

Board of Education
Minutes
Regular Meeting
December 17, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Webb at 7:15 pm in the Sea Cliff School Auditorium. Present were Trustees Berliner, Beyer, Genovesi, Kolkhorst, Pombar and Sharkey. Also present were Dr. Melnick, Ms. Buatsi and Mr. Chlebicki.

Executive Session

At 7:15 pm, on motion of Trustee Sharkey seconded by Trustee Pombar and all in favor, the Board went into Executive Session in the principal's office of the Sea Cliff School for discussions regarding matters leading to the employment of a particular person and collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law).

At 8:00 pm, on motion of Trustee Kolkhorst seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of Executive Session and resumed the regular meeting in the auditorium. There were approximately 50 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Webb led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Amendment of Agenda

On motion of Trustee Beyer and seconded by Trustee Genovesi and all in favor, the agenda was amended to move up the tenure appointment of Bridget Hicks to the second item of business.

Recognition of Students

Dr. Melnick and president Webb along with Coach Neal Levy and Athletic Director Don Lang, recognized members of the Women's Cross Country Track Team for achieving a County Championship.

Tenure Appointment

Dr. Melnick recommended elementary principal Bridget Finder for Tenure. On motion of Trustee Kolkhorst and seconded by Trustee Beyer and all in favor, tenure was granted to Bridget Finder, Elementary Principal, effective January 1, 2010.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Beyer and seconded by Trustee Sharkey and all in favor, the minutes of December 3, 2009 were approved as amended.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Melnick reported on the winter concerts throughout the district; meetings with students focusing on how to improve life and learning at North Shore; pre-budget focus group meetings; the recent notification from New York State Teacher's Retirement System informing the district of the increase in contributions for next year of approximately \$833,000 and the impact this will have on the 2010-2011 budget; and finally the demographer hired by the district will have a draft of his report early in January.

Report of the SGO Representative

Charles Sharkey, SGO Representative, reported on events and activities in the high school, including a successful toy drive to benefit Schneider Children's Hospital and student participation with the salvation army holiday fundraiser.

Regular Business

Review of Senior Experience

Principal Albert Cousins gave an overview of the senior experience, the changes made and the plan for the future. Teacher Chris Halloran supervises students who are doing internships. She explained the process and procedure for setting up internships and how the students are held accountable during the year. At the current time there are 118 students in an internship. Students Austin Simpson, Dominique Corrao and Sandra Kret spoke about the experiences they have had with their internship. Assistant Principal, Kevin Kurrus, supervises students who choose to do a senior project. Students Alex Steinman and Dominique Troy, who are doing a joint senior project, spoke about a recent fundraiser they held as well as their plan for the rest of the year.

Grades 9/10 Social Studies

Chris Zublionis, Director of Social Studies, explained he is doing an extensive review of the current social studies course offerings which includes assessing our existing grade 10 program and examining the district goals, student needs and future possibilities including the elimination of the AP European History course offered to 10th graders and replacing it with an honors section. He plans on consulting colleges and other high schools to determine what impact this may have on student admission to colleges. The target date for adopting these changes is Fall of 2012. The Board discussed specifics of the evaluation and suggested reaching out to recent graduates to ascertain whether the AP European History course benefitted them in college. Trustees commended Mr. Zublionis for his work on this review and look forward to hearing the results of his findings.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Budget Goals

Trustee Webb opened the discussion by asking Trustees to let Dr. Melnick know their thoughts on what they would like the goal of this year's budget to be. In the past few years the goal of the Board has been to maintain what we currently have. Programs have been reviewed and improved without adding expenses or new programs. The question for the Board is whether to continue this as a central goal, at any price, or how to move forward if that is not financially possible. Trustee Webb also suggested the Board consider whether to approach the bargaining units in regard to reopening their contracts.

Dr. Melnick explained he has held three pre-budget focus group meetings with residents to get an idea of what the community wants. He went on to explain that in next year's budget the district's required contribution to the Teachers' Retirement System will increase from 6% to 9% resulting in an additional \$833,000 in one year. He also explained that in the budget for 2011-2012 this will increase again to 13%, or approximately \$1.5 million, therefore, this is not a one year issue and there is no way to find the additional funds needed to cover this expense while keeping the budget below a 3% increase. He laid out the expenses mandated by the State and along with contracts and collective bargaining agreements the Board has

approximately 7% control over budget costs. At the current level, just to maintain what we have would result in a 5% budget increase.

The Board had a lengthy discussion. Trustees felt they needed specifics on what would be lost in both positions and program before making a decision on how to proceed. Dr. Melnick said approximately 15-20 positions would need to be cut across the board in order to achieve a budget increase of less than 3%; this would result in increased class size.. Trustees felt it is important to know what the community wants as far as class size, and program before making decisions. A suggestion was made to consider questions from the community that were raised last year during the budget process as a starting point. The Board is committed to working with the community and there will be an informational meeting on January 11, 2010 to hear their thoughts and understand their priorities. The Board also stressed the importance of communication with the community to be sure all are informed and are able to have their voice heard. There was consensus that the bargaining units should be approached about re-opening negotiations before cutting positions.

Committee and Conference Reports

Trustee Webb reminded Trustees there is a meeting planned with David Little and representatives from local Boards for Monday, December 21, 2009 at 5:00 pm in the American Legion Hall in Glen Head.

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items E-P.

On motion of Trustee Pombar and seconded by Trustee Genovesi and all in favor, it was:

Personnel

Tenure - Administration

Resolved: To grant tenure to Bridget Finder, Elementary Principal, effective January 1, 2010

Resignation/Appointment - Administration

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Albert Cousins, Director of Social Studies, for the sole purpose of accepting the position of secondary principal, effective December 17, 2009 through July 1, 2012

Appointment - Administration

Resolved: To approve the probationary appointment of Christopher Zublionis, Director of Social Studies, effective December 17, 2009 through July 1, 2012

Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment - Certified

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Nora Haagenson, English, on Step 10 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective December 1, 2009 through January 15, 2010

Resignation for Retirement Purposes - Non Certified

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes of Deborah Wiehn, Teacher Aide, effective December 24, 2009

Termination - Non Certified

Resolved: To approve the termination of Charlee Cook, Teacher Aide, and the stipend positions of Cheerleading Coach and Freshman Class Advisor, effective December 3, 2009

Appointment - Non Certified

Resolved: to approve the appointment of Michelle Mazza, Teacher Aide, Glenwood Landing, effective December 2, 2009, new position (increased class size)

Approval of Addition to the Per Diem Substitute List

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

Nicole Adams	Physical Education
Janet Artesani	Teacher Aide
Heather Fanning	Elementary
Salvatore Giurlanda	Elementary
John McPartlin	Secondary
Brendon Mitchell	Secondary
Keeley Pascucci	Secondary
Nancy Rice	Food Service
Mark Santiago	Physical Education
Jennifer Strangio-Lott	Elementary

Approval of Extra Curricular Activity Club

Resolved: To add a High School Glee Club to the list of approved extra curricular activity clubs as a Level 3 club

District Appointment - Asbestos Designee

Resolved: To approve the temporary change in the district appointment of Asbestos Designee from John Hall to Kurt Bruno, effective December 17, 2009

Approval of Budget Transfers - Tab

Resolved: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$81,000, effective December 17, 2009

Acceptance of Donation from Glenwood Landing SCA to Glenwood Landing School

Resolved: To accept the donation of \$2,600 from the Glenwood Landing SCA to the Glenwood Landing School for participation in the Carnegie Hall Education Program and Lincoln Center Guided Tour in May, 2010

Acceptance of Donation from Glen Head School Class of 2009 to the Glen Head School

Resolved: To accept the donation of \$900 for the cost of materials for 6 classroom benches from the Glen Head School class of 2009 to the Glen Head School

Acceptance of Donation from the North Shore High School PTSA to the North Shore High School

Resolved: to accept a donation of \$2,367 from the High School PTSA to the High School for the purposes of purchasing Go Motion software to update the Physics Lab (\$800), upgrades to the Science Research Lab (\$1,000), the cost of a new radio for Pulse (\$67) and to support the school store (\$500)

Approval of Agreement with New Design

Resolved: To approve an agreement with New Design for additional transportation mapping services in the amount of \$1,815

Approval of Agreement with Clarity Testing Services, Inc.

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Clarity Testing Services, Inc. for mandated drug & alcohol testing for bus drivers effective January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 at a cost of \$2,419

Approval to Dispose of Inventory

Resolved: To declare as obsolete and approve of the disposal of the following inventory items:

Royal Cash Register at the Middle School
Sayno Cash Register at the Middle School
Cushman Tractor at the High School
Piano at Glenwood Landing School

Approval of a Resolution for a SEQRA Type II Determination for Proposed Installation of a Waste Oil Storage Tank at the District Transportation Facility

Resolved: To approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District is proposing the installation of a 280+ gallon, above-ground storage tank for the storage of waste oil at the District transportation facility (hereinafter the "proposed action"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District has retained VHB Engineering, Surveying and Landscape Architecture, P.C. to review the proposed project, the State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations at 6 NYCRR Part 617, and to make a recommendation to the Board of Education for the North Shore Central School District as to the proper classification of the proposed project; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action includes the installation of a waste oil tank, an appurtenant structure to the District transportation facility, and pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(7) of the implementing regulations of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, the "*construction or expansion of a primary or accessory/appurtenant, non-residential structure or facility involving less than 4,000 square feet of gross floor area and not involving a change in zoning or a use variance and consistent with local land use controls...*" is a Type II action; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District, as lead agency, after review of the action proposed at the District transportation facility, 6 NYCRR §617.5, and the opinion provided by VHB Engineering, Surveying and Landscape Architecture, P.C, hereby determines that the proposed action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5 (c)(7) of the implementing regulations of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, and will, therefore, by definition, have no significant adverse impact on the environment

Approval of Special Education Tuition Agreements

Resolved: To approve an agreement with New Hyde Park-Garden City Park UFSD for one resident student in the amount of \$37,821, effective July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010

Resolved: To approve an agreement with The Lowell School for one resident student in the amount of \$2,856.40 per month effective November 30, 2009 through June 30, 2010

Approval of Special Education Services (IEP)

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

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Old Business

Trustees Webb requested comments on the video broadcast of the Board Meeting from December 3, 2009 be sent to Dr. Melnick.

New Business

Trustees had no new business to discuss.

Adjournment

At 10:20 pm, on motion of Trustee Kolkhorst and seconded by Trustee Genovesi and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk