

BETHPAGE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bethpage, New York
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Agenda Meeting
February 11, 2014– 7:30 PM. –Admin. Conference Room

Mr. Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Sandra Watson, Vice-President; Anna Israelton, John Lonardo, James A. McGlynn, Kurt Spears and Marie Swierkowski

Also Present: Terrence Clark, Superintendent; Patricia Hantzidiamantis, Executive Director of Pupil Personnel Services and Laura Granelli, Esq. Jaspán, Schlesinger, LLP.

Absent: Caroline E. Lavelle, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Joseph Marchesiello, Assistant Superintendent for Business; David Schneider, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Technology;

Approximately 6 members of the community were present.

ACTING DISTRICT CLERK

MOTION by Mr. Spears, seconded by Mrs. Watson, that the Board of Education appoint Patricia Hantzidiamantis to serve as District Clerk Pro Tem.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

Mr. Clark started the meeting by giving a background of volunteer exemptions. One community member, Mr. Matt Rufrano spoke in favor of implementing the exemptions for Veterans. He believes that the increase of tax for non-veterans is minimal and he asks the Board to consider approving the exemption.

Legislator Laura Schaefer introduced herself to the Board of Education and the community. Legislator wanted a sense of the Board's feelings regarding the veteran exemption.

Legislator Rose Walker, who chairs veteran and senior committees, shared her concerns regarding the fact that some veterans will benefit from the exemption while other veterans will have to pay additional taxes which seems unfair.

Barbara Sabado, a resident of Bethpage spoke. Her husband is a Vietnam Vet and she spoke to the fact that without our veterans, we would not be sitting here or living the lives we live.

Mr. Kelly, Board President, addressed the residents and thanked them for sharing their feelings regarding the veteran's exemption. He spoke to the fact that this exemption will benefit those veterans regardless of their income or economic status.

Mrs. Watson, Board Vice-President, stated that she is not in favor of this legislation because she works for the entire community and this does not benefit the entire community. Kurt Spears and John Lonardo spoke towards the same as the previous board members. James McGlynn spoke to "flawed legislations" and is not comfortable agreeing to it. Anna Israelton spoke to the Board's responsibility to the children and resents the State for putting the educational community in the position when it is not what the Board of Education is here to do.

Mr. Clark then spoke in regards to the active shooter last week and the lockdown of the elementary schools.

Non-bullying week is this week and activities are taking place in all buildings.

We have received \$75,000 in grants and Mr. Clark would like to issue the monies for expanding Chromebooks.

The next Board of Education meetings are February 18th and February 25th.

BOARD ENTERS EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Swierkowski, seconded by Mr. McGlynn, that the Board enters into Executive Session to discuss matters of particular personnel and contracts.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

The Board entered Executive Session at 8:30 PM.

BOARD EXITS EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Swierkowski, seconded by Mr. McGlynn, that the Board exit Executive Session.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

The Board exited Executive session at 8:50PM.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Israelton, seconded by Mr. McGlynn, that the Board of Education adjourn the Regular Meeting.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

The Board adjourned the Agenda Meeting at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elena Becker
District Clerk

Patricia Hantzidiamantis
District Clerk Pro Tem