

FOR DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

Minutes of the Budget Work Session Meeting of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District Board of Education conducted on Tuesday, March 1, 2016. The meeting was held in the Cafeteria of Hoover Middle School, 249 Thorncliff Road.

PUBLIC SESSION

1. Opening Ceremony

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm Prevailing Time.

a. Roll Call

PRESENT: Board:

Bob Dana	Trustee
Andrew Gianni	Vice President
Jill O'Malley	President
Christopher Pashler	Trustee
Todd Potter, Jr.	Trustee

Others:	Dawn Mirand	Superintendent
	Stephen Bovino	Assistant Superintendent – Human Resources
	Robin Zymroz	Assistant Superintendent – Instruction & Student Services
	John Brucato	Assistant Superintendent – Finance
	Gina Santa Maria	District Clerk

ABSENT: None

b. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Agenda

At the request of President O'Malley, a motion was made by Trustee Potter, seconded by Vice President Gianni, to approve the agenda.

Dana	Aye
Gianni	Aye
O'Malley	Aye
Pashler	Aye
Potter	Aye

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

3. 2016-2017 Budget Status – Veteran's Tax Exemption Presentation

Superintendent Mirand and Assistant Superintendent Brucato updated the Board on the status of the 2016-2017 budget. Superintendent Mirand stated that this is another challenging budget year because of the many variables impacting the budget. Resources are being carefully aligned with teaching and learning and the District is making progress in many areas with regard to student achievement. Assistant Superintendent Brucato reviewed a first draft of the District's revenue and expenditures. Additional analysis and refining will be done in the coming weeks to narrow the budget gap that exists as of the first draft. Assistant Superintendent Brucato also presented information on the Veteran's Tax Exemption showing the impact several different scenarios would have on the tax payers in the

community. Several Board members asked questions and made comments regarding the budget and the Veteran’s Tax Exemption.

4. Public Budgetary Comments and Questions

Peter Stuhlmiller, 258 Fayette Avenue, commented on projected staffing in health and physical education.

Bethanne DePonceau, 239 Cortland Avenue, commented on the proposed staffing reductions, and the wellness rooms planned for some schools.

Michael Fiels, 151 Dunlop Avenue, thanked the District for supporting Educators Totally Committed and this year’s annual sleepout.

Heather Ratka, 89 Grosvenor, spoke about the District’s health teachers, the proposed health staff reductions and changes in the middle level health education program.

Kim Miller, 124 Fayette Avenue, addressed the Board regarding past and newly proposed health department staffing and the impact on the health education program.

Laura Jelonek, 2 Traceway, Lancaster, commented on proposed staffing for the health department and the impact on the health education program.

Shannon Pariso, 106 Pryor Avenue, stated that health education, in the elementary and middle levels, is essential for the physical, mental and emotional well-being of students.

5. Board of Education

a. Comments

Trustee Dana reconsidered a motion made by Trustee Potter at the February 9, 2016 Regular Board of Education meeting and asked if Trustee Potter would re-introduce his motion regarding term length for Board members.

Trustee Potter made a motion to extend the term limits for Board members from 3 years to 5 years, Trustee Dana seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued. After Board members each weighed in on the motion, President O’Malley called for a vote to extend term limits for Board members from 3 years to 5 years.

Dana	Aye
Gianni	Nay
O’Malley	Nay
Pashler	Nay
Potter	Aye

MOTION DEFEATED 3-2

President O’Malley opened a discussion on the Veteran’s Tax Exemption. After some conversation, the Board was in consensus that in the present financial climate, with the lost revenue from the closing of the Huntley Plant, the only partial restoration of the GEA, and the small amount of Foundation Aid received from the State, there is enough of a burden on the tax payers of the District to consider this exemption at this time. The Board may choose to revisit this in the future.

6. Proposed Executive Session

There was none.

7. Adjournment

At the request of President O'Malley, a motion was made by Vice President Gianni, seconded by Trustee Pashler, to adjourn at 7:48 pm Prevailing Time.

Dana	Aye
Gianni	Aye
O'Malley	Aye
Pashler	Aye
Potter	Aye

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Santa Maria

Gina Santa Maria, District Clerk