

MOUNT PLEASANT COTTAGE SCHOOL, UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLEASANTVILLE, NEW YORK 10570

DRAFT

July 11, 2016

The Annual Reorganization Meeting of the Board of Education of the Mount Pleasant Cottage School Union Free School District was called to order at 7:37 P.M. by Mr. James Gaudette, Superintendent.

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Golden, Mrs. Mann, Mr. Carter, Mrs. Irwin,
Mr. Gelfman, Mrs. Spieler, Mrs. Stein

Absent: Mrs. Levene

Also
Present: Mr. Gaudette, Mr. Beovich, Ms. Leamon, Ms. Baron,
Ms. Lee, Ms. Sanchirico, Ms. Calidonna, Mr. Zbikowski

Re-Appointment
Terms of Office of
Board of Education
Members:

- ◆ Mrs. Stein moved that the Board of Education of the Mount Pleasant Cottage School Union Free School District re-elects Mrs. Rita Golden, Mrs. Barbara Mann, and Mrs. Hope Levene for three (3) year terms, effective 7/1/16 through 6/30/19. (Oath of Office to be taken).

Seconded: Mrs. Irwin

Approved
Vote: 7-0

Election
of Board
Officers:

- ◆ Mr. Gelfman moved that Mrs. Rita Golden be nominated as President of the Board of Education. (Oath of Office to be taken).

Seconded: Mrs. Irwin

Approved
Vote: 7-0

- ◆ Mr. Gelfman moved that Mrs. Barbara Mann be nominated as Vice-President of the Board of Education. (Oath of Office to be taken).

Seconded: Mrs. Spieler

Approved
Vote: 7-0

Appointment
of District
Officers:

Mrs. Irwin moved that

- ◆ the Board of Education re-appoints Marcella Freimark to the position of District Clerk, effective 7/1/16 through 8/30/2016. (Oath of Office to be taken).
- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Sandra Shymonowicz to the position of Treasurer, effective 7/1/2016 through 6/30/2017. (Oath of Office to be taken).

- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Andrea Aitken to the position of Claims Auditor effective 7/1/16 through 6/30/17 at a rate of \$42.86 per hour. (Oath of Office to be taken at a later date).

Seconded: Mrs. Mann

Approved

Vote: 7-0

Other Appointments:

Mr. Gelfman moved that

- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Mr. Stephen Beovich, Director of Operations as Certifier of Payroll (alternate: Superintendent of Schools) effective 7/1/16-6/30/17.
- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Mr. James Gaudette as Dignity Act Coordinator, Section 504, Title II, Title VI, Title VII, and Title IX Compliance Officer, (alternate: Director of Operations) effective 7/1/2016 through 6/30/2017.
- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Ms. Monica Baron as Title IX Officer effective 7/1/2016 through 6/30/2017.
- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Mr. Stephen Beovich, Director of Operations as Records Management Officer, effective 7/1/16-6/30/17.
- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Mr. James Gaudette, Superintendent to approve Special Aid Applications, effective 7/1/2016 through 6/30/2017.
- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Mr. James Gaudette, Superintendent, to approve Budget Transfers subject to final approval by Board of Education, effective 7/1/2016 through 6/30/2017.

Seconded: Mrs. Mann

Approved

Vote: 7-0

Other Business:

Mrs. Stein moved that

- ◆ the Board of Education authorizes the law firm of Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert LLP, 21 Van Wagner Road, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603, to serve as legal counsel to render legal services at the hourly rate of \$200.00 pursuant to the provisions of an engagement letter dated June 1, 2016 as presented to the Board for the 2016-2017 school year.
- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Mrs. Hope W. Levene, Mrs. Andrea A. Stein, Mr. Marc Carter and Mrs. Barbara B. Mann as members of the CSE Subcommittee effective 7/1/16-6/30/17.
- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Mr. Peter Gelfman, Mrs. Rita Golden, Mrs. Jacqueline Irwin and Mrs. Jill Spieler as members of the Finance Subcommittee effective 7/1/16-6/30/17.
- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Mr. Peter Gelfman, Mrs. Rita Golden, Mrs. Jacqueline Irwin and Mrs. Jill Spieler as members of the Audit Subcommittee effective 7/1/16-6/30/17.

Seconded: Mr. Gelfman

Approved
Vote: 7-0

Designations:

Mrs. Irwin moved that

- ◆ the Sterling National Bank Pleasantville, New York, be designated as depositories for District funds and the Treasurer is designated as the single signer up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). Above ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) requires two original signatures.

Authorized co-signers are, Mr. Stephen Beovich, Director of Operations, President of the Board of Education, Vice-President of the Board of Education and Mr. James Gaudette, Superintendent. Further, the use of a check signature machine with the Treasurer's signature be approved.

- ◆ the Sterling National Bank be designated as a depository for the District's extra curricular funds.
- ◆ THE JOURNAL NEWS, Northern Westchester Edition, be designated as the official newspaper of this District, effective 7/1/16-6/30/17.

Seconded: Mr. Gelfman

Approved
Vote: 7-0

Authorizations:

Mrs. Mann moved that

- ◆ a petty cash fund in the amount of two hundred (\$200.00) be continued in the District Office. Mr. Stephen Beovich, Director of Operations is the person responsible 7/1/16-6/30/17.
- ◆ Mr. James Gaudette, Superintendent, is authorized to approve expenses for out-of-district travel assignments of school personnel and to travel on official business for the School District.
- ◆ the Board President is authorized to approve expenses for out-of-district travel for official business for Mr. James Gaudette, Superintendent and in the absence of the President, the Vice-President will authorize expenses.
- ◆ Mr. James Gaudette, Superintendent, is authorized to approve the attendance of staff to conferences within the budget.
- ◆ Mr. Stephen Beovich, Director of Operations shall be:
 1. appointed School Purchasing Agent with purchasing authority within legal limits;
 2. authorized to enter into cooperative bidding agreements with other school districts;
 3. authorized to submit bid notices to newspapers;
 4. authorized to open bids (alternatives: Superintendent of Schools, or the Business Office Account Clerk);
 5. authorized to invest funds at his discretion as permitted by law and approved by the Board of Education;

6. authorized to issue payments for contractual obligations and recurring expenditures;
7. authorized to approve the non-school use of school facilities subject to guidelines established by the Board of Education;
8. authorized to issue Revenue Anticipation Notes to meet the District's obligations until tuition money is received, the total not to exceed the amount as established by the Board of Education in separate resolution.

Seconded: Mr. Carter

Approved
Vote: 7-0

Other Items:

Mrs. Irwin moved that

- ◆ the Director of Operations bond in the amount of \$250,000 be approved as to form and sufficiency. Also, that the Treasurer and Claims Auditor bond in the amount of \$250,000 be approved as to form and sufficiency.
- ◆ the current IRS reimbursement mileage rate is adopted for approved school use of non-school automobiles for the 2016/2017 school year.
- ◆ the following be approved as members of the Mount Pleasant Cottage School Union Free School District's Committee on Special Education, effective July 1, 2016, until the Reorganization Meeting in 2017:

Director of Student Services
Principals
Sub CSE Chairpersons – Student's assigned Counselor
Psychologist
Special Education Teacher of Student
Social Worker of Student
Parent of Student.

Seconded: Mrs. Mann

Approved
Vote: 7-0

Proposed Executive Session:

Mrs. Stein moved that the Board of Education adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the employment history of particular persons at 7:42 p.m.

Seconded: Mr. Carter

Approved
Vote: 7-0

Reconvene to Public Session:

Mr. Carter moved that the Board of Education reconvene to Public Session at 9:07 p.m.

Seconded: Mr. Gelfman

Approved
Vote: 7-0

Correspondence:

Mr. Gaudette shared with the board members:

- ◆ Copy of Andrea Aitken's Claim Audit for 5/2/16-5/31/16
- ◆ Copy of Edenwald End of Year Ceremony Brochure

Approval of
Minutes:

- ◆ Mrs. Stein moved that the minutes of the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting of June 13, 2016 be accepted as presented.

Seconded: Mr. Gelfman

Approved

Vote: 7-0

Superintendent's
Report:

- ◆ Mr. Gaudette discussed

2016 School Outcomes
2016-2017 District Wide Safety Plan
2016-2017 Code of Conduct

Mrs. Mann moved

- ◆ that NYSSBA support legislation to ensure that:

Special Act School Districts are treated equally to all public school districts;
Special Act Schools District tuition rates are based on public expenditures and reflect current year costs."

Rationale:

Special Act Public School Districts (SASD's) are public school districts created by special action of the state legislature for the purpose of providing education and related services to students with disabilities-physical, emotional and/or cognitive. The ten Special Act Districts in NYS serve some of the neediest students in our state, many of whom are placed in these schools as the last option available in the continuum of services. The students also include those at Mt. Pleasant Blythedale UFSD who are recovering from life-threatening illnesses or surgeries.

This current system is unsustainable. Over the past few years, 10 SASD's have been forced to close (half of the original number), leaving fewer and fewer viable options for New York State's neediest students.

Despite being public school districts, the methodology to calculate SASD tuition rates is the same as that used for non-public schools. Yet, unlike private schools, SASD's have additional public school expenses in order to: comply with all federal and state regulations; meet all mandates; adhere to NYS curriculum standards, assessments and graduation requirements; make NYS ERS and TRS contributions; and hire NYS certified faculty. At the same time, SASD's have been closed out of most NYS aid categories, and cannot access many of the funding sources available to public school districts (such as Medicaid funding, textbook and library aid, building aid, computer software, technology and Special Services, *etc.*).

It is also imperative that the authority of governance for SASD's, like all local school districts, remain with the local school board. Special Act school districts consistently must be treated the same as all other NY public school districts, and not as residential treatment centers.

All SASD tuition rates should be based on public education tuition expenses and reflect current year costs. Currently, the tuition formula is based on costs from two years ago, and thus does not reflect current costs, staffing requirements, and mandates. The current system is chaotic, unpredictable and punitive to children. These students are high risk and underserved, yet, given the tuition formula. it is impossible to provide the minimally required academic programs and services for a sound basic education.

Without adequate funding to support these students on the path to high school graduation, we risk them becoming unproductive citizens who will burden our public welfare and criminal justice systems for decades. It is imperative that Special Act School Districts be adequately funded now, or we will all face a higher cost to society in the future.

Seconded: Mrs. Irwin

Approved

Vote: 7-0

Business Matters:

Mrs. Mann moved that

◆ the Treasurer's Report-General Fund Checking, Trust and Agency Account and Federal Fund Checking Account for the period May 1, 2016 through May 31, 2016 be accepted.

◆ the check runs for May 1, 2016 through May 31, 2016 be accepted as recommended by the subcommittee from:

May - 50615 - 50691 - \$524,257.69.

◆ the Board of Education approves the following contracts between the Mount Pleasant Cottage School Union Free School District and:

1. Mount Vernon City School District effective 7/1/16-6/30/17
2. Arrow Black Top effective 6/21/16, \$6,580.00
3. Camille Ritchie, Occupational Therapy Services 7/1/16-6/30/17
4. Stephanie Cappello, Occupational Therapy Services 7/1/16-6/30/17
5. St. James Tutoring effective 7/1/16-6/30/17
6. EBS effective 7/11/16-8/19/16
7. Andrea Aitken, Internal Claims Auditor effective 7/1/16-6/30/17
8. Marcella Freimark effective 9/1/16-6/30/17.

Seconded: Mrs. Stein

Approved

Vote: 7-0

◆ Student Enrollment for the month of June was 304.5.

Personnel Matters:

◆ Mrs. Mann moved that upon the recommendation of Mr. James Gaudette, the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Monica Baron, a School Principal, it having been shown that Ms. Baron holds a valid New York State Permanent School District Administrator Certificate as a School District Administrator, is hereby granted and appointed to tenure as a School Principal in the Mount Pleasant Cottage School, Union Free School District, effective July 12, 2016.

Seconded: Mr. Gelfman

Approved

Vote: 7-0

Mrs. Irwin moved that

- ◆ the Board of Education approves an additional 1.5% increase for Mr. James Gaudette, Superintendent based upon his performance evaluation effective 7/1/16.
- ◆ the Board of Education appoints the following current/new personnel for the 2016-2017 Summer School Program:

Name	Position	Salary	Effective Date
1. Matt Danko	Science Teacher	\$36.88 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
2. Kelley Kurrelmeyer	Social Studies Teacher	\$35.17 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
3. Shoshanah Harvey	Guidance Counselor	\$35.17 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
4. Tara Peters	Art Teacher	\$35.17 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
5. Sue Finegold	Special Ed. Teacher	\$38.60 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
6. Loretta Horne	School Psychologist	\$35.17 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
7. Christopher Meadows	Physical Education Teacher	\$36.88 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
8. Maria Alvarado	Health Teacher	\$36.88 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
9. Vincent Accardi	Math Teacher	\$35.17 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
10. LeMont Lee	School Psychologist	\$35.17 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
11. Aida Fernandez	Teacher	\$36.88 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
12. Robin Lewitas	School Psychologist	\$35.17 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16
13. Corrine White	Teacher	\$36.88 per hour	7/11/16-8/19/16.

- ◆ the Board of Education appoints Mr. David Rader as the Risk Management Coordinator for Hazardous Materials effective 7/1/16-6/30/17.
- ◆ the Board of Education accepts an additional year leave of absence for Thomas Zbikowski, Social Studies Teacher and

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board hereby appoints Thomas Zbikowski to a four-year probationary term as a Curriculum Coordinator, commencing on July 1, 2016 and terminating on June 30, 2020 in the tenure area of School District Leader. In order to be eligible for appointment to tenure, said employee must receive at least three APPR ratings of effective or highly effective during the four year probationary term and may not receive an ineffective rating in the final year of probation.

- ◆ the Board of Education of the Mount Pleasant Cottage Union Free School District hereby establishes the following as standard work days for appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based upon the time keeping system maintained in the District Office.

Title	Name	Social Security Number (Last 4 Digits)	Registration Number	Standard Work Day (Hrs/Day)	Term Begins/Ends	Participates In Employer's Time Keeping System (Yes/No)	Days/Month (Based on record of Activities)
APPOINTED OFFICIALS							
District Clerk	Marcella Freimark	XXXX		7	07/01/16-08/30/16	Yes	N/A.
District Treasurer	Sandra Shymonowicz	XXXX		7	07/01/16-06/30/17	Yes	N/A.

- ◆ the Board of Education approves the following salary adjustments:

Name	Position	Salary	Effective Date
1. Danielle Lunt	Science Teacher	From: MA15/1 \$62,138 To: MA30/2 \$70,168	9/1/16
2. Thomas Zbikowski	Curriculum Coordinator	From: \$104,000.00 To: \$112,000.00	7/1/16.

- ◆ the Board of Education accepts the following resignations:

Name	Position	Effective Date
1. Sean Kelly	Social Studies Teacher	6/30/16
2. Yahaira Pacheco	Teacher Aide	6/17/16.”

- ◆ the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Victor Borrás, Custodial Worker/Bus Driver for the purpose of retiring into the New York State Employees' Retirement System effective July 30, 2016.
- ◆ the Board of Education terminates Neva Campbell, Jr. Accountant close of business July 18, 2016.
- ◆ the Board of Education approves the termination of employee #194's health benefits as of September 1, 2016 if he/she is not up to date with their retirement health insurance contribution payments through August 31, 2016.

Seconded: Mrs. Stein

Approved
Vote: 7-0

Committee on
Special Education:

- ◆ Mr. Carter moved that the recommendations of the Mount Pleasant Cottage School Union Free School District's Committee on Special Education be approved as recommended by the subcommittee.

Seconded: Mrs. Stein

Approved
Vote: 7-0

Public Comment:

The following audience members addressed the Board:

Christine Leamon
Gina Sanchirico
Cyndi Calidonna
Steve Beovich

Meeting Notification:

The next Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, September 19, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. in the library.

Adjournment:

- ◆ Mr. Gelfman moved that the Board of Education adjourn the Annual Reorganization meeting at 9:19 P.M.

Seconded: Mr. Carter

Approved
Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted,

Marcella Freimark
District Clerk