

North Shore Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
March 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President David Ludmar at 6:45 p.m. in the Glenwood Landing Elementary School Auditorium. Present were Trustees Cashman, Colacioppo, Galati, Macari, Mosca and Russo. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Christopher Zublionis and Assistant Superintendents Dr. Carol Smyth and Mr. James Pappas.

At 6:45 p.m. on motion of Trustee Cashman and seconded by Trustee Mosca and all in favor, the Board convened an executive session in room 101 to consider matters regarding collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law).

At 7:45 p.m. on motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Colacioppo and all in favor the Board came out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting in the auditorium. There were 5 people in the audience.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Ludmar led the public in the pledge of allegiance.

**Approval of the Minutes**

The reading of the draft minutes of the meeting of February 16, 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 Ludmar that the minutes of February 16, 2023 were approved.

**Approval of Budget Transfer**

Prior to approval, President Ludmar asked for an explanation regarding the transfer of funds from the special education transportation code and whether transfers can be made from any line in the budget, or if they must stay within the same budget category. Dr. Zublionis explained that when the budget is formulated, they estimate the number of students who will need transportation. At this point, there is less of a need in BOCES transportation and more of a need in regular transportation, therefore the transfer from one budget code to the other. Mr. Pappas explained that for the most part they do try to stay in the same group of codes for transfers, but it is permissible to pull from other lines if necessary.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves budget transfers in the amount of \$21,551.80 to cover legal fees for service provider contracts, bond projects, FOIL requests and legal hearings; \$26,774.82 to cover the cost of salary adjustments; and \$40,000 to cover transportation costs for private and special education students, for a total of \$88,326.62, effective March 9, 2023

**Report from the SGO**

SGO co-president, Samantha Lockwood, reported on events and activities at the high school. Michael Fleming was not in attendance at the meeting. Samantha reported that Sports Night was a huge success with the seniors winning. She said all students had a lot of fun and it was a great night overall. The PTO faculty vs. student basketball game was held yesterday, and although she did not stay

for all of it, she heard everyone enjoyed themselves and it was also very successful. Samantha also reported that rehearsals for the high school musical are going well. Finally, Samantha asked if the students could get an update on when the construction of the library would be finished. Dr. Zublionis explained that the high school library should reopen in the beginning of next year. He said they were hoping it would be completed by the spring, and they are also disappointed this does not seem to be the case. He further explained that the School House has become the library for now. He will circle back to Samantha with more specifics.

President Ludmar added the faculty vs. student basketball game was a fun night and a great fundraiser with many teachers and administrators competing. The students won the game 89-87!

### **Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Zublionis also reported what a great event and fundraiser the basketball game was; he was unable to play because of knee injury. He also reported on the Parent University for Band, which was well attended by parents, and he thanked the staff for their efforts on making it such a great event. Dr. Zublionis reported that the high school musical *Urinetown* will be performed on March 24 and 25 and remarked on the great social media presence. He reported that currently 110 students have registered for kindergarten in the fall. He expects that number to increase and encouraged parents to register their children. He reported that the District will be receiving UPK funding for next year and information has been sent out on how to register for the UPK lottery. He will continue to send out information and reminded parents to register with our registrar, Katherine Miller, before the deadline of April 5 to be eligible for the lottery. Dr. Zublionis reported that spring sports are starting, and he is looking forward to those games. The new summer program T.E.N.S. will be offering two sessions, July 10-21 and July 24-August 4. This year there will be a slight cost as grant funding has run out. The one-hour courses for elementary will cost \$99/course and the 1.5 hour courses for middle school will cost \$149/course.

Dr. Zublionis thanked Shelly Newman for her hard work on the District website which has a new look. He explained that there will be information sessions on the budget and budget plan after the budget is adopted at the next meeting, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. This evening the Board will continue their budget discussion. He explained that they will speak about state aid and although the District did receive an increase, along with neighboring districts, they were hoping to receive more aid due to the challenges we are facing. Information on the budget, and how we are balancing revenue and programs, will be forthcoming.

### **Regular Business**

#### **Budget Discussion**

The Board discussed the following sections of the budget: staffing, employee benefits, debit service and revenue/financing sources.

The Board first discussed staffing. President Ludmar noted that there were difficult decisions made on staffing and administration found efficiencies, where possible, always keeping in mind the impact it would have on students. He further explained that although the total number of employees is going from 840.6 to 821.6 this will not impact student experience directly. Trustee Cashman clarified that while it seems staffing has increased on some of the lines, they are actually positions that were filled this current year, not staffing increases for next year.

The next section discussed was commercial insurance:

Trustee Russo asked if our cyber insurance covers ransom remediation. Mr. Pappas said it does. He is looking to get more insurance, but it is difficult to get. President Ludmar added insurance is up approximately 20% and asked if there are specific areas that went up. Mr. Pappas explained that

NYSIR's rates went up 15%, there was a large increase in cyber security and commercial insurance is also going up.

The Board next discussed employee benefits:

President Ludmar noted that Employee Benefits is one of the major drivers of growth in the budget. The two major areas being ERS (Employee Retirement Service) and TRS (Teachers Retirement Service). He remarked that there is much more demand on TRS but less in that reserve. He further remarked that according to the plan for revenue, the recommendation is to take \$200,000 from the ERS reserve and \$360,000 from the TRS reserve. He suggests using more, or all, from the ERS reserve. Mr. Pappas agreed that makes sense. He explained the reason the TRS reserve is lower is because that has been funded more recently. Trustee Russo suggested first looking at the actuarial evaluation of each reserve before making a decision. Mr. Pappas will look into this and make a recommendation on how to proceed.

The Board reviewed debit service. It was noted that LAC is looking into options for borrowing for TANs, and if successful to borrow from ourselves in the future, this would result in big savings. A question was raised regarding the amount budgeted in *"transfer to capital project fund"* and the possibility of using those funds towards the replacement of the high school turf field. Dr. Zublionis explained that we have been speaking about the turf field for over a year and trying to find a way to fund the replacement of it. The cost of this would be at least \$1M; currently there is \$350,000 in that line of the budget. In addition, there has been many discussions around the creation of a dance studio; this would cost between \$100,000-\$200,000. He went on to explain that unfortunately with the loss of revenue from LIPA, coupled with costs that have increased dramatically, it made it difficult to include the dance studio and turf field completely in the budget. The administration has looked at the 2016 capital reserve which has funds left due to some of the efficiencies that were found during the bond work. He said the majority of the projects in that reserve were completed; some projects in phase 3 were not done. He further explained that by utilizing those existing funds along with the \$350,000 left in the budget, this is a way to do both projects. It would require voter approval to add the turf field as a project in the reserve and to expend the funds for the replacement of the turf field and the renovation of the classroom to create the dance studio. He feels this fits in with the balanced approach of the budget.

The Board discussed the suggestion of utilizing the funds in the current capital reserve. President Ludmar noted that most of the projects in the original capital reserve were done initially, some of the projects left were done in-house, and those left can be done in a future capital reserve. Trustee Cashman noted some of the open projects seem important and wondered if the District can continue to fund for those projects. Dr. Zublionis explained that we are not permitted to fund that reserve beyond 2026, however, we can spend funds already in that reserve beyond 2026. The recommendation is to amend the purpose of the reserve to include the turf field as a project, and then ask voters to approve the expenditure of the funds that already exist in the reserve for the replacement of the turf field and renovation of a classroom for the creation of a dance studio. Dr. Zublionis further explained that not all projects listed in a capital reserve must be done from the that reserve. Some end up being done through the budget, some for various reasons are not done at all. He went on to explain that if this reserve did not exist the only way to do these projects would be to add them to the budget. President Ludmar clarified that at this point the administration is proposing to the Board this recommendation of utilizing funds that already exist in the 2016 capital reserve, along with money in the budget. The Board must decide if they want to move forward with this recommendation. He further clarified that the 2016 capital reserve was presented and approved by voters with specific projects; in essence, the voters approved the opening of a savings account for those projects. After the reserve was established, it was

funded through transfers and fund balance. Once some of the approved projects were ready to be done, the community was once again asked to approve the expenditure of the funds to complete those projects, which they did. The administration is now recommending that another project be added to the existing reserve, the renovation of the turf field. The renovation of classroom space is already a project within the reserve and therefore the dance studio would not need to be added. Trustee Russo noted that the reason the turf field was not part of the 2016 reserve is because it was only installed in 2012. She also noted that projects identified in the 5-year plan are those that typically are put in a capital reserve to keep debt service steady. President Ludmar remarked that the renovation of the turf field and creation of a dance studio are pressing needs that the community wants addressed. He explained the way it would be presented on the ballot would be as two separate propositions. Proposition two would be to amend the capital reserve to add the project of replacement of the turf field and proposition three would be to expend funds for the replacement of the turf field and the renovation of a classroom for a dance studio. No additional funding would be needed as the funding is already there. We will be using the money we have. Trustee Mosca expressed concern regarding some of the bigger items on the original list of projects that have not been done. She wondered how long those can be put off. Dr. Zublionis explained that they are always thinking about the next capital reserve and the list of projects are evolving; it is an ongoing process. He further stated that some of the smaller projects may fit in a future budget and just because we are prioritizing the turf field and dance studio does not mean other projects are falling off.

Finally, the Board discussed revenue projections. Dr. Zublionis explained that he does not expect a large shift in revenue. He anticipates our state aid to remain the same as the Governor's state aid package. He clarified that the UPK allocation in our state aid allotment was not disaggregated. He explained that districts are not allowed to use that allocation for any other expenses, therefore it is not included in the revenue amount reflected in the budget. It can only be used for each student's UPK allowance. He therefore subtracted that amount out of the total state aid allowance. Trustee Macari added the District is using some of our own capital because the program is in our buildings and the District gets no monetary incentive to keep the program in-house.

#### **Comments from the Public**

Lisa Vizza, Glen Head, asked what the remaining usable life is for the track and where it is on the list of items to be replaced. Dr. Zublionis explained that the track would be a much bigger expense and can be done separately, possibly through a future capital reserve. He further explained that in speaking with Mr. Lang today, he was told the track should last approximately 25 years. They will look under the surface to see what the issues are and there will be continued maintenance on the track. Trustee Russo further explained that the track is newer than the turf, the track was installed during the 2014-2015 school year.

Ms. Vizza suggested that instrumental lessons be added to the summer program offerings. Dr. Zublionis explained that they did start to build that in during the second year of the summer program and there have been more musical ensemble programs. He has already spoken to Ms. Rodriguez about adding some elements to the TENS program. He is hopeful that may be an opportunity in the future for revenue generation which would benefit students directly.

Prior to approval, President Ludmar noted that within the personnel section the Board will be appointing an Assistant Superintendent of Instruction. He remarked that the public has witnessed the Board making many difficult decisions, but in this case, the appointment of Dr. Carol Smyth as the Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, the decision is not at all difficult, it is clear. He praised Dr. Smyth as a creative, innovative, brilliant educator who is a dedicated and strong leader and is respected

by everyone who has worked with her, in and out of this organization. He recognized that what she has brought to North Shore has had a direct benefit on our students.

Next, President Ludmar noted that the Board will be accepting the retirement of Pam LoSchiavo, a teacher who has served the district for 26 years. He praised Ms. LoSchiavo as a teacher who helped thousands of kids to read. He thanked her for her service to the students of this District.

Finally, President Ludmar noted that the list of coaches being approved for varsity, junior varsity and middle school, will bring the coaching roster for the spring to 100% complete.

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

Personnel

Appointment of Assistant Superintendent for Instruction - Administration

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District appoints CarolAnn Smyth as Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, effective July 1, 2023 on the terms and conditions set forth in an employment agreement dated March 9, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute said employment agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

Resignation for Retirement Purposes - Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation for retirement purposes of Pam LoSchiavo, Elementary, effective June 30, 2023

Resignation - Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation from Kimberly Pastuch, Special Education, effective June 30, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation from Elissa Mazzeo, Art, effective June 30, 2023

Leave of Absence for Child Rearing Purposes - Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Fabiana LaBrutto, World Languages, effective April 3, 2023 through June 30, 2023

Family and Medical Leave (FMLA)

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 period of twelve (12) weeks that will run concurrently with any available paid leave, for employee, Reisa Berg Villani, Social Worker, that includes the period March 27, 2023 through June 30, 2023

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 period of twelve (12) weeks that will run concurrently with any available paid leave, for employee, Stephanie Smith, Teacher, that includes the period March 27, 2023 through June 30, 2023

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 period of twelve (12)

weeks that will run concurrently with any available paid leave, for employee, Rachel Viola, Teacher, that includes the period March 20, 2023 through June 30, 2023

**Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment - Certified**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for David Menchel, English, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective March 4, 2023 through April 3, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Stephanie Piacentino, World Language (Italian), on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective March 24, 2023 through June 30, 2023

**Resignation - Non-Certified**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of Guy Borg, Part-time Cleaner (High School), effective February 7, 2023

**Appointment – Non-Certified**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the conditional provisional appointment of Maria Gheri, Typist Clerk, on Step 9 of the Typist Clerk salary schedule, effective March 13, 2023

**Teacher Overage**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the following teacher overage:

Teacher	Subject	Overage	School	Effective Dates
Nicole Haddican	Special Education	.2	High School	3/3/23-4/5/23

**Per Diem Substitutes**

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

Name	Category
Amanda DeGeorge	School Monitor Substitute
Bradley Naddell	Teacher Substitute
Lyndsay Conroy	Teacher Substitute
Scott Michaleas	Teacher Aide Substitute
Carolyn Doyle	Teacher Aide Substitute
Steven Rizzo	Security Aide Substitute
Christopher Dennis	Security Aide Substitute
James Priore	Security Aide Substitute

**Extra-Curricular Activity Advisors and Coaches**

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

High School	Advisor	Step
Dramatics		
Pit Conductor	Brandon Bromsey	1

<b>Middle School</b>		
<i>Clubs-Level 3</i>		
Lego Robotics Club	Dan Mazz	2
Robotics	Anthony Facchini	2

<b>Coach</b>	<b>Sport</b>	<b>Step</b>
Amaya, Cassandra	MS Gymnastics	2
Butler, Jordan	MS Boys Lacrosse	1
Como, Philip	MS Baseball	2
Facchini, Anthony	MS Boys Lacrosse	2
Freund, Keith	MS B & G Spring Track	2
Gotta, Lauren	MS B & G Spring Track	1
Granieri, Erica	MS Girls Lacrosse	1
Granieri, Tom	MS Baseball	2
Hurley, Christopher	MS Baseball	1
Jackson, John	MS Softball	2
Johanson, Lisa	MS Softball	2
Seiter, Ashley	MS Girls Lacrosse	1
Slack, Keith	MS Softball	2
Vassallo, Melissa	MS Gymnastics	2
Cerrone, Peter	Junior Varsity Boys Lacrosse	1
Keenan, Julianna	Junior Varsity Girls Lacrosse	1
Cirella, Jake	Junior Varsity Asst. Boys Lacrosse	1
Anderson, Daniel	Athletic Supervision	n/a
Simmons, Brian	Athletic Supervision	n/a

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

Acceptance of a Donation from the Sea Cliff School PCA to the North Shore CSD

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts a donation of \$300 from the Sea Cliff School PCA to the North Shore CSD to offset the cost of Homecoming

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

Approval of Change Orders from Cooper Power & Lighting Corp.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order No. EC-10 for Cooper Power & Electric for Phase 2 bond work at the high school in the amount of \$3,213.82 (addition)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order No. EC-11 for Cooper Power & Electric for Phase 2 bond work at the high school in the amount of \$1,703.23 (addition)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order No. EC-12 for Cooper Power & Electric for Phase 2 bond work at the high school in the amount of \$2,418.80 (addition)



BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order No. EC-13 for Cooper Power & Electric for Phase 2 bond work at the high school in the amount of \$3,293.64 (addition)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order No. EC-14R for Cooper Power & Electric for Phase 2 bond work at the high school in the amount of \$46,240.41 (addition)

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

Approval of an Intermunicipal Cooperative Agreement with Nassau BOCES

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

WHEREAS, a number of public school districts in Nassau County wish to jointly solicit proposals, together with the Nassau Board of Cooperative Educational Services (“BOCES”) for Academic Tutoring Services, Related Services and Skilled Nurse Staffing Services for the 2023-2024 school year (and any renewal period) in accordance with the applicable provisions of New York General Municipal Law;

WHEREAS, the public school districts and BOCES have agreed to form a Cooperative for this purpose;

WHEREAS, the North Shore Central School District is desirous of participating in the Cooperative for joint solicitation of proposals for Academic Tutoring Services, Related Services and Skilled Nurse Staffing Services as authorized by General Municipal Law Section 119-0 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Agreement attached hereto;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the School District to participate in the Cooperative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Agreement for Academic Tutoring Services, Related Services and Skilled Nurse Staffing Services Agreement for the 2023 – 2024 school year attached hereto, and authorizes the Board President to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

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

Approval of an Agreement Between the North Shore CSD and Chakira-Iliana Doherty a/k/a SEW Theatrical

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an agreement between the School District and Chakira-Iliana Doherty to provide costume rentals and costumer consultant services in connection with the production of the high school musical as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement at a total fee of not to exceed \$6,345, effective March 10, 2023 through June 30, 2023; 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 of Education

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 the Mineola UFSD

BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby enters into a contract for Health Services with Mineola Union Free School District for 9 students residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the Mineola Union Free School District for the 2022-2023 school year at a cost of \$1,061 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York



Approval of an Agreement between the North Shore CSD and the Jericho UFSD

BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby enters into a contract for Health Services with Jericho Union Free School District for 5 students residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the Jericho Union Free School District for the 2022-2023 school year at a cost of \$1,310.21 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

**Unfinished Business**

President Ludmar reported that he had previously requested custodial costs per building. In that report the square footage of our buildings was included. He noted that in the past we have always used 250,000 square feet as our total square footage. This current report showed the actual square footage to be 500,000 square feet. President Ludmar explained that our “footprint” or outside measurement of our buildings is 250,000, however, once you measure the entire interior space, we are maintaining 500,000 square feet of building space.

**New Business**

There was no new business discussed.

**Adjournment**

At 9:34 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi  
District Clerk