

North Shore Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
March 12, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President Andrea Macari at 6:15 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 6:15 p.m. on motion of Trustee Svendsen 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, proposed, pending or current litigation and collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law).

At 8:00 p.m. on motion of Trustee Dillon and seconded by Trustee Cashman and all in favor, the Board came out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting in the cafeteria. There were 4 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 February 26, 2026, being prepared and disseminated to all members in advance of the meeting, was dispensed. There being no corrections to the minutes, it was declared by President Macari that the minutes of the meeting of February 26, 2026 were approved.

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 4, 5, and 6

On motion of Trustee Cashman and seconded by Trustee Mosca 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 January 1, 2026 through January 31, 2026

**Approval of Budget Transfer**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves budget transfers in the amount of \$40,000 for legal fees related to Propel; \$113,000 for special education related services; \$80,000 for worker compensation claims for a total of \$233,000

**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 February, 2026 as reviewed and submitted by Claims Auditor, Denise Longboardi

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

Ex-Officio Student Board Member Genevieve Hudin reported on events, activities, issues and concerns at the high school. Luna Espinosa De Rozas was absent from the meeting as she was

preparing for the high school musical “The Drowsy Chaperone” this weekend; everyone is very excited for an amazing performance. North Shore High School’s Mock Trial Team beat HAFTR High School at the Sweet 16 and now they are moving on to compete in the Elite 8 which will be taking place next week on St. Patrick’s Day. She thanked Ms. Tara Fabilli and Judge Stacy Bennett for preparing North Shore’s amazing Mock Trial Team. A repeated issue in the student concern’s form is the traffic in the morning; this has been a consistent concern for a long time. Students who have personal laptops are again experiencing Wi-Fi issues; it takes some time for the computer to connect to the Wi-Fi each time students open their laptop. This seems to be an issue that has popped up throughout the year. Certain websites that teachers use for teaching, especially YouTube, are either blocked or do not fully work. She asked if there is a way for YouTube to be unblocked, as it would make playing educational videos in class easier for teachers. Sports Night was a huge success with a lot of school spirit and good, friendly competition. She congratulated the seniors for redeeming themselves with a win. The student-faculty basketball game took place on March 4th, with much fun and an amazing way to foster school spirit with some friendly competition. Ms. Hudin congratulated the faculty on their win.

Dr. Zublionis explained that the YouTube issue is specific to Google and all school districts have the same problem. He will check into the Wi-Fi issue with Mr. Kaye.

### **Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Zublionis congratulated the Girls Track 4x800 Relay Team members, Tula Belle Gumm, Joanna Kenney, Chloe Connolly and Sloane Bonvincino, for their state championship, along with their coach Neal Levy. He hopes to have them recognized by the Board on March 26.

Dr. Zublionis reported that the UPK lottery will happen during the week of March 23. Next week parents will be receiving a survey for their school preference.

Dr. Zublionis reported that budget meetings will begin over the next couple of weeks for community members to share their thoughts before the Board adopts the budget. The first “What Makes Us, Us” meeting is on March 18 and will be for all levels. The next two meetings are Community Budget Forum meetings, scheduled for March 23 and April 13 where they will speak about the nuts and bolts of the budget, revenues and expenses. Tonight, the Board will discuss all lines of the budget and student programs. The budget will be adopted on April 16.

Finally, Dr. Zublionis reminded all to attend the high school musical, “The Drowsy Chaperone” this weekend.

### **Budget Review – 8:08 p.m.**

The Board reviewed the following sections of the budget: Board of Education/Central Administration; Facilities; Supervision of Instruction; Regular Instruction; Special Education/St. Christopher; Occupational & Continuing Education; Library/Audio-Visual; Technology; Attendance; Counseling; Health Services; Athletics/Co-Curricular/Community Services; Transportation.

Trustees commended the budget narratives and noted how much they assist in linking the needs of each building/department with the lines of the budget.

As the Board reviewed the budget lines, the following questions/comments were raised. In the area of facilities, it was noted that many projects are funded through the budget and only when a project is too large to be done through the budget does it get expanded into a capital reserve or bond. Trustees commended Mr. Backes for the many buildings and grounds improvements during his first year. A question was raised regarding generators and whether there is one in each school. At present there are generators at the Glen Head, Middle School and High School. More research on additional generators and upgrading the one at the high school is needed. Mr. Pappas spoke about vehicle maintenance; what is done at the transportation depot; what is done through

outside contractors. Our maintenance crew does mostly regular maintenance and specialized maintenance is sent out. In addition, the transportation maintenance crew is used primarily to maintain and repair the buses. Mr. Pappas explained the difference between special projects, capital projects and utilizing the repair reserve for emergency type projects. Funds in special projects (in the budget) are for smaller one-off projects and capital projects are larger in nature (also in the budget); funds left can be transferred to the general fund. The repair reserve is used for emergency repairs, if a hearing is held prior to using the funds, the funds do not need to be replenished, if no public hearing is held, the reserve must be replenished. It was noted that the Transportation Depot saves the district money by having its own fleet of buses, not relying on, or paying for, contracted busing, is an additional revenue stream by maintaining the buses of surrounding districts. Having our own drivers has been of benefit to us during a bus driver shortage and in knowing who is driving our students. Mr. Pappas further explained that in most cases we use contract services to transport students outside of the district's boundaries or when it is more economical to send one or two students on another bus with students from other districts to the same school. The purchase of 2 large and 2 small buses was discussed. Mr. Pappas explained that many organizations have pushed back on the NYS mandate of zero emissions by 2035. Wendel, the company providing the efficiency study, anticipates the wavier, which will enable us to purchase non-electric buses through 2029, will most probably be extended through 2031. In addition, it seems unrealistic that the district would be unable to use buses that are purchased through 2031, after 2035. Furthermore, some of our current buses are already at the end of their useful life and will need to be replaced. In the Board of Education codes, it was noted that the line for legal expenses is the highest expense although that has decreased in recent years due to a decline in FOIL requests and litigation costs. It was suggested that NYSSBA membership services should be utilized more. Dr. Smyth explained that the \$35,000 grant offset under Supervision of Instruction is from Title Grants received from NYS each year and used for professional development. A request for more translated material was made to engage the non-English language speakers in the community. It was noted that the rule in Nassau County is to translate all budget material to Spanish, in addition, emails are automatically translated. It was suggested that funding for coaches to attend conferences may need to be increased; coaches need to know that the Board is supportive of conference attendance to assist students in obtaining college scholarships. Dr. Smyth explained there are other areas of the budget where conferences are funded. Dr. Zublionis explained that North Shore covers AP and IB exam fees. He further explained this becomes an equalizer to give all students the opportunity to take upper level courses. Dr. Smyth explained the reason for the decrease in the elementary textbook code is due to the change in the elementary humanities program; the new books are in the supply code. In the area of Special Education, Dr. Zublionis explained that the rate of classified students continues to increase, which increases costs in many areas. Trustees expressed their appreciation of all that the technology department does to keep costs down and to stay on the cutting edge. It was noted that when computers/Chrome Books are disposed of they are just shells as they have been dismantled for parts. It was requested that a better device for upperclassmen be researched for the future; it becomes an equity issue as students who can afford a better device purchase their own. In the area of Counseling there was a question regarding Naviance and how students can store their artifacts to build a college resume. Dr. Zublionis explained that students are introduced to Naviance in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and information is stored in this program, and also in Passport for Good where they log in their service hours. On the instructional side there are portfolios that include much of their work throughout their school years. It was noted that our nurses are needed for the safety of students. They handle students with medical issues, sport clearances, students with a 504, and meetings with parents. The district is committed to providing mental health funding through a

skilled staff of psychologists and social workers. It was suggested that our staff can possibly be utilized more going forward rather than using outside providers. Dr. Zublionis noted that our social workers and psychologists do have big caseloads and are often busy with CSE and 504 meetings, which is why outside consultants are used. In the area of co-curricular athletics, it was noted that the equipment line decreased. Mr. Pappas explained that any item over \$5,000 must be in the equipment line. This year, they are not purchasing equipment, therefore the supply line has been increased. Dr. Zublionis further explained that there has been improvement with uniform purchases, but we need to survey the coaches better to determine what their needs are. There was support for expanding the intramural program for students who are not on the competitive level but would benefit both physically and mentally from such a program. It was suggested to bring badminton over to the high school.

#### **Comments from the Public-9:20 p.m.**

Toni Curran, Glen Head, asked where they are in the process of construction now that the vote is completed. She wondered if it is possible to work on multiple projects at the same time instead of working on them sequentially. She asked if plans have been submitted to SED and what the timeline looks like for the projects. Finally, she has heard that the trucks that delivered the Press Box significantly damaged the fields.

Dr. Zublionis said he is aware of the damage to the fields, and it is being addressed, however, he was at the field and does not feel it is as extensive as Ms. Curran heard. He will check with Mr. Backes on this. Permits have been submitted to the state, and we are waiting for them to come through then will match those to our timeline. Once the timeline is final, it will be shared. Dr. Zublionis explained the plan is to do multiple projects at the same time. They plan to do projects in 2-3 phases.

Brendan Mitchell, Sea Cliff, has a 9<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grader. He heard the discussion about GPA and is glad that the plan is to move forward by counting the grades from specific middle school courses into the high school GPA. He feels it makes sense to include the grades in the GPA if the class is a high school level class. He is pleased that North Shore values academic rigor. He feels it is equitable for students who take the same course, whether in middle school or high school, to have those grades count toward their GPA.

Prior to voting, Dr. Zublionis recognized retiring teachers Sharon Richmond and Tina Whyte and retiring secretary to the superintendent/District Clerk, Betty Ciampi. They will all be recognized in June.

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

#### Personnel

##### Resignation for Retirement Purposes - Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation for retirement purposes of Sharon Richmond, Elementary, effective June 30, 2026

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation for retirement purposes of Tina Whyte, Elementary, effective June 30, 2026

##### 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 Elizabeth Ciampi, Secretary to the Superintendent, effective July 31, 2026

Resignation - Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of Malkia Benoit, Hofstra Student Intern, effective March 5, 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, Donald Lang, Director of Athletics, Health and Physical Education, that includes the period March 12, 2026 through June 12, 2026

Bonding Leave - Administration

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District approves a leave with full salary without charge to leave credits for the purpose of bonding with a child for not more than 20 workdays for employee, Thomas Sheehan that includes the period April 13, 2026 through May 8, 2026

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 Keryn Edwards, Special Education, effective September 1, 2026 through January 31, 2027

Leave of Absence/Leave Replacement Appointment - Certified/Administration

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District grants Kevin Dahill a leave of absence from his position as a 7-12 Social Studies Teacher at North Shore Middle School effective March 9, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education appoints Kevin Dahill to a Leave Replacement position of Director of Athletics and Health effective March 9, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during his time as Director of Athletics and Health Kevin Dahill shall be paid an annual salary at the minimum range of the Directors salary schedule (pro-rated); and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such leave of absence and leave replacement appointment shall continue until this leave replacement position is no longer required.

Acting Director of Physical Education

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby designates Megan McCormack, who holds New York State certification in Physical Education and School Building Leader, to serve as the Acting Director of Physical Education for the District, pursuant to 8 NYCRR §135.4, effective March 12, 2026 through June 30, 2026

Leave of Replacement - Administration

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a leave replacement appointment for Alane Dugan, Elementary Principal, at the Maximum Range for Elementary Principals on the Administrative Salary Schedule, effective March 26, 2026, 2025 through May 8, 2026

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 Matthew Falcone, Physical Education, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective March 10, 2026 through March 27, 2026

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the regular substitute (leave replacement) (.8) appointment of Jake Corso, Social Studies, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective March 23, 2026 through June 30, 2026

Amendment to Resignation - Non-Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby amends the February 26, 2026 resolution accepting the resignation of Victoria Dilgard, School Monitor, as follows:

The Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation of Victoria Dilgard effective February 12, 2026

Resignation – Non-Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of Ralik Jackson, Part-time Cleaner, effective January 23, 2026

Part-time Appointments - Non-Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the appointment of Charles DiMarco, Part-time Cleaner at North Shore High School, effective March 13, 2026

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the appointment of Brooke Whitcomb, Part-time School Monitor at Sea Cliff Elementary School, effective March 13, 2026

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the appointment of Angelina Sissons, Part-time School Monitor at Sea Cliff Elementary School, effective March 13, 2026

Teacher Overages

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the following teacher overages effective March 2, 2026 through March 6, 2026:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Overage</b>	<b>School</b>
Christine Considine	Math	.2	High School
Kathleen Festa	Math	.2	High School
Kelly Mahabir	Math	.2	High School
Kevin Wasp	Math	.2	High School

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>
Joshua Paley	Teacher Substitute
Jose Bonilla-Hernandez	Cleaner P/T Substitute

Michele Hart	Teacher Aide Sub/Clerical Sub
Kimberly Hertlein	Teacher Aide Sub

*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 coaches:

<b>Middle School Sport</b>	<b>Middle School Coach</b>	<b>Step</b>
Badminton	Harrison Ryan Berglin	1
Baseball	Philip Como	2
Baseball	Tom Granieri	2
Baseball	Patrick Lynn	1
Gymnastics	Keara McNamara	1
Boys Lacrosse	Jaden Galluzzo	1
Girls Lacrosse	Erica Granieri	2
Girls Lacrosse	Kelley Huggins	2
Softball	Keith Slack	2
Softball	Jaime Toron	1
Track-Girls and Boys	Keith Freund	2
Track-Girls and Boys	Lauren Gotta	2
<b>High School Sport</b>	<b>High School Coach</b>	
JV Asst. Girls Lacrosse	Jenna Cristodero	1
Varsity Girls Golf	Andrew Richter	2

<b>Advisor-High School</b>		
Scholarship Co-Advisor	Patty Valeo	Step 1

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

Approval of Resolution For the School District Annual Budget Vote and Election

WHEREAS, the Annual School District Budget Vote and Election (Annual Meeting) of the North Shore Central School District will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Gymnasium of the North Shore Senior High School; and

WHEREAS, the qualified voters shall elect two (2) members to the Board of Education, for a term of (3) years, to commence on July 1, 2026, and expire on June 30, 2029.

BE IT RESOLVED that the vote be taken by voting machine, or, if voting machines be unavailable, by paper ballot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Proposition on the 2026-2027 School Budget shall read as follows:

RESOLVED, that the School District budget for the school year 2026-2027 proposed by the Board of Education in accordance with Section 1716 of the Education Law shall be approved and the necessary taxes be levied therefore on the taxable real property of the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School District Budget for the 2026-2027 school year will be completed and presented at a public hearing to be held on May 7, 2026 at 7:45 p.m. and will be available for inspection at each of the schoolhouses of the District during business hours during the 14 days preceding the election, together with the text of any resolution which will be presented to the voters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Registration will meet to register qualified voters on Saturday, May 9, 2026, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Registration will be held at the North Shore Schools Administrative Offices, 112 Franklin Avenue, Sea Cliff, New York; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Clerk be and hereby is authorized and directed to publish such notice of said Annual Budget Vote and Election in the Glen Cove-Oyster Bay Record Pilot and Sea Cliff/Glen Head Herald as shall be required by law, which said notice shall be substantially in the form hereto annexed as Addendum A, which said Addendum is deemed to be part of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following persons be appointed to serve as Election Inspectors and/or Poll Workers of the Annual Election:

Mary Lou Martin	Elizabeth Sadowski	Patricia Cano	Megan McIntosh
Catherine Stalarow	Russell Lerch	Marissa Holden	Eric Haglund
Lois Straber	Donna Henderson	Patricia Lerch	Elizabeth Falcone
James Stalarow	Americo Mendes	Sophia Kulikowsky	Beata Markasevic

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Clerk be and hereby is empowered to publish any and all necessary notices and appoint substitute Inspectors and Poll Workers should any of the above-named persons fail to serve; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items 13, 14 (a, b) and 16

Prior to voting, Trustee Cashman noted that the Intervenor Agreement (action item #16) is how the Board is advocating, the best way they can, regarding the Propel project. Dr. Zublionis added that by being a party to this agreement, the District can apply for funds provided by the state which will fund two consultants, studying traffic and environmental implications, of this project.

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

Acceptance of a Donation from the Sea Cliff PCA to the Sea Cliff Elementary School

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts a donation from the Sea Cliff PCA to the Sea Cliff Elementary School of Bookmarks and Keychains to be used for Reading Week at a value of \$365

Approval of an Inter-Municipal Agreement between North Shore Central School District and Locust Valley School District (Maintenance and Repair)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an Inter-municipal Agreement between the School District and the Locust Valley Central School District for vehicle inspection, maintenance and repair services effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027; 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 Inter-municipal Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

Approval of an Inter-Municipal Agreement between North Shore Central School District and Locust Valley Central School District (Fueling)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an Inter-municipal Agreement between the School District and the Locust Valley Central School District for fueling effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027; 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 Inter-municipal Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

Acceptance of an RFP for Annual Financial Audit and Related Services (Independent Auditor)

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the Request for Proposal (RFP) from Cullen & Danowski, LLP., to provide annual financial audit and related services for the fiscal years effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030, as described in the Request for Proposal dated November 13, 2025

Approval of an Intervenor Funding Contract

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the contract between the School District and the New York State Department of Public Service concerning intervenor funds in connection with the Article VII Proceeding currently pending before the Public Service Commission (“PSC”) bearing PSC Case No. 24-T-0446; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President and/or the Superintendent of Schools to execute the above-mentioned contract on behalf of the Board of Education.

**Board Committee Reports**

All committees will meet next week.

**Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business discussed.

**New Business**

Trustee Mosca shared that Propel holds quarterly Webinars. She said it is a good way to receive first-hand information of where they are in the process and their plan. If anyone is interested in participating in these Webinars, information is on their website to sign up for a schedule; the next one is June 10. In addition, Trustee Mosca informed everyone that on March 18 Propel representatives will be at the Glen Head Community Center to answer questions from the community. They are still collecting information and surveys from business owners. Those who own a business along the route Propel proposes for their project can express their concerns.

Trustee Cashman noted there is an issue on Long island with avian flu. She asked that building leaders be made aware of this as people should avoid contact with any dead birds; it is highly contagious. Dr. Zublionis will send out a message.

**Adjournment**

At 9:37 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi  
District Clerk