

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
December 14, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Antoinette Labbate at 6:30 p.m. in the Sea Cliff Elementary School Auditorium. Present were Trustees Berliner, Commander, Galati, Jones, and Ludmar. Trustee Russo were absent. Also present Superintendent Dr. Peter Giarrizzo, and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi & Rob Chlebicki.

At 6:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, the Board moved to convene a meeting of the Audit Committee.

At 7:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Commander seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, the Board moved to adjourn the Audit Committee Meeting and resumed the regular meeting in the auditorium. There were 10 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Labbate led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Giarrizzo reported that the Board took action to authorize their attorneys to seek permission to intervene in action against New York American Water and the Public Service Commission of the State of New York. By doing so, they seek to protect the interests of the District as they relate to the taxation of water in the community. He further stated that it is important to note that the monies received from the New York State Senate and Assembly were received in the form of state aid and the District has no legal authority; in fact, it would be unlawful to use any portion of this money to offset the costs associated with the water bills of specific homeowners or individuals within the community. Not unlike the situation involving the LIPA litigation, and to the extent permissible, they will continue to keep the community apprised of their efforts.

Dr. Giarrizzo attended a meeting of the Sea Cliff Village on Monday evening to listen in on public comment related to the concerns raised regarding Littleworth Lane. He and Mayor Lieberman are working towards short and long term solutions to address the situation. The plan is to form a joint committee of the district and village that will include a wide range of stakeholders to bring this important matter to a satisfactory conclusion. He continued, his primary objective is to keep the focus on the safest outcome for our children at all times. Dr. Giarrizzo reported that climate and needs assessments surveys related to the development of our next strategic plan will be coming in the new year, he will also be seeking volunteers to participate in the development process. He reported that the Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment Survey will be administered to all students in grades 7-12. A letter to parents will be forthcoming from the buildings and it will be administered during with the first two weeks in January over two days in physical education classes. Results should be received within 6-8 weeks. He looks forward to receiving the results so that our efforts to incorporate programming can be infused with what we learn from our students. Continuing his report, Dr. Giarrizzo will share the results of his entry plan into the District on January 11th. Dr. Giarrizzo reported that the budget development process is well underway. All budget requests have been received and he is now working towards matching our expense plan with a revenue plan that will balance strong programming with a

responsible tax levy. He reported that the budget will be presented in three parts starting with the initial presentation and general overview on January 11, 2018, followed by the Superintendent's Budget and a review of transportation & facilities on February 8, the following meetings will review instruction including staffing with adoption of the budget on March 29.

Trustee Jones asked at what point will we have a good number on pension and healthcare costs. Ms. Buatsi responded, we already have some of those numbers. She went on to say that health costs is based on a calendar year so she has that figure for 2018 but the rates for 2019 are not in so we need to add a factor for that portion. Trustee Jones asked if there is an indication of what state aid will be. Ms. Buatsi responded, we know what the CPI is, the driver of the tax cap and we know the governor's budget, but we do not know what we will receive from the legislature. She went on to say, school districts in Nassau County have not received their growth factor. She is hoping to get those figures by March. Dr. Giarrizzo added, the governor will put out his executive budget in January but the legislature does not have to adopt it until early April. For the purpose of building our budget, we will use what is in the governor's budget proposal.

Trustee Commander asked if the board would be able to review the Bach Harrison survey. She also asked for confirmation of who will take the survey, when it would be administered, when the results would be available, and who will have access to the results. Dr. Giarrizzo responded, he will make the survey available for Trustees, it will be administered in early January with results in 6-8 weeks and everyone will be able to see the results. Trustee Commander asked if there will be a proper comparison with the YDS survey which was last administered. Dr. Giarrizzo responded the YDS was not available, it is an off year for that survey, and they did not want to wait another year. He went on to say this survey is a better standard, but it will be hard to compare the two results.

Report from the SGO

SGO co-presidents Emilie Biolsi & Lindsay Golden reported on events & activities in the high school including fundraisers held: sale of cookie jars to benefit a doctor in South Sudan who administers to 500 children; candy cane drive; letter to Santa for Make A Wish Foundation, this was done for former SGO co-president Frankie Conklin who supports a foundation for Cystic Fibrosis. The SGO has adopted a family from Glen Cove for the holidays, each class was assigned one child to shop for. Tryouts for "Legally Blonde" were held. The last two Fridays in December will be "festive Friday" all are encouraged to wear ugly holiday sweaters.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Galati, with Trustees Berliner, Commander, Galati, Jones & Ludmar for and Trustee Labbate abstaining, the minutes of November 30, 2017 were approved.

Regular Business

Update on District Goals 2017-2018

The discussion on district goals was tabled until the meeting of January 11, 2018.

Report on Student Achievement – High School

High School Principal Albert Cousins reported that students in the high school are demonstrating achievement in academic, athletic, artistic, and civic ways. He and the leadership team at the high school presented information which highlighted student success, illustrated the manifestation of the Shared Values, highlighted areas for improvement, and provided a picture of the extent to which students are fully engaging in all that their school offers. Student achievement at the high school was examined through multiple measures by looking at a diverse array of data. Mr. Cousins reported that

students at North Shore High School have taken more standardized exams than ever before with a majority of students enrolled in corresponding IB courses now also opting to take AP exams. As a result, there is a significant increase in the number of assessments taken by HS students. Results on the IB Assessments were presented in comparison to Global performance rates as there was only one cohort of data thus far (Cohort 1). Mr. Cousins reported that students have shown steady increases in Chemistry, Algebra 2, and US History and there has been improvement in Mastery rates (students obtaining a grade of 85% or higher). Finally, he spoke about the commitment to a more thoughtful and purposeful focus on student wellness, the demands placed on students, and the impact those demands have on social and emotional well-being.

Trustee Berliner asked how ethical values, tolerance and diversity are measured. He went on to say colleges are noticing there is more dishonesty and cheating on the part of students than ever before. He wondered what is happening in high schools, and specifically, what our high school is doing to counter that. Mr. Cousins responded, he and the high school faculty take academic integrity very seriously. They have an honor code which is introduced in every class. There are full lessons on what it means to paraphrase. There are serious consequences for plagiarism.

Trustee Galati asked if Mr. Cousins feels there is a relationship between changing the math program and the drop in calculus. Mr. Cousins agreed, and added it was also enrollment and the same teacher. He added, there will be more data at the end of the year and there will be a major shift.

Trustee Ludmar said he would be interested in getting an analysis of historical trends of special education students. Mr. Cousins will put a document together. Trustee Ludmar also asked if it would be possible to compare AP/IB scores to other schools. Mr. Cousins responded, no other school is willing to release those scores but he will look into it.

Trustee Jones asked about data on equity, how low income students are doing. Mr. Cousins responded, he did look at income level, but he did not present it because the sample size was so small. He is able to give the board everything over the last five years if they would like. Trustee Jones asked if there is anything particular that should be looked at. Mr. Cousins responded, ENL and/or reading. He went on to say sometimes there are gaps in education, not the support or resources, but with learning. It is a small number but it is growing. Mr. Cousins said most importantly is the expectation in the high school that every student is should be spoken to, or checked in on, by a staff member every day to see how they are doing. He commended the faculty for fostering this.

Trustee Commander said she is interested in how well we will assess wellness and what will be put in place in that area. She cautioned against a one shot production, and advocated for integration throughout the school.

Trustee Labbate said she noted that 226 or 26% of students are engaging in arts & athletics. She would like to see all students engaged in something. She thanked Mr. Cousins & the leadership team for their comprehensive presentation.

Comments from the Public

Tim Madden, Sea Cliff, said he agrees with Trustee Labbate that it is more useful to look at the percentage of students who are not engaged in activities. He noted that the equity study showed there are a percentage of parents that are concerned with students who do not feel a sense of belonging. To help students with coping strategies he suggested approaches used in the district where he teaches such as testing days, and giving a weeks' notice before a test is given. In regards to comparing course grades with AP or IB exam grades, he asked if students getting the highest exam grades are getting high course grades as well. Dr. Giarrizzo responded this is being looked into and the answer will be forthcoming.

Denise Reiner, Glen Head, suggested it may be beneficial to students to have course descriptions of the higher level courses including what knowledge and/or other courses they may need to be successful in the course. She went on to say with self-selection students sometimes are not

prepared for the higher level course. She also suggested administering an exam at the end of courses students have difficulty with, to determine if they should move on. Regarding the issue of comparing class score and exam score, she suggested this may be parent driven, having to do with GPA and getting into college. Mr. Cousins made a point of clarification that the HL courses are two year courses; the second year is not any more demanding, the course just takes two years to complete.

Jerry Romano, Sea Cliff, said he is concerned that the common core scores reported are not true due to the opt out numbers. Mr. Cousins responded, high school students cannot opt out of state testing, these are required for graduation. President Labbate added, opt-out is only for 3-8 state testing. Mr. Romano asked who pays for the trips abroad. Mr. Cousins responded, students/parents pay for the trips. Mr. Romano asked why teachers are not replaced in the classes where scores were not good. Dr. Giarrizzo responded, if a teacher is tenured they can't just be let go. He went on to say, the teacher is not always the reason why the scores are low. There is an analysis done, a shift in instruction, adjustments are made, and we have made this a focus.

Tim Madden, Sea Cliff, asked if the Bach Harrison survey is to collect data as an aggregate or by individual student. Dr. Giarrizzo responded, it gets reported in the aggregate.

Denise Reiner, Glen Head, said since LAC is a committee appointed by the Board, it would be appreciated if there were LAC updates at Board meetings. President Labbate responded, there are planned updates, just not at every meeting. The next update is scheduled for January 11th.

Jerry Romano, Sea Cliff, asked for the data as to why North Shore spends more money in the classroom than Manhasset and Herricks. He went on to say the test scores do not indicate the money we are spending. Dr. Giarrizzo responded, as we are in the process of building the 2018-2019 budget and all is being scrutinized. He went on to say, our staff is based on enrollment and real course requests.

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

Personnel

Change of Appointment - Certified

Recommend: To approve the change of appointment for Kathleen Webber, Elementary, from Step 5 of the MA+30 salary schedule to Step 6 of the MA+15 salary schedule, effective January 2, 2018 through January 2, 2021 (Kathleen's transcripts indicate this is her correct placement)

Appointment – Non-Certified

Recommend: To approve the appointment for Michael Coyle, Part-time Bus Driver, effective December 11, 2017

Recommend: To approve the probationary appointment of Daniel Grennan, Automotive Mechanic, on Step 8 of the Automotive Mechanic salary schedule, effective December 11, 2017 with a 26 week probationary period

Recommend: To approve the probationary appointment of David Novak, Head Custodian, on Step 8 of the Head Custodian salary schedule, effective December 18, 2017 with a 26 week probationary period

Approval of Extra-Curricular Activity Advisors

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

High School

Dramatics

Asst. Light & Sound Mary Lou Iuvara Step 1

Organizations

Student Government Brooke Rogala* Step 1
*Leave Replacement

Supervision Jessie Uanino

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

Approval of Budget Transfer

Recommend: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$24,000 to cover the cost of the middle school musical direction and production and inter-municipal agreement for LJM RAD LLC for LIPA related issues

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

Approval to Dispose of Inventory

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

- 2 Monitors @ High School
- 1 Printer @ Glenwood Landing
- 1 Projector @ Glenwood Landing

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

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Bach Harrison, LLC

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District (School District) hereby approves the Memorandum of Understanding between Bach Harrison, LLC, and the School District to provide consultation on conducting the prevention needs assessment survey

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 Memorandum on behalf of the Board of Education.

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

Award of Bid to Milcon Construction for North Shore High School Exterior Abatement & Reconstruction

Recommend: To award the bid for Exterior Abatement & Reconstruction at the North Shore High School to the low bidder Milcon Construction Corp. at a base bid of \$694,270

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

Approval of Agreement with The Manhattan Theatre Club

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the Agreement between the School District and the Manhattan Theatre Club to provide workshops & a theatre performance during the period December 1, 2017 through January 31, 2018, pending review by counsel

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

Approval of Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District, having reviewed a certain Memorandum of Agreement concerning a potential request for a due process hearing in

executive session, hereby approves the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement and authorizes and directs the Board President to execute such agreement on behalf of the Board.

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

Appointment of Chairpersons to The Committee on Special Education (CSE), Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE), and the 504 Committee

Recommend: To appoint the following chairpersons to the Committee on Special Education (CSE), Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE), and the 504 Committee:

Peter Segal	Robert McKee
James Perez	Alyson Storck
William Kitay	Meredith Cherry

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

Approval of Special Education Services Contract

Recommend: 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 Central School District during the 2017-2018 school year

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

Approval of Amendment to Agreement with All About Kids

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an Amendment to the Agreement between the School District and All About Kids to provide specialized instruction services during the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, pending review by counsel
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 Commander and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Special Education Services (IEP)

Recommend: To approve special education services (IEP) as per the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education (CSE)

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

Approval of Settlement & Release Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a Settlement Agreement in connection with a contemplated impartial hearing, a copy of which has been provided to and reviewed by the members of the Board of Education

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to sign said Settlement Agreement and other documents pertaining to the settlement of the impartial hearing, on behalf of the Board of Education

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

Approval of Agreement with Erik Morales

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the Agreement between the School District and Erik Morales to provide a music clinic to sixth, seventh & eighth grade band students on January 11, 2018

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

Re-Appointment of Audit Committee Members

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education hereby re-appoints Robert Morales and Raymond Ottusch to the audit committee effective November 4, 2017

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

New Business

Trustee Labbate reported on a Legislative Action Committee meeting. Legislative Night is set for January 18th and Trustee Berliner will be the moderator. The committee has requested that board members please submit a question for the panel before the holiday break if possible.

Trustee Galati asked if there was any feedback from the last public comment regarding the return of assessments and the portal closing. Dr. Giarrizzo responded, Mr. Cousins and Mr. Dennis are working with their faculties about getting assessments back in a timely way. Regarding the portal, we have reached out to sister-districts to see how they handle this and we will have an answer at the next meeting.

Adjournment

At 9:50 p.m., on motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Galati and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk