

Minutes of School Board Meeting – February 22, 2010

Board Room – Administration Building – Mattlin Middle School

Present: Mrs. Weinstein, Mr. Bettan, Mrs. Lieberman, Mrs. Rothman, Mrs. Bernstein, Mr. Cepeda, Mrs. Pierno

Also Present: Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Jonas, Mr. Ruf, Ms. Aloe

Acting District Clerk

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Rothman, that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Arthur Jonas Acting District Clerk.

Executive Session

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mr. Bettan, that the Board of Education recess to Executive Session for the purpose of personnel matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

There were approximately 30 district residents and staff members present.

Mrs. Weinstein called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. and welcomed everyone to this evening's Board of Education meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mrs. Weinstein began the meeting with a brief statement. “It is with tremendous sadness that we announce the passing of Sandi Vanderpool. Sandi taught math and health for the last 20 years at POBJFK High School. Sandi was the heart and soul of POB school spirit. Each of Sandi’s students felt that they had a special relationship with her and they did. She was a teacher, mentor, advisor and friend to her students and colleagues. She spent countless hours before, during and after school with the students. Sandi’s loss will be felt deeply in Plainview Old-Bethpage. We would like to express our condolences to her husband and to her children. The family has requested that donations in Sandi’s honor be made to the American Cancer Society. Thank you Sandi for all you meant to the Plainview Old-Bethpage school community. We will miss you greatly.”

Mr. Dempsey then asked POBJFK HS Principal Jim Murray to tell us about the announcement he made to the students and about the meeting that he had with faculty and students. Mr. Murray explained that today was difficult for everyone, but “we got through it.” His announcement this morning explained that Sandi Vanderpool, a beloved member of the Plainview Old-Bethpage community passed away. Mrs. Vanderpool was a health education teacher and advisor to the senior class, the senior show, SING and SADD Club for many years and had lost her battle to cancer on Tuesday, February 16, 2010. Sandi will be remembered by her students and staff alike. She taught by example and would not want us to be sad. She would want us to do good things, whether it be succeeding in school, doing things to help others, or trying something new. We have challenged our student body to help keep Sandi’s legacy alive by doing just that. Mr. Murray hosted two meetings, a faculty meeting on whether to have a memorial service, scholarship, celebration of life event, etc. and then had a meeting with the students. The students seemed very enthusiastic and exchanged ideas on how to pay tribute to Ms. Vanderpool. Mr. Murray also met with the Vanderpool family and they were very supportive of the ideas shared. Mr. Murray reminded the student body that the guidance team is available at any time should they need them to help with Mrs. Vanderpool’s passing. Mr. Murray then asked for a moment of silence for Mrs. Vanderpool.

Ms. Bernstein thanked Jim Murray on behalf of the board for his sensitivity at this time and thanked him for representing the district and for speaking so beautifully at Sandi’s funeral.

Report from POBJFK High School Student Government

██████████, our high school representative, updated the Board of Education of events at the High School. Battle Week has officially begun and tomorrow is Treasure Hunt. Wednesday is Battle of the Brains, Thursday is Scavenger Hunt, Friday is the actual Battle which should be a lot of fun. Tri-M honor society inductions are Thursday at 7:30 p.m. On behalf of the student body ██████ thanked the community and board members for showing their love and support for each other and for honoring Sandi. To celebrate Mrs. Vanderpool’s life, students and faculty wore pink to show comfort and unity as a community in tribute to her.

Board of Education Announcements

Evy Rothman announced that she met with Adam Weinstock who monitors, and is head of WPOB, radio station, and congratulated the station on celebrating 38 years of broadcasting. Mr. Weinstock provided her with information which she wanted to pass on. WPOB graduates are interning at MTV, Party 95 and News Radio. They are part of their stations in universities as sports directors, publicity people, program directors and music directors. WPOB college students are also running programs at U Penn, Pittsburgh, Oneonta, Quinnipiac and Hofstra. Mrs. Rothman expressed congratulations to all of the students and faculty for participating. Also, there was an article in the *On Board* newspaper which reports that State Auditors examined 733 school districts and BOCES in New York State. Controller DiNapoli found excellence in 39 districts – only 5% - and Mrs. Rothman was proud to report that Plainview Old-Bethpage was one of them! Thanks to Mr. Ruf and his entire team, as well as all of central administration. They conduct business the way it should be conducted, and thank him on behalf of everyone.

Superintendent's Announcements

Mr. Dempsey wanted to make two announcements. One relates to the calendar for next year which will be presented at the March 8th Board Meeting. Mr. Dempsey is sending out a mildly revised calendar reflecting changes to the first and second day of the year. We will try to combine the 408 meetings with our Superintendent's Conference Day so that a full day of instruction will be held on Wednesday September 8th. Rosh Hashanah will be that Thursday and Friday, so unfortunately it will only be a one day educational week. The rest of the calendar will remain as originally proposed and Board approval will be requested on March 8th. This year we used two snow days. May 27th and May 28th will now be school days. Mr. Dempsey will prepare an announcement for the website and will ask principals to send this information home to remind parents of this. As of right now, Tuesday, April 6th, remains as the only other potential snow day. Next, one of our nearby districts suffered a tremendous loss during the vacation. West Babylon school was burned to the ground as a result of a boiler accident. Gratefully, no one was hurt. They have been relocated to a private setting. They are presently without materials, supplies and other things. We reached out to the school to see if we could help lend them a hand or support them in some way. We are looking to see what they need and will try to provide some support once we see what the legal requirements might be.

Discussion & Reports

Regarding the Wellness Policy, Mr. Dempsey stated that he wanted to review what brought us to this point before he turns the discussion over to Mr. Jonas. Mr. Dempsey advised that the present Policy does not limit the distribution of less than healthy food. One of the things that we were looking to do in drafting the current policy is to look at whether appropriate restrictions can be put out. Mr. Dempsey sees this in three ways: (1) what is distributed through the district, via vending machines or cafeteria distributions, (2) what is initiated in the schools, either by teachers or principals and (3) what parents choose to do. We spoke about not interfering in what a parent provides to their child for their lunch, etc.

Mr. Jonas stated that he wants to extend thanks to various groups who responded to the first draft of the Wellness Policy, including the PTA, PCT, Nutrition Committee and various individuals. Mr. Jonas wanted to take their input into account and incorporate the input into a second draft. There are issues that need direction from the BOE. Distribution of healthful snacks, as defined in the Policy “during the school day” but we have not defined what the “school day” is. This is an area that needs direction. Is it defined as the end of the school day, the end of classes, 5 o’clock in the afternoon? Whatever the board may choose. Next, we have a strict policy in terms of putting strict prohibitions on things. We’ve recognize that will be difficult to not only to police, but difficult to enable food services and others to be able to participate in that. For example, use of artificial sweeteners, food coloring, etc., so we’ve added language to the second draft indicating that these items will be kept to a minimum to the extent possible. I am looking for direction from the BOE with regard to that particular issue and to recirculate the second draft to the community so that people can see where the Wellness Policy stands at this time.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that she feels the school day starts when the first bus arrives and ends when last bus leaves. There are club activities and after school activities. The difference to me is clear. But we should look at what our calendar says. What is the school day and what are the school hours?

Mr. Dempsey stated that at the end of the school day, the candy, soda and donuts would come out. It is a consistency question that is raised.

Mr. Jonas stated that the Wellness Policy should reflect the will of the community and BOE. We have to make a decision as to the purpose of the Policy. If it’s going to be at say 2:30 in the afternoon, do we then say OK, now you can have these items? That is one extreme. The other extreme is fund raising. There is nothing in the Policy that says you can’t sell food, but what kind of food can you sell? There are a number of things that wouldn’t be allowed. For example, selling pretzels. There is nothing that prohibits that. However at the high school, after a certain time, do you want to start selling donuts? Is that the Policy that we want?

Mrs. Lieberman indicated that she was not necessarily suggesting that. She feels there is a sensibility that must be encouraged. An after school program that brings in pizza or donuts what do we do about that? The Policy should end when the calendar says so. Say there is a nightly play, do we need to police that too? What if parents bring something to an event. These would be adults making these choices. It is not our preference to have cake, candy, etc. brought into the school but it is under our control as to what happens during the school day.

Mr. Jonas indicated that people feel that it is not the role of the schools to be the “food police” but there are others that feel that we can’t serve such foods due to obesity issues. Nobody is right or wrong, but we need to find a place where everyone is comfortable and what can or cannot be enforced. I agree that part of that goes to education of the kids so that they can make good choices.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that grammar school kids go home once school is over, the high school kids however may be different. Talking about healthy choices is an avenue, but how can we

determine what time the school day ends? She likes that the word “prohibit” was replaced with “to best of our ability.” That is a positive way of going about it. Healthy and wise decisions must be made.

Mr. Jonas indicated that if there were no other comments he would like to circulate the second draft.

Mr. Bettan stated that we are saying that it is OK to sell food, as long as it is not the donuts, candy, etc. It’s not just the time, the goal is to get the “junk” out.

Mr. Jonas indicated that we should have consistent philosophy across the district

Mr. Dempsey stated there are some extreme, moderate and easy restrictions across other districts. Those are choices that different people make. We have seen from the draft that was circulated that a lot of the suggestions have been incorporated from the community and not everybody will be happy with every aspect of this. We think that the second version will force the dialog on this topic. It will indicate “school day”, but at the moment it does not specify a time frame. We will have to look further into this, vote, and then decide upon it.

Angel Cepeda said that the two main issues he has are birthday parties at the elementary school and fund-raising. In terms of the fund-raising, there are alternatives. The problem comes down to enforcement. How do we police this? You want to encourage them to do fund-raising, but you want to curtail some of the items that they are selling. Do you do a blanket “no candy, etc.” based on ingredients?

Mrs. Weinstein indicated that there are some policies that ban candy and soda from the school itself during school day.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that the kids need fund-raisers to help. For birthday party, maybe only one day per month there can be a celebration instead. We can’t have one child only bring in something for themselves and all the others sit around and watch them eat sweets.

Mrs. Bernstein asked is there a consequence? We read in the paper how a student gave a Tylenol to another student. Where is this food policy going? Are we asking kids not to share anything or is there a consequence if they share?

Mr. Dempsey said that in speaking with other districts, it took several years for them to settle into a comfort zone and that practice had made change. The Policy should have education as the primary goal rather than a punitive approach. In version two, that is more reflected.

Mrs. Rothman stated that in reading responses Mr. Rosenfeld brings up a good point regarding enforcement. She also indicated that she went on line and looked at other policies in other districts and that it really comes under monitoring and review. They state that the Wellness Committee will monitor the implementation and evaluate student health and activities. They said that they will establish a plan for measuring the implementation and effectiveness. How can we

measure the success of this Policy? Are we seeing a change in eating habits, in their weight and physical condition?

Mr. Jonas agreed that it is a difficult thing, but we have to look at trends. Habits won't change over night. Right now we are required to look at BMI's and that will help us.

Mrs. Rothman asked what role will the Committee take going forward?

Mrs. Weinstein commented that school is only part of a child's life.

Mrs. Rothman agrees, but any time you implement something you need to measure the success or effectiveness of it.

Mr. Dempsey stated that he spoke with the Health Advisory Committee regarding additional education and if they could possibly provide outside resources.

Mr. Jonas indicated that it is not just about food, but about physical activity too. We have to develop physical activities to help with healthy lifestyles. Mr. Jonas also wanted to thank Jeri Miller who chairs the Health Advisory Committee and other people who are invested in this. It makes sense for our district for it to be implemented appropriately.

Mrs. Weinstein asked for a consensus on the definition of the school day.

Mr. Dempsey said that he wouldn't rush to settle on that answer. To decide on that without knowing what the elements are, would have to be determined.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that we would have to discuss celebrations, such as holidays, etc.?

Mr. Jonas stated that there is a bit to discuss in terms of cultural celebrations and the sort.

Mrs. Lieberman said that many times the kids are running around, getting excess energy out. All children should participate in activities and do something healthy. Nobody is going to get obese eating lunch from school. A lot of kids go home and sit in front of computers for five hours once they are home. We have to get parents to realize that home life takes part in this.

Mr. Jonas indicated that was a point well taken and we've incorporated language for that.

Mr. Dempsey stated that we shared that with the staff and will continue to explore that. There are some timing issues that may prevent that from happening, but we will look into it.

Mr. Jonas said that there are districts that have activities before the school day and we can also look into that aspect.

Mrs. Bernstein thanked everyone for putting such time into this Policy. She indicated that the more we think about and look into this, the better the Policy will be. We all feel that although it needs to be enforceable, we want to teach our children healthy lifestyles and to make better

choices. If they eat healthy from 8 to 3 and they go home and don't change the way they think about food, they are not going to continue to eat healthy. Education should be the main focus.

Mr. Jonas asked for permission to circulate policy. All agreed.

Finance Reports

Mr. Ruf stated that last spring the board looked into refinancing a portion of the district's debt. We were able to go through the process and look into it and there was authorization via resolution for this. Through that process we projected a potential savings of \$600,000. We received another bond rating as a result of a long interview and review of the district's finances. The district was awarded via Standard & Poors the highest bond rating, which is AAA rate. As the process went forward we were able to secure a savings of \$1,200,000 over next 12 years. We anticipate that our positive bond rating will have a positive impact on our future borrowings. When we go out to market for debt service borrowing, we will get better rates than other districts because our rating speaks to our ability to repay the debt.

In addition, several weeks ago, in *Newsday*, there was an article mentioning our district was one of a few in NYS to receive a positive Comptrollers' office report. Everyone has been extremely cooperative. We have done a lot of things with the extra class activities account. We all have a common focus and goal and want to have the utmost trust of our public regarding money.

Mrs. Weinstein thanked Mr. Ruf and his staff for their hard work.

Mr. Cepeda commented that this is meaningful for our district. Not many times can a district say that due to changes made there is a tangible result. The school is saving a good amount of money because we are doing the right thing. We have to thank our business office and the community and staff. The focus has paid dividends for us, so thank you Ryan and thank you Mr. Dempsey.

Mr. Bettan commented that he is on the Audit Committee and it is refreshing to see Ryan and his staff doing so well. Good job!

Public Participation

Jacque Wolfner –has a question regarding the budget. Will the public have a chance to comment at that time?

Mr. Dempsey indicated that public participation is prior to the budget presentation tonight, but you can comment on the budget next week or you can ask whatever you want right now.

Mr. Wolfner wants further explanation on Item 3D – the donation of office furniture – and on 3G regarding the Lease Agreement. Which school is involved and what is involved with the amendment?

Emily Schulman stated that she wasn't at the last BOE meeting so she didn't hear discussion about the summer Special Ed program. She wanted to know how the funds in the budget were being allotted.

Mr. Dempsey stated that we are not planning any changes. The Program is provided to 12 month IEP students. Right now the program is budgeted for, as it was last summer. What we are hoping to achieve by that letter is to convince the legislatures to correct the Governor's mistake in terms of reducing funding to the program. Our aid for that program would go from 80% to under 25%. We feel that is unfair. Our effort is to convince legislatures to support that. Ms. Schulman then asked if the program would still include swimming. Mr. Dempsey said yes. Ms. Schulman then asked about the pre-school, CPSE services, which suggests that parents would have to pay instead of the district. Mrs. Weinstein stated that the shift of cost would be from the County to the school district, not to the parents. Ms. Schulman asked how likely is that to go through? Mr. Dempsey replied that we cannot predict what may or may not happen. We don't get any political read on that, but Speaker Silver has acknowledged the need for some reduction in school aid. In the past Speaker Silver has been an opponent of any reductions. That is likely to happen, but when and the timing, is unknown. They can be and should be opposed.

Joseph Hurtas introduced himself as a parent of a son who is at Mattlin School District. He gave kudos on the program you have put forth. My son has reaped the benefits, as have others in the program. He questioned the change of the staff member in his son's class. Mr. Dempsey indicated that is a personnel matter and can't be discussed in a public forum, but he can meet with him privately, but can't share any personnel matters. Mr. Hurtas asked that as a parent, is he not entitled to know? Things are going along smoothly and this change is out of left field. He is not sure who to turn to. He has made phone calls and has been told that administrative changes can't be explained and he's not sure who to turn to. Mr. Dempsey indicated again that this is a public forum and that if Mr. Hurtas wanted to meet with him personally, it can be addressed at that time.

Routine Business

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Ginger Lieberman seconded by Evy Rothman, that the Board of Education approve the following routine business items:

1. Students

Student Placements

That the Board of Education approve the student placements as recommended by Pupil Personnel Service.

2. Personnel

Professional Staff - Termination

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Reason</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Sandi Vanderpool | Health Teacher POBJFK High School | Deceased | Feb. 16, 2010 |

Professional Staff – Leave of Absence Without Pay

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Reason</u> |
|------------------|---|----------------------------|------------------|
| Laurie Catterson | Elementary Teacher H.B. Mattlin Middle School (up to 12 weeks to be covered under the FMLA) | 2/22/2010 thru 3/8/2010 | Personal Reasons |

Professional Staff – Extension of Leave of Absence Without Pay

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Reason</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> |
|-------------|------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Lisa Abel | Mathematics Teacher POBMS | Child Care | 3/26/2010 thru 6/30/2010 |

Professional Staff – Regular Substitute Position

| <u>Name & Address</u> | <u>Position/Tenure Area</u> | <u>Eff. Date Salary</u> | <u>Certification/ Training</u> | <u>Experience</u> |
|---------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Joseph Ruggiero | Math Teacher Regular Substitute Assign: POBMS (Replacing L. Abel, on Leave of Absence) | 3/26/2010 thru 6/30/2010 Or earlier at the discretion of the BOE Step 3MA *\$66,473 | NYS Professional Certification Math MS – CW Post University BA – CW Post University | 9/09 – Present Per Diem Sub./Reg. Substitute POBCSD 2/09 – 4/09 Long Term Sub. Teacher POBCSD 9/08 – 12/08 Adjunct Professor Suffolk Community College 9/06 – 6/08 Math Teacher Kings Park CSD |

* Salary to be prorated

Personnel Recommendation – Consultant – Math Touch Program

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|
|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|

| | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| Carol Bishko | Consultant 2 hour Training for Elementary Math Specialists | School Year 2009-2010 \$100 per hour |
|--------------|--|---|

Non-Teaching Personnel – Permanent Employee Recommendation

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> |
|----------------|--|--------------------|
| Bonnie McGowan | Senior Typist Clerk PT Pupil Personnel Services | 2/22/2010 |

Compensation Day – Non Teaching – School Year 2009-2010

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Christine Gerrity-Yacuk | Prov. Principal Account Clerk | One Day Compensation for Feb. 11, 2010 – District Snow Day | Ensure completion of Feb. 19, 2010 payroll |
| Jane Wilson | Principal Account Clerk | One Day Compensation for Feb. 11, 2010 – District Snow Day | Ensure completion of Feb. 19, 2010 payroll |

Coaching Recommendations – School Year 2009-2010

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>EFF.</u> | <u>CAT/LEV</u> | <u>Salary</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Peter Pluschau | Head Coach, MS Women’s Tennis | 4-10 | 9 2 | \$3677 | In district teacher |

Personnel Recommendations - Chaperones

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date/Salary</u> | <u>Experience</u> |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Heather Koines | Chaperone | School Year 2009/10 87.94/sess. | I.D. Employee |

Appointment – Per Diem Substitute Teacher

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Salary</u> |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Jennifer M. Kilkenny | Per Diem Substitute Teacher | 2/2010 | \$133.19 |

Appointments – Per Diem Substitute Teacher

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Salary</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Tara Gaudreault * | Per Diem Substitute Teacher | 2/22/2010 | \$133.19 |
| Peter Schojan | Per Diem Substitute Teacher/Return | 2/22/2010 | \$145.56 |

* Pending New York State OSPRA fingerprint clearance

3. Finance

a. Contract –Tutiton 2009/2010

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign a contract for the 2009-2010 school year with Harmony Heights to provide one student with tuition services as listed in the contract.

b. Contract – Health & Welfare Services (Our Lady of Mercy) 2009-2010

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign a contract for the 2009-2010 school year with Syosset Central School District to provide eight students with health and welfare services as listed in the contract.

c. Contract – Health & Welfare Services

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign a contract for the 2009-2010 school year with Garden City U.F.S.D. to provide one student with health and welfare services as listed in the contract.

d. Donation – Plainview-Old Bethpage Middle School

That the Board of Education authorize the acceptance of a donation of office furniture listed on the attached memo to the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District.

e. Disposal of Obsolete Vehicle

That the Board of Education declare obsolete for disposal purposes the following vehicle:

1988 Ford Crown Victoria sedan: VIN #2FABP72F6JX162319

f. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment – Business Office – Central Administration

That the Board of Education declare obsolete for disposal purposes the following printer:

HP Laserjet Printer
 Serial #HP8150N
 Tag #004821

g. Amendment to the Lease Agreement with the Association for Children with Downs Syndrome for The Rental of the Fern Place School

That the Board of Education approve the attached resolution to amend the lease agreement between the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District and the Association for Children with Downs Syndrome, Inc. (ACDS) for rental of the Fern Place School.

h. Budget Reports

- Approval Transfers as of February 22, 2010
- Informational Transfers as of February 22, 2010
- Budget Status Report as of January 31, 2010
- Revenue Status Report as of January 31, 2010

i. Treasurer Reports

- Treasurer’s Report as of December 31, 2009
- Trial Balance as of December 31, 2009
- Cash Flow Projection as of December 31, 2009

j. Warrants

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| General Fund A | \$549,892.99 |
| Trust & Agency | \$1,293,227.31 |
| Federal | \$36,495.67 |
| School Lunch | \$124,459.90 |
| Capital | \$0.00 |
| Child Care | \$0.00 |
| Net Payroll | \$1,760,989.42 |

4. Miscellaneous

Approval of Minutes

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting of February 8, 2010.

Discussion

On Personnel, Page 5, hiring a consultant for the Math Touch Program – Mr. Dempsey explained that it is a RTI related program for the elementary grades that we want to bring in. It is a scientifically acceptable program according to the Federal guidelines and does require staff training. It will be used with special education staff and any student which has math deficits.

Mrs. Bernstein questioned if we were training these specialists?

Mr. Dempsey replied no. It is intended for some Special Ed teachers and math specialists.

Mrs. Weinstein stated that regarding Mr. Wolfner's questions, she would like Mr. Ruf to respond to these items.

Mr. Ruf explained that contact was made with a company in Lynbrook and they agreed to donate some office furniture equipment to our district. Regarding the lease amendment, last February we entered into a five year agreement with ACDS for the Fern Place building. It is specifically for the rent schedule. Originally it stated 2009-2010, typically from July to June, but this lease agreement reflects September to August, so we revised the rent schedule.

New Business

Field Trips

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Bernstein, that the BOE approve the scheduled Field Trips listed in the Field Trips 2009-2010 Memo of January 11, 2010.

Memoranda of Agreement – Custodians/Aides

Resolved upon motion by Evy Rothman, seconded by Gary Bettan that the BOE approve the Memorandum of Agreement dated January 26, 2010, and the Memorandum of Agreement dated January 27, 2010.

Explanation:

Mr. Dempsey explained that there is a two year contractual agreement with the buildings and ground staff, which is for 2010-2011. The salary increase for 2009-2010 year is 2% and for 2010-2011 is 3%.

Call on the Motion: six in favor, one abstention by Ms. Pierno – Motion passed.

Resolved upon motion by Ginger Lieberman, second by Evy Rothman that the BOE approve the Memorandum of Agreement regarding School Aide.

Explanation:

Mr. Dempsey explained the Aide bargaining unit, represented by the same unit, the teamsters, which calls for a 2% salary increase in 2009-2010 and a 3% increase for 2010-2011.

Call on the Motion: six in favor, one abstention by Ms. Pierno – Motion passed.

Mr. Cepeda commented that basically it is the same agreement.

Budget Presentation:

Mr. Dempsey stated during next several weeks we will review all programs in the budget. Mr. Ruf will summarize information. Tonight we are reviewing instructional staffing and Mr. Jonas will give the presentation. This is a program forward budget. We have some enrollment changes, which does not mean there will be the same number of staff in each building. There are no major increases within this budget. In most cases, budget increases are very small, however textbooks and other materials have increased. The board has had the budget since February 12th. Questions have been brought to us. Some we can answer and others we have to meet with principals and budget managers to continue the process. Next Monday, there is another board meeting devoted to budget only. No other agenda will be attached. Mr. Dempsey recommends that we start that meeting at 7:15 p.m. instead of 7:45 p.m. We have to aim toward what the BOE wants to adopt and then present to public. The draft budget calls for 2.93% increase. We want to present the budget the way we think it should be. We are faced with the loss of State Aid, which causes an increased tax levy. We need to talk about that issue throughout the process. We will begin by looking at the heart of the school budget which is the instructional staffing. Mr. Dempsey then asked Mr. Jonas to give his presentation.

Mr. Jonas then gave his presentation which outlined the 2010-2011 Enrollment Projections for the schools within the district, as well as a summary of the proposed staffing. There was a class size comparison included. Mr. Jonas discussed the staffing in the proposed 2010-2011 budget highlighting that due to a slight projected decrease in enrollment, there will be some staffing adjustments. (Presentation attached).

Mr. Ruf then reported on changes on the building budgets. The changes must be reviewed, but we will go in the order which is on the Agenda. First, there is the K Center budget. Overall there is an increase of \$7,553, which includes \$10,183 for the Envisions Program. Then there

are the two equipment codes. There are funds to purchase chairs, tables, storage units, book cases and teachers desks. Additionally, in the K Center budget there is an increase due to the math work mats.

Mr. Bettan asked will this be continuing throughout the budget process?

Mr. Ruf responded yes. The code that some items were moved out of is 2110-481-00-52. There was a slight decrease in this area, but can get into more detail if you want. The next items are the elementary budgets beginning with Old Bethpage. At Old Bethpage, the increase in this budget is \$10,630 overall which is mainly in textbook code. In the equipment code are bulletin boards, book cases, speakers for the computers and this is the first year that cubbies are not in the code. This is due to the fact that this project has been completed. In the text book code there is \$12,766, which includes the workbooks and student lesson packets.

Next is Parkway. The increase is in two areas. Primarily in the textbook code and equipment code, which includes tables, chairs, laminating machine, a flip camera and the 481 code includes workbooks that are in the other schools.

In Pasadena, the budget has an increase of \$6,583. There is a decrease of about \$1,300 in equipment code. In the textbook codes there is \$9,912 for the Envision workbooks and student lesson packets.

In Stratford Road, this has the largest increase. \$15,559, most of which is for the Envisions workbooks and lesson packets in the amount of \$13,046. In the equipment code there are funds for classroom chairs, a camera and file cabinets.

Mrs. Weinstein questions the textbooks and workbooks. Have all of the schools ordered the same math materials? Have all of the schools ordered math and ELA test prep materials?

Mr. Dempsey indicated that part of the Envision series is the same from building to building and that all schools have ordered math and ELA test prep materials.

Mrs. Weinstein noticed that only one elementary school had ordered the books for the science tests.

Mr. Ruf then moved to middle schools beginning with Mattlin. Overall there is an increase of \$22,475 in the budget. We are shifting some things out of Mattlin's budget into the curriculum budget. The ELA review books and social studies review books have been moved and placed because it is a new textbook purchase. Equipment purchases are sewing machines, microwave oven, flex cameras and a 2 year plan in science for replacement of microscopes. There is an increase of \$7,504 for the textbook code, primarily for review books for ELA and social studies. The increase is due to the amount of support for the level libraries for each grade, and to insure that we purchase additional materials that were copied in the past.

Ms. Bettan asked if the ELA materials for the middle school being purchased can be used again next year? Why are we using consumables? He is not questioning whether to buy or not, but why are they in the curriculum department budget and not in each individual's budget?

Mr. Ruf stated that we can certainly review that.

Mr. Ruf then discussed the POB middle school budget. There is a \$23,298 increase. In the equipment code there are funds to purchase equipment for library, also a flex cam, microscopes, disc scanner, some chairs and file cabinets.

The last budget item this evening is for the POBJFK HS. Mr. Ruf acknowledged that the budget had reductions this year. There is AP Biology equipment and models that must be replaced due to their age and some kitchen equipment as well. The Drivers Ed code has \$85,500 in the budget and last year our expense was approximately \$84,000 and we had an offsetting revenue over the \$84,000 so it is a self-funding program. The textbook code at the high school is primarily for the workbooks, the consumables, any replacement books and the like.

Mr. Jonas announced that Mr. Dempsey had to leave the meeting due to a personal matter and he expressed his apologies.

Ms. Weinstein stated that she noticed in text books, we are purchasing AP English review books and English regents review books. Why are we purchasing these books? We have many AP and regents courses and we do not purchase the review books for these courses. It is a slippery slope.

Mr. Jonas stated that we will review that again tomorrow when we meet with principals.

Mrs. Weinstein indicated that she is concerned that the review book is the curriculum.

Mr. Jonas said that there is limited access to AP exams and that it does become an important part of curriculum and said that we have to look at that.

Mr. Bettan stated that we need to be "greener." Copy paper adds up and we can make a better effort to make less copies, and eventually go paperless. We have to be mindful of the environment and it sets a good example for everyone.

Mr. Jonas indicated that he will get on the parent portal so we can print less and use less paper.

Mr. Bettan asked how many parents are registered?

Mr. Jonas said that he was a bit disappointed because there were only 150 parents who were actually on and we have about 1,600 families. He noted that Jim sent out letters to all parents who may be delayed in registering.

Mrs. Bernstein had a question regarding with code #2810-449-35 – Speakers code in high school, the pre-prom meeting and other speakers. Are we thinking of a different way of delivering these very important messages that we have each year with a lower cost?

Mr. Ruf said that we asked the same questions. It was explained that the Speakers we had recently were free and they felt that they could continue that.

Mrs. Bernstein stated that we are not looking to spend more money, but just wanted important messages. Also, there was a health speaker code and with the emphasis on wellness and on cyber-bullying, she wanted to make sure we are not short changing that code in terms of Speakers. But noted that if we could get Speakers free of charge, it would be wonderful, and thanked Mr. Ruf for his report.

Executive Session:

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Angel Cepeda, seconded by Evy Rothman that the Board of Education recess to Executive Session for the purpose of personnel matters.

The meeting was recessed at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne D. Walti
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

The meeting was reconvened at 10:15 p.m.

Acting District Clerk

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Rothman, that the Board of Education appoint Arthur Jonas Acting District Clerk.

Adjournment

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Rothman, that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

Minutes of School Board Meeting – February 8, 2010

Board Room – Administration Building – Mattlin Middle School

Present: Mrs. Weinstein, Mr. Bettan, Mrs. Lieberman, Mrs. Rothman, Mrs. Bernstein, Mr. Cepeda, Mrs. Pierno

Also Present: Mr. Dempsey, Ms. Gierasch, Mr. Ruf, Ms. Aloe, Mr. Christopher Guercio, Mr. Gregory Guercio

Acting District Clerk

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Debbie Bernstein, seconded by Gary Bettan that the Board of Education appoint Mrs. Yvonne D. Walti, Acting District Clerk for the next four meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Yvonne D. Walti
Acting District Clerk

Acting District Clerk – Executive Session

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Debbie Bernstein and seconded by Gary Bettan that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Ryan Ruf, Acting Clerk.

Executive Session

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Gary Bettan and seconded by Evy Rothman that the Board of Education recess to Executive Session for the purpose of personnel matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Ruf
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

There were approximately 20 district residents and staff members present.

Mrs. Weinstein called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to this evening's Board of Education meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mrs. Weinstein announced that we will be going out of order for a moment this evening for the approval of the temporary District Clerk.

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Debbie Bernstein, seconded by Gary Bettan to approve Yvonne D. Walti as Acting District Clerk for the next four meetings.

Mr. Dempsey announced that Yvonne Walti has just been appointed to serve as the District Clerk for the next four Board Meetings starting tonight, February 8, 2010, then February 22, 2010, March 1, 2010 and March 8, 2010. These board meetings will be recorded, as Mrs. Walti is not familiar with the format of our meetings, they will then be transcribed for publication. Mr. Dempsey stated that he has to swear Mrs. Walti in and asked her to step forward for the swearing in.

“I, Yvonne Walti, do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New York, that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Acting District Clerk according to the best of my ability.”

Report from POBJFK High School Student Government

██████████, our high school representative, updated the Board of Education of events at the High School. The 20th Anniversary of SING was a great hit, the community event was sold out and the performances were spectacular. Personal note from the seniors - they would like to give thanks to Ms. Weinstein for judging – great job and we won! ██████████ updated everyone on the upcoming events of the school. On February 9th the orchestra is performing in the exchange concert at Albert High School and February 11th is a techno night; the art club is setting up the event regarding new technology. The band concert is also on February 11th.

Board of Education Announcements

Ms. Weinstein announced that she and Ms. Pierno attended the POB Music Man production. Many children were involved in the production and were very talented. It was a pleasure to see so many senior citizens attending and expressed their enjoyment of the show. Thanks to the advisors and the children for all of their hard work. Mrs. Weinstein also mentioned that she attended the SING production at the High School and she noted “I was honored to be a SING judge and everyone did a wonderful job!”

Mr. Cepeda told of his trip to Washington to be an advocate to our Federal leaders on behalf of public education. He met with U.S. Senators and Congressmen while there. Much of the funding will be geared towards competitive grants. There are also a number of funding initiatives planned. There are challenges, as districts are in a race to get to that money. It is also important that districts pursue this because it is on behalf of the community. Also mentioned the Jobs for Main Street initiative, which is a bill being placed before the Congress and the Senate. There is not a lot of agreement at this time. It is important that we stay informed as citizens, and as a community and that we voice our opinions. They hear our concerns, but we must send them

our thoughts and what our issues are either via email or by letter. I thought it was very important that we were there. I enjoyed the POB Middle School performance of Music Man. Lastly, right now they are going to keep the funding for Title 1 as needed, but for any new money, they want to see what initiatives that our district can do to make the best of this.

Superintendent's Announcements

Mr. Dempsey stated that although not on tonight's agenda, he wanted to mention some of the challenges of the 2010-2011 school calendar. The first occurs during the week of Labor Day. Rosh Hashanah is on Thursday and Friday, immediately after Labor Day, so there will be no school for those two days. It would be his recommendation that we add the 408 meetings Special Ed requirements to the Tuesday afternoon and reconfigure the Superintendent's Conference Day so that would allow one full day of instruction on September 8th which is that Wednesday. One half day of instruction that week would be more disruptive than a full day of instruction. We will be circulating a calendar for final approval. An additional challenge is – April 26th (Tuesday) is a day of Passover and comparing our districts with others, many have chosen that day off as well, so we don't have a resolution for that issue at this time. We will be taking a look at that and it will be drafted and circulated to all parties. The board will then get a chance to vote on that. If there are any questions or thoughts regarding this, we will be looking for any questions ahead of time or input or advice.

Discussion & Reports

Regarding the Wellness Policy, Mr. Dempsey stated that we are not having board discussion at this time, but asked Mr. Ruf for feedback from the Nutrition Committee. Mr. Jonas is not in this week, so Mr. Dempsey asked that everything be sent to him and he will share it with the BOE in preparation for the February 22nd discussion.

Mr. Ruf wanted to share information from the Committee. The Nutrition Committee gathered to review the Wellness Policy and there are four recommended changes:

First, on Page 2, No. 12 of the proposed policy currently reads "Distribution of candy, soda, caffeinated beverages and artificial sweeteners is not permitted in school settings." The Nutrition Committee would like to change the wording to read "Distribution of candy and soda is not permitted in school settings. Distribution of caffeinated beverages and artificial sweeteners will be kept to a minimum." The reason for the change would be that there are some caffeinated beverages served, such as coffee, which are served in the morning and there are students who purchase coffee, as well as those who bring coffee in. Also, iced tea that we do serve does contain caffeine as well, but it is kept to a minimum. We don't serve soda or candy. There are some foods that are part of our food service program that do contain some artificial sweeteners, although a minimal amount.

The second change – Page 2, No. 13 – "Foods containing high fructose corn syrup, trans-fatty acids and artificial color shall not be permitted for general distribution in the school setting." We

recommend that it be changed to read “Foods containing trans-fatty acid shall not be permitted for general distribution in the school setting. Foods containing high fructose corn syrup or artificial colors will be kept to a minimum for general distribution.” Right now the food service program does not serve foods that have trans-fatty acid, so we are already in compliance with this portion of the recommendation. The district does offer some foods with high fructose corn syrup. Some of the items that would be impacted if this policy is unchanged would be items such as grape jelly, french toast sticks and the maple syrup that goes along with it, which are served in a very limited quantity. Artificial sweeteners are in a few of the food products as well, so that is one of the changes.

The third proposed change is on Page 6, Item (e) - “Schools will prevent the overt identification of students eligible for free or reduced price school meals by using electronic identification payment system.” The committee recommends it to read the following: “Schools will prevent the overt identification of students eligible for free and reduced price school meals.” If it stands as is, you would have a policy that says you would need to put in a point of sale system. We agree that it would be wonderful, however, the cost would be approximately between \$50,000 and \$100,000 and right now the Committee feels that it would be better to use that money towards instructional purposes rather than management purposes for our food service line. Right now we do not identify students and it is done in a way that is working.

The fourth proposed change is Item (f) on Page 6 – which currently reads “For the safety and security of the food and facility, access to the food service operations are limited to food service staff and food service personnel.” We would recommend that it read “For the safety and security of the food and facility, access to the food service operations are limited to food service staff and authorized personnel during the hours of operation. Any use during off hours by non-food service staff will seek the approval of the Principal and Food Service Director.” We could create a form that could be used. There are outside groups that on occasion use our cafeteria or to store something. The PTA could use it for their meetings at night. We recognize the importance of keeping the kitchen safe and clean, but the cafeteria is used by our community.

Ms. Bernstein questioned the vending machine items and commends the Nutrition Committee. They’ve done a great job in terms of what we offer now, not to say that we can’t improve, but they have done a good job. Mr. Ruf concurs that the Committee has done a great job but agrees that there is room for improvement.

Ms. Rothman commented that the Committee has noticed significant changes. There are still items on the menu however, that still have to be looked into. Perhaps the school would allow one of the North Shore L.I.J. nutritionists to help us and there are items that we still have to look at, such as the french toast sticks; although they are made with whole grain bread, they are fried. That meal is served with ham and syrup, which contains nitrates, as does hot dogs, and the syrup must also contain a degree of fructose as well. There are also a lot of cheese items on the menu. Is it whole cheese or is it a cheese substitute product? Those are things that need to be looked at.

Ms. Rothman stated that she understands that. However, there are other things that we can do a good job with. Offering tuna twice a week, perhaps with mercury levels, might be changed to

offering tuna only once a week. That is something that a nutritionist or dietician can help us with. Another example is with restaurants and packaging; if a parent wanted to get from the food service, information on nutritional values, such as fat content, salt contents, carbs, etc., will they provide some kind of information?

Mr. Ruf: Yes, they can provide specific requests if a parent requests information on a specific meal. The Director has made copies of labels and ingredients.

Ms. Rothman: Do the parents know that they can ask for that and the information is available?

Mr. Ruf: I don't know that all parents are aware of that, but concerns are shared.

Ms. Lieberman stated that she spoke to a parent that called her and there are some children that only eat certain items. We have to be real careful because we have to teach children what is good, what is bad and everything should be in moderation. We have to walk the line that teaches children what is healthy and what isn't necessarily. We cannot police what everyone eats.

Mrs. Rothman stated that athletes, for example, often need to eat carbs and lean towards these types of foods before activity. If we are going to look into this, then we might want to make more choices and do a better job.

Ms. Weinstein stated that we've had a lot of responses to the Wellness Policy and asked how we are going to respond to these questions? I want people to know that we have received their responses and have read them.

Mr. Dempsey said that might be a distraction from the task of revising the policy. We can certainly respond to those who have submitted. We are receiving it, sharing it and have to determine if it is going to be added. If you feel otherwise, we can look into it.

Mr. Cepeda stated that he appreciates the fact that we are sharing information with the community and everyone, but we have to keep things in context and focus on what is on our plate.

Ms. Weinstein stated that she wants everyone to know that we are listening.

Mr. Dempsey stated that since our last BOE meeting, he visited with the Health Advisory Committee and there was a lively discussion regarding our Wellness Policy. In 2006, we passed a policy that does not have any real restrictions. It met the requirements. One of the challenges is the policy does not have any real restrictions in terms of guidance and directions. One of the things that has come up is that the First Lady of New York, Michelle Paterson who presented Healthy Steps to Albany, an exercise program. Both Middle Schools are doing the program. Letters have been prepared and the whole parent community will be notified about that. The students will begin that process on March 1st. The other half of the effort is about the activity that students need in order to avoid the obesity issues that are out there.

State Budget Update

Mr. Dempsey stated that two weeks from tonight will be the first discussion of the budget for 2011. We will be preparing that and distributing that to the BOE this week for their review. The first public discussion will be two weeks from tonight. We are concerned about the impact of the State Budget on our situation and ask Mr. Ruf to give a brief overview.

Mr. Ruf stated that last month when the Governor's budget was presented, of the information that was received, there are two or three things that will have an impact on our budget. Summer school funding currently is funded at 80% of the cost across the board. We've budgeted about \$70,000 which is about 20% of the cost of our summer program and that's how we've funded that program each year. The Governor's proposal is not to use the 80% number that has been in place for many years, but to use something called the Foundation Aid State Sharing ratio, which is District specific. For us, our Foundation Aid State Sharing Ratio is 24.3%. The Governor's Proposal, if adopted, would result in a decrease by the state from 80% to 24.3% for the Summer Program. This would increase our budget for that line by over \$165,000. So that is something that we are following very closely. The change is \$165,000. In total, instead of our budget being around \$70,000 it would be around \$235,000 for that particular item. A second item in the Governor's proposal that we are learning more about is the way that funding is done for the Committee of Pre-school Special Education. Currently the county pays 40.5% of Pre-School Special Education cost and state's share is 59.5%. In the Governor's proposal, he is proposing to cap the county's share at the total amount expensed during the 2009 school year and each year thereafter to allow for 2% growth at the county level. For example, in 2010-11 the county would only have to pay 102% of what they spent in 2009-10. Then in 2011-12 they would spend 104% of what they spent in 2009-10 and so on and so forth. What they are looking to do is shift some of the burden to school districts.

The third item that is proposed is the STAR for homes. Any home that has a full value over \$1.5 million dollars would no longer receive the basic STAR exemption. In Plainview we have received information from the Assessor's Office that we only have only one home over \$1.5 million.

Mr. Cepeda asked in Pre-K what is the Delta on that?

Mr. Ruf stated that it is hard for us to cost-out since the county doesn't know what was spent last year for those costs. I had a conversation with the County today and they said we're not sure what we've invoiced for - billing can take up to a year to be finalized. Mr. Ruf had a ballpark number, the County has spent between 2.5 and 3 million on our children, so if you assume that 1% of \$3 million would be \$30,000 that could give you an idea. He doesn't know the growth in that area because he has tried to get more information from the County, but did not get anything more.

Ms. Weinstein stated that the state is looking to balance their budget by shifting their cost to other governmental units. Regarding summer school special education, we still have to incur the costs. The cost doesn't go away, we are just not going to be reimbursed at the same rate.

Mr. Dempsey noted regarding the Special-Ed piece that a letter was drafted on behalf of the entire BOE to be sent to Governor Paterson, along with other representatives. The letter objects to the loss of state aid, generally, the \$1.5 million dollars, but specifically to the Special Education components. Mr. Dempsey recommends that the letter be sent and that there were some requests by the Board to share it with the Governor and other legislators and on the website. Some other suggestions were made as well.

Ms. Rothman stated that maybe the letter should be read, as it is not that long.

Mr. Dempsey read the letter: “As you are aware your proposed budget reduces \$1.4 million dollars in state aid for education funding deeply affects local communities ability to provide the education our students need. In the case of the Plainview Old Bethpage Central School District, we are losing over \$1.5 million dollars of our aid. While Long Island is perceived to have high property value, this is not equally true of income wealth. In addition, the recession has negatively affected many of our taxpayers and residents in their ability to support their property tax burden. Beyond our concerns for the overall budgetary impact, we want to express our particular concern about the way the proposed budget changes the methodology of funding the Summer Special Education Program. Currently the state provides 80% of the cost of such programs. Beginning this summer, school districts would be reimbursed based on the Foundation Aide Ratio which would reduce state support for our program to 24.3%. If this proposal were to be approved, an additional estimated \$166,154.00 would have to be added to our budget or we would not be able to provide an essential program. The Plainview Old Bethpage Central School District summer Special-Education program has been in operation for more than 25 years, serving students with significant educational needs. The students who attend have a 12 month individual education program IEP. Your proposed change to the budget would have a substantial impact on these students and their families. Please consider our student’s best interests as you deliberate on this budget with your legislative colleagues.”

Mr. Dempsey stated that we want to effect the change in terms of what is proposed. Once we can clarify CPSE costs, we probably want to write to the Governor and legislature about that as well.

Mr. Bettan stated that this is a “sneak attack” by the Governor on the most needy children we have. I think that we have to start calling our elected officials accountable on issues like this and I suggest that we send copies of the letter to *Newsday* and the local newspapers as well as other local media outlets and try to get a letter writing campaign going by all of our citizens, whether you have a child in the program or know one. It is important to our district. The Governor thinks that they can shove these costs down our throats and mandates. We have to stand up to that. Our system in Albany is broken and we need to let them know. We have to let Governor Paterson know that he is affecting the most needy students we have.

Mr. Dempsey stated that we will let the media outlets know, and will post on the website and other locations and will look into this other issue further.

Ms. Weinstein stated that she attended a meeting last week sponsored by Nassau County Council of School Superintendents and the Nassau PTA. It was a meeting to discuss budgetary issues.

There were presentations made and they spoke about the same type of issues. The Superintendent from Rockville Centre suggested (1) if the State's budget is not finalized before our budget vote, then school districts should not publish tax levys - the tax levy is too difficult to calculate in the absence of a State budget and (2) CPI is negative – contingency is zero. He suggested that school districts should also present a contingency budget when presenting their annual budget.

Mr. Dempsey stated that communities often feel that it is threatening. That's a challenging issue that we need to explore and discuss as we deliberate. The tax levy issue is compounded by what the media asks us to give them. Tax rates are more confusing this year due to assessments going down in the County. The rate has to go up to get the same amount of dollars. The speculation in Albany will be considered in late May, early June - before the public vote – which presents another challenge. The answer to those two bits of advice is that we have to look at our budget increase which is in our control and spend time looking at that before we make decisions on those other two aspects.

Public Participation

Jacques Wolfner – As your representative to the BOCES Budget Study Committee, I know that the budget study is not the final decision of the BOCES Board, but in the past it has been very close. I suspect the final number for the 2010-2011 budget will be somewhere around \$218,363,344. That represents the increase from the adjusted budget of 1.2% for the current year. That is budget to adjusted budget and I don't think that's realistic. If we go back one year, we're looking at \$11.7 million dollar increase, or 5.7% increase. I expect Mr. Ruf has received tuition rates. I'm looking at the numbers and know that there are some aspects of the BOCES budget where we are required due to state education department mandates to use the BOCES facilities.

Mr. Dempsey stated that there are a number of the programs with BOCES which have been analyzed to be cost effective.

Mr. Wolfner stated that there are some programs that save the district money. There are various programs where participation in the BOCES Committee is more cost effective in-house. I am going to ask the board to discuss some items on the Agenda, such as 3(a) school tuition and also 3(b) and 3(f) the disposal of obsolete equipment – I'd like to hear more about that.

Mrs. Yan Gao spoke about reading for some children. Some children have problems. Last year there were some tests for reading levels and a special class for children who need help. There was a recent test where children could go for extra classes. Some classes concentrate on reading, but the writing is not good. In 6th grade middle school the teachers have good homework, and use effort to grade them, but other classes do not have writing homework at all. Some 8th grade kids are excellent in reading, at high school levels, but the writing is not good. There needs to be more focus on homework and writing in the 8th grade is needed. She found out through a friend in another school district that writing is required for different assignments. The kids were given one week and can use the internet to help them. They let the children write 3-5 pages about

subjects. They can do research on the internet and can learn a lot doing this. Our school kids need these types of assignments. Speaking as a parent, we need more writing projects for 8th grade students. Other schools do this, so she feels that we should too. We should have a minimum requirement for writing assignments. Mr. Dempsey stated that we are making that a priority and trying to figure out what is the most appropriate thing to do. The second item Mrs. Gao spoke of was test scores on-line. For 2006-2008 the percentage for level 4 is much higher, although some decreased in level 4 English scores. She stated that when we hire, there needs to be more effort, since some kids suffer.

Routine Business

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Ginger Lieberman seconded by Evy Rothman, that the Board of Education approve the following routine business items:

1. Students

Student Placements

That the Board of Education approve the student placements as recommended by Pupil Personnel Service.

2. Personnel

Personnel Recommendation – Consultant – Piano Accompanist

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Salary</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Micahel Buonspina | Piano Accompanist | Spring Concert POBMS & MMMS | Sprint 2010 6 rehearsals @ \$50 each 4 concerts @ \$50 each |

Non-Teaching Personnel - Resignations

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Reason</u> |
|--------------------|--|--------------------|------------------|
| Amanda La Grandier | ABA Special Ed. Aide Mattlin Middle School 7 hours | 2/2/2010 | Personal Reasons |
| Ashley Levy | ABA Special Ed. Aide Mattlin Middle School 6 hours | 2/2/2010 | Personal Reasons |

Non-Teaching Personnel – Leave of Absence

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Reason</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> |
|---------------|---|---|--------------------|
| Rachel Schwab | ABA Special Ed. Aide 6 hours Stratford Road | Per diem for Jaime Cerbini Mattlin Middle School | 2/2/2010 |

Non-Teaching Personnel – Permanent Employee Recommendation

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> |
|--------------|--|--------------------|
| Marie Kelian | Principal Typist Clerk Parkway School | 2/10/2010 |

Coaching Rescission – School Year 2009-2010

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Raymond Tesar | Head Coach, MS Baseball | Immediately | Please rescind appointment approved in the minutes of 6/8/09 BOE meeting |

Coaching Recommendations - School Year 2009-2010

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>EFF.</u> | <u>CAT/LEV</u> | <u>Salary</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Timothy Coakley | Asst Coach, V Baseball | 3-10 | 7 2 | \$4585 | Out of district |
| Steven Jacobs | Asst Coach, MS Mens Lacrosse | 4-10 | 10 1 | \$2659 | Out of district |
| George Psillos | Head Coach, MS Womens Lacrosse | 4-10 | 9 2 | \$3677 | Out of district |
| Raymond Tesar | Head Coach, JV Baseball | 3-10 | 7 4 | \$5407 | In district teacher |
| Nicholas Tomasulo | Asst Coach, JV Baseball | 3-10 | 8 1 | \$3854 | Out of district |
| Joseph Weinstein | Asst Coach, MS Mens Lacrosse | 4-10 | 10 1 | \$2659 | Out of district |
| Katelyn Williams | Asst Coach, V Womens Lacrosse | 3-10 | 7 1 | \$4313 | Out of district |

Co-Curricular Activities - School Year 2009/2010 – H.B. Mattlin Middle School

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Salary</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Anthony Grover | Set Director, Drama Club | School Year 2009-2010 | \$1790 | Out of district |

Personnel Recommendations – Chaperones

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Salary</u> | <u>Experience</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Carol Doonan | Chaperone | School Year 2009/10 | \$87.94/sess. | I.D. Employee |
| Donna Eckert | “ | “ “ “ “ | “ “ | I.D. Employee |
| Amy Feldman | “ | “ “ “ “ | “ “ | I.D. Employee |
| Marsha Kramer | “ | “ “ “ “ | “ “ | I.D. Employee |
| Rose Loesel | “ | “ “ “ “ | “ “ | I.D. Employee |
| Joanne Spindler | “ | “ “ “ “ | “ “ | I.D. Employee |
| Meron Tine | “ | “ “ “ “ | “ “ | I.D. Employee |
| Donna Vanelatos | “ | “ “ “ “ | “ “ | I.D. Employee |
| Christopher Napoli | “ | “ “ “ “ | “ “ | Out of District |

Non-Teaching Personnel – Child Care Resignations

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Linda Traunfeld | Child Care Assistant | 1/15/2010 | Personal Reasons |
| Rachel Burkel | Child Care Assistant | 1/15/2010 | Personal Reasons |
| Sarah Korman | Child Care Assistant | 1/15/2010 | Personal Reasons |

Non-Teaching Personnel – Child Care

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Salary</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|--|
| Brian Ritter | Child Care Worker | 2/9/2010 | \$14.75 PH | Re-hire Certified Teacher Hofstra Graduate |
| Shauna Smith | Child Care Worker | 2/9/2010 | \$14.75 PH | Re-hire Certified Teacher Hofstra Graduate |
| Tarisa Maggio* | Child Care Worker | 2/9/2010 | \$12.75 PH | Re-hire St. Joseph’s College Graduate |
| Diana Gianatiempo | Student Worker | 2/9/2010 | \$7.75 PH | Re-hire |

* NOTE: Please rescind BOE appointment of 3/23/2009 for Tarisa Maggio

Appointments – Per Diem Substitute Teacher

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Effec. Date</u> | <u>Salary</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Elvis Agreda | Per Diem Substitute Teacher | 2/8/2010 | \$133.19 |
| Marissa Jaime Unger | Per Diem Substitute Teacher | 2/8/2010 | \$133.19 |

3. Finance

a. Contract – School Tutiton 2009/2010

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign a contract for the 2009-2010 school year with F.L. Chamberlain School to provide one student with school tuition as listed in the contract.

b. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment – Curriculum Office

That the Board of Education declare obsolete for disposal purposes the following item:

Brother Intelli Fax Machine – Model #PPF2750

c. Contract with Physical Solutions - RESCISSION

That the Board of Education rescind the contract with Physical Solutions.

d. Contract with Spectrum Physical Therapy and Chiropractic, PLLC

That the Board of Education approve the contract with Spectrum Physical Therapy and Chiropractic, PLLC for a certified athletic trainer for the period February 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010 and authorize the President of the Board of Education to sign the agreement.

e. Cooperative Bids – 2010-11

That the Board of Education approve a resolution authorizing participation in cooperative bids for the 2010-11 school year for the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| A/C & Refrigeration Service | Irrigation – new/repair/service |
| Asphalt, Concrete & Site Work | Locksmith Services |
| Automatic Temperature Control | Lumber & Masonry Supplies |
| Boiler/Burner Service & Repair | PA, Intercom, Master Clock Service |
| Cafeteria/Kitchen Equipment Repair | Paint & Paint Supplies |
| Carpent Tile & Installation | Painting |

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning | Parking Lot Sweeping |
| Ceiling Tile & Installation | Plumbing Service |
| Custodial Equipment & Repair | Plumbing Supplies |
| Custodial Supplies | Pneumatic Systems |
| Drag Mops | Roof Repair |
| Electrical Service | Scoreboard Repair |
| Electrical Supplies | Signs & Associated Supplies |
| Elevator Maintenance | Smoke & Fire Alarm Maint. & Repair |
| Emergency Generator Service/Repair | Split AC Units |
| Fence Installation & Repair | Stage Rigging |
| Field Maintenance & Supplies | Steam Traps & Parts |
| Fire Extinguisher Service | Storm Drain Maintenance |
| Fuel Tank Alarm Repairs | Theatrical Lighting |
| Grounds Equip. Repair & Parts Purchases | Tree Cutting & Pruning |
| Gym Equipment Inspection | Venetian Blinds and Shades |
| Hardware | Wood Floor Sanding & Refinishing |

f. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment – Stratford Road Elementary School

That the Board of Education declare obsolete for disposal purposes the following:

All American Scoreboard Control Serial #2 20050494617

g. Contract – Health and Welfare Services

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign a contract for the 2009-2010 school year with Farmingdale UFSD to provide five (5) students with Health & Welfare services as listed in the contract.

h. Warrants

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| General Fund A | \$1,456,409.17 |
| Trust & Agency | \$1,684,708.17 |
| Federal | \$15,418.61 |
| School Lunch | \$1,446.60 |
| Capital | \$5,868.98 |
| Child Care | \$191.57 |
| Net Payroll | \$1,945,701.16 |

4. Miscellaneous

Approval of Minutes

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting of January 25, 2010 with the following corrections:

Ms. Bernstein stated that on Page 12, it is Doctor Gail Kaden. Also on Page 15, last paragraph, the question was not the question I asked. Can it say under my name “She would like a list of activities at each level that need to be changed with this policy?” Mr. Dempsey stated yes and that he will make the changes and share the revised copy.

Mr. Ruf addressed the obsolete equipment items listed under Finance section 3(b), as well as discussed the scoreboard item.

New Business:

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Cepeda, seconded by Mrs. Rothman, that the BOE approve the scheduled Field Trips listed in the Field Trips 2009-2010 Memo of January 11, 2010.

Discussion:

Ms. Pierno had questions regarding the 4th grade field trip. Mr. Dempsey explained that we are negotiating the trip to cost approximately \$15. The environmental trip is based on Camp Coleman from last year.

Executive Session:

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Bettan, seconded by Ms. Rothman that the Board of Education recess to Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations.

Adjournment

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Bettan, seconded by Ms. Rothman that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne D. Walti
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President

The meeting was reconvened at 9:25 p.m.

Adjournment:

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mrs. Lieberman that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne D. Walti
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Lori Weinstein, President