district's financial statements, the federal award (grant) program and the extra-curricular fund. On October 12, 2021 he met with the district's Audit Committee and reviewed the field work and the audit results. He stated that the district has one of the better Audit Committees that he's been a part of. His firm noted that there were no material weaknesses and all work was completed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principals. The general fund balances were within the tax cap. The district continues to invest in capital assets and pay down it's debt. The auditors found that there were no compliance issues, no questionable expenses and all of the work conformed with the regulations.

Mr. Tellier stated that he would be remiss if he did not emphasize the strength of the district's Business Office and staff. He stated that his firm works with many agencies and Farmingdale is noted for their very strong team. He congratulated Mr. Motisi, Mr. Ernst and the entire Business departments for their efforts and hard work.

Mr. Goldberg thanked Mike Motisi and his team for their hard work. They did a great job.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

SECONDER: Mario Espinosa, Trustee

AYES: Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete

Acceptance of Extra Classroom Activity RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accepts the June 30, 2021 Extra Classroom Activity Funds Independent Auditor Report for study and file.

Board President, Michael Goldberg asked Mr. Motisi for an update on the

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Funds Independent Audit- Year Ending June

30, 2021

Extra Classroom Activity Funds Independent Audit for the year ending June 30, 2021.

Mr. Motisi stated that normally this report would have been included with the financial statements that Mr. Tellier just gave, but this year as a result of the new Governmental Accounting Standards Board there was some uncertainty as to whether or not they should be filed separately. To air on the side of caution we filed them separately. Both were reviewed by the Audit Committee and filed in a timely manner.

**RESULT:** APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

SECONDER: Mario Espinosa, Trustee

AYES: Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete

### **Items for Discussion**

Draft Policy and Regulation #5280, Interscholastic Athletics Board President Michael Goldberg introduced Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Administration Mr. Zakian and asked for an update on the two polices on the agenda for discussion tonight. Mr. Zakian continued with a review of policy and regulation #5280, Interscholastic Athletics. Mr. Zakian stated that by the direction of the Board, the policy committee has made changes and recommendations for the Board's consideration of the Athletic Placement Process portion of the policy and regulation. This process is approved by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, and addresses the desire in which middle school athletes may be granted permission to participate on a Junior Varsity or Varsity athletic team. The current policy allows for athletes who participate in the sports of bowling, tennis and golf to make such a move. The policy draft presented tonight will permit athletes in all sports to move up to participate on the high school teams. Mr. Zakian asked if the Board had any questions. There were no questions. Mr.Zakian stated that the policy will be put on the December board agenda for approval.

# RESULT:

### DISCUSSED

Draft Policy #8505, Charging School Meals and Prohibition Against Shaming Mr. Zakian continued with a review of Draft Policy #8505, Charging School Meals and Prohibition Against Shaming. He stated that this policy was first introduced to the Board in February of 2019, and it is a required policy that addresses the issue of student shaming in instances where they may not have enough money to purchase a school lunch. Revisions to this policy have now come to us from the New York State School Board Association. This policy has been reviewed by our legal consultants at Guercio & Guercio, as well as the Policy Committee. Mr. Zakian asked Mr. Motisi to explain the latest required changes.

Mr. Motisi stated that there were some small changes and suggested language from the School Boards Association that have no impact on the policy. The areas of the policy that have these minor changes are in the Student Notification Section and the Unpaid Meal Charges/ Debt

Collection Section. Mr. Zakian asked if the Board had any questions. There were no questions. Mr. Zakian stated that the policy will be put on the December board agenda for approval.

### **RESULT:**

### DISCUSSED

# Superintendent's Update

Board President Michael Goldberg introduced Superintendent of Schools Paul Defendini and asked for his monthly update. Mr. Defendini began his update congratulating our Boy's and Girl's Volleyball teams and our Varsity Football team for a very successful year. He thanked everyone who helped to make the Safe Halloween event a huge success. Almost 1,000 students participated. Concert season is upon us and will be live this year. Parents will be invited to attend. More information will follow from Mr. Warnokowski, Director of Fine Arts. The High School Musical Once Upon an Island will also be live this year.

Mr. Defendini continued with a report on the Nassau County Police Department Alert Notification Training Session that took place last week. The Nassau County Police are working on a variety of initiatives with Nassau County school districts including a Notification System which will enable us to communicate effectively with the police in the event of an emergency. We are very proud of our relationship with them.

Mr. Defendini stated that he is happy to announce that we are working on a re-opening plan for our parents. Detailed information will be sent out outlining the plan which will begin the week of November 22.

Mr. Defendini also reported on the Aquatic Center. The outside of the building in the process of being waterproofed. Work inside is moving along very well.

Mr. Defendini concluded his update by presenting the Board with a Certificate of Special Recognition from Mr. Suozzi. He also thanked the Board of Education for their continued support for the school district and the community.

Mr. Goldberg stated that he is very excited that the parents will be integrated back into the buildings.

Mrs. D'Amico asked Mr. Defendini if there will be virtual options as well. Mr. Defendini stated that there will be virtual options as well if needed.

### **Old Business**

Board President, Michael Goldberg used the old business portion of the meeting to respond to questions that were brought up at the October 6, 2021 meeting that were not addressed at that time.

Mr. Goldberg answered a series of questions pertaining to federal COVID relief money. The answers are as follows:

The \$9.3 million in COVID relief funds you referred to at our last meeting is from three different federal stimulus bills, each with its own expiration dates. The requirements under these grants vary, but are generally intended to support districts with non-recurring expenses related to preventing, preparing for and responding to COVID-19, reopening schools, and to support lost learning opportunities for students due to the pandemic closures. Approximately, \$4.3 million has been allocated to the district for expenses it incurred during the 2019/20 and 2020/21 school years. Staffing, technology purchases, and cleaning and sanitizing supplies were among the largest expenditures. The remaining funds are being used for lost learning opportunities, including instructional materials and staffing, with any remaining funds being reserved for unanticipated expenses and/or future needs that are within the parameters of the grants. There are no benchmarks or metrics that have been provided to the district in connection with this funding.

The district has complied with all laws, regulations, and requirements regarding student and staff data privacy, including FERPA and Education Law 2-d.

The Board of Education has been actively involved with the district's administration regarding the decisions on how to allocate and use these funds. At no time was the Board told, directed, or threatened into accepting these funds or told how they must be used. So long as the district accepts and uses the funds there is no means to nullify the assurances made during the application process and such assurances will be posted to our website for your reference.

The Farmingdale School District receives other state and federal sources annually through grants and state aid. It is common for the government to require districts to make assurances and/or to comply with certain mandates in exchange for receiving such funds. There are also other state and federal laws, regulations, and requirements, which the district must comply with, which are unrelated to the receipt of state or federal funds. We are not aware of any district on Long Island that has not accepted the stimulus funds as a means to help offset the expenses associated with the pandemic. These funds allow school districts to maintain programs, support lost learning opportunities, and protect the taxpayers of the community from increased costs.

Mr. Defendini responded to a question regarding the sound quality of our live stream. He stated that our live stream feed is working properly and if anyone is interested in viewing the meeting, the link is posted on our website.

Mr. Defending responded to question regarding posting minutes to the district's website. He stated that the minutes are all on the website.

# **Public Participation**

Board President Michael Goldberg opened the meeting for the first public participation.

A resident inquired about remotely calling at a Board Meeting.

A resident inquired about the change orders for the Aquatic Center.

A parent thanked Paul for all his efforts in allowing parents back in school for various meetings and thanked everyone for the Trunk or Treat event. She stated how nice it was to see everyone back together.

A parent asked about a survey regarding a COVID that was going around and asked if the District planned on participating in it. She also asked if we were planning on being a vaccination site. Mr. Defendini responded to her questions.

A parent thanked everyone for their help and support in making the TEDx event a success. He stated he would like to transition the event to the Farmingdale School District next year in order to get more students involved.

### Board of Education - Board Meeting - Oct 6, 2021 8:00 PM

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Mario Espinosa, Trustee

AYES: Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete

RESULT: MOVER: ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]

Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President

SECONDER:

Mario Espinosa, Trustee

AYES:

Lively, Morales, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete

# **Board Correspondence**

Board President Michael Goldberg asked the Assistant District Clerk if there had been any board correspondence during the past month. Mrs. Celano reported that the board had received the following emails:

An email concerning a bus issue

Two emails regarding the board agendas and minutes

An email requesting in-person parent meetings

An email requesting our board meetings be held outside

An email with questions in regards to the COVID relief money provided by the federal government

An email regarding mask guidelines

# **Board Committee Reports**

Board President Michael Goldberg asked if there were any Board Committee reports.

Mr. Espinosa reported on the following:

# <u>Farmingdale Public Library Board of Trustees</u> Meeting

He stated that they are starting the repairs on their fencing around the perimeter of the building.

### **Republic Airport Commission Meeting**

There was a report regarding illegal immigrants coming into the airport. After an investigation with Homeland Security and the FAA, there were no such findings. There was also a concern that cargo was coming in from FEDEX and UPS. After an investigation is was found that the cargo was from FEMA not from FEDEX or UPS. The traffic is increasing at the airport, but unfortunately there are a number of complaints regarding the noise. The airport has received contracts from film industry has begin filming as early as the beginning of the new year. The Republic Airport Commission has received requests for live meetings possibly beginning in December.

### **High School PTA Meeting**

He attended the High School PTA this month. The High School PTA's goal for membership is 400. They need 75 people to meet their goal. Please consider joining and attending.

On site college visits will be held this month. It's a great opportunity for the students.

Last year's Senior Prom will be held this weekend. The High School Musical will be held in two weeks. The Pep Rally and Homecoming were a great events. Pizza Wednesdays, Power Time, Homework Helpers and LAUNCH are all underway.

### **High School Halloween Parade**

It was a great event. A great tradition for the Farmingdale School District.

Mr. Goldberg reported on the following:

### Safe Halloween

Mr. Goldberg reported on the Safe Halloween event. He stated that it was an amazing event, with a huge turnout. It was a great event, and awesome to see how the hallways were decorated. He thanked everyone who participated and helped to make the event a huge success.

### **Trunk or Treat**

Mr. Goldberg congratulated the PTA's on the Trunk or Treat that was held. There was a huge turnout and it was great to see everyone out and enjoying themselves. Mr. Goldberg and Mr. Defendini attended the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk with the FFT. Our JV cheerleaders were and our lion were there cheering us on. It was a great day.

Halloween Parade was great to watch. He also stated that the High School Halloween Parade was a great tradition and nice to see everyone out and enjoying themselves.

Mrs. Lively reported on the following:

### **NYSSBA Annual Convention**

Mrs. Lively thanked the Board for the opportunity to be the voting delegate at the NYSSBA Annual Business Meeting that was held virtually on October 18, 2021. Some of the resolutions were recommended and some were not recommended.

A new slate of officers were elected for the NYSSBA. On October 25, 2021 there was a virtual presentation/workshop.

Mrs.Lively also attended the Law School Seminar.

### **Youth Council**

All programs are running well. The Winter program is underway. All information is on Youth Council website.

### **Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce**

Mrs. Lively and Mrs. D'Amico are members of the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce. There were several ribbon cutting ceremonies this month. On November 20th the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce Holiday Parade will take place beginning at 12:00 at Northside.

### **Shred Event**

The shred event took place this month. It was a great event and very well attended.

### **Comedy Night**

Comedy Night was a great event and very well attended. These events are fundraisers that allow for scholarships for our seniors.

### Village Halloween Parade

The Village Halloween Parade was a huge success. Great experience and large turnout.

### **Legislative Action Committee**

The Legislation Action Committee met virtually this month. They discussed our Legislative Priorities. This

year the Committee will be inviting students to join the committee.

### **Safety Committee**

The Safety Committee met virtually this month.

### **Wellness Committee**

Mrs. Lively and Mrs. Soete met with the Wellness Committee this month. This year the committee is focusing on mental health and wellness.

### **Policy Committee Meeting**

This month Mrs.Lively, Mrs. Soete and Mr. Espinosa met with the Policy Committee. The policies that are on the agenda this month were discussed.

Mr. Morales reported on the following:

### PAL

Flag football playoffs will begin this weekend. Superbowl will take place the following weekend. Mr. Morales thanked all the parents who helped to make the flag football season a great success. Deck Hockey and Lacrosse registration are open.

# **Public Participation**

Board President Michael Goldberg opened the meeting for the first public participation.

A resident asked why a land surveyor has been hired.

A resident commented on the amount of security aides that were at the meeting.

A parent thanked the Board of Education and Mr. Defendini for their help and diligence in the opening of school this year.

A parent asked if teachers were encouraging vaccines. Mr. Defendini responded to this question.

A parent asked if we were going to mandate vaccines for children. Mr Defendini responded to his question.

# **Adjournment**

On a motion made by Mrs. D'Amico and seconded by Mr. Espinosa, the meeting was adjourned.

Motion carried 7-0

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Patricia Celano, Assistant District Clerk