

MINUTES OF BABYLON SCHOOL BOARD WORK/STUDY MEETING

DATE OF MEETING: January 23, 2023
PLACE: Babylon Junior-Senior High School, 50 Railroad Avenue, Babylon, NY 11702

Members Present

Mrs. Carol Ann Dell'Erba, President
Mrs. Linda Jurs, Vice President
Mr. Ari McKenzie
Mr. Dominick Montalto
Mrs. Donna Noesi
Mrs. Theresa Patiri (absent)
Mr. David Sonkin

APPROVED

Interim Superintendent

Mr. Brian L. Conboy

Central Office Administration

Ms. Deirdre Lunetta, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Ms. Carisa Manza, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

District Clerk

Linda McGarvey

School Attorneys

Doug Spencer (during executive session only)
Nicole Murphy (during executive session only)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by C. Dell'Erba, President. A motion to enter executive session by D. Noesi and seconded by L. Jurs, for the purpose of discussing the employment history of particular individuals and advice from counsel was made. (6-0) Public session resumed at 7:30 p.m. at which time C. Dell'Erba, President, led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of January 9, 2023 were approved on motion by D. Sonkin and seconded by D. Noesi. (6-0)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Conboy reported the following: At the end of this week we will be halfway through the 2022-2023 school year. The first part of the school year has gone by quickly. I have been here, as of February 1st, for six months, and I have really enjoyed the time that I spent here, with many good people, great colleagues, and great community members.

I will address the article that was written in Newsday on Sunday, January 15, 2023. I did put a message out, which I hope you received on Saturday afternoon, in response to that Newsday article. We were not surprised that that article was coming out because we had been foiled by Newsday for a lot of information. We knew that was coming, but we didn't know exactly what the content of the article would be.

At the start of this school year, we tried to use a simple philosophy for moving forward in Babylon. We called it "Preserve, Restore and Advance." We talked about it at previous Board meetings. Our goal is to preserve everything that has been great about this building and about this school district. And then restore whatever needs to be restored, whether it's faith or trust or confidence, whatever may have been lost based on the accusations that were brought last year. And then advancing the district to the greatest extent possible. I know, and I have found, from the people that I talked with that are associated with this district, that this is a proud district, and it has a history of success. So we want to make sure that, once we are completely restored, that that's the direction that we are headed in. We understand that we can't undo what's been done, we're not going to minimize it, and we're not going to ignore it. It is part of what we need to address going forward, but at the same time, we need to charge ahead as well. We need to make sure that we are doing everything that we can to make sure that the students that we have, and that we're responsible for now, are getting the most vibrant and safe education that they can get. So, hopefully, we won't have to talk about too many of these things in the long term. But right now we've realized this is the situation that we're in and we're going to combat it to the greatest extent possible.

These are a few other things going on in the district: We have testing week going on here at the junior/senior high school. If you call the district, you are going to hear a new voice on the telephone, and that is Ms. Manza's voice that welcomes you. Tonight is a work/study meeting of the Board, and in terms of preserving, restoring and advancing, Ms Manza and some of our colleagues are here to talk to you about some of the programs that we've been able to put in place in the half year so far, and it's just the beginning. We plan to do a lot more to keep the district moving forward. Thank you very much for your attention.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/
QUESTIONS**

The Board of Education addressed questions/comments from Eileen Berry regarding the resolution pertaining to charges against employees named in executive session. Ms. Berry also expressed interest in receiving district emails.

OMNIBUS MOTION

On motion by D. Noesi, seconded by D. Sonkin, a motion to omnibus Resolutions 1-9 was approved (6-0).

On omnibus motion by L. Jurs, seconded by D. Montalto, Resolutions 1-9 were approved (6-0).

New Business

1. UNPAID CHILDCARE LEAVE OF ABSENCE: RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the extended unpaid childcare leave of absence of Lauren Bianco, special education teacher at Babylon Jr./Sr. High School, from January 30, 2023 through March 21, 2023.

2. LEAVE REPLACEMENT TEACHER APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Barbara Wild, M.Ed., as a leave replacement teacher for Lauren Bianco effective December 12, 2022 through March 24, 2023. Compensation for this appointment to be Step 7 of MA15 of the 2022-2023 Babylon Teachers Association Contract (\$83,052). (retroactive and prorated)

3. SENIOR ACCOUNT CLERK APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints Florence Lathbury to the position of Senior Account Clerk in the facilities and transportation office. Compensation for this position will be at Column B, Step 3 of the CSEA contract pro-rated, retroactive to August 1, 2022.

4. PER DIEM SUBSTITUTE SOCIAL WORKER APPOINTMENT: RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of the following per diem substitute social worker, effective January 24, 2023. Compensation for this assignment to be at the substitute per diem rate of pay scale: Days: 1-30 \$110.00; Days: 31-60 \$120.00; Days: 61-90 \$130.00; Over 91 days: \$140.00.

Grade School
Casey Grennan Burns

5. CASUAL APPOINTMENTS: RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints the following coaching appointments for the Spring 2023 season. Compensation for these appointments to be in accordance with the 2022/2023 Babylon Teachers' Association Contract.

JV Boys Lacrosse Coach	Chris Morra	\$5,996
Varsity Softball Assistant Coach	Hannah McGarvey	\$5,996

6. DONATION: RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation of two (2) lacrosse goals for use on the Babylon High School fields (approximate value is \$1,200), donated by the Hofstra men's lacrosse program, with appreciation for this generous gift.

7. RESOLUTION: WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has preferred charges against the employees named in Executive Session pursuant to Section 3020-a of the New York State Education Law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined, by a vote of a majority of all the members of the Board, that probable cause exists for the charges preferred against said employees by the Superintendent of Schools;

BE IT RESOLVED that the employees named in Executive Session are hereby suspended with pay pending a hearing on the charges and the final determination thereof.

8. ESTABLISHMENT OF BUILDING FACILITY USAGE HOURLY RATE
AMENDED*: RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education establishes the amended* overtime hourly rate of pay for facility usage for the 2022-2023 school year, originally approved at the July 7, 2022 Board of Education meeting, as follows:

Food Service	\$37.10/hour
Security Service	\$19.00/hour*
Custodial Service	\$47.31/hour
Field Lights	\$20.00/hour

9. APPROVAL OF EXTERNAL AUDIT CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN (CAP):
RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education acknowledges receipt and hereby accepts the Corrective Action Plan for the annual financial statement audit management letter for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022 issued by Cullen & Danowski, LLP.

**WORK/STUDY
PRESENTATION**

Ms. Manza, Mr. Keogh, Ms. Moran, Mr. Haubrich and Mr. Cirone conducted a PowerPoint presentation on the "Analysis of the District's Comprehensive Improvement Plan."

**FUTURE BOARD
MEETINGS**

The Board of Education will hold a Regular Business Meeting on February 13, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. and a Work/Study Meeting on February 27, 2023, in the library of the Babylon Junior-Senior High School.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by L. Jurs, seconded by D. Noesi, the Board adjourned the executive session at 8:34 p.m. Approved (6-0)

**RESPECTFULLY
SUBMITTED,**



**LINDA MCGARVEY
DISTRICT CLERK**