

Board of Education
Minutes
Town Meeting
January 19, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Genovesi at 7:00 pm in the Middle School Cafetorium. Present were Trustees Berliner, Beyer, Knierim, Pombar, Sharkey and Webb. Also present was Dr. Melnick, Ms. Buatsi and Mr. Chlebicki.

Executive Session

At 7:00 pm, on motion of Trustee Knierim seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor, the Board went into executive session in the Middle School Faculty Room for discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation, the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation and the preparation, grading or administration of examinations.

At 8:00 pm, on motion of Trustee Berliner and seconded by Trustee Beyer and all in favor, the Board resumed the regular meeting in the cafetorium. There were approximately 100 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Genovesi led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Preliminary 2012-2013 Tax Levy/Budget Proposal

Dr. Melnick reviewed the preliminary 2012-2013 budget proposal. The budget currently stands at \$91,936,265. He explained that the Board has made a commitment not to override the 2% tax levy limit. In order to keep within the 2% tax cap, the budget to budget increase will be 1.85% or \$90,509,228. The Board must cut an additional \$1.4 million from this preliminary proposal to get that figure. He explained that the Governor's state aid figures reported in *Newsday* today was his proposed figures from last year, the actual state aid received was higher therefore the increase over last year will only be \$38,000. He added that the new regulations for grades 3-8 testing will cost the district \$50,000 therefore revenue will be a net of \$12,000 less than last year. He explained that in order for the budget to pass it will need a simple majority and if the budget fails there is no contingency formula, the district will have to operate on the same budget as this year resulting in an additional \$2 million in cuts. Dr. Melnick reviewed the cuts made to the initial proposal which totaled \$1.7 million. He reviewed each of the cuts which include the elimination of 6 teaching positions, 1.5 administrative positions, 5 clerical positions, 2 custodial positions, 1.5 security positions, and the elimination of multiple athletic teams at the middle school level; the practice has been to have as many teams as there are interested participants. The Board will review the preliminary proposal and determine if they agree with the cuts already made and where to cut the additional \$1.45 million to keep within the 2% tax cap; this may include additional cuts of 15-19 teaching positions across all 5 buildings and tenure areas.

Dr. Melnick recognized Olivia Buatsi and the Board for their fiscal oversight which has put this district in a much better position than other districts. He went on to say that the system of funding education in this state is broken and can't continue the same way. He added the 2% cap makes it difficult to come up with the money needed to have an excellent district; it has solved a political problem but does not face how we go forward. He went on to say with the reduction in state aid, loss of the LIPA plant and loss of revenue under the tax cap it will make it difficult to support the cost of running the school district. He suggested watching a film called

“From First to Worst” which outlines the devastating impact a tax cap has had on California Schools. He went on to say that those districts that are successful in California created public/private partnerships and in order to move ahead we need to raise private funds to support the budget. He explained that material will be going out to the community from the Viking Foundation whose goal is to raise \$1-\$3 million per year to support our schools. He went on to say that our district is ahead of the curve as we saw this trend coming. The Viking Foundation has already raised \$1 million and he stressed the importance that the Viking Foundation’s campaign succeeds to enable us to continue to provide a quality education for our children.

Legislative Action

President Genovesi thanked the Viking Foundation board members who were present at the meeting for their hard work. She explained that the Board only meets in public so she would like to update them on some legislative issues.

She reported that school districts lost the first round of the County Guarantee litigation and it would now go to the appellate court; there is a strong basis to appeal. She reported that although the LIPA ramp down does not affect budget this district has been the lead agency on the issue working closely with the Town of North Hempstead and the Villages of Roslyn, Brookville & Sea Cliff. She recently spoke to Senator Marcellino who has introduced a bill in the senate. Trustee Genovesi reported she will be testifying on one of the fiscal committees in Albany next week where she will explain the situation of our district and give actual numbers. She went on to say that our Board is trying every angle and pushing the legislature for relief. She reported that a meeting was held with our sister districts that included board presidents, superintendents and business officials to plan what can be done cooperatively. She asked Trustee Webb to update the board on that meeting.

Trustee Webb explained a meeting was held with several districts and their officials to try and find cooperative measure for fiscal savings. There is another meeting scheduled for February 6 when they will continue to find ways to be effective in advocating for our schools and finding cost savings measures. Trustee Genovesi and Ms. Buatsi attended a law seminar; she will share the material with the board. Trustee Genovesi spoke with many board members who are going to try and override the cap because their cuts are so deep. She noted the State Education Department has encouraged districts to override the cap because their base will be so much less going forward.

Dr. Melnick reminded the audience, this board will not try to override the tax cap. He also explained to the audience that there are some tenured positions that are in jeopardy and the Board will decide what tenure areas to cut however positions would be eliminated strictly by seniority; last in, first out. He also noted that the additional cuts of 15-19 teaching positions would be determined by whether or not a new contract has been reached with the teachers; the terms of the current contract stay in place until a new contract is settled as per the Triborough Agreement.

Town Meeting – Open Forum

President Genovesi opened the floor for comments and questions.

Jeanine Feuerborn, Glen Head, asked if the new mandated evaluation of teachers would assist in cutting underperforming teachers and alleviate the last in first out policy for excessing teachers.

Dr. Melnick responded that the new APPR will not change the policy of last in first out. He went on to say North Shore is the only district that has come to an agreement with the union for performance evaluation of teachers. He explained the point system in the evaluation process with 20 points coming from standardized tests results. He went on to say our teachers

have always been held accountable but now the state wants it done their way. The process for removing a teacher who is considered non-effective can take up to two years and cost close to \$1 million; the state claims the process would be expedited with this new system. He stated we have a phenomenal instructional staff who are passionate about teaching and the new law is not helping us. Trustee Webb added the Governor is committed to using standardized tests for measuring teacher performance and would like 40% of their evaluation to be based on those tests. Trustee Genovesi explained that in December there was an extensive presentation on the new APPR and she noted that our teachers chose a system that is better for the children and harder on them. She praised the faculty and said we should all be proud of the quality of teachers in our district.

Tom Kaufman, Glenwood Landing, asked if the Viking Foundation is permitted to raise funds for teacher salaries.

Dr. Melnick responded that the Viking Foundation initially committed to a \$3 million capital campaign with \$1.5 million to go for offsetting the cost of the track & field and \$750,000 for technology and the arts. At this time they will not raise funds for teacher salaries.

Phil Como, Sea Cliff, spoke about the revitalization of the Viking Foundation and the goal of raising \$3 million. He explained that they have received pledges of over \$900,000 in 9 months. He said the Viking Foundation is committed to maintaining the quality of education this district is known for. He expressed his alarm that the district is looking to lay off teachers who he feels are the life blood of our community. He explained that the first phase of the campaign was to reach major gift donors and it is now moving into the public phase of the campaign with the goal of reaching \$3 million. Finally he noted that every Trustee on the Board has donated to the campaign; the very first donor being Dr. Melnick with a donation of \$25,000.

Paul Eschause, Glen Head, asked why the Board has decided to not try and override the tax cap. He said he feels many people in the community would be able to support an increase of 3.5%. He also asked what items are exempt from the tax cap.

Dr. Melnick explained that recently the Board of Trustees of the Village of Sea Cliff attempted to override the tax cap and changed their mind due to the Sea Cliff community being overwhelmingly against it. He went on to say that only 30% of district residents have school age children and there are many seniors in the community who are on a fixed income. He said the Board feels they need to educate the community about the tax cap this year and if they attempt to override the tax cap and the budget is defeated there would be a zero percent increase from this year's budget. Dr. Melnick went on to explain that there is a formula to discover the tax levy limit. Exemptions from the tax cap are increases in the Retirement System that is above 2% of our total payroll, capital expenses that are part of the budget and debt service. This year the amount in TRS was less than a 2% increase and ERS went up by 2.6% of payroll, therefore, we would be exempt from .6% or \$26,000. He also explained that he polled all of the districts in Nassau County and not a single district is looking to override the tax cap.

Trustee Webb added this is a judgment call and to try to override would be a difficult issue to explain. Over the last several years the philosophy is to maintain what we have and be a united community. This issue would be divisive and we need to arrive at point when the community supports an override.

Trustee Genovesi added this district passes budgets by high percentages however residents see the tax cap as a right. She went on to say that the Board would consider an override in subsequent years but feels it would be difficult this year. She then shared the complex language that would need to be included in the proposition in order to override the budget.

Trustee Berliner added it would be a tremendous risk to try and override the tax cap this year. He said the bottom line is to keep the quality of education and look year by year at the possibility of an override.

Trustee Pombar added there are many community members who expect the Board to stay within the tax cap. He said for now the right decision has been made and due to the excellent fiscal planning over the years we are in a better position than most other districts.

Cathy O'Brien, Glen Head asked why the additional \$1.4 million to be cut is focused on teaching positions and whether there is a trend of decreased enrollment that would result in teachers being excessed.

Dr. Melnick responded 76% of the budget is positions and benefits. He said every principal and administrator already cut their budgets by 10%. He went on to say there have been major cuts in staff development, technology and building & grounds and there is not a significant amount left to cut in those areas. He explained that the Board will go through the budget to see what areas they can cut but the other areas of the budget are a very small portion. He stated that enrollment is anticipated to decline in the elementary schools and the high school enrollment will increase to 1,000. The total enrollment is now at 2,850 and is expected to decrease over the next decade to approximately 2,700.

Trustee Beyer added \$1.4 million is a large amount to cut and you need to look at the largest portion of the budget which is salary. She explained that if they were to cut extra-curricular activities, arts and athletics completely it would save about \$1 million.

Trustee Genovesi added the Board is committed to maintain what the schools are about, and to support stability and the philosophy of the district. The goal is to remain a premier district.

Dr. Melnick added statistics show that school districts lose 20-24% of students to private and parochial schools. North Shore has less than 5% that attend private and parochial schools. He went on to say that through the Viking Foundation campaign he has found there are parents in our district who would rather donate money to North Shore Schools than spend that money on private school. If programs such as arts, athletics and electives are cut, these parents would flee the district. Finally he mentioned that he had met with Daniel Gale and a group of realtors recently and was informed that homes in the district are still attractive because of our schools.

Jerry Romano, Sea Cliff, wanted the public to be aware that teachers have taken salary increases larger than the rate of inflation which he feels is why we are in this predicament. He said he has read the open meetings law and there is no law against discussing negotiations in public and asked that the Board share with the public what is happening in the negotiations process so they are not the only ones who are not informed. He said the closing of the LIPA power plant will not affect the school budget and school taxes are going up faster than any other taxes.

Dr. Melnick responded that the district is currently in negotiations with the teachers and the Board is not permitted to discuss this publicly. He went on to say they are in the last year of a four year contract which was agreed upon prior to the economic collapse. He added the current teacher contract was comparable to teacher contracts in other school districts. He went on to explain that the board is following the advice of counsel in not discussing negotiations in public. He also explained that outside of the Board, only the negotiating team is privy to what is discussed in negotiations.

Trustee Webb responded to the statement Mr. Romano made about LIPA. He explained that there was a meeting which laid out what the implications would be and the Board is doing everything that they can, including an appeal to our State representatives to seek assistance.

Trustee Beyer explained that at the beginning of this meeting President Genovesi stated that though the decommissioning of the LIPA plant does not affect our school budget, it does affect our tax payers and our efforts are to try and protect them from the shock of a large one year increase in taxes.

Amy Padolsky, Sea Cliff, asked how the cuts that have taken place will impact class size and what the class size is estimated to be if there are additional cuts. She also asked if the special education ratio of 12-1 would increase.

Dr. Melnick responded the cuts that have been made will have no impact on class size. However, if there is a need to go deeper, there will be some increase in class sizes of upper and secondary classes as well as a decrease in the number of electives we are able to offer. He explained that according to the contract classes cannot exceed 30 at the elementary level but he does not think we would need to go that high; he will have a better idea of the impact on class size in late February. He also said there will be no impact on the size of special education classes.

Denise Reiner, Glen Head, thanked the Board for all they do and said she knows they have everyone's best interest at heart and are doing the best they can for the district. She thanked the Viking Foundation for helping to raise money and noted that the Booster Clubs and PTAs have also been very successful in raising funds. She said she believes everyone needs to work together and the community and teachers need to band together. She is concerned about losing teachers and stated even if the community disagrees with the union they still have affection for the faculty.

Susan Lynn, Glen Head, asked if there were results from the survey on the Plan for 2020 and if the community will receive the results.

Dr. Melnick responded, there were 500 responses to the survey and the sub-committee just received their material. He will be sharing the results with the entire committee at a meeting Tuesday night and the results will be presented at the next Board meeting. He reported that generally people feel the schools are strong and want to maintain what we have but are feeling strapped.

Anthony Losquadro, Sea Cliff, asked about enrollment trends and wanted to know if the current enrollment figures include special education students who are placed out of the district. He also noted that real estate brokers have said kids leave the district after they are educated because they can't afford to live here.

Dr. Melnick responded special education out of district enrollment is approximately 75 students and that is not included in the figure he gave earlier.

Catherine Calvert, Glen Head, asked if it would be possible to have larger class sizes to keep down costs; she was in class of 60 when she went to school.

Dr. Melnick responded there are major differences in what is required today in education then when Ms. Calvert attended school. The curriculum has changed, elementary students are taking algebra and geometry and all high school students are expected to take physics. He also explained that students with major disabilities are educated in public school and have to meet the same standards. He added our class size is now at the county average and the community values a class size where the teacher can get to know their students.

Trustee Genovesi, added education has come a long way even since the 1980's when she graduated from North Shore. She went on to say that in the 80's there was approximately an 80% graduation rate; our graduation rate now is 100%.

Amy Padolsky, Glen Head, asked if the Board considered cutting down the length of each period and eliminate classes to cut down on teachers.

Dr. Melnick explained that under SED law the district cannot require a teacher to teach more than 5 periods a day no matter how long the teacher day is.

Ralph Demeo, Glen Head, asked for clarification on the report of state aid payments which appeared in the newspaper. He also asked if the additional teacher positions that may be eliminated would be positions that are currently filled.

Dr. Melnick explained that the newspaper reported a net increase of \$245,000 in state aid to North Shore. He explained that the figures used were the Governor's proposed state aid payment, not the actual figure of what the district received. He said the difference is actually \$38,000 and went on to explain that the new guidelines for grading tests will result in a cost to the district of approximately \$50,000. In response to the question on elimination of positions, he explained that those positions are currently filled.

Kathy Vetter, Glen Head, said she has lived here for 46 years and is on a fixed income. She said she has not gotten an increase in Social Security in 2-3 years and would like to know why the budget is always increased.

Dr. Melnick responded if we were able to secede from New York State we would be able to live within our budget. He said we have no control over pension costs, if the state raises the percentage of our contribution, we must pay it. Anything imposed by the state must be met. He said 24-25% of our budget is state mandated costs that the board has no control over. By trimming positions, athletics and arts we are taking away from our local program to meet state mandated costs. Finally he stated that the 2% increase would not be necessary if we did not have state imposed costs.

Trustee Pombar added this Board has tried to think outside the box. He said the school district budget is very different then how we budget our own budgets. He said when the state pension fund tanked local school districts were forced to make up the loss.

Trustee Beyer added one example of how we are faced with mandates is the tax certiorari case. If districts are not successful in winning this case within 2 years there will be another \$1-\$1.5 million in the school district budget, plus the cost of a staff to fight the grievances.

Trustee Genovesi added the school board is made up of volunteers and Trustees are just as frustrated as the residents are. She added this Board has worked with the 56 school districts in Nassau County to try and bring about change in the way schools are funded and find ways to consolidate services.

Tom Kaufman, Glenwood Landing, asked for clarification in reference to the funding of the pension system. He asked if it is correct that when times are good and investments are up, the district does not have to fund the pension system.

Ms. Buatsi responded when the market was up several years ago the State made the decision to assess the district at a lower rate, however TRS makes the decision of what rate we pay, the district has no choice.

Dr. Melnick added in the last 8 years the district went from a total contribution of \$45,000 to \$ 5.37 million and in ERS from \$50,000 to \$1.77 million. He went on to explain that Tier 5 was recently introduced into retirement system and will provide relief in later years. A Tier 6, which would be a defined contribution plan instead of defined benefit plan is being discussed, however, this would require a constitutional convention.

Trustee Webb added the district is not permitted to put money away in reserve accounts for pension costs, this would require legislative change.

Amy Padolsky asked if there would be any cuts to the positions in co-taught classes.

Dr. Melnick responded special education costs are mandated by the government. He said the district must meet the services identified on the IEP. He went on to say that as they went through the special education budget it was broken down by student and the specific service needed. He said there will not be a decrease in the special education program all services are driven by the IEP which is a legal and binding document.

Trustee Beyer added services are mandated by the IEP. She said we have found that sending a student out of district for a program can be more expensive than creating a program that keeps the student in district. She also noted that we may be able to offer a spot in the program for students from other districts on a tuition basis; this would increase revenue and would only be possible if the class was not at capacity with our own students.

Trustee Webb added the current way the federal and state government is dealing with this issue is divisive. He said the Federal Disability Act was a commitment that every child receive a public education. He went on to explain that commitment must be guaranteed and that portion of the budget will continue to grow while the rest of the budget shrinks. He added these decisions will divide every segment of the community.

Dr. Melnick added North Shore has been recognized as a high performing-gap closing district which is based upon high school graduation and college acceptances of the special education population.

Allison Marsh, Sea Cliff, asked if it is true that the LIPA closing will not impact this budget, but will impact the 2013-14 budget. She also asked if the district is not legally able to put money in reserves, how will they make up the \$14-15 million lost from LIPA, even with the Viking Foundation's generous donations. Finally she stated that she admires everything the Board is doing and supports the schools and the school board.

Dr. Melnick responded, she is correct that the LIPA ramp-down will affect taxpayers in the 2013-2014 school year.

Trustee Genovesi added there was a meeting in September when the Board explained that the LIPA closing will not affect the budget but will affect the taxpayer. Currently there are 4 classes of taxpayers and once the plant is decommissioned taxes will be shifted to the other 3 remaining tax classes; our budget will be the same but the tax payer will pay the difference. She went on to explain that although LIPA can decommission the plant in an effort to lower rates, our Board has asked legislators for a phase out plan to protect the shock to the taxpayer.

Catherine Calvert asked if we can take advantage of the hydro-electric power generated by Niagra Falls to help lower electric rates.

Dr. Melnick responded the upstate legislature does not want to allow downstate to purchase that power, which would result in lower electric rates but have no impact on school taxes.

Trustee Genovesi asked resident Anthony Losquadro, Sea Cliff, to identify himself and explain why he was taping the meeting.

Mr. Losquadro responded he is a member of the Sea Cliff Property Owners Committee and was taping the meeting for future use.

Jeanine Feuerborn, Glen Head, stated it has been found that it is in the best interest of special education students to learn at their home school. She asked if there is something that the child needs that we did not offer, would we try to find a teacher or program in order to keep the student in-house.

Dr. Melnick responded he and the Board always do what is in the best interest of the child. He said if we are not equipped to provide the necessary program then we will send the student to an outside program.

Amy Padolsky, Glen Head, asked if the district would consider declassifying a student if there is no teacher or program available.

Dr. Melnick responded we are legally obligated to provide a student who is classified with what they require to succeed. He noted only the CSE, which includes a parent member, would make a determination to declassify a student and this would never be done due to budget constraints.

Mrs. Padolsky said her understanding is as of last May parent members are no longer mandated to sit on CSE meetings.

Dr. Melnick responded although the state no longer mandates a parent member, we will continue the practice of including parent members on the CSE.

Trustee Beyer added the Board is responsible for compliance on the IEPs and they make sure a parent member is in attendance when reviewing the document.

Regular Business

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Knierim and seconded by Trustee Berliner, with Trustees Berliner, Beyer, Knierim, Pombar, Sharkey & Webb in favor and Trustee Genovesi abstaining, the minutes of January 5, 2012 were approved as amended.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

On motion of Trustee Pombar and seconded by Trustee Sharkey and all in favor the treasurer's report of November 1, 2011 through November 30, 2011 was approved.

The board decided to act simultaneously on action items A-I.

On motion of Trustee Beyer and seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor, it was:

Personnel

Leave of Absence for Child Rearing Purposes - Certified

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Amy Mueller, Elementary, effective March 5, 2012 through June 30, 2012

Increment for Advanced Study - Certified

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Barbara Brennan, Art, from Step 22 of the MA+60 salary schedule to Step 22 of the MA+75 salary schedule, effective January 30, 2012

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Andrea Lachar, Special Education, from Step 2 of the MA salary schedule to Step 2 of the MA+15 salary schedule, effective January 30, 2012

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Robert McKee, School Psychologist, from Step 13 of the MA+30 salary schedule to Step 13 of the MA+45 salary schedule, effective January 30, 2012

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Eric Mordhorst, Music, from Step 10 of the MA salary schedule to Step 10 of the MA+15 salary schedule, effective January 30, 2012

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Maria Saccardi, Elementary, from Step 12 of the MA+30 salary schedule to Step 12 of the MA+45 salary schedule, effective January 30, 2012

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Amy Sellers, Special Education, from Step 5 of the MA salary schedule to Step 5 of the MA+15 salary schedule, effective January 30, 2012

Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment – Certified

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Dana Bathie, Elementary, on Step 2 of the BA salary schedule, effective February 2, 2012 through June 30, 2012

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Amy Ferris, Elementary, on Step 6 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective February 2, 2012 through February 15, 2012

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Bryce Larsen, Music, on Step 1 of the BA salary schedule, effective February 2, 2012 through March 1, 2012

Approval of Extra-Curricular Activity Coaches

Resolved: To approve the following extra-curricular activity coaches:

Middle School

Girls Basketball	Stephanie DeBonis
Boys Volleyball	William Madigan
Wrestling	Alex Hojnowski

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

Resolved: To add the following names to the per diem substitute list:

Thomas DeRancy	Cleaner Substitute
William Koopmann	Security Substitute
Greg Pandolfi	Cleaner Substitute
Tiffany Pelczar	Art Teacher Substitute

Approval of Corrective Action Plan in response to the NYS Audit Report of November, 2011

Resolved: To approve the corrective action plan in response to the New York State Audit Report regarding the examination of Internal Controls over Selected Financial Activities for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010

Approval of Agreement with Savin Engineers, P.C. to Provide Construction Management Services for the High School Bathroom/Storage Facility

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Savin Engineers, P.C. to provide construction management services to oversee the construction of the high school bathroom/storage facility project in the amount of \$46,800

Approval to Increase Building Use Charges

Resolved: To approve the increase in building use charges to 1 ½ time rate: \$45/hr. & double time rate: \$60/hr. and the utility fee \$35/per event

Approval of an Agreement with VHB Engineering, Surveying and Landscape Architecture, P.C.

Resolved: To approve an agreement with VHB Engineering, Surveying and Landscape Architecture, P.C. to provide Planning, Land Development & Environmental Consultant services effective January 19, 2012 through June 30, 2012

Approval of Agreement with Yoga Rocks! Kids

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Yoga Rocks! Kids to provide 9 Yoga Rocks! Kids classes at the Glen Head Elementary School at a total fee of \$675.00

Approval of Change Order

Resolved: To approve change order #1 from The Land Tek Group, Inc. for Track, Field & Masonry Reconstruction at the High School in the amount of \$42,604.33 (additional)

Approval of Special Education Services Contract

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the South Huntington UFSD for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools located within the South Huntington UFSD during the 2011-2012 school year

Approval of Special Education Services (IEP)

Resolved: To approve special education services (IEP) as per attached:

On motion of Trustee Berliner and seconded by Trustee Knierim and all in favor, it was decided to add a New Business discussion to the agenda

New Business

Dr. Melnick noted that the code of conduct needs to be amended in light of the iPad initiative and dignity for all. Trustee Knierim volunteered to serve as the Board member on the committee to review and amend the policy.

Trustee Genovesi was notified by the Nassau Suffolk School Boards Association that they are not increasing their dues for next year. Dr. Melnick reminded the Board they decided not to belong to this organization and we have not budgeted for the expense. The Board had a brief discussion about whether or not re-joining the association is beneficial. It will be put on the next agenda for discussion.

Dr. Melnick noted that there was a meeting in Sea Cliff to discuss the anti-Semitic vandalism. Although authorities do not know who caused the vandalism, it was indicated that they are North Shore kids. It was noted authorities have no suspects and are unsure if it was done by adults or kids.

Adjournment

At 10:45 pm on motion of Trustee Berliner and seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk