

North Shore Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
March 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Antoinette Labbate at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library. Present were Trustees Berliner, Commander, Gonzalez, Jones, Ludmar and Russo. Also present Superintendent Dr. Edward Melnick, and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi & Rob Chlewicki.

At 7:00 p.m. on motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Gonzalez all in favor, the Board moved to convene an executive session in room H4 in the high school to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or persons.

At 7:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting in the library. There were approximately 5 people in the audience.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Labbate led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Student Recognition**

On behalf of the Board, President Labbate and Dr. Melnick recognized students who participated in the Wonder League Coding Competition, and students who volunteer as a Writing Fellows in the High School Writing Center. They also recognized Brooke Demetri for achieving the 2017 Scholastic Art & Writing Award.

**Approval of Minutes**

On motion of Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, the minutes of February 15, 2017 were approved as amended.

**Approval of Treasurer's Report**

On motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, the treasurer's report of January 1, 2017 through January 31, 2017 was approved.

**Report from the SGO**

Eileen Quinn, Jr. Class Vice President, reported on events and activities at the high school including: sports night was a huge success; it was decided to hang each class banner in the hallways following sports night. The canned food drive was a tremendous success with over 3,000 lbs. of food donated to LI Harvest which according to that organization was a new record in donated food. Next week there will be a shamrock lollipop sale to benefit the SGO Relay for Life team.

**Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Melnick reported on the status of projects around the district.

Playground Surface Replacement: The Glen Head & Glenwood Landing playgrounds are open and in full use. The Sea Cliff playground remains under construction; there have been delays due to weather, and unforeseen site conditions. There is also an issue of the Hemlock trees along the south border of the

property which have been affected by an infestation of insects. According to a certified arborist who inspected the trees, two of the seven trees are already dead and the condition of the other trees is deteriorating. Due to their location near the playground he recommends removing them and replacing them with Thuja Green Giants; this tree would offer the screening and growth rate desired.

Water Fountain Replacement: existing water fountain replacement has been completed in Glen Head, Glenwood Landing & Sea Cliff. Glenwood Landing & Sea Cliff schools required the installation of new fountains to improve coverage. At North Shore Middle school all fountains that could be replaced were replaced. High School fountain replacement is ongoing.

Recycling – John Hall has contacted several companies many times, as well as providing them with documentation outlining our needs and providing them a price sheet to fill in. The majority of the companies contacted has not responded or are not interested. John reached out to our former recycling company and they are not interested but indicated he would forward our information to another company; still awaiting a response. Currently there is only one company interested in providing us with limited recycling services; a report will be forthcoming.

#### Regular Business Budget Review

The following sections of the budget were reviewed by the board: Special Education, Special Ed-St. Christopher, Occupational/Continuing Education, Library/Audio Visual, Technology, Pupil & Guidance Services, Co-Curriculum/Athletics, Transportation, Community Services, Employee Benefits, and Debt Service. It was noted that the community education program is self-sustaining. Trustee Russo asked how health insurance costs were figured; she would like to review the actual expenditures with Ms. Buatsi. Ms. Buatsi projected the tax levy from last year to this year will remain flat due to increased revenue. Dr. Melnick added although the budget increase is at 2.6%, the tax levy will remain the same therefore the board is not exceeding the cap and will not require a supermajority for approval. The budget will be adopted at the meeting of April 6, 2017.

#### Transportation Distance Limits

The board discussed transportation distance limits. Dr. Melnick shared three scenarios for reducing transportation limits. One which would decrease the limit for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders from 1.5 miles to 1 mile; this would make all middle school students eligible for transportation if they live 1 mile or more from the school at no additional cost to the district. The second scenario discussed was a reduction in transportation limits to  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile for all students in grades 6-8; this would make students in grades K-8 eligible for transportation if they live  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile or more away from their respective schools but would be a substantial cost to the district. The final scenario was to reduce the transportation limit to  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile for students in grade 6-12; this would then allow for all students in grades K-12 who live  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile away from school or more to receive transportation to their school but would be at a cost of almost \$800,000 to the district. The board discussed the change in the law regarding bus ridership which now makes the change for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders possible at no cost. Dr. Melnick reminded the board that if a scenario with a cost is put before the voters, and it brings the budget over the tax levy limit, there will need to be a supermajority on the budget vote. There was consensus on the board to move forward with scenario #1 as proposition 2 to decrease the mileage limit for seventh and eighth graders to be eligible for transportation to 1 mile.

#### Comments from the Public

Tim Madden, Sea Cliff, asked with the tax levy remaining flat, does it matter if the budget passes or fails. Ms. Buatsi responded, although the tax levy will remain flat, if the budget is defeated there

would need to be cuts to the budget as the administrative component cannot be higher than last year's budget and contingent items would need to be removed.

Rob Mazzella, Glen Head, asked about the budget for health insurance. He shared a chart he drafted indicating the district may have been overestimating on health insurance over the last 5 years. He also asked why the administrative portion in insurance went up so much. Ms. Buatsi explained it is hard to get an accurate projection as there are too many components. She must include all eligible employees whether or not they participate in the health insurance plan as they are able to subscribe at any time. She also figures in those who have individual coverage as they can decide to change to family coverage (at a much higher cost) at any time during the year. Finally she explained that when the ACA was implemented, provisions needed to be made for hourly employees nearing the 30 hour/week mark. She makes her projection with all of this in mind and not knowing what the percentage increase in health insurance will be for the following year. Dr. Melnick explained that the board had just discussed this matter during their budget review and Trustee Russo has requested that going forward the board look at actual health insurance expenditures rather than what was budgeted previously. He noted that the administrative portion went up due to the addition of teacher leaders to that line.

Lisa Vizza, Glen Head, asked if the district is actively searching to replace two special education administrators. Dr. Melnick responded they are currently searching for a replacement for the position being vacated by the retirement of Marcy Laredo. Mr. Marino was just appointed to the interim position of Director to replace retiring Director Tom Korb, and a leave replacement appointment will be made to replace Mr. Marino while he acts as interim director next year. This will give the new superintendent a chance to work with Mr. Marino in that capacity.

Ms. Vizza asked if the district realizes any revenue from our Life Skills Program and how we recruit for that program. Dr. Melnick responded we have one student this year paying tuition in the Life Skills Program. He went on to explain that we promote our program on a special education list serve and we are not permitted to set the tuition rate; the state does.

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

Personnel

Resignation for Retirement Purposes - Administration

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes for Toni MacDonald, Director of Guidance, effective June 30, 2017

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes for Marcy Laredo, Assistant Director of Special Education, effective June 30, 2017

Appointment – Administration

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Christopher Marino, Interim Director of Special Education, effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Resignation – Certified

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Elizabeth Kelly, Special Education, effective March 13, 2017

Leave of Absence for Child Rearing Purposes – Certified

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Keryn Edwards, Special Education, effective April 17, 2017 through June 30, 2017

*Leave of Absence - Certified*

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for Ana Aguiar-Mady, Spanish, for the sole purpose of assuming the position of Director of World Languages and ENL, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for Seth Gordon, Social Studies, for the sole purpose of assuming the position of Teacher Leader Humanities 6-8, effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for Steven Menchel, Science, for the sole purpose of assuming the position of Teacher Leader Science 9-12, effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Resolved: To approve a leave of absence for Dalia Rodriguez, Art, for the sole purpose of assuming the position of Director of Fine & Performing Arts, effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

*Change of Status - Certified*

Resolved: To approve a change of status for Edward McCabe, Teaching Assistant, from a regular substitute (leave replacement) position to a probationary position, effective February 16, 2017 through October 13, 2020

*Resignation of Hofstra Intern*

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Amie Roberts, Hofstra Intern, effective February 16, 2017

*Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment – Certified*

Resolved: To approve the regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Amie Roberts, Teaching Assistant, on Level II of the Teaching Assistant salary schedule, effective February 17, 2017 through June 30, 2017

Resolved: To approve the regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Kristen Neresian, Math, effective March 13, 2017 through June 30, 2017

Resolved: To approve the regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Heather Sutz, Elementary, effective March 9, 2017 through April 28, 2017

*Regular Substitute Appointment – Certified*

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute appointment for Carol Speranza, Special Education, on Step 10 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective March 8, 2017 through June 16, 2017

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute appointment for Elisabeth Raeihle, Special Education, on Step 5 of the MA salary schedule, effective February 6, 2017 through June 30, 2017

*Resignation for Retirement Purposes – Non-Certified*

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes for Jerry Blackburn, Senior Maintainer, effective August 30, 2017

*Resignation – Non-Certified*

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Kyung D'Imperio, Bus Driver, effective January 31, 2017, as outlined in the Agreement and Release approved by the Board on February 15, 2017

Appointment – Non-Certified

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Gail Lazzinnaro, School Monitor @ High School, effective February 6, 2017

Approval of Extra-Curricular Activity Club and Coaches

Resolved: To approve the addition of the position of a Districtwide Assistant Light & Sound Advisor

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

Men's Baseball:

Varsity	Scott Lineman	Step II
Varsity Asst. Coach	Robert Gates	Step II
Junior Varsity	Harrison Berglin	Step II
Middle School (8 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Kevin Carpenter	Step II
Middle School (7 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Philip Como	Step I
Middle School (7 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Andrew Siegel	Step I

Women's Softball:

Varsity	Toni Kolb Pappetti	Step II
Varsity Asst. Coach	Charlotte Felter	Step I
Middle School (7/8 grade)	Lauren Gotta	Step II
Middle School (7/8 grade)	Keith Slack	Step II

Middle School Gymnastics:

7/8 Coach	Melissa Vassallo	Step II
7/8 Coach	Cassandra McNamara	Step II

Men's Lacrosse:

Varsity	Aaron Kozlowski	Step II
Var. Assistant	Christopher Vitucci	Step II
Junior Varsity	Anthony Facchini	Step I
Middle School (8 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Francis Tloczkowski	Step I
Middle School (7 <sup>th</sup> grade)	Michael Lennon	Step I

Women's Lacrosse:

Varsity Head Coach	Megan McCormack	Step II
Varsity Assistant Coach	Jeffrey Butt	Step II
Junior Varsity	Stephanie Donnelly	Step II
Middle School (7th grade)	Michelle Patane	Step I
Middle School (7/8 grade)	Kellie Huggins	Step II

Women's Spring Track:

Varsity/ Junior Varsity	Neal Levy	Step II
Varsity/Junior Varsity Asst.	Clifton Schultz	Step II

Men's Spring Track:

Varsity/Junior Varsity	Ed Corona	Step II
Varsity/Junior Varsity Asst.	Jason Millard	Step II
Middle School B/G	Keith Freund	Step II
	Donna Jean Welch	Step II

Golf

Women's Varsity	Michele Cochrane	Step II
Men's Varsity	Andrew Richter	Step II

Men's Tennis

Varsity	Brian Kline	Step II
Junior Varsity	Craig Roslund	Step II
Intramurals	Chris Gill	Step 1
Supervision	Christina Palmenteri	
Supervision	Alan Calo	

On motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Pit Musicians for the High School Musical

Resolved: To approve the following pit musicians for the high school spring musical at \$50/rehearsal and \$75/performance:

Susan DelGiorno      Jennifer Hood      Lisa Polito

Prior to approving the budget transfers, Trustee Russo noted that the cost of the playgrounds is now over \$600,000

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

Approval of Budget Transfers

Resolved: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$212,000 for AP Exams, Playground resurfacing, ENL teacher, custodial supplies, effective 3/9/17

On motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, it was:

Acceptance of Donations to the Fine and Performing Arts Department

Resolved: To accept the following donations to the North Shore Schools Fine and Performing Arts Department:

\$1,500 from the Rotary Club to offset the Annual Musicians' Dinner

18 Kendor Debut Books for Grades 1-2 to the Glenwood Landing Music Library from Carl Strommen at a value of \$243

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

Approval To Dispose Of Inventory

Resolved: To approve of the disposal of the following inventory items:

7 Printers @Glen Head School

1 Printer @Glenwood Landing School

1 Scanner @High School

3 Monitors @High School

On motion of Trustee Gonzalez and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Health Services Contract

Resolved: That the Board of Education enter into a contract for Health Services with Garden City UFSD for 5 students residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the Garden City UFSD for the 2016-2017 school year at a cost of \$913.41 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

Resolved: That the Board of Education enter into a contract for Health Services with the Hicksville Public Schools for 1 student residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools

within the Hicksville Public Schools for the 2016-2017 school year at a cost of \$690.27 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

Resolved: That the Board of Education enter into a contract for Health Services with Uniondale UFSD for 9 students residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the Uniondale UFSD for the 2016-2017 school year at a cost of \$686.15 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

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

Approval of Agreement with Children's Authors Ally, LLC.

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Children's Authors Ally, LLC and Edward Scheu, to provide assemblies and writing workshops over two days at the Sea Cliff Elementary School plus a parent evening workshop

On motion of Trustee Berliner and seconded by Trustee Commander and al in favor, it was:

Approval of Resolution in Regard to an Inter-Municipal Agreement for Special Education Related Services

WHEREAS, a number of public school districts in Nassau County wish to jointly solicit proposals for Special Education Related Services for the 2017-2018 school year (and any renewal period) in accordance with the applicable provisions of General Municipal Law;

WHEREAS, the North Shore School District, is desirous of participating with these school districts for the joint solicitation of proposals for Special Education Related Services as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-o in accordance with the terms and conditions of an Inter-Municipal Cooperative Agreement (IMA) among the participating school districts; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that it would be in its best financial interest to solicit proposals for Special Education Related Services on a cooperative basis;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the North Shore School District to participate with the other Nassau County public school districts for the solicitation of proposals for Special Education Related Services on a cooperative basis, subject to the terms and conditions of the IMA; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts and approves the appointment of the Manhasset Union Free School District as the Lead Participant for purposes of facilitating and coordinating the solicitation of proposals in accordance with the IMA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the attached IMA and authorizes the Board President to execute the IMA on behalf of the Board of Education

On motion of Trustee Berliner and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Special Education Services Contracts

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the Baldwin School District for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the North Shore School District and residing within the Baldwin School District during the 2016-2017 school year

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the East Williston UFSD for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the North Shore School District and residing within the East Williston UFSD during the 2016-2017 school year

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the Garden City Public Schools for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the North

Shore School District and residing within the Garden City Public Schools during the 2016-2017 school year

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the Glen Cove School District for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the North Shore School District and residing within the Glen Cove School District during the 2016-2017 school year

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 North Shore School District and residing within the Locust Valley CSD during the 2016-2017 school year

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the Manhasset Public Schools for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the North Shore School District and residing within the Manhasset Public Schools during the 2016-2017 school year

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the North Shore School District and residing within the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District during the 2016-2017 school year

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the Port Washington UFSD for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the North Shore School District and residing within the Port Washington UFSD during the 2016-2017 school year

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the Roslyn Public Schools for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the North Shore School District and residing within the Roslyn Public Schools during the 2016-2017 school year

Resolved: To approve an agreement with District 26 NYCDOE for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the North Shore School District and residing within District 26 NYCDOE during the 2016-2017 school year

Resolved: To approve an agreement with the South Huntington UFSD for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the South Huntington UFSD and residing within the North Shore School District during the 2016-2017 school year

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

Approval of Amendment to a Settlement Agreement and Release

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a certain Amendment to a Settlement Agreement and Release with the parents of student 363625636 resolving a dispute between the Board and said parents regarding the student's educational program and authorizes the Board President to execute said Agreement

**Comments from the Public**

Rob Mazzella, Glen Head, asked if the district is required to pay for the AP exams for students in non-public schools. Dr. Melnick will check with legal counsel in that regard.

Trustee Russo asked if the new light and sound advisor will also train students. Dr. Melnick responded part of the job description is to train the crew. This position will cover events in all of the schools.

**Old Business**

Trustee Ludmar suggested a full discussion on the threats to public education be added to a future agenda. He also suggested this be a task of the LAC committee going forward. The board decided to place a discussion about the direction of LAC on the next agenda. Dr. Melnick will come up with a list of ideas and members of the board will email additional suggestions. LAC members and John Kiernan will be invited to that meeting.

Trustee Jones asked that the message regarding opting out of testing be a consistent and clear message sent to all parents. Trustee Gonzalez added the appropriate language is "refusing to sit for the test".

Trustee Gonzalez reminded the board and community that the Viking Foundation Gala honoring Dr. Melnick is scheduled for Thursday, March 30 @7:00 pm at the Engineers Country Club.

Trustee Jones asked that there be a discussion on a future agenda in regard to contracts being presented after the fact.

Dr. Melnick updated the board on the Coalition Against Substance Abuse. He reported that the next meeting is April 17. Approximately 70 people signed up for the coalition. Co-chairs Joanna Commander and Marty Glennon are establishing a list for the Board of Directors. At the next meeting the co-chairs of each component of the group will present nominations and Dr. Melnick will make the ultimate decision. Trustee Commander will serve as the liaison of the committee. Dr. Melnick commended Trustee Commander for all of the work she has already done.

Trustee Commander added that she has spoken with more than 40 parents, kids, & professionals. She feels very optimistic that everyone understands their responsibility in this endeavor. She asked that there be more communication about the next meeting as many people did not know about the last meeting. Dr. Melnick will send out a district email as well as a press release. Mr. Chlebicki suggested sending invitations directly to students, not through their parents email.

### **New Business**

Trustee Jones requested a discussion in regard to technology platforms be on a future agenda.

### **Adjournment**

At 9:15 p.m., on motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Gonzalez and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi  
District Clerk