

REGULAR MEETING – October 6, 2005

The meeting was called to order by President Murphy at 7:30 pm in the high school faculty room. Present were Trustees Beyer, Brennan, Genovesi, Vollmer and Webb. Also present were Dr. Melnick, and Ms. Buatsi. Absent from this meeting were Trustee Pombar and Mr. Chlebicki.

Executive Session

At 7:30 pm, on motion of President Murphy, seconded by Trustee Beyer, and all in favor, the Board went into Executive Session in the faculty room to have a discussion regarding the proposed, pending or current litigation and matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

At 7:55 pm, on motion of Trustee Brennan, seconded by Trustee Genovesi, and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of Executive Session and resumed the Regular Meeting at 8:00 pm in the alumni room. There were approximately 10 people present in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Murphy led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On motion of Trustee Beyer and seconded by Trustee Webb, and all in favor, the motion to amend the agenda in order to move Discussion Item D (summer program) to the first discussion item on the agenda was approved.

President Murphy announced that the Board has reached a settlement agreement with a tenured employee. On motion of Trustee Genovesi and seconded by Trustee Brennan, and all in favor, the settlement agreement was approved.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Brennan and seconded by Trustee Beyer and all in favor, the minutes of September 22, 2005 were accepted with the following changes; page 1, Activity Fund Report, change *next* September to September, 2005; page 3, Comments from the Public, Paragraph 3, Mr. Manfredonia, change the word “copy” to photocopy of the sign; page 3 Construction/Bond Report, change sentence #7 from “additional expense for the site” to costs that estimated five million dollars, after expenses.

The Board agreed to vote simultaneously on Items F – S.

On motion of Trustee Brennan and seconded by Trustee Vollmer and all in favor, it was

Personnel Changes

Change of Status – Certified

Resolved: To approve a change of status for Melissa Stratigos, Special Education, High School as a Leave Replacement from Step 9 of the MA+30 salary schedule to Step 9 of the MA+15 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2005

Approval of Increments for Advanced Study

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Jaclyn Kepke, English, Middle School, from Step 1 of the BA+30 salary schedule, to Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective September 1, 2005

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Linda Klion, Elementary, Glen Head, from Step 11 of the MA+45 salary schedule, to Step 11 of the MA+60 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2005

Approval of Recreation Director – Middle School

Resolved: To create a position of Recreation Director at the Middle School, 3 hours per day, and be it further

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Michele Cochran as Recreation Director at the Middle School

Appointment-Non-Certified

Resolved: To approve the appointment of John Norris, Custodian, High School on Step 5 of the Custodian I salary schedule, effective October 10, 2005 with a probationary period of 26 weeks expiring on April 7, 2006, new position

Appointment-Part-time

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Jon Cotsonas, Part-time Bus Driver, effective September 26, 2005

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

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

Nicole Axelrod, Elementary	Dominick Leone, Secondary
Jennifer Cannella, District-wide	Lorraine Muttee, Teacher Aide
Randy Ginsberg, Secondary	Mary Preziosi, Secondary
Jacquelyn Kenney, Elementary	Martin Schulman, Secondary
Theodore Kiamos, Secondary	

Extra-Curricular Activity Clubs Sponsors/Advisors & Coaches

Resolved: To approve the following additions to the Extra-Curricular Activity Club List for the 2005-06 school year:

Clubs

High School

Level I

Art

Knitting

National Science Honor Society

Level II

Entrepreneurial School Store

Middle School

Level II

Technology Club (2nd Section)

Scrabble Club

Video Film Making Club

Mock Trial Club-Grade 6

Mock Trial Club-Grade 7&8

Ski Club

Elementary

Level II

Elementary Community Service

Resolved: To approve the following Extra-Curricular Activity Sponsors/ Advisors & Coaches for the 2005-06 school year:

	<u>Middle School</u>
Director, Musical	Tracy Dryer
Music Director, Musical	Jason Hill
Class Sponsor 8 th Grade	Saul Schacter
Class Sponsor 7 th Grade	Rosea Filone
Mathletes	Cathy Weber
Student Council	Louise Arneson
Yearbook	Damien Chillemi
Math Olympiad	Kelly Ater
	Jessica Berner
Technology Club for Boys	Bob Sather
Technology Club for Girls	Bob Sather
Art Club	Sara Black
International Fun Club	Liliane Rubin
Enders' Science Fiction Club	John Maus
Scrabble	Flavia Finning
	Marci Mainzer
Video Film Making	Derek Leif
Builders Club	Julia Salat
Computer Club	Roselle Barbour
Student Newspaper	Amy Byrnes
	Brian Mora
Mock Trial Club-Grade 6	Jonie Kipling

	<u>Middle School (cont.)</u>
Mock Trial Club-Grade 7&8	Rob Willgoos
Treble Makers (formerly Choraleers)	Jason Hill
String Ensemble	Steven Uh
Jazz Band	Eric Mordhorst
Marching Band & Wind Ensemble	Eric Mordhorst
Ski Club	David Keenan

	<u>High School</u>
Director, Fall Play	Jordan Hornstein
Technical Director, Fall Play	Melinda Bloom
Director, Musical	Jordan Hornstein
Music Director, Musical	Michael Kerschner
Technical Director, Musical	Melinda Bloom
Light & Sound Advisor	Michael Kleba

<u>Middle School</u>	<u>Coaches</u>
Field Hockey	John Pace*
	Samantha Cummins*

*replacing Allyson Wolper, previously approved

Approval of Resolution to ratify Memorandum of Agreement between the North Shore Central School District and the North Shore Administrators' Council

Resolved, that the Board of Education herewith ratifies a certain Memorandum of Agreement between the North Shore Union Free School District and the North Shore Schools Administrators Council dated September 29, 2005 and herewith authorizes the execution of a more formal contract

Approval of Resolution to Establish the Board as a Whole as the Audit Committee

Resolved: To approve the resolution to establish the Board as a whole as the Committee in order to meet the requirements of the Five Point Plan approved by the State Legislature

Approval of Budget Transfers

Resolved: To approve budget transfers dated June 30, 2005

Acceptance of a Donation From The Glen Head PTO for a Climbing Rock Wall with Installation, approximate cost \$4,200 and 5 Laptop Computers and Routers, approximate cost \$5,800

Resolved: To accept the donation from the Glen Head PTO for a Climbing Rock Wall with Installation, to be placed in the gymnasium, at an approximate cost of \$4,200 and the donation of 5 Laptop Computers and Routers to create a wireless computer environment, to be used for research in the library, at an approximate cost of \$5,800

Acceptance of a Donation from the Glenwood Landing SCA for Replacement and Upgrades to the Auditorium Sound System in the amount of \$3,500 and a donation of \$500 to support the needs of the Glenwood Landing Chess Club

Resolved: To accept the donation from the Glenwood Landing SCA for Replacement and Upgrades to the Auditorium Sound System in the amount of \$3,500 and a donation for \$500 to support the needs of the Glenwood Landing Chess Club

Approval of Change Order #Elec-1 for LEB Electric, Ltd. for Mechanical/Electrical Upgrades at the North Shore High School

Resolved: To approve change order Elec #1 for LEB Electric, Ltd. for Mechanical/Electrical Upgrades at the North Shore High School in the amount of \$1,484.61

Approval of Change Order #1 for Capitol Restoration, Corp for Masonry Reconstruction for Sea Cliff School

Resolved: To approve change order #1 for Capitol Restoration, Corp., for Masonry Reconstruction for Sea Cliff School in the amount of \$8,900

Approval of Change Order #Elec-1 for Palace Electrical Contractors for Science Lab Reconstruction for the North Shore Middle School

Resolved: To approve change order #Elec-1 for Palace Electrical Contractors for Science Lab Reconstruction at the North Shore Middle School in the amount of \$1,950

Approval of Change Order #Elec-1 for Palace Electrical Contractors for Language Lab Reconstruction at the North Shore High School

Resolved: To approve change order #Elec-1 for Palace Electrical Contractors for Language Lab Reconstruction at the North Shore High School in the amount of \$1,425

Approval of Change Order # Windows-1 for R.D. Architectural Products for Partial Window Replacement at the Sea Cliff School

Resolved: To approve change order #Windows-1 for R.D. Architectural Products for Partial Window Replacement at the Sea Cliff School in the amount of \$18,900

Approval of a Tuition Agreement for Special Education Students

Resolved: To approve a tuition agreement with Variety Child Learning Center for tuition for two (2) special education students at a cost of \$29,797 per student per year and for the services of a 1:1 aide for one (1) special education student at a cost of \$14,687.40 per student per year for the 2005-06 school year

Approval of Special Education Contracts/Agreements

Resolved: To approve a contract with EAC for Resource Room, counseling and home tutoring services to be provided at Nassau learning Center and Vincent Smith School for the 2005-06 school year

Resolved: To approve the contract with Suzanne Schaffer for Psychological Services for the 2005-06 school year

Resolved: To approve the contract with Rona Weiss for Psychological Evaluations, for the 2005-06 school year

Approval of Special Education Services

Resolved: To approve special education services, per attached tab

Report of the SGO Representative/Comments from the Public

SGO Representative, Alex Romano reported that school is going great, as usual. North Shore held their pep-rally and Homecoming this past weekend. They saw Dr. Melnick at the Homecoming parade. The Vikings beat the opposing team, Oyster Bay, 36 to 6. During Spirit Week each grade received float points; junior class came in first, sophomore class second, senior class third and freshman class fourth. They also had Penny Wars and raised \$1,100 for hurricane relief. Overall, sophomores came in first, freshman second, juniors third and seniors fourth.

Eric Tuman, Pine Drive, Glen Head, asked if after the last meeting any action had been taken on the Long Island Studies Project. President Murphy responded that there has been no action taken to date; they are investigating and looking into all opportunities, revisiting sites at the High School and are still waiting for the environmental impact study and traffic study. When these results are final they will be forwarded to the community.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Melnick reported that the New York Jazz All String Swinging Strings performed in the High School auditorium, as a "kick-off" for the residency program they are providing for our Middle and High School string players. This will enable string players to learn about and play in the jazz idiom and have experience with improvisation. There will be a side-by-side concert in later this fall, a joint performance by the Swinging Strings and our students. Homecoming weekend included a parade and evening games and was a great success. He thanked Ms. Orticelle, the athletics staff, as well as Arlene Lopez and the booster club for an incredible job of planning the weekend. He reported many positive comments about the "rebirth" of community spirit here at North Shore. The ExxonMobil Pipeline Company in Glenwood Landing presented Glen Head School with a grant for \$1,500 that will be used to enhance the school's environmental education program. ExxonMobil has had a longstanding relationship with Glen Head School, donating \$7,000 over three years to help the school build a new playground. The company has also donated \$8,000 to Glenwood Landing School for the Robert T. Fallon Memorial Library. Sharon Barbour, Moosa Haider and Casey Leigh, all seniors at North Shore High School, have

been named Commended Students in the 2006 National Merit Scholarship Program. They placed among the top five percent of the more than one million students who entered the 2006 competition.

Summer Program

Dr. Melnick reviewed the summer program ran last year by the North Shore Boys and Girls Club. He explained the reason for the lower enrollment was the result of several factors, such as, many parents found alternate programs the summer before last and decided to keep their children in the same programs this past summer; and due to the late decision on who was running the program, parents enrolled their children in other programs. If an earlier decision is made for next summer, he believes the program enrollment will go back up.

There was some discussion regarding participation in remedial courses and tuition waiver. When the district was running the program and teachers recommended remedial courses for students, if a parent could not afford the fee, the fee was waived. When the program was being run this past year by the Boys & Girls Club, the district did not have the authority or resources to waive the fee. Dr. Melnick explained there are five remedial courses offered at a cost of \$165 per student and there were 194 students enrolled this summer, totaling \$32,000. He recommended three options to facing this issue; not have teachers recommend remedial courses for any students, have the District agree to pay the fee to the Boys & Girls Club for students who are eligible and who meet the criteria, or start a remedial program on our own and include it in our budget. If the Board decides to fund the remedial courses, this money could be included in the budget proposal and can also be included in a contingency budget. The other problem which arose in last year's summer program involved the evening theatre program. George Esernio of the Boys and Girls Club apologized for the problems with the outside Contractor, but does not feel the same problems would arise this year. He also expressed his thanks to Rich Ryan for his assistance with the summer program. There was Board consensus to continue the discussion of the summer program at the November 10 meeting, but to keep the remedial portion as part of the budget discussion.

Mission Statement

President Murphy opened the discussion by explaining the process undertaken in drafting the Mission Statement. If the Board decides to redraft it, the old Mission Statement is in place until a new one is adopted. There was a lengthy discussion on the wording used in the mission statement. After much debate, it was decided that the document could be adopted as is and be considered an evolving document. On motion of Trustee Brennan and seconded by Trustee Beyer and all in favor, the mission statement was adopted.

Construction/Bond Report

Trustee Brennan gave a report on the status of construction projects at each school. Most of the work is substantially complete; there are some projects that still need completion.

Alternatives for the Middle School; Marc Ferris will be addressing the Board in November regarding some of his space needs, temporary facilities, and special programs that may also have space requirements.

Trustee Vollmer asked if someone from JMOA is coming to the Board Meeting in November to address the Board. Also inquired when the next Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled, and that meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2005, at 8:30 am in Central Office.

Comments from the Public

Jay Emmer, President of the North Shore Schools Federated Employees, made a request on behalf of the teachers at Glen Head regarding their workroom. Their current ceiling is falling and they would like to have it covered by tile. It was promised to them but then delayed. Another concern he has is at the High School where there is a problem due to teachers without any spaces to work, or to speak

to students. Any help in looking for other spaces throughout the building would be appreciated.

Dr. Melnick stated that the ceiling in Glen Head was not done correctly, they are recouping from that. Ms. Buatsi mentioned that about two weeks ago she met with Lori Nimmo regarding the ceiling and that it should be done by the end of November. Mr. Emmer asked if it could be moved closer, but Dr. Melnick stated that it would be difficult, they are still working on the univents and instructional spaces.

Reach/Ace

Dr. Melnick started this discussion with a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation was the Jim Borland, Lisa Wright report from Spring 2004. Dr. Melnick made several recommendations and he proceeded to review and comment on all of the recommendations.

Dr. Melnick brought to the Board's attention, at the beginning of his presentation, that the term "severely gifted" was used by the National Council of Exceptional Children and is not the wording of Borland & Wright.

During the presentation several comments were made by the board. Trustee Brennan is concerned that the language we are using does not capture the intent of what they are hoping to do and that we need to re-tool some of the language and find a better way to use the terms. She feels the tone should be rethought as it seems very technical.

Trustee Webb stated that the language used contradicts their views. He finds "severely gifted" an offensive and negative term. Individual plans are needed for individual students. These students have a gift, we need to nurture that gift, celebrate that gift. The proposal sells out the notion "gifted". It's completely inadequate and wants to go back to the drawing board.

Dr. Melnick strongly disagrees, he believes in the language. He emphasized that the program is for school smart kids, encourages them to think outside of the box. He also feels that these services have to be based on the goals of the individual student. Absolute standards are in place by the State, students are not equally gifted in every area.

President Murphy asked about how many students there are in the program. Dr. Melnick responded that it depends upon the ultimate criteria, but it would be 1% or approximately 20 students.

Trustee Genovesi commented that we need to teach the children to take a natural delight in learning. We need to peak interest in order for the children to learn. She is very impressed with all the research and would like to know if there is another way to fund the staffing positions.

Dr. Melnick talked about moving the staffing discussion up earlier in the Board budget discussions from April to January in order to plan seriously.

Trustee Beyer feels the learning plan is a really important piece of it. As a parent of a special ed student, she realizes that parents need to be accounted to and a plan needs to be in place. Having a plan in place is not a negative thing. She also asked, if money was no object what would we want to implement for the district. She asked how the ID process will be different and if these extra programs can be done with an already packed curriculum.

Trustee Vollmer feels that we need to celebrate the talent without isolating the child. The term severely gifted is not pathologically connected. There are Reach students classified who do not clearly fit this mold. Spectrum that we call Differentiation is being expanded or glorified. At what point do we stretch it to the point of breaking. He also commented on the term curriculum compacting, and asked

where the classroom teachers go from there. He wonders how do we do it all now and feels we are bending the faculty to the breaking point. He wants to be sure there is going to be support for the classroom teachers who already have enough on their plates.

After the discussion ended President Murphy announced that they would consider the presentation "as is." Dr. Melnick informed the Board that they would need to make a decision on the recommendations regarding the Reach/Ace Program by November.

Change in Board Meeting Date

Due to the fact that several Board members must attend a NYSSBA workshop for financial over-site training on November 2nd and 3rd, the November 3rd meeting date has been changed to November 10th. On motion of Trustee Webb and seconded by Trustee Brennan and all in favor, the change of the meeting date has been approved.

Comments from the Public

Mr. Weyhreter, Prospect Street, Glen Head, asked the Board if the Glen Head property (for the bus depot) is a dead issue and if there are any leads for another location. President Murphy responded that the Glen Head property is a dead issue and that any leads would be appreciated.

Old Business/New Business

Trustee Webb distributed a memo to all the Board members. Trustee Vollmer expressed his frustration that from time to time, when these mega issues are raised enough time isn't set aside to discuss these issues. He's hoping to have a discussion regarding the memo and had hoped that the Board could set aside time to give this the attention it deserves. He asked if it could be placed on the Agenda as a discussion item.

Trustee Brennan stated that the Board is due for a retreat. They could discuss this and discuss other ideas. Trustee Genovesi offered her house in the Berkshires, she would try to secure a weekend. Dr. Melnick mentioned that his Putnam house is also available.

Trustee Brennan asked when the Board will put together this time to hold a retreat. Dr. Melnick said he would e-mail each Board member and ask for suggested dates.

President Murphy distributed Development Achievement Citations (40 credits) from the NYSSBA Leadership Development Opportunities to Trustees Beyer, Brennan and Vollmer.

Adjournment

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

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk