

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
Regular Meeting
February 3, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Webb at 7:30 pm in the High School Alumni Room. Present were Trustees Berliner, Beyer, Genovesi, Kolkhorst, Pombar and Sharkey. Also present were Dr. Melnick, Ms. Buatsi and Mr. Chlebicki.

Executive Session

At 7:30 pm, on motion of Trustee Sharkey and seconded by Trustee Genovesi and all in favor, the Board went into Executive Session in the high school faculty room for discussions regarding pending litigation and the medical history of a particular person.

At 8:00 pm, on motion of Trustee Kolkhorst seconded by Trustee Beyer and all in favor, the Board came out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting in the alumni room. There were approximately 7 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Webb led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Pombar and seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, the minutes of January 20, 2011 were approved.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Melnick reported on the Governor's proposed tax cap and the impact it would have on the district's budget. He also reported that high school students are completing their course selections for next year. He reported that the allotment of snow days has been used, if another is needed school will be in session on May 27. Finally he reported that the Viking Foundation had a reorganization meeting and at least ten people have expressed interest in serving on the foundation board.

Report of the SGO Representative

SGO representative, Charles Sharkey was not in attendance. President Webb read his report which included information about a collection of personal items for shipment to troops overseas. Collection boxes will be in all 5 schools.

Regular Business

Budget Review

Dr. Melnick reviewed more specifically the impact the proposed tax cap would have on the district and the budget for 2012-2013. If the cap is imposed, residents will vote on the tax levy and not the actual budget beginning in May, 2012. The Board had a lengthy discussion about how to proceed with reviewing the proposed budget for 2011-2012. They discussed the pros and cons of keeping the proposed budget basically intact and whether the community would support a 3-4% budget increase in order to position for the drastic cuts that may be needed next year. It was noted this may be the last chance to protect the base of what the district has. The Board asked that Dr. Melnick provide them with scenarios that include both figures and narratives on what would be lost from the 2012-2013 budget if the tax cap is

imposed. They asked that this be given to them prior to adopting the budget for 2011-2012 to assist them in making decisions for this budget. There was consensus to continue the practice of a line by line budget review. Dr. Melnick said it is crucial to educate the community about how the tax cap will affect our schools as well as the provision of a 60% voter approval needed to get an override of the cap. He explained that debt service is exempt from the 2% cap and suggested the Board may want to float a bond in the future for capital improvements.

The Board then reviewed sections of the budget including Central Administration, Central Services, Plant Maintenance, Insurance/BOCES Administration, Supervision of Instruction. It was decided to cut \$1,000 from Board of Education Conferences; to increase the line for health & safety and fuel oil in order to bring them in line with previous years' expenditures in those codes; and to put a total of \$422,000 on a comeback list of items the Board will review a second time (these include the high school kitchen renovation, costs for a special election and a reduction of personnel ads). Another review of the budget will take place at the next meeting of February 17, 2011.

Trustee Genovesi left the meeting at approximately 8:45 pm during the budget review.

Comments from the Public

Letia Barbetta, Glen Head, suggested advertising on Monster.Com prior to advertising in the New York Times to get a better rate and lower the district's cost for personnel ads.

Policy Review

The Board discussed their policy on Board Member Code of Ethics. The policy committee incorporated suggested changes by Trustee Pombar and all were in agreement with the changes. They also discussed adopting a policy on Accountability for School Property. Both policies will be adopted at the next meeting on February 17.

Establishment of Citizens Advisory Group for Legislative Issues

The Board discussed the establishment of a citizens advisory group for legislative issues. They all agreed that the existing policy is adequate but new by-laws need to be drafted and a process for appointing members needs to be established. Trustees Beyer and Kolkhorst will draft by-laws and present them at the next meeting for further discussion.

Legislative Issues

The Regional Advocacy Group drafted a letter for residents to send to their legislators in opposition of the proposed tax cap. This letter will be placed on our website with links to individual legislators to allow community members to easily contact key members of the state and local legislature.

Trustee Webb reported on the upcoming meeting to discuss regional collective bargaining on February 8th. At that meeting the possibility of a legislative breakfast will be discussed and if there is support it will be held on March 4th at Hofstra University. The Board had a brief discussion about who to invite to the breakfast and the format of the event.

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items E-L

On motion of Trustee Beyer and seconded by Trustee Pombar and all in favor, it was:

Personnel

Regular Substitute Appointment – Administration

Resolved: To approve the regular substitute appointment of Lori Saland, Assistant Director of Special Education, effective January 31, 2011 through March 4, 2011

Resignation – Certified

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Christine Beihoff, Teacher Assistant, effective March 7, 2011

Increments for Advanced Study – Certified

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Daniel Chemnitz, Elementary from Step 7 of the MA+60 salary schedule to Step 7 of the MA+75 salary schedule, effective January 31, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Renee Curiale, Elementary from Step 7 of the MA salary schedule to Step 7 of the MA+15 salary schedule, effective January 31, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Sandra Maciel, Special Education from Step 8 of the MA+60 salary schedule to Step 8 of the MA+75 salary schedule, effective January 31, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Stephen Peroni, Physics from Step 3 of the BA+30 salary schedule to Step 3 of the MA salary schedule, effective January 31, 2011

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Jacqueline Stevens, Special Education from Step 6 of the MA salary schedule to Step 6 of the MA+15 salary schedule, effective January 31, 2011

Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment – Certified

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Ken Dunn, Spanish, on Step 10 of the MA+30 salary schedule effective January 31, 2011 through March 4, 2011

Appointments – Non Certified

Resolved: To approve the probationary appointment of Paul Hawxhurst, Cleaner/Attendant, on Step 2 of the cleaner/attendant salary schedule, effective February 7, 2011 with a 26 week probationary period expiring August 5, 2011

Resolved: To approve the probationary appointment of Peter Heilig, Custodian, on Step 5 of the Custodian I salary schedule, effective February 7, 2011 with a 26 week probationary period expiring on August 5, 2011

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Kelly Henderson, Teacher Aide, Sea Cliff School, effective January 20, 2011

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Alex Hojnowski, Recreation Assistant, Middle School, effective January 3, 2011

Resolved: To approve the appointment of William Melillo, Teacher Aide, High School, effective January 20, 2011

Approval of Spring 2011 Community Education Instructors

Resolved: To approve the following community education instructors for spring 2011:

Eugene Artemyeff	Barbara Grapstein	Janice Nunziata
Helen Bauer	Phyllis Hintze	Greg Perles
John Carbonara	Krista Hoffman	Michelle Tanner
Elizabeth Cassidy	Jen Horton	Jerome Vivona
Jerry Cohen	Donnie Jarvis	Peter Wass
Dorian Dahl	Maram Mabrouck	Mayer Weisen
George Ensinger	John Manzone	Maria Whisenand
Susan Gill	Patricia Mitchell	BOCES-Cornell Cooperative
Stephen Goldstein	Dean Miller	USCG Power Squadron
Dennis Kelly		

Approval of Change Orders

Resolved: To approve change order HVAC#1 from Walsh Mechanical Contractors for Boiler Room Reconstruction and HVAC Work at the Middle School in the amount of (\$222.93) deduction

Resolved: To approve change order HVAC#2 from Walsh Mechanical Contractors for Boiler Room Reconstruction and HVAC Work at the Middle School in the amount of (\$2,912.00) deduction

Approval of Heath Services Contract

Resolved: That the Board of Education enter into a contract for Health Services with Jericho Public Schools for 18 students residing within the North Shore Schools and attending non-public schools within the Jericho Public School District for the 2010-11 school year at a cost of \$931.65 per student, as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

Approval of Service Agreement with Princeton HealthCare System

Resolved: To approve a service agreement between Princeton HealthCare System and the North Shore CSD to provide homebound instruction for a resident student at a fee of \$65 per hour

Approval of Optional Employee Life Insurance Plan

Resolved: To approve an additional employee life insurance option with Security Mutual Life Insurance which will be fully paid by employees through payroll deductions

Approval of Budget Transfers

Resolved: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$156,957.97, effective February 3, 2011

Approval of Inter-municipal Agreement with Roslyn Public Schools

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes an Inter-municipal Cooperation Agreement between the District and Roslyn Union Free School District pursuant to General Municipal Law § 119-o for the purposes of vehicle inspection, maintenance and repair services in accordance with the terms and provisions contained therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute said Agreement

Comments from the Public

Tim Madden, Sea Cliff, asked if the meeting on February 8 was open to the public. He

also asked if the district was in favor of eliminating step and increment increases for teachers. He stated that he does not agree with that strategy and feels teachers should be highly paid.

Trustee Webb responded that Mr. Madden was welcome to attend the meeting on February 8 and explained that the meeting is to explore what the legal possibilities are for school districts to negotiate cooperatively.

Old Business

There was no old business to report.

New Business

Trustee Pombar noted that combining the positions of Director of Athletics with the Director of Physical Education & Health was a significant saving for the district.

Trustee Kolkhorst suggested a press release in regard to the inter-municipal agreement with Roslyn Schools for the use of the transportation depot which is resulting in increased revenue for the district.

Trustee Beyer also suggested a press release in regard to the work being done with local districts and the meeting on February 8.

Trustee Webb reported he will try and attend the NYSSBA Convention in March and asked to have 2 or 3 Trustees attend along with him.

The Board does not intend to nominate anyone to the Nassau BOCES Board of Education this year.

Adjournment

At 10:30 pm, on motion of Trustee Kolkhorst and seconded by Trustee Sharkey and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk