

REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 10, 2005

The meeting was called to order by President Murphy at 7:00 pm in the Glen Head gathering room. Present were Trustees Beyer, Brennan, Genovesi, Pombar, Vollmer and Webb. Also present were Dr. Melnick and Ms. Buatsi, Mr. Chlebicki was absent.

**Executive Session**

At 7:00 pm, on motion of Trustee Beyer, seconded by Trustee Vollmer and all in favor, the board went into Executive Session in the library to discuss the collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law) and the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property.

At 8:00 pm, on motion of President Murphy, seconded by Trustee Beyer, and all in favor, the board moved to come out of Executive Session and resumed the regular meeting at 8:00 PM in the gathering room. There were approximately 25 people in the audience.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Murphy led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Recognition**

The Madrigal Singers, directed by Michael Kerschner, sang a selection of songs as part of the Coordinating Council's recognition of the Board of Education. Lisa Lerner, president of Coordinating Council, thanked the trustees for their dedicated service throughout the year, and especially for all of the time spent at the many informational teas prior to last year's budget vote. Each member was then presented with a token of appreciation.

**Statement by the Board President**

President Murphy congratulated Dr. Melnick on receiving the award for Superintendent of the Year by the Nassau Music Educators Association. He then read from a Press Release highlighting his nomination by the district's music faculty. In several letters of commendation, they highlighted the many ways that he has shown his support for music education as a foundation for enriching students' lives and enhancing their education. They sited his non-judgmental, collaborative style of leadership, his commitment to programs of excellence in music, and his personal interest in inspiring greatness in both teachers and students.

**Tenure Appointment**

Dr. Melnick recommended the tenure appointment of Sandra Maciel and explained to the Board that she would be recognized in June with all of the other teachers receiving tenure during the year.

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

Resolved: To approve the tenure appointment of Sandra Maciel, Speech, Glen Head, effective November 4, 2005

### **Comments From The Public/Report of the SGO**

Joanna Sciarrino, vice-president of the senior class, and student of independent art, asked why the dark room access will be cut during seventh and eighth period.

Dr. Melnick responded that Dr. Banta was concerned about the lack of supervision of students during those periods and that the district is looking for a certified art teacher or parent volunteer who would be willing to work with the students in the dark room during those periods.

Chris Kusz, high school student, read a letter in support of his peers on the subject of the dark room. He was under the impression it was a matter of budgetary problems and offered suggestions to remedy the situation without additional funds.

Dr. Melnick thanked the students for coming and commended them for seeking to do more work. He again reminded them it was a safety and security issue, not an issue of money.

Alex Romano, SGO representative, let the Board and Dr. Melnick know he thinks they are doing a terrific job. He thanked the Madrigals for their contribution to Board recognition. He reported that the SGO raised \$4,500 for Hurricane Relief which will be donated to Save the Children. The SGO will hold their annual Thanksgiving Food Drive and asked members of the Board and Superintendent to come and donate non-perishable food or a turkey coupon. The deadline for donations is November 18, 2005.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Melnick reported on the success of the athletics program this year and reminded the Board and public that the high school fall athletic awards ceremony was rescheduled for November 29 at 7:00 pm. He reported that North Shore is the first school district to provide the unique opportunity to their orchestra students in a jazz residency which culminated with a phenomenal jazz concert of grades 6-12. He reminded the audience that the Viking Masquers will be presenting the play Harvey on November 18 and 19 in the high school theater. He gave an update on the high school principal search reporting that he has met with several groups of parents, staff and students and that advertising should begin early December. Finally, he updated the Board on a questionnaire which has been forwarded to faculty members. Once they are returned, a group of faculty representatives will read and generate a report for the Superintendent. He will in turn meet with each building to engage in a discussion regarding key issues that emerge and will then report to the Board.

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

#### **Acceptance of the External Independent Audit Report 2004-05**

Mary Ann VanDuyne of RS Abrams reported to the Board on the annual audit her firm conducted. She congratulated the Board on their wonderful report from Comptroller Hevesi's office and commended Olivia Buatsi and her staff as well. She explained they did an extensive audit of the controls in place and found no material exceptions. They have made recommendations to keep the controls strong. She feels we are in a very strong financial position and have adequate reserves for the future.

The Board asked Ms. VanDuyne questions about the increased scrutiny on this audit, about the recommendations suggested, about the dollar amount for which the Superintendent can approve Budget transfers and the amount and allocation of fund balance.

Ms. VanDunye explained the increased scrutiny was a result of scandals at other districts, but assured the Board that her firm has always paid close attention to risk factors. In regard to budget transfers, while the State recommends that the Superintendent can approve up to \$5,000

in a budget transfer, without Board approval, she feels the amount of \$2,500 set by the Board is responsible. She expressed her belief that our fund balance is reasonable, neither irresponsible or over responsible and that the Board is allocating the fund balance in a fiscally responsible way. She explained that each year their firm changes its plan for auditing the district in order to touch on all areas and always make sure controls are in place by testing the controls.

President Murphy pointed out that Trustees Vollmer, Beyer and Genovesi attended fiscal responsibility training workshops to fulfill their requirement.

Dr. Melnick asked Mary Ann VanDuyne to clarify the allocation of funds from a prior year's budget in order to spend those funds in an item in the following year's budget pointing out that Action Item I on the agenda was to allocate part of the fund balance from 2004-05 for an item not budgeted in the 2005-06 budget.

Ms. VanDuyne explained that expenses that are not planned for can be used from the prior year's fund balance and would not affect this years budget figures.

At the conclusion of the report, on motion of Trustee Genovesi and seconded by Trustee Pombar and all in favor, it was

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District recommend the audit report submitted for the 2004-2005 school year by R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP be accepted and filed with the State Education Department

#### **Update/Status of Bond Work by JMOA**

Rob Kalpin and Pepin Accilien from JMOA presented an overview of all of the projects in the 10 million dollar bond.

Dr. Melnick explained that the Board will receive a report on space needs for the middle school in their next board packet, and Mr. Ferris will report to the Board at the meeting of November 17.

Trustee Pombar asked about the money needed to repair a problem in the Sea Cliff School. He wondered why after the recent renovations to Sea Cliff School, we are facing major expenses to correct the errors made during those renovations. Fred Seeba, from BBS Engineering, explained that the issue of heat building up in the Sea Cliff School is due to what is called value engineering and was used in the original renovation project. In order to save substantial money on the project, the Board decided to remove some items in the heating and ventilation system which were deemed not necessary. Mr. Seeba expressed his belief that he would have suggested these same changes and has seen them work fine on other projects, however, in this case, the air is not ventilating properly, causing an extreme heat build-up on the upper floor of the building. Pepin Accilien reminded the Board of the structural problems they faced in Sea Cliff School making some of the renovations impossible. Trustee Brennan explained that the savings realized by the value engineering was \$180,000 and at the time were necessary.

The Board then decided to move Action Item I up on the agenda and on motion of Trustee Beyer and seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor it was,

#### **Approval of Resolution for a Budget Revision to correct the Sea Cliff School Heat Buildup Problems to be funded from the Unappropriated Fund Balance**

Resolved: To approve the following Resolution:

Resolved, that the Board approve a budget revision to increase the 2005-06 budget, to be funded from the unappropriated fund balance in the amount of \$130,750

### **Comments from the Public**

Lisa Breen, Glenwood Landing, commented on the Superintendent's Report and the great achievements in sports. She would like to see more on the website of what is coming up. She would like the first page to have links to the Athletic page and Fine Arts page etc.

Dr. Melnick responded that later in the evening there would be a discussion on revising and improving the district's website.

### **Citizens Advocacy Committee**

Dr. Melnick reminded the Board of their decision to do away with the Citizen's Advisory Committee as it is not adequately used. The Board discussed the creation of a Citizen's Advocacy Committee and what role they would play. After a brief discussion, it was decided to hold off on creating a citizens group until the Board felt such a group was needed.

### **District Website Improvement/Revision**

Dr. Melnick explained the two proposals on improving the website, one from Nassau BOCES and one from Webcola. Dr. Melnick recommended using Webcola whose proposal was significantly lower than the proposal from BOCES. There was some discussion on what is included in the the monthly cost from Webcola. The Board then decided to place the approval of the Webcola proposal on the agenda for November 17.

### **Update from the Policy Sub-Committee**

Trustee Brennan gave a brief overview of the most current installment of policies sent in by NYSSBA. She explained that there has been minor editing by the sub-committee, and the Board will review all of the policies before they are adopted. Once we give NYSSBA the go ahead, they will duplicate the policies and send it as a hard copy, in disk format and the policies will be available on our website as well.

The Board agreed to vote simultaneously on Items F,G,J,K,N,O,P,Q and to vote separately on Items H,L and M.

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

#### **Personnel**

##### **Resignation**

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Jordan Hornstein, English, High School, effective November 30, 2005

Resolved: To accept the resignation of David Sanford, Physical Education, High School, effective June 30, 2006

##### **Leave of Absence – Child Rearing**

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for Child Rearing Purposes for Robyn Geigle, Elementary, Glenwood Landing, effective December 5, 2005 through June 30, 2006

##### **Change of Status**

After verifying certification it has been confirmed that Kelly Gorman received tenure prior to working at North Shore.

Resolved: That the tenure date for Kelly Gorman, Elementary, Glen Head, be changed to September 1, 2007

Resolved: To change the appointment of Nathalie Perodin-Silva, ESL, Middle School, from Step 5 of the MA+45 salary schedule to Step 5 of the MA+30 salary schedule

Appointments - Certified

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Danielle Girardi, Elementary, Glenwood Landing on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule effective October 20, 2005 through December 2, 2005, replacing Robyn Geigle (FMLA)

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Danielle Girardi, Elementary, Glenwood Landing on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule effective December 5, 2005 through June 30, 2006, replacing Robyn Geigle (Child Rearing Leave)

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Michele Harding VanArsdale, Elementary, Glen Head, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective October 20, 2005 through November 20, 2005, replacing Sarah Phelan (FMLA)

Appointments – Non-Certified

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Stacey Wozlonis, Monitor, Glen Head, effective October 3, 2005

Approval of Stipends

Resolved: To approve a stipend for Bob Wihnyk, as Data Coordinator, to administer, complete and fulfill all requirements associated with LEAP, STEP and BEDS

Resolved: To approve a stipend for Toni MacDonald, for collecting and formulating Post Graduation Data State Reports

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

Thomas Afflerbach	Secondary Teacher Substitute
Amy Albrecht	Elementary Teacher Substitute
Joan Becktold	Elementary Teacher Substitute
Christina Brooks	Elementary Teacher Substitute
Christina Capparelli	Food Service Substitute
Gail Gomula	Elementary Teacher Substitute
Mark Match	Secondary Teacher Substitute
Michael Pesce	Elementary Teacher Substitute
Elana Ben Porat	Clerical Substitute
Wendy Rosow	Teacher Aide Substitute
Robin Wohlstetter	Secondary Teacher Substitute

Approval of Extra Curricular Activity Clubs, Sponsors & Coaches

Resolved: To approve the addition of a Spirit Club, as a Level 1 Club at the Glen Head School

Resolved: To approve the following Sponsors and Coaches for the 2005-06 school year:

	<u>High School</u>
Mosiac	Len Schiff
National Science Honor Society	Richard Galati

High School Musical	Michael Kleba*
Entrepreneurship	Rosemarie Messina
Student Store	
Art Club	Eileen Walk
*replacing Jordan Hornstein	

Middle School

Technical Director	Melinda Bloom
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Elementary

Glen Head

Chess Club	William Kitay
Jogging Club	Kerri Wingert
Math Olympiads	Connie Golden

Glenwood Landing

Scrabble Club	Chris Edom
Student Council	Robert Giannuzzi
Math Olympiads	Robert Giannuzzi
Chess Club	Harriet Arnold

Sports

Men's Basketball

Varsity	Paul Girolamo
Junior Varsity	Joseph Melillo
Middle School (7 <sup>th</sup> )	William Melillo
Middle School (8 <sup>th</sup> )	John Cantwell

Women's Basketball

Varsity	Robert Vachris
Junior Varsity	Keith Freund

Girls' Volleyball

Middle School (8 <sup>th</sup> )	Ian Kamen
Middle School (7 <sup>th</sup> )	Frank Mauro

Bowling

Men's Varsity	Andrew Richter
Women's Varsity	Peter Wass

Winter Track

Men's Varsity	Edward Corona
Women's Varsity	Neal Levy
Assistant	Clifton Schultz

Wrestling

Varsity	Michael Emmert
Junior Varsity	Craig DeNicola

Gymnastics  
Varsity  
Junior Varsity

Dennis Riordan  
Melissa Halvern

Cheerleading  
Varsity

Audra Marcantonio

Approval of 2005-06 Budget Transfers

Resolved: To approve 2005-06 budget transfers dated November 10, 2005, in the amount of \$12,205.00

Award of Parts Bid

Resolved: To award the purchase of Automotive Parts to the list of low bidders on the attached tab for the 2005-06 school year

Approval of Change Order #2 RD Architectural Products

Resolved: To approve change order #2 for RD Architectural Products in the amount of \$16,000 for partial window replacement at the Sea Cliff Elementary School

Approval of Stipulation of Agreement with the Parents of a Special Education Student

Resolved: To approve the stipulation of agreement with the parents of Ryan Dunn

Approval of Special Education Tuition Agreement

Resolved: To approve a special education tuition agreement with The Summit School in the amount of \$23,717 for the 2005-06 school year

Approval of Special Education Contracts/Agreements

Resolved: To approve a contract with Sheila Bilko, Speech Pathologist, for the 2005-06 school year

Resolved: To approve a contract with, Carolyn Curry/ Therapy Connections for Speech Services for the 2005-06 school year

Resolved: To approve an increase in the hourly rate for Barbara Miller for PT services from \$45.00 per session to \$55.00 per session, for the 2005-06 school year

Resolved: To approve a contract with Positive Behavior Support Consulting for Behavioral Consulting Services for the 2005-06 school year

Resolved: To approve a contract with North Shore University Hospital, Department of Psychiatry, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry for Consulting Services for the 2005-06 school year

Approval of Special Education Services

Resolved: To approve special education services, per attached tab

On motion of Trustee Beyer and seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor, it was

Addition of a Teacher Aide Position at Glen Head School

Resolved: To approve the addition of an Instructional Aide position for support on the second grade level at Glen Head School

Prior to approval of action item L, President Murphy explained that the Board has been looking for property for a transportation facility and he wanted the community to be aware of the property we are looking for on Shore Road

On motion of Julia Brennan and seconded by Trustee Beyer the motion to approve the proposal from Daniel Dillon for an Appraisal of the Property on Shore Road was put before a vote. Trustee Genovesi raised a question about the company chosen to do the appraisal. As per Ms. Buatsi, Daniel Dillon was the lowest of 4 proposals submitted. Trustee Genovesi explained that the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest proposal, Carl Todd Associates, was from an established commercial realtor who would probably do a more in depth appraisal. President Murphy asked the Board if there was any objection to amending the motion to change the company to Carl Todd Associates.

On motion of Trustee Brennan and seconded by Trustee Beyer and all in favor, it was agreed to amend the original motion of Trustee Brennan and to change the name of the vendor for approval of an appraisal of the property on Shore Road to Carl Todd Associates and by a unanimous vote, it was further agreed to:

Approval of Proposal from Carl Todd Associates for an Appraisal of the Property on Shore Road

Resolved: To approve the proposal from Carl Todd Associates for an appraisal of the property on Shore Road in the amount of \$2,100

On motion of Trustee Brennan and seconded by Trustee Beyer, the motion to approve the proposal from Freudenthal & Elkowitz Consulting Group for an Environmental Study for the Property on Shore Road was put before a vote. Trustee Pombar questioned why there was a need for another Environmental study when his understanding was that this piece of property had already had an environmental study completed. Dr. Melnick responded that it was correct that a study had already been done on the property, but that we must do our own because we would be utilizing the property for a different purpose. A vote was then called for by President Murphy and by unanimous vote it was:

Approval of Proposal from Freudenthal & Elkowitz Consulting Group for an Environmental Study for the Property on Shore Road

Resolved: To approve the proposal from Freudenthal & Elkowitz Consulting Group for an Environmental Study for the Property on Shore Road in the amount of \$10,350

**Comments from the Public**

Lisa Breen, Glenwood Landing, asked where exactly the property is located. Dr. Melnick explained it is on the street side of Shore Road, not the water side.

**Old Business**

Trustee Beyer asked if a decision has been made in regard to the Summer Program.

Dr. Melnick responded that the Board had already agreed upon The North Shore Boys & Girls Club to run the summer program once again and due to construction at the high school and middle school planned for this summer, the program will operate at the Glenwood Landing School.

Trustee Brennan reported that NYSSBA is collecting gently used children's books to be sent to Louisiana school libraries and they are asking schools to help in this endeavor.

Trustee Pombar thanked Dr. Melnick and Ms. Buatsi for the positive way they handled the problem with the teacher aides.

Trustee Vollmer expressed his pleasure in seeing the fence being painted at the Sea Cliff School Field.

Trustee Brennan was pleased to see the stage at the high school auditorium is fixed.

### **New Business**

Trustee Beyer reported on the press conference she and President Murphy attended with County Executive Tom Suozzi, to discuss school funding. President Murphy explained that he spoke to Mr. Suozzi informally about the burden on the taxpayers and the many failed budgets throughout Long Island at which time Mr. Suozzi invited him to sit down with other school districts to discuss their mutual problems. He reported that about a month ago he did attend a meeting with Mr. Suozzi and several of the surrounding districts. Mr. Suozzi made it clear at this meeting he offers no solution to the issue of school taxes, but would like to gather representatives from all 56 districts to work as a group to see if a solution can be found. He would like to identify the inequity of state aid as an issue as well as the unfunded mandates that increase the local budgets.

Trustee Brennan expressed her serious concerns with the way Mr. Suozzi is publicizing these issues. She does not want to see our Board manipulated and wants to be sure we have an understanding of what Mr. Suozzi's intentions are. She does not disagree with the idea, but wants us to move carefully.

Trustee Beyer responded that these meetings are a first step to get everyone together and see where it can go. The press conference came up very quickly not allowing time to meet as a Board prior to the meeting. Mr. Suozzi is trying to help all of the School Boards to have one voice in Albany.

Trustee Genovesi expressed concern about the perception our local constituency might have if our issues are not exactly the same as the County Executive and was concerned about the language the County Executive was using in his press release.

Trustee Pombar agrees we should proceed with caution, but feels we owe it to the community to be active. He suggested that if we are unhappy with the direction of the meetings, we can walk away.

Trustee Webb expressed his belief that we must participate at this time and would like us to provide Mr. Suozzi with an issue to discuss.

Trustee Vollmer feels these meetings will happen with or without us and thinks we should be a part of it. He also agrees we can pull out of the group whenever we want.

Trustee Beyer feels it is important to be part of the group. She feels it will be viewed as making a proactive stand. She also expressed her surprise at the depth of understanding that Mr. Suozzi had on this issue. She asked the Board to provide a better way to present the issues.

### **Adjournment**

At 11:15 pm on motion of Trustee Beyer and seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth A. Ciampi  
District Clerk