

North Shore Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
January 15, 2026

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 Hanley and seconded by Trustee Colacioppo and all in favor, the Board convened an executive session in the library to consider matters leading to the appointment or employment of a particular person or persons, collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law) and proposed, pending or current litigation.

At 8:00 p.m. on motion of Trustee Dillon and seconded by Trustee Svendsen 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 meetings of December 11, 2025 (Regular Meeting and Audit Committee Meeting) and December 19, 2025 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 meetings of December 11, 2025 (Regular Meeting and Audit Committee Meeting) and December 19, 2025, were approved.

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 4 and 5

On motion of Trustee Mosca and seconded by Trustee Colacioppo 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 \$111,312.53 for special education teaching assistants at Sea Cliff, Middle and High School due to the consolidation of the ABA Program, effective January 15, 2026

**Approval of Claims Audit Report**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the claims audit report for the period December, 2025 as reviewed and submitted by Claims Auditor, Denise Longboardi

**Report from the Ex-Officio Student Board Members**

Ex-Officio Student Board Members Genevieve Hudin and Luna Espinosa De Rosa reported on events, activities, issues and concerns at the high school. The Acoustic Café tradition continues to be enjoyable for all students. Collaboration between the SGO, Mr. Wankel and students in the music department resulted in another successful event. Another Acoustic Café is planned for the

spring. Senior athletes expressed appreciation for addressing the stadium light issue. Turf fields were also brought up by student athletes and on behalf of their teams they expressed their appreciation. The student members reported that the WIFI has been working much better. Finally, they reported on a home Boys' Basketball game which brought out a tremendous amount of school spirit and support for the community's veterans.

### **Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Zublionis reported that the WIFI issue does seem to be better, but they will continue to chip away at any individual issues. Dr. Zublionis noted that the Veteran's Basketball game was a great event and the Girls Basketball team will have an event in February as well.

Dr. Zublionis reported that the Capital Reserve and Bond Vote discussions are ongoing. The first districtwide meeting was last evening with five more to come. The vote is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10 from 7:00 am until 10:00 pm in the high school gymnasium. He encouraged all to come out and vote. Information about absentee and early mail ballots are on the website and the rules are the same as the budget vote. He thanked Ms. Shelly Newman for setting up the Bond/Capital Reserve link on the website where voters can find FAQ and copies of the mailers; a video will be posted soon. Any questions can be directed to Mr. Pappas or Dr. Zublionis.

Dr. Zublionis reported on the annual 8<sup>th</sup> grade National History Day Symposium. He thanked Mr. Gordon and all the social studies teachers for sponsoring it. He explained that this is a universal historical research project that every 8<sup>th</sup> grader participates in. Dr. Smyth was a judge this year. He further explained that this showcases the different ways kids are learning and engaging in performance based assessment and the projects were all amazing. The next round is at Hofstra where some of our students will continue.

Next, Dr. Zublionis reported on an upcoming meeting with SEPTA on federal funding, January 20, 7:00-8:00 pm. He explained that he has been approached by parents to speak on this topic and although the District does not receive much in federal funding, it is not losing any either. The presentation will be an overview of how we receive these funds. The same night, a Parent University on Elementary Math will be held in the Middle School Library at 7:45 p.m.

Finally, Dr. Zublionis explained that this evening there will be a presentation on Digital Fluency, Computer Science, and Artificial Intelligence led by teachers Mr. Ryan Bridgwood, Ms. Victoria Otero, Mr. Elliot Kaye, Mr. Steve Menchel, Dr. Ryan O'Hara, and Mr. Eric Contreras. Dr. Zublionis explained that the technology committee which includes administrators, teachers, parents and 1 student, has been discussing the implications of AI.

### **Discussion - Digital Fluency, Computer Science, AI**

Dr. Smyth explained that the presentation will include a K-12 overview of North Shore's current approach and next steps in three connected areas, Digital Fluency, Computer Science, and Artificial Intelligence (AI), grounded in the New York State Computer Science and Digital Fluency (CSDF) Learning Standards and framed through the district's Shared Valued Outcomes and North Shore Journey. The presentation will begin by explaining why this review matters now: technology is reshaping how students learn, communicate, and make decisions, so districts must move beyond "tool use" toward building transferable reasoning, ethical judgment, and student agency, while also addressing wellness, equity, privacy, and academic integrity. The presentation summarized key research themes across all three domains and highlighted the CSDF standards as the organizing backbone for a developmental, coherent learning progression across grade bands. They outlined what North Shore is currently doing: Digital Fluency is embedded across learning experiences rather than treated as a standalone subject, emphasizing responsible use, credibility evaluation, digital citizenship, and increasingly independent and ethical participation as students move from

elementary to high school. Computer Science is presented as a coherent pathway: a trimester-based elementary experience within STEAM. Mr. Bridgwood gave examples of how this is presented to elementary students. Middle school coding experience, and high school electives including AP/IB options that build conceptual understanding, programming, and applied problem solving. Ms. Otero spoke to the different courses throughout the middle and high school grades. Dr. O’Hara, Mr. Contreras and Dr. Zublionis spoke about how Artificial Intelligence is framed through the district’s Generative AI Framework, emphasizing that AI is a tool that should support rather than replace human thinking, with clear expectations for student use, safeguards around privacy and bias, and a phased implementation plan that includes professional learning, student rollout, and family engagement. Finally, a set of action-oriented next steps focused on refinement rather than expansion were presented: continuing K–12 mapping to strengthen coherence and equity; infusing elementary keyboarding as a foundational access skill; refining middle and high school computer science pathways to clarify progression and broaden access; and continuing the phased rollout of the AI framework with exemplars, shared expectations, and professional learning focused on instruction.

The Board discussed the presentation. All Trustees thanked the team for the tremendous amount of information provided in the backup and were impressed with the deliberative and contemplative manner in which the framework is being rolled out. Some questions and concerns expressed were, what is appropriate digital learning for a kindergarten student; the importance of preparing students not just for jobs but as citizens of the world; teaching students how to use the skills in the framework and implementing these skills as soon as possible; adding keyboarding at the higher grades; how to broaden the interest level for kids; how to control AI use in students; creating AI grading guidelines for teachers. Student members noted that students are skeptical of AI with some feeling that giving permission to use it means to “go all in”. They noted that there seems to be two camps of teachers, some don’t use it at all or just to map out ideas, and others encourage students to use it; something they would not normally use. They also have heard that students are concerned they are giving up ownership of their work and fear if they use AI for part of their work there will be a problem; where is the line. President Macari suggested using it for writing could create insecurity, feeling your own writing could seem inferior. She also noted it could benefit students who do not have assistance at home.

**Discussion – Policy Review #5152 Residency and School Zoning Accommodations 9:43 p.m.**

The Board discussed policy #5152 (Non-Resident Students). Dr. Zublionis explained that with the changes made to the policy, it made sense to change the title. Trustee Dillon suggested the policy reads more like guidelines and may be more detailed than necessary as a policy. The committee will take another look at the policy and place it on the next agenda for a second read.

**Comments from the Public – 9:47 p.m.**

John Bartolotti, Glen Head complained that a staff member in a maintenance vehicle threatened him last October after he complained at the high school about the lack of sidewalks. He would like to file an incident report. President Macari explained that the information will be shared with the security team.

Prior to voting, Dr. Zublionis and Mr. Pappas both spoke about the retirement of Ms. Michele Hall. They praised her dedication and hard work as the transportation supervisor for the last eleven years and said they look forward to honoring her at the end of the school year.

On motion of Trustee Mosca and seconded by Trustee Colacioppo 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 Kristen Panariello, Mathematics, 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, Debra Henneberger, Teacher, that includes the period February 9, 2026 through May 15, 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, effective February 4, 2026 through June 30, 2026

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a part-time (.8) regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Marla Behar, Special Education, on Step 10 of the MA salary schedule, effective January 12, 2026 through January 29, 2026

Teacher Overages

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

Name	Department	Overage	School	Effective
Jennifer Babb	Social Studies	.2	High School	1/5/26-6/26/26
Emmanuel Blanchard	Social Studies	.2	High School	1/5/26-6/26/26
Carolyn Chimeri	Social Studies	.2	High School	1/5/26-6/26/26
Andrew Cross	Social Studies	.2	High School	1/5/26-1/23/26
Jennifer Scaturro	Special Education	.1	Middle School	1/12/26-1/29/26

Resignation for Retirement Purposes – Non-Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation for retirement purposes of Michele L. Hall, Transportation Supervisor, effective March 20, 2026

Resignation – Non -Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of Jose Alicea, Maintenance Helper, effective January 14, 2026

Appointments – Non-Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the appointment of Marianthi Bletsas, Part-time Teacher Aide at Glen Head Elementary School, effective January 16, 2026

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the appointment of Ralik Jackson, Part-time Cleaner at North Shore High School, effective January 16, 2026

Per Diem Substitutes

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Substitute Type</b>
Samantha Gribulis	Teacher Substitute
Kevin Larkin	Teacher Substitute
Katelyn Singleman	Teacher Substitute
Colin Sweeney	Teacher Substitute
Logan Weiner	Teacher Aide Substitute

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:

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Coach</b>	<b>Step</b>
Co-Curricular Intramurals	Jonathan Capobianco	1
Co-Curricular Intramurals	Cara Duffy	1

The Board decided to vote simultaneously on action items 11, 12, 13, and 14 (a-c) Prior to voting, Trustee Mosca asked if the computers being disposed of would be included in the donation bins for the former student who is running a community project. Dr. Zublionis explained the bins are for private donations.

Trustee Colacioppo asked when the dates for student orientations and other activities would be added to the calendar. Dr. Zublionis explained that student orientation would be held the last week of August.

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

Approval of the 2026-2027 School Calendar

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the 2026-2027 school calendar

Acceptance of Donation from the High School PTO

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the following donations from the North Shore High School PTO from the Hall-O-Ween fundraiser:

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Class of 2029	\$518.75
Class of 2028	\$639.64
Class of 2027	\$609.06
Class of 2026	\$493.75

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
101	iPads	High School
1	Printer	High School
1	Chromebook	High School
1	Smart Camera	High School
3	Computers	High School
3	Printers	Middle School
2	Chromebooks	Middle School
6	iMacs	Middle School
20	Computers	Middle School
9	Chromebooks	Sea Cliff School
5	Computers	Sea Cliff School
24	iPads	Sea Cliff School
1	Printer	Sea Cliff School

Approval of an Agreement between the North Shore Central School District and Galli Theater  
 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an Agreement between the School District and Galli Theater, to provide a performance of "The Three Little Pigs" for all kindergarten students on January 21, 2026; 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 a Facilities Use Agreement between the North Shore Central School District and Hofstra University  
 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the Agreement between the School District and Hofstra University for use of the John Cranford Adams Playhouse for the purpose of holding the Middle School Moving on Ceremony on June 25, 2026, as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement; 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 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 the Science of Reading, as per the terms and conditions in the attached agreement, effective February 1, 2026 through March 1, 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.

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 15 and 16 (a/b)  
 On motion of Trustee Cashman and seconded by Trustee Colacioppo and all in favor, it was:  
Approval of Health Services Contract between the North Shore CSD and Huntington UFSD

BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby enters into a contract for Health Services with the Huntington UFSD for 2 students residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the Huntington UFSD for the 2025-26 school year at a cost of \$995.00 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

Approval of an Agreement between the North Shore Central School District and Manhasset Public Schools (DOL-DOR)

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 Manhasset UFSD for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the Manhasset UFSD 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 Central School District and South Huntington UFSD (DOL-DOR)

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 South Huntington UFSD for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the South Huntington UFSD and residing within the North Shore 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.

**Board Committee Reports**

Trustee Cashman reported on a meeting of the Construction Steering Committee. There were problems with the Solar Panels – wiring was installed incorrectly. They are repairing it and we are being compensated for the time that the Solar Panels are down, and the wires are being replaced. In addition, it was determined that the middle school lights were dim. It was found when the lights were changed to LED they were burning out faster than they should be. It is being remedied and will be brighter. They discussed the capital reserve projects and the concerns and considerations. 20 trees have been planted around the District to replace dead trees. The feasibility study is underway for electric buses and will take about 6 months. The Press Box delivery will be either February 17 or 18 and will be done by spring. Central Office construction is moving along; the windows were done last week, siding in the spring; the color scheme is to compliment the Victorian but using opposite colors. They discussed wind screens by the vacuum unit at the high school and will be considering options at the next meeting. They discussed some items from the survey, many things are already taken care of. Mr. Backes went through all 200 surveys. They discussed a new machine which heats corn starch for removing weeds and poison ivy. The feedback on using HEPA filters to reduce germs in the building is very positive but some were found not to be working properly and need to be replaced and/or updated.

Trustee Mosca reported on the Legislative Breakfast hosted by LAC. All legislators or their representatives attended. The big takeaway was the state will have a tight budget. LAC had a great follow-up meeting, and each committee member is making regular contact with their assigned

representative. The Board's student representative also attended and spoke about the traffic issue at Kissam Lane and Glen Cove Avenue. President Macari thanked LAC Member Gina Siple and Trustee Jessica Dillon for organizing the legislative breakfast.

Trustee Colacioppo reported on a meeting of the Wellness Committee. They spoke about encouraging acceptance of differences. The 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade counselors spoke about the programs they are working on, how they teach kids to have fun and advocate for themselves. They discussed how they are now allowed to serve whole milk and found out that North Shore serves the least amount of milk than any other district, because we do not sell chocolate milk.

Trustee Svendsen reported on a meeting of the Health and Safety Committee. He reported that plans are up to date. Dr. Zublionis added that students will have two trainings over the next month. One on Desha's Law and the other on the Sandy Hook Promise, an anonymous reporting system. They are working on how to roll out the training for students in grades 4-12.

### **Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business discussed.

### **New Business**

President Macari noted that Ms. Aguiar Mady distributed a beautiful book of writings from the ELL students at a previous Board meeting. She would like Trustees to think about what they shared in terms of how we build the budget. She said it was powerful how they transformed because of other students and the faculty and feels it would be impactful to share it with non-ELL faculty. She feels it would be a nice bridge.

Trustee Mosca suggested adding greenery as one of the options for the vacuum area at the high school. Trustee Cashman explained they are unable to do anything organic because the equipment needs to ventilate, however, they are still having conversations about it.

### **Adjournment**

At 10:12 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi  
District Clerk