

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
LINDENHURST PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LINDENHURST, NEW YORK**

TO: Principals, Coordinators, Guidance Counselors, TAL, LASA, CSEAs
Nurses, Aides, and Head Custodians

FROM: Daniel E. Giordano

DATE: January 9, 2015

RE: Board of Education Business Meeting

The following actions were taken by the Board of Education at its Business Meeting held on January 7, 2015. Please inform the appropriate staff members in your building of the actions which pertain to them.

1. The following Superintendent's recommended field trips were approved:
 - Middle School - Approximately fifty (50) National Junior Honor Society students will travel to NYC to see "Finding Neverland" and have lunch at Planet Hollywood on March 18, 2015. Transportation will be via bus.
 - High School - Approximately forty-four (44) 12th grade Peer Leadership students to Lake George, NY, May 15 - 17, 2015.
 - High School - Approximately twenty-seven (27) Cheerleaders will travel to Orlando, Florida to compete in the UCA National High School Cheerleading Championship in Disney, February 5 – 9, 2015. Transportation will be via plane.
3. The Superintendent's recommended resolution authorizing the Board President to extend the lease agreement with current tenant Living Truth Family Church for rooms at the Bower School. The term of the Lease will be renewed for three (3) years, from December 1, 2014 through November 30, 2017 was approved.
4. Approved the Superintendent's recommended Stipulation of Settlement and Release regarding the employee reviewed and discussed in executive session; authorized Board President and Superintendent of Schools to execute said Agreement on behalf of the Lindenhurst Board of Education.
5. The Superintendent's recommendation to accept the donation from Rocco A. Muratore of a luncheon for the students of The Lindenhurst Academy, valued at six hundred, seventy eight dollars (\$678.00)

6. Approved the Superintendent's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Cullen & Danowski, LLP for Internal Auditing Services to review Board policies and District procedures related to the Extra Classroom Activities, per Agreed Upon Procedure Engagement Letter.

7. The following recommended Superintendent's resolution pertaining to New York State Field Tests was approved as follows:

Whereas, the administration of multiple and lengthy standardized tests do not improve learning, may have negative effects on students, test stamina rather than knowledge, undermine educational quality by hampering educators' creativity, and dominate in instruction to the detriment of the students and the teachers: and

Whereas, standardized tests fail to appropriately accommodate the unique needs of students with disabilities and English language learners in assessing their learning; and

Whereas, the focus in the classroom should be on student centered learning toward deep and meaningful understanding, which cannot be solely measured by standardized tests; and

Whereas, standalone field tests result in unnecessary and increased testing of our students, and test items embedded into required assessments further increase test length with minimal added value to student learning; and

Whereas, the board of Education believes the testing companies realize a commercial profit by using children and taxpayer resources to advance their business plans; and

Whereas, the state and federal governments' accountability systems' over reliance on standardized testing as the only meaningful measurement of school quality continues to fiscally strangle public schools and undermines educators' abilities to transform a traditional system of schooling into a broad range of learning experiences that better prepares our students to live successfully and be globally competitive.

It is hereby resolved that the Lindenhurst Union Free School District objects to the recent ruling of the Board of Regents to mandatorize the administration of New York State field tests.

8. Approved the Superintendent's recommended Stipulation with the employee named and discussed in executive session, with the relinquishment and change of position/title, and the reduction of salary, contained therein, and authorizes the Board President to execute said stipulation; and the district accepts the employee's resignation effective 6/30/15.

9. The Superintendent's recommended resolution abolishing the position of a Clerk Typist, effective close of business on January 9, 2015 was approved.

10. Schedules were approved as amended

- (a) Budget Transfers Less than \$5,000, completed from October 30, 2014 through December 15, 2014
- (b) Treasurer's Report (#5), Revenue Status and Appropriation Status Reports as of November, 2014
- (c) Collateralization Report as of November, 2014
- (d) Warrants, No. 5 – November, 2014