



North Shore Schools

Discovering Your Dreams

BOE Meeting Summary

November 13, 2008

Discussion/Presentations:

1. The Board of Education was recognized by Kelly Lennon (President) and members of the Coordinating Council as part of the New York State Board Recognition Program.



2. Dr. Carol Smyth, Director of Science, and Ms. Regina Newman, Director of Mathematics, updated Trustees on the implementation of Algebra and Living Environment in eighth grade. They spoke about how the learning communities in each classroom are based on “Differentiated Instruction” enabling each student to succeed. They shared that the focus in the classroom is based on asking questions to encourage students to “think deeply.” Students are engaged in instructional and

laboratory activities which involve investigation and passionate learning. Additionally, enrichment is provided in various forms including “push-in” and “push-out” models to address the individual needs of the students. The teachers value the collaboration with their co-workers (faculty in both science and math) as well as the professional development opportunities provided.



3. Thomas Korb, Director of Special Education, Dr. Cindy Jacunski, and CSE Chair, Marcy Laredo spoke about the proposed changes in the Elementary Special Education Program. They outlined the following:

- Improvement of the blended model:
 - ½ day Special Education Teacher (in classroom)
 - ½ day Teacher Assistant (in classroom who is able to provide instruction)
- Maintaining services for “classified” children as indicated on their IEP
- Replace aides with certified teacher assistants
- Rationale for Revising Program: Raise academic, social and emotional growth of the students.





(For further information regarding this meeting, please see the North Shore Board of Education Minutes for November 13, 2008 at www.northshoreschools.org. Complete BOE Minutes are available in the Central Office.)