

North Shore Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
December 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Sara Jones at 6:30 p.m. in the North Shore High School Library. Present were Trustees Commander, Galati, Ludmar, Madden, Russo and Vizza. Also present Superintendent Dr. Peter Giarrizzo, and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi & Robert Chlebicki.

At 6:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Vizza and seconded by Trustee Galati and all in favor, the Board moved to convene an executive session in the Performing Arts Lab to discuss matters leading to the appointment or employment of a particular person or persons.

At 7:00 p.m. on motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Commander and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of executive session and convened a meeting of the Audit Committee.

At 7:45 p.m. on motion of Trustee Madden and seconded by Trustee Commander and all in favor, the Board adjourned the meeting of the Audit Committee and resumed the regular meeting. There were 6 people in the audience.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Jones led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

On motion of Trustee Ludmar and seconded by Trustee Galati, with Trustees Commander, Galati, Ludmar, Jones, Russo and Vizza for and Trustee Madden abstaining, the minutes of November 29, 2018 were approved as amended.

**Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Giarrizzo reported that at this evening's meeting the last report on student achievement would be presented by high school principal Mr. Albert Cousins and his team. In addition to the quantitative analysis of test scores and outcomes, of great importance is the qualitative analysis of what is successful at North Shore High School where opportunities for continuous improvement exist. Mr. Cousins and his team will highlight test data, but primarily will use this valuable time with the Board to focus on the broader arena of achievement. Dr. Giarrizzo thanked the auditors for their reports this evening and look forward to incorporating the recommendations set forth in them. He reported that the 2019-2020 budget is in the preparation phase. All budget requests are now in and all of the administrators have had their meetings. The process is now that of inputting data and aligning our programming to the Board's priorities, strategic plan, and needs of the District. Preliminary staffing discussions will occur in January, and the preliminary budget will be presented on February 7th as planned. Finally, Dr. Giarrizzo noted that the Board will take action on Assistant Superintendent Robert Chlebicki's retirement this evening. He thanked Mr. Chlebicki for 16 years of strong instructional leadership and said how much he valued and appreciated his leadership and partnership. He went on to state that Mr. Chlebicki has been instrumental in North Shore's success, he praised him for being a leader of the utmost integrity and intellect who always put children first. On behalf of our grateful Viking

family, over 3000 strong, and the entire North Shore community, he offered his profound thanks and gratitude.

### **Report from the SGO**

SGO Co-president Michael Albanese reported on events and activities at the high school including: Trustee Commander attended an SGO meeting to discuss CASA. The SGO members were grateful for her visit and the result is that many students want to participate in CASA. He also reported that there will be a Candy Cane Fundraiser during the week; students can buy a candy cane for a fellow student which is then delivered to them during commons next week.

### **Regular Business**

#### **High School Report on Student Achievement**

Principal Mr. Albert Cousins, reviewed student achievement at the high school. Mr. Cousins reported that the high school program is a mentored, personalized program that provides maximum flexibility and opportunity for challenge and success. It has assured experiences augmented by broad range and variety of courses, programs, and pathways. He explained that the report will measure performance, by engagement/participation, and growth of time and by individuals, programs, and the system. Mr. Cousins reviewed Regents, AP and IB test scores. He reported that students performed well in all areas, in particular IB Language and AP World History. He reported Regents results for special education students were very impressive and many scores were equal to those scores of general education students. Regarding college acceptance, Mr. Cousins reported that in the graduating class of 2018, 35 students attended the most competitive colleges and 56 attended highly competitive colleges. Of the same class, 53 were accepted to the most competitive colleges and 125 were accepted to highly competitive colleges. Mr. Cousins reviewed the number of students participating in arts and athletics. He reported that although the numbers are impressive, they are studying how many of those students are participating in multiple clubs/sports and how to get the rest of the population engaged in extra-curricular activities. Finally Mr. Cousins reviewed items that are being focused on currently and are being planned for the future, including: revision of our security protocols and procedures; redesign of our school transcripts, including a discussion of courses, weighting, and consistency; preparation and transition for the administration of the new Global History and Geography Regents and future Science Assessments; and examination of our continuum of services for Special Education at the High School; common assessments and common grading practices in common courses; significant expansion of the counseling department's programming and assured experiences; review of honor societies and the clarity and communication of: eligibility, application, conditions; review of the Academic Integrity Policy; and critical examination and analysis of models for how time is used and organized.

The Board discussed the report.

Trustee Galati, thanked Mr. Cousins for the presentation and said he is encouraged by some of the results. He noted that last year's presentation addressed melding the IB and AP program and co-seating some of the classes where appropriate. He wondered what happened with Chemistry; he did not believe it had to do with staffing because the teacher was excellent, and asked if there is any consideration about going back to the old model. Mr. Cousins responded, the goal is achievement and they are open to going back to the original model. He said the teacher voice is prominent and they will learn from last year. He went on to say the teacher has a good understanding of what happened and this year will have better data to go on. The only problem will be enrollment and whether there will be enough to sustain both classes.

Trustee Commander thanked Mr. Cousins for the comprehensive presentation, she is glad to see the focus on individual successes; she acknowledged the overall improvement in scores. She asked if

there is a plan to bring up the scores in physics. Mr. Cousins said there have been retirements in that area and turn over in the department. He feels there needs to be a match of talents with assignments for the program to be successful.

Trustee Vizza asked how many students with IEPs take AP or honors courses, why computer science offerings were not part of the presentation, and how are students guided toward IB Math Studies when coming out of Algebra II & Trig. Mr. Cousins responded he will prepare information on special education students as a follow up. Regarding the computer science course, Mr. Cousins explained the numbers are small, this is the first cohort, but they are expanding the program and the high school is poised to fill up those courses. Mr. Cousins also explained that a correction has been made on the flow chart regarding IB Math Studies and they are raising the level of achievement. This will be covered during the counseling report on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Madden asked about the large jump in the AP Statistics scores from one year to another. Mr. Cousins explained that the teacher used the instructional planning report to increase student achievement in that course. Mr. Madden asked if Mr. Cousins knew how many students do not engage in any type of extra-curricular activity. Mr. Cousins explained that he does not have that data. Mr. Madden asked about consistency with grading. Mr. Cousins responded there is a focus in every department regarding consistency across all courses.

Trustee Russo said it would be helpful to have the IB scores broken down by each number grade rather than grouped together, i.e. 5,6,7 as one group. She went on to say a score of 5 does not necessarily get a student college credit. Mr. Cousins responded, he will contact college institutions about how they view each score, in many institutions, a 5 is considered a high achievement. Trustee Russo requested information on how course work is handled. For instance, her understanding is some teachers do more in the classroom, while some have students do more outside of the classroom. She said this puts a burden on students who are doing high level work. She also noted that scores do not indicate which students are being tutored; she would like to get data on this if possible. Trustee Russo said she is encouraged that the math scores in AP Calculus are coming up, however she does not think they are where they should be. She went on to say the Physics Regents scores are problematic which she feels speaks to the quality of instruction. She suggests the problem can be remedied by intensive instruction; she would like to see a plan for how this issue will be addressed.

Trustee Ludmar noted our students have achieved success in many areas and he appreciates that Mr. Cousins pointed out the areas where there is need for additional assistance and support, however he does not want the successes overshadowed. He would like to see a focus on identifying students who do not have a connection to school and to continue to encourage every student to participate in some sort of extra-curricular activity.

President Jones noted that the IB Language scores were terrific. She said she is interested to see what percentage of student do participate in some sort of extra-curricular activity and what percentage also participate in high level classes.

Trustee Galati asked why the best equipped students don't take the Physics Regents exam. Mr. Cousins responded that they will take the exam this year. Mr. Galati asked how kids are doing with the SAT II exams. Mr. Cousins explained that he will provide a report on that.

Trustee Vizza asked for more information on how time is used and organized at the high school level. Mr. Cousins explained that they have been looking into longer sustained periods but it is currently in the research phase. He went on to say the focus is on wellness and transition. He will provide a report on this as well.

Trustee Russo said she feels time blocks is a good idea, such as a humanities or math/science time block. She would like to have a discussion about ranking. She asked if IB Math Studies or pre-calculus prepares students sufficiently for Calculus BC. Mr. Cousins responded those courses would not

be a path into Calculus BC, but would feed into AP Statistics. Trustee Russo said she feels there are limited opportunities in 11<sup>th</sup> grade to prepare for AB Calculus and students need to be properly prepared.

### **Comments from the Public**

Jerry Romano, Sea Cliff, said he was told that North Shore is more expensive than surrounding Districts because of small class size. He went on to say, he did not see in the report on student achievement that students are doing well, and yet the District is spending a lot of money. Mr. Romano said he has not received satisfactory answers in regard to the District's reserves. President Jones explained that this issue has been addressed in public. Mr. Romano asked if the Board's plan is to push another budget under the tax cap. President Jones explained that the budget presentation will begin in February.

Diana Vizza, Glenwood Landing, suggested that students take advantage of the National Honor Society tutors; students are required to log in 20 hours of tutoring and she believe this resource is under-utilized and can be a great help for families who can't afford to hire a tutor. Ms. Vizza spoke about her struggles as a student with ADHD while attending North Shore High School. She stated that when she spoke up about her issues North Shore did not have adequate systems of resources or referrals in place for her to seek help. She also stated that other female alumni whom she had spoken with confided similar experiences. She asked the Board to seek answers on how the district can become more transparent about special education procedures with students and faculty so that they are understood and accessible to students potentially in need of them, so that girls in particular don't continue to slip through the cracks. Second, she asked how the district can provide more access or community connections to mental health resources to create a safer community where students can truly thrive.

Rita Podaris, Glen Head, asked the Board to look into the issue of tutoring and how that factors into student success. She suggested information be provided to families about the National Honor Society students who are able to tutor as that is a valuable resource and can help families who cannot afford a tutor.

Robert Mazzella, Glen Head, said he has not been able to find information on the website regarding reserves. He said it would be helpful to post a list of the reserves on the website and to include what each is for. President Jones explained that this list is in the Audit Report which is already posted on the website. Dr. Giarrizzo added this list is also in last year's budget book, under the revenue section, however he will have a list created and placed in a section on the website that is easily found and accessed.

Mr. Mazzella noted that Chaminade High School utilizes a block schedule on a 6-day cycle which replicates a college experience. He offered to share a copy while the high school contemplates how to change the high school schedule. Dr. Giarrizzo explained they are looking at how time is used within the system. Mr. Cousins and teachers are talking about what is possible, what makes sense, it is in the research stage at the moment.

Prior to approval, Trustee Ludmar spoke about Rob Chlebicki's sixteen years spent as Assistant Superintendent at North Shore. On behalf of the Board, he congratulated Mr. Chlebicki on his pending retirement and thanked him for all of his contributions to the students, faculty and North Shore community. Mr. Chlebicki thanked the Board for their support throughout his time at North Shore.

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

Resignation for Retirement Purposes – Administration

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation for retirement purposes from Robert Chlebicki, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, effective June 30, 2019

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 Julia Soare Kim, ENL, effective December 17, 2018 through June 30, 2019

Part-time Appointment - Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the part-time (.4) appointment of Danielle Cirisano, ENL, on Step 3 of the MA salary schedule, effective December 5, 2018 through June 30, 2019

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 Ameila Hecker, Elementary, on Step 5 of the MA salary schedule, effective December 19, 2018 through January 25, 2019

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 from Cecelia Abramson, Typist Clerk, effective January 31, 2019

Resignations – Non-Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of Robert Harrison, Part-time Cleaner, effective December 14, 2018

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts the resignation of Lisa Pandolfi, School Monitor, effective November 16, 2018

Appointment – Non-Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the appointment of Angelique Lee, School Monitor at Glenwood Landing Elementary School, effective December 10, 2018

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

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:

Leah Hehn	Teacher Aide Substitute
Nicholas LaSpina	Teacher Substitute
Deborah Peterec	Teacher Substitute
Richard Vernillo	Security Substitute

Approval of Extra Curricular Activity Advisor & Supervision

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the following extra-curricular activity Advisor & Supervision:

High School

Level 3

Mock Trial	Lisa Golden	Step 1
	Tara Fabilli	Step 1

Supervision

John DeLiso

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

Approval to Dispose of Inventory

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

<u>Glen Head Elementary</u>	<u>Glenwood Landing Elementary</u>
17-Computers	3-Computers
6-Printers	1-Printer
1-Scanner	
1-Camera	

On motion of Trustee Russo and seconded Trustee Galati 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 \$79,235 to cover transportation for St. Christopher students through BOCES, effective December 13, 2018

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

Acceptance of a Donation from The Glen Head PTO to The North Shore High School

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby accepts a donation of \$75 from the Glen Head PTO to the North Shore High School Life Skills Program to support their end of year school trip

The Board decided to act simultaneously on action items F, G, and H

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

Approval of Special Education Services Contract

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 Oyster Bay-East Norwich CSD for Special Education Services for parentally-placed students with disabilities attending non-public schools located within the Oyster Bay-East Norwich CSD and residing within the North Shore School District during the 2018-2019 school year

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 Agreement with Career and Employment Options, 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 Career and Employment Options, Inc., to provide Level II Vocational Assessment, Assistive Technology Evaluation and Assistive Technology Consultation Services, pursuant to and in connection with the IEP and/or 504 Plan of specified students, as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement during the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019; 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 Agreement with Positive Support Consulting and Psychological Resources, P.C.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves an agreement between the School District and Positive Behavioral Support Consulting and Psychological Resources, P.C., to provide behavioral consultation, functional behavioral assessments and job coaching, as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement during the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019; 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.

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

Approval if Agreement with TK Tours, 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 TK Tours, Inc. to provide transportation to and from Philadelphia, PA, on May 22, 2019, for North Shore Middle School students, as per the terms and conditions set forth in the attached agreement and addendum; 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.

**Comments from the Public**

Denise Reiner, Glen Head, suggested adding an Introduction to Chemistry course, to give students some preparation, as it seems Chemistry is a difficult course for students to be successful in. Ms. Reiner said she is glad the District is looking at the use of time at the high school. She said she feels the last month of the school year should be a focus as students are finished with their IB and AP exams at that point. Ms. Reiner would like the issue of tutoring to be discussed as an equity issue and cautioned there is a big difference between a student tutor and an adult tutor. Ms. Reiner questioned whether the LAC committee would be crossing a line if they were to focus on teacher issues considering that 4 members of the Board have a teaching affiliation and the chair of LAC is a teacher. She also said it is concerning how some members of the community speak as though Board members are not part of the community.

**Old Business**

President Jones explained that at the previous meeting, NSSFE President, Greg Perles asked members of the Board to consider tasking the LAC committee with researching the Red Flag Law; a law

which empowers law enforcement and immediate family members to petition a court for an Extreme Risk Protection Order. She asked the Board for their input on whether to have LAC pursue this.

Trustee Russo said she feels LAC has many issues on the table right now that have been prioritized, and that are more directly related to educational and funding issues for the District. She said this issue does not seem to be directly educational or funding, it is already December, LAC is trying to get organized and get involved with SuperLAC, and she does not feel they should be burdened with another assignment.

President Jones said she feels somewhat obligated to have them research the law. She feels it directly involves school personnel and the legislation impacts the health and safety of our students. She agrees LAC has a lot to look at but she believes this should be one of the issues.

Trustee Ludmar agreed this issue directly affects the District. He stated that LAC is a research arm of the Board and it could do no harm, in fact it could benefit the Board, by having them research the issue to help the Board decide whether to sign the letter. He went on to say the legislation has passed in many states, and it has already passed the Assembly. He believes there are enough people on the LAC committee to be able to take on this issue.

Trustee Vizza stated that school personnel are ethically obligated to report abuse or suspected malfeasance. Concern for the safety of children is paramount and she therefore has no problem with researching this issue.

Trustee Galati said he feels this is worth looking into. He suggested after the research is conducted having district counsel look over the legislation as the bill has changed over time. Trustee Ludmar agreed with asking district counsel to review the legislation.

Trustee Madden agreed with allowing LAC to research the issue.

Regarding recommendations for administering the PSAT as outlined in Dr. Giarrizzo's memo, Trustee Madden asked if Mr. Cousins had considered administering the PSAT to juniors and having the rest of the student body having a normal school day. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that Mr. Cousins and Mr. Chlebicki will be doing more research on this issue and it will be part of the discussion on January 10<sup>th</sup> when Linda Binion gives her counseling report.

#### **New Business**

Trustee Ludmar noted he received information at a recent Civics meeting that a permit was issued for 60 Town Houses in Glenwood Landing, in the Town of North Hempstead. While there are no details as to the type of dwelling, this could mean an influx of students.

President Jones had forwarded a letter from NYSSBA requesting support of a bill to allow BOCES capital expenditures to be exempt from the tax cap. There was consensus on the Board to allow President Jones to sign the letter.

President Jones requested data or studies on block scheduling.

Trustee Vizza requested a review of how much time our school psychologists/social workers spend on IEP/504 administration (evaluations, IEP development, CSE meetings, mandated services) versus, or compared to, direct service to all students related to social emotional needs.

#### **Adjournment**

At 10:35 p.m., on motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Galati and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi  
District Clerk