

North Shore Schools  
Board of Education  
Minutes  
Special Meeting  
September 23, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Webb at 7:00 pm in the Central Office Conference Room. Present were Trustees Berliner, Beyer, Genovesi, Kolkhorst, Pombar and Sharkey. Also present were Dr. Melnick, Ms. Buatsi and Mr. Chlebicki.

**Executive Session**

At 7:00 pm, on motion of Trustee Beyer seconded by Trustee Pombar and all in favor, the Board went into Executive Session in the central office conference room for discussions regarding collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law) and matters leading to the appointment of a particular person.

At 7:45 pm, on motion of Trustee Pombar and seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of Executive Session and resumed the meeting at 8:00 pm in the central office conference room. Trustee Pombar left the meeting at this time. There were 5 people in the audience.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Webb led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Personnel**

**Part-time Appointment**

Resolved: To approve the part-time (.5) appointment of Lisa Suau, Reading/AIS, on Step 12 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011

**Track & Field Discussion**

Don Lang, Director of Athletics, Physical Education & Health was present at the meeting. The Board reviewed their previous discussions and options in regard to the track and field replacement. Also reviewed were the list of projects currently in the Capital Reserve Fund, and the amount it can be funded to which is \$8 million. The list of approved projects and their status were reviewed. There is currently \$1.8 million in the fund and the Board is considering adding an additional \$1.5 million from the 2009-2010 fund balance bringing the total to \$3.3 million. Currently there are \$2.3 million in projects that have been approved and not yet started. Once the track and field is approved as a project by the voters, this amount can be expended for that purpose. The estimated cost of the track and field replacement with 8 lanes, steeple chase, artificial turf field and drainage is \$2.9 million. The time frame for approval was discussed. The Board also discussed State and County legislative issues that may impact our finances in the future, including the possibility of district's being responsible refunding tax certioraris.

**Comments from the Public**

Steve Grabher, Glen Head, asked for clarification on the fundraising effort by ParkGate Fundraising. Dr. Melnick responded they are conducting a survey to see if funds, approximately \$6 million, can be raised for the track and field project and improvements to the Fine & Performing Arts and Science Departments.

There was consensus to place a resolution on the September 30 agenda for placing the Track & Field Replacement as a project in the Capital Reserve Fund so it may be presented to voters for approval on November 30, 2010. It was noted that this will not obligate the district to fund the project it will only make it possible to fund it through the Capital Reserve Fund.

The Board asked the Athletics Booster club to encourage the public to attend the Board Meeting of September 30 to hear first hand what is occurring.

The Board discussed the amount left from the 2009-2010 fund balance. In addition to the \$1.5 million for the Capital Reserve Fund the Board needs to determine where an additional \$400,000 will be allocated. It has already been determined that \$2 million will be allocated to the reduction of the tax levy. Dr. Melnick recommended leaving the \$400,000 for the 2010-2011 budget to cover salaries for additional special education teachers that may be needed for the integrated co-teaching model in the Regents classes.

#### **Additional AIS Staff**

Dr. Melnick explained that additional AIS staff for Math is needed this year to assist the students who scored at a level 1, 2 and very low 3s on the state assessments. He also explained that the funds for these positions will come from the "Race to the Top" and the "Jobs for Education" grants. The Board discussed the need of these positions, the number of new staff needed and the terms of the positions as well as quality of instruction. There was consensus for Dr. Melnick to move forward in hiring for these positions but it was noted that Trustees feel it is important for only the most qualified AIS candidates be hired to gain the most for the students.

#### **New Business**

Trustee Genovesi read parts of an article "What does the Public Really Want" by D. Reeves.

#### **Old Business**

The Legislative Breakfast scheduled for October 21 will need to be canceled due to lack of interest from the other legislators.

#### **Adjournment**

At 10:00 pm on motion of Trustee Berliner and seconded by Trustee Kolkhorst and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by: Anna Sharkey