

North Shore Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
January 24, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Sara Jones at 6:30 p.m. in the North Shore High School Library. Present were Trustees Commander, Ludmar, Madden, Russo and Vizza. Trustee Galati was absent. Also present Superintendent Peter Giarrizzo, and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi and Robert Chlebicki.

At 6:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Vizza and seconded by Trustee Madden and all in favor, the Board moved to convene an executive session in the Performing Arts Lab to discuss matters leading to the employment, promotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or persons, and collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law).

At 7:45 p.m. on motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Russo and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting in the library. There were approximately 100 people in the audience.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Jones led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Student Recognition**

President Jones and Dr. Giarrizzo recognized students who were selected to the All County Music Festival, the All State Winter Conference, and Hanah Leventhal for being selected to the All National Honors Ensemble.

**Approval of Minutes**

On motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Russo, and all in favor, the minutes of January 10, 2019 were approved.

**Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Giarrizzo congratulated the musicians who were recognized for their selection to All-County, All-State and All National. He commended the fine and performing arts program for their continued achievements. At tonight's meeting Dr. Giarrizzo will provide the Board with an update on the status of the work towards annual goals and strategic planning action items. While still only at the mid-point in the year, he is pleased to report that they are well on the way to meeting established targets. Dr. Giarrizzo updated the Board on the search to recruit a new Assistant Superintendent for Instruction. He received 88 applicants for the position and 24 of the most promising candidates have been invited for interviews. Committees will meet with candidates before the February break and the Board will interview finalists during early March. Budget preparations are in the final stages and our tax cap has been calculated at 2.701%. This is a result of the strong CPI, growth factor, and other exemptions. The budget will be presented to the Board at the meeting of February 7<sup>th</sup>. Pre-Bond work is continuing and Dr. Giarrizzo thanked Ms. Buatsi, Mr. Hall, and members of the Bond Steering Committee, Trustees Jones, Ludmar and Russo, for working so hard to keep this process moving along. They have been working closely with the new architects to scope the work into the pre-identified area of infrastructure, use of instructional space, health and wellness, and safety and security. The aim is present a tax neutral spending plan. On January 29<sup>th</sup> an online survey tool called Thought Exchange will be launched. A

thought exchange is an online conversation that allows you to share your ideas and rate the ideas of others based upon how important you feel they are. Community members, parents, all of our faculty and staff as well as all students in grades 3-12 will be asked their thoughts and ideas about how to update our schools, programs, and instructional spaces. Our architects will be conducting community focus groups within the next several weeks, and then all of this information will be brought to the Bond Advisory Committee after the results of the data and efforts are presented to the full Board on February 28th. The 2019-2020 academic calendar is on the agenda for the Board's consideration this evening. Pending approval, it will be distributed via email to the community and posted to the website tomorrow. Dr. Giarrizzo welcomed the new Coordinator of Safety and Security, Mr. Robert Oldham, to North Shore. He just started and the work is already moving. An update to the Board and community will be forthcoming and he thanked the Board for their continued support as conditions are enhanced to promote the safety and security of faculty, staff, and students.

### **Report from the SGO**

Alyssa Dey, Sr. Class president and Katherine Eigo, SGO Treasurer, reported on events and activities at the high school, including: the senior play raised \$3,500 for the senior class and voting on a theme for sports night is taking place. The SGO is working with CASA and they thanked Ms. Commander for her work with them. Ms. Lempenski sent out a survey to SGO members to find students who are interested in helping out with CASA and to get information on what students are up to. They are looking into getting videos on the TVs in the hallways, and having students attend town meeting with North Shore Alumni. Their next meeting will be focused on picking the theme for sports night and CASA. Trustee Commander thanked the SGO for their enthusiasm and interest. She also thanked the students in Interact and Key Club.

### **Regular Business**

#### **Mid-Year Report On Goals and Strategic Plan**

Dr. Giarrizzo updated the Board on the progress of the Strategic Plan and District Goals. He reviewed the 2018-2019, Multi-year, and On-Going Goal for each Pillar of the Strategic Plan and gave an update on the progress made on each. For Teaching and Learning, the 2018-2019 Goal of creating a K-12 Curriculum Council, Dr. Giarrizzo reported that subcommittees of the K-12 Curriculum Council have been formed and will report their plans to the full committee meeting in February. The Professional Development Committee is reviewing the purpose and goals to ensure that the opportunities it promotes and provides are designed with fidelity to the district's mission. Critical review of electives, a Steam Task Force and school-based and K-12 program-based Learning Walks are some of the current initiatives taking place as part of the 2018-2019 goal to promote excellence within a challenging academic program. The goal to Develop leadership to address equity issues throughout the system under the Equity for All Learners Pillar held a program with Erase Racism Training for the full administration and faculty, and are planning an upcoming program of Empowerment of Girls and Women. Future plans include anti-bias training for new teacher orientation, a hiring fair, and a plan to increase the number of diverse role models for students and staff and to develop a family liaison position. The following 2018-2019 goals for the Social Emotional Learning Pillar have been met: Internal teams have been established, K-12 Oversight Committee has been formed and a K-12 Breakfast Program has been implemented. Training modules are prepared for conducting a K-12 district needs assessment; module 1 is being delivered during the week of January 28th. Additional Goals for 2018-2019 include a Homework Task Force – research has been reviewed, surveys developed and being edited, development of policy and practice with recommendations in the spring. K-12 Audit in Literacy – Request for Proposals (RFP) have been sent and waiting response. Counseling Action Plans – Communicated at the

January 10 Board of Education Meeting. Chromebooks – surveys sent to the faculty on use of G-Suite; Students surveys currently being developed. Evidence Based Practices – Assigned to subcommittees of Teaching & Learning Committee. Pre-Bond Master Plan – Architects have assessed all sites, Infrastructure needs identified through Buildings Condition Survey, Priority 1 items identified in infrastructure, instructional space, health and wellness, and safety and security, Energy Performance Contract planning underway, survey to community, parents, staff and student launching on 1/29/19, Community focus groups to be scheduled in February, full board review on February 28<sup>th</sup>, Bond Advisory Committee to convene in March. Policy Review - Initial set of policies reviewed – 4000 Instruction-completed by 1/31/19; 5000 Students – completed by 5/2/19.

President Jones said she appreciates the efforts on expanding the breakfast program.

Trustee Commander acknowledged the efforts of reaching out to community and is encouraged by the level of student involvement which will raise the level of success.

Trustee Ludmar acknowledged the great work being done. He noted that although we are looking internally to understand what we are doing, it is also important to look externally at best practices and contemporary learning and to see how that fits into what we want to do.

President Jones agreed that from earlier discussions the point is to see that the data and research is supporting the decisions and processes to move forward.

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

President Jones reminded the public that the Board holds its meeting in public, however, that is not the same as holding a meeting with the public. She went on to say it is important to the Board to set aside two opportunities for public comment, although that is not required. She said the board will listen to comments, however some comments may not lend itself to a back and forth response that some residents would prefer. President Jones read the Board policy on public comments.

Grant Kletter, Sea Cliff, advocated for removing elections from the school buildings. He circulated a petition in this regard. Mr. Kletter read a statement about removing elections and stated that other school districts have successfully done this. Mr. Kletter did not file the petition nor his statement with the Clerk. Mr. Kletter asked the Board to take a position about removing the School Board Election from the school building at this meeting.

Jerry Romano, Sea Cliff, said if voting in schools is a safety issue, then the Board should not allow anyone in the schools during graduation or at any other event. Mr. Romano thanked the Board for putting information regarding reserves on the website. Mr. Romano then asked for the Board to explain the difference between some of the cash reserves North Shore has, compared to the reserves the Manhasset School District has. In particular, Mr. Romano asked why there is an Employee Benefit Reserve Liability to accrue for secretarial vacations and the justification for the \$3.4 million Capital Reserve. President Jones explained that this information has been given to Mr. Romano several times, and was discussed publicly on October 12<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup>. President Jones provided Mr. Romano with information on where he could find the information on what the differences are in spending between North Shore and Manhasset, which had previously been provided to him. Further, President Jones explained that the Board discussed the State Comptroller's recent State stress scores and their findings that Manhasset's reserves were actually too low as evidenced by their short term borrowing which was too high. In response to Mr. Romano's question of why the District has certain reserves, President Jones explained the reason for the *Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve* is because of the significant long term liability that this school district, and every school district, has. She went on to explain that this district has made specific decisions with regard to those reserves because of those long term liabilities. She further explained that our fiscal stress score, as reflected by the State Comptroller's scores, supports the decisions that have been made and are reflective of our short term borrowing. President Jones explained that they may not be reflective to the same degree when the State Comptroller looks at

Manhasset's fiscal stress score and that district has the right to make different decisions on what is best for their district. She further explained that decisions are made according to the needs of the district. In regard to the *Capital Reserve Fund*, President Jones reminded Mr. Romano that the voters of the District approved the funding of that reserve as well as the expenditures from it.

Justin Kletter Sea Cliff, asked for a copy of the presentation on the update of the strategic plan and goals. He said he was glad to see information on special education programs as part of the presentation. Mr. Kletter asked that when terms like inclusion, support, and inspire are used he hopes that will be for all students, including special education students, as it is important to hear their voice as well.

President Jones made a motion to move Old Business up to this point of the agenda. Trustee Russo seconded the motion. With all in favor, Old Business was moved up in the agenda.

### **Old Business**

Trustee Madden stated that he does not favor moving the Budget Vote and Election of Trustees, or any other School District Election, out of the school buildings, in particular out of the high school. He further stated he disagrees with the point in the petition, and with Mr. Kletter's statement, that it undermines the safety of the students. Trustee Madden said he believes the area of the high school where the budget vote takes place is isolated and separate from the academic area, and is largely shut off from the student population. Trustee Madden went on to say he also disagrees with the point in the petition that "no one can legally be prevented from entering the building during school hours on those [election] days". He does not believe that applies as one cannot enter other parts of the school building from the gym area on election day. Trustee Madden clarified that the high school has a wall separating the gym on election day, not a curtain. He cited the language of the law which states the building must be accessible and adequate. Trustee Madden said he believes the high school is actually desirable due to the layout of the building. Trustee Madden said he believes the school and community is one and the same. He wants to see the connection between the schools and community fostered and strengthened and not walled off. Trustee Madden stated he feels it is important to hold the election in the schools because it is good for the students to have that connection to community. Trustee Madden noted that the high school is open to events such as plays, athletic activities, homecoming, and recently a film festival. He went on to say those events open the entire building to hundreds of spectators and he would never support those events being closed off to community. Finally Trustee Madden said he feels removing the election from the schools would have the effect of disenfranchising voters, especially for this upcoming election, and would cause confusion, resulting in people not casting votes who normally would.

Trustee Vizza thanked her fellow Trustee for putting together thoughtful, well researched and heartfelt thoughts on this process. She did feel it seemed counterintuitive with all the work done to create an extremely secure school building to invite more strangers in, however the district has done a lot of work to identify gaps in the security of school buildings. She went on to say she does believe it is an appropriate spot to hold the school vote. She agrees with Trustee Madden with local education and the connection made with community members, families, students, seniors, and taxpayers. Trustee Vizza said she agrees with her colleagues to keep the Budget Vote, and any school based votes, at the high school gym. She feels it is an appropriate spot and a secure area.

President Jones said she is concerned that the petition seemed to convey a feeling that there is a disconnect between the Board and the community; that the Board is unconcerned with the security of students. She explained that prior to the petition being circulated, the Board has been working very hard on this issue to find the safest and most secure way of holding the election. She went on to list the various steps already taken, including changing the calendar, changing dismissal procedures, hiring security, looking at state laws, consulting with their attorneys to look at what the law means exactly,

they looked at the definitions of all the words in the laws, started working on the legislation on the state level, which is still ongoing, to see if the District can get any leeway with the County Board of Elections. She further explained that the law states clearly that the County can use public schools for elections and we must let them hold them in spaces with closest access. President Jones wanted the community to know that the Board is easy to approach but they do not have the tools they need. She reminded the community that she has children in multiple buildings herself who are impacted by these laws.

Trustee Ludmar said he agrees with his colleagues who have spoken very well on the issue. He reminded the public that the District has taken steps to address the issue and show it is a priority by closing school on Election Day and seeking legislative relief regarding the general and primary elections. Trustee Ludmar said it is important for those who signed the petition, and are discussing this in the community, to know that the District only has control over the Budget Vote and Election of Trustees, Nassau County Board of Elections controls the location of the other elections. He went on to say that there are laws in place. This Board consulted our attorneys who has given clear advice on this issue and unless the Board felt that advice was egregiously wrong, it would not make sense to go against their advice. Trustee Ludmar said he feels the Board has taken steps to make students safe during the Budget Vote, which is the one election that is locked off from the rest of the school. Another step the Board has taken is to task the Legislative Action Committee (LAC) to work with other districts to bring weight to this issue with the County Board of Elections. He went on to say it is important for the community to know that the Board is not ignoring this issue. Trustee Ludmar asked that people remember this is a larger issue which really lies with the County Board of Elections. He further said the Board does take the issue seriously as evidenced by the fact that it has been raised to a level of importance where the Board is discussing it and making steps to change things.

Trustee Commander said the school is central to the community and removing the vote from the school community makes her uncomfortable. She went on to say she understands the concern of the residents, but in this instance she feels they are able to focus the security measures in place and make the school as safe as it can possibly be.

President Jones read recent legislation regarding early voting. She noted that the County Board of Elections will be designating up to 7 polling places for the entire county for early voting. She also noted that part of the criteria for designation as an early polling place is to have access to as many voters as possible, such as near mass transit. She does not believe this will affect our District. Finally, she explained that the legislation has indicated that state and federal primaries will be held on the same day so that will be one less day schools will be used.

Trustee Russo added there is a difference between our school elections held in the high school and the elections run by the County Board of Elections held in the elementary schools, especially now with early voting. She went on to say, it is worth looking into how we can change holding elections in our elementary and middle schools. She further stated it is counterintuitive to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on security and then have elections going on in elementary schools while class is in session.

Trustee Jones said the entire Board agrees with Trustee Russo's statement.

Trustee Ludmar noted at the LAC meeting there was an overlap discussion about unfunded mandates, the interruption of the school day, and the cost involved.

Trustee Vizza asked that concurrent events at the high school on budget vote day be scheduled on a different day to allow more parking for voters. Trustee Russo added, it also adds more areas to monitor for security reasons. President Jones suggested there needs to be more monitoring of voter parking which is supposed to be limited to 15-minute parking.

Trustee Russo asked if more statistical data from the guidance review can be given to the public, specifically on college admissions. Dr. Giarrizzo asked that specific questions from parents be sent to him or have parents email him directly.

Dr. Giarrizzo and Mr. Chlebicki spoke about the administration of the PSAT at the high school and the benefit of having students, both sophomores and juniors, take the exam during the school day, over taking it on a Saturday. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that initially it was thought going back to a Saturday administration of the exam would be most beneficial. However, after weighing the cost and participation rate, they have decided it would be more beneficial to continue the practice of administering it to sophomores and juniors during the school day. Mr. Cousins is looking at a wide range of opportunities for freshmen and seniors so there will be no loss of instructional time for those students on the day the PSAT is administered.

Trustee Ludmar said Mr. Cousin's memo stated the number of students taking the PSAT has dramatically increased. He noted there is a tangible benefit for students by having the test administered during the school day, especially for first generation college students, which ties into the equity study.

Trustee Vizza thanked Mr. Chlebicki for considering the question. She agreed the equity component is important. She also noted by offering the test to sophomores it gives them a no pressure opportunity to take the test. In terms of programming for the day, she suggested it is a great opportunity for students to put together workshops for other students.

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

Granting of Tenure

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby grants tenure to Lina Onufrock, FLES (Spanish), effective February 7, 2019

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 Briana James, Elementary, effective January 28, 2019 through June 30, 2019

Rest and Restoration Leave - Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a rest and restoration leave for Linda Burgos, Elementary, effective February 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019

Increment for Advanced Study - Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an increment for advanced study for Steven Burgos, Spanish, from Step 5 of the MA+15 salary schedule to Step 5 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2019

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an increment for advanced study for Brynn D'Amico, Elementary, from Step 8 of the MA salary schedule to Step 8 of the MA+15 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2019

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an increment for advanced study for Lauren Moran, Art from Step 10 of the MA+15 salary schedule to Step 10 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2019



<u>Name</u>	<u>Course</u>
Helen Bauer	Northwinds Symphonic Band
Stephen Goldstein	North Shore Community Chorus
Ana Annam	Drawing w/Confidence & Expressive Watercolor
Teresa Paolillo-Schiano	Sewing
Phyllis Hintz	Ballroom Dancing
Patricia Mitchell	Monday Yoga, Meditation, Afternoon Yoga
Janice Nunziata	Yoga for Better Back
John Manzone	3 Person Basketball
Michele Cochrane	Early Am Fitness Class
Jerry Cohen	Advanced Volleyball
Jason Hill	Beginning, Intermediate & Advanced Pickleball
Jerry Vivona	Beginner & Intermediate Tennis
Julie Ward-Abdo	Medicare Made Easy
Jeffrey Silverman	Income Flow through Retirement, Annuities
Shane Parouse	Income Flow Through Retirement, Annuities
Christopher Pierce	CPR, Mommy 911
Regina Brandow	Guardianship of Elders, Elder Law
Steven Dougherty	Small Scale Landscape Design
Patrick Cassino	Chemistry SAT Review
Seth Klein	Chemistry SAT Review
Bell Auto	Defensive Driving & Point Reduction Class
Notary Public Central, Inc.	Notary Public Training Course

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items E-H

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

Acceptance of a Donation from The Middle School PTSO to The North Shore Middle School

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts a donation of \$7,150 from the Middle School PTSO to the North Shore Middle School to cover the cost of speakers for Challenge Day

Acceptance of Donations from The Kiwanis Club of North Shore Long Island, Inc. to The North Shore High School

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the following donations from the Kiwanis Club of North Shore Long Island, Inc. to the North Shore High School:

\$500 to the Life Skills Program to provide financial assistance for the end of year trip

\$1,300 to the Key Club to go towards the Annual Leadership Convention

Acceptance of a Donation from The Women's Club to The North Shore High School Cheerleading Club

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the donation of \$300 from the Women's Club to the Cheerleading Club at the high school to cover the cost of a student's cheerleading uniform

Acceptance of Donation from Allied Maker to The North Shore High School Robotics Club

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts a donation of the following equipment from Allied Maker to the Robotics Club at the High School at a total value of \$5,267:

1 – Grizzly Industrial Milling/Drilling Machine for wood and Metal Fabrication – retail value \$2,269  
1-Precision Matthews Metal Lathe – retail value \$2,998

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

Approval of Agreement Between the North Shore CSD and Challenge Day

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an agreement between the School District and Challenge Day Program to provide a Challenge Day Program on March 18 and 19, 2019 for Middle School students at a total cost of \$7,150 plus expenses as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement; 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 Commander and seconded by Trustee Vizza and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Special Education Services (IEP)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves special education services (IEPs) as per the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education (CSE)

On motion of Trustee Vizza and seconded by Trustee Madden and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Agreement Between the North Shore CSD and North Coast Psychological Services, PLLC

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an agreement between the School District and North Coast Psychological Services to provide neuropsychological and psychoeducational evaluation services, expenses as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement; 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 Russo and seconded by Trustee Madden and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Budget Transfer

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves budget transfers in the amount of \$62,000, to cover special education contractual services, effective January 24, 2019

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

Approval of Agreement Between the North Shore CSD and Samuel Mainzer

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an agreement between the School District and Samuel Mainzer, to provide costume rentals and costumer consultant services as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement, effective January 25, 2019 through February 9, 2019; 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 Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Madden and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Health Services Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby enters into a contract for Health Services with the Huntington UFSD for 1 student residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the Huntington UFSD for the 2018-2019 school year at a cost of \$627.24 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

### **Board Committee Reports**

Trustee Commander reported on the Wellness Committee. They have had two meetings, one in December and one in January. They are working closely with the idea of incorporating a review of health and wellness in all levels of the program. They are reviewing the nutrition policy in light of the federal restrictions that have been changed. They would like to follow-up with the elementary teachers on the issue of not excluding students from physical activity as a punishment. They had a long discussion about Red Ribbon Week and addressing substance abuse. To make it more successful they need to develop a strategy as a district approach with one person responsible for activities and K-12 coordination. There was agreement to focus on anxiety and stress in all discussions this year and to ensure opportunities for physical exercise and mindfulness activities on all levels. Arrangements for discounts for teachers and staff at local facilities is being arranged. At the last meeting they discussed a survey for teachers to provide feedback for children in their classes on specific stressors such as lack of sleep and coping skills, to get an idea by grade of the stresses students are feeling.

Trustee Commander left the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Trustee Russo, reported on the Bond Steering Committee. The list of items identified to be done is extensive, so she encouraged the public to fill out the survey which is going out January 29 and attend meetings with the architects and members of Board. She stressed the importance of the community's input so the Board is aware of their priorities as they work to present a bond in a cost neutral way. The next discussion will be at the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting and she encouraged the public to attend.

Trustee Ludmar reported on the Construction Steering Committee. The high school mansard roof tile as discussed was installed in the wrong color and will be fixed in the spring once the weather is warmer. Smart bond work has been approved and they are hoping for work to be done over the February break. Moving forward with the work on the ceiling in the high school cafeteria-plans are with SED and they are working with an independent review trying to expedite it. The old bond is 99% complete trying to get that complete; the alternative energy photo voltaic issue will be rolled into the new bond which will make us greener and more cost efficient- it will be in concert with the and Energy Performance Contract (EPC). They discussed looking into the possibility of a back ramp out of the transportation facility and the front entrance of the high school; this will be discussed during the budget discussion.

Trustee Madden reported on the Policy Sub-Committee. They met first in December and Dr. Giarrizzo developed an efficient way to look at a large number of policies. They looked at the first part of the 4000 policies (instruction) Rob and principals offered suggestions to language, not substantive in nature. Trustee Madden had asked if the District had a policy on return of assessments, specifically the timeframe for return of assessments in the secondary schools; Trustee Madden has shared the Great Neck policy on this. Dr. Giarrizzo has referred this to the secondary principals. Trustee Russo added grades do not go into the Portal in a timely manner and this would be something that should be added to any policy established. Dr. Giarrizzo will look into timeframe for posting to the portal. Trustee Ludmar asked if the issue returning the assessment is of intrinsic value. Trustee Madden clarified that students should be able to see not just the grade, but the assessment itself to see where they may have gone wrong.

Trustee Vizza reported on the District-wide Safety Committee. They discussed the indoor air quality. They spoke about the front entrance at the high school and digital sign. They spoke about the new ½ time security person and additional security personnel for additional shifts at all schools. They discussed a new issue of contact food allergies; doing some work that there is awareness on to secondary buildings. They discussed high school drop off at dismissal-students are darting between the buses. Dr. Giarrizzo said they have already been there to assess the situation and are addressing it. They spoke about the wood shop and metal shop and safety of keeping those areas clean and shavings and dust collection.

Trustee Ludmar reported on the Legislation Action Committee (LAC) Meeting. They did not have a quorum but had 4 members present. They spoke about unfunded mandates both in legislative and state departments and how to reignite the fight against unfunded mandates with SuperLAC; Ms. Buatsi has provided a list of unfunded mandates and the cost associated. Dr. Giarrizzo added, a list has been forwarded from the Nassau County Council of School Superintendents as well. They discussed holding a Legislative Breakfast hopefully in the spring. They discussed elections in schools, reviewed what has been discussed, what the district's approach has been, and the election law passed. They talked about keeping LAC on track and making sure that they accomplish what can be accomplished. Dr. Giarrizzo suggested a GoogleDoc to accrue information. With a goal to research 7-8 topics that have been assigned, this would be a tangible way to see results of the research and track and monitor the progress of those topics that can't be solved in a year. LAC Chairperson Cheryl Brown has started the GoogleDoc and the goal is to get an informative report, with or without recommendations, to the Board by end of year.

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

Rob Mazzella, Glen Head, said he agrees with Trustee Vizza about accessibility during election night. He suggested holding those events on another night and said he believes it is disingenuous to say there are no other nights to hold high school events than on election night. Mr. Mazzella said he believes there is creative middle ground to the problem of having elections in the schools. He suggested holding it on a Superintendent Day so students are not in the building. He also suggested holding all school related votes on one day which would also cut down on expenses. Mr. Mazzella suggested having the community consider whether or not they want elections in the schools through a voter proposition. Mr. Mazzella noted that a child in the middle school was diagnosed with Whooping Cough. He said there is a population of children who are not vaccinated which causes a risk for our children and he finds this concerning. He went on to say he realizes children are allowed to get exemptions for religious or medical reasons. He asked if we are permitted to get proof of the exemption or do we just take their word for it. Mr. Mazzella offered his assistance regarding allergies in the schools. He cautioned that any efforts should not have the effect of isolating children or causing them to feel isolated.

Grant Kletter, Sea Cliff, thanked the Board for giving their view and taking a stand and position on elections in the schools. He said he has much more to say on the issue and he hoped this would not be a final decision. He asked what the best forum would be to discuss the issue going forward. President Jones read a quote from the petition that the Board of Elections has said the Board of Education is fine with holding the elections in their schools. Mr. Kletter clarified that he reached out to the Board of Elections who told him North Shore has never spoken out against holding the elections in their schools and always signs the MOAs. Trustee Russo suggested Mr. Kletter come to the next LAC meeting which is open to the public. She explained that it will be on their agenda and they would be happy to get any information he would like to share. The meeting is February 12 at 7:30 p.m. Trustee Russo explained that LAC reports to the Board and works with other districts and legislators, through

LAC the word can get out to other members of the community. President Jones explained that the only way the full Board can talk and respond is in public, they are not permitted to respond as a whole through email. Mr. Kletter will send a letter to the Board and will attend the LAC meeting.

Emily Dalto, Old Brookville, asked about bus transportation. She has 2 children one in public school and one in private school. She asked why all students are not transported on North Shore buses. Dr. Giarrizzo responded we do try to accommodate as many students as possible with our own buses, however we don't have enough buses or drivers. Ms. Dalto asked that the Board look into this issue because her kindergarten child is on the bus for an hour and half to a school that is 10 minutes away. She has been told by the transportation department that it is about routes.

Elizabeth Yiachos, Old Brookville, also spoke about the busing issue, her child's school is a 7-minute car ride and it takes 1 hour 45 minutes by bus. The bus company told her it is a North Shore problem. Dr. Giarrizzo will follow up on this.

#### **New Business**

No new business.

#### **Adjournment**

At 10:35 p.m. on motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi  
District Clerk