

**MINUTES
JUNE 19, 2014**

**HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL / REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 19, 2014
MINUTES**

The special meeting of the Hempstead Public Schools Board of Education was held in the high school board room, 201 President Street, Hempstead, New York 11550. The meeting was called to order at 5:09 P.M. The Board immediately convened to executive by unanimous vote at 5:09 P.M. to discuss personnel, moved by Trustee Brazley and seconded by Trustee Simmons. All of the Board Members were present, Trustee Johnson arrived at 5:20 P.M. and Trustee Cooke arrived at 5:23 P.M. The regular meeting took place in the high school auditorium. The Superintendent presented an end of school year update. Regina Armstrong presented the elementary education update, Dr. Nichelle Rives gave an update on the status of the A.B.G.S. Middle School. Ms. Deborah DeLong gave the update for the high school. Public participation was entertained, all concerns were addressed by the Board, Superintendent and staff.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Betty J. Cross	President
JoAnn Simmons	1 st Vice President
Shelley Brazley	2 nd Vice President
Lamont Johnson	Treasurer
Ricky Cooke	Trustee

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Susan Johnson	Superintendent of Schools
Gerard Antione	Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations
Dr. Rodney Gilmore	Associate Superintendent for Human Resources
Regina Armstrong	Assistant Superintendent for Elementary C & I
Deborah DeLong	Assistant Superintendent for PPS
Dr. Nichelle Rivers	Director for School Improvement, Accountability & Grants
Allison Hernandez	Assistant Superintendent for Special Education
Daniel Espina	Director of Technology & MIS
Patricia Wright	District Clerk
Monte Chandler	General Counsel
Austin Graff	Labor Counsel
Jonathan Scher	Labor Counsel
Scott Kershaw	Labor Counsel

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Trustee Brazley moved, seconded by Trustee Johnson to reconvene to open session at 7:01 P.M.

MOTION	YES 5	MOTION CARRIED
To reconvene to open session		

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

MOTION	YES 4	MOTION CARRIED
To approve the consent calendar		
	NO 1 (Trustee Brazley)	

1. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the minutes of the meeting held April 14, 22, & 24, 2014 and May 5, 20 & 21, 2014 as submitted by the District Clerk.
2. **RESOLVED**, that the board of Education approves the 2nd reading of policy # 4711 & 4711-E “ Student Grading Policy & Procedure & Exhibit. (Attached)
3. **RESOLVED**, that The Scher Law Firm, LLP is engaged to represent the District in the currently pending adversarial challenge to the School District, to be treated as litigation, in the form of a proceeding before the New York State Department of Education, and to provide the defense of Betty Cross, Patricia Wright, and the District, therein.
4. **RESOLVED**, that pursuant to Public officer’s Law, §18, by which the school district is a covered employer (see, §18(1)(a)(ii)), and by which the trustees of a school district and the district clerk are covered employees (see, §18(1)(b)), the district shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the trustees and officials of the district in the currently pending adversarial challenge to the school district that is proceeding before the NYS Department of Education, it being noted that §18(3)(b)(iv) provides as follows:

(b) Subject to the conditions set forth in paragraph (a) of this subdivision, the employee shall be entitled to be represented by private counsel of his choice in any civil action or proceeding whenever the chief legal officer of the public entity or other counsel designated by the public entity determines that a conflict of interest exists, or whenever a court, upon appropriate motion or otherwise by a special proceeding, determines that a conflict of

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interest exists and that the employee is entitled to be represented by counsel of his choice, provided, however, that the chief legal officer or other counsel designated by the public entity may require, as a condition to payment of the fees and expenses of such representation, that appropriate groups of such employees be represented by the same counsel. Reasonable attorneys' fees and litigation expenses shall be paid by the public entity to such private counsel from time to time during the pendency of the civil action or proceeding with the approval of the governing body of the public entity.

BUSINESS & OPERATIONS

WARRANTS

- a. **RECOMMENDS** that the Board of Education review the **Register of Bills** as follows: **General Funds** (Warrants #56, 57, 61); **Cafeteria/Lunch** (Warrant: #12); **Capital Fund** (Warrants #16, 22, 23, 24) and **Federal** (Warrants #22, 23, 24).

TREASURER'S REPORT

- b. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the **Extra Classroom Activity Fund Reports for the period May 1, 2014 to May 31, 2014**.
- c. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the **Treasurer's Reports for the period May 1, 2014 to May 31, 2014**.

APPROPRIATION STATUS REPORT

- d. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation to receive the **Appropriation Status Reports for the General Fund, Lunch Fund, Federal Fund and Capital Fund**.

BUDGET TRANSFERS

- e. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation to approve Budget Transfers of \$5,000 and over. **None this month**.

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f. **RESOLVED**, that the Superintendent notifies the Board of education of the following Budget Transfers under \$5,000. **None this month.**

a. **CONTRACTS / STIPULATIONS OF SETTLEMENTS-NO ACTION**

5. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION-NO ACTION

6. INTERNSHIPS – NO ACTION

7. FUNDED PROGRAMS-NO ACTION

8. SPECIAL EDUCATION

May 2014

5/12; 5/13; 5/14; 5/15; 5/16; 5/19; 5/20; 5/21; 5/22; 5/23; 5/28; 5/29; 5/30

June 2014

6/2; 6/3; 6/4; 6/5; 6/6; 6/9; 6/10

7. USE OF FACILITIES

*** All approvals are conditional based on the needs of the Hempstead School District. If the space requested by an outside group is needed by Hempstead students, the outside group will be cancelled.**

The group **requests a waiver** of the specified fee, which is based on the “Fee Schedule” in Board of Education Policy.

NAME	FOR USE OF	DATE(S)
High School Commons for 1984 Class Reunion Contact: Pat Davis (516) 413-0049	High School Commons for 30 th Class Reunion	Day: Wednesday Date: October 24, 2014 Time: 6pm to 10pm Cost: \$ \$ 595.00 Insurance: Pending Principal Approval: Pending

8. TRANSPORTATION

RESOLVED, THAT THE Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to extend the **Summer Transportation** contracts for 2014 at Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the following companies:

**ACME
FIRST STUDENT**

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WE TRANSPORT

- 9. **TECHNOLOGY -NO ACTION**
- 10. **PERSONNEL (see attached pages #1-)**
- 11. **MISCELLANEOUS-No Action**

HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 19, 2014

K. PERSONNEL

I. PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL

- A. **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>
Holly Donnery Eff. 06/30/14	Special Education Teacher – Prospect School	Letter of resignation submitted for personal reasons.
Cameron Johnson Eff. 06/30/14	Elementary Teacher Prospect School	Letter of resignation submitted for personal reasons.

- B. **LEAVE(S) OF ABSENCE – RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to APPROVE LEAVE(S) OF ABSENCE REQUESTS for the following Professional Personnel:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Tracy Worthy Eff.09/02/14 – 06/30/15	Special Education Teacher – ABGS Middle School	Letter requesting an extension of a paid Medical Sabbatical from 09/02/14 – 06/30/15. (Documentation on file)

- C. **TERMINATION – RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to TERMINATE the following professional personnel due to excessing, effective June 30, 2014:**

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Anna Baez Crosswell	Attendance Teacher
Robin Brazley	Attendance Teacher
Yolanda Blunt-Oates	Attendance Teacher
Rochelle Thornton	Elementary Teacher
Melissa Leccese	Elementary Teacher
Michael Levine	Elementary Teacher
Carolina Flores	Elementary Teacher
Christina Dawydko	Elementary Teacher
Alexandra Sanchez	Elementary Teacher
Deborah Tharpe-Fennell	Elementary Teacher
Carmen Flores	Elementary Teacher
Jamie Covello	Elementary Teacher
Daniela Jesus	Elementary Teacher
Lydia Williams	Elementary Teacher
April Riviere	Elementary Teacher
Kaitlynn Kelly	Elementary Teacher
Kristine Beck	Elementary Teacher
Marisa Gioia	Elementary Teacher
Jodie Abelson	Elementary Teacher
Darla Blanco	Elementary Teacher
Michelle Pineda	Elementary Teacher
Linda St. John	Elementary Teacher
Denise Rodriguez	Elementary Teacher
Michelle Lockhart	Elementary Teacher
Carla Ardi	Elementary Teacher
Tracey Brown	English Teacher
Jennifer Garcia	English Teacher
Lymari Tattnell	Guidance
Raheem Isom	Guidance
Jessica Sabia	Guidance
Caitlin Madden	Math Teacher
Matthew Dini	Math Teacher
Carly Lincoln	Reading Teacher
Deanna Diamond	Reading Teacher

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Dyanne Case	Reading Teacher
Nicole Brown	Reading Teacher
Cheryl Washington	Reading Teacher
Pamela Rothfeld	Reading Teacher
Maria Lugo	Reading Teacher
Danielle Eschmann	Reading Teacher
Deborah Cantor	Reading Teacher
Marla Alvarez	Reading Teacher
Audrey Demas	Reading Teacher
Cynthia Partee	Science Teacher
Richard Barkan	Science Teacher
Dana Ramireez	Social Studies Teacher
Mary Jordan	Social Studies Teacher
Alan Gonzalez	Director of Guidance
Kelly Fairclough	Secondary Assistant Principal
Rachel Miller	Teaching Assistant
Kamilah Pristley	Teaching Assistant
Ramona Mayo	Teaching Assistant
Marilyn Dore-Pignataro	Teaching Assistant
Lorna Strachan	Teaching Assistant
Briannah Cullum	Teaching Assistant
Sonia Findleyson-Webber	Teaching Assistant
Shanita Trice	Teaching Assistant
Kwame Mason	Teaching Assistant
Rebecca Gilbert	Teaching Assistant

- D. **TERMINATION – RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to **TERMINATE** the following professional personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position / School</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Burroughs PULLED Noah Burroughs Eff. 06/27/14	ABGS Middle School - Special Education Teacher	Expired certification
Tanisha Denton Eff. 06/27/14	Franklin School – Elementary Teacher	Expired certification

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Kristine Occhino Prospect School – Elementary Teacher Expired certification
Eff. 06/27/14

**Shavuo
PULLED**

Celina Shavuo
Eff. 06/30/14

David Paterson School – Elementary
Teacher

Termination of probationary
period in accordance with NYS
Education Laws § 3012(b) and
3031(a)

Kiah Mitchell
Eff. 07/30/14

Hempstead High School – Social
Studies Teacher

Termination of probationary
period in accordance with NYS
Education Laws § 3012(b) and
3031(a)

Jonie Watts
Eff. 07/30/14

Jackson Annex School – Special
Education Teacher

Termination of probationary
period in accordance with NYS
Education Laws § 3012(b) and
3031(a)

- E. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s Recommendation to CHANGE the following action from the August 20, 2013 docket:**

CHANGE FROM:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
Erica Azzara Eff: 09/03/13 (Three (3)-year probationary period)	Math Special Education Teacher - Hempstead High School	\$63,937 (Level 5, Step 3)

CHANGE TO:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
Erica Azzara Eff: 09/03/13 (Three (3)-year probationary period)	Special Education Teacher Hempstead High School	\$63,937 (Level 5, Step 3)

- F. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to APPOINT the following professional personnel as follows for the SUMMER STEM PROGRAM held at the Cradle of Aviation Museum from July 7, 2014 through July 25, 2014: (Funded by grant)**

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Total Compensation</u>
Soh Young Lee-Segredo Eff. 07/07/14 – 07/18/14	Elementary Teacher - Front School	\$1,666
LeAsia Shabazz-Earth Eff. 07/07/14 – 07/21/14	Math Teacher - ABGS Middle School	\$2,500
Wendy Eisner Eff. 07/21/14 – 07/25/14	Social Studies Teacher ABGS Middle School	\$833

- F1. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to APPOINT the following professional personnel as follows for the PARENT SCHOOL CONNECTION SUMMER PROGRAM held at Marshall School from July 9, 2014 – August 5, 2014, Monday through Thursday: (not to exceed 72 hours over the three week program)**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
Carolyn Townes-Richards	Principal	\$94.39 per hour
Janice Gedeon	Elementary Teacher	\$40.54 per hour
Renay Medina	Elementary Teacher	\$40.54 per hour
LaVern Lariosa	Elementary Teacher	\$40.54 per hour
Patricia Crespo	Translator	\$40.54 per hour
Lorena Escobar	Translator	\$23.99 per hour
Suyapa Gonzalez	Teaching Assistant	\$23.99 per hour

- F2. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to REAPPOINT the following professional personnel as follows:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
Dana Lyons Eff. 07/01/14	Speech Teacher - District (tenure and seniority rights restored)	\$113,269 (Level 9, Step 18)

2. CIVIL SERVICE 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>
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Rose-Margarett Pierre-Louis Eff. 06/30/14	Registered Professional School Nurse – Front School	Letter of resignation received for retirement purposes.
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RECLASSIFY – RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to RECLASSIFY the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Kevin Robinson Eff. 07/01/14	Head Custodian III Middle School, Lv. 6, St. 10, \$60,030	Appointment from Civil Service Eligible List. Replacing C. Hewitt who retired

LEAVE(S) OF ABSENCE – RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to APPROVE LEAVE(S) OF ABSENCE REQUESTS for the following CIVIL SERVICE Personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Charles Bates Eff. 05/31/14 – 06/10/14	Cleaner F/T – Barack Obama	Requesting an extension of Sick LOA @ ½ pay. (Medical documentation on file)
Radaih Simmons Eff. June 10, 2014 – 6/30/14	Attendance Aide – Prospect	Requesting FMLA without pay. (Medical documentation on file)

**June 19, 2014
Board of Education Meeting
HAND CARRY**

TERMINATION – RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to TERMINATE the appointments of the following professional personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>
James Thomas Eff. 07/30/14	High School Principal – Hempstead High School	Termination of probationary period in accordance with NYS Education Laws §3012(b) and 3031(a)

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David Evans Eff. 07/30/14	High School Principal – Hempstead High School	Termination of probationary period in accordance with NYS Education Laws §3012(b) and 3031(a)
Helisse Palmore Eff. 07/30/14	Elementary School Principal – Barack Obama School	Termination of probationary period in accordance with NYS Education Laws §3012(b) and 3031(a)

APPOINTMENT(S) – RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation to APPROVE the following Civil Service Personnel for SUMMER SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES, effective July 7, 2014 – August 14, 2014 (Monday through Thursday – NOT TO EXCEED 20 HOURS PER WEEK)

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
Marco Martinez	Contractual Hourly Rate
Lewis Mincy	Contractual Hourly Rate
Brenda Davis	Contractual Hourly Rate
Lillian Kearse	Contractual Hourly Rate
Wanda Berry	Contractual Hourly Rate
Lisa Brinkley	Contractual Hourly Rate
Daisy Bradley	Contractual Hourly Rate

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves indemnification and defense for members of the Board of Education, District Clerk and Superintendent of Schools in any and all matters surrounding the events of the May 20, 2014 budget vote and election. The attorneys being hired are John Ryan, \$250.00/hr, William Petrillo, \$5000.00 retainers and Douglas L. Thomas, rate of pay to be determined.

RESOLUTION INTROODUCED BY Trustee Brazley

I’d like something to be on the record; This is for the record: “In light of the recommendation to excess almost 40 teachers, the Director of Guidance, the 10 teaching assistants, plus recommendations to terminate some additional teachers, I have some very serious concerns, it’s important that you share the data to support these decisions, not only to the Board, but with the community, I’m also concerned with the lack of planning, I’m concerned about the misplaced grades, the changing of grades, I’m concerned about in this document, this very document, the student grading policies like you don’t have that we already have in my opinion, we have an issues figuring out what is the policy. These are

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administrative decisions not board policy, in light of my concerns, in light of my concerns with the recent things that have happened this week with the regents does not give me hope that things are improving, What I am recommending is ,what my motion tonight is that we do we do a part 83 investigation on the Superintendent . This decision is not personal on my part or on the part of anyone else's, we need someone to come in and evaluate everything, the way we do business in Hempstead so that we can move forward. So I make a motion that we do a part 83 investigation.”

Trustee Brazley moved, seconded by Trustee Cooke to do a part 83 investigation.

MOTION	YES 3	MOTION CARRIED
To do a part 83 investigation	NO 2 (Trustees Simmons & Cross)	

Trustee Cross moved, seconded by Trustee Simmons to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

MOTION	YES 3	MOTION CARRIED
Meeting adjourned		

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia Wright
District Clerk