

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Minutes
Regular Meeting
November 29, 2007

The meeting was called to order by president Beyer at 7:30 pm in the Middle School Cafetorium. Present were Trustees Genovesi, Glassman, Pombar, Sharkey, and Webb. Trustee Vollmer was absent. Also present were Dr. Melnick, Mr. Chlebicki and Ms. Buatsi.

Executive Session

At 7:30 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 Middle School Faculty Lounge to discuss matters regarding proposed, pending or current litigation.

At 7:50 pm on motion of Trustee Sharkey and seconded by Trustee Webb and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of Executive Session and convened a meeting of the Audit Committee

At 8:05 pm on motion of Trustee Pombar and seconded by Trustee Genovesi and all in favor, the regular meeting was resumed in the Middle School Cafetorium. There were approximately 15 people in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Beyer led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Recognition of Student

President Beyer and Dr. Melnick recognized Taylor McGrath for being named to the "Golden 11" presented to only 11 athletes in Nassau County by the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame. Taylor was chosen for receiving All County honors, having an unweighted average of 90 or above for his community/school service and work in the community.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Webb and seconded by Trustee Sharkey and all in favor, the minutes of November 15, 2007 were approved with changes.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Melnick reported on the Literacy Conference he and 8 administrators attended. He also reported on the SEPTA meeting and the issues raised by middle school parents in regard to services offered. He reported on a meeting of parent organization presidents and their fundraising committees to help in coordinating fundraising events throughout the district. They are planning on a calendar of activities to help in this regard. He then publicly thanked all who were involved in the recent production of West Side Story and noted that there were more students involved in this production than ever before.

Report of the SGO Representative and Comments from the Public

Alex Romano, SGO Representative, reported on events and activities in the high school including upcoming parent orientation for incoming 9th graders, PTSA faculty and staff tea, Battle of the Bands on December 14, World Aids Day moved to January 18 and the next Relay for Life Committee meeting will be on December 11 at 7:00 pm. Alex also clarified a statement made during the Audit Committee Meeting in regard to money left from classes who graduate. He noted that left over money is currently put in the SGO treasury for their use, but can be given

to the class for reunions at their discretion.

There were no comments from the public.

Regular Business

Arts Department

Terryl Donovan gave a brief introduction on the history of the middle school music program and invited the Board and members of the audience to the choral room for a presentation. Faculty members Jason Hill and Kathy Capogrosso gave an overview of the Vocal Music Media Lab and introduced students Sara Langer, Brianna DeMeo and Kevin Quinn to demonstrate some of the capabilities of the equipment by using programs such as IPhoto, IMovie and Garage Band. Utilizing these programs, students are able to use a combination of music, art, writing and voice to create Pod Casts that can be downloaded onto disks or into their ipods.

The Board thanked the teachers, students and Ms. Donovan for the very exciting presentation.

Senior Programs

Rich Rozakis began the presentation with an overview of the five senior programs as well as the senior experience. Albert Cousin explained how the programs have evolved over the years and Maureen Curis gave a brief description of what each program is about. Linda Lohrius highlighted the program she co-teaches, Renaissance 2000, from a teacher's point of view and students Kayla McGilloway (Renaissance 2000) and Keith Salerno (Long Island Studies) gave the student's perspective. All agreed that the programs closely match those students experience in college and that feedback from returning graduates confirms that. During the year, the programs will be reviewed to see how they can further grow. SGO representative, Alex Romano, also added his experience in the senior program as a very positive one.

The Board had a brief discussion about the success of this program and discussed ways to bring this type of experience into the lower grades.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Adding Chinese as a High School Elective

Curriculum Associate for Foreign Language, Ellen Shields, presented the Board with information about adding Chinese as a High School elective. She shared data about the importance of learning the Chinese language. The formal recommendation by Dr. Melnick is to begin it as a high school elective for juniors and seniors only and to consider starting in kindergarten as part of the extended day program. The Board raised questions and concerns about adding a fifth language and wondered if one of the other languages that does not receive large enrollment should be discontinued, they also asked about additional staffing. It was explained that in the beginning we could share a teacher with another district. There was concern about beginning the language on the high school level and the Board expressed their desire to introduce it at the elementary level. Dr. Shields and Dr. Melnick both felt starting in the high school was the best way to begin the program and expressed concerned about adding more burden to the elementary teachers. A suggestion was made to add Chinese as a Senior Program to include the study of the culture as well as the language in order to generate interest. Dr. Shields explained that studying cultures is already part of the language curriculum. There was also a suggestion about making it a pass-fail course keeping in mind the heavy case load and concern over GPA that juniors deal with. The Board would like to make a commitment to

start this program in the early grades and would like to see a plan on how to continue it from kindergarten on.

Nassau BOCES Budget Advisory Committee for 2008-09

There was a brief discussion in regard to a Board representative serving on the Nassau BOCES Budget Advisory Committee. Trustee Anna Sharkey is interested in serving on this committee and is looking into the possibility of doing so.

Committee and Conference Reports

There were no committee or conference reports.

Regular Business

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items F-M

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

Personnel

Resignation for Retirement Purposes

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes of Madolin Archer, Art, effective January 28, 2008

Increment for Advanced Study

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Jessica Berner, Elementary, from Step 6 of the MA+15 salary schedule, salary \$74,044 to Step 6 of the MA+30 salary schedule, salary, \$76,214, effective September 1, 2007

Regular Substitute Appointment – Certified

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Kimberly Mulligan, Special Education, on Step 4 of the BA+15 salary schedule at an annual salary of \$59,808, effective December 1, 2007 through January 2, 2008 (if Kimberly is moved to a probationary position, her anticipated tenure date would be August 31, 2010), replacing Karen Lannig (FMLA)

Approval of Teacher Overages

Resolved: To approve overages for the following teachers:

Marla Behar (.2)
Rachael Brown (.1)
Rob Gerver (.044)

Appointments - Non Certified

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Rishen Balwant, Cleaner, District-Wide, on Step 2 of the Cleaner-Attendant salary schedule at an annual salary of \$35,672, effective December 3, 2007, replaces Thomas Blackburn

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Noreen Boz, School Monitor, Glen Head, at an hourly salary \$13.60/hr, November 30, 2007, (new position)

Resolved: To approve the appointment of William Madigan, Teacher Aide, High School, at an hourly salary of \$17.43/hr, effective November 26, 2007 (new position)

Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

Resolved: To approve the addition of the following names to the per diem substitute list:

Courtney Aiello	Secondary
Christen Balducci	Elementary
Lisa Capri	Elementary
Maria Coronato	Food Service
Janet Costello	Elementary
Craig Esposito	Secondary
Dorothy Ferro	Elementary
Nicole Frittola	Elementary
Kate Kirby	Elementary
Susan Lynn	Secondary
Dominick Pennolino	Secondary
Mindy Rozen	Elementary
Nathalie Woods	School Monitor

Approval of Extra Curricular Activity Advisors/Coaches

Resolved: To approve the addition of a level 1 extra curricular activity club at the middle school entitled T.H.E. Club (Teens Helping the Environment)

Resolved: To approve the additions of the following as extra curricular activity advisors and coach:

High School

French Club	Eric LePetit*	\$931.00
Amnesty International	Susan Krugman**	\$620.50
	Linda Lohrius**	\$642.00
Foreign Language	Chris Whalley	\$931.00
Honor Society		
Freshman Class	Rachel Brown	\$2,131.

*Replaces Evelyn Pometeau

**change from single advisor to co-advisors

Gymnastics

Junior Varsity	Kimberly Bigam Vardi	\$4,316
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Resolved: To approve the addition of the following names to the Intramurals and Supervision List:

Intramurals – Step 1 \$40.22/hr

Kelly Ater, Step 1

Michele Patane, Step 1

Nicole Porter, Step 1

Supervision - \$36/hr.

John Livosi

Robert Vogt

Adoption of Policies

Resolved: To adopt Policy #4205 Assessment and Policy #5410 Hand Washing as Board Policies effective November 29, 2007

Approval of Hourly Fees for Community Education Instructors

Resolved: To approve a fee of \$35/hr for community education instructors, effective with the spring semester

Approval of 2008-09 School Calendar

Resolved: To approve the 2008-09 School Calendar

Approval of Monroe-2 BOCES (Technology) Bid Results and Awards

Resolved: To approve the Monroe-2 BOCES (Technology) bid results and awards as per attached vendor summary

Approval of Survey for Traffic Study Recommendations

Resolved: To approve the surveying for the implementation of design and construction plans for recommended traffic and parking revisions to the High School, Middle School, and Glen Head school in the amount of \$12,100, to be paid for from the undesignated fund balance

Approval of Special Education Consultants/Service Providers

Resolved: To approve an agreement with North Shore University Hospital for its Center for Autism, for evaluations and consultations effective September 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008

Approval of Special Education Services

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

Comments from the Public

There was no public present at this point of the meeting.

Old Business

Dr. Melnick updated the Board on the letters sent to LIPA from Jonathan Heidelberger in regard to the \$700,000 grant promised to the District. Dr. Melnick plans on calling Kevin Law for an appointment with himself and Board members.

He explained that nine districts are currently looking to expand their boundaries into the Long Island Sound. Five of the Districts are represented by Ingerman Smith and Jonathan Heidelberger will be the lead attorney. We have sent our original district maps for examination. This would impact Class 1 and 3 in the 2009-2010 tax year. It is estimated that the value of class 3 would go up and less of a burden would be on class 1, but he is not sure of the estimated value.

Trustee Webb reported on the meeting he and Trustee Beyer attended with the State Auditors who are conducting the IEP Audit. He reported that after going over the questions raised they were unsure of what it is the auditors are looking for. They questioned outside contractors, settlement agreements and reasons why IEPs are pulled from approval at Board meetings. When questioned about the motivation of the audit, Trustees Beyer and Webb were told there had not been a complaint, but was not given a reason. Trustee Beyer reported that after two meetings with the auditors she is still unsure as to the scope of their audit and is uncomfortable with the process. Dr. Melnick expressed his hope that what comes out of this audit is ways to strengthen our compliance. He explained that we will receive a draft of their report and will have an opportunity to answer any questions raised. Ours is the pilot audit, however, six to ten other districts will be audited after which there will be a global report.

The Board had a brief discussion about the audit and ways to be sure this is according to the Commissioner's regulations. There was consensus that the District should document our concerns surrounding how this audit is being conducted. The Board felt it would be beneficial to meet with the audit supervisor to further question the scope of the audit with him.

Trustee Beyer reported on the SEPTA meeting she attended and thanked Dr. Melnick for his handling of a sensitive situation. There was some support for FIL program, but parents they want more choices. Dr. Melnick will have Barbara Cooper and Tom Korb invite parents to give feedback and will try and gather information on what, if any, impact it will have on the budget. He will report back to the Board in February before the budget is complete.

New Business

Trustee Pombar asked if the entire Board had received an email from the Assistant Superintendent for Business of Roslyn. He will be sending him a copy of a study he has done on lottery revenue.

Adjournment

At 10:45 pm, on motion of Trustee Glassman and seconded by Trustee Sharkey and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk