

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
February 11, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Herman Berliner at 6:30 P.M. in the High School Library. Present were Trustee Gonzalez, Jones, Labbate, and Nightingale. Trustees Commander and Russo were absent. Also present Superintendent Dr. Edward Melnick, and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi and Robert Chlebicki.

At 6:30 pm on motion of Trustee Labbate and seconded by Trustee Gonzalez and all in favor, the Board moved to convene an executive session in the family & consumer science room to discuss matters leading to the appointment or employment of a particular person or persons.

At 7:30 pm on motion of Trustee Nightingale and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting in the library. There were 10 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Berliner led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Jones seconded by Trustee Labbate and all in favor, the minutes of January 28, 2016 were approved.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Melnick reported that our music students will have a slight delay in their journey to Cuba due to an unplanned trip there by the Pope. They will arrive tomorrow evening for their historic performance tour of Cuba which has received a great deal of attention in both print and television media. He reported that the NYS Department of Education has named our Middle School a New York State National School to Watch which means that many other Middle Schools from around the country will be visiting our Middle School to see a designated model of excellence. He reported that the New York State Education Department has passed a new regulation requiring that districts hire a certified guidance counselor for every 250 students. This would require an additional 4 elementary guidance counselors in the 2017-2018 school year. The State Superintendent's group has petitioned NYSED to allow the use of elementary social workers for this purpose

Report of the SGO Representative

Stephanie Zelentz, SGO Vice-president filled in for Jessica Hannon who on the school trip to Spain. She reported on events and activities at the high school including the three foreign exchange trips that are taking place in Arezzo, Italy; Alicante & Barcelona, Spain, and Cuba; students will be experiencing many cultural opportunities in all three countries. Also, the SGO is working on Sports Night; the theme this year is habitats. Seniors will be artic, juniors-desert, sophomores-ocean, and freshman-jungle.

Regular Business

On motion of Trustee Nightingale and seconded by Trustee Labbate and all in favor, comments from the public was moved to the first order of business.

Comments from the Public

Members of the Environmental Club including: president of the club, Kyra Rieger (Sea Cliff), Kaitlin Hurley (Glen Head), Jessica Gianfortune (Sea Cliff), Kelly Laven (Glenwood), Caelan Schoenhofen (Glen Head), and club advisor, Lauren Dilallo, spoke in favor of instituting a recycling program in the district. Dr. Melnick commended the students for presenting this issue to the board, he said he appreciates their social awareness and is happy to work with them to support the initiative district-wide. President Berliner added if there is more the board can do please bring it to their attention.

Budget Review

The Board reviewed the following sections of the 2016-2017 proposed budget, Special Education, Other Instruction, Transportation, Community Services, Benefits, and Debt Service. Trustee Jones expressed concern over the decrease in the budget for library books. Dr. Melnick explained much of the online and database costs are now utilized through the local libraries. He further explained looking at previous expenditures and in speaking with the librarians and principals they feel the budget is adequate. In regard to the line for debt service, Dr. Melnick explained that our debt is going down and we will need to look to increase it.

Superintendent Search Consultants

The Board discussed the five proposals received from firms interested in conducting the search for a new Superintendent of Schools. The five firms include: District Wise Search Consultants; Hazard, Young Attea & Associates; Leadership Advantage, LLC; Ray & Associates, Inc.; and School Leadership, LLC. It was decided to interview all five firms over the next three board meetings (February 25, March 10 and March 31).

On motion of Trustee Nightingale and seconded by Trustee Labbate and all in favor, it was:

Personnel

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Jennifer Babb, Social Studies, from Step 8 of the MA+30 salary schedule, to Step 8 of the MA+45 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Danielle Bernstein, Special Education, from Step 3 of the BA+30 salary schedule, to Step 3 of the MA salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Kimberly DiCicco, Special Education, from Step 11 of the MA+30 salary schedule, to Step 11 of the MA+45 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Amy Gilroy, Speech, from Step 8 of the MA+15 salary schedule, to Step 8 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Bridget Gorman, Italian, from Step 2 of the BA salary schedule, to Step 2 of the BA+15 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Patricia Irving, Reading, from Step 24 of the MA+60 salary schedule, to Step 24 of the MA+75 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Jaclyn Kepke, English, from Step 10 of the MA+45 salary schedule, to Step 10 of the MA+60 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Nicole Larkin, Social Studies, from Step 15 of the MA+60 salary schedule, to Step 15 of the MA+75 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Tina Passanante, Science, from Step 5 of the MA+30 salary schedule, to Step 5 of the MA+45 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Steven Peroni, Physics, from Step 7 of the MA+30 salary schedule, to Step 7 of the MA+45 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Brian Rodahan, Social Studies, from Step 11 of the MA+30 salary schedule, to Step 11 of the MA+45 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Francis Tloczkowski, Social Studies, from Step 1 of the BA+30 salary schedule, to Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Robert Willgoos, English, from Step 10 of the MA+15 salary schedule, to Step 10 of the MA+30 salary schedule, effective February 1, 2016

Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment - Certified

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Rachel Cabrera, Art, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective February 6, 2016 through February 22, 2016

K-2 Math Support

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Audra Rizzo, Teaching Assistant for before/after school math support @Sea Cliff School for grades K-2, effective February 9, 2016

Approval of Addition to the Per Diem Substitute List

Resolved: To approve the addition of the following names to the per diem substitute list:

Catherine Carr	Teacher Substitute
Courtney Costabile	Teacher Substitute
Melissa Danowski	Teacher Substitute
Joanne Day	Teacher Substitute
Samantha Drywa	Teacher Substitute
Loretta Fecteau	Teacher Substitute
Bertha Fleury	Teacher Substitute
Michael Torba	Teacher Substitute
Paul Salerno	Security Aide Substitute
Sal Groe	Student Worker
Paul Salerno	Security Aide Substitute
Anthony Imburgia	Teacher Substitute

Approval of Extra-Curricular Activity Advisory

Resolved: To add the position of Costumer to the high school list of Dramatics Advisories at a starting stipend of \$2,237

On motion of Trustee Nightingale and seconded by Trustee Gonzalez and all in favor, it was:

Approval Of Spring 2016 Community Education Instructors

Resolved: To approve the following community education instructors for the spring 2016 semester:

Anu Annam	Anne Marie Giambrone
Doug Augenthaler	Stephen Goldstein
Helen Bauer	Phyllis Hintze
Bell Auto School	Jone Manzone
Elizabeth Cassidy	Patricia Mitchell
Jerry Cohen	Christopher Pierce
Adam Demetri	J. Jerome Vivona
Vincent Desanti	Michelle Marino
Cyril Fabijanic	

The board decided to act simultaneously on action items E & F:

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

Acceptance of Donations from the Arts Angels to the Department of Fine And Performing Arts

Resolved: To accept the following donations from the Arts Angels to the Department of Fine & Performing Arts:

\$381.78 for the purchase of a Photo Enlarger

\$1,500 for funding of the Cuba Music Tour

Acceptance of Donations from the North Shore High School PTO to the North Shore High School

Resolved: To accept the following donations from the North Shore High School PTO to the North Shore High School:

1-UV Light Box valued at \$949

1-Plaque, Photo Collage & Signage valued at \$600 for renaming Room J-22 in honor of Andrew Fierstein

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

Acceptance of Single Audit Report

Resolved: To accept the Single Audit Report from R.S. Abrams & Co. LLP for fiscal year ended June 30, 2015

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

Approval Of Change Orders

Resolved: To approve change order #2 from Web Construction Corp. for Masonry/Abatement Bond Referendum Projects Phase 2 at Sea Cliff Elementary School at an amount of \$4,020.05 (deduction)

Resolved: To approve change order #3 from Web Construction Corp. for Masonry/Abatement Bond Referendum Projects Phase 2 at Sea Cliff Elementary School at an amount of \$245,038.71 (addition)

Resolved: To approve change order #4 from Web Construction Corp. for Masonry/Abatement Bond Referendum Projects Phase 2 at Sea Cliff Elementary School at an amount of \$24,126.75 (addition)

On motion of Trustee Nightingale and seconded by Trustee Labbate and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Budget Transfers

Resolved: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$30,000 effective February 11, 2016

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

Approval of Agreement with Marshall Cavendish Education

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Marshall Cavendish Education to provide professional development in Singapore Math over 2 days at a cost of \$5,400

On motion of Trustee Nightingale and seconded by Trustee Gonzalez and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Health Services Contract

Resolved: That the Board of Education enter into a contract for Health Services with the Hempstead UFSD for 4 students residing within the North Shore School District and attending non-public schools within the Hempstead UFSD for the 2015-2016 school year at a cost of \$817 per student as provided under the Education Law of the State of New York

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

Approval of Agreement with Jaffe Holden

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Jaffe Holden to provide acoustic consultation services in regard to the Victorian Studio at a cost of \$2,500

On motion of Trustee Gonzalez and seconded by Trustee Nightingale and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Special Education Services (IEP)

Resolved: To approve special education services (IEP) as per recommendations of the CSE

On motion of Trustee Gonzalez and seconded by Trustee Labbate and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Addendum to the Agreement with Martin Brooks

Resolved: To approve an addendum to the agreement with Martin Brooks for completing the Guidance Review, to include a report to the Board of Education on February 25, 2016

Comments from the Public

David Ludmar, Glenwood Landing, asked what the time-line would be for the superintendent search. President Berliner responded, the time-line is not fixed but will be sometime in the fall of next year.

Amy Beyer, Glen Head, updated the board on what LAC is working on. They are trying to put together a legislative breakfast, they are working on their website, and LAC member Robin Charlow is setting up a course at Hofstra so her students can help them with research.

Tim Madden, Sea Cliff, asked how long the masonry work at Sea Cliff School will be going on and where the additional \$250,000 is coming from to complete the job. Ms. Buatsi responded the work should be completed over the summer. Dr. Melnick explained that the funds are from the original bond and realized through value engineering. He further explained we are not permitted to spend more than what is in the original bond.

Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

New Business

Dr. Melnick explained that to keep North Shore on the cutting edge, in looking forward with STEAM education, a steering committee headed by Mr. Chlebicki will be working on a 5 year plan which will include working with outside people in the field to get a full world perspective. Dr. Melnick will be sending out an email to the community looking for any assistance.

Trustee Labbate raised the issue of a letter received by the board from a coalition of concerned citizens of East Ramapo who is reaching out to school boards across Long Island seeking support for legislation that would authorize an independent state monitor to provide checks and balances of the school board of the East Ramapo Central School District. President Berliner explained that the school board is siphoning resources from the public school to private schools.

On motion of Trustee Labbate and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor a resolution on New York State Monitor in East Ramapo was added to the agenda.

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

WHEREAS: In recent year, the school board of the East Ramapo Central School District in Spring Valley, N.Y. has denied public school students-largely children of color from low-income backgrounds-basic educational programs and staff, such as full-day kindergarten, art, music , athletics, advanced classes, assistant principals and social workers, while simultaneously increasing funding for students attending non-public schools;

AND WHEREAS: In 2014 New York State Education Department Monitor Hank Greenberg produced a comprehensive, empirically-based report declaring the district and school board has recklessly mismanaged funds, not complied with state and federal law, has entirely depleted the district's millions in reserves, has exhibited repeated favoritism toward non-public schools over public schools, has demonstrated deep disrespect of the community, and warrants diversity and transparency training;

AND WHEREAS: In 2015, three New York State Education Department Monitors-Mr. Dennis Walcott, Dr. Monica George-Fields and Dr. John Sipple-affirmed Mr. Greenberg's findings and concluded that the school board has "persistently failed to act I the best interests of public school students";

AND WHEREEAS: Both studies recommended an independent monitor to serve as a check and balance of the school board to ensure educational quality and fiscal integrity of the district, a position unanimously endorsed by the New York State Board of Regents and officially supported by dozens of local and state-wide organizations, including the Rockland County School Boards Association and the New York City Bar Association;

AND WHEREAS: State intervention requires the authorization of Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislature;

AND WHEREAS: Our school community stands with the students attending the East Ramapo Central School District and believes that the unique problems and prolonged crisis in the district, documented by multiple studies, obligate the state to increase its formal involvement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District supports the legislation introduced by Rockland County's lawmakers to bring oversight with veto power to East Ramapo and urges our lawmakers to vote in favor of its passage.

Adjournment

At 8:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Labbate and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk