

**Saw Mill Road Sixth Grade
BOE Representatives
(continued)**

Speaking individually, they collectively reflected on the start of the new school year, excited to share their goals as a sixth-grade student and a member of the Saw Mill community illustrating the district core values.

- Assuming a role model responsibility for the younger students by setting examples, and building confidence in learning, i.e. Kindergarten buddies.
- Building a safe and healthy environment that inspires learning through inspiring values of honesty, integrity, and trust, welcoming new friendships, being kind to one another, and working as a team player.
- Inspiring and demonstrating creativity illustrated through band, orchestra, chorus, art, and athletics in both individualized and/or group events.

With the start of the new school year the students spoke to their feelings of excitement for upcoming events, i.e. Project Adventure, Holiday Boutique, constructing a rocket, etc. As a fun interactive activity, the students then called upon the audience to share their feelings for the upcoming year utilizing their smart devices and a QR code provided. Submissions were happily read aloud, i.e. *watching our student strive as joyful patient learners, sixth grade dance and graduation, kindergarten showcase, to help the students be the best version of themselves*, to name a few. The students thanked all for participating.

Mrs. Testa shared a heartfelt message to the students, congratulating them on their performance this evening, speaking proudly of their demeanor and outstanding presentation illustrating the true meaning of the district's core values, and extended her gratitude to the administrators, teachers, and parents working together to inspire learners. Certificates were presented from the BOE.

Mrs. Lanci called for a moment of silence for 9/11, and for the tragedy in Georgia that has affected schools and students.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approved the minutes of the Business meeting of August 8, 2024, and Special Meetings of August 13, 2024, and September 3, 2024.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS
(Agenda Items only)**

Guidelines for Public Comments was communicated by Mrs. Lanci on behalf of the Board of Education. There were no public comments relating to agenda items only.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Lanci advised that the Board received correspondence.

**TREASURER'S
REPORT**

ON A MOTION 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 July 31, 2024.

BOARD COMMITTEE / HIGH SCHOOL REPORTS

Mrs. Corless spoke of the successful opening day for the BMCHSD. Mr. Harrington, she indicated, starts off each year with a theme and for 2024/25 it is community and inspiring unity. She shared that Mr. Eric Caballero, the BMCHSD Director of Physical Education and Athletics, won the NYS Athletic Director of the year and will receive an award in November for this honor. In the area of Curriculum, Mrs. Corless proudly reported the graduation rate for the 2024 BMCHSD was 97 percent with 77 percent receiving a Regents Advanced Diploma Degree, and the district was awarded the AP Medium Size School award with 70 percent of graduates partaking in at least one AP college course. She reminded all of Mepham's homecoming on Saturday, and the next meeting will be held on October 9.

FINANCE

The Board of Education acknowledges the review of the warrants that have been approved by the Claims Auditor for the month of August 2024.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Testa extended gratitude to the administrative team, staff, faculty, and families on the phenomenal opening of the new school year. In celebration of the opening and North Bellmore's mission and core values, Mrs. Testa shared assemblies were conducted districtwide on *We All Belong* to illustrate unity through appreciation, respect, and kindness.

Scanning the audience, Mrs. Testa expressed her excitement with respect to staffing and welcomed the following newly hired personnel in attendance this evening from Saw Mill Road School:

- Francesca Lawless (Grade 3)
- Anthony Novello (PE)
- Brandon Rosenblatt (Grade 5)
- Madeline Schmidt (Grade 6)

Mrs. Testa solemnly spoke of the Georgia incident and the challenging times faced in the world today. She quickly reminded all that safety and security in the North Bellmore School District is of top priority highlighting those measures in place districtwide and credited the faculty and staff for their steadfast attention to protocols. Mrs. Testa reported Emergency Preparedness Drills have begun based on guidelines illustrated in the Safety Plan, and Safety Team meetings were held to strategize and debrief.

In conclusion, Mrs. Testa reminded all of upcoming highlights districtwide including Open School nights and Pediatric Cancer Awareness Day on September 27.

**CONSENT AGENDA
(Item Nos. 11.1 to 11.4)**

ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approves Item Nos. 11.1 through 11.4.

PERSONNEL REPORT

11.1 Resolved that the North Bellmore Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation to increase the full-time teacher by one position in the tenure area of Elementary, effective 8/28/24.

PERSONNEL REPORT
(continued)

11.2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Personnel Report dated September 12, 2024 (on file at District Office.)

- A. Appointments
- B. Leave Requests
- C. Change of Status
- D. Resignations

11.3 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Addendum to the Personnel Report dated September 12, 2024 (on file at District Office).

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

11.4 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Staff Development Report dated September 12, 2024 (on file at District Office.)

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mrs. Rehak provided an updated report on Capital Projects focusing on requested information at the BOE Work Session and feedback provided by the District Architect. She provided the Board a detailed breakdown of estimated cost and options for consideration. Mrs. Rehak requested the BOE to review the information provided for future discussions on planning and funding. Highlights included:

- The cost for window air conditioning installation districtwide is estimated at \$486,000. Required budgetary electrical upgrade work in the buildings must be completed first and additional units purchased.
- HVAC system districtwide is estimated at \$40.4 million which includes HVAC reconstruction of \$26.7 million, steam to hot water piping replacement of about \$11.6 million, installation of new electrical sub panels at approximately \$142,000, and temperature controls of roughly \$1.5 million.
- Districtwide building roof repair and/or replacement costs were estimated based on the following options: Full replacement of all roofs at \$18.8 million; partial replacement in two buildings and recoating in all the other buildings is approximately \$11.2 million; or full replacement at higher need schools and recoating at the other buildings is about \$12.6 million.

With respect to the budgetary electrical upgrades, Mrs. Rehak reported the bid process for the first three schools that just received State approval will open on September 16, with the three remaining buildings going to the State soon. Mrs. Rehak briefly discussed the timeframe for the electrical work which needs to be performed when school buildings are closed over the summer months with the projected start for the first three buildings in 2025, and the next three buildings based upon the timing of State approval and the bid process.

Mrs. Lanci inquired if the Board had any questions. Mrs. Corless offered a point of clarification for those listening that the higher cost of the HVAC includes also the repair and replacement of the heating and ventilation, and the installation of window units only provides air conditioning. In furtherance, Mrs. Testa indicated the breakdown of cost as requested was provided to be utilized as a layered approach option in planning for work performed over years of time.

**BUSINESS DEPARTMENT
REPORT
(continued)**

Regarding the electrical upgrades, Mrs. Malloy inquired of the schedule surrounding this project. Mrs. Rehak indicated the buildings were designated in the budget starting with Saw Mill, Martin, and Newbridge. In reiteration, Mrs. Testa provided the projected schedule for Saw Mill, Martin, and Newbridge as August 2025 (going out to bid now), and a potential start date of August 2026 for the remaining three buildings. Mrs. Testa indicated information regarding Capital Projects is available on the website under the Facilities Department.

In closing, Mrs. Rehak provided the BOE the 2024/25 enrollment as of this date of 2,128 students. She indicated approximately 63 new students registered over the summer, indicating a smaller amount than last year, but still significant based on the size of the district.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
CPSE/CSE REPORTS**

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approves the CPSE and CSE reports dated September 6, 2024 (on file at District Office).

**CONSENT AGENDA
(Item Nos. 14.1 to 14.11)**

ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Malloy, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 5-0, the Board of Education approves Item Nos. 14.1 to 14.11.

NEW BUSINESS

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):

- ACP-EI
- Access 7 Services, Inc. (Academic Tutoring)
- Access 7 Services, Inc. (Related Services)
- Access 7 Services, Inc. (Skilled Nursing)
- Lisa Arbucho-Vernoni
- Brookville Centre for Children's Services
- Dragonfly Applied Behavior Analysis, P.C.
- The Hagedorn Little Village School (Flow Through 2023/24)
- The Hagedorn Little Village School (Flow-Through 2024/25)
- The Hagedorn Little Village School (Tuition)
- Lawrence Public Schools (Health and Welfare 2023/24)
- Locust Valley CSD
- Long Island Neuropsychological Consultants
- Mid Island Therapy Associates, LLC DBA All About Kids
- Sepideh Homavoonfar
- Walter A. McDermont (Consulting)
- Merrick Community Nursery School
- Tel/Logic, Inc.

INSURANCE RESERVE FUND 14. 2 INSURANCE RESERVE FUND

RESOLVED, in accordance with General Municipal Law §6-N that the Board of Education be and hereby is authorized to establish an Insurance Reserve Fund to be funded for such purposes as authorized by law.

2024/25 NON-RESIDENT TUITION RATE

14.3 NONRESIDENT TUITION RATE APPROVAL

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Bellmore Union Free School District hereby approves the NYSED non-resident tuition rate for the 2024-2025 school year.

GUARDIAN TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

14.4 GUARDIAN TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the renewal of the Guardian Bus Company transportation contract at the revised CPI of 3.9% for the 2024/2025 school year.

SETTLEMENT OF RELEASE AGREEMENT

14.5 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the attached Settlement and Release Agreement for a Contemplated Due Process Impartial Hearing against North Bellmore Union Free School District (Confidential Attachment A).

CSEA (NBUFS CLERICAL/ CAFETERIA UNIT) MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

14.6 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve of Memorandum of Agreement between the North Bellmore Union Free School District and CSEA, Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO North Bellmore UFSD Clerical/Cafeteria Unit Nassau County Education Local 865, effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026 (on file at District Office).

NORTH BELLMORE BUILDING PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT

14.7 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an Agreement between the North Bellmore Board of Education and the North Bellmore Building Principals' Association, effective July 1, 2018 to June 30,2026 (on file at District Office).

EXCISE OF DISTRICT EQUIPMENT

14.8 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the excess and disposal of a Conover-Cable piano 540830, NB Serial No. 000377, that is over 45 years old, broken and beyond repair, and is located at Park Avenue School.

OMNIA PARTNERS PURCHASING PROGRAM

14.9 WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the North Bellmore Union Free School District has Board Policy 6700 and its accompanying resolution, which permits the Board of Education to enter into contracts through cooperative purchasing; and

WHEREAS, the North Bellmore Union Free School District wishes to utilize a contract through OMNIA Partners for the purchase of products through an Online Marketplace; and

WHEREAS, OMNIA Partners let Contract #MA3457 between Amazon and State of Utah for the purchase of products through an Online Marketplace; and

WHEREAS, Contract # MA3457 authorizes municipalities, like North Bellmore Union Free School District, to purchase of products through an Online Marketplace pursuant to the contract.

WHEREAS, said contract is in compliance with Board of Education Policy 6700 and its accompanying resolution, and New York State General Municipal Law §103(16).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the North Bellmore Union Free School District's participation in the OMNIA Partners Purchasing Program for the 2024-2025 school year; and,

**OMNIA PARTNERS
PURCHASING PROGRAM
(continued)**

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Bellmore Union Free School District authorizes the North Bellmore Union Free School District's use of OMNIA Partners Contract #MA3457 between Amazon and the State of Utah to purchase of products through an Online Marketplace; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes Jacqueline Rehak, Assistant Superintendent for Business or the Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order through OMNIA Partners in accordance with Contract #MA3457 between Amazon and the State of Utah.

**NBTA MEMORANDUM OF
AGREEMENT**

14.10 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve a Memorandum of Agreement between the North Bellmore Teachers' Association and the North Bellmore Union Free School District, effective, July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 (on file at District Office.)

**NORTH MERRICK UFSD
TUITION CONTRACT**

14.11 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve a contract with North Merrick UFSD (Tuition 2024/25) (on file at District Office).

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Guidelines for Public Comments was communicated by Mrs. Lanci on behalf of the Board of Education.

Ms. Holmes (Logue Street) – *Syntax: I heard the District uses a company called Syntax for social media posts. If so, I have noticed there have been some errors contained in the postings on Instagram. Can you explain what services Syntax provides for the District? How much does the District pay them for their services? Why doesn't the staff post to social media themselves?* With respect to Instagram, Mrs. Testa indicated the district and the individual school buildings each have a presence on Instagram overseen and monitored by the building principals and administrative staff. Mrs. Testa confirmed the usage of Syntax as a source of public communication outreach between the district and the community in various platforms including newsletter/postcard printing and distribution, overseeing the website, spokesperson with media, etc., and their services are contracted through BOCES, an aidable expense for the district.

Ms. Holmes (Logue Street) – *Lunch/Recess: It is my understanding that the students get one 40-minute block for lunch and recess in grades 1-6, and Kindergarten gets an additional 5 minutes for lunch. I assume the breakdown is 20 minutes for lunch and 20 minutes for recess. This includes travel time to and from the cafeteria/APR and the playground. Taking into consideration all the variables, the students do not have enough time to eat. I have children in two different schools so my experiences is not limited to one school. Also, I spoke with other families who share the same experience and concerns. How can the students get more time to eat lunch and play during recess? Ideally at least an hour block – 30 minutes for lunch and 30 minutes for recess. Is this a teacher contract issue or a state law?* Mrs. Testa expressed understanding of Ms. Holme's question and indicated while state law is not the issue, time management constraints of classroom instructional blocks, specials, and services along with scheduling lunchtime/recess and the number of students served at an

**PUBLIC COMMENTS
(continued)**

appropriate time of day are the key factors. Mrs. Testa and Mrs. Pollitt clarified Grades K through 6 lunch blocks are forty-five minutes and learning blocks are forty minutes. In addition, Mrs. Rehak spoke of the procedure of pre-ordering lunch in the classroom, a process which began during the pandemic, and how it improved lunchtime expedience by eliminating long lines.

**POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

The BOE did not adjourn into Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Corless, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 5-0, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. The next business meeting will be held on Thursday, October 10, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurice Gunnels
District Clerk