

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
March 28, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Sara Jones at 7:00 p.m. in the North Shore High School Library. Present were Trustees Commander, Galati, Ludmar, and Vizza. Trustees Madden and Russo were absent. Also present Superintendent Peter Giarrizzo, and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi and Robert Chlebicki.

At 7:00 p.m. on motion of Trustee Vizza and seconded by Trustee Galati and all in favor, the Board moved to convene an executive session in the Performing Arts Lab to discuss matters regarding proposed, pending or current litigation.

At 7:45 p.m. on motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting in the library. There were approximately 40 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 participated in the High School Writing Center Fellowship Program and students who were selected to the New York State Band Director's Assn. High School Honor Band, Middle School Honor Band, and the Long Island Strings Festival.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Galati and all in favor, the minutes of March 14, 2019 were approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

On motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Commander and all in favor, the treasurer's report of February 1, 2019 through February 28, 2019 was approved.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Giarrizzo revealed the new format of the District's website. He explained that the 2019-2020 budget that is proposed for the Board's adoption this evening is \$107,799,954.90 and reflects a tax levy increase of 2.63% and a budget to budget increase of 2.80%. He further explained that the allowable tax levy limit for North Shore this year was 2.7%. Dr. Giarrizzo said he is "proud to present a budget that enacts our strategic plan, upgrades our safety and security measures, enhances our academic program, and continues to maintain our infrastructure and facilities". He highlighted the programmatic items included in the budget: High School- Introduction of FIRST Robotics, a cycle of computer science for all students, and new coursework in coding, robotics, and app design; Middle School- a coding course for all middle school students, introduction of digital portfolios, research databases, and experiences in media and literacy; Elementary Schools- FIRST Lego Robotics for all first graders, new clubs, programming to support social-emotional learning, a full time health and wellness teacher, and a full-time school

counselor; Special Education: Full day co-teaching will be implemented in K-3; Technology-Chromebooks will be expanded to grades 5 and 9; Flexible Classroom spaces will be piloted in each school to support collaborative 21st Century Learning. All information on the budget can be found online and the budget newsletter, which will be printed in both English and Spanish as required by law, will be going out in the next few weeks. He will be going out into the community to speak about the budget. This year he is hoping to set up events at local businesses; a schedule will be forthcoming.

Dr. Giarrizzo congratulated Dalia Rodriquez and the Fine and Performing Arts Department for being named a Best Community for Music Education for the third year in a row.

He announced that North Shore CASA is sponsoring a program called Disconnect to Reconnect; participating local restaurants will provide bags to hold your cell phones while you eat so patrons can engage with each other. He explained that he is working with CASA on small and large group programming to address vaping among our students. He further stated that it is becoming an increasingly overwhelming problem, and students are engaging at very young ages. He said we need to work together to combat this, and he plans to do so aggressively.

Dr. Giarrizzo gave an update on the search to find a new Sea Cliff Elementary School Principal. The first stage of the process will conclude tomorrow when the application portal closes; as of this evening there are 99 applications. Dr. Zublionis and Dr. Giarrizzo met with his faculty and parents last week, they are collecting survey information to help build a strong leadership profile. Along with Mr. Chlebicki and Dr. Zublionis, they will screen and interview candidates over the next two weeks and present candidates to a committee before a final recommendation is made to the Board of Education. The target to appoint a new principal is May 30th.

Dr. Giarrizzo reported that Pre-Bond work is also moving along. Together with the principals and directors they have been working with our architects through the concept and design process. The community Bond Advisory Committee will convene during the week of April 8th.

Dr. Giarrizzo welcomed Barbara Graziano from Western Suffolk BOCES, who was at the meeting to speak to the Board and community about the most recent demographic and capacity studies. He thanked all who have registered their kindergarten students. Currently there are 142 students registered for the North Shore Class of 2032. The projection for three sections across the District seem to be on target. He went on to say that he will keep a close watch on all section counts and there are contingency plans to support any situations that may come up.

Report from the SGO

Michael Albanese and John Labbate, SGO co-presidents, reported on events and activities at the high school, including: the third quarter in the high school will be ending tomorrow, the spring sports season has just started; the boys and girls lacrosse teams are doing well as are the baseball and softball teams. The SGO is holding a fundraising event for Earth Day with all proceeds going for the planting of trees. They congratulated the Fine and Performing Arts Department for the successful production of *Pippin*. The Robotics Team made it to the playoffs and have another Competition at Hofstra this weekend. They are pleased to see all of the new STEM programs being added throughout the district next year. The SGO is working closely with CASA instituting student forums to address health, wellness and substance abuse beginning on Tuesday. Finally, seniors are preparing for the annual senior fashion show.

Trustee Commander acknowledged John Labbate's leadership on the student forums. She said his input has been invaluable.

Regular Business

Prior to adoption of the budget, Dr. Giarrizzo thanked the Board for funding our schools. He thanked them for the flexibility and structure to be sure the budget reflects what we value and is tuned

in to the needs of our students, while being fiscally responsible and accountable. He gave an overview of what is included in the budget including innovative programs, supporting STEM, Health & Wellness and Social and Emotional Learning as well as supporting strong professional development. He thanked Olivia Buatsi, who he called the “best business official he ever worked with”, for the full year process of putting the budget together but always keeping the students we serve in the forefront of every decision. He thanked Rob Chlebicki for supporting the instructional programs and for his leadership, as well as the principals, budget developers, and central office support staff, especially Lois Straber. Finally, he said he presents the Board with this budget with his strongest recommendation and support.

Trustee Ludmar noted that the Board represents the community. During their budget review the Board asked a lot of questions. He invited the public to look over the budget and know what they are voting on. He said this is a community effort and he encourages everyone to come to Board meetings and ask questions. Finally, he thanked the administration for all of the work that went into the budget preparation.

President Jones thanked the Board for going through the hundreds of pages of the budget. She thanked the administration for the artful balance of taking into account the new and emerging needs of students.

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

Adoption of The 2019-2020 Budget

RESOLVED, that the proposed budget in the amount of \$107,799,954.90 for the 2019-2020 school year be adopted for submission to the qualified voters of the North Shore Central School District at the annual election to be held on May 21, 2019

Demographic/Capacity Study

Barbara Graziano, from Western Suffolk BOCES gave a presentation on the Demographic and Enrollment Study which they completed for the District. She reviewed what was involved in the study which included a study of births, housing, population, non-public enrollment, enrollment trends over the past 10 years, migration from grade to grade and birth persistence analysis. Ms. Graziano explained that the overall enrollment projections generally fall within a 4% margin of error. She further explained that projections based on students already enrolled in the system are most reliable, as are projections calculated for the periods closest in time, particularly for the first five-year period. Ms. Graziano reviewed the district enrollment, over the last 10 years. She explained that on average the district gains or maintains students in transition to most grades; average losses are noted to ninth grade. She further explained that losses through displacement, the number between graduating seniors and incoming kindergarten, have occurred in each of the last ten years. This trend is expected to continue with losses of between 21-55 students each year through 2023 due to this displacement. However, the losses through displacement will be minimized by the gains in migration. The district’s enrollment has decreased a total of 300 students from 2008 through 2018 and between 2018-2023 it is projected to be down a total of 27. They are projecting stable enrollment over the next five years in the elementary schools. Ms. Graziano reviewed the facility analysis (capacity study). She explained that the NYSED defines operating capacity as “the total number of students a building can reasonably and efficiently house based on the district’s class size policy and the number, size and current use of rooms”. She further explained that “the actual enrollment by grade in each school will not conform to the available numbers of seats in each classroom. Therefore, it would be unrealistic to expect utilization levels to be at 100% of capacity.” Their facility analysis projects Glen Head School to be in the mid-70’s range of capacity; Glenwood Landing in the mid-80’s range, Sea Cliff in the mid to high 70’s range, the Middle School between 80-90% and the high school between mid-70’s to 80% capacity. In summary, Ms. Graziano explained that enrollment is expected to remain relatively stable during the next five years;

stability is expected in the elementary grades, and a small gain is projected in the middle grades. However, a loss is expected in the high school grades as smaller cohorts move through the system.” She further explained that “based on current enrollment trends, all district buildings will have adequate space to accommodate the core and support programs that are currently being offered in the North Shore School District.”

Trustee Ludmar noted that today’s use of classrooms is different than it used to be. He asked if the capacity study was based on the current utilization or if it took into account how students might learn five years from now. Ms. Graziano explained that the analysis was done on its current use.

President Jones asked what the benchmark is for capacity. She noted that the middle school will be approaching 91% in five years which seems high. Ms. Graziano responded, it is difficult to project an actual number as it is different by district; each district has different programs. She further explained that once you go above 90% scheduling can be challenging. President Jones added, the middle school is trying to offer more electives which would make that difficult.

Trustee Ludmar asked about the displacement of outgoing twelfth graders to incoming kindergarten. He has been looking at historical data and cohorts of students to see where we add or lose students along the way, and noted historical trends showing large gains from K-8, a loss of students from 8-9, then a small re-gain from 9-12, resulting in an overall increase in cohort size of fifteen students over the K-12 progression. He wondered how we compare to other districts. He noted that our District has outpaced with the three categories of projections as people are moving into the district. Ms. Graziano responded that they did take into account migration and housing; some grade levels they used a slightly higher average based on the high median sale price. However, they also saw that some younger families are being priced out. Trustee Ludmar suggested the District do some analysis as buyers are moving in from Queens. He went on to say communities seem to evolve in a slow way and our older population is starting to move. President Jones asked if there was some survey data on new home buyers. Ms. Graziano responded they did receive about 30 responses indicating moves from Queens or Manhattan, however she noted that millennials have student loan debt and are living home longer, first homeowner rates are down as well.

President Jones asked whether it is possible to determine how the properties in the area, being developed into condos or townhouses, will affect capacity. Ms. Graziano responded it would depend on what type of development. She went on to say, right now it seems to be geared toward young professionals not ready for children. President Jones said there is a possibility that 17 single family homes will be built in the Glenwood Landing School area, she wondered how that would affect the capacity at that school. Trustee Ludmar added, the Glen Harbor property could bump up the capacity at Glenwood Landing School which is near capacity. President Jones added, the enrollment projections seem to rely on the county birthrate and there does not seem like a strong correlation between the county birthrate and district enrollment. Ms. Graziano said they depended more on the district birthrate and enrollment, but district births are so small they needed to look at the county as well. She went on to say there is a great number of kids coming into the district above the births in the district. She further stated, births are not going back to what they were, people are not having large families as they once were, add to that the cost of housing on Long Island.

Dr. Giarrizzo thanked Ms. Graziano for the thorough report. He explained that with the Pre-Bond discussions it is important to know what the demography is. He went on to say knowing that enrollment is fairly stable over the next period of time, and that our use of space is adequate, puts us in a good place going into bond discussions. Dr. Giarrizzo noted that the Board is asked many times about closing a school building to save money. He asked Ms. Graziano to share her thoughts on that. Ms. Graziano responded that would not be an option.

Comments from the Public

Rob Mazzella, Glen Head, asked if the decline in student enrollment from grade 7 to 8 last year was an anomaly or if it was indicative of a trend. Dr. Giarrizzo responded it was not an anomaly, it has been the same from year to year, there was no significant difference. President Jones noted that approximately 10% of students go to private school each year; the County average is 12%.

Mr. Mazzella asked about the health insurance line in the budget. He said he was unable to find the actual expenditure from 2017-2018. Ms. Buatsi asked that he call her to review it. Mr. Mazzella said it looks like it had been fairly stable but has been increasing. He feels that line has been over budgeted. Ms. Buatsi explained that the health insurance rate is set on a calendar year basis. When the budget was being formulated, they did not have the rate for January of 2020. School business officials project the rate together. She further explained that apart from salaries, the health insurance line is the highest expense in the budget, therefore it is always best to hedge on the conservative side. Additionally, the line must be funded for all employees, whether or not they currently choose to take insurance. Employees are permitted to opt into the insurance at any time. She continued to explain that it is almost impossible to be 100% accurate in that category.

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

Personnel

Leaves 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 Jessica McNeill, Music, effective September 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020

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 Elissa Mazzeo, Art, effective September 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020

Resignation – Non-Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of Lawrence Curcio, Jr., Part-time Cleaner, effective February 1, 2019

Employment Benefits for Full-time Security Aides

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby authorizes the following employment benefits for all full-time Security Aides employed by the District:

Sick Leave:

Effective July 1, 2018, all Full Time Security Aides that are assigned 33.75 hour (or more) work week on a consistent basis shall be entitled to (2) two paid sick days per year. The policy of paid sick leave in cases of short-term illness shall be subject to the District's discretion. The District's discretion shall be exercised to deny sick leave where there is a determination that the unit member is abusing the sick leave policy. Unused sick days are not accrued and are not available for payment if not used.

Personal Business Leave:

Effective July 1, 2018, all Full Time Security Aides that are assigned 33.75 hour (or more) work week on a consistent basis shall be entitled to (2) two personal business leave days per year. The request for personal business leave shall be filed with the Director of Facilities, (1) one week in advance of the anticipated absence. The reason for the "Personal Business" must be given for the absence. The granting of personal business leave days shall be subject to approval of the Director of Facilities. Unused personal business leave days are not accrued and are not available for payment if not used.

Approval of Side Letter of Agreement with The North Shore Schools Federated Employees Regarding the Temporary Assignment to Athletic Director Duties

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a side letter of agreement between the North Shore Central School District and the North Shore Schools Federated Employees concerning the temporary assignment of two teachers to Athletic Director duties
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education

Approval of Side Letter of Agreement between the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District and the United Public Service Employees Union-Paraprofessional Unit Concerning Donation of Sick Days

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a side letter of agreement between the North Shore Central School District and the United Public Service Employees Union-Paraprofessional Unit concerning Donation of Sick Days, dated March 28, 2019; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education

Teacher Overages

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the following overages effective March 25, 2019 through April 29, 2019:

Christine Considine, Math .2
Christine Halloran, Math .2
Brooke Rogala, Math .2

Approval of Extra-Curricular Activity Advisor & Coaches

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the following extra-curricular activity advisor & coaches:

Middle School

Stage E3 Director	Diane Vestuto	Step 1
Girls Lacrosse	John DeLiso	Step 1

Middle & High School

Intramurals	Daniel Ryu	Step 1
	Emily Whelan	Step 1

Supervision

Daniel Ryu

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

Approval of Budget Transfers

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves budget transfers in the amount of \$141,000 to cover computers and materials for the districtwide safety & security, extended sick leave for teacher with medical complications and maintenance costs for students attending special education placement in residential settings

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

Approval of Health Services Contract

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education enter into a contract for Health Services with Garden City UFSD for 3 students residing within the North Shore Central School District and attending non-public

schools within the Garden City UFSD for the 2018-2019 school year at a cost of \$987.37 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education enter into a contract for Health Services with Jericho UFSD for 10 students residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the Jericho UFSD for the 2018-2019 school year at a cost of \$1,321.58 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education enter into a contract for Health Services with Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD for 3 students residing within the North Shore Central School District and attending non-public schools within the Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD for the 2018-2019 school year at a cost of \$855 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education enter into a contract for Health Services with Syosset CSD for 7 students residing within the North Shore Central School District and attending non-public schools within the Syosset CSD for the 2018-2019 school year at a cost of \$985.75 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

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

Approval of Agreement Between the North Shore Central School District and Nassau BOCES Department of Regional Schools and Instruction Programs

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the Agreement between the School District and Nassau BOCES Department of Regional Schools & Instructional Programs for a Regional Summer School program to be provided for students at North Shore High School and other Nassau BOCES component districts at the North Shore High School, during the period commencing July 1, 2019 and ending on or about August 31, 2019;

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

Resolution Approving an Inter-Municipal Cooperative Agreement for Transportation Services

WHEREAS, a number of public school districts in Nassau County wish to jointly solicit proposals, together with the Nassau Board of Cooperative Educational Services ("BOCES") for pupil transportation services for the 2019-20 school year (and any renewal period) in accordance with the applicable provisions of General Municipal Law;

WHEREAS, the public school districts and the BOCES have agreed to form a Cooperative (the "Cooperative") for this purpose;

WHEREAS, the North Shore Central School District is desirous of participating in the Cooperative for joint solicitation of proposals for pupil transportation services as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Transportation Agreement attached hereto;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the School District to participate in the Cooperative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Transportation Agreement (Recitals) attached hereto and authorizes the Board President to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

On motion of Trustee Vizza and seconded by Trustee Commander 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 (IEP) as per the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education (CSE)

Board Committee Reports

The policy committee will meet on April 4th.

The LAC committee was unable to meet.

The Construction Steering Committee met on March 12. The mansard roof should be done over the spring break. The plan for the entrance by the Victorian Studio may need SED approval and the high school PTO has offered to help support that project. The Bond Steering Committee will be folded into the Construction Steering Committee so they will meet together going forward. The RFP has been completed for the Energy Performance Contract (EPC). State approval for capital projects include the A/C projects which will be going out to bid shortly. The hope is to get those awarded soon so the work can be done over the summer and off the ground for the fall. The committee was thankful for the third party review which expedited the process.

Wellness Committee will meet on April 1.

The Safety Committee met on March 20. There was an update to the security component. Mr. Oldham gave an update on the location of the budget vote. Uniforms for security guards are being ordered. They spoke about the traffic on Glen Cove Avenue, they will be reaching out to legislators. They will speak to their POP officers about the traffic guard at the light between the middle and high schools. Trustee Vizza suggested a change in the projects going forward as many are closed out. Dr. Giarrizzo noted that Bob Oldham will be taking over the committee.

Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

New Business

President Jones said she read the article sent by Dr. Giarrizzo about the SED regulations on student data privacy. She said although it is a daunting task she believes it is a worthwhile task. Dr. Giarrizzo will get an update from Elliot Kaye.

Trustee Galati asked about information on multilingual copies of the ballot for the Budget Vote & Election of Trustees. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that we received guidance from the DOJ that school districts must provide all materials relating to the budget in both English and Spanish. This includes the ballot and newsletter.

Trustee Vizza suggested that the Board add student representation from all buildings to the Board, similar to what Great Neck does. She noted that in years past, the SGO representative was a serious position who stayed for the full meeting and gave comment to the Board. Jack Feldman noted that Great Neck has several student representatives on their Board and this might change the format of their meetings. President Jones suggested this be discussed by the full Board to decide how they might like to proceed with this suggestion.

Adjournment

At 9:45 p.m. on motion of Trustee Commander and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk