

North Shore Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
October 1, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Herman Berliner at 6:45 P.M. in the High School Library. Present were Trustees Commander, Gonzalez, Jones, Labbate, Nightingale, and Russo. Also present Superintendent Dr. Edward Melnick and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi and Robert Chlebicki.

Executive Session

At 6:45 pm on motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Commander and all in favor, the Board moved to convene an executive session in the high school family & consumer science room to discuss proposed pending or current litigation and matters leading to the appointment of a particular person or persons.

At 7:30 pm on motion of Trustee Labbate and seconded by Trustee Nightingale and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting in the library. There were approximately 6 people in the audience.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Berliner led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Trustee Nightingale and seconded by Trustee Russo and all in favor, the minutes of September 8, 2015 were approved as amended.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Melnick reported on the tragic passing of a North Shore student. He explained that the district was not permitted to release information to the public in regard the student. He has notified the community that additional programs are being offered on drug awareness and prevention on October 15. Detective Michael Zotto who has worked with the district previously will be holding a forum for all parents and students in grades 8-12. Dr. Melnick encouraged parents to attend the evening and to encourage their neighbors and friends to attend as well. It is his hope there will be a larger turnout than usual. Dr. Melnick also reported that the district has been notified by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation that we have 14 students who have been identified as high scorers, 11 identified as commended scholars and three semifinalists. This is the highest number of Merit scholars we have had in any one year in the past decade. He reported that the writing center has opened; this is modeled on college campus writing centers and complements our very successful math center in the High School. In addition, a math center has opened in the Middle School; this is open to all students who need or are seeking additional support. He reported that the International Baccalaureate Program has had a very successful launch in the High School with 175 Juniors (75% of the class) enrolled in one or more IB courses and 40 declared diploma candidates. In addition 52 seniors are taking one or more IB courses. Faculty from the Sea Cliff School will be presenting and discussing their work in the area of performance based assessments at the elementary level at an upcoming conference being held at Manhattanville College. Our elementary students will be continuing their partnership with the Nassau County Museum of Art, exploring the power of visual text. In regard to issues with LIPA, Dr. Melnick reported that he and Ms. Buatsi, along with District Council Carrie Anne Tondo and John Kiernan, have been meeting with

representatives from the Nassau County Attorney's Office, the County Assessor's Office and the County Legislature regarding the issue of LIPA properties formally owned by LILCO and the County's ability to collect partial tax payments. Although information is still being gathered, at this point it appears this does not impact the Glenwood Power Plant property and we do not anticipate seeing a major impact from this process in the current tax year. Dr. Melnick reported that the district is pleased with the quality of the track replacement and it will once again be open to our students and the public as of October 5. He commended the Board's persistence and careful planning regarding this project. Preparation for homecoming, scheduled for October 17, is in full swing; activities are being planned for all students at every grade level on the High School campus following the parade, which is scheduled to begin at 11:00 am with activities continuing through 1:30 pm (start of the football pre-game show).

Trustee Russo expressed her concerns in regard to the format of the writing center. She said her understanding was that faculty members would be assigned to the writing center on their off periods. Now it seems there will be students assisting other students with writing assignments that are of a higher level than ever before. She suggested utilizing Hofstra interns if there are not enough faculty members available and, if necessary, hiring additional Hofstra interns. She also expressed concern that 11th grade students may not have the training needed to support and guide other students in writing, and suggested there may be resistance by some students to accept criticism from their peers. Mr. Chlebicki responded that there is a faculty member in the writing center working with both students seeking assistance and those acting as mentors. He suggested having Mr. Cousins and Ms. Ritter come to a future board meeting and give a presentation on the Writing Center. Dr. Melnick will set up a presentation for a future board meeting.

Report from the SGO

Jessica Hannon, SGO president, reported on events and activities at the high school including, all 4 grades are represented in the Student Government, a Pep Rally is being planned for Homecoming, a group of exchange students from Alicante Spain arrived; this has been a great experience for all students at the high school.

Regular Business

Student Performance

Mr. Chlebicki explained that all subject directors would give a short overview of how students performed on grades 3-8 ELA and Math assessments, the grade 4 Science exam, Regents exams, the instructional implications of these results, as well as the implications for success on future Regents examinations. Beginning with the elementary Humanities and STEM areas, then moving on to the Middle School Humanities and STEM areas, and finally each of the four subject areas in the high school, as well as Language, each Director gave an overview of the areas of strengths for their subject area, area of focus, and finally an action plan for going forward. Although every director noted the data was a bit skewed due to the large number of students who opted out of taking the state tests this year, they reported that our students are doing better than the region in almost every area, and in every subject each director reported student writing as a strength. In regard to the Writing Center, Ms. Ritter addressed some of Trustee Russo's concerns. She explained that in researching writing centers, she found that the "old fashioned" writing center does not exist anymore; it is a more peer counseling, non-directive, socratic-method of tutoring. The writing center is staffed by 18 peer fellows; students are engaged in open-ended questions and the focus is on open-ended writers instead of a teacher answering a question. She explained that the peer tutors are being trained to have more experience in the area of college essays. In regard to the IB extended essay, she explained that there are restrictions in regard to mentorship which peer tutorship does not violate.

Dr. Melnick thanked Trustee Gonzalez for requesting this presentation giving the Board an opportunity to see early in the year all that goes into a North Shore education. He stated that he is very proud of the very talented, caring and dedicated administrative team he has hired. He went on to say the biggest highlight of the report is the strength of our writing program; it used to be the areas of focus was constructed responses and essays and now those are the areas of strength. He also pointed out the action plans that have been developed are done for all children not just those who are failing. He commended the administrators for collaborating with each other, and said it is unique within a public school district where we begin talking about learning across disciplines and grade levels. Finally he said we seem to have found a way to ultimately navigate the path of state assessments and use the data rationally.

President Berliner thanked the directors for their presentation. He said he is impressed by our teachers, administrators, and students and he believes moving to IB was a good decision which will enormously strengthen writing for our students as they move to higher education and beyond. He went on to say he is impressed with the writing center and is a big advocate of peer mentoring; this is especially beneficial with scarce resources. He will ask someone from Hofstra admissions to come over and talk about what they look for in the college essay, but he explained that many kids are using essay coaches so colleges are putting less of an emphasis on the essay as it is not clear who is writing it. He would like the district to make a goal for the future to challenge disparities; students with disabilities, gender, etc. While he understands we may not be able to eradicate disparities, he believes it is possible to make it our goal to cut it in half.

Trustee Russo said she agrees that the new structure in the writing center seems to have worked out but she thinks the addition of Hofstra interns would be beneficial; she is not suggesting utilizing any of the current interns, she is suggesting adding more. She noted there was a great presentation by Mr. Cousins on Tuesday which was very detailed; it was attended by about 30 people and she suggested next year it be video-taped and put on the website. Mr. Cousins addressed closing the gap of disparity of students with disabilities. Trustee Russo is interested in seeing if the gender gap closes because of reading. She is also interested in reviewing the data from Common Core science and math in the future.

Dr. Melnick responded, Trustee Gonzalez had asked about looking at equity and access; looking back at gender and special education gap, looking at who our population is/was and looking at patterns. He agrees, gender, special education versus regular education, and ethnicity, are areas we need to look at.

Trustee Gonzalez thanked the directors for their very comprehensive presentation. She said as a parent of a senior and a second grader in the district, with 11 years to go, it is good to see the very thoughtful analysis and a balanced approach to learning.

Shared Valued Outcomes

Dr. Melnick reviewed the update and plan for assessment and evaluation of the Shared Valued Outcomes.

Comments from the Public

Lynn Murtha, spoke about the student who died of a drug overdose. She wondered why parents were not told about it. She feels parents should be made aware of what is going on in the school.

Dr. Melnick responded, the district is not permitted to identify or share information when there are incidents such as this, only in the general sense. He went on to explain that there is a Coalition for a Drug Free North Shore who holds parent forums every year but are not well attended; last year about 30-40 parents came out to hear Detective Mike Zotto speak about Drug Awareness. An email just went

out to parents about an upcoming Parent/Student Forum which will be held on October 15. He encouraged all parents to come and to bring students in grades 8-12. He encouraged Mrs. Murtha to attend a Coalition Meeting and offered to meet with her to share ideas on how to get the message out to parents.

Trustee Russo suggested posting flyers about the upcoming forum on the front doors of all school buildings and handing them out at athletic events.

Dr. Melnick spoke with Mr. Lang and Ms. Rodriguez about encouraging their students to come and bring their parents to the forum. He also noted that the last PRIDE/Youth Development Survey (YDS) which was done 3 years ago indicated the biggest issue with teens was alcohol and marijuana use and the highest reported incidents were at home or at a friend's house.

Trustee Labbate suggested parents also attend the Legislative Night scheduled for October 13 @7:30 pm to ask legislators what they are doing about Drug Abuse/Awareness in the community.

Trustee Nightingale asked if the district can send out notices to parents indicating there has been drug activity at school without using names. Dr. Melnick responded no because once we find students with drugs we immediately call the police and we are told by law enforcement not to say anything. He went on to say we will be administering the YDS this year and will share the results with parents.

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

PERSONNEL

Resignation – Certified

Resolved: To accept the resignation of Christine Deasy, Speech Pathologist, effective September 25, 2015

Appointment – Certified

Resolved: To approve a probationary appointment for Andrea Doxey, Teaching Assistant, on Level 2 of the Teaching Assistant salary schedule, effective September 28, 2015 through September 28, 2019

Resolved: To approve a probationary appointment for Nicole Trenkner, Teaching Assistant, on Level 2 of the Teaching Assistant salary schedule, effective October 1, 2015 through October 1, 2019

Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment – Certified

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Brittany Matalon, Teaching Assistant, on Level 2 of the Teaching Assistant salary schedule, effective September 28, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Change of Status – Certified

Resolved: To approve a change of status for Ryan Shanks, Teaching Assistant, from full-time to part-time (.8) Teaching Assistant and part-time (.2) Elementary Math Teacher, MA Step 1 salary schedule, effective September 16, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Appointments – Non-Certified

Resolved: To approve the temporary appointment of Richard Rybecky, Assistant Bus Dispatcher, effective September 15, 2015

Resolved: To approve Jo Ellen Cadman, Teacher Aide @ High School, effective September 15, 2015

Resolved: To approve Maria Aureliano, Food Service Worker part-time, effective September 1, 2015

Increments for Advanced Study – Certified

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Briana DeAngelo, Elementary, from Step 8 of the MA+60 salary schedule, to Step 8 of the MA+75 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2015

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Sara Dorfman-Mason, Special Education, from Step 9 of the MA+30 salary schedule, to Step 9 of the MA+45 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2015

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Christina Rizzotti, Special Education, from Step 3 of the MA+30 salary schedule, to Step 3 of the MA+45 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2015

Resolved: To approve an increment for advanced study for Tina Whyte, Elementary, from Step 11 of the MA+45 salary schedule, to Step 11 of MA+60 salary schedule, effective September 1, 2015

Lead Teacher Appointments – Certified

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Ana Aguiar-Mady, High School Lead LOTE Teacher, at a stipend increase according to the teacher’s contract and a .4 release time, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Resolved: To approve the appointment of Madel Soriano-Mazzella, Middle School Lead LOTE Teacher, at a stipend increase according to the teacher’s contract and a .4 release time, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

Sharon Bogolubov	Art
Julia Carbone	Elementary
Andrew Ragusa	Elementary
Marie DeGeorge	Food Service
Jinn Tao-Ching Wang Zohar	Mandarin
Stephanie Weinz	Teacher Aide

Approval of Teacher Overages - Certified

Resolved: To approve the following (MS) teacher overages for the 2015-2016 school year:

Tiffany Falcone	Math	.2
Kristin Fraylee	Math	.2
Dave Keenan	Math	.2
John Pace	Math	.2
Laura Wilson	Math	.2

Resolved: To approve the following (HS) teacher overages for the 2015 – 2016 school year:

Lynn Johnson	Art	.2
Len Schiff	English	.1

Approval of Extra-Curricular Clubs

Resolved: To add a Grade 4 Math Club as a Level 1 Club at Glen Head Elementary School, effective September 1, 2015

Resolved: To add a Grade 5 Future Corps Club as a Level 1 Club at Glen Head Elementary School, effective September 1, 2015

Approval of Glen Head Club Advisors

Resolved: To approve the following Glen Head Club Advisors for the 2015-2016 school year:

Newsletter	Janet Goldberg	Step 2
Community Service	Janet Goldberg/Sharon Kern	Step 2
Dignity for All	Janet Goldberg/Sharon Kern	Step 2
Mock Trial	Janet Goldberg	Step 2
Math Olympiads	Brian Kline	Step 2
Art Club	Tara Pillich	Step 1
Grade 3 Math Club	Mia Ramirez	Step 1
Headliners	Rachel Axelrod	Step 1
Jogging Club	Aaron Kozlowski	Step 1

Approval of Amendment for MS Math Fair Club Level Status

Resolved: To amend the MS Math Fair Club from a Level One to a Level Three Club, relating to Stipends received by the club advisors. This amendment will be effective September 1, 2015

Approval of Co-Curricular Intramural Coaches/Advisors/Supervisors

Resolved: To approve the following coaches/advisors/supervisors:

<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>
Anthony Facchini	Lauren Gotta
Michael Gonzalez	Brian Kline
Maria Perdios	Aaron Kozlowski
Donna Jean Pierantozzi-Welch	

Football

Middle School	Kevin Dahill	Step 1
Middle School	Harrison Ryan Berglin	Step 1

Athletic Supervisor

Michael Gonzalez
Lisa Johnson
Francis Troichowski

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

Approval of Agreement with Nancy Letts

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Nancy Letts to provide professional development services (Socratic Seminar) to Middle School teachers, for a fee of \$6,000, effective October 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

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

Approval of Agreement with Jeffrey Gottlieb

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Jeffrey Gottlieb to provide a presentation on Early Human Technology to 6th grade students at the Middle School, for a fee of \$800, effective October 29 and 30, 2015

On motion of Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Labbate and all in favor, it was:
Approval of the Following Side-Letters of Agreement Between the Board of Education of The North Shore Central School District and The North Shore Schools Federated Employees, in Effect 2012-2016:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby authorizes and approves the Side Letter Agreement concerning "Summer and Outside of School Hourly Rates for Evaluations, CSE Meetings and Direct Services" between the Board of Education and the North Shore Schools Federated Employees, dated October 1, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said Side Letter Agreement on behalf of the Board.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby authorizes and approves the Side Letter Agreement concerning "IB Extended Essay Mentors" between the Board of Education and the North Shore Schools Federated Employees, dated October 1, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said Side Letter Agreement on behalf of the Board.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby authorizes and approves the Side Letter Agreement concerning "Elementary Meetings" between the Board of Education and the North Shore Schools Federated Employees, dated October 1, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said Side Letter Agreement on behalf of the Board.

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

Approval of HS Scholarship Coordinator

Resolved: To approve the title of HS Scholarship Coordinator with annual Stipend of \$5,189.

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

Acceptance of Donation from Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation (US Matching Gifts Program)

Resolved: To accept a donation of \$100 from Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation (US Matching Gifts Program) to be used for the High School Robotics Club.

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

Approval of Special Education Tuition Agreements

Resolved: To approve a Special Education Tuition Agreement with Harmony Heights at the NYSED rate effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Resolved: To approve a Special Education Tuition Agreement with The Hagedorn Little Village School at the NYSED rate effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

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

Approval of Special Education Consultant Agreement

Resolved: To approve Alicia Sabatino Andrus, Speech-Language Therapy as a special education consultant agreement for the 2015-2016 school year:

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

Approval of Amended Special Education Agreement with Jennifer Martin, Dba, Insight Therapeutic Services

Resolved: To approve an amended agreement with Jennifer Martin, dba, Insight Therapeutic Services, formerly Jennifer Ippolito

On motion of Trustee Labbate and seconded by Trustee Gonzalez and all in favor, it was:
Approval of Agreement Appointing Impartial Hearing Officer

Resolved: BE IT RESOLVED that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to enter into an agreement appointing an Impartial Hearing Officer for a special hearing relating to Student ID # 363622496

On motion of Trustee Labbate and seconded by Trustee Commander and all in favor, it was:
Approval of Budget Transfers

Resolved: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$255,648.00 for additional classroom sections @Glen Head, Academic Intervention Services and professional development districtwide, effective October 1, 2015

Committee and Conference Reports

Trustee Labbate reported on a meeting of the Construction Steering Committee. Ramp deck boards on the Victorian house to be replaced, the track & field will be ready for homecoming, a full report on security at the October 8th meeting; Phase 2 Bond projects have been submitted to SED but due to delays at SED will be pushed out to the summer of 2017, this includes the Sea Cliff Boiler and will result in increased cost. This is due to a lag at SED who claims they are hiring more people. There is an emergency plan in place if the Sea Cliff Boilers fail before the project can be done. The baseball and softball fields are done as is the tennis court.

Trustee Russo reported on a recent Legislative Action Committee Meeting. The focus of the meeting was on the Legislative Night scheduled for October 13. Senators Marcellino and Martins, Assemblymen Lavine, Montesano, and Ra as well as Nassau County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton will be in attendance. Community members, faculty and high school students are encouraged to attend. Questions will be collected in advance of the evening.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Old Business

Trustee Russo would like to get a report on the Writing Center at a future board meeting.

Trustee Russo suggested an "Adopt-a-Spot" at the front entrance of the building to improve the look there. Community member Bill Laderer has offered to work with a scaled down plan and will donate his services.

Dr. Melnick asked if the board would like the policy sub-committee to look at revising the board policy having to do with donations to the district in exchange for advertisement. The board agreed that the sub-committee should research language for revising our current policy.

New Business

Trustee Commander brought the board's attention to a recent article which appeared in the NYSSBA publication *On Board* in regard to mouth guards which can monitor movement of an athlete's skull during games and practice and also relays information immediately to the side-line; the cost is about \$200 per player. Dr. Melnick will ask Mr. Lang to research this and update the board on the implementation of safety procedures this year.

Adjournment

At 9:45 PM, on motion of Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Nightingale, an all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk