

**May 23, 2012**

The regular Action Meeting of the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, May 23, 2012, in the Cafeteria of Caroline G. Atkinson Intermediate School. Debra Mulé, Vice President of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m., she then led the pledge of allegiance.

Those present were: Ms. Debra Mulé, Vice President  
Mr. Ronald Ellerbe, Trustee (arrived 7:37 p.m.)  
Ms. Vilma Lancaster, Trustee  
Mr. Michael Pomerico, Trustee

Absent were: Ms. Debra McQuillan, President

Also present were: Dr. Kishore Kuncham, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Mary Bediako, Assistant Superintendent for  
Personnel, Special Projects & District Clerk  
Dr. Wafa Westervelt, Assistant Superintendent for  
Curriculum and Instruction  
Dr. Kenneth Rodgers, Assistant Superintendent for  
Business  
Mr. Michael Singleton, Executive Director of  
Operations

Also absent were: None

The number of people in the audience at the opening of the meeting was 25.

### **Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Kishore Kuncham, welcomed everyone to the Board of Education Action meeting and thanked the Community for passing the budget 1634 yes and 639 no. He went on to say that is a 72% yes vote, one of the highest ever received and in Nassau County, 6<sup>th</sup> highest. Thank you for supporting our students. The Superintendent also thanked the Board for their advocacy efforts. Dr. Kuncham welcomed Mr. Josh Levitt, Student Government Advisor, and members of the Student Government who presented their monthly report. Elizabeth Mulé, Brittany Spell, Stephanie Morales, and Bianca Molina gave an overview of the activities at Freeport High School. They then thanked Mr. Levitt and the Board for inviting them to share their news and information from Freeport High School. They informed the Board that due preparation for the Regents exams this meeting will be their final report for this school year.

Dr. Kuncham then introduced Ms. Linda Carter, Caroline G. Atkinson Principal. Ms. Carter introduced the Unsung Hero from Atkinson, Ms. Elaine McGrowder and said that Ms. McGrowder has been an advocate and supporter for over 25 years for the children and older adults in the Freeport Community and at Atkinson. Ms. Carter went on to say that Ms. McGrowder shares a wealth of

information with the children and is passionate about mankind, children and older adults. She then thanked Ms. McGrowder, presented her with a plaque and along with the Superintendent, and Ms. Mulé, presented a pin to Ms. McGrowder.

The next honoree for the evening was introduced by Ms. Estelle Weiss, Director of Adult Continuing/Community Education. Ms. Weiss spoke about the NYACCE Teacher of the Year, Gabriela Muszynska. Ms. Muszynska came to Freeport from Poland and joined our staff as an ESL Teacher. Her students have high scores and wonderful participation and attendance. Dr. Kuncham and Ms. Mulé presented Ms. Muszynska with a pin of appreciation for all her hard work and accomplishments.

The Superintendent then welcomed Diana Vachier, from American Pop Art, Inc. Ms. Vachier presented the Freeport Schools with eight limited edition paintings of Abraham Lincoln painted by Steve Kaufman. Mr. Kaufman was a former assistant to Andy Warhol at The Factory Studio and a well known Pop artist in his own right. Ms. Vachier was an assistant to Mr. Kaufman and is continuing in his legacy to help children. These paintings were specifically made for the purpose of inspiring young people to persevere in everything they do. One painting will hang in each school to inspire our children. Ms. Vachier was presented with a plaque and a pin of appreciation by the Superintendent and Ms. Mulé.

Dr. Kuncham then informed everyone about the following;

- An Acrosonic Baldwin Piano donated by Mr. Lawrence Graber.
- A gift of \$1,000 from Bob's Furniture.
- A donation of \$7,500 from Ameresco (our Energy Performance Contract firm) to be used for scholarships in the graduating class of 2012.

Dr. Westervelt gave a power point presentation on the New York State Report Card for 2010-2011 (as attached).

Dr. Alice Kane, Director of Pupil Personnel, gave a power point presentation on the Response to Intervention (as attached).

### **Questions from the Public**

The public was given the opportunity to address the Board of Education. Each speaker was allowed to address the Board for four minutes on the Agenda only. The Board and administration addressed the comments from the public.

### **Items for Action**

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following items were approved on a Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous, Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

### **Acceptance of the Minutes**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free

School District hereby accepts the minutes of the following meetings as written:  
April 4, 2012; April 17, 2012; May 2, 2012.

## **Personnel**

### **Leave of Absence**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby grants a request for leave of absence as listed below:

**Jaclyn Leahy**, Speech Teacher, effective May 22, 2012 through June 30, 2012, for child care.

**Allison Wendroff**, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective April 23, 2012 through April 29, 2012, for health reasons.

**Gladys Tapia**, part-time Teaching Assistant, effective April 17, 2012 through June 30, 2013, for health reasons.

**Jessica Cruz-Telles**, Elementary Teacher, effective May 14, 2012 through June 30, 2012, for child care.

**Luann Mayer**, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective January 30, 2012, extended May 20, 2012, for health reasons.

**Consuelo Velez**, Assistant Principal, effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, to assume the Interim Principal position in the District.

**Meghan McCormack-Carney**, Elementary Teacher, effective May 18, 2012 through June 1, 2012, for child care.

### **Resignation of Staff**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letter(s) of resignation from the following staff member(s) as listed below:

**Lisa Callahan**, Speech Teacher, effective June 30, 2012, relocating.

**Christine Bishop-Fink**, Library Media Specialist, effective August 31, 2012, relocating.

**Gisselle Campbell-Ham**, Dean of Students, effective June 30, 2012, to assume an Assistant Principal position.

**Joseph Mille**, Dean of Students, effective June 30, 2012, to assume an Assistant Principal position.

### **Appointment of Staff – Administrative - Temporary**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby appoints **Consuelo Velez**, Interim Principal effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. Compensation will be on step 5 of the PC2 Schedule for Middle School Principal at \$147,237. Assignment: Atkinson.

### **Appointment of Staff – Administrative – Probationary**

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby appoints **Gisselle Campbell-Ham**, Assistant Principal, to a probationary position effective July 1, 2012 with an anticipated

tenure date of July 1, 2015. Compensation for this position will be on step 1PE2 according to the FSAA-Senior AP Schedule at \$120,221. Assignment: FHS.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby appoints **Joseph Mille**, Assistant Principal, to a probationary position effective July 1, 2012 with an anticipated tenure date of July 1, 2015. Compensation for this position will be on step 1PE2 according to the FSAA-Senior AP Schedule at \$120,221. Assignment: FHS.

**Appointment of Staff – Instructional**

**Temporary**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby appoints the individuals listed in the attached Appointment of Staff Report - Temporary, in accordance with the rules of the Board of Regents. These individuals shall possess appropriate certification allowing them to serve as teachers in the public schools of New York

**Timothy McShan**, Instructor-JROTC Program, a temporary appointment effective September 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. Compensation for this position will be on step 18-1A of the U3C Schedule at \$87,869. Assignment: FHS.

**Donald R. Moore, Jr.**, Senior Instructor-JROTC Program, a temporary appointment effective September 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. Compensation for this position will be on step 25-2E of the U3D Schedule at \$115,854. Assignment: FHS.

**Nicole Pecora**, Technology Staff Developer, a temporary appointment effective September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013. Compensation for this position will be on step 2-2A of the U3D Schedule at \$65,485. Assignment: Dodd.

**Cara Reiss**, Math Teacher, a temporary appointment effective September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013. Compensation for this position will be on step 1-2A of the U3D Schedule at \$62,830. Assignment: FHS.

**Probationary**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby appoints the individuals listed in the attached Appointment of Staff Report - Probationary, in accordance with the rules of the Board of Regents. These individuals shall possess appropriate certification allowing them to serve as teachers in the public schools of New York

**Hallie Sherman**, Speech Teacher, a probationary appointment (replacing L. Callahan, resigned) effective September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013, anticipated tenure date September 1, 2013. Compensation for this position will be on step 3-2D of the U3D Schedule at \$72,389. Assignment: Atkinson.

**Daniel Wittich**, Elementary Teacher, a probationary appointment (return from eligibility list) effective September 1, 2012 through October 11, 2013, anticipated

tenure date October 12, 2013. Compensation for this position will be on step 3-2A of the U3D Schedule at \$68,140. Assignment: Columbus.

**Martha Bermeo**, Elementary Teacher (Bilingual), a probationary appointment (return from eligibility list, replacing A. Fruchtnis, retired) effective September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013, anticipated tenure date September 1, 2013. Compensation for this position will be on step 2-2A of the U3D Schedule at \$65,485. Assignment: Bayview.

**Kati Miano**, Elementary Teacher, a probationary appointment (return from eligibility list, replacing C. Vasquez, resigned) effective September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013, anticipated tenure date September 1, 2014. Compensation for this position will be on step 2-2B of the U3C Schedule at \$57,026. Assignment: Bayview.

**Dolores Miller**, Elementary Teacher, a probationary appointment (replacing J. Schreiber, retired, return from eligibility list) effective September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013, anticipated tenure date September 12, 2013. Compensation for this position will be on step 4-2D of the U3D Schedule at \$75,183. Assignment: Atkinson.

#### **Abolishment of Positions and Excessing of Staff**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District abolishes the Audio Visual Technician position and one (1) Audio Visual Helper position effective July 1, 2012; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that **Alan Gonzalez** is hereby excessed from the Audio Visual Technician position and **Frank Cerbini** is hereby excessed from the Audio Visual Helper position. Pursuant to Civil Service Regulations, Mr. Gonzalez shall be placed on a preferred eligible list for a period of four (4) years.

#### **Approval of a Transfer of Assignment**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby approves the transfer of Linda Carter as Principal of Freeport High School effective July 1, 2012, at an annual salary of \$178, 226 (Step 11, Schedule PA2 of the Administrators Contract).

#### **Education**

##### **CSE/CPSE Minutes**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the minutes of the meetings of the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education for the following dates: February 3, 6, 10, 15, 17, 27, 28, 29, 2012; March 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23; 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 2012; April 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 2012.

**Other Items for Action**

On a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Ms. Lancaster the following item was approved:

**Granting of Tenure**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby grants tenure status to the following individual(s):

<b>Teaching Assistants</b>			
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>TENURE AREA</b>	<b>TENURE DATE</b>
Caren Stander	FHS	Teaching Assistant	June 20, 2012

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Ms. Lancaster and a second by Mr. Ellerbe, the following item was approved:

**Retirement of Staff**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from the following staff member as listed:

**Gloria Adams**, full-time Teaching Assistant, effective August 17, 2012, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 38 years.

**Dorothy Courtney**, Typist-Clerk, effective July 3, 2012, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 40 years.

**Susan Meluzio**, Stenographer, effective June 30, 2012, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 11 years.

**Connie Lynam**, part-time Teaching Aide, effective July 1, 2012, after serving the children of Freeport for more than 9 years.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe, the following item was approved:

**Overnight Field Trip/International Travel**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby authorizes Freeport High School to conduct a field trip to Spain, Italy, and France scheduled for March 20<sup>th</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said authorization is subject to availability of chaperones and to Freeport High School's compliance with all insurance, health, safety, and financial guidelines as indicated in the Administrative Procedure for overnight, off-Long Island, field trips.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Ms. Lancaster the following item was approved:

**Approval of a Consultant**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby approves Fran Lacas to serve in the capacity of consultant to provide professional development to Native Language Arts (NLA) and ESL teachers at the John W. Dodd and Freeport High Schools at \$680.00 per day for no more than four days.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent (or his designee) to execute said agreement on its behalf.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Ms. Lancaster and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

**Approval of the Response to Intervention (RtI) Plan**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby approves the Freeport Public Schools Response to Intervention Plan (RTI).

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

**Setting of the Annual Reorganization Meeting Date**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby sets the date of the Annual Reorganization Meeting to Wednesday, July 11, 2012 as allowed and set forth by School Law §1707(2).

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Ms. Lancaster the following item was approved:

### **Adoption of the 2012-2013 Board Meeting Calendar**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby adopts the attached meeting calendar for the 2012-2013 school year. (as attached)

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Ms. Lancaster and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

### **Approval of a Budget Transfer-General Fund – May 2012**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District here by approves a Budget Transfer for the General Fund for May 2012.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

### **Acceptance of Capital Project Bids for Paving and Site Work**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the bid, as listed in the Attached Bid Award for Capital Projects Report and as recommended therein, for Contract #1 for paving and site work at the Caroline G. Atkinson School, including base bid and alternates # 1 and #2, to Fasco Asphalt Paving, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder per bid specifications, in the amount of \$184,000.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the bid, as listed in the Attached Bid Award for Capital Projects Report and as recommended therein, for Contract #2 for asphalt and site work at the J. W. Dodd Middle School, including base bid and alternates #1 and #2, to Fasco Asphalt Paving, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder per bid specifications, in the amount of \$102,250.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby awards the bid, as listed in the Attached Bid Award for Capital Projects Report and as recommended therein, for Contract #3 for asphalt and site work at the Bayview Avenue School, including base bid and alternates #3, to Condos Brothers Construction, the lowest responsible bidder per bid specifications, in the amount of \$319,200.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.



On a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Ms. Lancaster the following item was approved:

**Acceptance of a Gift – Limited Edition Portraits**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts a donation of eight limited edition portraits of Abraham Lincoln, made by American pop artist Steve Kaufman. These portraits are titled by the artist “Abraham Lincoln: Portrait of an Achiever” and will be displayed in each school in the Freeport School District. This generous donation is made possible by Diane Vachier, parent of a teacher at Atkinson, Rachel Dengle, and they are valued at \$7,200.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Ms. Lancaster and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

**Acceptance of a Gift – Acrosonic Baldwin Piano**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts a donation of one Acrosonic Baldwin Piano. This gift was donated by Mr. Lawrence Graber and is valued at \$999 and is very much appreciated.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

**Acceptance of a Gift – Bob’s Discount Furniture Store**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts a donation of \$1000 from Bob’s Discount Furniture Store to be given to the Bayview Avenue School for the students who participated in the Annual Math Bee and the Annual Spelling Bee as rewards to the winners.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Ms. Lancaster and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved:

**Acceptance of a Scholarship - Ameresco**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Freeport Union Free School District hereby accepts a donation of \$7,500 from Ameresco (our Energy Performance Contract firm). This generous donation will be used for scholarships for students in the graduating class of 2012.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

On a motion by Ms. Lancaster and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved

**Approval of Transportation Contract Extensions**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Freeport Union Free School District hereby approves an annual extension of transportation contract with First Student, WE Transport and ACME Bus Corporation with an increase to be approved by the New York State Education Department based upon the approved annual increase in the Consumer Price Index.

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico

On a motion by Mr. Pomerico and a second by Mr. Ellerbe the following item was approved;

**Approval of a Cafeteria Bidding Co-Op**

**WHEREAS**, It is the plan of a number of public school districts in Nassau/Suffolk Counties, New York to bid jointly on selected Food Service Commodities, Food and Food Service Supplies for the 2012-13 school year.

**WHEREAS**, FREEPORT DISTRICT, is desirous of participating with other districts in Nassau/Suffolk Counties in the joint bidding of the commodities mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0 and,

**WHEREAS**, FREEPORT DISTRICT, wishes to appoint a committee to assume the responsibility for drafting of specification, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, reporting the results to the boards of education and making recommendations thereon; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the BOARD OF EDUCATION of FREEPORT DISTRICT, hereby appoints Long Island School Nutrition Directors Association Cooperative Bid Committee to represent it in all matters related above, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that FREEPORT DISTRICT'S Board of Education authorized the above-mentioned committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above-mentioned commodities, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that FREEPORT DISTRICT'S Board of Education agrees to assume its equitable share of the costs of the cooperative bidding, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that FREEPORT DISTRICT'S Board of Education agrees (1) to abide by majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards; (2) that unless all bids are rejected, it will award contracts according to the recommendations of the committee; (3) that after award of contract(s), it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

**Questions from the Public**

The public was given the opportunity to address the Board of Education. Each speaker was allowed to address the Board for four minutes on any topic.

**Executive Session**

At 9:46 p.m. Mr. Pomerico moved to adjourn to executive session for a matter of personnel. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lancaster and passed unanimously.

The vote was: Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

At 10:27 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and a second by Ms. Lancaster the Board returned to open session. The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, Mulé and Pomerico.

**Adjournment**

At 10:28 p.m., with no other business, on a motion by Mr. Ellerbe and seconded by Ms. Lancaster, the Board adjourned the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The vote was; Ellerbe, Lancaster, McQuillan, Mulé and Pomerico.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary R. Bediako, Ed.D.,  
District Clerk