

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
June 4, 2009

The meeting was called to order by president Beyer at 6:00 pm in the High School Theatre. Present were Trustees Genovesi, Glassman, Kolkhorst, Pombar, Sharkey and Webb. Also present were Dr. Melnick, Mr. Chlebicki and Ms. Buatsi.

Executive Session

At 6:00 pm on motion of president Beyer and seconded by Trustee Glassman and all in favor, the Board moved to go into Executive Session in the High School Faculty Room for discussions regarding pending or current litigation and matters leading to the appointment, employment or dismissal of a particular person or persons.

At 8:00 pm, the Board resumed the regular meeting. There were approximately 100 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Beyer led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Recognition of Students

President Beyer and Dr. Melnick recognized high school student Charles Sharkey, for being the recipient of the Town of Oyster Bay Kids of Distinction Award as well as high school and middle school students who received Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in the Long Island Math Fair.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Sharkey and seconded by Trustee Kolkhorst and all in favor, the minutes of May 7, 2009 were approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

On motion of Trustee Pombar and seconded by Trustee Genovesi and all in favor, the treasurer's report of March 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009 was approved.

Regular Business

Superintendent's Report on Student Achievement

Dr. Melnick gave his report on student achievement for the 2008-2009 school year. He explained that it is a New York State requirement that he reports annually to the Board on student achievement. He provided Trustees with a written report prior to the meeting which included statistical as well as anecdotal information. As part of the report, students gave presentations which included the Middle School Chamber Choir; high school students Andrea Pardo and Sydney Atkin shared their independent study projects; science research project presentation by Sea Cliff student Stephanie Zelenetz; Dan O'Connor and Kohe Brooks Burke gave a presentation on Long Island Studies and the Senior Experience; math research projects were presented by middle school student Molly Reilly and high school student Katie Kane.

Trustees asked for an update on how students did with the transition of Algebra and Living Environment into eighth grade specifically if there are anticipated changes to the program for next year as well as the plan for students who have been accepted into the Ninth Grade Experience and do not pass the regents exams for these courses. Ms. Newman and Ms. Smyth

reported that the transition went very well. There are courses in place for the summer to assist students who are in need of extra help in these areas prior to taking the course next year. Students who do not pass the course this year will be able to re-take the courses in ninth grade; this will not affect their placement in the ninth grade experience. Mr. Ferris added that he is pleased with the progress and believes the Board will be very satisfied with the results at the end of the year.

Trustees had a brief discussion about early literacy and Dr. Melnick recommended having a discussion on a future agenda.

Trustee Glassman raised a question in regard to the lack of an honors section in social studies for tenth graders.

Trustee Beyer thanked Dr. Melnick and administrators for supporting all of the students and for putting together the presentations for the evening.

Report of the SGO Representative and Comments from the Public

Charles Sharkey, SGO representative reported on events and activities at the high school including a science symposium; the junior prom; a senior citizens prom; the completion of AP exams and preparing for Regents and final exams. Moving Up Day will be held on June 5th. The recent Relay for Life event raised \$75,000 for the American Cancer Society.

Dave Martin, Glen Head spoke against putting an artificial Turf Field at the high school. He asked that there be community input before a decision is made.

Trustee Beyer responded that discussions are preliminary as there has been no formal proposal made by the Town. She went on to explain the entire process to date and assured the audience that the community will have input. She also explained that after a recent meeting held with the Town of Oyster Bay and some local athletic youth groups, the Town asked representatives of those groups to reach out to community members who are opposed to the artificial turf field and to come to some consensus. She explained that the construction steering sub-committee has been discussing this issue with the Town. The committee consists of three members of the Board, Trustees Beyer, Genovesi and Webb. Those Trustees not on the sub-committee receive reports at a public board meeting and the report is reflected in the minutes for review by the public. Trustee Pombar added that there are a lot of rumors in the community and repeated that the issue is still in sub committee and has not come before the full Board for discussion.

Tom Boyle, Sea Cliff, spoke in favor of the Turf Field. He feels there is a need for this type of field which would allow for more usage and believes the district should discuss it.

Paul Eschause, Glen Head, commented on the meeting held with local sports youth groups and the Town and asked why the meeting was not open to all residents interested in this issue. He spoke against the installation of an artificial turf field that would require lights and hours extending to 11:00 pm. He went on to say he is forming a coalition of concerned residents who are also against this issue. He suggested if there is a large contingent of residents interested in a turf field, the Board should put forth a referendum. He asked why the Board is contemplating a "non-offer".

Dr. Melnick clarified that the district did not go looking to do a project with the Town of Oyster Bay, the Town came to North Shore to explore the possibility of a field in our district. The Town surveyed the area and found that the only feasible space was the high school football field. The construction steering committee raised several questions with the Town. In the meantime, the Town began a project with Bethpage, separate and unrelated to the project they were investigating at North Shore. Rumors circulated that the district turned down the project and at a budget informational meeting with the Booster Club it was found that there was misinformation in the community about the possibility of having a turf field installed at the high school. The reason the May 27th meeting came about was for the Town to clarify to these groups what the process has been up to this point and what needs to be done to move forward.

The Town of Oyster Bay asked for the meeting with the local athletic youth groups and informed us they will be happy to meet with any group, but will not meet with both sides together as they are not interested in being an arbitrator between two sides. The Town has asked representatives of local athletic youth groups to reach out to the other side and find common ground as a community to decide what the need is.

Michael Dileo, Sea Cliff, explained that at the May 27th meeting the Town made it clear they would not continue the conversation of the possibility of this project until the community came to consensus about what it wants. The Town has looked at many locations for a turf field and the high school football field is the only viable option. Mr. Dileo expressed his support of installing the turf field at the high school and said we need to give the same support to our athletes that we give to academics and the arts. He offered to act as liaison between the two groups to work together and find a common goal.

Tom McCormack, Glen Head stated he is not against turf fields but residents need to understand what is involved. He was informed that the Town would meet with both sides and asked why the Board is not facilitating a meeting with neighbors. He feels there are other viable options for placement of this type of field such as behind the community center in Glen Head. He and many of the other residents who spoke have all coached sports and are supportive of athletes.

Trustee Beyer responded that the district was told by the Town that there are engineering problems in the area of the community center. She also noted that it was the intention of the Town to meet with the contiguous neighbors, but after recent events they decided they did not want to go further until the opposing groups came to some consensus.

William Schraldi, Glen Head, said he is concerned about what the installation of this field will do to the quality of life for the neighbors who live near the high school.

Anne Sheerin, Glen Head, expressed her concern about eighth graders being able to pass two regents exams. She is against having high school courses in the middle school. She also asked how much it has cost the district for extra support for students in this area.

Dr. Melnick said the projection is that 7 students will not pass the regents. The total amount for additional support is \$9,000 for the year.

Trustee Beyer thanked the public for their comments and expressed her hope that the community could come together on the turf field issue.

Summary of District Goals

Dr. Melnick provided the Board with a comprehensive written summary of district goals. Due to the lateness of the hour Trustee Beyer recommended tabling the discussion until the next meeting. On motion of Trustee Kolkhorst and seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor, the Board voted to table the discussion of district goals until the meeting of June 18th.

Committee and Conference Reports

Trustee Glassman forwarded a written report on the health and wellness committee. Trustee Sharkey forwarded a written report on a meeting with the internal claims auditor. She recommended the Board have a discussion about the internal claims auditor not reviewing wire transfers. The Board decided wire transfers should be reported on the monthly audit report.

Dr. Melnick reported on a meeting with the Town of Oyster Bay which was held on May 27, 2009. Representatives from the Town of Oyster Bay stated that it is the Town's intention at this point to slow down the proposed project tremendously so that the local youth sports groups have an opportunity to reach out to the community. The Town has no desire to upset or divide the community. In other communities, several open forums or community meetings have been held regarding similar types of projects.

Again, Town representatives indicated that they do not feel it is their responsibility to build a consensus of support for this project in our community, and again stated that the time

frame for the project is less important than the community groups reaching consensus. TOB officials shared that the process that has been successful in other communities is for the sports organizations to reach out to differing constituent groups within the community to draw them together into the conversation. Therefore it was suggested that representatives from the sports organizations, facilitated by Michael DiLeo who agreed to host small meetings, should reach out to such groups as local civic organizations, GH/GWL Business Association, Coalition for a Great North Shore Community, Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor, and the neighbors who live contiguous to the High School.

Matt Nizich requested information from the town regarding the project so that consistent facts, and not opinions, can be shared at the small group meetings. The town agreed to prepare bulleted points of information on the municipal agreement with Bethpage, once it has been approved.

The Town representatives indicated that North Shore School District property is the only option available at this time. Supervisor Venditto has said that there is no possibility of Tappan being reopened.

The issue of bathroom facilities at the High School field was raised.

Town officials indicated that the money for this project would come from 2009 capital money and Sea Fund money. Therefore, in order for the field not to be a "gift" from one municipality to another the town would need to make sure that the project provided for ample use of the facility by community groups. Therefore, the field would need to operate with lights until 11PM, Monday through Friday.

Before the group adjourned it was understood that:

1. Local sports groups need to come together and host small meetings with community groups. These meetings should not take place in district facilities, but rather should take place in town facilities.
2. Mike DiLeo indicated that it was the intention of the group that he represents to hold as many meetings as possible between now and the end of June. After this series of meetings, his group would communicate to the district where they were at. The District representatives agreed that they would help facilitate the sports organizations compiling of a list of key contact groups and individuals.
3. It was agreed to by the Town that if the sports groups were able to gather support for this project, a working group would be formed, comprised of representatives from all constituent groups.
4. If the Town reaches the point where they are ready to move ahead several open community hearings/forums would be held prior to the Board making a decision.

At the conclusion of Dr. Melnick's report Trustee Pombar expressed his frustration at receiving the report from the sub committee after members of the community had the opportunity of hearing the information. The Board had a brief discussion about the issue.

Dr. Melnick then reported on a meeting of the construction steering committee. There is a problem with drainage in the area where an outdoor middle school classroom is to be constructed. The PTA has already begun to sell bricks to raise funds for this project. There was a discussion about what to do with the bricks and funds if the project cannot go forward. The middle school HVAC project needs to be re-bid because the scope of the project has changed; this will delay the project by a year and will result in a higher cost.

Trustee Webb reported on a meeting he attended with the Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor during which there was a discussion about possible plans for the North Shore Country Club property, which is apparently for sale.

The board decided to act simultaneously on action items D-R

On motion of Trustee Sharkey and seconded by Trustee Kolkhorst and all in favor it was:

Prior to approving the action items, item G, Approval of the Revised Wellness Policy, was tabled until additional revisions could be made.

Personnel

Resignation for Retirement Purposes - Certified

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes of Richard Ryan, Social Studies, effective June 30, 2009

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes of Jack Sande, Social Studies, effective June 30, 2009

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes of Robert Sather, Technology, effective June 30, 2009

Leave of Absence for Child Rearing Purposes - Certified

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Julie Cardona, Italian, effective September 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Janice Chen, Biology, effective September 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Jaclyn Etter, Social Studies, effective May 22, 2009 through June 30, 2009

Increment for Advanced Study - Certified

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Michelle Cochrane, Physical Education, from Step 5 of the BA+30 salary schedule, salary \$68,088 to Step 5 of the MA salary schedule, salary \$70,957, effective February 2, 2009

Appointment - Certified

Resolved: To approve an appointment for Amy Bitondo, Special Education, on Step 3 of the MA salary schedule, effective September 1, 2009 through September 1, 2012

Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment - Certified

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Cynthia Andrews, Elementary, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective May 20, 2009 through June 19, 2009

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Lindsay Bennett, Elementary, on Step 7 of the BA salary schedule effective May 19, 2009 through June 30, 2009

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Meghan Gebhart, Elementary, on Step 1 of the BA salary schedule, effective May 28, 2009 through June 30, 2009

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Denise Goldberg, Elementary, on Step 3 of the MA salary schedule effective March 14, 2009 through June 19, 2009

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Krista Hoffman, Biology, on Step 1 of the BA salary schedule effective February 23, 2009 through June 30, 2009

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Lisamaire Nugent, Art, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule effective May 25, 2009 through June 30, 2009

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

Resolved: To approve the following additions to the per diem substitute list:

Sandra Binder	Elementary
Nicholas Cangemi	Physical
Cari Clementi	Elementary
Sarah Davies	Secondary
Jenna Favuzza	Elementary
Adriana Galante	Elementary
Sean Gibbons	Secondary
Elizabeth Holzmann	Elementary
James Loeven	Secondary
Daniel Madden	Secondary
Angelica Mangone	Food Service
Jessica Marck	Elementary
AnneMarie McGrady	School Monitor
Nessa O'Dell	Elementary
Moira Phillips	Elementary
Samantha Rozakis	Elementary
Ashley Seligman	Elementary

Approval of Extra Curricular Activity Sponsors

Resolved: To approve a Middle School Film Club as a Level 2 Club

Resolved: To approve the following extra curricular activity sponsors:

Elementary

Mock Trial (GH)	Janet Goldberg
Mock Trial (GWL)	Audra Marcantonio
Mock Trial (SC)	Diane Krupin
Scrabble Club (GWL)	Darlene Skaee
District Orchestra (GH)	Patrick Falco
District Orchestra (GWL)	Kevin Haas
District Orchestra (SC)	Kevin Haas
District Band (GH)	Jodie Larson
District Band (GWL)	William Fish
District Band (SC)	Dean Miller
Art Club (GWL)	Lauren Vione

Middle School

8 th Grade Class Advisor	Flavia Finning*
7 th Grade Class Advisor	Debra Henneberger
Madrigals	Brian Mesemer

Spanish Madel Soriano
Home & Careers Jean Incantalupo
*replaces Ellen Renaldo

High School
Dance Club (PULSE) Rachael Brown

Approval of Intermunicipal Cooperative Services Agreement

Resolved: To enter into an intermunicipal cooperative services agreement between and among the North Shore Central School District, the Cold Spring Harbor Central School District, the Glen Cove City School District, the Great Neck UFSD, the Locust Valley Central School District, the Manhasset Union Free School District, the Port Washington UFSD and the Roslyn UFSD in regard to the Iroquois Gas Pipeline

Approval of Revised Policy for Budget Transfers

Resolved: To approve the revised budget transfer policy (#6150) effective June 4, 2009

Approval of Donation to the High School Music Department from the Glen Head Rotary Club

Resolved: To approve a donation of \$1,500 from the Glen Head Rotary Club to the High School Music Department to be used for awards for the Musicians Dinner

Approval of Agreement with Planned Parenthood

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Planned Parenthood of Nassau County, to provide presentations to high school health classes on June 8 and 9, 2009 at a fee of \$175

Award of 2009-2010 Pupil Transportation Contracts

Resolved: To award 2009-2010 pupil transportation contracts to the low bidders as per attached

Approval to Rescind the Award of Bids for HAVC Work at the Middle School Library Area

Resolved: To rescind the award of bids to Thermo Tech Combustion, Inc, and to Valbro, Inc. for HAVC work at the Middle School, awarded on April 23, 2009 for HAVC work at the Middle School as recommended by both BBS Architects and SAVIN Engineers

Approval of Budget Transfers

Resolved: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$235,376.43, effective June 4, 2009

Approval of Agreement Resolving an Impartial Hearing

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the parents of a student with disabilities, to resolve an impartial hearing

Approval of Special Education Services Contracts

Resolved: To approve agreements with the following school districts for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending the Greenvale School located within the North Shore School District, and residing within said districts below effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009:
Cold Spring Harbor School District
Glen Cove School District
Locust Valley School District
Manhasset Public Schools
Port Washington UFSD

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the Glen Cove City School District for Special Education Services for 2 parentally-placed students with disabilities attending Friends Academy located within the Glen Cove City School District and residing within the North Shore School District, effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009

Approval of Special Education Tuition Agreement

Resolved: To approve a special education tuition agreement with ASCENT (A School for Individuals with Autism) in the amount of \$35,390 for a 10 month program and \$5,898 for the 2 month summer program, effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009

Resolved: To approve a special education tuition agreement with Great Neck UFSD for 1 student residing in the North Shore School District and attending Great Neck UFSD in the amount of \$71,276.60 effective September 16, 2008 through June 26, 2009

Resolved: To approve a special education tuition agreement with Great Neck UFSD for 1 student residing in the North Shore School District and attending Great Neck UFSD in the amount of \$75,028.00 effective September 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009

Resolved: To approve a special education tuition agreement with United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. (UCPN) for the 2 month summer 2009 session and the 10 month 2009-2010 school year based on the NYSED rates

Approval of Special Education Consultants

Resolved: To approve the following special education consultants for the 2009-2010 school year:

Kelly Andrews	ABA Therapist
Melissa Ash-Bernstein	Speech/Language Pathologist
Patricia Parker (TRI)	Special Education Teacher
Patricia Castillo	Special Educator
Michael Cohen	Consulting Psychologist
Jonathan Cooper, CSW	Social Worker
Rozi Cooper	Occupational Therapist
Janice Epstein	School Psychologist
Karl Friedman, MD	Physician
Juliana Gillespie	Special Education Teacher
Lisa Guiliano	Special Education Teacher
Anne Kearney	Speech-Language Therapy
Andrew Kent, MD	Psychiatric Evaluation
Jeffrey Kent, MD	Psychiatric Evaluation
Adena Kurlander	Occupational Therapist
Marie Mazza	Educational Evaluator
Barbara Miller, P.T.	Physical Therapist
Kerri-Ann O'Halloran	Behavioral Consultant
Carol Rausch	Special Education Teacher
Allison Wiener	RTI Consultant
Susanne Zabicki	Special Education Teacher

Approval of Special Education Service Providers

Resolved: To approve the following special education service providers for the 2009-2010 school year:

<u>Service Provider</u>	<u>Service Provided</u>
Abilities, Inc.	Transition Services Program
Access 7	OT, PT, Speech, ABA, SEIT
All About Kids	Speech, OT, PT, ABA, SEIT
ASCENT	ABA
Kids First	OT, PT, Speech, SEIT, ABA
New Age Therapy	OT, PT, Speech
New York Therapy	OT, PT, SEIT, ABA

Prior to approving special education services, IEP numbers 363619544, 363620437 and 363624561 were pulled and not approved.

Approval of Special Education Services (IEPS)

Resolved: To approve special education services (IEP) as per attached tab

Comments from the Public

Dawn Blacharski, Glen Head, followed up on an earlier comment about the issue of students possibly failing the math and Living Environment Regents. She heard there were possibly 25 students who are in danger of failing and parents are very worried about it.

Dr. Melnick responded students who fail the exam can take a two week refresher course and re-take the test over the summer and those who fail the course can take a four week summer course offered at no charge. He also stated he has not received information that 25 students are in danger of failing and the projections for Living Environment is better than for math. He also explained that letters went home to parents of any child who is at risk of failing.

Old Business

There was no old business to report.

New Business

Trustee Glassman has been receiving phone calls from parents who say North Shore students have been diagnosed with Swine Flu and the District is not reporting it.

Dr. Melnick responded unless and until he receives a call from the CDC to report a confirmed diagnosis of the Swine Flu, we are not able to take action.

Trustee Glassman requested that the middle school eighth graders be invited to Moving Up Day at the high school next year to fill in the rows as incoming ninth graders.

A suggestion was made to have a discussion on a future agenda in regard to an ethics class.

Adjournment

At 12:05 am on motion of Trustee Kolkhorst and seconded by Trustee Glassman and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk