

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, UNIONDALE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, UNIONDALE, Nassau County, New York was held via Zoom room 961-4492-2537 on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

PRESENT: Ms. Charmise Desiré, President; Mr. Neville Georges, Vice President; Trustees: Mr. Justin Brown, Ms. Addie Blanco-Harvey and Ms. Carol Eason; Ms. Bailey Jeffries, Student Board Member

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. William K. Lloyd, Superintendent of Schools; Rhonda Taylor, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum and Instruction; Dr. Myrtle E. Dickson, Asst. Supt. for Human Resources, Steven Epstein, Asst. Superintendent for Business Affairs; Edward McCarthy, District Counsel; and Olena Nicks, District Clerk

ABSENT: Clarence Little, Treasurer

The Board of Education of the Uniondale Union Free School District is scheduled to meet briefly at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 via video and audio conference in Zoom Meeting Room 961-4492-2537 for its regularly scheduled meeting. At 5:36 PM Ms. Eason made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss certain personnel matters including the hiring of a transcription service for the Board of Education Meetings. It was seconded by Ms. Blanco-Harvey and approved with the following vote: 4 AYE 1 NAY-Mr. Georges. At 7:04 PM Ms. Blanco-Harvey made a motion to reconvene in public session. It was seconded by Mr. Brown and carried with the following vote: 4 AYE 1 NAY-Mr. Georges. The Board reconvened in open session at 7:05 PM.

Meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM.

Ms. Desire called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for all those who have passed due to COVID-19.

Roll call was conducted, all were present except District Treasurer Mr. Clarence Little.

A motion was made by Ms. Eason and seconded by Ms. Blanco-Harvey and carried with the follow vote: 4 AYE 1 NAY-Mr. Georges to approve the resolution to Suspend Board of Education Policy 2350

ROUTINE MATTERS

Motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Ms. Blanco-Harvey and approved unanimously, to table the approval of minutes of Regular meeting on April 7, 2020 for corrections.

Motion was made by Ms. Blanco-Harvey, seconded by Ms. Eason and approved unanimously, to table the approval of the minutes of the Committees on Special Education, Preschool Special Education and the Sub-Committees on Special Education for clarity on virtual meeting dates.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Legal

Mr. McCarthy presented the second reading of the revised Board of Education Code of Ethics Policy for its employees. There has been no subsequent additions, revisions or comments. Motion was made by Ms. Blanco-Harvey, seconded by Mr. Brown and approved unanimously to accept the revised and updated policy.

Mr. McCarthy presented the Graduation Policy revision. In order for students to receive a regent's diploma, the state will have a different set of requirements imposed. The policy revision will take the current pandemic into account.

The first reading of the Revision of Extra Classroom Activity Funds was presented. This policy dated back to 2003.

A motion was made by Mr. Georges, seconded by Ms. Eason and approved unanimously, WHEREIN IT WAS:

Resolved to suspend the district's current graduation policy 4770 for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Lloyd thanked the staff for their efforts during these challenging times. He advised there has been notification from the governor's office that school re-openings have been extended to May 15, 2020. On Tuesday April 28, 2020 at 7 PM there will be a public hearing regarding a proposed 9th grade Charter School Academy in Uniondale. Dr. Lloyd also discussed the importance of the 2020 Census. He stated the importance of having residents complete the census and how their completion will have a direct effect on grants that the district receives. He ensured that responses to the 2020 census is safe and secure and confidential by federal law, answers can only be used to produce strategy and statistics. On April 23rd there will be a virtual parent support meeting. This will be for parents to express any concerns or difficulties they may be having working with scholars at home. The district is working on a short-term and long-term reentry plan. The short term will take place on Monday May 18th if in fact the governor removes the stay home order. Long term would take place in opening in September. The long-term plan focuses on safety, social and emotional well-being and academic awareness.

Ms. Reid, Director of Guidance and Ms. Delvalle, Administrative Assistant for CSE, conducted a presentation on how students are receiving support during distance learning, including social and emotional support. They explained that school counselors and psychologist are still fulfilling their duties during this time and working with students and families to ensure they are receiving the best support during these challenging times. Ms. Delvalle emphasized that social workers have created Google phone numbers where students are able to reach out if in need.

Mr. Epstein, Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs, presented Draft III of the 2020-21 school budget.

Ms. Ford, Chairperson of the Bond Oversight Advisory Committee, explained the role of the committee and the purpose they serve with the current bond. The committee recently had a meeting where they reviewed the appropriation status report. Ms. Ford explained that the boiler project for LRMS and UHS was separated from the overall bond project, due to the urgency. She read a letter from the committee highlighting a miscommunication between the district and the committee during the bid process for the boilers. In the letter the committee thanked the board for the opportunity to work with the expansion project.

Ms. Jackson, President of PTA Council, announced that the PTA is supporting the upcoming Parent meeting being held on Zoom, she has disbursed the information to other PTA presidents. The PTA dinner has been cancelled due to the temporary closure of the venue. Ms. Jackson stated that the council may hold an event in September for installation of new officers.

COMMENTS BY THE BOARD

Bailey Jeffries stated she misses being in person. She hopes everyone is staying healthy and safe. Senior scholarship is being accepted this upcoming Thursday and Friday. Ms. Jeffries extended a thank you to Ms. Reid for the presentation as well as the teachers. The teachers have been versatile and supportive of students and their situations. They have taken extra steps to ensure the students have the best experience possible. She announced that she will be attending Sophie Davis in the Fall of 2020.

Ms. Eason stated how lovely it is to hear from Bailey as she comes with the positive aspect of things. She thanked everyone for their efforts in helping the children during this time, especially Ms. Reid and Ms. Delvalle. Ms. Eason stated that sometimes crisis reveals the cracks, however, this is not always a bad thing. If there is lack of communication, this is the time to work to improve it. There is so much negative

going on but we can find the positive by learning from what's going on around us. She wishes everyone well who may have been affected or lost loved ones.

Ms. Blanco-Harvey congratulated Bailey on her commitment to Sophie Davis. She sees our administrators and educators working hard every day. She misses the physicality of life and urged everyone to please check on each other, she hopes everyone stays well and safe. We have great educators and administrators. Ms. Blanco-Harvey extended a thank you to the district clerk for making sure the meetings continue to run smoothly

Mr. Brown thanked everyone for tuning into the meeting. He apologized on behalf of the district and the board for the miscommunication to the BOAC and the recent issues with the boiler bid. We need to do our due diligence in staying as transparent as possible. He thanked the educators, administrators and central administration for all they're doing during this time, teachers are doing their best. He reflected on the efforts that he has seen with his sons' teacher connecting the children via Zoom meetings to help keep them social.

Mr. Georges apologized for his speech that has been recently impacted due to illness. He congratulated Ms. Jeffries on her accomplishments. He mentioned his concerns with delays at SED. He wants to reiterate that the budget needs fixing. As we are going through this crisis things cannot be business as usual, we need to adjust ourselves to the times.

Ms. Desire thanked everyone who has stayed on the meeting and their commitment to our community. She extended a thank you to Central Administration for their presentation at this month's GUACC meeting for addressing varying concerns. She recognized the educators who were in attendance at the meeting and for their continued dedication regardless of it not being an ideal time period as well as being sensitive to the unique scenarios students may be facing with their families. We have to make sure we are better neighbors than ever before. We need to be considerate and have empathy for our neighbors. Making sure we are checking on each other. Thank you to the team who handles the social media for getting out information to the community. We need to make sure cracks are attended to in a collaborative manner so that we fix the root causes of the cracks. She made note that even during these times, our scholars are still receiving their accolades such as some of the Boys Varsity Basketball players. Our scholars are still doing great things and being recognized even in difficult situations

SUBMITTED COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

Request to freeze hiring, raises and purchasing of security vehicles, what contracts are up in the 2020-21 school year?, concerns on the dissemination of information regarding the budget, concerns about COVID-19 updates, how much do we anticipate saving this year from schools being closed?, What is the status of the Teachers contract?, what plan of action will the district take to acclimate students back into school after such a long break, are we budgeting for additional educational needs for student who may not have maintained academic success during the school closure?, will there be summer programming for academics?, is there an update on the forensic audit?, in the past we have endeavored to exclude cutting any academic programs. Considering the current crisis, might you reverse that policy and/or cut some of less popular teams?, Are we taking into consideration the down turn in the stock market & will additional monies will have to be added to the teacher retirement system for the upcoming budget?, what was the salary of previous transportation specialist?, who conducted interviews for the new transportation supervisor?, was there a posting for the transportation supervisor position and is it civil service?

BUSINESS

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, motion was made by Mr. Georges, seconded by Ms. Blanco-Harvey and approved unanimously, WHEREIN IT WAS:

RESOLVED that approval was granted for the following:

Approval of MOAs for Custodial and Security Units

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Ms. Eason and carried with the following vote: 3 AYE 2 NAY- Mr. Georges & Ms. Blanco-Harvey, WHEREIN IT WAS:

RESOLVED that approval was granted for the following:

Approval of Bid Award for Boilers for LRMS & UHS

PERSONNEL

Professional Development - all Nassau/Western Suffolk BOCES seminars/PD are at no cost to District

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, motion was made by Ms. Eason, seconded by Ms. Blanco-Harvey and approved unanimously, WHEREIN IT WAS:

RESOLVED that approval was granted for the following:

Elaine Debono to attend Managing Instructional Time while Children are in their Homes on April 27, 2020 via Online Platform. No cost to attend

Mary Anne Shapiro to attend Autism Spectrum Disorder: Addressing Needs, Supporting Outcomes, Developing Skills on May 8, 2020 via online platform. No cost to attend.

Sharyn A Wanderman to attend Aligning Curriculum to the NYSSLS for Grades K12 Teachers Part 1& 2 on May 14, 2020 and May 19, 2020 via online platform. No cost to attend.

Paul Weydig to attend Transfinder University on June 5-6, 2020. Cost to the district \$1,750.

Faculty Personnel

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, motion was made by Ms. Blanco-Harvey, seconded by Ms. Eason and approved unanimously, WHEREIN IT WAS:

RESOLVED that approval was granted for the following:

Resignation of Saragine Francois, a UHS World Language Teacher effective August 31, 2020.

Resignation of Tammy Manor, a GAS Library Media Specialist effective August 31, 2020.

Acceptance of the rescinded request for FMLA from Carolan Khottavong, an English Language Arts Teacher at Uniondale High School, originally effective April 29, 2020.

Acceptance to rescind the request for FMLA from Jamie Carrao, a THMS Living Environments Teacher, originally effective February 11, 2020.

Board of Education Action

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, motion was made by Mr. Georges, seconded by Mr. Brown and approved unanimously, WHEREIN IT WAS:

RESOLVED that approval was granted for the following:

Nassau BOCES Administrative Operations Budget Vote for 2020-21 school year and election of the following candidates: Deborah Coates, Michael Hatten, and Douglas Pascarella.

A Motion to adjourn public session was made at 10:39 PM by Ms. Blanco-Harvey, seconded by Mr. Georges and approved unanimously.

Olena Nicks, District Clerk