

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
November 6, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Andrea Macari at 6:30 p.m. in the Middle School Cafeteria. Present were Trustees Cashman, Colacioppo, Dillon, Hanley, Mosca and Svendsen. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Christopher Zublionis and Assistant Superintendents Dr. Carol Smyth and Mr. James Pappas.

At 6:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Dillon and seconded by Trustee Hanley and all in favor, the Board convened an executive session in the library to consider matters leading to the employment or appointment of a particular person or persons and proposed, pending or current litigation.

At 7:45 p.m. on motion of Trustee Svendsen and seconded by Trustee Mosca and all in favor, the Board came out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting in the cafeteria. There were approximately 10 people in the audience

Pledge of Allegiance

President Macari led the public in the pledge of allegiance. ASL students signed the pledge.

Approval of Minutes

The reading of the draft minutes of the meeting of October 23, 2025 (Regular Meeting and Audit Committee Meeting) being prepared and disseminated to all members in advance of the meeting, were dispensed. There being no corrections to the minutes, it was declared by President Macari that the minutes of the meeting of October 23, 2025 were approved.

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 4 (Treasurer's Report) and 5 (Acceptance of Independent Audit Reports and Corrective Action Plan)

On motion of Trustee Mosca and seconded by Trustee Colacioppo and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Treasurer's Report

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the Treasurer's Report for the period June 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025 and July 1, 2025 through July 31, 2025

Acceptance of the Independent Audit Reports for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the Independent Audit Reports for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, as prepared and presented by Cullen & Danowski, LLP and reviewed by the Audit Committee on October 23, 2025, including the Extra-classroom Activities Funds Report and Management Letter.

Approval of the External Audit Corrective Action Plan

WHEREAS, the North Shore Central School District's External Auditor, Cullen & Danowski, LLP, has issued the management letter dated October 15, 2025; and
WHEREAS, the District is required by New York State Education Department to issue a Board approved Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address the comments made in the Management Letter issued along with the auditor's report; and

WHEREAS, North Shore Central School District business office has prepared Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address the recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NORTH SHORE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The North Shore Board of Education adopts and approves the Corrective Action Plan in response to the Management Letter dated October 15, 2025.

Section 2. This resolution is effective immediately upon its enactment by the North Shore Board of Education.

Report from the Ex-Officio Student Board Members

Luna Espinosa De Rozas reported on events, activities, student interests and concerns at the high school. She reported that over the past couple of weeks they have received comments asking about Student Square. (What is it? How does it work?). Students are having trouble with signing in or creating accounts, which makes it difficult for students to access the attached documents in many emails. This seems to be a pattern of implementing new websites to help organize communication, like with Passport for Good and Microsoft email. The student members believe helping kids navigate the new tech policies and resources through push ins to classrooms or maybe an educational video would be helpful.

The SGO and PTO's Hall-O-Ween event was a huge success. It was really fun, and they hope to do it again next year and will be better prepared for the large number of kids that will attend.

Ms. De Roza reported that there is a large push from the baseball team, and other athletes, for turf fields. While she realizes the Board of Education is aware of this, and has plans to tackle the issue, she felt it pertinent to mention.

Finally, Ms. De Roza reported that the SGO advisor, Ms. Chen, has spoken to Mr. Contreras, and the winter dance will hopefully be on December 12th. The SGO is excited to plan and begin ticket sales the week before Thanksgiving.

Dr. Zublionis explained they are making sure emails are forwarded to student email accounts.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Zublionis congratulated the Girls Cross Country Team for winning the Nassau County Class 3 Championship. He reported on Civil Discourse Day, which was held on October 21, and thanked Mr. Gordon, Ms. Ritter and Dr. Smyth for working on this initiative. He explained that this is a district-wide initiative at both North Shore Middle School and North Shore High School designed to strengthen students' abilities to engage in respectful and thoughtful dialogue. The event built upon our multi-year focus on fostering empathy, listening, and collaboration through meaningful conversation. Dr. Zublionis explained that throughout the day, English and Social Studies classes created spaces for students to practice essential conversation skills, such as listening with empathy, considering multiple perspectives, and responding with respect.

Dr. Zublionis next reported on an amazing conference day, planned by Dr. Smyth and the curriculum directors, looking at Performance-Based Assessment at the secondary level as well as our different work on the elementary level - ranging from literacy to Universal Design for Learning, counselors attended a special mental health symposium and our special education team participated in Crisis Prevention training.

The next Parent University focusing on developing executive functioning skills in our students will be held on November 18 at 7:00 PM in the Middle School Library. The session will be facilitated by Dr. Meredith Cherry, one of our elementary school psychologists.

The fall play, *The Laramie Project*, will take place on Friday, November 21 at 7:30 PM and Saturday, November 22 at 2PM and 7:30 p.m. A community blood drive will take place on Monday, November 24 at North Shore HS, sponsored by our Key Club.

Recognition of Students

On behalf of the Board, President Macari, Dr. Zublionis, Dr. Smyth, Mr. Pappas and Mr. Sheehan recognized Glen Head School Students Olivia Boll, Chloe Daoud, and Ian Wan for having their artwork chosen to be included in the 2026 CCE Nassau Gardening Calendar and Guide.

Discussion - Elective Programs

Dr. Smyth presented information on the District's review of Electives at the Secondary Level. She explained that several questions guided their review including: In what ways do electives contribute to North Shore students' academic growth, social-emotional development, and preparation for future pathways? What electives are currently available to North Shore students? How do students select electives, and what supports guide their decision-making? What trends are evident in elective enrollment? How do students perceive the strengths and areas for growth in our elective program? In what ways do electives support experiential, authentic, and interest-driven learning for students? What strengths and challenges have we identified in our elective program? What recommendations can improve our elective program moving forward? Dr. Smyth thanked the student representatives for suggesting a review of the elective program. She explained that at the middle school level, electives serve as exploratory opportunities, gradually shaping potential interest in arts, STEM, and business. She further explained that enrollment trends reveal declining interest in traditional FACS and technology courses and growing enthusiasm for applied options such as Entrepreneurship, Renewal Revolution, and Weight Training. At the high school level electives expand into advanced, sequenced pathways in business, research, fine arts, and world languages. In addition, the data demonstrates strong growth in business, music, dance, photography, AP Psychology, and research-based math and science, while theatre and select specialized courses face enrollment challenges. Students report that electives strengthen thinking, collaboration, problem-solving, creativity, and communication while fostering enjoyment and engagement. Student feedback also calls for expanded AP, IB, and dual enrollment options, increased freshman access, and better communication of offerings. While North Shore's elective program is a clear strength of the District that aligns with its mission and prepares students for future success, key challenges include access barriers due to scheduling constraints. Recommendations include reviewing and refining the quality and relevance of electives, expanding pathways, and addressing scheduling barriers to ensure equity of access.

The Board reviewed the report. All Trustees expressed how impressed they were with the number of electives offered, the type of electives offered and the overall elective program. Some questions/concerns raised were: how many elective courses do not run for lack of enrollment; are there different levels of rigor in elective courses; of those students who expressed unhappiness with their elective, was that with one course or did the study indicate that was scattered among electives. It was noted that while starting pathways early may be beneficial to some students, it must be done in an authentic and purposeful way; concern was expressed for students who are not ready to make decisions about their pathways so early. Questions were raised about how kids are spending their free periods. Student representative, Luna Espinosa De Roza noted that students with 3 or more off periods often go home. She also explained that offering pathways earlier offers security to students, knowing certain classes will run. She suggested more communication to students regarding what periods classes would be offered, in the spring, as students need to make difficult choices. She also suggested placing ½ year courses opposite labs or other ½ year electives so there aren't off periods on the other side. She noted that electives get students engaged with students who are not in their grades which opens interesting opportunities. President Macari stated our elective program gives our students insight into other areas of interest which helps in deciding on college majors and shows the value of where our funds are going. She noted that the zero period in the middle school opens areas for special education students and wondered if more zero period classes can be offered in the high school. She is concerned about offering more AP

courses as this may put more stress on students to take more courses. She noted that more than seven AP courses on a college transcript is not an added benefit. She suggested offering “micro courses” shorter elective sections for students to get a sample of an elective topic. It was suggested to add in field trips wherever possible and add additional sections to Viking Explorers elective.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 11 (a-d), 12, 13 and 14

Prior to voting the Board expressed their thanks for the generous donation.

On motion of Trustee Svendsen and seconded by Trustee Mosca and all in favor, it was:

Personnel

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 Oliva Walsh, School Psychologist, effective February 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026

Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") Leave of Absence

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District approves an unpaid Family and Medical Leave Act (“FMLA”) leave of absence for a period of twelve (12) weeks that will run concurrently with any available paid leave, for employee, Lisa LeWinter, Teacher, that includes the period December 22, 2025 through April 17, 2026

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District approves an unpaid Family and Medical Leave Act (“FMLA”) leave of absence for a period of twelve (12) weeks that will run concurrently with any available paid leave, for employee, Valerie Ritacco, Typist Clerk, that includes the period October 30, 2025 through February 12, 2026

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District Approve an unpaid Family and Medical Leave Act (“FMLA”) leave of absence for a period of Twelve (12) weeks that will run concurrently with any available paid leave, for employee, Jane Launer, Teacher, that includes the period November 10, 2025 through February 27, 2026

Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment - Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Kevin Wasp, Mathematics, on Step 1 of the BA salary schedule, effective November 26, 2025 through February 3, 2026

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Laura Carfora, School Psychologist, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective February 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Catherine Pietto, Music, on Step 4 of the MA salary schedule, effective November 7, 2025 through December 5, 2025

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Ruth Peets-Butcher,

Elementary, on Step 4 of the MA salary schedule, effective November 6, 2025 through December 5, 2025

Extra-Curricular Activity Advisors

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

High School	Advisor	Step
<i>Clubs – Level 3</i>		
Debate	Caroline Stevenson	1
<i>Dramatics</i>		
Light and Sound Advisor	Aaron Brateman*	1
Costume Coordinator	Mikayla Carleo**	1
Middle School		
<i>Dramatics</i>		
Costume Coordinator	Mikayla Carleo**	1
Vocal Musical Director	David Catalano***	1
*Aaron Brateman corrected from Step 2		
**Mikayla Carleo replaces Tori Kalberer		
***David Catalano replaces Brian Messemer		
Sport	Coach	Step
Intramurals	Maria Tagaris	1
Intramurals	Gabriella Stein	1

Acceptance of a Donation from the Distefano Charitable Foundation Trust Melinda G. Edwards and Helen P. Bauer Trustee to the North Shore High School Fine and Performing Arts Department

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts a donation of \$3,000 from the Distefano Charitable Foundation Trust Melinda G. Edwards and Helen P. Bauer Trustee to the North Shore High School Fine and Performing Arts Department for the International Music Tour to support a student's expenses for the tour

Approval of Piano Accompanist

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves Dora Galit as a piano accompanist for the 2025-2026 school year, on an as needed basis, at a rate of \$75 per rehearsal and \$120 per performance

Approval to Dispose of Inventory

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves of the disposal of the following inventory items:

Quantity	Description	School
17	Chromebooks	High School
3	Projectors	High School
3	Smartboards	High School
1	Printer	High School
4	Computers	Sea Cliff School
3	Printers	Sea Cliff School

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 15 (a-c) and 16

On motion of Trustee Mosca and seconded by Trustee Colacioppo and all in favor, it was:

Approval of an Agreement between the North Shore Central School District and All Care, Inc.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an agreement between the School District and All Care, Inc. to provide Behind-The-Wheel Training and In-Car Observation components of a NYS-DTSE course for North Shore High School students under the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement during the period November 17, 2025 through February 4, 2026; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorizes the Board of Education President to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said agreement on behalf of the Board of Education

Approval of a Facilities Use Agreement between the North Shore Central School District and LIU Post (Boys Swim Team)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a License for Use of Facilities Agreement between the School District and Long Island University Post, for use of the Pratt Center Pool and locker rooms/restrooms in Pratt Center (Boys Swim Team), during the period November 17, 2025 through February 4, 2026, 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.

Approval of an Agreement between the North Shore CSD and Amplify Education, Inc.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an Agreement between the School District and Amplify Education, Inc. to provide professional development in mClass Dibels instruction, as per the terms and conditions in the attached agreement, effective September 26, 2025 through June 21, 2026; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

Approval of an Amendment to an Agreement between the North Shore Central School District and Collaboration Station, Inc.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an Amendment to an Agreement between the School District and Collaboration Station, Inc. which modifies the May 1, 2025 agreement approved by the Board of Education on June 12, 2025 for the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, as per the terms and conditions set forth in the amended 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

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 17, 18 and 19

On motion of Trustee Hanley and seconded by Trustee Dillon and all in favor, it was:

Approval of an Agreement between the North Shore Central School District and Locust Valley CSD (DOR-DOL)

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 Locust Valley CSD for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools

located within the Locust Valley CSD and residing within the North Shore CSD during the 2025-2026 school year; 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.

Approval of an Agreement between the North Shore CSD and Amergis Healthcare Staffing

BE IT RESOLVED. That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an Agreement between the School District and Amergis Health Care Staffing, to provide Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech Language Therapy, Special Education Teacher, Paraprofessional Services, BCBA, and Nursing Services, as set forth in the attached agreement effective October 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to execute the necessary documents to effectuate said agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

Approval of an Agreement between the North Shore Central School District and the East Meadow Union Free School District

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an Agreement between the School District and the East Meadow Union Free School District to provide instruction to resident students as per the individualized education program (IEP) during the period July 1, 2025 through August 30, 2025 as 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.

On motion of Trustee Mosca and seconded by Trustee Dillon 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 recommendation of the Committee on Special Education (CSE)

Unfinished Business

Trustee Mosca asked if there is still a plan to place information on the back of student ID cards. President Macari noted the Wellness Committee discussed putting crisis hotline information on the back, but she is not sure anything was every decided. Dr. Zublionis agreed that a decision was never made.

New Business

There was no new business discussed.

Adjournment

At 9:30 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk