

**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION
AND COMMUNITY FORUM
MARCH 9, 2016**

**Valley Stream Union Free School District Twenty-Four
William L. Buck School
6:30 P.M**

President Lawrence Trogel

The meeting took place at the William L. Buck School.

President Trogel called the Work Session meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

In attendance: President Trogel, Vice President Pellicane, Trustees DePace, Hernandez, Iadevaio, LaRocco, and Maier.

Others in Attendance: Superintendent Fale, Director of Curriculum, Dr. Lisa Conte, Director of Special Education, Mrs. Vanessa Myers and Director of Finance and Operations, Mr. Jack Mitchell

The meeting was called to order by President Trogel at 6:30 PM.

The Board discussed possibly changing next year's Board meetings back to Thursday nights or maybe having the work sessions on Wednesdays and the actual meetings on Thursdays. There will be further discussion at the next work session meeting. The Board did select Wednesday, July 6, 2016 as the date for the Reorganization meeting.

Motion: Paul DePace, seconded by Armando Hernandez, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the calendar for the 2016-2017 school year. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion: Armando Hernandez, seconded by John Maier, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Milagros Lim, a Teacher Aide in the District, effective March 25, 2016. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion: Lisa Pellicane, seconded by Paul DePace, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Antonia Estrella, a part time School Monitor in the District, effective February 25, 2016. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion: John Maier, seconded by Anthony Iadevaio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Corliss Danas as a part-time School Monitor, effective March 1, 2016. This appointment and compensation is in accordance with the agreement between the Board of Education and the United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU). Motion unanimously carried.

Motion: Donna LaRocco, seconded by Lisa Pellicance, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Francine Casey as a part-time School Monitor, effective March 14, 2016. This appointment and compensation is in accordance with the agreement between the Board of Education and the United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU). Motion unanimously carried.

Motion: Anthony Iadevaio, seconded by John Maier, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Marie Walsh, as a Registered Nurse (School Nurse), effective March 28, 2016. This appointment is a 26 week Probationary Appointment, said probationary period to expire on September 26, 2016. Compensation will be in accordance with the agreement between the Board of Education and the Valley Stream Teachers' Association (Registered Nurses Unit). Motion unanimously carried.

The Board moved into the All-Purpose Room at 7:00 PM for the Teacher Meeting with the Board.

The Board moved into the Public Work Session/Community Forum at 7:40 PM.

The Board discussed the 2016-2017 budget. Mr. Mitchell advised that we can only raise the Tax Cap by .33% if we stay within the cap. Discussion continues on whether or not we will pierce the cap and what the ramifications will be.

The Board has to decide if we do pierce the cap do we want to pierce it just to break even or to have enough to raise the fund balance. The community wanted to know what the costs would be to homeowners. Mr. Mitchell advised that he will compute scenarios and advise the Board and the public at the next meeting.

Mr. Mitchell spoke of the LIPA Pilot money and how the Judge voted in favor of the school districts, however, no money will be released until an order is received by the Judge so we still will not have this money yet.

The Board said we will wait until we know more from the State Budget by April 1st and then we will decide.

Dr. Fale advised that he spoke with our Legislators in Albany and they are aware of our situation but nothing was very promising.

Armando Hernandez and Anthony Iadevaio advised that they met with Legislators in Albany and asked for more state aid to help us meet our budget needs.

John Maier wanted to know if we do not get the money from Albany will we have to cut programs. Dr. Fale advised that we do not have much left to cut other than back to a half-day of Kindergarten or reduced Inclusion program back to half time. Neither are good options so decisions will have to be made.

The community asked if we were still considering a Bond and Dr. Fale said it is still on the table but would not be until the end of the 2016 school year or the beginning of 2017 school year. Dr. Fale said that we would need total community input before placing a Bond up for a vote.

Budget discussion will continue further at the March 30, 2016 meeting.

Dr. Fale and the Board encouraged the community to attend the Legislative Breakfast on March 12th to speak to our Legislators urging them to give us aid.