



Farmingdale School District

DATE: March 3, 2021

KIND OF MEETING: Board Meeting

PLACE: Virtual Meeting: www.farmingdaleschools.org

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Goldberg, Mrs. D'Amico, Mr. Espinosa, Mr. Giordano, Mrs. Lively, Mrs. Soete

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Morales

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Defendini, Dr. Ripley, Mr. Zakian, Dr. Brennan, Dr. Olsen, Mr. Motisi, Richard Guercio, Esq. (Executive Session Only), Christopher Shishko, Esq. (Executive Session Only), Reesa Miles, Esq., Mrs. Rogers

Roll Call Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Goldberg, President of the Board of Education. In accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order related to temporary modifications to Public Officers Law, the meeting was conducted in a virtual format to allow for the uninterrupted continuation of our important work. The Board meeting notice indicated that access to the meeting would be posted on the district's website at www.farmingdaleschools.org and a live feed would be available on www.youtube.com.

Executive Session Motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mr. Espinosa, to meet in executive session to discuss specific personnel matters in accordance with Open Meetings Law. Motion carried. 60-0

Meeting recessed for executive session at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting reconvened in public session at 8:00 p.m. Board President Michael Goldberg opened the meeting with the following statement:

Pursuant to Executive Order 202.1 (and subsequent orders closing District schools) issued by the Hon. Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, signed March 12, 2020, and due to the concerns of the Board of Education for the Health and Safety of the community emanating from the current COVID-19 pandemic, there would be no in-person public access to the board meeting and instead the meeting would be live streamed and recorded. Access to the live stream could be had by accessing the school district's website

for a link that will bring you to a youtube site and the recording of the meeting can be accessed on www.farmingdaleschools.org. In addition, the public participation portion of the meeting was suspended by board resolution.

Resolution to Suspend Public Participation

On a motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mr. Espinosa, pursuant to the aforementioned Executive Order, the Board suspended the public participation portion of the meeting and therefore, accordingly, there would be no public participation at this Board meeting.

Motion carried 6-0

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Goldberg continued, stating that the Board of Education was interested in encouraging members of the public to share their ideas, comments and questions. Feedback and questions should be directed to the Board's email account at boe@farmingdaleschools.org. Questions and comments would be responded to by members of the central administrative team and would be publicly reviewed at the next regular Board meeting. Mr. Goldberg thanked everyone for their anticipated courtesy and cooperation. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent's Update

Monthly Update

Board President Michael Goldberg introduced the Superintendent of School and asked for him monthly update. Mr. Defendini began with the announcement of Dr. Joan Ripley's planned retirement. Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Ripley began her educational career in Farmingdale Schools as a middle school social studies teacher. She left us for a while to pursue her educational leadership and administrative roles and returned to us a few years. Mr. Defendini noted some of her accomplishments in the district; the Board of Education thanked and congratulated her on her upcoming retirement.

Mr. Defendini's update continued with the good news of the dramatic reduction in the number of COVID cases. This has allowed for more opportunities for students. He noted that the high school musical was wonderful. Farmingdale High School seniors are transitioning back to fully in-person instruction. Mr. Defendini thanked the high school administrative team and Dr. Ripley on facilitating this change. Mr. Defendini stated that the athletic program was up and running. Testing is determined at the local districts; our athletes and coaches are continually tested. Fall sports will begin shortly and spring sports will begin later in the year. Middle School sports are starting up. The district will continue to loosen things up in a safe, methodical fashion. Mr. Defendini explained that specific information about spectator protocols will be forthcoming. Mr. Zakian stated that there is a camera system available to watch the games online.

Mr. Motisi and the administrative staff are preparing the budget 2021-2022. Our initial concerns may not be coming to fruition. We will continue to

maintain our programs for students into the new school year. We continue to be mindful of our responsibility to the community in being focused on the fiscal impact of any changes during these difficult times.

We will continue to keep parents and students updated on the year end examinations and Regents exams. The federal waiver was not granted; however, the information and guidance from the State Education Department is continually coming in to us. We do know that the non-federal required Regents exams may not be taking place. In addition, August Regents may also be canceled. We will keep our school community informed.

Board President Michael Goldberg thanked the Superintendent of Schools for his update. He also thanked the administrative team for their efforts throughout the process.

Board of Education Minutes

Board of Education - Board Meeting - Feb 3, 2021 8:00 PM

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| RESULT: | ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President |
| SECONDER: | Mario Espinosa, Trustee |
| AYES: | Lively, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete |
| ABSENT: | Ralph Morales |

Board Correspondence

Board President Michael Goldberg asked the District Clerk for her report on board correspondence. Mrs. Rogers reported a parent letter thanking the board and administration for the support and communication efforts during this past school year. The board also received a parent letter regarding a special education issue and a parent letter asking that middle school students be able to participate in high school athletics programs. Mrs. Rogers noted that each letter was responded to by administration and by a board member.

Board Committee Reports

Board President Michael Goldberg opened the meeting for the committee reports.

Mr. Espinosa began with his report on the Farmingdale Public Library Board of Trustees meeting. He stated that there would be zero percent budget increase for 2021-2022. In addition, regular hours would begin on April 1, but Sunday hours would remain closed. Mr. Espinosa reported on the high school's PTA meeting. He noted specifically that membership is at 334; their goal is 400. They shared the new Wellness Committee website. It has a number of resources and information available. Finally, Assistant Principal Arlene Martinez and the high school students raised 400 pounds of food for Island Harvest. Mr. Espinosa reported on the Republic Airport Commission meeting.

The number of flights are lower; the number of noise complaints are higher. Mr. Espinosa believes this is because more people are home due to the pandemic. He noted that a recent plane event was due to adverse weather conditions. They are looking at an environmental impact study on five parcels on the grounds of the airport.

Mrs. Lively reported on the Districtwide Safety Committee meeting. The district's plan has been updated due to the things we have learned during this pandemic. The Wellness Committee released the wellness website. She thanked Dr. Ripley and the committee on the work that now provides a great deal of information and assistance. Mrs. Soete noted that there are links to the San Diego Zoo, which is helping with a moment of calmness during the day.

Mrs. Lively reported on the Farmingdale Youth Council. The due date for the two community service scholarship applications is March 15. She noted that the winter swim program will be completing their sessions; the spring session will have registration soon. The Youth Council programs are still under review for the summer program. The Board will keep the community updated.

Mrs Lively reported on the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce virtual network events. She noted that the restaurants are open and finding creative ways to offer deliveries and hoping to reopen soon.

Mrs. Lively reported on the Farmingdale Schools Policy Committee. She noted that the policy work would be reported on later on the agenda. She reported on the Legislative Action Committee. She noted that the committee, with Dr. Brennan and Mr. Motisi, has been very busy meeting with our elected officials. There will be a Town Hall meeting with a group of our representatives later in the month. The NYS PTA had a legislative summit. Long Island had a large contingency participating. Issues discussed included mental health support, digital equity and opposition to the legalization of recreational marijuana.

Consent Agenda

Motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mr. Espinosa, that the Consent Agenda consisting of Items I (a-i), II (a-c) and III (a-d) be approved as a whole with action recorded separately.

Business Report

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President |
| SECONDER: | Mario Espinosa, Trustee |
| AYES: | Lively, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete |
| ABSENT: | Ralph Morales |

Acceptance for File of Financial Reports

Acceptance of the Claims Auditor Report - January 2021 RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept for file the Claims Auditor Report for the month of January 2021 pursuant to the authority contained in Section 170.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education and in accordance with Board Policy 6600.

Acceptance of the Revenue and Expenditure Report - January 2021 RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept for file the Revenue and Expenditure Report for the month of January 2021 pursuant to the authority contained in 170.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education and in accordance with Board Policy 6600.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report - January 2021 RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept for file the Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2021 pursuant to the authority contained in Section 170.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education and in accordance with Board Policy 6600.

Acceptance of the Extra Curricular Report - January 2021 RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education accept for file the extracurricular report for Farmingdale High School, Weldon E. Howitt Middle School, Albany Avenue Elementary School, Northside Elementary School, Saltzman East Memorial Elementary School and Woodward Parkway Elementary School for the month of January 2021 pursuant to the authority contained in Section 170.2 of the regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

Approval of Contracts and Agreements

Approval of Health & Welfare Services Agreements for Resident Students Attending Non Public Schools Outside of the District for the 2020/21 School Year (Amityville, Babylon, RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education approve the Health & Welfare Services Agreements with the following school districts for resident students attending non-public schools outside of the district for the 2020/21 school year, and to authorize the Board President to sign the appropriate agreements:

(Amityville, Babylon, Bay Shore, Brentwood, Half Hollow Hills, Hicksville, Massapequa, Plainedge, Seaford, Syosset, Uniondale & West Islip)

**BayShore,
Brentwood,
Half Hollow
Hills,
Hicksville,
Massapequa,
Plainedge,
Seaford,
Syosset,
Uniondale &
West Islip)**

**Approval of a
Service
Agreement
with CMDI
to Provide
Professional
Development
for Grade 6
Math
Teachers**

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale School District Board of Education approve an Agreement with CMDI to provide professional development for Grade 6 math teachers and to authorize the Board President to sign the appropriate agreement.

**Approval of
Special
Education
and General
Education
Contracts**

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale UFSD Board of Education approve the following contracts for Special Education and General Education services for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and that the Board President be authorized to sign said contracts.

HAUPPAUGE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SEAFORD UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Approval of a
Revised
Continuing
Community
Education
Earnings
Schedule**

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education approve a revised Continuing Community Education Earnings Schedule as outlined on the attachment beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.

**Approval of
Transfer of
Funds -
March 2021**

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education approve the attached transfer of funds for the purposes noted.

**Acceptance
of Funds and
Increase the**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accepts \$77,287 for the purpose of providing the AP Exam to students.

**2020/21
Budget for
the AP Exam**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District will increase the 2020/21 budget in accordance with the fees collected.

**Acceptance
of a Donation
to the Joseph
Williams
Memorial
Scholarship
Fund**

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education acknowledge, accept and thank Dell Transportation, Educational Bus, NYAPT, and WE Transport, Inc. for a monetary donation to the Joseph Williams Memorial Scholarship Fund.

**Acceptance
of a Donation
to the Ginny
Jim
Scholarship
Fund**

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education acknowledge, accept and thank Mr. Jim Riordan for a monetary donation to the Ginny Jim Scholarship Fund.

**Approval of
Declaration
of Obsolete
Equipment -
March 2021**

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education declare the attached items as obsolete and disposed of in accordance with Board Policy 6900.

**Acceptance
of a Donation
of a Musical
Instrument**

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education acknowledge, accept and thank Ms. Diane Herbert for a donation of a trombone to be used at Howitt Middle School.

Items for Action

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President |
| SECONDER: | Mario Espinosa, Trustee |
| AYES: | Lively, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete |
| ABSENT: | Ralph Morales |

**Approval of
Policy and
Regulation
#5500,
Student
Records**

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education adopt Policy and Regulation #5500, Student Records, in accordance with Board Policy 2410.

**Approval of a
Memorandum**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the Farmingdale

of Agreement with the Farmingdale Federation of Teachers and the Teacher Aides, Bodily Hygiene Aides and School Monitors Unit

Federation of Teachers and the Teacher Aides, Bodily Hygiene Aides and School Monitors Unit pertaining to lunch period coverage and that the Board President is hereby authorized to sign said agreement.

Approval of the Updated Districtwide Comprehensive School Safety Plan for 2020-2021

RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education adopt the Farmingdale Union Free School District's Updated Districtwide Comprehensive School Safety Plan as defined in the New York State S.A.V.E. Legislation for the 2020-2021 school year.

Superintendent's Report

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President |
| SECONDER: | Mario Espinosa, Trustee |
| AYES: | Lively, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete |
| ABSENT: | Ralph Morales |

Personnel Items -- Instructional

Instructional: Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept an administrative instructional personnel action: "Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement", effective on the date noted hereon and to adopt the corresponding retirement resolution.

Instructional: Tenure Recommendations / Administrative

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District place a staff member on tenure in accordance with Education Law of the State of New York and Board Policy 9251. In recommending tenure, the Superintendent has based his decision on the record of performance of the staff member during the probationary period as reported by the Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Administration, the Assistant Superintendent for Innovation and Organizational Development, the Assistants to the Superintendent and others in supervisory positions. Tenure becomes effective on the date noted heron contingent upon

continued satisfactory performance in the job until said date tenure become effective.

**Instructional:
Leaves of
Absence 2020
/ 2021** RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Leaves of Absence 2020 / 2021", effective for the dates noted hereon and for the reasons stated.

**Instructional:
Appointment
/ 2020-2021 -
Return from
Leave of
Absence** RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve an instructional personnel action: "Appointment / 2020-2021 - Return from Leave of Absence" in accordance with Board Policy 9230. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

**Instructional:
Appointments
/ Retroactive
Regular
Substitutes** RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / Retroactive Regular Substitutes", in accordance with Board Policy 9241. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

**Instructional:
Acknowledge
with Thanks
Regular
Substitute
Service** RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District acknowledges with thanks and appreciation the service of the named teachers who held a regular substitute appointment during the 2020-2021 school year.

**Instructional:
Appointment
/ Regular
Substitute
2020-2021** RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve an instructional personnel action: "Appointment Regular Substitute / 2020-2021", in accordance with Board Policy 9230. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

**Instructional:
Coaching and
Extra
Curricular
Appointments** RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Coaching and Extra Curricular Appointments", in accordance with Board Policy 5200. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget. Stipends are contingent upon completion of assignments.

**Instructional:
Appointment** RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District

**of On Call,
Per Diem
Substitute
Teachers** approve a schedule of instructional personnel actions: "Appointment of On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Teachers", subject to termination at any time.

Personnel Items -- Non-Instructional

Non-Instructional: Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement / CSEA RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District accept a non-instructional personnel action: "Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement / CSEA", effective on the date noted hereon.

Non-Instructional: Leaves of Absence / TASM RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of *non*-instructional personnel actions: "Leaves of Absence/ TASM" in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations.

Non-instructional: Change in Assignment / TASM RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional, personnel action: "Change in Assignment / TASM", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointment does not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Non-Instructional: Leave of Absence Food Service RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional personnel actions: "Leave of Absence Food Service", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointments do not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

Non-instructional: Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute School Monitors RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute School Monitors", subject to termination at any time.

Non- RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools,

**instructional:
Appointment
/ On-Call,
Per Diem
Substitute
Teacher
Aides** that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a schedule of non-instructional personnel actions: "Appointments / On-Call, Per Diem Substitute Teacher Aides", subject to termination at any time.

**Non-
Instructional:
Appointment
/ Food
Service** RESOLVED, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Farmingdale Union Free School District approve a non-instructional personnel action: "Appointment / Food Service", in accordance with Nassau County Civil Service Commission regulations. Appointment does not exceed the number of positions authorized in the budget.

**Approval of
the
Committee
on Special
Education
Placements
Report and
Acceptance
for File of
Said Report** RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Farmingdale UFSD Board of Education approve and accept for file the Committee on Special Education Placements Report by the Director of Special Education dated February 7, 2021, in accordance with New York State Education Part 200 Regulations.

**Approval of
Committee
on Preschool
Special
Education
Placements
Report and
Acceptance
for File of
Said Report** RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Farmingdale UFSD Board of Education approve and accept for file the Committee on Preschool Special Education Placements Report by the Director of Special Education dated February 7, 2021, in accordance with New York State Education Part 200 Regulations.

Items for Discussion and Action

**Approval of
the District
Calendar for
2021- 2022** RESOLVED, that the Farmingdale Union Free School District Board of Education adopt the school district calendar for the 2021 - 2022 school year in accordance with Board Policy 4110.

Discussion:

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Administration Glen Zakian reported that the prior approved calendar did not include Holy Thursday as a school closure date. There are two units in the district where this is a required holiday. The day was adjusted so that it would not be a school day for students

or work day for members of these two units, but would be a day for professional development for others. This would allow for the required number of school days across the 2021-2022 school year and would allow us to be in compliance with the collective bargaining agreement provisions. Mr. Goldberg thanked Mr. Zakian, noting that this was a particularly difficult calendar to develop due to the various holidays and school closures.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Suzanne D'Amico, Vice President |
| SECONDER: | Mario Espinosa, Trustee |
| AYES: | Lively, Goldberg, Espinosa, Giordano, D'Amico, Soete |
| ABSENT: | Ralph Morales |

Items for Discussion

Draft Policy #5100, Attendance Discussion: Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and administration Glen Zakian provided an overview of the changes to the current Attendance policy. He stated that the policy had been reviewed and approved by the district's legal team. In addition, the policy had been discussed at the Policy Committee, which included our current Attendance Office, Michael Hungerford. The policy was changed to remove incentives for perfect attendance as there was a belief that students would attend school even if ill in order to meet the policy criteria for any awards. Instead of rewarding perfect attendance, absences due to illness would be removed from criteria used to congratulate students. Elementary level awards would be discontinued and secondary notations might be made on a weekly or monthly basis, rather than across the full school year.

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| RESULT: | DISCUSSED |
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Draft Policy #0101, Gender Neutral Bathrooms Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and administration Glen Zakian also provided an overview of a new Gender Neutral Bathroom policy. He stated that the policy had been reviewed and approved by the district's legal team. All student designated single use bathrooms should be designated "gender neutral". The district is looking at all of the bathrooms across the district in order to be compliant.

RESULT:

DISCUSSED

Adjournment On a motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mr. Espinosa, the Board moved into executive session to discuss specific collective bargaining issues in accordance with Open Meetings Law.

Motion carried 6-0

The meeting moved into executive session at 8:45 p.m.

The meeting reconvened in public session at 10:05 p.m.

On a motion made by Mrs. D'Amico, seconded by Mr. Espinosa the meeting was adjourned.

Motion carried 6-0.

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

Mary E. Rogers, District Clerk