

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
March 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President David Ludmar at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held via *Zoom*. Present were Trustees Galati, Jones, Macari, Madden, Russo and Vizza. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Peter Giarrizzo and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi and Christopher Zublionis.

At 6:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Vizza and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, the Board moved to convene an executive session to consider discussions regarding matters leading to the employment, promotion or demotion of a particular person or persons.

At 7:45 p.m. on motion of Trustee Macari and seconded by Trustee Russo and all in favor, the Board came out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Ludmar led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Galati and all in favor, the Board moved to separate the Minutes of February 25, 2021 from approval with the rest of the minutes.

On motion of Trustee Macari and seconded by Trustee Russo and all in favor, the minutes of February 23, 2021, February 24, 2021, and March 4, 2021 were approved.

On motion of Trustee Macari and seconded by Trustee Galati, with Trustees Galati, Jones, Ludmar, Macari, Madden and Vizza for and Trustee Russo abstaining, the minutes of February 25, 2021 were approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Prior to approval, Trustee Jones noted that there needed to be a correction to the first page of the treasurer's report which appeared blank and should read zero. Ms. Buatsi agreed and will make that correction. Trustee Jones asked if the delay of the April tax payments will have a significant impact on cash flow. Ms. Buatsi said she continually checks with the Towns of Oyster Bay and North Hempstead who have not been indicating the District should not see a delay in payment. She went on to explain this is the reason the Board approved a TANs resolution and if necessary, we would be able to take money from the Workers' Compensation Reserve and pay it back. She noted that the treasurer is on top of this but if taxes are deferred, they are prepared. There are two options, because the District has reserves, they can borrow from reserves and pay it back with interest therefore eliminating additional borrowing costs. The other option is to use Tax Anticipation Notes (TANs) to meet cash flow requirements. President Ludmar noted that these are actions approved by the Board if necessary. He noted that the financial side of the District is complex and the pandemic has accelerated cash flow issues because of the delay in receiving taxes from the Towns.

On motion of Trustee Macari and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, the Treasurer's Report of January 1, 2021 through January 31, 2021 was approved.

Public Hearing – District Safety Plan Amendment

President Ludmar explained that the District is making amendments to the District-Wide Safety Plan based on State Legislation which requires all New York State public employers to adopt a Continuation of Operations Plan in the event of a Public Health Emergency involving a communicable disease. He explained that thirty days prior to this Public Hearing a notice was placed in three local papers as legally required, inviting interested parties to come to district offices to submit a public comment. No comments were received from the public, and therefore in adherence with the Governor's Executive Order permitting the public hearing to be virtual, we will now close this hearing. Finally, President Ludmar explained that the Board will be taking action on the amendment, under Action Item C, later in the meeting and if Trustees have questions or comments, they will have an opportunity at that time to address them.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Giarrizzo reported that the Capital project on the Bond is moving along. Bids were opened on March 2 and all is in place for Phase 1. The next step is to award the bids to the lowest responsible bidder which happens through the bid verification process. Recommendations on award of bids will take place as soon as possible so work can start after schools close in June. All bids seem to be well within budget.

Dr. Giarrizzo reported that COVID numbers have come down and vaccination numbers are up. With the weather improving it is starting to feel pre-pandemic normal. He reported that the winter sports season was successful, and the fall season has begun and is largely outside. Teams are authorized to have 2 spectators per athlete for home games only and there is livestreaming of home events. The athletics policy committee is looking at a path forward to get more student spectators.

Senior activities are taking shape with "senior dog day" being held. He thanked the Senior Class Committee who has been working with Ms. Imperiale, Mr. Contreras, and himself toward making some of the senior traditions a reality. There are still a lot of questions about large events; they have not given up on a prom and want to do as much as possible outside. Seniors have been brought into the building on Friday's, approximately 25 students attended in-person, and they hope to bring more on campus moving forward.

Kindergarten registration has reached over 100 and they anticipate a class of 160-170. He thanked Mrs. Miller who registers families all outside in a social distanced manner.

Dr. Giarrizzo reported that, as requested by the Board, the administration looked where they might find further reductions in the budget and the plan to use reserves. Tonight, he will go through those reductions and the impact to expense and revenue. Once the budget is adopted, they will start the process of helping the community understand components of it. He explained that this year he will host budget information "Tent Talks" which will be held outside under tents. There will be 5 total starting April 6. He will also hold smaller virtual budget coffees for individual residents who would like to host one.

Dr. Giarrizzo noted that it has been exactly one year since the District closed due to the pandemic. He said back then they did not know much about COVID-19 and thought schools might be closed for two weeks. He went on to say it has been a rough year for everyone, but tonight, looking out a year later, it is sobering to see what we have been able to accomplish.

Dr. Zublionis sent out information on state assessments. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that the IB and AP exams will be given and there will be tons of flexibility with the IB exams; he will get that data out. They are still waiting for the Board of Regents to make a decision on the 3-8 exams; hopefully by Monday or Tuesday of next week. There will probably be only 4 exams this year. They are securing support for students and it may feel there is more test prep but they want kids to be ready. He will send out some information on how parents can opt their children out if they choose.

President Ludmar noted that in some ways this past year feels like a blink and in other ways it feels like a decade. He said the District was proactive in their approach right from the start with providing laptops and WIFI links, lunch deliveries and pivoting to remote instruction. Finally, he said we are starting to see a light at the end of the tunnel.

Report from the SGO

SGO Co-president Ariadna Pavlidas-Sanchez and Michael Gimondo reported on events and activities at the high school. Michael reported that next week is the culmination of spirit week; students seem excited. The SGO has sponsored a food drive and fundraiser to engage students and will end right before break. There has been positive feedback on seniors being able to be in-person on Fridays. Seniors like having the option and freedom of being able to attend in-person if they want and he has heard more kids will start going on Fridays. Ariadna reported that there will be a week dedicated to seniors with five days of senior activities. She said the “senior dog day” went very well and was the first time all seniors were together since last year; it was fun to see everyone. The SGO has started discussions with the principal to increase student voice in student government which is not as personal as it used to be, and they are trying to bring in more representation.

President Ludmar noted how impressed he is with the student representatives.

On motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Vizza and all in favor, the order of the discussion items was switched.

Regular Business

Board Goal 2: Update on Critical Analysis of Instructional Program 8:20

Dr. Giarrizzo commended Dr. Zublionis, Mr. Doherty, Mr. Kaye and Mr. Hall for their tremendous efforts to keep instruction going last year and to reopen schools. Dr. Zublionis reviewed the District’s efforts in working towards Board Goal Two: The Critical Analysis of Instructional Program. The presentation focused on two components of the goal. To ensure that technological hardware, software, and professional development match current and future needs of teaching and learning, and to engage in the continuous review and analysis of programs through data: wellness, including outdoor learning and ventilation. Dr. Zublionis explained how educational technology, wellness and outdoor learning are intertwined, especially in the age of the pandemic. He went on to explain that the efficient use of educational technology allows our faculty to meet increasingly diverse student learning needs while students learn in safe conditions and spend more in-person learning time on exploration and discovery rather than on remediation alone. Outdoor learning ensures that a North Shore education remain rooted in purpose and exploration and balances the necessary use of screen time, the need for movement and fresh air exposure and the need for classroom spaces to be unoccupied to allow for air recycling. At the core, the wellness of our students is our ultimate concern and the key factor in their ability to engage in learning and thrive, especially during this stressful time. The right balance of educational technology and outdoor learning can enable learning growth while also maintaining and preserving student well-being and the spirit of curiosity and inquiry that we hold so dear at North Shore. Dr. Zublionis explained that their analysis considers key questions, emerging challenges, key actions and progress to date, continuing needs, and planned actions as a five-point framework for their inquiry into Goal Two. A video presentation with faculty testimonials was shown. Teachers and administrators shared successes and challenges regarding outdoor learning, the use of technology and social emotional learning throughout the pandemic. Counselors and social workers from each of the five schools spoke about the increase in challenges students have faced this year with social emotional issues and the increase in the numbers of students seeking support. They reviewed some of the supports in place at each of the schools for students and their families. Dr. Zublionis thanked Mr. Doherty, Mr. Kaye, Mr.

Hall and all the teachers and counselors. He said there is more work to do to address the continuing needs.

The Board discussed the presentation.

Trustee Macari asked what is being done to get teachers more resources for outdoor learning. Dr. Zublionis explained they are ramping up for the next phase of outdoor learning. Professional Development from BOCES will be coming to Monday meetings. WIFI is challenging and they are working through hotspots. Dr. Zublionis and Dr. Giarrizzo are working with principals on specific issues. Dr. Giarrizzo added he has met with the *Think Outside* group and has asked our architect for some feedback on protective space at each school. Also, he has asked our architects to work with the principals to look at materials or affix furniture that is outdoor based. Another issue is storage for supplies, so teachers do not have to carry out large amount of material each time they go outside. Tina Mesiti-Ceas will work out those plans and identify a space on each campus and outfit those, like flexible classrooms. Trustee Macari asked if there is a plan to train teachers and students who need technology assistance; particularly students with learning disabilities. Dr. Zublionis explained that they are planning for this over the summer. He further explained that they have earned a Smart Start grant through BOCES. They are partnering with NYIT and will also get offerings from Stonybrook.

Trustee Galati asked if there is a plan to utilize our own staff for professional development pertaining to technology. Dr. Zublionis said this started before the pandemic and it will continue over the summer. He said the Professional Development Committee has a meeting next week and this will be a topic for discussion.

Trustee Russo asked if the outdoor learning spaces at Glen Head and Middle School are being utilized and if there is a plan to do something similar at the other schools. She noted that those areas were done within a year due to donations and fundraisers. Dr. Giarrizzo said Glen Head and Middle School are utilizing their outdoor learning areas. Sea Cliff School is most challenging with getting kids outside as there is not much acreage. Glenwood Landing has more outdoor space. He said once things are figured out there will be a role for parent organizations to assist.

Trustee Jones said she is in awe of all that teachers have done to find ways to capitalize on student outdoor learning and she appreciates that they have shared what their challenges are with outdoor learning.

Trustee Vizza said she appreciates the candor expressed that fatigue is happening with teachers and students and stressed the importance to address that.

Trustee Madden asked Mr. Doherty to elaborate on the academic support available to high school students who are failing. Mr. Doherty explained that at the end of each quarter they reach out to students who are failing and offer for them to attend in-person instruction every day. Finding physical space is a challenge and a teacher needs to be able to physically check-in with the student during the day. Some students that were offered in-person are not able to fit classes in their schedule so a hybrid model is set up—they are in school and they attend class where they can fit it in. He said they are doing the best they can under the constraints they have to support students.

President Ludmar thanked the team for all they did to continue instruction throughout the pandemic. He recognized Mr. Kaye and Mr. Hall for facilitating all of the demands and allowing everyone to do the work they needed to for the benefit of their students.

Dr. Giarrizzo thanked the Board for the resources and for pushing them to which allowed the huge reopening to happen. President Ludmar added there was no roadmap to reopen schools and they did a great job. He thanked everyone who embraced the challenge and said it is a testament to the whole district. Trustee Macari added they did an amazing job; it was innovative and progressive. She said what has been done here should be published in leadership and educational publications to contribute how schools are progressing.

Budget Review--9:30

The Board held their final budget review. They reviewed Staffing Projections, Employee Benefits, Debt Service, Revenue & Financing Sources, and Fund Balance.

Dr. Giarrizzo explained that staffing is still in motion as they are collecting student course enrollment for the high school and middle school. They are planning for a regular reopening and continue to monitor kindergarten counts. He explained the projected enrollment across the 3 elementary schools and projected sections which will continued to be monitored; sections have not been reduced from last year. He noted the additions to staffing which include 2 teacher aides, 1 teaching assistant, and 5.8 teachers (2 of which are safety positions—1 for Glen Head and 1 for Sea Cliff pertaining to enrollment). He noted that at their last meeting he misspoke when he said there were 3 STEAM positions for elementary when there are actually 2 STEAM positions. Trustee Macari asked how the creation of the third STEAM position could be created. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that would mean adding \$124,000 to the budget. He further explained that if the enrollment projections they are anticipating for Glen Head or Sea Cliff does not materialize, it may be possible to use one of the safety positions to allocate for the STEAM position. If that occurs, the Board can have a conversation about that.

President Ludmar confirmed that in the original budget presentation there were three budget scenarios; they are reviewing scenario two “new normal with modifications”. He also asked for a list of the additional positions that are being added. Dr. Giarrizzo listed the positions: 1 safety teaching position at Glen Head, 1 safety teaching position at Sea Cliff, a .4 Math AIS, .4 Reading Teaching at Middle School (down from .6), .4 addition for special ed mandated services (speech) 1 teaching position (ILC) for a cohort moving up to the high school, 1 teaching assistant to support a student coming in at Glenwood Landing, 1 teacher aide at Glen Head and 1 teacher aide at Sea Cliff to support mandated services. Part of the reductions include a .4 cycle class at the middle school, which they are no longer recommending. Dr. Giarrizzo feels there is an opportunity to incorporate the core principals of equity and social justice work in different ways. Also, the ICT teacher originally recommended has been removed (due to the way the special education process has evolved that position is no longer needed).

President Ludmar thanked Dr. Giarrizzo for explaining the added positions. He said it is important to understand why there are safety positions, as there are years when there is an unexpected influx of students causing the creation of a section, and reasons behind other positions being added to cover specific mandated services.

Trustee Russo asked about the .6 and .4 positions. She wondered if they would be covered with overages or new hires. She asked if they would be hired through consultants which would save on benefits. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that some of the positions are contractual obligations. He said to the extent we can use outside agencies we do but there are times the collective bargaining agreement does not allow it. He further explained that if the position cannot be covered with overages, or a teacher can't be found to fill a spot, they sometimes look outside, but the work is owned by the federation so they have an obligation to fill that work with teachers. Trustee Russo asked if these specific positions would be filled with overages or new hires. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that has not yet been determined.

Dr. Giarrizzo explained that pages 48 and 49 in the budget packet were not included in the total amount of the budget in scenario 2. These pages give figures for scenario 3 and will be removed under scenario 2 but will not change the total amount of the budget being proposed. Ms. Buatsi explained that the administration takes a lot of time looking at employee benefits. Costs are determined by employee and the rate from the state. Some numbers are fluid as enrollment is on a rolling basis; an employee may enroll in health insurance at any point during the year or change their benefits from individual to family at any point. They analyze passed history and statistics to project costs.

Dr. Giarrizzo explained that under retirement costs ERS refers to payments for non-certified employees and TRS are for certified employees. Ms. Buatsi noted that the five-year expenditure report

indicates Med-B costs are going up every year. This cost is for retirees and must be reimbursed to them. This is a challenge to project as Social Security is one year behind in their reporting. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that benefits is a large percentage of the budget, salary and benefits make up almost 80% of the budget, but he pointed out that the schools are a people business.

Trustee Russo noted that there is a significant difference between what was spent in 2019-2020 and what was budgeted in Social Security, ERS and TRS. Ms. Buatsi noted that last year's numbers are not representative because of the pandemic and executive orders. She also explained that regarding Social Security we need to base those rates on the social security limit which increases every year. Regarding the budget for ERS and TRS, Ms. Buatsi explained that the rate is given by ERS and TRS. The District has no control over it and the budget is projected by the rate and actual employees. Ms. Buatsi also noted that health insurance rates are based on a calendar year basis so we know what the rate is through December 2021, however we do not know what the rate will be in January 2022 so we need to project for part of the year.

Ms. Buatsi explained that the District is getting a lot of Unemployment and Workers' Compensation bills lately; this is what the reserves are for. She further explained that the District is self-insured and if we were to buy a policy it would be much more expensive.

Ms. Buatsi noted that an RFP will be issued to financial institutions to get the lowest bid for our new debt service. She said we stand a good chance to get a very good bid due to how good our reserves are. She explained that Moodys Investment Services rates the district for borrowing. She further explained that securing a good interest rate is reflective of the District's position at the time of borrowing and reserves help to achieve a low interest rate.

Trustee Russo asked if the transfer to capital project are monies we had in capital reserve. Ms. Buatsi explained that the \$3M which residents voted on last May for the middle school locker rooms and the nurse's suite must come from an expense line. She further explained that all capital projects are accounted for in the capital fund and this is an accounting function. Trustee Russo asked if the line will be reduced once these projects are done over the summer. Ms. Buatsi explained that the middle school locker room project was just bid out and the Glen Head nurse's suite will be bid out the following year. She further explained that \$1,295,000 is only phase 1 so there will be money sitting in capital projects which is not fund balance; capital projects can go on for 2 or 3 years. President Ludmar clarified that this money has been allocated but is not sitting on our balance sheet.

Trustee Jones asked why the TANs line is lower. Ms. Buatsi explained that interest rates are lower. She further explained that we needed to double our TANs borrowing this year because taxes were delayed. If things go back to normal next year, and taxes are collected as usual, we should not need to borrow the same way as this year.

Dr. Giarrizzo gave a PowerPoint presentation on proposed cuts to the budget to rely less on the use of reserves as previously discussed with the Board. He explained that he, Ms. Buatsi and Dr. Zublionis went through the budget again and found proposed cuts totaling \$1,003,846.89 which will bring the budget-to-budget increase to 1.202% under the scenario 2 "New Normal with Modifications". With these cuts, it will eliminate the use of funds from the Marcellino/Lavine Grant and the ERS or Workers Compensation Reserves but will use \$1,154,398.53 to close out the Tax Certiorari Reserve. Under this scenario the tax cap will remain at 1.434% which is at the tax cap with adjustments.

Finally, Dr. Giarrizzo explained that they are proposing a second proposition for the Establishment of a Capital Reserve-to Maintain the District's Infrastructure. This would mainly be for items pertaining to the athletic program including field lighting, turf fields wellness centers, equipment, renovate gym floors in each building, high school storage and additional bathrooms, track-replace existing surface, create wooded trails for cross country, fencing, and dugout and bleachers, for a total estimate of \$8,275,000.

Trustee Macari asked if cutting an additional ICT teacher would create a situation for students to attend a different elementary school or impact students on the threshold. Dr. Giarrizzo said students will not have to attend a different elementary school and classes are staffed according to the mandate of the IEP. Trustee Macari asked about the reduction from a .6 to .4 AIS reading position in the middle school. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that he consulted with Mr. Dennis on this who feels confident he can make it work. He further stated that if the principal feels he needs more support down the road, they will revisit it.

Trustee Jones asked if there is a plan to switch to turf fields and what the wellness centers would look like. Dr. Giarrizzo said they will need to replace the existing stadium turf field which will cost a little less than \$1M. The athletic department is proposing turf for the infield on the softball and baseball fields. By including this in the list of projects in the capital reserve it gives the board flexibility, but the projects do not have to be done. He explained that they would use existing spaces for the wellness centers which would include space for yoga, mindfulness, components for dance. They will speak with the Wellness Committee to set goals.

Trustee Russo said regarding the establishment of a capital reserve, she wonders how the Board will be able to fund it knowing the LIPA settlement with Nassau County is inevitable. She also noted that the scope of the reserve looks exclusively at the Athletic Program but she wants to be sure we are looking at the big picture and not having a narrow focus. She suggested they should think of other areas such as Fine and Performing Arts and Robotics. Dr. Giarrizzo said that would be the next step, this is just to establish the reserve. He explained that this reserve is designed specifically for athletics because they have many big things coming up that the Bond did not capture. There are projects in the Bond for the Fine and Performing Arts Department.

Trustee Vizza asked how the gap will be filled by the elimination of the Elementary Assistant Director of Special Education. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that Mr. Kisting and Mr. Marino have been handling things this year. He said it may end up being an expansion of the psychologist role, but they have not committed to this. Trustee Vizza asked if there is any data on the evaluative work that psychologists did with students; she is concerned about the increase in referrals. Dr. Giarrizzo will get that information.

Trustee Madden asked why there is not a certified English teacher assigned to the Writing Center at the High School. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that there is a Teaching Assistant who is a certified English Teacher assigned there along with the writing fellows who give a lot of support to students. Trustee Madden said he would like to see that support expanded. Trustee Russo added there are several students falling through the cracks. When she advocated for the Writing Center, she envisioned a greater support system with a dedicated certified teacher.

President Ludmar noted that although there is a \$20,000 reduction in professional development, he wanted to reiterate the Board's support for professional development and the importance to continue to fund it.

Trustee Vizza said she is concerned that the position of Assistant Director of Special Education is being cut and noted that next year they have the ability and authority to put that position back in. Trustee Russo said the District tends to be heavy in administration and as they move forward, she feels they should look in areas to achieve better efficiencies. She further stated that although no one wants to see cuts, she would rather see administrative cuts than cuts to program. She feels this is a good starting point and with fiscal challenges coming they need to be as lean as possible.

Trustee Jones said she appreciates the work that went into the budget since the last meeting and feels this now puts the District in a much better position for the years ahead.

President Ludmar noted that budgets are formulated not just thinking of this year but thinking of the future. He further noted that what is eliminated from the budget, and the use of reserves, sets up the budget for subsequent years. He said as they look ahead to the challenges that the LIPA

settlement will present going forward, this is a good start as there will be additional efficiencies and refinements and tough calls of budgets in the future. Finally, he noted that a 1.2% increase and 1.434% tax levy increase is the 4th lowest increase in 25 years which in his opinion is a modest and responsible budget for future years ahead.

Comments from the Public--11:30 p.m.

Kevin Ghandforoush, (soon moving to Sea Cliff)

It is my understanding that FEMA will be reimbursing school districts for expenses incurred as a direct result of covid (PPE, partitions, cleaning materials, paper products, remote learning systems, training for remote work, etc.). How much did the school spend as a direct result of covid? If reimbursed, what will be done with those funds?

President Ludmar noted that approximately \$9M of the \$1.9 trillion just approved by Congress and signed by the president may be filtering down to school districts in some way. He asked Ms. Buatsi to explain the FEMA reimbursement.

Ms. Buatsi explained last year the district was directed by FEMA to distinguish what is and is not reimbursable. They gathered everything that was considered reimbursable which totaled approximately \$1.5M and submitted that to FEMA. FEMA then removed much which they deemed was not covered. Of those items that were covered there was a range of approximately 75% that was reimbursable. She further explained that FEMA ended up approving approximately \$238,000 of the amount expended. This year, we are tracking everything we have purchased, and will continue to do so, but have not yet received information on what is covered. She is continually in touch with our FEMA representative for any updates and will try to recoup as much as possible. President Ludmar noted that NYSSBA will track how much of the \$9M will trickle down to us and he appreciates Ms. Buatsi's tracking of it. Ms. Buatsi said we should be receiving the state runs of the portion of the \$9M soon.

Rob Mazzella, Glen Head

Since we've been in a much more "virtual" world for over a year now, I was wondering if you had plans to use the interactive virtual technology that other school districts and public entities are using to allow for "live" comments during virtual Board of Education meetings. Having to wait two weeks after a topic is discussed at a BOE meeting to ask a question is very inefficient and the question may no longer be relevant if it was regarding a time sensitive topic.

Thank you very much and stay safe!

Beth Siegel LeBlang, Glen Head

I am appalled that the organization created by two well known community members was sent out to appear as a NS schools document. Additionally, the information contained is not accurate. As a former president of coordinating council and board members of GWL SCA and member of multiple district wide committees I have always considered myself to be well informed concerning the budget. This inaccurate information needs to stop. Please also know that I am a retiree without children attending any schools at this time. After informing myself concerning the budget I will still support it.

President Ludmar explained that the Board is familiar with what this author is referencing but they have limited ability to address it.

Rebecca Marcus, Glen Head

I'm writing to express my appreciation to the BOE and superintendents for the proposed school budget conversations. I'm so happy to live in a district that is fiscally prudent enough to be able to preserve academic programs and extracurricular activities during these uncertain and difficult times. Moreover, I want to express that you have my support with the proposed budget increase despite attempts by a small yet aggressive segment of this community to spread lies and misinformation. Please continue your good work at protecting our children's education in the face of those who wish to harm it. With gratitude!

Mike Conklin President-North Shore Athletics Booster Club

This past year has been extremely challenging to all to say the least, and it's with a sigh of relief that we inch forward to a more comprehensive academic, social and athletic experience for our students. The North Shore Athletics Booster Club appreciates the time and the resources you have invested to provide North Shore's students with a healthy and full experience this year. The Board and the Administration's collaborative and transparent approach to decision-making has not gone unnoticed. Thank you for this! Additionally, The North Shore Athletics Booster Club enthusiastically supports the creation of a Capital Reserve Fund to earmark funds for essential athletics projects for the North Shore Community. This is a responsible way to maintain our facilities and to build on the foundation of health and athletic success that our community has worked to build. We also recognize the importance of providing timely community feedback to the Board and Administration when the survey prioritizing athletic expenditures (i.e., lighting, additional turf fields, track replacement, etc.), is sent to the community and when the budget is presented this Spring. We look forward to continuing our support for the North Shore Schools and our Student Athletes in any way we can. We thank you for recognizing how important our athletic program is to the fabric of the North Shore Community. GO VIKIINGS!

Maria Mosca, Sea Cliff

I write with great respect and deepest thanks for your hard work on behalf of all our District families. First, I'd like to inquire how the District is approaching the opt-out issue this year. Specifically, are measures being taken to protect educational time from being lost to test prep and test-taking? Given the data showing that there has been significant regression in learning, this would seem to be a prime opportunity to acknowledge the weaknesses of the testing system. Re-capturing the time ordinarily spent on testing efforts and directing it to more "original" learning would certainly help narrow the gaps created by the pandemic fallout.

Secondly, since my last public comment was a plea for action on outdoor learning, I want to thank you for your support of our administrators and faculty in executing a very impressive set of outdoor initiatives. Even through the winter, my daughter's experience at Sea Cliff School has been remarkable for the number of times her class was outside for lunch, recess, and snack/mask break. Except for a very small handful of extreme weather days, the phys ed teachers braved the elements with the children and made the weather challenges truly fun! SWES and Mandarin were a close second, with Art and General Music classes right on their heels. It was amazing and thrilling for many of us parents. I have been watching the BOE meetings regularly this year, and week after week I am awestruck by your collective dedication to our District.

11:40 p.m.

Prior to approval, Trustee Jones noted that at the District Safety Committee meeting they discussed adding the ventilation system to the safety plan. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that after checking with the consultant, it was suggested to add the ventilation to the reopening plan as the safety plan template

comes from the state. Trustee Jones asked if Board members would be able to review the building level safety plans. These will be made available to Trustees.

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

Approval of Amendment to the District Safety Plan

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the amendment to the 2020-2021 District-Wide Safety and Emergency Management Plan as required by Education Law §2801-a (m)

On motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Jones 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 Kathleen Webber, Elementary, effective March 24, 2021

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 Jingwen Cai, LOTE (Mandarin), from Step 3 of the MA salary schedule to Step 3 of the MA+15 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2021

Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment - Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment of Russell Johann, Special Education, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective March 12, 2021 through March 26, 2021

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment of Victoria Martin, Mathematics, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective March 12, 2021 through March 26, 2021

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment of Kathleen Comerford, Special Education, on Step 1 of the MA+15 salary schedule, effective March 22, 2021 through May 3, 2021

Amendment to Appointments - Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board resolution of January 21, 2021 regarding the appointments of Kathryn Joseph and Jennifer Scaturo are hereby amended as follows:
Kathryn Joseph is hereby appointed to a (.2) overage [Remote] and Jennifer Scaturo is hereby appointed to a (.2) overage [Remote] effective January 25, 2021 through March 26, 2021 (they were erroneously appointed to a (.1) overage)

Resignation – Non-Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of Sean Rugato, Bus Driver, effective March 5, 2021

Teacher Overage

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a (.112) overage for Russell Johann, Special Education, effective March 2, 2021 through March 26, 2021

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the additions of the following names to the per diem substitute list:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Syliva Forgacs | Teacher Aide Substitute |
| Olivia Lauri | Teacher Aide Substitute |
| Tammy Pepel | Teacher Substitute |
| Lidia Sferrazza | Teacher Aide Substitute |
| Rosario Troia | Teacher Substitute |

Approval of Extra-Curricular Activity Coach & Supervisor

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the following extra-curricular activity coach and supervisor:

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Varsity Asst. Field Hockey | Ariel O'Shea | Step 1 |
| Athletic Supervision | Megan Pryor | |
| Athletic Supervision | Tom Doyle | |

On motion of Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Madden 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 \$225,089.86, to cover legal fees for Glen Cove border property issues, EPC, service provider contracts, FOIL requests, election appeal, HS track warranty, special ed teacher assistant salary, and workers compensation claims, effective March 11, 2021

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

Approval of Agreement Between the North Shore Central School District and Challenge Success-Stanford

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 Success-Stanford to administer faculty, staff, parent and student surveys related to wellness, at a cost of \$14,500, as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement, effective February 26, 2021 through June 30, 2021; 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 Vizza and seconded by Trustee Russo and all in favor, it was:

Approval of an Agreement Between the North Shore Central School District and School of Professional Development State University of New York at Stony Brook

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an agreement between the School District and School of Professional Development State University of New York at Stony Brook, for a District membership for the Center for Teaching and Learning in Community Non Degree Granting Professional Development Programs, at a cost of \$4,000 as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement, effective February 15, 2021 through June 30, 2022, pending review by counsel; 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 Jones and seconded by Trustee Macari and all in favor, it was:

Approval of an Agreement Between the North Shore Central School District and Chakira-Iliana Doherty

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an agreement between the School District and Chakira-Iliana Doherty to provide costume rentals and costumer consultant services in connection with the production of the high school spring musical as per the terms and conditions in the attached agreement at a total fee of not to exceed \$4,250, effective March 12, 2021 through June 30, 2021; 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 Jones 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 South Huntington Union Free School District for 17 students residing within the North Shore Central School District and attending non-public schools within the South Huntington Union Free School District for the 2020-2021 school year at a cost of \$798.86 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

Prior to approval, Trustee Jones noted that this is a good example of how we are using the Workers' Compensation Reserve. Trustee Ludmar asked if there is a requirement to replenish this reserve. Ms. Buatsi explained that the only reserve that needs to be replenished, for specific reasons, is the Repair Reserve.

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

Authorization to Withdraw Monies from The Worker's Compensation Reserve

WHEREAS, the Board of Education authorized a budget transfer of \$120,000 on February 4, 2021 for additional unanticipated workers' compensation expenditures,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes a withdrawal of \$120,000 from the district's Workers' Compensation Reserve to pay for such additional and unanticipated medical expenses (A9040-800-00-0000); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes a withdrawal of \$150,000 from the District's Workers' Compensation Reserve to pay for additional and unanticipated workers compensation claims expenses (A9040-800-00-0000)

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

Approval of Pit Musicians

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the following pit musicians for the high school spring musical at rate of \$100/per rehearsal and \$150/per performance:

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Brad Bosenbeck | Adam Wiggins |
| Jennifer Wells | Erika Friedman |

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

Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement Between the North Shore Central School District and The Nassau County Board of Elections

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 Nassau County Board of Elections to provide optical scan voting systems and training to the School District, in connection with the May 18, 2021 School District Budget Vote and Election of Trustees, 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 Macari and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Change Orders

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order #01-EC from Locust Valley Electric for 2018-2019 Capital Project at North Shore High School, in the amount of \$3,128 (additional)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves change order #02-EC from Locust Valley Electric for 2018-2019 Capital Project at North Shore High School, in the amount of \$925 (additional)

Old Business 11:55 p.m.

Trustee Macari asked what it would mean for parents to opt out virtually. Dr. Zublionis explained that it will be a simple google form. He further explained that they are still waiting to hear what tests will be required. The state is surveying districts to ascertain what local assessments are given so there is still a chance the state assessments may not be given. Trustee Macari asked that all communications are sent in different languages. Dr. Zublionis assured her this is what is done.

President Ludmar asked if all Trustees agree to move the reorganizational meeting from July 8 to July 15 as he requested in a previous meeting. There was consensus to place a resolution to move the date of the reorganizational meeting to July 15, 2021 on the next agenda.

Trustee Jones noted the opening of bids was done online and was done in a very transparent way. She also noted that there has been a lot of talk about reopening schools and wanted to make note that the County rates right now are going back up so we need to speak clearly about where the pandemic rates are.

New Business

Trustee Russo said she is receiving emails and texts about bringing kids back to in-person instruction at the high school. She said some districts have moved to that model and she would like to know what the plan is and when we anticipate the high school being full in-person. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that some districts are picking a date to bring kids back. He said we have followed a procedural approach, following the science. He said rather than tie the reopening to a date they would prefer to start exploring options by looking at the county and local positivity rates, vaccination status, and at what point that we get to herd immunity as a metric for reopening. He suggested Trustees send him their thoughts on how to approach this safely and they can further discuss this at the next meeting. Trustee Jones noted that over the last two weeks communities in our district have had rates significantly higher than the county average. Trustee Russo said with the number of schools coming back, with the learning loss and issues with engagement and depression at the high school level, it would be beneficial

to have some metrics to go by for when we bring kids back. Dr. Giarrizzo said he would want to engage in a collaborate process with faculty and building leadership. It is a big decision and picking a date does not make logical sense. Trustee Russo agreed and said she is just looking for some benchmark for bringing kids back. President Ludmar said it is on our radar and we are looking for opportunities to accomplish this when all constituents are comfortable.

Trustee Russo asked if there is a way to allow for live public comments during Board meetings while the Board is not meeting in-person, as asked by a resident. Dr. Giarrizzo will speak to Mr. Kaye to see if that is possible.

President Ludmar asked for an update on the audio-visual system. He said he would like to have a conversation about when the Board would like to get back to meeting publicly.

President Ludmar noted RFPs for architectural services are being sent out. Rather than a sub-committee of the Board reviewing those RFPs he would like to suggest that the whole Board serve as the committee.

Trustee Jones clarified that the discussion of bringing back all students to in-person instruction was referring only to high school students; all other students in the district are already in-person.

Adjournment

At 12:15 p.m. on motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Macari and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk