

BETHPAGE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bethpage, New York
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
February 28, 2006 – 8:00 p.m. – JFK Middle School Auditorium

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Auditorium at JFK Middle School on February 28, 2006. Mr. Frost called the meeting to order at 8:10 p.m. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Messrs. Tom Frost, Michael Kelly, Joel Dauman, Louis Orfan, and Mrs. Watson.

Absent: Mr. Kurt Spears.

Also Present: Dr. Richard Marsh, Superintendent; Ms. Caroline Lavelle, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Mr. Terrence Clark, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction & Technology; Ms. Kerri McCarthy, JFK Principal; Mr. Ralph Tocco, JFK Assistant Principal; Ms. Jody Smith, Director of Social Studies & Libraries K-12; and Laura Granelli, Esq. of Jaspan Schlesinger Hoffman LLP.

Approximately 35 members of the public were present at the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. James Coscette, instrumental music teacher, conducted the JFK Jazz Band. These talented students entertained the audience with two songs and received a round of applause at the conclusion of their performance and thanks from Dr. Marsh.

This was followed by a Social Studies “Power Point” presentation by Ms. Jody Smith, who reviewed the elementary and intermediate Social Studies test results by performance level and also the June 2004 Regents results. She noted that writing is incorporated and emphasized in the classroom on a daily basis. At the end of her Social Studies presentation, Ms. Smith provided an update on the K-12 library program. Dr. Marsh thanked Ms. Smith for her presentation, and the audience showed their appreciation with a round of applause.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on January 3, 2006.

Motion carried (4-0-1).

Ayes	4
Noes	0
Abstentions	1 (Mr. Dauman)

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Agenda Meeting held on January 24, 2006.

Motion carried (4-0-1).

Ayes	4
Noes	0
Abstentions	1 (Mr. Dauman)

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Dauman, that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 31, 2006.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER'S REPORT

MOTION by Mr. Dauman, seconded by Mrs. Watson, that the Board accept the Treasurer's Report for the month ending January 31, 2006.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS: None.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

SET DATE TO ADOPT BUDGET

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education set Wednesday, April 11, 2006 as the date on which it will consider the adoption of the 2006-2007 School Budget.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

SET DATE FOR BUDGET HEARING

MOTION by Mr. Dauman, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education set the date of the Budget Hearing for Tuesday, May 9, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. in the High School Little Theatre.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

SET DATE FOR ANNUAL MEETING, BUDGET VOTE, AND ELECTION

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education set the date of the Annual Meeting, Budget Vote, and Election for Tuesday, May 16, 2006, from 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., to be held in the High School Gymnasium.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

VOTER REGISTRATION

MOTION by Mr. Dauman, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education set the dates for the Board of Registration to meet, for the purpose of registering voters, for:

Saturday, May 6, 2006	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Admin. Bldg. - Boardroom
Wednesday, May 10, 2006	1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	High School Lobby

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING, BUDGET VOTE, AND ELECTION

MOTION by Mr. Orfan, seconded by Mr. Dauman, that the Board of Education authorizes the District Clerk to publish the notice of the Annual Meeting, Budget Vote, and Election, and make the necessary arrangements for the conduct of the Annual Meeting, Budget Vote, and Election of Trustees, in accordance with law.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

PERSONNEL

Rescind Appointments

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Dauman, that the Board of Education rescind the appointments of the following Continuing Education Instructors for the 2005-2006 school year:

Ann Handy	Kardio Kickboxing
Peter Landini	Tai Chi Qigong

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

Resignations

MOTION by Mr. Dauman, seconded by Mrs. Watson, that the Board of Education accept/ratify the following irrevocable resignations effective June 30, 2006, unless noted otherwise:

Michael Cestaro	Social Studies Teacher
John Mattia	Part-Time Teacher Aide (effective 01/31/06)
Mary Ann McGovern	Special Education Teacher
Joanne Savitt	LOTE Teacher
Mark Verdino	Music Teacher

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

Appointments

Teacher Aide, Part Time

MOTION by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mrs. Watson, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of Kristin Sisler as Teacher Aide, Part Time, effective March 1, 2006, at a rate of \$18.46 per hour, based upon Step 1 of the 2005-2006 salary schedule, without benefits. This is an emergency conditional appointment and is conditioned upon and subject to: (1) Criminal clearance from the Commissioner of Education pursuant to the requirements of Project SAVE, and (2) Approval of application and fingerprinting by the Nassau County Civil Service Commission. If the District receives notice of denial of clearance by either the Commissioner of Education or the Nassau County Civil Service Commission regarding this appointment, it shall immediately terminate.

Note: This is not a new position.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

Extracurricular-Cocurricular

MOTION by Mr. Dauman, seconded by Mrs. Watson, that the Board of Education approve/ratify the following extracurricular-cocurricular appointments, with effective dates and stipends noted:

Arati Marathi	Academic Coach	Effective February 1, 2006 Prorated stipend of \$2,250
Stacey Murphy	Girls JV Lacrosse Coach	Effective March 1, 2006 \$4,304

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

Per Diem Substitute Teachers

MOTION by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mrs. Watson, that the Board of Education approve the following appointments of Per Diem Substitute Teachers for the 2005-06 school year. Salary is in accordance with the Substitute Teacher compensation policy.

Terry Epstein

Laurie Anne Burgois-Grange

The above appointments are emergency conditional appointments and are conditioned upon and subject to criminal clearance from the Commissioner pursuant to the requirements of Project SAVE. If the District receives notice of denial of clearance by the Commissioner regarding one or more of the appointments, the appointment(s) shall immediately terminate.

Motion carried (4-0-1).

Ayes	4
Noes	0
Abstentions	1 (Mr. Dauman)

Continuing Education Instructors

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education approve/ratify the following Continuing Education Program instructors, subject to sufficient enrollment for the class:

Chrissy Bennett	Kardio Kickboxing	2005-2006 SY
Diana Flaherty ⁽¹⁾	Tai Chi Qigong	Spring 2006 Semester

Note: This is a self-funded program.

The appointment denoted with ⁽¹⁾ is an emergency conditional appointment and is conditioned upon and subject to: (1) Criminal clearance from the Commissioner of Education pursuant to the requirements of Project SAVE, and (2) Approval of application and fingerprinting by the Nassau County Civil Service Commission. If the District receives notice of denial of clearance by either the Commissioner of Education or the Nassau County Civil Service Commission, this appointment shall immediately terminate.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

Approval of Extracurricular Appointment

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Dauman, that the Board of Education approve/ratify the extracurricular appointment of James Benjamin as JV Baseball Coach for the 2005-2006 school year. Mr. Benjamin's share of this stipend will be \$2,119, effective March 1, 2006.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

Tenure Recommendations

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Dauman, that the Board of Education approve the following recommendations for tenure, effective June 30, 2006:

John DeTommaso	Tenure Area of Principal
Janice Yale	Tenure Area of Director of Science

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

Dr. Marsh stated that these are two of the finest administrators he has worked with and he wishes them much success.

CPSE AND CSE DOCUMENTS

CPSE: January 3, 2006	January 17, 2006	January 24, 2006
January 30, 2006	February 1, 2006	February 2, 2006
February 3, 2006		

CSE: January 6, 2006	January 23, 2006
----------------------	------------------

MOTION by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mrs. Watson, that the recommendations of the CPSE/CSE for the above dates have been reviewed by the Board of Education, and arrangements will be made for the special educational programs and services and parent notification.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

2005-2006 BUDGET APPROPRIATION

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Dauman, that the Board of Education accept the donated funds of \$4,116.77 from the parents of JFK Middle School students for the expressed purpose of printing and purchasing 275 yearbooks for the Class of 2006 and raise the 2005-2006 budget accordingly.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education approve the agreement between the Suffolk Learning Center and the Bethpage Union Free School District to provide tutoring/home instruction services to students of the Bethpage School District during the 2005-2006 school year at the following costs:

Annual Enrollment	\$225.00
Tutoring/Home Instruction Sessions	\$ 50.00/session
Counseling	\$ 50.00/session
Proctoring or Regents/RCT Exams	\$150.00/testing period
Progress Reports	\$100.00/report per class (2x per year)

The Board further authorizes the Board President to execute said agreement on its behalf.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

2000 BOND REFERENDUM CAPITAL FUND

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Dauman, that the Board of Education of the Bethpage Union Free School District accepts \$186,155.55 in insurance recovery monies from National Grange Insurance Company, the surety to defaulted

contractor J. Barr Construction, to be used toward the completion of the defaulted work at the JFK Middle and CBS Elementary Schools and payment of corresponding Architectural fees, which monies shall be accounted for in the revenue account for insurance recoveries (H2680) in the 2000 Bond Referendum capital fund, thus, in accordance with Education Law §1718, increasing the appropriations accordingly.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

2005-2006 BUDGET APPROPRIATION

MOTION by Mr. Dauman, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education be and is authorized by law to increase the voter-approved 2005-2006 school year budget appropriation by \$36,000 to allow for the estimated additional expenditure required by New York State for reimbursement of unemployment insurance benefits paid to former employees of the District. The Board further authorizes the use of the Unemployment Insurance Payment Reserve Fund for this purpose.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

ENERGY PERFORMANCE PROJECT

MOTION by Mr. Dauman, seconded by Mrs. Watson, that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Architect of Record, John A. Grillo Architect, P.C., contained in a letter to the Bethpage Union Free School District dated February 6, 2006, we hereby declare that the following proposed projects:

- Bethpage High School 28-05-21-03-0-001-025
- JFK Middle School 28-05-21-03-0-002-020
- Central Boulevard Elementary School 28-05-21-03-0-003-016
- Kramer Lane Elementary School 28-05-21-03-0-004-012
- Charles Campagne Elementary School 28-05-21-03-0-007-015
- Administration Building 28-05-21-03-1-005-004

are Type II projects pursuant to the State Environmental Review Act (“SEQRA”), which have no significant adverse impact on the environment, and do not require a SEQRA review. Therefore, as lead agency, we issue this negative declaration, with no further review required under SEQRA.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT

MOTION by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Dauman, that the Board of Education declare four (4) Wolf convection ovens, currently located in the High School Kitchen, obsolete and of no use or value, and authorizes that they may be removed from the District inventory.

Note: The convection ovens are over 25 years old and have been deemed by an outside repair service contractor to be unrepairable with no residual value.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

SHARED MUNICIPAL GRANT

MOTION by Mrs. Watson,. Seconded by Mr. Dauman: WHEREAS, New York State has created the Shared Municipal Services Incentive (“SMSI”) grant program designed to encourage municipalities to enter into cooperative agreements to share costs and to improve local fiscal performance;

WHEREAS, the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District and the Bethpage Union Free School District have expressed interest in jointly submitting an application for the SMSI grant in order to purchase certain equipment (“grant project”) and such application was jointly submitted on or about January 12, 2006 subject to support of the application by resolution of each district’s Board of Education.

WHEREAS, the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District shall be designated the lead applicant and will be responsible for the receipt, expenditure, record keeping and reporting with regard to the grant project and all firms dedicated to the grant project.

WHEREAS, the Bethpage Union Free School District shall be the co-applicant for the SMSI grant program.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bethpage Union Free School District supports the application for the SMSI grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Superintendent of Schools of the Bethpage Union Free School District is hereby designated as the representative authorized to act on behalf of the Board of Education as the contact person in all matters related to the SMSI grant.

Motion carried (4-0-1).

Ayes 4

Noes 0

Abstentions 1 (Mr. Orfan requested that it be noted that he abstained because no written agreement has been reached between the Bethpage Board of Education and the Plainview-Old Bethpage Board of Education.)

OLD BUSINESS: None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Marsh invited residents to join the Budget Advisory Committee and reviewed the upcoming meeting dates. He noted that the English Regents are being administered mid-year, as a number of other districts are also doing. As a result of this, students who experience trouble with the exam are given another opportunity to take the test at the end of the year. Dr. Marsh was pleased to report that 95% of the students passed the January Regents, and 44% of the students were at the Mastery level.

The Superintendent emphasized the importance of parents to be aware of where their children are going (i.e., non-school sponsored trips).

Lastly, Dr. Marsh noted that Astronomy Night will be held March 31st.

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS BY BOARD MEMBERS: None.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD: The Board entertained questions and comments from the audience.

FUTURE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING DATES:

Tuesday, March 21, 2006, 7:30 p.m. – Agenda Meeting – Administration Building
Tuesday, March 28, 2006, 8:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting – Central Boulevard School

Mr. Frost also noted that the Budget Committee will be meeting on March 9th.

BOARD ENTERS EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Watson, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing possible litigation and contracts. (Mr. Frost noted that the Board may possibly exit Executive Session to vote on a resolution.)

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

The Board entered Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.

BOARD EXITS EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Dauman, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board exit Executive Session.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

The Board exited Executive Session at 9:56 p.m.

APPEAL OF HON. BRENNAN'S ORDER IN CONSOLIDATED CONSTRUCTION GROUP, LLC V. BETHPAGE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

MOTION by Mr. Dauman, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board of Education of the Bethpage Union Free School District authorize Jaspan Schlesinger Hoffman LLP to take all necessary and appropriate action to commence a motion to reargue and/or appeal the Order of Hon. Lawrence Brennan dated February 10, 2006, which dismisses the District's Motion for Summary Judgment in the action between the District and Consolidated Construction Group.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Dauman, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the Board adjourn the Regular Meeting.

All aye. Motion carried (5-0).

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marléne Jannotta
District Clerk