



**NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES – APRIL 10, 2025**

Business Meeting	Martin Avenue School 2616 Martin Avenue, Bellmore, NY 11710	6:30 PM
------------------	--	---------

The Business meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, April 10, 2025, in the All Purpose Room of the Martin Avenue School at 2616 Martin Avenue, North Bellmore, New York.

The following members of the Board of Education were present:

Nina Lanci, President
Rosemarie Corless, Vice President
Melissa Cmar-Grote
Christine Malloy
Christopher Nardo

Also present:

Marie Testa, Superintendent of Schools
Janet Pollitt, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Richard Cunningham, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Business
Christopher Powers, District Counsel
Laurice Gunnels, District Clerk

- | | |
|---|---|
| CALL TO ORDER | The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. A motion was made by Mrs. Malloy, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote to move into an executive session. Motion was carried 5-0. The meeting reconvened at 6:50 p.m. |
| PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE | Mrs. Lanci led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. |
| MISSION STATEMENT | Mrs. Testa read the District's Mission Statement. |
| AMENDMENT TO ORDER OF AGENDA ITEMS | ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Malloy, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 5-0, Item No. 11.1, the Personnel Report was moved up on the Agenda. |
| PERSONNEL REPORT
<i>Item No. 11.1</i> | ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved the Personnel Report dated April 10, 2025 (on file at District Office).

<div style="margin-left: 40px;"><ul style="list-style-type: none">A. AppointmentsB. Leave RequestsC. Change of StatusD. ResignationsE. Termination</div> |

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:
Tenure Recognition

Mrs. Testa opened this evening's North Bellmore Tenure milestone celebration by congratulating all the newly appointed and welcoming family, friends, and students. She spoke proudly of those receiving this distinction, recognizing them for their professional excellence and dedication to the North Bellmore students and community, their profound impact upon the future of education, and exemplary qualifications measured by and in line with the district's core values and mission. In recognition of the recipients, Mrs. Testa quoted Mr. Brad Henry *"a good teacher and leader can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning"*, and proudly applauded the honorees.

- Danielle Calapai, Teacher K-6
- Alexa Cappuzzo, Teacher K-6
- Yvonne Francolini, Library Media Specialist
- Amanda Licci, Principal
- Daniel Madden, Assistant Principal
- Kerri Maxwell, Teacher K-6
- Stephanie Meehan, Teacher K-6
- James O'Brien, Teacher K-6
- Alessa Parker, PE Teacher
- Catherine Schlaich, Teacher K-6

The distinguished recipients were celebrated for their leadership, dedication, and steadfast commitment to the students and community by the District Administrators and building Principals, Mr. Rosof, Mrs. Brugge, Mr. Fischetti, Mrs. Licci, Ms. McNamara, and Dr. Yanucci, on behalf of the NBTA, Ms. Signorelli, and esteemed colleagues and friends. Words of appreciation and gratitude were spoken by the respective PTA Council members, and hugs, illustrations of gratitude, and flowers were bestowed upon them by students.

The meeting was temporarily interrupted for cake in celebration of tenure at 8:50 p.m. and resumed at 9:02 p.m.

**2025/26 PROPOSED
BUDGET**

Mr. Cunningham addressed with the BOE the ongoing foundational work in preparing the 2025/26 proposed budget for adoption. In summary, Mr. Cunningham detailed the journey beginning with the initial draft by Mrs. Rehak followed up with thorough review and refinement over the past few months by himself in collaboration with discussions and updated information provided by District Administrators, Building Principals, and Business Office departmental staff.

Mr. Cunningham reported the proposed budget reflects a 2.52 budget-to-budget increase with a projected 2.55 percent increase in tax levy. Since the last meeting, he shared that there was a slight increase in expenditures driven by enrollment. In furtherance, Mr. Cunningham spoke to an overall enrollment increase of 2.14 percent reflective of the thriving North Bellmore community and indicated that enrollment will continue to be closely monitored.

Mr. Cunningham indicated the proposed 2025/26 budget including the summary of the expenditure and revenue will be uploaded and available for review on the website tomorrow.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES	ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved the minutes of the Business meeting of March 13, 2025.
PUBLIC COMMENTS <i>(Agenda Items only)</i>	<p><u>Guidelines to Public Comments:</u></p> <p>Any person wishing to make comments or raise questions shall complete an information card. Questions are to be addressed to the Board President, not to individual board members. Personal attacks on individual board members, administrators and staff will not be tolerated and may be cause to adjourn the meeting. There will be no back and forth dialogue. Out of courtesy and fairness to the rest of the audience, it would be appreciated if each visitor would limit his/her remarks to not more than three minutes or ask only one question. Public discussion on matters relating to staff and students, at which their reputation, privacy, or rights to due process, or those of others could be in some way violated, is prohibited.</p> <p>There were no public comments relating to agenda items only.</p>
CORRESPONDENCE	Mrs. Lanci advised that the Board received correspondence.
TREASURER'S REPORT	ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved the Treasurer's report for the month ended February 28, 2025 (on file at District Office).
BOARD COMMITTEE / HIGH SCHOOL REPORTS	Mrs. Corless reported the BMCHSD met last week on Wednesday, April 2. The BOE celebrated and issued Awards of Honor to the girls wrestling team, Mephram Track, Mephram Cheerleading, and from Kennedy's Winter Track and Field (Corey Abel and Morgan Beers) on becoming Nassau County Champions. Mrs. Corless indicated there was a budget presentation and slides are available on the website for review. She briefly outlined the BMCHSD's proposed budget of 3.32 with a tax levy of 2.82 which is within the cap and, in addition, a proposition to expend money from an existing capital reserve for proposed work at Calhoun High School. The next meeting will be held on May 7.
CONSENT AGENDA <i>Item Nos. 10.1 to 10.5</i>	ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved Item Nos. 10.1 through 10.5.
FINANCE	<p>10.1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Budgetary Transfers dated April 10, 2025 (on file at District Office).</p> <p>10.2 The Board of Education acknowledges the review of the warrants that have been approved by the Claims Auditor for the month of March 2025 (on file at District Office).</p>
SEQRA RESOLUTION - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	<p>10.3 SEQRA RESOLUTION</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the North Bellmore Union Free School District desires to embark upon the following capital improvements at the District's facilities: (1) District Wide Interior ADA Accessibility; and (2) District Wide Bathroom Renovations (hereinafter the "Projects"); and</p>

**SEQRA RESOLUTION
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
(continued)**

WHEREAS, said capital improvements are subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(1)); and

WHEREAS, replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or a facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(2)); and

WHEREAS, routine activities of educational institutions, including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area and school closings, but not changes in use related to such closings are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(10));

WHEREAS, the SEQR Regulations declare Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQR; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, as the only involved agency, has examined all information related to the capital improvement projects and has determined that the Projects are classified as Type II Actions pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(1), (2) and (10) of the SEQR Regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares that the Projects are Type II Actions, which require no further review under SEQR; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby shall forward an official copy of this Resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the correspondence from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in connection with its request for approval of the listed project from the New York State Education Department.

2025/2026 BUDGET

10.4 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the North Bellmore School District to expend the sum in the General Fund Appropriation in the total amount of \$70,332,774 for the 2025/2026 school year.

VOTER PROPOSITION

10.5 Proposition 2- North Bellmore UFSD Capital Reserve Fund

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education shall present to the qualified voters of the North Bellmore Union Free School District at the annual meeting to be held on May 20, 2025 the following proposition in substantially the following form:

VOTER PROPOSITION
(continued)

SHALL the Board of Education of the North Bellmore Union Free School District be authorized to expend up to \$3,348,000.00 (plus interest) from the capital reserve fund established on May 17, 2022 for the purpose of performing district wide interior ADA accessibility and district wide bathroom renovations, all of the foregoing to include all labor, materials, equipment, apparatus and incidental cost related thereto.

PERSONNEL REPORT
(See Page 1)

Item No. 11.1, the Personnel Report, was moved up on the Agenda and approved (see Page 1).

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Malloy, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved the Staff Development Report dated April 10, 2025 (on file at District Office).

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mrs. Testa’s report this evening was centered on North Bellmore’s traditional tenure celebration and words of grandeur for the distinguished faculty and staff recipients. In closing this evening, Mrs. Testa extended a congratulatory shoutout to the Festival Chorus and Band on the success of their concert performances.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION REPORT

Mrs. Pollitt updated the community on the status of the NYS testing that began this week. She reported the district was scheduled to start on Tuesday, and while in the preparation process became aware of statewide issues occurring outside of district control. She shared through delegated communication between Administrators, Principals, and Technology, the decision was made to pause to ensure that nothing on district’s side was or would be compounding the issue, and testing resumed on Wednesday with staggered start times due to state’s recommendations. Mrs. Pollitt reported only a small percentage of students were unable to test on Wednesday, and Thursday’s testing was seamless. Those families of children affected were kept apprised of the status via Principal communication and/or letter. Mrs. Pollitt proudly extended a heartfelt thanks to everyone for their flexibility, resilience, and unwavering support.

Moving on, Mrs. Pollitt was excited to share information regarding QAP, Quality Assurance Protocol, whereby districts receive the UPK expansive grant funds and the extensive process involved. Mrs. Pollitt shared on March 26, the State representative whom she works with regarding this process came to the district, visited the various UPK sites, and after meeting with her today for the debriefing, Mrs. Pollitt proudly shared the positive feedback on the programs and the great strides the district has made in this area.

In furtherance, Mrs. Testa spoke of Mrs. Pollitt’s dedication to the UPK Program. She described how Mrs. Pollitt monitors and works in partnership with the various providers utilizing district learning materials, working on the assessment process with the teachers, screening the children, etc. Mrs. Testa proudly commented on how tremendous it is in the education world to receive such feedback from the State level and extended immense gratitude to Mrs. Pollitt for her commitment and hard work.

CONSENT AGENDA (Item Nos. 13.1 to 14.10)	ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Malloy, seconded by Mrs. Corless, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved Item Nos. 13.1 through 14.10.
SPECIAL EDUCATION CPSE/CSE REPORTS	13.1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the CPSE and CSE reports dated April 3, 2025 (on file at District Office).
NEW BUSINESS CONTRACTS	14.1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following contracts for the 2024/25 school year (on file at District Office): <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Bellmore UFSD (Health & Welfare)-Big Chief Nursery School (UPK)-CBIZ Valuation Group, Inc. (Fixed Assets)-Cerini & Associates, LLP (Internal Auditing 2025/26)-Freeport UFSD (Health & Welfare)-Garden City UFSD (Health & Welfare)-Hempstead UFSD (Health & Welfare)-Nassau County DHS, OMH, CDDS (Prevention 2024)-North Merrick UFSD (Health & Welfare)-Plainview-Old Bethpage-Quantas Advisors-Uniondale UFSD (Health & Welfare)
FIRST READING: Policy Nos. 0111 8113	14.2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the following policies for a first Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Policy 0111: Sexual Harassment Grievances Under Title IX-Policy 8113: Extreme Heat Condition Days
READING AND ADOPTION: Policy Nos. 1120R 8130	14.3 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following policies for reading and adoption: <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Policy 1120R: School District Records Regulation-Policy 8130: School Safety Plans and Teams
EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT	14.4 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an employment agreement between the North Bellmore UFSD and Director of Special Education and Student Services for the term April 22, 2025-June 30, 2028 (on file at District Office).
2025 ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE/SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION: Appointment of Election Inspectors	14.5 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint the following election inspectors for the 2025 Annual Budget Vote and School Board Election: District Employees: Michael J. Bevilacqua, Jack Newman, Laurice Gunnels, Lisa Fogarty, Kathy Lazaar, Barbara Miller, Lisa Danz, Patricia Lombardo, Jennifer Pelini, Eileen Giovino, Barbara Fillios, Carol Sena, Rosemarie Savalli, Anne Barbera, Diane Agoglia, Kim Boschert, Carol Leroux, Mary Grace Roach, Jacqueline Laddomada, Monica Gargano, Elena Wakely, Karen Guerra, June Carbone, Theresa Foti, Christie Boschert, at their hourly rate. Non-District Employees: Justine Barbera-Brazas at an hourly rate of \$16.50.

DONATIONS

14.6 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation from the Bellmore Lions Club of Amazon gift cards to be used towards the districtwide sixth grade awards. Value: \$500

14.7 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation from the Persaud family of a check in the amount of \$1,500.00 to be used to purchase the following items for the students of Saw Mill Road School:

- Books for Principal Read Aloud Assemblies
- Wireless mic unit for the All Purpose Room
- Recess equipment

14.8 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation from the Newbridge Road School PTA of six outdoor picnic tables for the Newbridge Road courtyard. (Approx. value: \$1,300.00)

NBTA AGREEMENT

14.9 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an Agreement between the North Bellmore Union Free School District and the North Bellmore Teachers' Association with respect to payment associated with music teachers doing performances at the end of year graduation ceremonies in June 2025 (on file at District Office).

TRASH BAG COOPERATIVE BID

14.10 Trash Bag Cooperative Bid (on file at District Office).
WHEREAS, the North Bellmore UFSD has received sealed bids.

Bid Description: Trash Bag Cooperative Bid

July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Bid Advertised: Nassau Newsday March 24, 2025

Bid Opening: April 4, 2025 @11AM

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of schools, Mrs. Testa, that the Board of Education agrees to award the following bids:

	Item #	Name	Amount
1	516-001	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$5.32
2	516-002	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$20.72
3	516-003	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$7.68
4	516-004	Unipak Corp, P.O. Box 332, West Long Branch, NJ 07764	\$16.20
5	516-005	Unipak Corp, P.O. Box 332, West Long Branch, NJ 07764	\$16.20
6	516-006	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$6.34
7	516-007	Unipak Corp, P.O. Box 332, West Long Branch, NJ 07764	\$6.95
8	516-008	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$16.18
9	516-009	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$15.32
10	516-010	Unipak Corp, P.O. Box 332, West Long Branch, NJ 07764	\$13.90
11	516-011	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$16.24
12	516-012	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$16.24
13	516-013	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$13.82
14	516-014	Unipak Corp, P.O. Box 332, West Long Branch, NJ 07764	\$16.85

15	516-015	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$16.48
16	516-016	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$14.68
17	516-017	Interboro Packaging, 114 Bracken Road, Montgomery, NY 12549	\$19.48

These contracts, which were bid as cooperative services, shall include the participation of the following school districts:

North Bellmore Union Free School District
 Bellmore, N.Y.
 Baldwin Union Free School District
 Baldwin, N. Y.
 Bellmore Union Free School District
 Bellmore, N.Y.
 Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District
 Merrick, N.Y.
 Bethpage Union Free School District
 Bethpage, N. Y.
 Carle Place Union Free School District
 Carle Place, N.Y.
 East Meadow Union Free School District
 East Meadow, N.Y.
 East Rockaway Union Free School District
 East Rockaway, N.Y.
 East Williston Union Free School District
 East Williston, N.Y.
 Elmont Union Free School District
 Elmont, N.Y.
 Floral Park-Bellerose Union Free School District
 Floral Park, N. Y.
 Freeport Union Free School District
 Freeport, N.Y.
 Garden City Union Free School District
 Garden City, N.Y.
 Glen Cove City School District
 Glen Cove, N. Y.
 Great Neck Union Free School District
 Great Neck, N. Y.
 Hempstead Union Free School District
 Hempstead, N.Y.
 Herricks Union Free School District
 New Hyde Park, N.Y.
 Hewlett-Woodmere Union Free School District
 Woodmere, N. Y.
 Hicksville Union Free School District
 Hicksville, N. Y.
 Island Trees Union Free School District
 Levittown, N.Y.
 Jericho Union Free School District
 Jericho, N.Y.
 Levittown Union Free School District
 Levittown, N.Y.
 Locust Valley School District
 Locust Valley N.Y.
 Long Beach School District
 Long Beach, N. Y.
 Lynbrook Union Free School District

**TRASH BAG COOPERATIVE
BID
(continued)**

Lynbrook, N.Y.
Manhasset Union Free School District
Manhasset, N.Y.
Massapequa Union Free School District
Massapequa, N.Y.
Merrick Union Free School District
Merrick, N.Y.
Mineola Union Free School District
Mineola, N.Y.
New Hyde Park/Garden City Park School District
New Hyde Park, N.Y.
North Bellmore Union Free School District
North Bellmore, N.Y.
North Merrick Union Free School District
North Merrick, N.Y.
North Shore Central School District
Sea Cliff, N.Y.
Oceanside Union Free School District
Oceanside, N.Y.
Plainedge Union Free School District
North Massapequa, N.Y.
Plainview/Old Bethpage Central School District
Plainview, N.Y.
Port Washington Union Free School District
Port Washington, N.Y.
Rockville Centre Union Free School District
Rockville Centre, N.Y.
Roosevelt Union Free School District
Roosevelt, N.Y.
Seaford Union Free School District
Seaford, N. Y.
Syosset Central School District
Syosset, N. Y.
Uniondale Union Free School District
Uniondale, N.Y.
Valley Stream CHS Union Free School District
Valley Stream, N.Y.
Valley Stream 13 Union Free School District
Valley Stream, N.Y.
Valley Stream 24 Union Free School District
Valley Stream N. Y.
Valley Stream 30 Union Free School District
Valley Stream, N.Y.
Wantagh Union Free School District
Wantagh, N.Y.
West Hempstead Union Free School District
Hempstead, N.Y.
Westbury Union Free School District
Westbury, N.Y.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENTSGuidelines to Public Comments:

Any person wishing to make comments or raise questions shall complete an information card. Questions are to be addressed to the Board President, not to individual board members. Personal attacks on individual board members, administrators and staff will not be tolerated and may be cause to adjourn the meeting. There will be no back and forth dialogue. Out of courtesy and fairness to the rest of the audience, it would be appreciated if each visitor would limit his/her remarks to not more than three minutes or ask only one question. Public discussion on matters relating to staff and students, at which their reputation, privacy, or rights to due process, or those of others could be in some way violated, is prohibited.

There were no public comments.

**POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

The BOE did not adjourn into Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Malloy and carried 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m. The next business meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurice Gunnels
District Clerk