



# North Shore Schools

*Discovering Your Dreams*

## BOE Meeting Summary

February 5, 2009

### **Trustees Eliminate \$517,454 from Initial 2009-10 Budget Proposal And Look to Reduce Costs Even Further**

**Please Watch Superintendent Melnick Present  
the Initial 2009-2010 Budget Proposal at  
<http://www.northshoreschools.org/index2.htm>**



At the recent Board of Education meetings on

January 29th and February 5th, Trustees eliminated a total of \$517,454 while still maintaining the quality of our current academic programs. These eliminations brought the preliminary 2009-10 budget to approximately \$83,959,411 or 3.75% over last year (which is lower than the contingency cap of 4%). The Board will seek to make further reductions in upcoming meetings scheduled during February – March as they remain sensitive to the fiscal concerns of our community members. Additionally, comeback items totaling \$395,000 in the areas of security and personnel employment ads will be addressed in the February 26<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup> meetings.

This recent reduction to the budget is in addition to:

- When building the budget proposal, department heads and principals were initially instructed to **reduce their proposed budgets by 5% (from the amount approved last year)**
- **\$351,411 previously eliminated by Superintendent Melnick prior to his January 15<sup>th</sup> budget presentation. This proposal would maintain current student-teacher ratios commensurate with the Nassau County average**
- **The Board has been actively lobbying Albany to make the necessary legislative changes that would provide true tax relief to our residents in the following areas:**
  - Special Education
  - Bus Transportation
  - Internal auditing services
  - Instructional technology and telecommunications

- **Collective bargaining practices**
- **Employee benefits**

Superintendent Melnick said, “We are taking a fiscally conservative but very responsible course.” He encouraged the Trustees to plan for the long term and look beyond this year’s proposed budget while remaining sensitive to the economic difficulties of our residents in order to maintain the quality of the North Shore Schools.

Both Superintendent Melnick and the Board continue to encourage [all of our residents to make a difference and take a more active role in determining the future of our district](#). Dr. Melnick added, “[We welcome you to attend our BOE meetings and to please contact us via email or phone to let us know what is important to you.](#)”

**Trustees will review the budget according to the following schedule (meetings will take place in the High School Alumni Room on Thursdays at 8 PM):**

- **February 26: Budget Review** (Transportation, Community Service, Employee Benefits and Debt Service)
- **March 12: Comeback Items/Budget Refinement**
- **March 26: Budget Adoption**

Trustees will officially adopt the final 2009-10 budget proposal on March 26<sup>th</sup>. [The budget vote by district residents will be on May 19, 2009 from 7am -10pm in the Gymnasium at North Shore High School.](#) Voter registration will take place in the High School on May 2nd and 4th, for those not already registered.

Please call or email Dr. Melnick ([melnicke@northshoreschools.org](mailto:melnicke@northshoreschools.org)) or the Board of Education with any questions and/or comments. Additionally, for the latest budget information, please visit the district website at [www.northshoreschools.org](http://www.northshoreschools.org).

[\(For further information regarding this meeting, please see the North Shore Board of Education Minutes for February 5, 2009 at www.northshoreschools.org. Complete BOE Minutes are available in the Central Office.\)](#)