

December 31 , 2021

Anthony Bonelli, BOE Trustee
160 Albermarle Avenue
Valley Stream, New York 11580

Dr. Frank Chiachiere, President BOE
Valley Stream Union Free School District 13
585 N. Corona Avenue, Valley Stream, NY 11580

RE: Special Meeting Request to Resolve Issues Regarding 2021 Proposition #3

Dear Dr. Chiachiere:

I hope to hear from you this coming Wednesday January 5, 2022, whether YES or NO if you will hold a special meeting during the week of Monday January 10,2022. I will assume it's a NO if I don't hear from you at COB this Wednesday.

If you agree to hold such a meeting, I request the attendance of the current superintendent and the incoming superintendent as well as assistant superintendent Gerard Antoine, district treasurer Brian Cleary, claims auditor Deans Archer, Inc and BOE Attorney Christopher Shishko.

As I mentioned in previous memos, the parents, and residents of District 13 I believe were misinformed on what their \$2.3 million was going to be spent on.

On the actual ballot that was voted on in May 2021, there is no mention of:

1. the loss of 2 instructional classrooms (101 & 102)
2. the loss, in total or in part, of the children's playground
3. the creation of a new, far larger superintendent's office, used twice a month as a Board Room, hours after school has recessed for the day
4. the creation of a new, far larger business office
5. the creation of a new music wing
6. Expansion of the building itself.



What was mentioned on the ballot was:

1. renovation & redesign of the Board Room and Business office
2. extension of rooms

Below is the exact wording on the ballot, proposition#3, the parents & residents voted on:

"...extension and renovation of classroom space at the James A. Dever Elementary School and Board Room and Business Office renovation and redesign in the approximate amount of \$2,300,000 and other work required in connection therewith....."

Below is a copy of the draft ballot which became the actual ballot.

INSTRUCTIONS		INSTRUCCIONES		Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen May 18, 2021 Sample Ballot	
<p>To vote for a candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, mark the oval to the left of "write-in" and print the name clearly, staying within the box. Any mark or writing outside the spaces provided for voting may void the entire ballot. The number of choices is listed for each contest. Do not mark the ballot for more candidates than allowed. If you do, your vote in that contest will not count. If you make a mistake, or want to change your vote, ask a poll worker for a new ballot.</p> 		<p>Para votar por un candidato cuyo nombre está impreso en la papeleta, marque el óvalo a la izquierda del "write-in" y escriba el nombre claramente en la casilla. Cualquier otra marca o escritura fuera de los espacios proporcionados para votar puede anular toda la papeleta. El número de candidatos es listado para cada elección. No marque para más candidatos de los permitidos. Si lo hace, su voto en esa elección no será contado. Si usted comete un error o quiere cambiar su voto, pregúntele a un trabajador de papeleta por una nueva papeleta.</p> 			
<p>PROPOSITION #1 Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen Budget Shall the proposed budget of Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen, Nassau County, New York for the year 2021-2022 be approved in the amount of \$65,526,830 and that the sum be raised through a levy upon the taxable property within the district, after first deducting the monies from state aid and other sources, as provided by law.</p>		<p>PROPOSITION #2 Valley Stream Thirteen Expenditure from Capital Reserve Proposition Shall the Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen be authorized to expend from the Capital Reserve Fund which was established on May 15, 2018 ("Reserve Fund") pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law, for the following capital improvement project of acquisition and installation of smartboards and classroom redesign at the District's facilities and sites in the approximate amount of \$140,000, and other work required in connection therewith; and to expend from the Reserve Fund therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of One Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$140,000).</p>		<p>PROPOSITION #3 Valley Stream Thirteen Expenditure from Capital Reserve Proposition Shall the Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen be authorized to expend from the Capital Reserve Fund which was established on May 15, 2018 ("Reserve Fund") pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law, for the following capital improvement project: extension and renovation of classroom space at the James A. Dever Elementary School and Board Room and Business Office renovation and redesign in the approximate amount of \$2,300,000 and other work required in connection therewith; and to expend from the Reserve Fund therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of Two Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,300,000).</p>	
<p>PROPUESTA N.º 1: Presupuesto del Distrito Escolar Trece Valley Stream Union Free Deberá aprobarse el presupuesto propuesto del Distrito Escolar Trece Valley Stream Union Free, condado de Nassau, Nueva York, para el año 2021-2022 por el monto de \$65,526,830 y la suma deberá recaudarse a través de un gravamen sobre el inmueble sujeto a tributación dentro del distrito, tras deducir primero el dinero de la ayuda estatal y otras fuentes, según lo dispuesto por ley.</p>		<p>PROPUESTA N.º 2: Propuesta de gasto de la reserva de capital del Distrito Escolar Trece Valley Stream Se autorizará a la Junta de Educación del Distrito Escolar Trece Valley Stream Union Free a hacer uso del fondo de reserva de capitales que se estableció el 15 de mayo de 2018 ("Fondo de Reserva") de conformidad con la sección 3651 de la Ley de Educación, en los siguientes proyectos de mejora de capital para adquirir e instalar pizarras inteligentes y rediseñar aulas en las instalaciones y los espacios del Distrito por un monto aproximado de \$140,000, como así también otros trabajos necesarios relacionados con estos, y a hacer uso del Fondo de la Reserva para tal fin, incluidos los costos preliminares e incidentales correspondientes, un monto que no exceda el costo total estimado de ciento cuarenta mil dólares (\$140,000).</p>		<p>PROPUESTA N.º 3: Propuesta de gasto de la reserva de capital del Distrito Escolar Trece Valley Stream Se autorizará a la Junta de Educación del Distrito Escolar Trece Valley Stream Union Free a hacer uso del fondo de reserva de capitales que se estableció el 15 de mayo de 2018 ("Fondo de la Reserva") de conformidad con la sección 3651 de la Ley de Educación, en los siguientes proyectos de mejora de capital: extensión y renovación de aulas en la escuela primaria James A. Dever, y la renovación y el rediseño de la sala de juntas y la oficina comercial por un monto aproximado de \$2,300,000, como así también otros trabajos necesarios relacionados, y a hacer uso del Fondo de Reserva para tal fin, incluidos los costos preliminares e incidentales correspondientes, un monto que no exceda el costo total estimado de dos millones trescientos mil dólares (\$2,300,000).</p>	
<p><input type="radio"/> Yes/Sí <input type="radio"/> No/No</p>		<p><input type="radio"/> Yes/Sí <input type="radio"/> No/No</p>		<p><input type="radio"/> Yes/Sí <input type="radio"/> No/No</p>	
OFFICE OFICINA	<p>MEMBER, BOARD OF EDUCATION Vote for one Three (3) Year Term to Succeed JENNIFER OLIVERI</p>		<p>MEMBER, BOARD OF EDUCATION Vote for one Three (3) Year Term to Succeed WILLIAM P. STRIS</p>		<p>PROPOSITION #4 Central High School District Proposed Budget Shall the proposed budget of Valley Stream Central High School District, Nassau County, New York for the year 2021-2022 be approved in the amount of \$129,566,399 and that the sum be raised through a levy upon the taxable property within the district, after first deducting the monies from state aid and other sources, as provided by law.</p>
	<p>MIEMBRO DE LA JUNTA DE EDUCACIÓN Vote por uno Término de Tres (3) Años para Tener Exito JENNIFER OLIVERI</p>		<p>MIEMBRO DE LA JUNTA DE EDUCACIÓN Vote por uno Término de Tres (3) Años para Tener Exito WILLIAM P. STRIS</p>		
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
	QUBILAH MACKEY-MATOS	JENNIFER OLIVERI	ANTHONY BONELLI	WILLIAM P. STRIS	WILLIAM BLAIR
WRITE-IN ESCRIBE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	<input type="radio"/> Yes/Sí <input type="radio"/> No/No	<input type="radio"/> Yes/Sí <input type="radio"/> No/No	<input type="radio"/> Yes/Sí <input type="radio"/> No/No	<input type="radio"/> Yes/Sí <input type="radio"/> No/No	<input type="radio"/> Yes/Sí <input type="radio"/> No/No

In District 13's quarterly newsletter, "It's Elementary", again, there is no mention of a build for a new music room, the loss of 2 instructional classrooms (101 & 102), the loss of a playground and the expansion of the building.

Below is the exact wording for proposition#3 in the newsletter, It's Elementary, sent to all parents & residents (voters) informing them of what's in the budget and propositions:

"...extension and renovation of classroom space at the James A. Dever Elementary School, Board Room and Business Office renovation and redesign."

Below is a copy of the newsletter "It's Elementary" description of proposition#3:

**A DETAILED LOOK AT THE PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES
2021-2022 BUDGET - \$55,526,830**

	2020-2021	Proposed 2021-2022		2020-2021	Proposed 2021-2022
INSTRUCTION - 58.63% OF BUDGET			OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE - 5.60% OF BUDGET		
Teaching Regular School			Total Operations & Maintenance	\$ 3,043,496	\$ 3,111,595
Special Ed. Preschool Reading			% Change		2.24%
Gifted & Talented Library	\$ 26,603,905	\$ 27,173,369	DEBT SERVICE/TRANSFERS - 5.64% OF BUDGET		
Supervision Campus			Construction	\$ 750,000	\$ 400,000
Related Instruction	2,314,868	2,322,187	Internal Transfer	100,000	100,000
Curriculum Development			Debt Service	1,875,000	1,894,000
Research & Development	487,916	504,230	Total Debt Service/		
Speech & Hearing Guidance			Transfers	\$ 2,225,000	\$ 2,134,000
Psychological and Social			% Change		40.98%
Worker Services	7035,146	1,970,678	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - 20.83% OF BUDGET		
Student Management System	60,664	66,281	Health Insurance	\$ 5,147,000	\$ 5,894,473
Health Services	571,800	540,054	Teachers' and Employer		
Total Instruction	\$ 31,928,302	\$ 34,557,711	Retirement	3,250,000	3,045,000
% Change		1.97%	Social Security (FICA)*	2,300,000	2,300,000
TRANSPORTATION - 4.79% OF BUDGET			Workers' Compensation		
Transportation	\$ 109,500	\$ 93,623	and Unemployment	356,000	331,800
Contracted Transportation	2,682,500	2,568,200	Life Insurance	1,500	1,500
Total Transportation	\$ 2,792,000	\$ 2,661,823	Disability Insurance	2,500	2,500
% Change		-4.88%	Total Employee Benefits	\$ 12,107,500	\$ 11,826,273
DISTRICT SUPPORT - 4.32% OF BUDGET			% Change		-4.18%
Board of Education District Clerk			* Government Mandated		
& District Meetings	\$ 70,075	\$ 77,075	SUMMER RECREATION - 0.18% OF BUDGET		
Central & Business Administration	1,058,093	1,110,250	Total Summer Recreation	\$ 0	\$ 2,000,000
Treasury, Auditing			% Change		100%
and Legal Services	320,360	330,460	TOTAL BUDGET		
Personnel, Records Management				\$ 54,423,813	\$ 55,526,830
Public Information	157,400	162,400	% Change		2.03%
Central Mailing & Data Processing	137,050	137,050			
Insurance	259,832	279,400			
School Dues and					
BOCES Administration	306,751	304,991			
Total District Support	\$ 3,379,519	\$ 3,399,497			
% Change		0.62%			

WHAT'S IN THE BUDGET?

**PROPOSITION #1:
2021-2022 PROPOSED BUDGET**

That the Board of Education adopts the 2021-2022 Proposed Budget in the amount of \$55,526,830 and that the budget be presented to the voters in our District; and that the District Clerk be directed to place this budget, in the above amount, on the ballot in accordance with previous instructions.

**PROPOSITION #2: EXPENDITURE
FROM CAPITAL RESERVE**

Expenditure of no more than \$140,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund established on May 15, 2018, to finance projects for the acquisition and installation of Smart Boards and classroom redesign at the District's facilities and sites.

**PROPOSITION #3: EXPENDITURE
FROM CAPITAL RESERVE**

Expenditure of no more than \$2,300,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund established on May 15, 2018, to finance capital improvement projects including extension and renovation of classroom space at the James A. Dever Elementary School, Board Room and Business Office renovation and redesign.

In the required legal notice that was published by the Herald, once again, no mention of a build for a new music room, the loss of 2 instructional classrooms (101 & 102), the loss of a playground and the expansion of the building.

Below is the Herald's legal notice provided by the Administration.



LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING, ANNUAL DISTRICT ELECTION, AND BUDGET VOTE OF VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT THIRTEEN, TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD, COUNTY OF NASSAU, STATE OF NEW YORK TO BE HELD ON MAY 18, 2021
 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Education of Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen shall hold a public hearing for the purpose of discussion of the proposed budget of expenditure of funds for the school year 2021-2022; that such public hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. via zoom. A link to the meeting will be provided on our website at www.valleystream13.com

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the vote by the qualified voters of Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen upon the following propositions and elections will be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at the polling places set forth herein, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Daylight Savings Time on said day.

PROPOSITION NO. 1
DISTRICT THIRTEEN BUDGET
 The vote upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures of Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen for the school year 2021-2022 and authorizing the levy of taxes to meet the estimated expenditures of money during said school year will be held on May 18, 2021 as set forth herein. Copies of the proposed budget, together with the text of any resolution which will be submitted to the voters as well as copies of the estimated expenditures of Valley Stream Central High School District for the school year 2021-2022 may be obtained by any taxpayer of the School District at the Principal's Office of each school building on each school day, during the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.,

will also become part of the final budget, will show how the total assessed value on the final assessment roll used in the budgetary process is exempt from taxation, list every type of exemption granted by the statutory authority, and show the cumulative impact of each type of exemption, the cumulative amount expected to be received as payments in lieu of taxes and the cumulative impact of all exemptions granted.

PROPOSITION NO. 2
DISTRICT THIRTEEN EXPENDITURE FROM CAPITAL RESERVE
PROPOSITION:
 Expenditure of no more than \$140,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund established on May 15, 2018, to finance projects for the acquisition and installation of smartboards and classroom redesign at the District's facilities and sites.

Shall the Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen be authorized to expend from the Capital Reserve Fund which was established on May 15, 2018 ("Reserve Fund") pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law, for the following capital improvement project of acquisition and installation of smartboards and classroom redesign at the District's facilities and sites in the approximate amount of \$140,000, and other work required in connection therewith; and to expend from the Reserve Fund thereof, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of One Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$140,000).

PROPOSITION NO. 3
DISTRICT THIRTEEN EXPENDITURE FROM CAPITAL RESERVE
PROPOSITION:
 Expenditure of no more than \$2,300,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund established on May 15, 2018, to finance capital improvement projects including extension and renovation of classroom space at the James A. Dever Elementary School and board room and business office renovation and redesign.
 Shall the Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen be

authorized to expend from the Capital Reserve Fund thereof, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of Two Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,300,000).

PROPOSITION NO. 4
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET
 SHALL the proposed budget of expenditures of Valley Stream Central High School District, Nassau County, New York for the year 2021-2022 be approved and that the sum be raised through a levy upon the taxable property in the Valley Stream Central High School District, after first deducting the monies from state aid and other sources, as provided by law.

PROPOSITION NO. 5
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT CAPITAL VOTER PROPOSITION
 SHALL the Board of Education be authorized to appropriate and expend the maximum amount of three million six hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$3,650,000) from fund balance for the purpose of completing capital improvements as follows: Replacement of Boilers at North Junior/Senior High School and South Junior/Senior High School, all of the above to include all labor, materials, equipment, apparatus, and incidental costs associated therewith.

ELECTION OF TRUSTEES
 PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that for the purpose of electing two members of the Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen, an election will be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at the same times and at the same polling places as set forth herein.

The following are the vacancies to be filled on the Board of Education:
 a)The office of Jennifer Oliveri, a member of the Board of Education, for a three-year term commencing July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2024.
 b).The office of William P. Stris, a member of the Board of Education, for a three-year term commencing July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2024.

NOMINATION PETITIONS

The expenditure of so much of the public's money, up to \$2.3 million, on what appears to be construction for the benefit of the office of the superintendent and the Board of Trustees at the expense of the children demands that we immediately suspend and consider the issues I have highlighted in this memo as well as previous memos to the BOE. Board Trustee Milagros Vicente believes there was "100% transparency". If so, let's see the basis of that position.

I've been asking for documents, blueprints, and architectural drawings pertaining to 2021's proposition #3 and I still have not seen any.

At this month's December 2021 Board of Trustees meeting, Toni Pomerantz announced a schedule of related work connected to proposition #3 that appears to suggest this project is on a "fast track". What's the rush?

I believe our focus should be protecting the children and meeting the demands of the parents of District 13. Whether that is offering remote learning which I have been pushing for since I've taken office or returning kindergarten to Wheeler Avenue Elementary School. We have equity issues that need to be addressed but the parents and residents of the Wheeler school zone doesn't even have equality of services. In fact, of the 10 elementary schools in the school districts of 13, 24 and 30, Wheeler is the only school that does not provide kindergarten even though it has for decades and happens to be one of the largest buildings of the 10.

Parents living in the Wheeler school zone, must either drive or have their children bussed not to nearby James A. Dever Elementary but they must go to another town, Franklin Square, to Willow Elementary. The residents of the Willow school zone lose as well for they have to tolerate the additional vehicle traffic associated with the transportation of the children from the Wheeler school zone.

We can do better with \$2.3 million, a lot better. So, once again, please call for a special meeting of the entire board of trustees and let's get this right.

Sincerely,



Anthony Bonelli, BOE Trustee

cc: G. Cavaliere
P. Farrell
J. Oliveri
T. Pomerantz
M. Vicente

