

North Shore Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
November 17, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Antoinette Labbate at 6:45 p.m. in the High School Library. Present were Trustees Berliner, Commander, Gonzalez, Jones, Ludmar and Russo. Also present Superintendent Dr. Edward Melnick, and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi & Rob Chlebicki.

At 6:45 p.m. on motion of Trustee Gonzalez and seconded by Trustee Jones and all in favor, the Board moved to convene an executive session in Room H4 to discuss matters leading to the employment of a particular person or corporation.

At 7:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Berliner and seconded by Trustee Commander and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of executive session and resumed the regular meeting in the auditorium. There were 11 people in the audience.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Labbate led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Labbate thanked the Coordinating Council for recognizing the board at the last meeting. On behalf of the board she expressed their gratitude for the cake, gifts and entertainment by the Madrigals.

**Public Hearing**

Ms. Buatsi gave a brief explanation of the Cold War Veterans Exemption which is on the agenda for approval. She explained that when the original Veteran's Exemption was approved it left out the group of veterans who served between 1945-1991; this will extend that exemption. She further stated there are about 23 properties in the district that would qualify for this exemption. The floor was then open for public comment.

Jerry Romano, Sea Cliff, asked how the tax exemption would be managed, how the district will ensure that these property owners have paid their taxes, if it wouldn't be more efficient to write a rebate check to those residents, and the total amount the exemption would equal. Dr. Melnick and Ms. Buatsi explained that the county collects the taxes and therefore will manage the exemption and ensure that the property owner have paid their taxes. In regard to writing rebate checks, they explained that the district does not collect taxes and would therefore be unable to return taxes even if it was legally possible to do so. Ms. Buatsi reported that the total amount for the exemption for all 23 properties would be \$6,500.

With no further questions or comments, the public hearing was concluded.

**Regular Business**

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

**Approval of Cold War Veteran's Exemption**

WHEREAS, New York Real Property Tax Law Section 458-b was amended to provide eligible Cold War veterans with a real property tax exemption from school taxes similar to exemptions offered under other provisions of the real property tax law so long as the School District in which the real property is located, after a public hearing, adopts a resolution authorizing the exemption;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of The North Shore Central School District, hereby authorizes the application of the Cold War Veteran Tax Exemption as contained in New York Real Property Tax Law Section 458-b, as amended in the amount of 15% and such exemption shall be applicable to school taxes

#### **Approval of Minutes**

On motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Berliner, and all in favor, the minutes of November 3, 2016 were approved.

#### **Approval of Treasurer's Report**

On motion of Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Gonzalez and all in favor, the Treasurer's Report of September 1, 2016 through September 30, 2016 was approved.

#### **Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Melnick updated the Board on Playground Construction. Glen Head construction began on October 31, all rubber chip material has been removed, the big toy area is prepped and new Fibar material is installed, work continues on the swing area; anticipated completion is 6 to 8 weeks (weather permitting). Glenwood Landing construction was delayed due to some emergency work, the contractor indicates construction schedule of six weeks from start to finish (weather permitting). Sea Cliff has not yet begun but is anticipated after Thanksgiving (due to emergency work at GWL). Once construction starts the contractor has indicated a schedule of ten weeks from start to finish (weather permitting).

Dr. Melnick responded to questions raised at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting in regard to exam scores reported in *Newsday*. He explained the formula used by *Newsday* was the number of tests given divided by the number of students in the senior class to come up with a ratio they described as test participation. North Shore's ratio was reported incorrectly as the 100 IB exams our students had taken were omitted. In addition North Shore's participation ratio was depressed for the 2015-16 school year due to the transition to IB. Dr. Melnick presented the correct scores and ratio's indicating North Shore scored higher than originally reported by *Newsday*. Dr. Melnick noted that *Newsday* has been made aware of the error and will print a retraction.

Finally, Dr. Melnick spoke about the request from students for a recycling program in the district. He explained that Mr. Hall has researched the viability of a recycling program for the district and has found some issues due to the make-up of our area and how our garbage is collected that make re-instituting a recycling program a challenge. In a report supplied by Mr. Hall he outlines that a recycling program would actually cost the district approximately \$16,000 for a once a week pick up of paper & cardboard only (this does not include one-time costs of classroom/office bins and rolling bins to transport collected material). He has not received estimates on collection and removal of plastics, cans and glass. Mr. Hall explained that what was once a lucrative business has now become the opposite. The board discussed options. It was suggested to have the students research this issue further with town officials to give them a chance to come up with viable options.

Trustee Russo asked for backup on the figures Dr. Melnick presented for the number of students who took IB courses. She also asked for comparison information on students who took IB courses and decided to also take the AP exam and those who took the same exam after completing the AP course. Dr. Melnick asked Trustee Russo to send him a list of exams she would like backup for and he will provide that information.

#### **Report from the SGO**

SGO co-president, Frankie Conklin, reported on events and activities at the high school, including: lunch staff appreciation, to give students a chance to get to know the food service staff. They will be doing the same with the custodial & secretarial staff. This year seniors will keep their caps &

gowns for the first time so seniors can decorate their caps however they want. A Make-a-Wish letter event is happening in each gym class; letters will be written to Make-a-Wish and Macy's will donate \$1 to Make-a-Wish foundation for each letter written. Finally the SGO is sponsoring a toy drive for Schneider's Children's Hospital.

#### **Update: Goal 1, Task 2: Shared Valued Outcomes**

Principal Chris Zublionis spoke about how the Shared Valued Outcomes (SVOs) have been implemented in the Sea Cliff School curriculum. Specifically he focused on their mission of helping students find their SVO "superpowers" of collaboration, communication, innovation, creative thinking, problem solving & critical thinking and using them to build a better self and a better world.

Trustee Gonzalez commended Dr. Zublionis for bringing the Sea Cliff School community and the group of seasoned educators together in this common goal.

#### **Review RFP For Architects & Construction Management**

Trustee Jones had suggested the board look at sending out an RFP for Architects & Construction Management. Dr. Melnick provided the board with the RFP from Nassau BOCES which we have piggybacked on for our current architectural and construction management firms. Dr. Melnick suggested holding off for a year before proceeding with another RFP. Trustee Russo suggested waiting until a new superintendent is in place so that person can be part of the selection process. The board agreed to look at this again after a new superintendent is hired.

#### **Policy Review**

The board reviewed the recommended changes by the policy sub-committee to policy #7000, 7331, 8134, 8417, 9000, 9250-R, and 9421. There were no additional changes. These policies will be placed on the December 1, 2016 agenda for adoption. Trustee Jones suggested the board look to implement a system for ensuring that policies are being followed. Dr. Melnick explained that the superintendent is charged by the Board to enforce all policies.

#### **Comments from the Public**

Eric Solomon, Glen Head, asked if there are results from the questionnaire for the Superintendent Search. President Labbate explained that the board met with the search firm to review the results and a profile has been completed and placed on our website.

#### **Superintendent Search Update**

Trustee Jones reported that the search consultants, Leadership Advantage, have compiled all the information they received from the focus group meetings and surveys and the results are in a Superintendent Profile; they will use this to guide them as they start to screen candidates. The profile is currently on the district's website. The search firm has reported that they are very happy with the number and quality of applicants they have received. Screenings will continue over the next couple of months and the Board will interview candidates in January.

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

#### **Personnel**

#### **Regular Substitute (Leave Replacement) Appointment - Certified**

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Caroline Scheibe, Music, on Step 1 of the MA salary schedule, effective January 28, 2017 through June 30, 2017

Resolved: To approve a regular substitute (leave replacement) appointment for Dahlia Rosen, Spanish, on Step 7 of the MA salary schedule, effective January 28, 2017 through June 30, 2017

Appointments – Non-Certified

Resolved: To approve an appointment for Elaine Muf, teacher aide @Glenwood Landing School, effective November 11, 2016

Resolved: To approve an appointment for Jillian Yoo, Teacher Aide @ Middle School, effective November 7, 2016

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

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

Molly Singleton-Coyne	Teacher Substitute
Christine Cohn	Teacher Substitute
Anthony Donarummo	Teacher Substitute
Danielle Ferrante	Teacher Substitute
Matthew Mecca	Teacher Substitute
Meagan Smith	Teacher Substitute
Rajdeep Paulus	Teacher Substitute
Aliki Philippou	Teacher Substitute

Approval of Extra-Curricular Activity Club Advisors

Resolved: To approve the following extra-curricular activity club advisors:

High School

Women’s JV Basketball	Donna Nelson	Step 1
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Middle School

Yearbook	Iris Wiener	Step 1
Science Research	Maryalice Kelly	Step 1

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

Approval of Budget Transfer

Resolved: To approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$40,000 for remaining playground surface contract and architectural and engineering service fees, effective November 17, 2016

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

Approval to Dispose of Inventory

Resolved: To approve of the disposal of the following inventory items:

- 4 Computers @ Middle School
- 2 Printers @ Glenwood Landing School
- 1 Scanner @ Glenwood Landing School

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

Approval of Change Order

Resolved: To approve change order #2 from Palace Electrical Contractors, Inc. for bond referendum projects phase 2 at the Glenwood Landing Elementary School in the amount of \$2,538.80 (additional)

Resolved: To approve change order #2 from Web Construction Corp. for bond referendum projects phase 2 at the North Shore Middle School in the amount of \$18,668.93 (additional)

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

#### Approval of Resolution to Purchase Equipment

WHEREAS, the North Shore Schools Board of Education has authorized the North Shore Central School District to purchase equipment pursuant to General Municipal Law section 103(16); and  
WHEREAS, the State of Pennsylvania has let and awarded Contract No. 4400011404, which authorizes the purchase of certain equipment by other municipalities;  
WHEREAS, the North Shore Schools Board of Education desires to purchase equipment from Venture Products, Inc. pursuant to State of Pennsylvania Contract No. 4400011404;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Shore Schools Board of Education hereby authorizes the purchase of a Ventrac Tractor from Venture Products, Inc. pursuant to State of Pennsylvania Contract No. 4400011404; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Shore Schools Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute all necessary documents in connection with said purchase on behalf of the Board of Education.

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

#### Approval of Special Education Services (IEP)

Resolved: To approve special education services (IEP) as per the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education

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

#### Approval of Agreement with Athlete Ally

Resolved: To approve an agreement with Athlete Ally to provide a speaker at the Middle School for E3 Day on November 22, 2016 at a cost of \$2,500

#### **Comments from the Public**

Tim Madden, Sea Cliff, asked for a follow up from the Athletics Policy Committee Meeting. Dr. Melnick responded the committee is taking all of the parent suggestions into consideration and will bring their recommendations to him. His understanding is there will be a uniform review policy to address individual issues as they come up. The panel will consist of a coach, the athletic director and a third person to be determined. The next meeting is Monday night.

#### **Old Business**

There was no old business discussed.

#### **New Business**

Trustee Russo attended the football playoff game at Hofstra and noted the lack of attendance by building administration at the game. She and Trustee Commander both expressed their opinion of the importance that building administrators attend events such as this to show their support of students. President Labbate added the event was well attended by parents of students involved in all different activities; not just athletics. She noted North Shore's game had the highest attendance of all schools that played at Hofstra that day.

Trustee Ludmar will consider representing the Board on the BOCES Budget Advisory Committee.

#### **Adjournment**

At 8:55 p.m. on motion of Trustee Gonzalez and seconded by Trustee Russo and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi  
District Clerk