

REGULAR MEETING (Wednesday, June 21, 2023)  
Generated by Patricia Wright on Thursday, June 29, 2023

**HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 21, 2023  
MINUTES**

The work study meeting of the Hempstead Public Schools Board of Education was held in the A.B.G.S. Middle School Band Box, 70 Greenwich Street, Hempstead, New York 111550. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 P.M., moved by Trustee Williams and seconded by Trustee Johnson. All of the Board Members were present. Trustee Brown Young arrived at 6:14 P.M. The President offered brief remarks, there was a presentation from "Romona's Gift to Music Foundation". The Superintendent and the The Board recognized the 2023 retirees, presenting the with plaques. The Board proceeded to review the agenda.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Randy Stith, President  
LaMont E. Johnson, Vice President  
Olga Brown Young, Trustee  
Patricia McNeill, Trustee  
Joylette Williams, Trustee

**SED MONITOR PRESENT**

Dr. William Johnson

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Regina Armstrong, Superintendent  
Jamal Scott, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations  
Rodney Gilmore, Associate Superintendent for Human Resources  
Djuana Wilson, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education  
James Clark, Assistant Superintendent for Special Assignments  
Gary Rush, Interim Assistant Superintendent for C & I  
Patricia Wright, District Clerk  
Barbara Aloe, General Counsel  
John Sheahan, General Counsel  
Matthew Harrison, General Counsel  
Monte Chandler, Special Counsel  
Jonathan Scher, Labor Counsel

**A. MEETING OPENING**

Procedural: 1. Pledge of Allegiance

**B. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

**C. TRUSTEE REMARKS**

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

Procedural: 1. Moment of Silence

**E. OLD BUSINESS**

**F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS**

**G. COMMENDATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

*Ramona's Gift To Music Foundation*

**H. BOARD OPERATIONS**

**I. OTHER AGENDA ITEMS**

Trustee McNeill moved, seconded by Trustee Johnson to approve the consent calendar.

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>YES 5</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
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To approve the consent calendar

Trustee Stith moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill to convene to executive session at 7:29 P.M. to discuss personnel, a particular individual and advice of legal counsel.

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>YES 5</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
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To convene to executive session

**J. BUSINESS & OPERATIONS**

**EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION RESERVE FUND**

1. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes a transfer in the maximum amount of \$3,000,000 from the unreserved, unappropriated fund balance of the 2022-2023 school year budget to the Employees' Retirement System Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding retirement contributions for the 2023-2024 school year and thereafter and for any purpose authorized under General Municipal Law Section 6-r.

**TEACHERS RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION RESERVE FUND**

2. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes a transfer in the maximum amount of \$1,500,000 from the unreserved, unappropriated fund balance of the 2022-2023 school year budget to the Teachers' Retirement System Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding retirement contributions for the 2023-2024 school year and thereafter and for any purpose authorized under General Municipal Law Section 6-r.

**WORKERS COMPENSATION RESERVE FUND**

3. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes a transfer in the maximum amount of \$4,500,000 from the unreserved, unappropriated fund balance of the 2022-2023 school year budget to the Workers Compensation Reserve fund for the purpose of funding compensation and benefits and other expenses authorized by Article 2 of the Workers' Compensation Law for the 2023-2024 school year and thereafter and for any purpose authorized under General Municipal Law Section 6-j.

#### **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES RESERVE FUND**

4. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes a transfer in the maximum amount of \$4,500,000 from the unreserved, unappropriated fund balance of the 2022-2023 school year budget to the Employee Benefits and Accrued Liabilities Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding costs associated with payments to employees for accrued leave time due to them upon separation from school for the 2023-2024 school year and thereafter and for any purpose authorized under General Municipal Law §6-p.

#### **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**

5. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes a transfer in the maximum amount of \$4,000,000 from the unreserved, unappropriated fund balance of the 2022-2023 school year budget to the Hempstead Union Free School District 2019 Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding Capital projects authorized by the voters and for any purpose authorized under Education Law 3651.

#### **INSURANCE RESERVE FUND**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes a transfer in the maximum amount of \$500,000 from the unreserved, unappropriated fund balance of the 2022-2023 school year budget to the Insurance Reserve Fund for the purpose of refunding the Insurance Fund for the 2023-2024 school year and thereafter and for any purpose authorized under General Municipal Law Section 6-n.

#### **K. CONTRACTS/STIPULATIONS OF SETTLEMENT**

##### **CONTRACTS/STIPULATIONS OF SETTLEMENT**

##### **Maximum Fit Club**

1. **RESOLVED**: That the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendations to execute the Partnership Contract with Maximum Fit Club (MFC) services for HUFSD schools and authorizes the President of the Board to execute same.

**Purpose**: Maximum Fit Club (MFC) is an after-school program of realistic interactive tabletop and life size fitness game series which allows elementary and secondary schools to inspire, educate, and assist in mental and physical health improvement of students and faculty.

**Funding Source**: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant 2023-2024 School Year  
**Amount**: \$40,000

##### **National Alliance on Mental Illness**

2. **RESOLVED**: That the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendations to execute the Partnership Contract with National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Queens/Nassau services for HUFSD and authorizes the President of the Board to execute same.

**Purpose**: National Alliance on Mental Illness Queens/Nassau to provide Mental Health and Wellness Programs for HUFSD including:

**STUDENTS-Mental Health Ending the Silence alternating with the Our Turn to Talk film.**

Combination of a Caregiver and a Peer presentation and conversation that introduces mental illness to students.

**STAFF- Mental Health First Aid.**

Taking the fear and hesitation out of starting conversations about mental health and substance use problems, identify and address a potential mental illness or substance use disorder.

**STUDENTS-Residency for students experiencing a mental health challenge.**

Will teach students how to address their personal mental health journey, understand and manage challenging emotions, build healthy relationships and seek help for mental health.

**Funding Source**: Mental Health Supports Grant 2023-2024 School Year

**Amount**: \$30,000

##### **North Shore Child and Family Guidance Center**

3. **RESOLVED**: That the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendations to execute the Partnership Contract with North Shore Child and Family Guidance Center services for HUFSD and authorizes the President of the Board to execute same.

**Purpose**: North Shore Child and Family Guidance Center will provide services

to meet the needs of the Hempstead student population and their families through individual, family and group therapy on wellness and building resiliency. Topics include Healthy Relationships and Emotional Coping Skills.

**Funding Source**: Mental Health Supports Grant 2023-2024 School Year

**Amount**: \$30,000

##### **EAC Network's Long Island Parenting Institute**

4. **RESOLVED**: That the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendations to execute the Partnership Contract with EAC Network's Long Island Parenting Institute (LIPI) services for HUFSD and authorizes the President for the Board to execute same.

**Purpose**: EAC Network's Long Island Parenting Institute (LIPI) seeks to provide parenting education and support to the parents of HUFSD through their Parent Resource Center by empowering and educating parents on evidence-based tools and techniques to help them make informed decisions in their parenting choices making English/Spanish-language parent workshops both in person and virtually.

**Funding Source**: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Centers Grant 2023-2024 School Year

**Amount**: \$15,000

##### **Sensei Darren**

5. **RESOLVED:** That the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendations to execute the Partnership contract with Sensei Darren services for HUFSD and authorizes the President of the Board to execute same.

**Purpose:** Sensei Darren's Bully Proof program teaches discipline, focus, and consequential thinking through martial arts training for youth and adults. Physical skills, knowledge, and learning self-defense techniques is all about taking control of your personal safety and well-being.

**Funding Source:** 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant 2023-2024 School Year

**Amount:** \$20,000

**Morrison Mentors**

6. **RESOLVED:** That the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's Recommendations to execute the increase of services Agreement with Morrison Mentors for HUFSD and authorizes the President of the Board to execute same.

**Purpose:** Increase sessions and add additional school sites for Morrison Mentors STEM enrichment programs through August 2023.

**Funding Source:** 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Centers Grant

**Amount:** \$30,000

L. DONATION

M. USE OF FACILITIES

N. DISPOSAL OF EQUIPMENT

O. SPECIAL EDUCATION

P. PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES

Q. FIELD TRIPS

R. PERSONNEL

**RESIGNATION – RESOLVED,** that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to ACCEPT the resignation(s) from the following Professional Personnel for RETIREMENT/PERSONAL PURPOSES:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REASON</u>
Yomna Bendary Eff. 7/2/2023	School Psychologist ABGS Middle School	Letter of resignation received for personal reasons.

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to APPOINT the following professional personnel: (In order to be eligible for tenure, an individual receiving a probationary appointment as a classroom teacher or building principal must receive an annual composite or overall APPR rating of Highly Effective or Effective in at least three of the four preceding years. If the individual receives a rating of ineffective in the final year of the probationary period, he or she will not be eligible for tenure at that time).

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
Jessica Ramos De Ayala Eff. 8/30/2023 4-Year Probationary Period, 8/29/2027 Mathematics 7-12, Initial, Eff. 6/10/2023	Mathematics Teacher Hempstead High School	Lv. 1, St. 5 Purpose: Fill Vacant Position Replacing V. Dezil, retired 7/4/2022. Board Approval - 6/16/2022.	\$65,733 - Lv. 1, St. 5

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE - RESOLVED,** that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to APPROVE the following LEAVE(S) of ABSENCE request(s) for the following PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REASON</u>
(NO ACTION REQUIRED)		

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to CHANGE the following Board Action:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REASON</u>
(NO ACTION REQUIRED)		

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to RESCIND the following:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REASON</u>
Stephanie Finney Eff. 7/10/2023 - 8/3/2023	TA - Create Class Empire Summer Program - Jackson Main (JA)	Declined position.
Bonita Johnson Eff. 7/10/2023 - 8/3/2023	Teacher Empire Summer Program - Rhodes Academy	Declined position.
Breanna Nappi Eff. 6/21/2023	Social Worker Jackson Main (JA)	Declined position.

**RESIGNATION – RESOLVED,** that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to TERMINATE the following Professional Personnel:



**RHODES ACADEMY**

Stacey Williams

Lunch Monitor

Contractual Hourly Rate

Aimie Garcia

Lunch Monitor

Contractual Hourly Rate

Terry Mullings

Lunch Monitor

Contractual Hourly Rate

Marcia Barnett

Lunch Monitor

Contractual Hourly Rate

**Trustee Brown Young moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill to reconvene to open session at 12:51 A.M.**

**MOTION YES 5 MOTION CARRIED**  
To reconvene to open session

**HAND CARRY  
JUNE 21, 2023**

**Trustee Stith moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill to waive policy # 2342.**

**1. BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education waives policy 2342 requiring the agenda, together with supporting background materials to be distributed to Board members seven days in advance of a Board meeting, and the Board shall permit the consideration of the hand-carry resolutions presented at the June 21, 2023 meeting of the Board; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the waiver of policy 2342 is effective only for the hand-carry resolutions considered at the June 21, 2023 meeting.

**MOTION YES 5 MOTION CARRIED**  
To waive policy # 2342

**RESOLUTION SETTLING WITH LORRAINE SCORSONE IN NAI**

**Trustee McNeill moved, seconded by Trustee Johnson to approve settlement as indicated.**

**2. WHEREAS**, on December 28, 2018, the District commenced an Action in the New York State Supreme Court, Nassau County under Index Number 617315/2018 ("Action") against the Defendant LORRAINE SCORSONE ("Scorsone") and THE NEW AMERICAN INITIATIVE ("NAI") for fraud, fraudulent inducement, unjust enrichment, aiding and abetting a breach of fiduciary duty, aiding and abetting a fraud, and contractual indemnity; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 9, 2019 the District filed an Amended Complaint in the Action; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 5, 2019, Scorsone filed a Motion to Dismiss the Amended Complaint; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 1, 2019, the District filed opposition to Scorsone's Motion to Dismiss; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 29, 2021, the Court denied Scorsone's Motion to Dismiss;

**WHEREAS**, NAI has failed to appear in the Action;

**WHEREAS**, on August 23, 2021, Scorsone filed a Notice of Appeal the decision of the Court to deny her Motion to Dismiss; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 25, 2022, Scorsone perfected her appeal at the Appellate Division, Second Department under Docket Number 2021-06349 ("Appeal"); and

**WHEREAS**, on April 19, 2023, the Parties appeared before the Hon. Uta Lally, J.S.C. (retired) for a settlement mediation through the Court system in an attempt to resolve this Action; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parties have reached certain understandings and agreements for the settlement of their disputes; and

**WHEREAS**, without any admission of any wrongdoing or liability by or on the part of any party hereto, the Parties have reached an agreement to compromise, settle, resolve and terminate all claims, disputes and matters asserted in the Action by the District against Scorsone or which could have been asserted in the Action by the District against Scorsone or which may otherwise have been available to the District against Scorsone; be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby approves and adopts the Settlement Agreement, and with it the resolution of the litigation as between the District and Lorraine Scorsone, which Settlement Agreement shall be kept on file in the District's District Clerk's Office, pursuant to its terms and it is

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby authorizes the Board President or his authorized designee to execute the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the District.

**MOTION YES 5 MOTION CARRIED**  
To approve settlement

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

**June 21, 2023**

**HAND CARRY**

**Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill to approve tenure recommendation.**

**TENURE RECOMMENDATION**

- 3. RESOLVED**, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3012 of the Education Law and Part 30.3 of the rules of the Board of Regents and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that **Jamal Scott**, a probationary Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations in the Assistant Superintendent tenure area, it having been shown that Jamal Scott holds a valid New York State Certification No. (on file in the Office of Human Resources) to serve in the aforementioned tenure area. It further having been shown that the probationary period of Jamal Scott to serve in the district will expire on 9/22/2023. The Board of Education of the Hempstead Public Schools does hereby grant tenure and appoint to tenure, Jamal Scott, effective 9/22/2023 to the position of Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations in the Assistant Superintendent tenure area.

**MOTION YES 3 MOTION CARRIED**  
To approve tenure **NO 2** (Trustees Brown Young & Stith)

**Trustee Stith for the record:**

*I a straight shoot, so first I'll offer congratulations to the Assistant Superintendent for Business & operations. Mr. Jamal Scott, I'm gonna be very clear to you and clear to Superintendent Armstrong, that one, as the President of the Board of Education, two as a member of this Hempstead school district it is my job to hold you tow accountable, there is a current department of labor investigation, United States department of labor investigation, that we're looking to see what that's gonna yield, but I believe of holding the both of you accountable for that and like I said to the Superintendent before it is important that all employees are paid on time without delay. Employees, vendors contractors, and consultants, I don't play games. People that come to work for us deserve to get paid on time. Because I never get a complaint about your check or your check and any other administrator check so I just want all the lower level employees being treated the same way as you guys and I want the business and the finances of the district to be up and up, I don't get second chance for ya'll to put me back and have my integrity and my decision s questioned when it comes to finances., so as a member of the community. I want you guys to do the job that we hired you to do. And I'm gonna hold you guys accountable to do that regardless of tenure or not, you have an job and I'm looking forward for you to continue doing it congratulations again.*

**Trustee Williams moved, seconded by Trustee Johnson to approve summer Institute personnel.**

4. **B. RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to **APPROVE** the following personnel for 2023 Summer Institute, effective June 26, 2023 - June 29, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Description: Literacy and Numeracy

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>COMPENSATION</b>
Ariadna Urena	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
LaVern Lariosa	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
Laurie Hamilton	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
Jennifer Hayes	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
Christal Rivera	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
Arli Oliphant	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
Amanda Galanoudis	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
Debbie Estrada-Porto	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
Mariam Trice	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
Qiana Burton	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
Cristine Linquiti	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
Patrice Taylor	Teacher	Rhodes Academy	\$55.00/hr.
Kailynn Guido	Teacher	Barack Obama	\$55.00/hr.
Hayley Kosiner	Teacher	Barack Obama	\$55.00/hr.
Erika Winkler	Teacher	Barack Obama	\$55.00/hr.
Delmy Bermudez-Castillo	Teacher	Barack Obama	\$55.00/hr.
Dawn Vogelfang	Teacher	Barack Obama	\$55.00/hr.
Claudine Clarke	Teacher	Marshall	\$55.00/hr.
Venesia Hayward	Teacher	Marshall	\$55.00/hr.
Melissa Dean	Teacher	David Paterson	\$55.00/hr.
Keira Stroughn	Teacher	David Paterson	\$55.00/hr.
Lisa Dunn-Lockhart	Teacher	David Paterson	\$55.00/hr.
Stephanie Lockhart-Turner	Teacher	David Paterson	\$55.00/hr.
April Riviere	Teacher	David Paterson	\$55.00/hr.
Lorena Escobar	Teacher	David Paterson	\$55.00/hr.
Charlee Timmerman	Teacher	Prospect	\$55.00/hr.
Alyssa Tortora	Teacher	Prospect	\$55.00/hr.
Kellie Wilson-McNeal	Teacher	Prospect	\$55.00/hr.
Kristen Ronan	Teacher	Prospect	\$55.00/hr.
Jamise Valentine	Teacher	Prospect	\$55.00/hr.
Nancy Bayat	Teacher	Prospect	\$55.00/hr.
Michelle Lockhart	Teacher	Joseph McNeil	\$55.00/hr.
Robin Branch	Teacher	Joseph McNeil	\$55.00/hr.
Christine Strachan	Teacher	Joseph McNeil	\$55.00/hr.
Soh Young Lee-Segredo	Teacher	Jackson Main	\$55.00/hr.

**MOTION YES 5 MOTION CARRIED**

To approve summer institute personnel

Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Mc Neill to approve summer registration staff.

5. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to **APPROVE** the following personnel for Summer School Student Registration, effective June 26, 2023 - June 29, 2023 (from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00).

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>COMPENSATION</b>
Tracey Brown	Co-Coordinator	\$55.00/hr.
Leasia Shabazz-Earth	Co-Coordinator	\$55.00/hr.
Shereen D'Aguilar	Teacher	\$55.00/hr.
Deja Storey	Guidance Counselor	\$55.00/hr.
Tiketa General	Teaching Assistant	\$35.00/hr.
Lenroy Raffington	Teaching Assistant	\$35.00/hr.
Ricky Ramator	Teaching Assistant	\$35.00/hr.
Adrienne Turner	Teaching Assistant	\$35.00/hr.
Anita Williams	Teaching Assistant	\$35.00/hr.
Reginald Carolina	Teaching Assistant	\$35.00/hr.

**MOTION YES 5 MOTION CARRIED**

To approve summer registration staff

Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Mc Neill to approve to rescind staff.

6. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to **RESCIND** the following:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>REASON</b>
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Adriane Turner  
Eff. 6/22/2023

Teaching Assistant  
Summer School – ABGS Middle School

Already appointed for the same position at Hempstead High School.

**MOTION YES 5**

**MOTION CARRIED**

To approve to  
rescind staff

**T. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Stith moved, seconded by Trustee Williams to adjourn the meeting at 1:04 A.M.

**MOTION YES 5**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia Wright  
District Clerk