



North Shore Schools

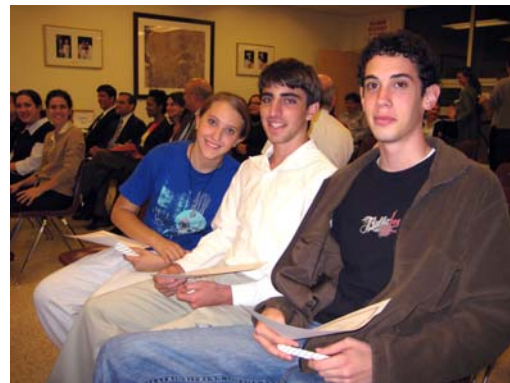
Discovering Your Dreams

BOE Meeting Summary

October 25 , 2007

Discussion/Presentations:

1. Student Recognition: HS students including Swarn Arya, Glen Gerbush, Kristina Gsell, Eric Gruebel, Katelyn Melgar, David Muller, Maxwell Ross and Monica Vitti were recognized for being named National Merit Scholarship Commended students. Additionally, Tucker Morgan was named as a National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalist.



2. At this Town Meeting the floor was open to questions and comments from the public. For specifics, please refer to the 10.25.07 BOE Minutes in this BOE section of the website.



3. Alternate Middle School Presentation: MS Principal Marc Ferris along with several MS teachers presented a proposal for an alternate MS program

specifically designed for those students who are not succeeding in the traditional education environment and/or do not qualify for special education services. The Board was impressed with the proposal and asked questions regarding addition to staff, space needs, and costs of running the program. Principal Ferris said that 30 students would benefit from this type of program, 3.2 positions would be necessary and that a classroom dedicated to these students would give them the autonomy they need. Parental approval would have to be given for the students to participate. Consensus was given from the Board to move forward with planning. Trustees will look at the cost as they begin the upcoming budget process.



3. A lengthy discussion was had regarding the rubber chips used on the elementary playground surfaces. John Hall, Director of Buildings & Grounds, explained that all wood mulch was removed and replaced with the rubber chips for several safety reasons (presence of mold, insects, bacteria as well as high potential for injury due to falls.) All experts agreed that the rubber chips are the best for preventing injury and does not cause a health risk. The Board all agreed that a perfect playground surface does not exist, but this seems to be the best there is. It was recommended for all students to wash their hands after playing not just to remove the black residue from the rubber chips but for general health reasons.

(For further information regarding this meeting, please see the North Shore Board of Education Minutes for October 25, 2007 on www.northshore.k12.ny.us)