

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
November 30, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Andrea Macari at 6:30 p.m. in the Middle School Cafeteria. Present were Trustees Cashman, Colacioppo, and Mosca. Trustees Galati, Ludmar and Russo were absent. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Christopher Zublionis and Assistant Superintendents Dr. Carol Smyth and Mr. James Pappas.

At 6:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Colacioppo and seconded by Trustee Cashman and all in favor, the Board convened an executive session in the faculty lounge to consider matters leading to the employment, appointment, discipline, dismissal or removal of a particular person or persons, and proposed, pending or current litigation.

At 7:50 p.m. on motion of Trustee Mosca and seconded by Trustee Cashman and all in favor the Board came out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting in the cafeteria. There were 6 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Macari led the audience in the pledge of allegiance and student Grace Ryan signed the pledge.

Approval of the Minutes

The reading of the draft minutes of the meeting of November 9, 2023, being prepared and disseminated to all members in advance of the meeting, was dispensed. There being no corrections to the minutes, it was declared by President Macari that the minutes of the meeting of November 9, 2023 were approved.

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 4 and 5

On motion of Trustee Cashman and seconded by Trustee Colacioppo and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Treasurer's Reports

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the Treasurer's Report for the period July 1, 2023 through July 31, 2023; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the Treasurer's Report for the period August 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023

Approval of Claims Audit Report

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the claims audit report for the period October, 2023 as reviewed and submitted by Claims Auditor, Denise Longobardi.

Report from the SGO

SGO president, Ava DiFeo reported on events and activities at the high school, including the food drive leading up to Thanksgiving. The SGO collected a lot of food due to a competition between classes-

won by the Sophomores. The food was dropped off the Tuesday before Thanksgiving and although the shelters were very grateful for the donation, the students were informed that donations are in abundance around the holidays and the need is not only at Thanksgiving. Therefore, it was decided that the SGO will start doing a monthly or bi-monthly food drive. The SGO is brainstorming how to bring excitement to school between now and the December break; students will vote next week. Finally, Ava reported that after speaking to many students on what they would like to bring to the Board's attention, the top issue is regarding the completion of the main entrance at the high school. Dr. Zublionis explained that things are moving forward, and he will get a more specific time-frame after the break.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Zublionis reported that he would like to arrange a meeting of all the SGO representatives from the five schools at Central Office. He will be in touch soon to set that up. He told Ms. DiFeo that he appreciated her comments about the food drive. The Central Office also sponsored a Thanksgiving Food Drive and he delivered 95 pounds to Island Harvest. He also was told how they need food during the year, not just at Thanksgiving.

Dr. Zublionis congratulated the cast and crew of *A Mid Summer's Night Dream* and commented on how inventive it was that it was adapted with a 1980's theme. He thanked Mr. Brateman and Mr. Chilemi for a job well done. Dr. Zublionis also congratulated the fall athletes for a great season. There were many team and individual successes at both the middle and high school levels and they will be recognized at upcoming meetings. He congratulated the eleven college bound athletes who were recognized at the National Letter of Intent signing on Tuesday. Student athletes have committed to play lacrosse, baseball and basketball for colleges next year. The story can be found on the District website.

Dr. Zublionis thanked Dr. Carol Smyth for her work with the Viking Community Committee which works to support the goals of the strategic plan and North Shore Journey. Dr. Zublionis will be sending out emails to get more people involved. The Technology Committee met for the first time on November 3 and a second meeting is scheduled for December 14. This committee is exploring the role of technology inside and outside of school, both the dangers and the opportunities. This committee consists of many parents who work in tech as well as concerned parents and educators.

Dr. Zublionis reported that all winter concerts will be live-streamed on the North Shore Fine and Performing Arts Youtube channel. He thanked Ms. Rodriguez for continuing this practice which started during the pandemic.

Dr. Zublionis noted that earlier this year, several residents reached out to him requesting an independent budget review. As he investigated this request, he realized that in addition to such a review, there is also a need for an accompanying strategic plan that accounts for our financial and infrastructure needs as we navigate revenue challenges and rising costs. This plan, which he calls the Journey to 2030, will map out our strategy to meet our resource needs in a responsible way so that we can ultimately support our students and their North Shore Journey. Dr. Zublionis said he looks forward to discussing this more in the coming months.

Finally, Dr. Zublionis reported that they are actively pursuing an interim principal for the Glen Head Elementary School and he hopes to make an announcement shortly. He said he realizes this is a difficult time for such a transition, but they have some great candidates that will keep Glen Head School running smoothly and maintain the positive culture and atmosphere. While the interim principal will remain with us for the rest of the school year, the search for a probationary principal will begin in February and this process will include deep involvement from every constituent group within the Glen Head School community.

Regular Business – 8:10 p.m.

Opportunities, Learning & Achievement Part 1 - Fine & Performing Arts & Athletics, Health & PE

Director of Athletics, Health and Physical Education, Mr. Don Lang, gave an update on those programs from the 2022-2023 school year. He explained that North Shore prioritizes student wellness to instill the passion to increase lifelong well-being, collaboration, personal growth and commitment, and positive choices, and provides opportunities for exploration while practicing a growth mindset to be one's best self. Mr. Lang reviewed the number of students who participate in sports both at the high school level and middle school level. At the high school a total of 576 (66%) student athletes participate on 29 Varsity teams and 22 Junior Varsity Teams. Some of these students participate on two and three teams over the fall, winter and spring seasons. At the middle school level students fill 356/351 (female/male) roster spots over 4 seasons (fall, winter I, winter II and spring) on 29 teams. Mr. Lang reviewed the many successes of the athletic program including Nassau County Championships for Men's and Women's Cross Country, Football and Women's and Men's Track and Field. In addition, several teams were Nassau County runner-up, semi-finalists, Conference Champions, and the High School was named a NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete School of Excellence (for students earning grades of 90 or above). He recognized individual student awards; 2 All American, 6 All State, 4 All Long Island, 3 Conference Player of the Year, 1 News12 Scholar Athlete, 250 NYS Scholar Athletes and 3 Nassau County Coach of the Year, among others. Mr. Lang reported that close to 10% of senior athletes were recruited to participate in college athletics; a huge accomplishment for a school the size of North Shore. The program has expanded their Homecoming clinics to include Soccer, Field Hockey, Football, Cheerleading, Volleyball, Basketball and Softball. In addition, high school athletes visit their elementary school, football players read to students at the local library and student athletes serve as members on District committees. Mr. Lang then reviewed next steps and recommendations. He suggested they explore other opportunities for interscholastic competition including boys volleyball, badminton and flag football for middle school, JV cheerleading, badminton, JV boys volleyball, fencing and women's flag football for the high school; explore ways to expand facilities and spaces; focus on recruiting and careers in athletics; focus on injury prevention; and service and mentorship. Next Mr. Lang gave an update on extracurricular opportunities related to physical education and health. He explained that intramurals are offered at all 3 elementary schools as well as grade 6-8. He reviewed the high school fitness center opportunities which is open to all high school students. Mr. Lang reviewed the physical education program for elementary, middle school and high school, including the course emphasis and results, as well as electives and options in middle school and high school. An overview of the health program was reviewed as well. Mr. Lang explained that every student gets health education in grades 1-9 and again in grade 12. He recommends more course time after grade 9. Next steps for physical education and health include: critical evaluation of the health program; review of secondary physical education electives; whether we are meeting the needs of adaptive physical education students; how to upgrade facilities to help the program.

The Board discussed the presentation. All Trustees thanked Mr. Lang for the information provided. They recognized the success of the athletic program. Questions raised were on the committees students participate on; whether batting cages have been added to the auxiliary gymnasium; the possibility of getting students involved for service hours to beautify the athletic facilities; the status of recruiting coaches; why there is a disparity of female athletes in the winter months; the schedule of supervision in the weight room-why only one day for women; how physical education is graded; whether we are compliant with Erin's law. Suggestions of bubbling the tennis courts to solve space constraints; weaving health conversations into other curriculum opportunities for grades 10-11. Trustees asked Mr. Lang for his vision on adding space. Mr. Lang explained that students participate on the Wellness Committee and the Athletic Advisory Committee. The batting cages are not

yet installed. He is working with Mr. Hall to hire someone to install them and will get an estimated completion date. Dr. Zublionis will work with Mr. Hall and Mr. Pappas to take an inventory of what needs to be done around the facilities and start on small projects. He will look into the idea of student service hours for these projects. Regarding recruitment of coaches, Mr. Lang explained that this has been difficult, there is not as much choice as in the past. They are working through it but he feels they are in pretty good shape for the spring. He went on to say they have had the same problem with substitutes. He also explained that there are not many opportunities for female athletes in the winter. He further explained that the difference in numbers between male and female athletes is wrestling which is dominated by men. They are exploring more winter opportunities for female athletes. Regarding use of the weight room, Mr. Lang explained that there is supervision every day, however the trainer is not there every day. Dr. Zublionis said health as a concept can be attached to any subject area and said this is something they can look into. Grading for physical education is assessed by how prepared you are for class, attendance, etc. It is a number grade, and the criteria is very clear. In middle school it is a letter grade, in the elementary grades it is a check off. Dr. Zublionis explained that Erin's law, regarding sexual abuse, is K-8 mandated and Mr. Doherty handles that through elementary counseling. Mr. Lang explained that if there were funds available, and the high school had space to enhance the program, or build on the program, he would like another gym and possibly moving the weight room upstairs.

President Macari thanked Mr. Lang for his presentation. She encouraged him to look into a sports psychologist and offered to look for a recommendation in that area.

Director of Fine and Performing Arts, Ms. Dalia Rodriguez, gave a report on the process and progress of the Fine and Performing Arts Department. Ms. Rodriguez focused on General Music, authentic learning experiences and how that supports students' growth, the impact of professional learning on students' growth and how assured experiences in the arts programs are created. Ms. Rodriguez gave examples of student projects from the Music Production & Engineering Beat Sculpting class and an overview of the Props and Performing Objects class. She explained that the curriculum work is framed by the NYS Arts Learning Standards which are Create, Present/Perform/Produce, Respond, Connect. In addition, she explained how the framework ties into the District Goals and the North Shore Journey. Ms. Rodriguez reviewed the Dance Progress Maps that are currently being created. These will support the work in creating assured experience for students; create personalized learning experiences; support students in charting their own progress; serve as an instructional guide; and prompt meaningful discussions during vertical and horizontal articulation meetings and student transition meetings. Finally, Ms. Rodriguez reviewed next steps which include: study the 4-12 Choral Program; study Universal Design for Learning framework and its potential to support students' growth; expand opportunities for students to have authentic learning experiences; explore creative solutions to increase the time elementary students have learning how to play their instruments and develop their music literacy skills; explore creative options for appropriate instructional instrumental lesson spaces at the elementary level.

The Board discussed the presentation. Trustees thanked Ms. Rodriguez for her very impressive presentation. They thanked the teachers in the department for doing an amazing job. Questions raised were: Is it possible to expand the Props and Performing Objects class to include costumes; does working on the sets require kids to be a part of the props class, commit to working after school, or are they able to drop in as time permits; are athletes able to participate in the props class but not in the play; are the progression maps shared with students so they know how they are being assessed; are we providing tools where gaps need to be filled; have students in the Beat Sculpting Project played an actual instrument, do they use this as an alternative to playing an instrument; how restrictive are the NYS standards and core curriculum standards; are students dropping out of the music program at the high school level to achieve higher GPA because they do not get "points" from playing an instrument; how are

electives impacted; what ways are Universal Design of Learning incorporated; has any progress been made to accommodate special education students schedules, i.e. zero period; any thought to bringing back a theatre program in the summer.

Ms. Rodriguez addressed the questions. Regarding the inclusion of costumes to the Props and Performance Objects class, she explained that there is a costume crew taught by a consultant. However, that person is not present during the performance. She went on to explain that the kids run the show, the directors sit back during the performance. She further explained that the kids who worked on the sets were not all in the class, and not all on stage, it is a huge undertaking and is a safe space which is open to the entire high school and middle school community. Regarding the progression maps, Ms. Rodriguez explained that these are just being created, but they will be supportive; she also noted that the curriculum is always being revised. The Beat Sculpting Project was created for those who did not have a pathway but is now for kids from ensembles and is a career pathway and for those who love technology and want to express themselves through music in a non-traditional way. Ms. Rodriguez noted that art educators wrote the standards which are grounded in the creation process and aligns with the curriculum. She explained that they are discussing honor points for high school kids as they are seeing some kids struggling from time lost. In addition, Studio Art is being offered at the middle school so that can be a pathway for high school students to jump into Advanced Art at the high school which has helped kids who are playing in an ensemble. Universal Design of Learning will possibly be something for next year as they are still working on the progression maps. Ms. Rodriguez said she understands it is important that all students have the same opportunities, and they need to look into how to accommodate the schedules for special education students. Finally, Ms. Rodriguez said they are looking into an improv program for the summer.

President Macari thanked Ms. Rodriguez and said she is very proud of the music program.

Comments from the Public – 9:50 p.m.

Jason Hill, Elementary Band Director at Glen Head School, advocated for adding Pickle Ball to the list of sports. He has been a Pickle Ball instructor for 5 years and said there is a huge interest in the sport. He offered to provide free clinics for interested students.

Prior to approval, Dr. Zublionis recognized Dr. Peter Rufa who has accepted the position of Assistant Superintendent in another district. Dr. Zublionis said he is grateful for the work he has done since becoming principal of the Glen Head School in 2019. He was here during a difficult time in education. He praised him for having a great sense of community and noted that faculty, staff and parents are all sorry to see him leave Glen Head and North Shore. He also remarked that his will be tough shoes to fill. He thanked Dr. Rufa for his service to the District and wished him well. On behalf of the Board, President Macari added her thanks and well wishes to Dr. Rufa.

On motion of Trustee Cashman and seconded by Trustee Colacioppo and all in favor it was:

Personnel

Resignation - Administration

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of Peter Rufa, Principal, Glen Head Elementary School, effective December 13, 2023

Amendment to Approval of Teacher Overages

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby amends the November 9, 2023 approval of an overage for Tina Passanante as follows:

Tina Passanante is hereby approved for a .2 overage through November 17, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby amends the November 9, 2023 approval of an overage for Seth Klein as follows:
Seth Klein is hereby approved for a .2 overage through November 17, 2023

Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave of Absence

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District approve an unpaid Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") leave of absence for a maximum period of twelve (12) weeks for employee, Patti Barry, Typist Clerk, that will commence November 27, 2023 and will be used intermittently over the next twelve (12) months

Appointments - Non- Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the appointment of Patrick Connolly, School Monitor at North Shore Middle School, effective December 4, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the appointment of Maya Tagaris, School Monitor at North Shore Middle School, effective December 4, 2023

Per Diem Substitutes

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the additions of the following names to the per diem substitute list:

Name	Category
Travis Goss	School Monitor Substitute

Extra-Curricular Activity Coach

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the following extra-curricular activity coach:

Sport	Coach	Step
JV Wrestling	Christian Milo	1

On motion of Trustee Colacioppo and seconded by Trustee Cashman and all in favor it was:

Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement Between The North Shore Central School District and The North Shore Administrators Association

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District approves the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement dated November 30, 2023 between the District and the North Shore Administrators Association regarding the terms and conditions of employment for the members of the administrators' bargaining unit; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Schools is authorized to execute the resulting collective bargaining agreement on behalf of the Board.

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 12 and 13

On motion of Trustee Colacioppo and seconded by Trustee Mosca and all in favor, it was:

Acceptance of a Donation from the North Shore Middle School PTO to the North Shore Middle School

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts a donation of \$1,200 from the North Shore Middle School PTO to the North Shore Middle School to pay for programs provided by Therapy Dogs of Long Island

Approval to Dispose of Inventory

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves of the disposal of the following inventory items:

Quantity	Description	School
1	Computer	High School
1	Computer	Sea Cliff School
7	Chromebooks	Sea Cliff School
1	Mac Mini	Sea Cliff School
1	Printer	Sea Cliff School
2	Projectors	High School
2	Smartboards	High School
1	Piano	High School

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 14 and 15

On motion of Trustee Cashman and seconded by Trustee Mosca and all in favor it was:

Approval of Piano Accompanists for Musical Concerts

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the following piano accompanists at a rate of \$75 per rehearsal and \$120 per concert:

Brianna Brickman

Emma Ente

Approval of Change Orders from Cooper Power and Lighting Corp.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order number EC-25 from Cooper Power & Lighting Corp. for Phase Two Bond work at the North Shore High School in the amount of \$10,264.38 (additional)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order number EC-26 from Cooper Power & Lighting Corp. for Phase Two Bond work at the North Shore High School in the amount of \$9,346.18 (additional)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order number EC-27 from Cooper Power & Lighting Corp. for Phase Two Bond work at the North Shore High School in the amount of \$3,431.61 (additional)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order number EC-28 from Cooper Power & Lighting Corp. for Phase Two Bond work at the North Shore High School in the amount of \$5,507.21 (additional)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order number EC-29 from Cooper Power & Lighting Corp. for Phase Two Bond work at the North Shore High School in the amount of \$4,268.56 (additional)

Prior to approval, Trustee Mosca asked what is involved in the building condition survey that Savin Engineers will be conducting. She asked if the faculty will be surveyed to ensure the spaces are being utilized as envisioned. Dr. Zublionis explained surveying the faculty is not traditionally part of the building condition survey, and explained what is typically included. He went on to say it might be a good

idea to do a separate survey of faculty. Mr. Pappas explained that NYS requires a building condition survey every 3 years and this looks at the bigger picture of the buildings. Mr. Pappas will get more information on what is included.

On motion of Trustee Mosca and seconded by Trustee Cashman and all in favor it was:

Approval of an Agreement between the North Shore CSD and Savin Engineers

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an Agreement between the School District and Savin Engineers, to provide services to complete a Building Condition Survey and a Five Year Capital Facilities Plan for a total fee of \$56,000, as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached proposal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said agreement on behalf of the Board.

Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the North Shore CSD and Ecosystems Energy Services USA, Inc.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the School District and Ecosystem Energy Services USA Inc., for purposes of filing for an investment tax credit (ITC) for the District's rooftop solar project under the Inflation Reduction Act, as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

Approval of Agreement between the North Shore CSD and Fantastic Tours

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District authorizes and approves the Tour Agreement and Rider with Fantastic Tours & Travel, Inc. ("Fantastic Tours") for the North Shore Middle School Field Trip to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said agreement and rider on behalf of the Board.

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 17 and 18

On motion of Trustee Colacioppo and seconded by Trustee Cashman and all in favor it was:

Approval of Stipulation of Settlement

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the terms and conditions of the Stipulation of Settlement resolving a certain matter between the District and the parents of a student classified by the District's CSE and identified by the student number 363622980; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to execute the Stipulation of Settlement on behalf of the Board.

Approval of Special Education Services (IEP)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves special education services (IEP) as per the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education (CSE)

Unfinished Business – 9:55 p.m.

Trustee Macari commended Ms. Shelly Newman on the social media content.

Trustee Colacioppo asked if there is an update on indoor recess possibilities for middle school students. Dr. Zublionis explained he has spoken to Dr. O'Hara and Ms. Mabrouk about space for indoor recess and they are looking at the new forum space outside of the cafeteria. They will coordinate with the PTO about getting recess items and the district will add support where needed. Trustee Cashman suggested using the district-owned tents as an alternative.

New Business

Trustee Cashman acknowledged the newly completed bathrooms situated near the high school theatre. She remarked how beautiful they turned out. Trustee Cashman suggested inviting members of the *Viking View* to the meeting with SGO representatives to hear about the construction update.

President Macari reported that she was contacted by a resident who was upset that the District does not list specific holidays on our calendar. As a middle path, he suggests we list days of remembrance such as Veteran's Day and Memorial Day. She asked Dr. Zublionis to speak about how the District honors Veterans in the schools. Dr. Zublionis explained that being the son of a military officer, he knows how important it is to honor veterans. He explained that the District always honor Veterans leading up to Veteran's Day as well as Memorial Day with many planned events, including having Veteran's coming in to schools to speak to students and holding concerts outside of school for all residents to attend. He understands the importance of the calendar but wants the community to know the school does have programs to honor Veterans. President Macari thanked the resident for writing and said the Board always welcomes comments from the public.

Adjournment

At 10:05 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk