

REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 17, 2005

The meeting was called to order by President Murphy at 7:30 pm in the Glenwood Landing Auditorium. Present were Trustees Beyer, Brennan, Genovesi, Pombar, Vollmer and Webb. Also present were Dr. Melnick, Mr. Chlebicki and Ms. Buatsi.

**Executive Session**

At 7:30 pm, on motion of Trustee Beyer, seconded by Trustee Brennan and all in favor, the Board went into Executive Session in the principal's office to discuss 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 meeting at 8:00 pm in the auditorium. There were approximately 20 people in the audience.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Murphy led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Student Recognition**

Dr. Melnick acknowledged 6 seniors who qualified to receive New York State Scholarships for Academic Excellence. Allyson Gordon, Moosa Haider, Lauren Ko, Casey Leigh, Cory Loviglio, and Abby Moore qualified for these scholarships based on their Regents exam scores at the end of junior year. Only 8,000 students in all of New York State earned this distinction. Each were presented with a certificate of achievement as well as a North Shore commemorative pen.

**Treasurer's Report**

On motion of Trustee Beyer and seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor, the treasurer's report for the period of July 1, 2005 through July 31, 2005 and August 1, 2005 through August 31, 2005 were accepted.

**Comments From The Public**

SGO representative, Alex Romano, reported on a presentation given by Bobby Petrocelli about drinking and driving and his own personal experience of how one incident can alter your life. He also gave his presentation at the PTSA meeting where there were a record number of parents, approximately 160, who attended. The high school ran a blood drive and donated 70 pints of blood. World Aids Day is scheduled for December 2, a production of Harvey, presented by the Masquers, will be held Friday, November 18 and Saturday, November 19, the JV Football team went undefeated and the Volleyball team made it to the County Championships.

**Report Of The Superintendent**

Dr. Melnick reported that first quarter report cards would be mailed home on Friday, November 18. He reported that the Administrators attended a five hour Socratic Seminar training session given by Nancy Letts.. He updated the Board and the audience on the status of the use of the dark room by art students. He explained that we have some parent volunteers and are seeking faculty volunteers to keep the studio open. He then reported on vandalism throughout the district. Additional security has been added to the Sea Cliff School due to two fires that had been set on the premises.

Due to complaints from some of our neighbors, he is requesting that the Board approve two cameras to be installed in the front of Sea Cliff School and in back of the Central Office.

## **Regular Business**

### **Fire Marshal's Report**

Dr. Melnick explained that according to the Commissioner's regulations, a verbal report must be given in addition to the written report provided by the Fire Marshal. John Hall gave the report and explained some of the recommendations and changes that the Fire Marshal is suggesting. Some of the recommendations are replacing curtains that are not fire resistant, eliminating portable heaters and appliances that do not meet code, and removing some classroom furniture that are not fire protected. He also mentioned there are some storage areas that are being misused and this needs to be corrected. One other recommendation was in regard to classroom doors being "chocked" open rendering them inoperable as fire doors. The Board questioned Mr. Hall on some of the recommendations such as the need for soft furniture for children with special needs and the need to keep classroom doors open in the summer months. Mr. Hall explained that furniture can be treated to come up to code and doors can be kept open when the room is occupied.

### **Middle School Space Needs**

Dr. Melnick gave the Board an update of the enrollment report provided by Llyod Bishop. He pointed out that the amount of students attending private and parochial schools has decreased from approximately 18% to 10.8% which accounts for the increased number of students the report projects. District wide there will be an increase of approximately 100 students. Although Glen Head School and the High School will be tight, the Middle School is already at peak enrollment.

Marc Ferris, gave a presentation on the space needs at the middle school. Currently the middle school is utilizing every available space, classes are taught in the cafeteria and the library as well as the art room and the hallway. He explained that although some of these spaces work, they are not ideal. Ultimately the middle school will need 4 additional classrooms to accommodate their current and future needs, the alternative being class sizes of 29-31 students.

Ira Bernsen, one of the architects from BBS explained that after researching the possibilities it was found that portable classrooms are not a viable option at the middle school due to the layout of the school and the location of the sanitary system and state regulations on handicap accessibility would add a tremendous cost making it not cost effective. Adding 4 classrooms to the back of the building would be a viable alternative at an estimated cost of five million dollars.

A discussion by the Board included how to pay for these renovations, the possibility of issuing another bond, the possibility of having three bonds outstanding, and how long the construction would take. Trustee Vollmer requested that the Board be given information on the amount of our total indebtedness, and how that compares as a percentage to other Nassau County school districts.

Dr. Melnick explained this is an initial presentation and we would need a more accurate proposal if the Board wants to move forward. He said he would gather more information and see if there is a state guideline on the debt ratio.

### **Comments From The Public**

Annette Zbodula, Glenwood Landing, asked if it would be possible to move the eighth grade to the high school to alleviate some space at the middle school. Dr. Melnick responded it is not an option, the high school is growing also and would be at capacity. She then questioned why study skills is offered for sixth graders but not seventh or eighth graders at the middle school. Mr. Ferris explained it is a tiered system and cannot be started in all three grades, training the staff alone would be impossible. Dr. Melnick explained that study skills is part of the 9/10 seminar in the high school.

Brian Janelli, Glen Head, asked what is being done with kids in the middle school during inclement weather if the gym is being used for classes during lunch periods. He does not want our

needs to be underestimated, and would like to see the Board do all that needs to be done at once.

Karen Quinn, Glen Head, is concerned about the number of incoming residences. She wants to be sure there is enough classrooms in the middle school. She also suggested looking into air conditioning the rooms while the construction is being done.

Dr. Melnick explained that the demographic study we had done shows all of the vacant property in the district and any development taking place and, therefore, the numbers included in the report allows for the increase in residences.

#### **Update – Transportation Facility**

Dr. Melnick gave an update on the plans for a new transportation facility on the proposed property on Shore Road. Currently our needs are for 13 large buses, 4 medium size buses and 10 vans, the proposal allows for 24 large buses and 14 vans which would be more than adequate and allow for growth. The approximate cost for the facility is 4.2 million dollars, plus the cost to purchase the property.

The Board discussed the benefit of owning our own fleet of buses versus contracting out for transportation. Frank Meditz, transportation supervisor, was on hand to explain the study done on the cost of contracted transportation and on having our own facility and fleet of buses. The cost savings would be 14 million dollars. Having our own facility would also decrease maintenance costs which could be performed in the facility.

#### **Recommendations regarding Enrichment & Gifted Education**

Dr. Melnick gave an overview and summary of the recommendation from the Borland Wright Report and of the staffing needs to be considered for budget needs according to the Borland Wright recommendations. He explained that enrichment will address all students not just those who differentiation does not reach.

The Board discussed the issue of reaching only a small number of children and questioned whether or not this new plan does not benefit those that are truly gifted. The concern is that there will be more enrichment for the general public and not enough for the gifted student.

Mr. Chlebicki explained that with this new program, all students are benefiting, not just a small group. This program addresses all students in a much better way, including the gifted student. Enriching all students and differentiated classrooms will enable the gifted to be able to have a more creative curriculum.

#### **Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers**

On July 19, 2005 the New York State Legislature amended Section 466-c of the Real Property Tax Law, extending the property tax exemption that volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers are eligible to receive. In addition to a ten percent exemption from taxes levied by the County and towns, school districts now have the local option to adopt this exemption for school taxes as well.

In order for the Department of Assessment to have sufficient time to implement the changes which would be necessary for the upcoming April 1, 2006 final assessment roll, please notify us by December 1, 2005 as to whether your school district has adopted or will be adopting such a resolution. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me or my counsel, Carl Laske, at 516 571-0334."

Dr. Melnick explained that the Board needs to make a decision whether or not to extend the 10% tax exemption to volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers by December 1, 2005. There are reportedly 57 residences who would qualify for this exemption. The Board had a brief discussion and while they appreciate the dedication of these individuals, the exemption discount seems too arbitrary to approve. It was therefore decided not to extend the tax exemption to the volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers.

### **Annual Professional Performance Review Plan**

On motion of Trustee Beyer and seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor, the annual professional performance review plan was adopted.

The Board decided to vote simultaneously on action items G-N

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

#### Personnel

##### Appointments – Certified

Resolved: To approve the probationary appointment of Dennis McEvoy, English, High School, on Step 16 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective December 1, 2005, replacing Jordan Hornstein (retired)

Resolved: To approve the regular substitute appointment of Cynthia Hazell, Special Education, High School, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective November 21, 2005 through January 6, 2006, replacing Janine D'Agate (FMLA)

Resolved: To approve the part-time (.1) appointment of Tracy Dryer, English, High School on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule effective December 1, 2005, replacing Jordan Hornstein (retired)

##### Change of Status

Resolved: To approve a change of status for Gary Meierdiercks, Physical Education, High School, from a (.4) to (.6) part-time appointment on Step 9 of the MA schedule, effective September 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006

##### Conditional Appointment – Non Certified

Resolved: To approve the conditional appointment of Jill Abrams, Recreation Assistant, Glenwood Landing, effective November 28, 2005, pending fingerprint approval, replacing Michele Cochrane (Middle School position)

##### Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

Resolved: To add the following names to the per diem substitute list:

Qiana Burton	Elementary
Jeanine DeNave	Elementary
Michael Gillespie	Athletic Supervisor
Daniel Hyman	Music
Melanie Lahtonen	Elementary
Jaime Langone	Elementary
Jennifer Ruestow	Elementary

##### Approval of Extra Curricular Activity Club

Resolved: To approve the addition of an Italian Club as a level 1 club in the Middle School

##### Approval of Memorandum of Agreement between the North Shore School District and the North Shore Central School District United Public Service Employees Union – Part Time Bus Drivers Unit

Resolved: To approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of education of the North Shore Central School District hereby authorizes and approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the Board and the United Public Service Employees Union (Part Time Bus Drivers) dated November 1, 2005; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to incorporate said Memorandum of Agreement into a more formal written agreement and further authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said formal written agreement.

Approval of Memorandum of Agreement between the North Shore School District and the North Shore Central School District United Public Service Employees Union – Part Time Cleaners Unit

Resolved: To approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby authorizes and approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the Board and the United Public Service Employees Union (Part Time Cleaners Unit) dated November 1, 2005; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to incorporate said Memorandum of Agreement into a more formal written agreement and further authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said formal written agreement.

Approval of Memorandum of Agreement between the North Shore School District and the North Shore Central School District United Public Service Employees Union – Cafeteria Unit - TAB

Resolved: To approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby authorizes and approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the Board and the United Public Service Employees Union (Cafeteria Unit) dated November 1, 2005; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to incorporate said Memorandum of Agreement into a more formal written agreement and further authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said formal written agreement.

Approval of Proposal from Webcola Media for the District Web Site Design and Layout

Resolved: To approve the proposal from Web Cola Media for the District Web Site Design and Layout in the amount of \$4,995

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

Resolved: To approve the stipulation of agreement with the parents of John Glass

Approval of Special Education Consultants/Service Providers

Resolved: To approve a contract with Jane Mueller, for Psychological Evaluations, for the 2005-06 school year

Approval of Special Education Services

Resolved: To approve special education services, per attached tab

### **Comments from the Public**

Terry Glassman, Old Brookville, commented on the REACH/ACE program. She explained from her experience, the program has been the same year after year and is not challenging enough. She would like the district to think out of the box to update the program.

### **Old Business**

The Board had a lengthy discussion about the meetings with the group of Long Island School Districts and County Executive Tom Suozzi. There is some concern about Mr. Suozzi using the group of school districts for his own political gain. Trustee Webb would like to see the group research more grant proposals, Trustee Genovesi suggested cooperative bidding for fuel oil, special education and transportation costs. Trustee Brennan is concerned that the meetings would be reported in a negative way by the media. She stressed the importance of keeping the conversations positive. Trustee Pombar suggested giving Trustee Beyer and Murphy ideas that are important to this Board. Trustee Beyer requested that the Board members write down their suggestions so that she and President Murphy could present them to the group. She also reported that the meetings have been positive but that no one can control what the media reports. President Murphy explained he will not speak on behalf of the Board but will only present to the group what the Board asks him to.

### **New Business**

Trustee Beyer made a motion to amend the agenda to add the installation of two security cameras to Sea Cliff School and Central Office. The Board requested costs on the installation before acting on the motion.

### **Adjournment**

At 11:40 pm on motion of Trustee Beyer and seconded by Trustee Pombar and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi  
District Clerk