

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Town Meeting
Minutes
May 4, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Antoinette Labbate at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Library. Present were Trustees Commander Gonzalez, Jones, Ludmar and Russo. Trustee Berliner was absent. Also present Superintendent Dr. Edward Melnick, and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi & Rob Chlebicki.

At 6:00 p.m. on motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, the Board moved to convene an executive session in room H4 in the high school to discuss matters regarding collective negotiations and matters leading to the employment, appointment, promotion, or demotion of a particular person or persons.

At 7:00 p.m. on motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Russo and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of executive session and convened a meeting of the Audit Committee in the library.

At 7:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Gonzalez and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of the audit committee meeting and resumed the regular meeting in the library. There were approximately 10 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Labbate led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Budget Reading

The proposed budget for the 2017-2018 school year is \$102,113,514.86 a total increase of 2.633% over the 2016-17 budget. Anticipated revenue is \$17,624,940.03 which will result in a tax levy of \$84,488,574.83; a -.01% increase. This is at the allowable tax levy cap established by New York State and a simple majority is needed for passing.

There will be an additional proposition on the ballot reducing transportation eligibility limits for grades 7-8 to one mile in order to be consistent with grade 6, with no additional cost to the district.

The District Clerk will include a copy of the budget proposal as a record of the minutes of this meeting. Copies of the adopted budget proposal are available this evening, and at the Central Office, 112 Franklin Avenue, Sea Cliff. The election of Trustees and vote on the budget will take place on Tuesday, May 16 from 7:00 am – 10:00 pm in the North Shore High School gymnasium.

Registration for the budget vote will take place Saturday, May 6th from 10:00 am-2:00 pm at the Central Administration Building, 112 Franklin Avenue, Sea Cliff.

Town Meeting – Open Forum

Jerry Romano, Sea Cliff, noted that according to *Newsday* North Shore has approximately 2,600 students, and with a budget of \$99,000,000, our cost per student is approximately 38,000 per student. He wondered why we are 38% more expensive than similar districts, such as Manhasset & Herricks who are spending approximately \$28,000 per year. Dr. Melnick responded the cost of special education tuition for out of district students, as well as debt service, is included in that figure. He also noted we must educate special education students until the age of 21. He suggested Mr. Romano go on the NYS website and look at the fiscal report card. Mr. Romano asked about the Sea Cliff School playground construction and whether the project approved in the 2003 bond was now being redone. Dr. Melnick

explained that the work on the playground has to do with the removal of the rubber mulch. This is being done as a precaution after it was brought to the board's attention by a group of parents that there may be a risk of exposure to carcinogens from the mulch. Once the work got started the contractor found there was leaching into the soil so the work was more extensive than originally planned. Dr. Melnick will get information on the 2003 bond and any information on per pupil costs to Mr. Romano.

Lisa Vizza, Glen Head, asked if the district continually reviews the independent special education review that took place about 2 years ago. She suggested with new leadership in that department it would be beneficial to go back and look at areas of improvement. She explained that she attended a SEPTA meeting recently and said some parents feel they are stuck in the process. Dr. Melnick explained that generally, whether an internal or external program review, the Board gets an action plan which lays out implementation of recommended changes to the program. Programs are generally reviewed on a 3-year basis and with the changes in special education administration it would be timely to look at reviewing the program. He asked if Mrs. Vizza would be able to share any of the concerns expressed at the meeting. Ms. Vizza said there seems to be a disconnect between parents and administrators and patterns of similarity are concerning but she feels these problems can be solved if everyone works together.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Russo and all in favor, the minutes of April 20, 2017 were approved as amended.

Regular Business

Open.Gov/Checkbook.Com

As requested by Trustee Commander, Dr. Melnick gave an overview of Open.Gov/Checkbook.com. He explained that this program is not used by any other school district in New York State. There are several components, one being the "budget builder component" which is a duplicate of a WINCAP program that the district may be able to utilize. There is no competitive option and this would be a cost of \$30,201 for the first year and \$26,961 each year thereafter. It was decided to move ahead and pursue a presentation by the company. Ms. Buatsi will meet with all three levels of auditors and bond counsel to get their opinion.

On motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Commander and all in favor, the appointment of Alyson Storek was removed.

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

PERSONNEL

Resignation - Administration

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Marc Ferris, Principal, effective July 1, 2017

Resignation for Retirement Purposes

Resolved: To accept the resignation for retirement purposes for Susan L. Krugman, ESL, effective June 30, 2017

Resignation - Certified

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Rosa Navas, Spanish, effective June 30, 2017

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Lauren (Craig) Miller, Spanish, effective June 30, 2017

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Michael Kerschner, Music, effective June 30, 2017

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Melissa Dowd, Elementary, effective June 30, 2017

Appointments – Certified

Resolved: To approve the probationary appointment of Heidy Vallejo-Gonzalez, Spanish, on Step 10 of the MA+15 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2017 through September 1, 2020

Resolved: To approve the probationary appointment of Jared Berry, Music, on Step 6 of the MA salary schedule, effective September 1, 2017 through September 1, 2020

Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment - Certified

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Ken Mady, Special Education, on Step 10 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective June 1, 2017 through June 23, 2017

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Anne Marie Burden, Elementary, on Step 2 of the MA salary schedule, effective Mary 19, 2017 through June 23, 2017

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Samantha Russo, Science, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective May 22, 2017 through June 23, 2017

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Benjamin Benfield, Art, on Step 4 of the MA salary schedule, effective September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Kevin Dahill, Social Studies, on Step 2 of the MA salary schedule, effective September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Noel Imbriale, English, on Step 3 of the MA salary schedule, effective September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment) for Caroline Scheibe, Music, on Step 2 of the MA salary schedule, effective September 1, 2017 through January 31, 2018

Part-time Appointments – Certified

Resolved: To approve a part-time (.8) appointment for Emily Whelan, Social Studies, on Step 2 of the MA salary schedule, effective September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Resolved: To approve a part-time (.5) appointment for Jessica Hemmerdinger, Special Education, on Step 7 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Appointment – Non-Certified

Resolved: To approve the probationary appointment of Vijay Ramoutar, Custodian, on Step 8 of the Custodial salary schedule, effective May 8, 2017 with a 26-week probationary period

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:

Jingwen Cai Teacher Substitute
Karin Greenberg Teacher Substitute

Approval of Extra-Curricular Activity Advisors

Assistant Light & Sound Diana Knox Step 1

On motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Commander and all in favor, it was:
Approval of LOA Between The North Shore CSD And The North Shore Schools Administrators' Council
BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a certain Letter of Agreement between the North Shore Central School District and the North Shore Schools Administrators' Council, and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said Agreement

On motion of Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, it was:
Approval of Smart Schools Investment Plan
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the Smart School Investment Plan to be financed through the Smart Schools Bond Act with an allocation of \$413,397

On motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, it was:
Acceptance of Donation from The Class of 2014
Resolved: To accept a donation of \$2,411.66 from the Class of 2014 to the North Shore High School to help fund the front entrance beautification project

On motion of Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, it was:
Approval of Budget Transfers
Resolved: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$30,000 to cover district-wide custodial supplies and custodial overtime, effective May 4, 2017

On motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Gonzalez and all in favor, it was:
Approval of Agreement with Video Masters
Resolved: To approve an agreement with Video Masters to provide video recording and production and post production services for the i-Innovate program at Glen Head School for a total amount of \$8,250

Prior to approval, the board agreed to add an AutoMark Ballot Marking Device to the rental agreement.
On motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Commander and all in favor, it was:
Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement with The Nassau County Board Of Elections
Resolved: To approve a memorandum of Agreement between the Nassau County Board of Elections and the North Shore Central School District to provide services and rental of DS200 Optical Scan Voting Machines and AutoMark Ballot Marking Device, for the District Budget Vote and Election of Trustees on May 16, 2017

On motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Russo and all in favor, it was:
Approval of Change Orders
Resolved: To approve change order #1 from Total Construction, Inc. for Safety Playground Surface Replacement at Glen Head Elementary School at an amount of \$5,000 (deduction)
Resolved: To approve change order #1 from Total Construction, Inc. for Safety Playground Surface Replacement at Glenwood Landing Elementary School at an amount of \$5,000 (deduction)
Resolved: To approve change order #1 from Total Construction, Inc. for Bond Referendum Phase II at the Middle School in the amount of \$10,000 (deduction)

On motion of Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Russo and all in favor, it was:
Approval to Participate in a Cooperative Bid for Carpentry Supplies, Electrical Supplies & Plumbing Supplies
WHEREAS, the Boards of Education of the Glen Cove UFSD, and North Shore CSD desire to participate in

a Cooperative Bid for the purpose of competitive bidding during the 2017/2018 school year as authorized by General Municipal Law Section 119-o.

WHEREAS, the cooperative requires each Board of Education through its Assistant Superintendent for Business or designee, to assume responsibility for drafting specifications, advertising for bids, receiving, opening and tabulating bids and reporting the results for each of the bids to the participating school districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Shore Central School District, be and hereby is authorized to participate as a member of the above-described cooperative for purposes of, cooperative bidding conducted in conjunction with the Boards of Education of Glen Cove UFSD, for the bids noted above.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assistant Superintendent for Business or her designee assume responsibility for all tasks related to preparation, receipt and reporting of bids in connection with such cooperative bidding. Any award of any contract pursuant to these cooperative bids will be made by the Board of Education.

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

Approval of Agreement with Elisa Waters

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Elisa Waters as facilitator of the annual Peer Leader Training at North Shore High School at a cost of \$750

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

Approval of Health Services Contracts

Resolved: That the Board of Education enter into a contract for Health Services with the Mineola UFSD for 6 students residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the Mineola UFSD for the 2016-2017 school year at a cost of \$770 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 Port Washington UFSD for 2 students residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the Port Washington UFSD for the 2016-2017 school year at a cost of \$861.77 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 South Huntington UFSD for 2 students residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the South Huntington UFSD for the 2016-2017 school year at a cost of \$808.84 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 Westbury UFSD for 10 students residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the Westbury UFSD for the 2016-2017 school year at a cost of \$719.81 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

Old Business

The board gave consensus to move forward with the SuperLac letter.

New Business

Trustee Ludmar brought up an issue which was expressed to him by a member of the community regarding middle school games being canceled due to a lack of umpires. He asked if there is a way to recruit more umpires. He also spoke about a North Shore graduate who had received a full-tuition scholarship from Hofstra after attending her first two years at Nassau Community as an example of a non-traditional, but still impressive, path to educational success. Trustee Commander explained this happens every year, everyone must go through BOCES for umpires and there is a shortage; officials

are assigned to Varsity and JV games and new umpires are not being trained. One option being discussed is to start the middle school games later in the season freeing up the umpires after the Varsity and JV season is finished.

Dr. Melnick thanked Trustee Commander for leading the North Shore Coalition Against Substance Abuse (CASA). Over 140 people attended the meeting in the high school library and a board of directors was identified. Trustee Russo thanked Trustee Commander for her efforts and asked how the board of directors was determined. Trustee Commander explained there are 9 members on the board of directors which includes substance abuse specialists, a representative from LICADD, a police officer, school social worker, a parent of a North Shore graduate, 2 students, a community youth representative, and a local business representative. She spoke with existing CASAs who made suggestions as to the types of people that should be on the board of directors in order to get real action through the coalition.

Trustee Russo expressed concern about the process for the recent leadership searches. She requested a discussion about the process going forward in regard to the search for the middle school principal and any future leadership searches. The Board discussed the current process, who reviews resumes, initial interviews, how committee groups are identified. Trustee Russo was concerned that the process for identifying parent groups is not reaching a cross section of parents. She also feels the Board is left out of the process. Mr. Chlebicki explained that for the middle school principal search there is a survey which all parents are able to complete. The Board discussed a suggestion by Trustee Russo of having the top 2 candidates brought to the Board before a decision is made. President Labbate noted this would be a policy change as it is the job of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent to vet candidates and make a recommendation to the Board. Trustee Gonzalez expressed concern that the process be confidential. She suggested that all constituent groups sign a confidentiality clause. She said she is strongly opposed to a Superintendent bringing more than one candidate to the Board. Trustees Jones and Commander were in agreement with Trustee Gonzalez. Trustees agreed it would be beneficial to be reminded of the process with each new search and going forward more time will be spent with the candidate that is recommended to the Board.

Adjournment

At 9:25 P.M. on motion of Trustee Gonzalez and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk