

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Town Meeting
Minutes
October 22, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Herman Berliner at 7:30 P.M. in the High School Cafeteria. Present were Trustees Commander, Gonzalez, Jones, Labbate, Nightingale, and Russo. Also present Superintendent Dr. Edward Melnick, and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi and Robert Chlebicki.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Berliner led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Recognition

On behalf of Coordinating Council, Denise Reiner and Lisa Vizza recognized members of the Board of Education for their dedication to the students and community of the North Shore Schools. The Madrigals performed in their honor and students representing elementary, middle, and high school read pieces they wrote on “what they appreciate most about being a North Shore student” and presented each Board member with flowers.

Student Recognition

On behalf of the Board of Education, President Berliner and Dr. Melnick recognized Angelo Antinori, for being selected to the All Symphony Orchestra of the All National Honor Ensemble; also recognized were National Merit Semi-Finalists Isabella Alessandrini, Elias Mastakouris, and Diana Vizza; and the 2015 North Shore High School’s Summer Reading Celebration Reader Leaders.

SGO Report

Jessica Hannon, SGO president, reported on events and activities at the high school including, Homecoming this past Saturday was very successful, the football team won their game, and the Pulse dance group and Electra performed. Rehearsals for the fall play “Almost Maine” are underway; flags are up in hallway; students are interested in bringing back the student forum –a place for the student body to come together to discuss current events and issues that affect them. President Berliner offered to assist in securing speakers for these forums.

Town Meeting – Open Format

President Berliner opened the floor for questions or comments from the audience.

Trustee Russo reminded the public that Danza Cubana is scheduled for Saturday, October 24 @ the American Legion Hall. Tickets are \$25/adults and \$15/students. Tickets are available through the Arts Angels website.

With no comments or questions from the public, the town meeting was concluded.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Commander seconded by Trustee Nightingale and all in favor, the minutes of October 8, 2015 were approved.

Regular Business
K-12 Science Program

Mr. Chlebicki gave an overview of the K-12 science program which is currently guided by the math/science state standards developed in 1996. The future New York State standards, Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), were developed by world class scientists and experts in the area of teaching science, with the disciplinary core ideas of physical science, life sciences, earth and space science, and engineering and technology science. New York State has not yet adopted these standards and it is not clear if they will. Ms. Carol Smyth reviewed the K-5 science program; only 4th graders take a state assessment. Students have many enrichment opportunities with field experiences, exploring local waterways, garden experiences, interdisciplinary learning and community and home partnerships (Sea Cliff Makeshop). Ms. Amy DiMeola reviewed the middle school science program; 6th grade focuses on earth and space science, 7th grade focuses on physical sciences, and all 8th graders are accelerated and take the Living Environment Regents course. Finally, Mr. Menchel reviewed the high school science program. He focused on the implementation of the IB learning profile into the science courses and the goal of having that learning profile reach all courses with consistency of language and scientific procedure. He explained that the IB philosophy is right in line with the NGSS standards.

Trustee Labbate thanked the administrators for their presentation. She said it is exciting to see how far the science department has come and to see what is planned for the future.

Trustee Russo asked if students who decide not to take the second year of IB Biology would be able to take IB Physics next year and would then be prepared to take the AP Physics exam. She also asked if students would be able to take more than one science next year as well as music. Mr. Cousins responded students will be able to take IB Physics and the AP exam in their senior year, and will have more flexibility in their schedules.

Trustee Jones said it is terrific to hear about the opportunities that our students have, and the NGSS are exciting and robust but seem time consuming. She wondered where we are in trying to meet those standards. Mr. Chlebicki responded we are further along at the elementary and middle school level. He went on to say that one of the sticking points at the state for adopting the standards is at the high school level because they are not science course specific; NGSS takes more of a general approach to all of the sciences. Mr. Menchel added part of the problem is the NGSS clearly defines when things should be taught and as a district we do a good job in teaching all of the standards but it's difficult to dice it up. Mr. Cousins explained NGSS comes through in how we approach scientific thinking rather than which topics are taught in which year. Trustee Jones said she feels we've done a nice job with younger kids in how they think of themselves as readers and writers. Her hope is they will now think of themselves as scientists.

Superintendent Search Consultants

Dr. Melnick explained as a first step in the process of recruiting a search consultant for a new superintendent, he reached out to the best known firms in this area, and those suggested by NYSSBA. He sent out 14 letters to search companies, 6 of which have gone out of business including Goens who did the last search for North Shore; four companies responded. The top one for this area, School Leadership, LLC, is headed by Chuck Fowler, former Superintendent of Nassau BOCES and Hewlett Woodmere. He suggested developing an RFP to be sent to all four firms. In the meantime, he suggested a time line and profile be developed, and for the board to determine how they will involve the community & parents. President Berliner expressed concern that many of these firms conduct searches for several schools at the same time. He said it will be important to know up front that a firm will make our district a priority. The Board will compile a series of questions for the search firms and Dr. Melnick and Ms. Buatsi will develop the RFP with a target date of mid-February for meeting with consulting firms.

Comments from the Public

Lisa Vizza, Glen Head, asked if the Board plans on an internal review and analysis of the iPad program. She said her experience is that some teachers use the iPad robustly and some teachers do not use it at all. Dr. Melnick responded, he will follow up with the principals however reviewing the iPad program is not one of the goals this year. Trustee Nightingale added, he agrees with Ms. Vizza, not every teacher is using the iPad equally. Ms. Vizza added, Mr. Kaye, Director of Technology, while possibly a hardware specialist, does not seem to be a software specialist and she wondered if the district would consider hiring a K-12 Instructional Software Director. Dr. Melnick responded that would need to be a budget discussion.

Noah Blumenthal, Sea Cliff, suggested adding a course of study on computer coding starting at the elementary level. Dr. Melnick responded there has been some professional development in that area and some outreach with Sea Cliff Makeshop, however there is no formal plan to move in that direction. Mr. Blumenthal asked if there will be community involvement in regard to the search for a new superintendent. President Berliner responded tonight was the first discussion, and the Board is just starting the process. He went on to say there will definitely be community involvement which will be as transparent as possible, and there will be a role for Dr. Melnick in the process as well.

On motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Labbate unanimous
PERSONNEL

Granting of Tenure – Certified

Resolved: To grant tenure to Kimberly Pastuch, Special Education

Leave of Absence for Child Rearing Purposes – Certified

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Jessica McNeill, Music, effective February 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Jennifer McGovern, Teaching Assistant, effective November 21, 2015 through January 1, 2016

Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment – Certified

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Sophia Loudaros, Teaching Assistant, on Level II of the Teaching Assistant salary schedule, effective October 19, 2015 through January 5, 2016

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Denise Prezzano Britt, Special Education, on Step 2 of the MA salary schedule, effective October 19, 2015 through December 4, 2015

Resignation for Retirement Purposes – Non-Certified

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes for Ann Bastardi, Senior Typist Clerk, effective October 30, 2015

Appointments – Non-Certified

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Howard Bloom, Teacher Aide, high school, effective October 13, 2015

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Amy Burns, part-time Teacher Aide, Glenwood Landing, effective October 13, 2015

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Basma Hanafy, part-time Food Service Worker, high school, effective October 22, 2015

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Katherine Kranz, part-time Food Service worker, high school, effective October 22, 2015

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

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

Julia Carbone	Elementary	Kristen Taylor	Elementary
Joseph Covas	Physical Education	Kimberly Toscano	Elementary
Brianne Frew	Elementary	Jacqueline Wang	Elementary
Seann Kirby	Elementary	Colleen Wanser	Elementary
Merri Kliegman	Secondary	Gina Lanfranchi	Secondary
Brandan Lahti	Physical Education	Suzanne Harper	Food
Joan Levy	Elementary	Marcia Recine	Food
Anastasia Marti	Elementary	Marie DeGeorge	Food
Nancy Nevins	Elementary	Mike Lennon	Physical Education
Andrew Ragusa	Secondary	Bonnie Watkins	Teacher Aide
Devinne Rocco	Elementary	Nigel Raveneau	Teacher Aide
Jesse Reyes	Cleaner		

Approval of Extra-Curricular Activity Advisors & Coaches

Resolved: To approve the following extra-curricular activity advisors:

High School

Music Tour Director	Michael Kerschner	Step 1
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Middle School

Yearbook	Gina Martone Brown	Step 1
	Lisa Viscovich	Step 1
Science Research	Loren Wolfen	Step 1
Mock Trial	Marc Ferris	N/A*

*Stipend will be donated to support students unable to pay for the Greenkill trip

Coaches

Men's Basketball

Varsity	Kevin Carpenter	Step 2
Junior Varsity	Ryan Berglin	Step 2
8 th Gr. Middle School	Christopher Vitucci	Step 2

Women's Basketball

Varsity	Keith Freund	Step 2
Junior Varsity	Megan McCormack	Step 2
8 th Gr. Middle School	Jennifer Scaturro	Step 2
7 th Gr. Middle School	Jean Hodermarsky	Step 2

Gymnastics

Varsity	Melissa Vassallo	Step 2
Varsity Assistant	Cassandra McNamara	Step 2
Middle School	Melissa Vassallo	Step 2
Middle School	Cassandra McNamara	Step 2

Bowling

Men's Varsity/JV	Andrew Richter	Step 2
Women Varsity/JV	Brian Kline	Step 1
7/8 Middle School	Michele Patane	Step 1

Women's Winter Track

Varsity/ JV	Neal Levy	Step 2
Varsity/JV Asst.	Clifton Schultz	Step 2

Men's Winter Track

Varsity/JV	Ed Corona	Step 2
Varsity/JV Assistant	Jason Millard	Step 2
Middle School	John Jackson	Step 2
	Donna Jean Welch-Pierantozzi	Step 2
	Lauren Gotta	Step 1

Wrestling

Varsity	Mike Emmert	Step 2
Junior Varsity	Anthony Facchini	Step 1
Middle School	Keith Slack	Step 2
Middle School	John Jackson	Step 2

Swimming

Men's Varsity	Samara Weitz	Step 2
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Cheerleading

Varsity	Bridgette Garofalo	Step 1
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Girls Volleyball

8 th Gr. Middle School	Stephanie DeBonis	Step 2
7 th Gr. Middle School	Tom Granieri	Step 2

Supervision

Lynn Regolini

On motion of Trustee Labbate and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, it was:

Acceptance of Donation from Precision Assembly Technologies, Inc. to the High School Robotics Club

Resolved: To accept a donation of \$100 from Precision Assembly Technologies, Inc. to the high school Robotics Club

Acceptance of Donation from Mitch Abramowitz to the North Shore Schools Athletic Department

Resolved: To accept a donation of 50 Head Tennis Rackets from Mitch Abramowitz to the North Shore Schools Athletic Department, at a value of \$500

On motion of Trustee Nightingale and seconded by Trustee Labbate and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Budget Transfers

Resolved: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$289,000 for special education teacher assistants due to increase in enrollment and program changes effective October 22, 2015

On motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Agreements with Teachers College, Columbia University

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Teachers College, Columbia University to provide a Reading & Writing Project of onsite and offsite professional development and onsite based coaching at Glen Head Elementary School at a total cost of \$23,550 (including estimated travel expenses)

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Teachers College, Columbia University to provide a Reading & Writing Project of onsite and offsite professional development and onsite based coaching at Glenwood Landing Elementary School at a total cost of \$27,550 (including estimated travel expenses)

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Teachers College, Columbia University to provide a Reading & Writing Project of onsite and offsite professional development and onsite based coaching at Sea Cliff Elementary School at a total cost of \$26,550 (including estimated travel expenses)

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Teachers College, Columbia University to provide a Reading & Writing Project of onsite and offsite professional development and onsite based coaching at North Shore Middle School at a total cost of \$14,625 (including estimated travel expenses)

On motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Commander and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Change Order

Resolved: To approve change order #3 from Gatz Landscaping, Inc. for HVAC & Tennis Court Reconstruction at North Shore High School in the amount of \$41,778.58 (additional)

On motion of Trustee Nightingale and seconded by Trustee Russo and all in favor, it was: Approval of Agreement with Islip Tutoring Service, Inc.

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Islip Tutoring Service, Inc. to provide home teaching services as needed during the 2015-2016 school year

On motion of Trustee Labbate and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, it was:

Approval of a Special Education Service Provider Agreement with Kids Learning Loft

Resolved: To approve a special education service provider agreement with Kids Learning Loft, to provide social skill counseling effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

On motion Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Nightingale and all in favor, it was:

Approval of a Special Education Services Contract

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the Locust Valley CSD for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the Locust Valley CSD and residing within the North Shore School District during the 2015-2016 school year

On motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Commander and all in favor, it was:

Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Board President to Enter Into an Agreement Resolving a Request for an Impartial Hearing

BE IT RESOLVED that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to enter into an agreement resolving a request for an impartial hearing filed on behalf of student #363622593

On motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, it was:
Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Board President to Enter Into an Agreement Resolving a Request for an Impartial Hearing

BE IT RESOLVED that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to enter into an agreement resolving a request for an impartial hearing filed on behalf of student #363623581

On motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Labbate and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Agreement with the Science Museum of Long Island

Resolved: To approve an agreement with The Science Museum of Long Island (SMLI) to provide a science program for the three second grade classes and self-contained class at Glenwood Landing School on November 5, 2015 at a total cost of \$450

Conference Report

Trustee Labbate reported she, along with Trustees Gonzalez and Commander, attended the NYSSBA Convention. She encouraged her fellow Trustees to attend the convention at some point. She found it to be very worthwhile and informative.

Adjournment

At 9:35 pm, on motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Gonzalez and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk