



# North Shore Schools

*Discovering Your Dreams*

## BOE/TOWN Meeting Summary

March 11, 2010

### **Trustees Cut \$2,149,583 Million from 2010-11 Initial Budget Proposal**

*Trustees will Adopt the 2010-11 Budget on March 25th*

#### **Discussion/Presentations:**

1. **By the conclusion of the March 11<sup>th</sup> BOE meeting, the North Shore Board of Education cut a total \$2,149,583 from the proposed 2010-11 during a thorough line-by line review over the last three months. It was announced that on Thursday, March 25th, at 8 pm in the HS Alumni Room, Trustees will adopt the final 2010-11 budget representing an increase from last year of 3.3%.**

#### **Contingency Scenario:**

Dr. Melnick reiterated that New York State law dictates contingency and the scenario has become even more conservative. Trustee Amy Beyer discussed that if voters disapprove a school budget proposal, **the district can offer another budget for a second vote or it can go into austerity or a “contingency” budget.** Dr. Melnick stressed, **“With all of the major cuts to the initial 2010-11 proposal budget already, there is not any room for a buffer if we were to have a second vote.”**

**If the budget is voted down in May, the district would be forced to adopt a contingency budget for the 2010-11 school-year which is 0.48% LOWER than the current 2009-10 budget (since the CPI for December 2009 was less than zero (0.48%).**

Contingency would result in the reduction of over 50 positions as well as the elimination of all extracurricular activities including: interscholastic athletics, clubs, plays, jazz band, Madrigals, and all nonacademic programs. Music courses and physical education would still be offered as these courses are required for graduation. He emphasized that on a contingency budget, schools would only be opened from 8 am - 3 pm. **Additionally, there would be a tremendous increase in class size, most electives would be eliminated, and only those courses mandated by the state (i.e., those required for the Regents Diploma) would be offered.**

#### **Lobbying Albany:**

Trustees continue to lead other districts in lobbying the NYS Legislature to help change State Laws. Dr. Webb said, “The State Assembly is taking up a bill that must be immediately passed to protect the public education of our children. The bill has already passed in the Senate but **we need the help of our residents to make sure it passes in the Assembly.**” **Trustees urge community members to call Assemblyman Montesano at (518) 455-4684 and say, “Support Assemblywoman Nolan’s Bill A 8852-A co-sponsored by Assemblyman Charles Lavine and pass legislation to amend the contingency formula to protect public education in New York State.”** It is also important to go to the North Shore

Schools homepage at [www.northshoreschools.org](http://www.northshoreschools.org) to download and mail letters immediately to Assemblyman Montesano and Assemblyman Lavine. **Together we can help change New York State Laws and determine the future of our district.**

**Upcoming BOE Meetings:**

The BOE will be adopting the 2010-2011 budget on Thursday, March 25th in the High School Alumni Room at 8 p.m. **Trustees strongly urge you to come to the upcoming meetings.** Further BOE meetings will take place **April 20** (BOCES Budget Vote/ Meet the Candidates Night), and **May 6** (Town Meeting/Budget Reading). **The budget vote will take place on Tuesday, May 18, 2010 in the HS Gym from 7 am to 10 pm.** If you have any questions regarding the budget, please contact Superintendent Dr. Edward Melnick at 516-277-7801 or email him at [melnicke@northshoreschools.org](mailto:melnicke@northshoreschools.org). Additionally, for the latest budget information, please visit the district website at [www.northshoreschools.org](http://www.northshoreschools.org). For further information regarding BOE meetings, please see the North Shore Board of Education Minutes at [www.northshoreschools.org](http://www.northshoreschools.org). Complete BOE Minutes are available in the Central Office at 112 Franklin Avenue, Sea Cliff.

**(For further information regarding this meeting, please see the North Shore Board of Education Minutes for March 11, 2010 at [www.northshoreschools.org](http://www.northshoreschools.org))**