

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: February 28, 2023

Type of Meeting: Executive Session

Place of Meeting: Long Beach Middle School Library Multipurpose Room

Members Present: President Anne Conway
Board Member Maureen Vrona, Esq.
Board Member Alexis Pace

Absent: Vice President Sam Pinto
Board Member Dennis Ryan, Ph.D.

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools
Michael I. DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance and Operations
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. for Personnel & Administration
Dr. Janna Ostroff, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Sabrina Brancaccio-Cantori, Exec. Dir., Pupil Personnel Svcs.
Mr. Michael Vigliotta, Atty., Volz & Vigliotta, PLLC

Board President Conway called for a motion to go into executive session at 5:02 PM to discuss district pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go Into
Executive Session

Motion by: Board President Conway
Seconded by: Board Member Vrona
Approved: 3-0

President Conway called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment

Motion by: Board Member Vrona
Seconded by: Board Member Pace
Approved: 3-0

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: February 28, 2023

Type of Meeting: Work Session Meeting

Place of Meeting: Lido Elementary School Multipurpose Room

Members Present: President Anne Conway
Vice President Sam Pinto
Board Member Maureen Vrona, Esq.
Board Member Alexis Pace

Absent: Board Member Dennis Ryan, Ph.D.

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Michael I. DeVito, Asst. Supt. for Finance and Operations
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. for Personnel & Administration
Dr. Janna Ostroff, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Michael Vigliotta, Atty., Volz & Vigliotta, PLLC
Ms. Lori Dolan, District Clerk
Members of the Public

I. Superintendent's Opening Remarks/Call to Order

Board President Conway called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:02 pm and led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Conway thanked everyone for coming and said that Dr. Ryan sends his regrets for missing tonight's meeting.

II. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Gallagher

Superintendent's Report

- **Student Showcase: WINGS Period Genius Hour**
- **Budget Proposals: Elementary Program, Facilities, Transportation**

Dr. Gallagher said that she is very excited to present several students who will help explain some new aspects of the district's WINGS program, adding that the district was able to implement this due to adding some time to the elementary school schedule, which added an entire period of instruction. WINGS provides opportunities for differentiated and personalized learning with pull-out interventions, related services, extensions of the math and literacy curriculums and reinforcement of key academic skills to support and extend the core curriculum.

Dr. Ostroff explained that WINGS stands for What I Need to Grow as a Student; students work in small group settings and said that Dr. Radice and several other teachers have developed a program that fosters the student's sense of worth, voice, independence

and choice in learning. She then turned the program over to Dr. Radice, who explained that in looking to develop the program, they looked to provide extensions of support for learning for the core curriculum in reading and writing in grades 3-5. Dr. Radice then showed a video of students explaining some of their work in the program. She then introduced a student, Ledger Nafte, who presented on his soccer stadium project, built to scale.

Dr. Gallagher thanked Dr. Radice and the teachers involved in the WINGS program.

The "Student Research and Innovation" presentation is on the District Website and available in the office of the District Clerk.

Mr. DeVito then presented the budget presentation on Elementary Program, Facilities and Transportation. He stated that the major portion of the elementary program increase is due to contractual salary increases; the program plan next year adds one additional kindergarten class at West, and one fewer kindergarten class at East, and back to three 5th grade sections at Lindell. With regard to Facilities, there is an increase due to utility line items such as natural gas heating and electricity, as well as staff salary increases based on contractual entitlements. Regarding Transportation, in addition to staff salary increases, the district added three new bus routes based on additional students and schools, and contract transportation increased due to additional students traveling to existing and new out of district schools; BOCES transportation increased because of additional students traveling to BOCES schools, and bus monitor costs have increased dramatically. Mr. DeVito added that, based on direction from the Board, the Subcommittee is creating a subset of projects totaling \$5.2 million; the subset is focusing on needed maintenance items throughout the district, such as replacement of air handling units at the high school, replacement of interior doors at the middle school, repair of interior wall cracks at East and replacement of sewer lines at Lindell.

The "Elementary Program, Facilities and Transportation 02-28-2023" presentation is on the District Website and available in the office of the District Clerk.

BOE Comments

III. President Conway called for Board of Education Comments

- Board Member Pace asked about switching buses over to electric and Mr. DeVito replied that one electric bus this year and one next year, but State hasn't been giving guidance regarding infrastructure and charging stations, and grant funds have not been as available as originally indicated; stated that we are fortunate to already have the "greenest" fleet in the state with our CNG buses.
- Board Vice President Pinto asked if the flexible furniture program will continue and Mr. DeVito replied yes, that is already in the budget.
- Board Member Vrona reminded the public that this is not the adopted budget, so some things may change.
- Board President Conway asked the cost increase of natural gas and Mr. DeVito replied that we took the monthly cost this year and added a 5% escalation.

IV. President Conway called for Questions and Comments from the Public – Items on Today's Agenda Only

Questions/Comments from Public –
Items on Tonight's Agenda Only

None.

**Board of Ed – Additional
Comments**

V. Board of Education – Additional New/Old Business, if any

- Board Member Vrona congratulated Dr. Gallagher on the publishing of her article “The Three C’s In Educational Leadership”.
- Mrs. Conway asked how the late bus is working out and Dr. Ostroff replied that there hasn’t been much participation and Dr. Gallagher added that the late bus is the later morning bus that picks up students who, for various reasons, missed their earlier bus. Dr. Ostroff added that the pilot program will continue through May so they will look to see if there is an increase in participation at that time.
- Mrs. Conway asked about the flooding at the Middle School field and Mr. DeVito stated that they have been in contact with officials at the Town of Hempstead and have reviewed plans and have determined that the deterioration of a catch basin and manhole that is under the jurisdiction of Nassau County.

VI. Questions and Comments from the Public

- None

**Questions and Comments
from the Public**

VII. Announcements

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers’ Association – None
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – None
3. LBPS Group C Employees Association – None
4. Parent/Teacher Association – None

Announcements

VIII. Adjournment

President Conway called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Motion by: Board Member Vrona
Seconded by: Board President Conway
Approved: 4-0

Adjournment

Minutes submitted by:

Lori Dolan, District Clerk
February 28, 2023