



**NORTH BELLMORE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES – NOVEMBER 13, 2025**

Business Meeting	Martin Avenue School 2616 Martin Avenue, Bellmore, NY 11710	7:30 PM
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The Business meeting of the North Bellmore Union Free School District Board of Education was held on Thursday evening, November 13, 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:

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

The following member of the Board of Education was absent:

Rosemarie Corless, President

Also present:

Marie Testa, Superintendent of Schools
Janet Pollitt, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Steven A. Goodstadt, District Counsel
Laurice Gunnels, District Clerk

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. A motion was made by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Malloy to move into an executive session. Motion was carried 4-0. The meeting reconvened at 7:39 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mr. Nardo led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MISSION STATEMENT Mrs. Cmar-Grote read the District’s Mission Statement.

Mr. Nardo called for a moment of silence on behalf of Jayden Flores, a ninth-grade student, who passed away in a tragic accident.

Mr. Nardo, in recognition of Veteran’s Day, extended gratitude and appreciation to all who have served and/or are actively supporting this nation. He reflected upon this week’s edition of the Herald, the photographs therein depicting Veteran Day celebrations in North Bellmore and expressed gratitude to Dr. Yannucci and all the principals for teaching and sharing the importance of this holiday with their students.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:
Martin Avenue
Sixth Grade Board
Representatives

Dr. Yannucci, Principal of Martin Avenue, happily shared his experience over the past few weeks with students collaborating on this evening's presentation through their creativity, hard work, and joy. He extended gratitude to the Board of Education, the central administration, the Martin community, and parents for their ongoing support and encouragement. The students expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to speak this evening, welcomed all to Martin Avenue, *the home of the lions*, and introduced themselves.

Daniel Baptista
 Alex Caba
 Angelica Nardo

Alexander Parra
 Sienna Rappa
 Emily Staudt

Sharing why Martin Avenue is a special place, the students collectively focused on events and/or experiences happily illustrated through their smiles, words, and a slideshow depicting their message. They spoke of *Start With Hello* week and *Unity Day*, designed to make everyone feel included, the *Power of Language*, being kind to one another through the choice and impact of words, and learning how to participate and work together on projects like the art mural and the annual sixth grade play.

In recognition of Board of Education Appreciation month, the students thanked the BOE for their support and guidance, and shared how happy they are to be a part of such a caring community. In closing, the students displayed their school team spirit proclaiming *GO LIONS ... LIONS ARE LEADERS-LEAD WITH YOUR HEART*. Mr. Nardo congratulated the students on their presentation this evening, recognized the difficulty in speaking publicly at such a young age, and the importance of the overall experience on future success. Leadership certificates were presented to the students.

Board of Education
Appreciation Month

The Board of Education is recognized for their service and dedication to the district and community. Mrs. Testa introduced Mr. Rosof to speak on behalf of "PALS", the principals of North Bellmore. Mr. Rosof extended gratitude to the BOE for their volunteer service, describing them as the *stewards and leaders of the district*, working closely with Mrs. Testa, the District Office, and as a guiding voice for principals, students, and parents. Mr. Rosof, presented the BOE with a book, "*School is More Than a Building*" dedicated in their honor by the PALS. He read an excerpt from the author's message to illustrate the meaning... "*This book was created to not only celebrate schools and everything they do for children but also as a teaching tool to remind children that the teachers and staff that work at their school are there for them. Schools are more than a building. They are an integrable part of a child's life. Please help me in keeping schools as a positive place for children where they are able to learn in an environment in which they are safe and loved*" and then closed with a dedication of their own "*this book is being gifted to the school libraries in honor of the 2025/2026 Board of Education. Our community thanks the Board members for their stewardship of the North Bellmore School District ... with immense gratitude the North Bellmore Principals.*"

**Board of Education
Appreciation Month
(continued)**

Words expressing gratitude, respect, dedication, and appreciation for the Board's unwavering support were shared by Mrs. Burnell on behalf of the NBTA, and Mrs. Roach for the CSEA, and were presented with gifts of honorary donations made in their name.

The meeting was temporarily interrupted for cake in recognition of BOE appreciation month at 8:05 p.m. The meeting resumed at 8:21 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 4-0, the Board of Education approved the minutes of the Business meeting of October 9, 2025.

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 4-0, the Board of Education approved the minutes of the Special Meeting of November 3, 2025.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN
PUBLIC MEETING**

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 4-0, the Board of Education adjourned the Public Meeting to enter the Public Hearing.

**PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
NORTH BELLMORE DISTRICT
WIDE SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN**

Mrs. Testa reported the District wide Safety Team met last week. The State has implemented a regulation that each school district in New York must implement a cardiac emergency plan. She indicated this is now included with the District wide Safety Plan and will be uploaded onto the district's website tomorrow for the 30-day commentary period. All comments may be submitted via e-mail posted on the website.

**MOTION TO RECONVENE
PUBLIC MEETING**

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 4-0, the Board of Education adjourned the Public Hearing and reconvened to Public Meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS
(Agenda Items only)**

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 relating to agenda items only.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Nardo advised that the Board received no correspondence this month.

TREASURER'S REPORT

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Malloy, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 4-0, the Board of Education approved the Treasurer's report for the month ended September 30, 2025.

BOARD COMMITTEE / HIGH SCHOOL REPORTS

Mrs. Lanci reported the BMCHSD met last week on November 5. She was excited to share the BOE was honored at the meeting in a celebratory manner with music and art and were presented with a photo collage and personalized scribble stones recognizing their contribution to the district. The Annual External Audit Review Presentation was conducted and Mrs. Lanci happily shared there were no findings to report. The high school student representatives shared news districtwide regarding sports and academics, and in closing Mrs. Lanci reminded all to check the website for the schedule of upcoming concerts and other events. The next meeting will be held on December 3.

FINANCE

The Board of Education acknowledges the review of the warrants that have been approved by the Claims Auditor for the month of October 2025 (on file at District Office).

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Ms. Malloy, and carried 4-0, the Board of Education approved the Budgetary Transfers dated November 13, 2025 (on file at District Office).

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Testa, reflecting on the sixth-grade presentation, shared Mr. Nardo's sentiments about speaking in public and being leaders, and expressed how equally significant it is for the students to have this experience as it is for the BOE and the Administration to hear feedback in their voices. Speaking of the district's core value and mission, Mrs. Testa proudly shared how the presentation this evening illustrated the strong unified community existing between the Board, the Administration, Principals, faculty and staff to raise students as future leaders, installing values, and treating each other with dignity and kindness. In furtherance, Mrs. Testa extended gratitude and appreciation to the BOE on behalf of herself and the entire team for their dedication, drive, and commitment to raise leaders, and uphold the highest standards for the students of North Bellmore.

PERSONNEL REPORT

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, seconded by Mrs. Malloy, and carried 4-0, the Board of Education approved the Personnel Report dated November 13, 2025 (on file at District Office)

- A. Appointments
- B. Leave Requests
- C. Resignations
- D. Terminations

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Lanci, seconded by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, and carried 4-0, the Board of Education approved the Staff Development Report dated November 13, 2025 (on file at District Office).

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mrs. Testa shared both Mrs. Freeman and Mrs. Corless were unable to attend this evening. She reported that the Business Office and the respective administrative teams have begun budgetary planning, working collaboratively with each other and with the support of Mrs. Freeman.

**BUSINESS DEPARTMENT
REPORT
(continued)**

Moving on, Mrs. Testa indicated the district is working with Mr. Grillo, the Architect, to review items from the last Building Condition Survey and looking ahead to the new survey. She reported there will be a work session with the BOE on November 17 to review and prioritize future capital projects, and to discuss a timeline for the school group bathroom project currently up at the state level.

**CURRICULUM AND
INSTRUCTION REPORT**

Mrs. Pollitt opened by extending gratitude to the BOE for their inquiry at the last meeting regarding assessments and provided copies of documentation issued in response to their suggestions:

- A Technology Subscription Chart organized by the subject area, the app, the program, and the grade levels it targets.
- An assessment newsletter addressing the overall structure of the various assessments that we utilize, a basic description of what each assessment measures, and the general timeframe when administered.

Moving on, Mrs. Pollitt provided the following updates district wide:

- In partnership with the Bellmore-Merrick component districts, a Parent University workshop was hosted on October 29, with Dr. Dewey. In attendance were approximately 95 attendees consisting of parents, community members, and teachers. The presentation focused on habits in technology impacting the development of the brain, effects of internet gaming, excessive social media use, etc.
- Central Administrators and principals are partaking in *Leader in Me Training*. The training, turning focus to the student realm, provides skills to enhance student leadership by developing a positive culture, strengthening social and emotional learning, formulating goals, etc., by utilizing problem solving, collaboration, and communication skills. Examples of student leadership roles implemented already in North Bellmore are Student Ambassadors, BOE Representatives, student assignment of classroom tasks, etc.
- Professional Development kicked off successfully in October with the first 90-minute series on the new structure discussed last month, and the second in the series will start next week.
- Magic School, which is Ed Law 2D Compliant, will be utilized as the AI platform for teachers and students. Training for fifth and sixth grade teachers will be provided in the utilization of these tools for student use, stressing the process will be slow, , age appropriate, and controlled from the back end.
- Language enrichment for winter and spring in Mandarin, Italian, and French will be announced next week.

In closing, Mrs. Pollitt reminded all of Math Game night scheduled for this coming Monday, November 17, and was excited to share the evening would be led by the Student Ambassadors.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

ON A MOTION by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, seconded Mrs. Malloy, and carried 4-0, the Board of Education approved the CPSE and the CSE reports dated November 6, 2025 (on file at District Office).

**CONSENT AGENDA
(Nos. 16.1 through 16.9)**

ON A MOTION made by Mrs. Malloy, seconded by Mrs. Lanci, and carried 4-0, the Board of Education approves Item Nos. 16.1 through 16.9.

2025/26 CONTRACTS

16.1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following contracts for the 2025/26 school year (on file at District Office):

- Barry & Florence Friedberg JCC (Services)
- Bilinguals, Inc. DBA Achieve Beyond (SEDCAR)
- Brookville Center for Children’s Services, Inc. (Services)
- Brookville Center for Children’s Services, Inc. (SEDCAR)
- Cooper Power and Electric (Construction 2025-26)
- Hagedorn Little Village (SEDCAR)
- Keuka College (Services)
- Kids First Evaluation & Advocacy Center, Inc. (SEDCAR)
- Kids Therapy Services, PLLC (SEDCAR)
- Liberty University (Services)
- Locust Valley CSD (DOR/DOL)
- Merrick UFSD (Tuition 2024-25)
- Metro Therapy, Inc. (Services)
- Metro Therapy, Inc. (Academic Tutoring)
- Molloy University
- Nassau County DHS-OM, CDDS (Prevention 2025)
- Nassau Neuropsychological Services, PLLC

**NBUFSD AND NBTA
MEMORANDUM OF
AGREEMENT**

16.2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve a Memorandum of Agreement between the North Bellmore Union Free School District and the North Bellmore Teachers’ Association dated November 13, 2025 (on file at District Office).

DONATIONS

16.3 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation from the Bellmore Lions Charitable Foundation, Inc., of a check in the amount of \$600 to be used to purchase food for students with food insecurity in the district.

16.4 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation from Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Milohnic of a check in the amount of \$2,000 to be used to purchase seating and umbrellas for the Park Avenue School garden.

16.5 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept a donation from The Long Island Violin Shop of multiple string instruments and books for use by the orchestra students in the North Bellmore schools. Approximate dollar value: \$3,000. (See attached list.)

TRANSPORTATION

16.6 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve a contract with We Transport for the transportation of two students to Academy Charter School, a non-public school in Uniondale, effective September 2, 2025 through June 30, 2025.

**TRANSPORTATION
(continued)**

16.7 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve a contract with We Transport for the transportation of one student to James E. Allen Elementary School in Dix Hills, effective November 3, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

16.8 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the 2025-26 Transportation Contracts with Nassau BOCES, effective September 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

16.9 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve a new contract with First Student for the transportation of one student to Buckley Country Day School, a non-public School effective September 2, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

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 by Mrs. Cmar-Grote, seconded by Mrs. Lanci, and carried 4-0, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m. The next business meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2025. Mr. Nardo on behalf of the BOE wished all a happy, safe, and wonderful Thanksgiving.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurice Gunnels
District Clerk