

**NORTH SHORE SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
March 9, 2006**

The meeting was called to order by President Murphy at 7:00 pm in the High School Theatre. Present were Trustees Beyer, Brennan, Vollmer and Webb. Trustees Genovesi and Pombar arrived later. Also present were Dr. Melnick, Mr. Chlebicki and Ms. Buatsi.

Executive Session

At 7:00 pm, on motion of Trustee Beyer seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor, the Board went into Executive Session in the faculty lounge to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person.

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 meeting at 8:00 pm in the high school theatre. There were approximately 300 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Murphy led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Senator Marcellino

President Murphy introduced Senator Marcellino and read a brief biography to the audience. He then introduced Dr. Melnick.

Dr. Melnick thanked the members of the audience for attending the meeting. He gave an overview to the Senator of North Shore's academic background, accomplishments and gave a brief overview of our upcoming budget. He explained the format for the evening and introduced the first Board member to present an issue to Senator Marcellino. Each Board member then presented a pressing issue to the Senator. The issues raised were the proposal by the Governor that all school funding issues be presented on a single day; the Star Plus Rebate (4% cap), unfunded mandates, the disproportionate return of tax dollars in State aid; tax credits, local control of school budgets and communication between the Senator and constituents. After each Board member spoke, the Senator responded about what is being done at the State level to try and help local school districts. He agreed with the Board that they should have more local control over their budgets, he feels the single voting day is inevitable and explained that many taxpayers throughout the State are in favor of the one vote. He explained that aid to the upstate school districts would need to be cut in order for us to receive more and that the upstate thinking is down state wants, needs and gets too much. Due to the property value of the area, we are considered a wealthy district.

Public Comments

Jerry Romano, Sea Cliff asked the Senator which issue he felt he could deliver. Senator Marcellino responded he does not believe the "bounty" (STAR Plus Rebate) will survive but feels the single vote has a lot of support and will happen.

Jay Emmer, President, NSSFE, said the students are the most important part of these issues and they deserve a quality education. He spoke about the many changes in public education since he and the Senator went to school.

Senator Marcellino agreed that public education has changed over the years. He

explained he gets paid for making choices and decisions and some of those are hard decisions.

Jack Guy, Sea Cliff, responded to the survey that had been sent home by Senator Marcellino asking about support for taxpayers who reach the age of 70 having their taxes frozen. Mr. Guy asked for a poll of the Board as to whether or not they would support this.

President Murphy responded that the Board would not be polled at this time.

Terry Glassman, Old Brookville, spoke about the single vote day and how it would affect this community. She asked the Senator to fight against it. She explained that this community often needs the second vote for people to realize they must get out and vote. She feels this legislation would hurt our schools.

Senator Marcellino responded he appreciates the comments and will do what he can, but believes the single vote is inevitable.

Paul Echausse, Glen Head expressed his respect for the Board members and agreed the children are the most important part of the issue. He feels no one is getting their fair share and he hasn't heard a solution.

George Betzios, Sea Cliff referred to the legislation, drafted by the Senator, mandating Statewide audits of school districts and asked where the funding was found for these audits.

The Senator responded that the Comptroller requested three million dollars to fund the Statewide audits, considered a small amount.

Karen Green, Glen Head asked if the Senator knows who should ensure that public utilities, for instance LIPA, to pay their share of taxes.

The Senator responded that Mr. Richard Kessel, Chairman of Long Island Power Authority, would be the responsible party and said he has been in contact with Mr. Kessel about this issue.

Karen Papasergiou, Sea Cliff, asked the Senator to bring the issues presented by the Board back to the State. She feels the issue unfunded mandates is the most important issue.

President Murphy thanked the Senator once again for coming to our meeting and continuing to advocate for our causes. He expressed his desire to keep the lines of communication open and looks forward to speaking to the Senator again soon.

Approval Of Treasurer's Report

On motion of Trustee Brennan and seconded by Genovesi and all in favor, the treasurer's report for the period of November 1, 2005 through November 30, 2005 was accepted.

Regular Business

The Board decided to vote simultaneously on items E-I and to vote on item D (Personnel) separately.

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

Approval for Consulting Services from ASCD

Resolved: To approve consulting services with ASCD for training done by Nanci Smith & Judy Rex for fiscal year 2005-06 and 2006-07, partial amount of \$30,000

Acceptance of Donations to the Sea Cliff School from the Sea Cliff PCA

Resolved: To accept the donations of 20 digital cameras & memory cards, 14 laptop computers, 1 computer cart, 5 printers and ink cartridges for Sea Cliff School from the Sea Cliff PCA, at a value of \$22,921.43 and an additional \$700 for video conference use

Approval of Red Cross Sheltering Agreements

Resolved: To approve the use of facilities as public care shelters by the Nassau County Chapter American Red Cross as per attached agreement

Approval of Special Education Consultants/Service Providers

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Kimya Sakhai Kreinik, PhD, for psychological evaluations, effective March 1, 2006 through August 31, 2006

Approval of Special Education Services

Resolved: To approve special education services (IEPs) as per attached tab with the exception of #3523261037,363620398,363621435,363622253

Prior to the approval of the personnel items, Dr. Melnick briefly summarized the search process for selecting a new high school principal and described Richard Rozakis as the ideal candidate.

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

PERSONNEL

Appointment – Administration

Resolved: To approve the probationary appointment of Richard Rozakis, High School Principal, effective July 1, 2006 through July 1, 2009

Resignation - Certified

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Carolyn Fugalli, Elementary, Glenwood Landing, effective June 30, 2006

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Tracy Salviolo, Elementary, Glenwood Landing, effective June 30, 2006

Leave of Absence for Child Rearing Purposes

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Andrea Schultz, Elementary, Sea Cliff, effective March 21, 2006 through June 30, 2006

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Rebecca Tepper, 6TH Grade Humanities, Middle School effective March 11, 2006 through June 30, 2006

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Robyn Geigle, Speech, Glenwood Landing, effective September 1, 2006 through January 31, 2007

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Janet Goldberg, Elementary, Glen Head, effective September 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Kristen Pierson, Math/Science, Middle School, effective September 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Lori Weingust, Elementary, Sea Cliff, effective September 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Leave of Absence - Certified

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for Elizabeth O'Neill-Vola, Math/Science Middle School, effective September 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Appointments –Certified

Resolved: To approve the regular substitute appointment of Tracy Chiarello, 6th Grade Humanities, Middle School on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective March 11, 2006 through June 30, 2006 replacing Rebecca Tepper (Child Rearing Leave)

Resolved: To approve the regular substitute appointment of Kerry Yandrasits, Elementary Sea Cliff School, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective March 21, 2006 through June 30, 2006, replacing Andrea Schulz (Child Rearing Leave)

Change of Status - Certified

Resolved: To approve the change of status for Jennifer Oleksiak, Elementary, Glenwood Landing from Leave Replacement to Probationary, effective September 1, 2006 through September 1, 2007, replacing Carolyn Fugalli (resigned)

Approval of Extra Curricular Activity Coaches

Resolved: To approve the following extra curricular Spring coach:

High School

Men's Varsity Spring Track Amy Byrnes

Middle School -Progress on the Long Range Plan

Middle School Principal, Marc Ferris, gave a brief overview of his report on the progress of the strategic plan. He updated the Board on the four major areas of focus; Study Skills Program, Curriculum Mapping, Differentiated Instruction & Enrichment Opportunities and Developing a School as a Caring Community.

Budget Review

The Board discussed the areas of Technology, Pupil Personnel and Guidance, Co-Curricular Activities, Interscholastic Athletics, Benefits and Debt Service. Dr. Melnick spoke about the importance of having the capacity for wireless computers – the teachers can move within the building. He recommends cutting a Visualizer for presentations from each school, and removing one Wireless Computer Lab from the middle school. This would enable the Board to leave in the budget the addition of Project Lead the Way program in the middle school. The Board discussed the addition of wireless computer technology and the cost. Dr. Melnick explained the district is several years behind other schools in the area of technology. The following cuts were made to the technology budget, 5 Visualizers for Presentations (1 from each school) in codes 2630-201-10,20,30,40,50 at a cost of \$1,400 each or a total of \$7,000 and the addition of Wireless Laptops-Mobile Classrooms in the middle school at a cost of \$25,300.00. It was noted that the middle school already has one wireless mobile classroom.

During the discussion of Pupil Personnel and Guidance, it was decided to cut \$2,000.00 from 2810-201-93 Guidance Equipment for a Desk for the Counselor's Office.

The Board discussed resurfacing the track, an item that had previously been removed from the budget. It was explained that when the track was newly installed, it was recommended to resurface every 5 years to maintain it. The last time it was resurfaced was in 2000, so that time frame has already been exceeded. The Board decided to mark the resurfacing of the track as a comeback item at a cost of \$50,000. Dr. Melnick reminded the Board that this item had

been removed prior to presenting the budget to them, and would, therefore, result in an increase to the budget.

The Board discussed the tremendous increase in the budget for the Teachers' Retirement Program and Ms. Buatsi explained this should be the last year that we incur such a large increase.

Old Business/New Business

The Board discussed the letters prepared for residents to send to our legislators in support of the efforts by the school board to demand a fair share of state aid for education. It was decided to send out a Powerschool mailing to all parents asking them to participate in the letter writing campaign along with copies of the letters and names and addresses of local legislators.

The Board thanked Trustee Brennan for all of her work on preparing for this evening's meeting with Senator Marcellino and the letter writing campaign.

Adjournment

At 11:30 pm, on motion of Trustee Genovesi and seconded by Trustee Pombar in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk