

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
December 14, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President Beyer at 7:00 pm in the Sea Cliff School Auditorium. Present were Trustees Genovesi, Glassman, Pombar, Vollmer and Webb; Trustee Murphy was absent. Also present were Dr. Melnick, Mr. Chlebicki and Ms. Buatsi.

Executive Session

At 7:00 pm, on motion of Trustee Beyer seconded by Trustee Genovesi and all in favor, the Board went into Executive Session in the principal's office to discuss matters leading to the employment, promotion and demotion of a particular person.

At 8:00 pm, on motion of Trustee Glassman seconded by Trustee Pombar, and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of Executive Session and resumed the meeting at 8:00 pm in the alumni room. There were approximately 25 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Beyer led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Recognition of Students

Dr. Melnick and President Beyer recognized Thomas Meiners (Trumpet) and Angela Shih (Viola) for their participation at the All State Conference.

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Trustee Glassman and seconded by Trustee Genovesi and all in favor, the minutes of November 30, 2006 were approved.

Report of the SGO Representative/Comments from the Public

Alex Romano reported on the Battle of the Bands, money raised will be donated to charity; the executive board of the student government has met with Mr. Rozakis in regard to the issue of weighting and ranking, they will be having monthly meetings; he reported that the Long Island Challenge Team would be on Channel 12 on December 30; the High School Crime & Justice class participated in Teen Court; a toy drive to benefit Schneider's Children's Hospital is underway; and the students are requesting new soap and dispensers, as well as paper towels, in the rest rooms to encourage students to wash their hands.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Melnick waived his report as the information he was planning to report on had already been covered by the Student Government Representative.

Evaluation of Blended Program

Dr. Melnick introduced Director of Special Education Barbara Cooper who gave a presentation on the Blended Program and shared her recommendations for changes and modifications to the program. She gave a history of the program and the current profile of the blended student as well as some data to give an analysis of program efficacy. She also spoke about instruction models of co-teaching and the research on explicit instruction.

The Board thanked Mrs. Cooper for her report and for the work she and the special education department are doing and had a lengthy discussion about the current program and the planned changes. They also discussed how the suggested changes will impact the budget.

Comments from the Public

Jay Emmer, NSSFE President, commented on the impact on teachers in the blended classes. He asked the Board to commit to a program and stick with it. He would like to see the support that the kids in the blended program need.

Elizabeth Laderer, Sea Cliff and president SEPTA was glad the blended program was evaluated and does not think that just because something is evaluated it needs to be fixed. She feels it is measuring the pulse of the program. She would like to see more money spent in the early grades and feels this would alleviate even more funds needed in the later grades. She is thrilled with the blended program and would like the Special Education Department to get as much support as possible.

Israel Klein, Sea Cliff, has a child in the first grade blended program and explained that in kindergarten his child hated school and now that he is in the blended program he loves school. His is fully supportive of this program and would like the Board to support it as well.

Dale Tyminski, Sea Cliff, has a child in the second grade blended program. She said her child was lost until the blended program and feels the program is much more than what assessments will show.

Amy Marion, Sea Cliff, understands the money concerns but feels the data is there to support the program, it just needs to be compiled. She is concerned about the ILC program and does not support the DIBELS program.

Review of Facilities Use

Dr. Melnick explained the current policy on facilities use and the need for outside agencies to have insurance when using the facilities. He also explained that the Coordinating Council is covered under the insurance of the parent organizations. There was some discussion by the Board about the possibility of allowing community groups to use the buildings without an insurance certificate. A suggestion was made that the groups sign a waiver in lieu of a certificate. Dr. Melnick responded that he would speak to District Counsel to see if this would be possible. It was also suggested that language in paragraph B of policy 1500 (Conditions of use for District Facilities) be amended.

Traffic Parking Safety Study

Dr. Melnick explained that parents and staff have contacted him with concerns about student safety in regard to traffic and parking at each of the schools. This issue was discussed at the District Wide Health and Safety Committee Meeting. The recommendation is to have a traffic study done at each of the schools which would generate a report and suggestions on how to make improvements. John Hall, Facilities Manager, received 3 proposals for the traffic study. The Board was in agreement that something needs to be done to enhance student safety, however, they were very concerned with the difference in cost proposed by the three companies who submitted quotes. Dr. Melnick suggested inviting the three companies to make their proposals at the next District Wide Health and Safety Committee Meeting on January 26, 2007, and invited any Board Members interested to attend the meeting as well.

Board Conference Attendance

Trustee Beyer explained that the Board conference code has been overspent this year, due in part to the NYSSBA Convention being held in New York City and the mandate for new School Board members to attend fiscal training workshops. The Board discussed the current policy in regard to conference attendance and was in agreement that the policy does not need to be revised at this time. The Board also agreed to check with legal counsel on wording for Board members to reimburse the district for conferences they register for but do not attend. It was also decided to remove the wording in regard to membership in national school board associations from the current policy.

Committee and Conference Reports

Trustee Glassman reported that at the meeting of the Wellness Curriculum and Services Tri-States Review Committee, the committee came up with four essential questions.

To what extent are our K-12 curricula (in regards to the psychomotor, cognitive, and affective domains of learning) student services, District practices, policies, and structures coordinated and supportive of our efforts in teaching student wellness?

To what extent have we identified and then addressed the daily opportunities and obstacles of student wellness?

To what extent do our wellness programs and practices theoretically and pragmatically promote students' ability to transfer what they learn to their present day lives and long-range future?

To what extent do we engage the larger community in sharing, learning about, and supporting what we teach/do to promote wellness in our students?

The Board decided to vote simultaneously on action items F-P

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

Personnel

Tenure Appointment – Certified

Resolved: To grant tenure to Michelle Capobianco, Elementary, effective December 15, 2006

Leave of Absence for Child Rearing Purposes

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Joanne Rossiter, Elementary, effective December 4, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Resignation for Retirement Purposes – Administration

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes of Anthony Scimone, effective June 30, 2007

Resignation for Retirement Purposes – Non-Certified

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes of Elaine Grecco, Stenographer, Guidance, effective March 1, 2007

Appointments – Certified

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Michelle Patane, Elementary, on Step 2 of the BA salary schedule, effective December 4, 2006 through June 30, 2007, replacing Joanne Rossiter (child rearing leave)

Resolved: To approve the regular substitute (leave replacement) appoint of Gina Puma, Elementary, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective December 21, 2006 through January 19, 2007, replacing Jennifer Perrota (FMLA)

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

Taylor Boz*	Teacher Aide
Caitlin Brooks	Teacher Aide
Diana Colleluori	Elementary
Andrew Criss	Secondary
Debbie Dugan*	Food Service
Jeannie Ensor	Secondary
Kelly Henderson*	Teacher Aide & Clerical
Arlene Makowski*	Food Service
Lisa Marie Nugent*	Secondary
Lauren Vione*	Secondary

*conditional on fingerprint clearance

Approval of Extra Curricular Activities Club Sponsors

Resolved: To approve the following extra curricular activity club sponsors

Level 1

High School Knitting Club	Melissa Frank
Sea Cliff Math Olympiads	Michelle Capobianco

Gymnastics

Junior Varsity	Tami Barbour
----------------	--------------

Supervision

Raymond Chaputian

Approval of 2007-08 School Calendar

Resolved: To approve the school calendar for 2007-08

Appointment of George Pombar to the Nassau BOCES Budget Advisory Committee

Resolved: To appoint George Pombar as the Board representative to the Nassau BOCES Budget Advisory Committee

Approval of Academic Intervention Services (AIS) Plan

Resolved: To approve the Plan for Academic Intervention Services (AIS)

Approval of Budget Transfers

Resolved: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$157,000, effective December 14, 2006

Acceptance of Donation to the Glen Head School from the Glen Head OPT

Resolved: To approve the donation of \$333.20 for playground equipment from the Glen Head OPT to the Glen Head School:

Approval to Dispose of Obsolete Equipment

Resolved: To declare as obsolete and approve of the disposal 2 sofas in the high school

Approval of Change Order ELEC #1 from Cooper Power & Lighting for Science Lab Reconstruction at the Middle School

Resolved: To approve change order ELEC#1 From Cooper Power & Lighting for Science Lab Reconstruction at the Middle School in the amount of \$2,000 (reduction)

Approval of Special Education Consultants/Service Providers

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Corinthian Therapy Management Services, Inc. for Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Related Services, effective September 7, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Resolved: To approve an agreement with RCM Health Care for Occupational & Physical Therapy, effective September 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Approval of Special Education Services

Resolved: To approve special education services, per attached tab

Approval of Settlement Agreement

Resolved: To approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to enter into an Agreement resolving a request for an impartial hearing filed on behalf of a student.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Trustee Vollmer asked about specifics on the middle school situation.

Trustee Beyer responded it could not be discussed in public but that Trustee Vollmer could speak to Dr. Melnick in private or in executive session.

Trustee Genovesi reported that Tim Kremer of NYSSBA was appointed to the Governor's transition team and she would like our Board to write a letter to Mr. Kremer to address funding issues of wealthy suburban areas. Trustee Genovesi volunteered to write the letter.

Adjournment

At 11:05 pm on motion of Trustee Webb and seconded by Trustee Glassman and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.