

Board of Education  
Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
October 13, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Genovesi at 6:45 pm in the High School Library. Present were Trustees Berliner, Beyer, Knierim, Pombar, Sharkey and Webb. Also present was Dr. Melnick, Ms. Buatsi and Mr. Chlebicki.

**Executive Session**

At 6:45 pm, on motion of Trustee Knierim seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor, the Board went into executive session in the High School Faculty room for discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation and collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law).

At 7:40 pm on motion of Trustee Pombar and seconded by Trustee Sharkey and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of Executive Session and convened a meeting of the Audit Committee in the High School Library.

At 8:10 pm, on motion of Trustee Beyer seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, the Board resumed the regular meeting in the library. There were approximately 20 people in the audience.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Genovesi led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

On motion of Trustee Knierim and seconded by Trustee Beyer and all in favor, the minutes of September 22, 2011 were approved.

**Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Melnick reported on the following: the new Annual Professional Performance Review; Everyday Math Program workshops for parents; six students received National Merit Scholarship Commendations and two students have been named National Merit Semi-Finalists; Middle School students participated in National Unity Day; Art teachers will receive professional development in drawing on the iPad; homecoming will take place on October 22; the Report on Student Achievement will be presented at the next meeting. He also reported on the SAT scandal and noted that the DA is investigating whether cheating took place in other districts; North Shore has not been notified that we are among those districts. Finally he reported that as a result of the tax cap, he has asked principals to propose cuts of 18 teacher positions, 3 secretarial positions & 3 custodial positions. In November he will begin to talk about cuts to program as well.

**Report of the SGO Representative**

Christopher Sharkey, SGO Representative, reported that the juniors will take the PSAT on Saturday; Tri-M induction is October 25 @7:00 pm; and students will participate in the Breast Cancer Walk this weekend @ Jones Beach.

### **Youth Development Survey Results**

Dr. Melnick gave an overview of the Youth Development Survey results and focused on substance use and abuse. He noted that gambling has decreased and students feel schools are very safe. The report indicated students use prescription drugs taken from their home medicine chest. He explained that the Coalition for a Drug Free North Shore will be holding an "empty your medicine chest" drive sometime in November. The Coalition recently held a breakfast attended by many community leaders, clergy and police. There are approximately 50 members on the Coalition and they are in the process of creating a community newsletter. They have also launched a website.

Don Lang spoke about the many opportunities for students to participate in after school activities such as athletics and community service and the findings that these types of activities lowers the instances of substance use and abuse. He noted the adoption of the health curriculum "Too Good for Drugs". He also explained there have been round table discussions with health teachers that focused on how to make positive behavior positive and ways of rewarding kids for positive behavior.

The Board discussed the findings. Questions were raised about a plan for the future. It was noted that pro-social behavior is important and the Coalition should investigate how to provide such opportunities. Dr. Melnick explained the Coalition is working on a plan for the future and is currently working with the local YMCA and Boys & Girls Club to institute more programs. They discussed ways to address binge drinking and the issue of parents allowing parties with alcohol. Dr. Melnick said the Coalition is making families aware of the social host law. He also stated that when high school administrators get word of a party, parents and police are notified. In addition, when a student is suspended for possession of drugs, they must enter a treatment plan as a stipulation for their return to school.

### **Arts Action Plan**

Terryl Donovan was present to answer questions in regard to the updated arts action plan. Trustee Genovesi began by commenting that since Ms. Donovan reported to the Board last year, there has been a change in the paradigm due to funding issues. Ms. Donovan explained that keeping the current economic situation in mind, she separated the report by steps that can be achieved with minimal cost impact and those that have a more costly investment for the future. She thanked the many parent volunteers and the Arts Angels for their support without which the arts department would not be as strong as it is. Trustees thanked Ms. Donovan for her report especially the breakdown of cost. They discussed the difficulty of expanding the arts program with the limited resources available as well as the possibility of adding inter-disciplinary opportunities. Trustees all agreed it is important to maintain a strong arts program however they are unsure of how this will be possible with the lack of funds. It was noted that the fundraising initiative by the Viking Foundation includes expanding the arts program. Dr. Melnick said he is looking at how California and Massachusetts approached funding their arts programs under a tax cap. He stressed the importance of guarding these programs in order to provide students with positive activities as outlined in the YDS survey.

### **Comments from the Public**

Julia Brennan, Sea Cliff, expressed concern about looking only at the bottom line. She said it is important to consider the opportunities our art programs provide students. She noted that last year Ms. Donovan was asked to come back to the Board with a vision for the department without a focus on the funding, however the opening statement of this discussion began with a change in the paradigm due to budgetary issues. She asked that the Board keep their eyes open to the vision and look at educating the whole child.

Denise Reiner, Glen Head, said the arts programs are important to the students and provides outside opportunities for positive behavior. She said it is important to challenge students and have them come home excited about what they have accomplished.

Melinda Bloom, Glen Head, said she has been doing technical theatre work for the district for several years. She said the *Arts Angels* are always looking for opportunities outside of the school day. An example is an Open Mic event for students held one Friday a month called "Wing It", where students are encouraged to perform. She said there has been an extraordinary response to this program which she believes is an indicator that arts in this community is thriving. She also noted that 37 students signed on to be crew members for the fall show and feels adding a technical theatre course to the curriculum would be well received by the students.

Mrs. Brennan added this district works cooperatively with surrounding districts by sharing costumes made by our students. She expressed her commitment of continuing her work on these projects, but is concerned with the longevity of the program.

Trustee Genovesi responded these are issues the Board is going to grapple with. She went on to say building up one program means taking away from something else. Trustee Webb added the Board never just looks at the bottom line. He added, they will look at things the same way as always, but they are unsure right now how drastic it will be.

Dr. Melnick concluded, this is a community that has always supported the arts. He said our role is to help students become well-rounded, confident individuals. He added, thanks to organizations such as The Arts Angels and The Viking Foundation we are in a better position than other districts who have eliminated their arts and athletic programs and have had teacher lay-offs.

#### **Comments from the Public**

Daniel Deeks, Sea Cliff said our situation will be worse than California or Massachusetts because their cuts occurred in a situation when the economy was still good and the tax base could supply the funding. He recommended looking at Cincinnati as a model of a worse-case scenario.

#### **Legislative Issues**

The Board discussed the LIPA issue. Greenberg & Traurig is speaking with our legislators on a regular basis about the issue. Over 20 people met at the Assessor's Office; present were Assemblymen Lavine and Montessano as well as Senators Marcellino and Martins. The LAC committee met to review the issues and will bring recommendations to the Board. Governor Cuomo did not release funds to 4 schools on Long Island saying districts can use money in reserves. Trustees want the community to realize it is illegal for schools to use money in reserves for any other purpose than what the reserve is set up for. Trustees Webb and Beyer will reach out to local school district leaders to see if there is interest in re-forming their group to work on cost savings ideas. Finally, Dr. Melnick said he is trying to ascertain what is exempt from the tax cap in order to formulate a budget.

#### **Regular Business**

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items D-O

On motion of Trustee Pombar and seconded by Trustee Berliner 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 Kimberly Cunneen, Elementary, effective January 30, 2012 through June 30, 2012

Increments for Advanced Study – Certified

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Sara Cano, Art, from Step 8 of the MA+15 salary schedule to Step 8 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Jaclyn Etter, Social Studies, from Step 8 of the MA+15 salary schedule to Step 8 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Debra Henneberger, Reading, from Step 12 of the MA+60 salary schedule to Step 12 of the MA+75 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Michelle MacLellan, Special Education, from Step 6 of the MA+30 salary schedule to Step 6 of the MA+45 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Jaclyn Muscarella, Physical Education, from Step 6 of the MA+45 salary schedule to Step 6 of the MA+60 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Andrew Richter, Health, from Step 9 of the MA+60 salary schedule to Step 9 of the MA+75 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Nicole Riggio, Special Education, from Step 2 of the BA+15 salary schedule to Step 2 of the MA salary schedule, effective September 1, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Samara Weitz, Special Education, from Step 4 of the BA+30 salary schedule to Step 4 of the MA salary schedule, effective September 1, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advancement to Celine Stanis, Teaching Assistant, from Level I of the Teaching Assistant salary schedule, to Level II of the Teaching Assistant schedule, effective September 1, 2011

Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Dana Bathie, Elementary, on Step 2 of the BA salary schedule, effective October 4, 2011 through November 4, 2011

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Pam Crepeau, Elementary, on Step 4 of the MA salary schedule, effective January 30, 2012 through June 30, 2012

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Bryce Larsen, Music, on Step 1 of the BA salary schedule, effective October 1 through November 4, 2011

Part-time Appointment – Certified

Resolved: To approve a part-time appointment for Kerri Harsinay (.5) Level I Teacher Assistant, effective September 22, 2011 through June 30, 2012

Resolved: To approve a part-time (.3) appointment for Mary Shannon, Mathematics (AIS), on Step 1 of the BA salary schedule, effective October 13, 2011 through June 30, 2012

Teacher Overages

Resolved: To approve overages for the following teachers for the 2011-2012 school year:

Candice Brodie, Social Studies	.033
Andrew Cross, Social Studies	.033
Aaron Kozlowski, Health	.1
Susan Krugman, LOTE/ESL	.2
Melanie Lisberg, Social Studies	.066
Lisa Polito, Music	.066
Andrew Richter, Health	.1

Appointment – Non-Certified

Resolved: To approve a probationary appointment for Michael Coristo, Cleaner/Attendant, on Step 1 of the Cleaner/Attendant salary schedule, effective October 17, 2011 with a 26 week probationary period

Resolved: To approve a part-time appointment for Matthew DeMaria, Teacher Aide, effective September 19, 2011

Resolved: To approve a part-time appointment for Diana Knox, Teacher Aide, effective September 6, 2011

Resolved: To approve a part-time appointment for Elizabeth Petrucci, Teacher Aide, effective September 19, 2011

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

Resolved: to approve the additions of the following names to the per diem substitute list:

Dana Aboulafia	Elementary
Angelina Condo	Food Service
Andrea Conetta	Clerical
Kristen DeMayo	Teacher Aide
Melissa DiLeonardo	Teacher Aide
Sember Glenn	Elementary
Josh Jessen	Music
Mary Kelly	Secondary
Dorothy-Ann Linehan Kaffl	Elementary
Sandra Livoti	Teacher Aide
Vincent LoPiccolo	Security Aide
Camille Martino	Clerical

Approval of Extra Curricular Activity Coach

Resolved: To approve the following coach for the fall season:

MS Boys Soccer      Michael D'Amico

Fund Balance Allocation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the additional Fund Balance remaining from the 2010-2011 budget be allocated as follows:

Increase the District's Unemployment Reserve \$287,981.34  
Increase the Districts Workers' Compensation \$287,981.33  
Increase the District's ERS Contribution Reserve \$287,981.33

Acceptance of a Donation from the Glen Head PTO to the Glen Head Elementary School

Resolved: To accept the donation from the Glen Head PTO of an Eagle's Perch (Monkey Bars) and Fencing to the Glen Head Elementary School at an approximate value of \$6,000

Acceptance of a Donation from a Faculty Member to the North Shore High School

Resolved: To accept the donation from high school teacher Teresa Paolilli-Schiano of a Singer Sewing Machine to the North Shore High School with an approximate value of \$100

Approval of Agreement with Jeffrey Gottlieb, MS

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Jeffrey Gottlieb,MS, to provide a presentation of "Early Man: The History of Technology" to the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, on October 27 and October 28 at a total cost of \$650

Approval of Agreement with David Jon Kassan

Resolved: To approve an agreement with David Jon Kassan to provide an all day workshop on drawing on the iPad for district art teachers at a cost of \$500 plus travel expenses not to exceed \$100

Approval of Budget Transfers

Resolved: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$45,728.32, effective October 13, 2011

Approval of Special Education Consultants

Resolved: To approve a consultant agreement with Sheila Bilko, to provide Speech-Language Therapy in Greenvale School for the 2011-2012 school year

Resolved: To approve a consultant agreement with Janice Epstein, to provide Psychological Evaluations for the 2011-2012 school year

Resolved: To approve a consultant agreement with Rosalie Menduni to provide Occupational Therapy for the 2011-2012 school year

Resolved: To approve a consultant agreement with Barry Tussman, to provide ABA Home instruction, for the 2011-2012 school year

Approval of Special Education Tuition Agreements

Resolved: To approve a tuition agreement with The Center for Discovery for students residing within the North Shore School District and attending The Center for Discovery in an amount set by New York State Education Department, effective September 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

Resolved: To approve a tuition agreement with Harmony Heights for students residing within the North Shore School District and attending Harmony Heights at a rate set by the New York State Education Department, effective September 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

Resolved: To approve a tuition agreement with Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf for students residing within the North Shore Schools and attending Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf at a rate of \$7,477.28/month, effective September 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

Resolved: To approve a tuition agreement with The Summit School for students residing within the North shore Schools and attending The Summit School at a rate set by the New York State Education Department, effective September 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

Approval of Special Education Services Contracts

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the Glen Cove CSD 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 Glen Cove CSD during the 2011-2012 school year

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the Port Washington 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 Port Washington UFSD during the 2011-2012 school year

Approval of Addendum to Agreement with Access 7

Resolved: To approve an addendum to the agreement with Access 7 Services, Inc. to include Physical Therapy Services at a rate schedule as indicated in the addendum, effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

Prior to approving special education services, #363624100 was pulled and not approved

Approval of Special Education Services (IEP)

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

**Comments from the Public**

Daniel Deeks, Sea Cliff, asked if the Public Service Commissioner was present at the meeting with the legislators at the Assessor's Office. Dr. Melnick responded he was not present.

**Old Business**

The Board discussed funding for the Field House at the Track and Field. It was explained that the steering committee anticipated more of a cost savings on the project and hoped to utilize those funds for the field house, however the bids came in higher than expected. Minutes from the construction steering committee explains this scenario. It was decided to add this as a discussion item on a future agenda as it may need private fund raising. There is a construction steering committee meeting next Tuesday and final figures will be available.

**New Business**

The policy sub-committee will review the policy on academic integrity.  
Dr. Melnick will get an opinion of counsel as to the Board's control over their policy in a pay for play situation.  
The Board discussed topics for their retreat.

**Adjournment**

At 10:15 am on motion of Trustee Knierim and seconded by Trustee Sharkey and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi  
District Clerk