



North Shore Schools

Discovering Your Dreams

BOE Meeting Summary

November 19, 2009

Discussion/Presentations:



- 1. The November 19th Board of Education meeting began with an external Audit Committee meeting. Dr. Melnick was pleased to report that the auditors complimented the Business Department for their professionalism and exemplary accounting practices. Additionally, they complimented the BOE while communicating that the District has done everything possible to be prepared for what the future holds in this economic climate.**
- 2. Dr. Melnick and Trustees answered questions regarding the upcoming budget and teachers salaries. It was explained that currently the district is in the middle of a four-year teacher's contract which was negotiated prior to the economic downslide. Since the NYS budget contingency formula does not account for a zero or negative CPI, a contingent budget (if the budget is not approved) on May 18, 2010 will result in the need for much more drastic cuts than contingency budgets in the past would have required. A preliminary review of what actions would need to be taken should we not pass a budget indicate that a substantial number of teachers and programs would need to be cut from the North Shore Schools most likely resulting in an increase in class sizes well above the Nassau County average.**

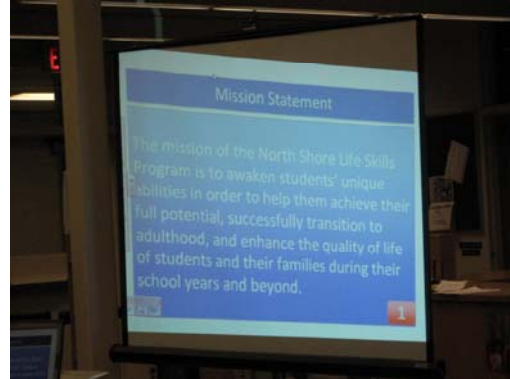
Additionally, Dr. Webb explained that the number of North Shore Schools' administrative personnel is well below other school districts in both the region and the entire State. Trustees assured residents in the audience that the BOE is actively working with other school districts as well as legislators to address those issues which result in the budget increasing over which we have no local control.

Superintendent Dr. Melnick and Board members encouraged residents to actively participate early on in the budget process and stressed the importance of greater community involvement. Dr. Melnick invited members of the audience to attend upcoming Board meetings, budget coffees, focus groups, and/or to set up a private meeting through Mrs. Ciampi, the District Clerk (516-277-7801), to address any individual budgetary concerns.



Board members spoke with consultants, Paulette and John Long, regarding the subject of seeking outside funds through grants. Topics of discussion included the identification of district needs (or current programs including the 9th Grade Experience, Long Island Studies Program, Cultural Proficiency Effort, etc), preparation of materials, creation of an overall fundraising plan, and identification of additional prospects and/or

resources.



4. The Special Education Department under the leadership of Director Thomas Korb presented the Life Skills Program (Phase I –Grades 6-8, Phase II-High School Years 1 & 2, and Phase III- Year 3- 21years old). Mr. Korb and his team were praised by the BOE for creating and implementing a multi-disciplinary and collaborative program that guides a child according to his/her special needs and interests.

(For further information regarding this meeting, please see the North Shore Board of Education Minutes for November 19, 2009 at www.northshoreschools.org)