

North Shore Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
April 12, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Antoinette Labbate at 6:00 p.m. in the North Shore High School Library. Present were Trustees Berliner, Galati, Jones, Ludmar and Russo. Trustee Commander was absent. Also present Superintendent Dr. Peter Giarrizzo, and Assistant Superintendents Olivia Buatsi & Rob Chlebicki.

At 6:00 p.m. on motion of Trustee Galati and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, the Board moved to convene an executive session in the Earth Science Room (H4) to consider matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or persons and discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation.

At 6:45 p.m. on motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, the Board moved to come out of executive session and convened a meeting of the Audit Committee in the library.

At 7:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, the Board moved to adjourn the audit committee meeting and resumed the regular meeting in the library. There were approximately 30 people in the audience.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Labbate led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Student Recognition**

On behalf of the Board of Education, President Labbate and Dr. Giarrizzo recognized High School Writing Fellows and Caroline Reiner who earned an award for Third Place Editorial Writing in Journalism.

**Report from the SGO**

SGO Vice-Presidents Eileen Quinn and Jared Bazan reported on events and activities at the high school including: students are transitioning well into 4th quarter, the Belize trip went very well and students who participated are considering going back again next year instead of doing a trip to the Galápagos Islands. Exchange students from Italy arrived Tuesday night. They spent the day yesterday shadowing their North Shore host students and today they took a trip into New York City. Rho Kappa hosted a program on government and Terry Donovan spoke about getting involved in local government. Students found it very informative.

**Approval of Minutes**

On motion of Trustee Berliner and seconded by Trustee Galati, with Trustees Berliner, Galati, Jones, Labbate, and Ludmar for and Trustee Russo abstaining, the minutes of March 29, 2018 were approved.

**Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Giarrizzo decided to forgo his report as there has only been a few days since the break. He will incorporate information into the discussion on strategic planning.

## **Regular Business**

### **Strategic Goals**

Dr. Giarrizzo reviewed the strategic planning process so far. A community forum was held, interviews with Board Members, administrators, union leadership, parents, faculty, and middle and high school students took place. 2635 people responded to an on-line survey. Over 2 days 33 team members which included board members, central and building administrators, teacher representatives, PTO and SEPTA reps from all schools, and two high school students worked over 2 days reviewing the data and ultimately developed the three goals: Social Emotional Learning, Teaching & Learning, & Diversity. The next step in the process is for Action Planning Teams to take the goals and develop specific action steps to achieve each goal. This work will begin within the next couple of weeks. The action plans will be presented to the board in May with adoption in June.

Trustee Ludmar, who participated in the strategic team meetings, explained that it was a very productive time spent together. He went on to explain that there were 5 or 6 really good ideas and all of the ideas would have been in areas for the district to improve. He said everyone felt that three goals chosen were the most pressing at this time. Dr. Giarrizzo added as we go forward, budgets will be built around these goals, when allocating resources, hiring staff, purchasing materials, looking at programs, the lens which we do our work will happen through these major three pillars.

Trustee Jones, who also participated in the team meetings, thought the student involvement was an important piece. She noted when talking about a strategic plan, and 2023, it is not really a long term plan; 5 years is not that far away. She feels these are the things we need to work on now and these goals work well within our mission statement and the concepts of the SVOs. She suggested adding bullet points underneath each goal to make it easier to know what we want to achieve at the end.

Trustee Russo said she was struck by the absence of any reference to academic achievement and there being only a vague reference to equity, especially after the district recently did a large equity study. She went on to say as a Trustee she advocated for a writing center which has been very successful and has opened up opportunities for mentoring, tutoring, and free SAT and ACT college essay writing for those who can't afford outside courses. She is disappointed there is no mention of improving academic achievement, and no mention of greater STEM opportunities at the elementary level. She would like to see some reference in the goals for encouraging careers in STEM geared toward young women and girls to reinforce that women are open to these opportunities in contemporary learning. She recommends an increase in opportunities for all students, especially those who fall in the middle. She feels the goals are too broad and vague as big picture goals and would like them to show clearly that this is an academic institution.

Dr. Giarrizzo responded all of these ideas will be incorporated into the action plan. Although they may not be part of the broad goals they will be in the specifics of the sub goal. He explained that the major direction setting points and all the work that will be done will be placed in a timeline.

Dr. Berliner said this is a good start but he would encourage us to be more ambitious and look at how the world is evolving. He believes social responsibility and sustainability need to be articulated in the goals. He noted jobs we educated our students for yesterday, and are educating them for today, may not be around 5 years or 10 years from now. He believes there should be a dynamism incorporated into the education of our students for the way the world is evolving.

### **Comments from the Public**

Andrea Macari, Glen Head, suggested the Social Emotional Goal in the strategic plan seemed a bit weak. She suggested adding something regarding mental health.

Lisa Vizza, Glen Head, agreed with Trustee Russo about the absence of promoting excellence in our district. She would like to see that articulated as one of the pillars. She also suggested addressing students who are in the middle, as well as special education students, to get their voices in the process. She asked what instruments will be used to identify that the goals are being met. She asked that parents are welcomed into the dialogue. She suggested improving instructional technology for students and faculty and enriching opportunities for all students in STEM, research, and the arts.

Jerry Romano, Sea Cliff, asked that more information appear on the website including test scores and goals for educating students. He asked if this information would be included in the budget mailing. President Labbate responded, there are legal parameters involving what can and cannot be included in the budget mailing. Mr. Romano asked if the Board can give a list of what the unfunded mandates are. President Labbate explained they are difficult to explain as many are wrapped up into lines of the budget such as special education, transportation or the APPR. She went on to say they are areas that the district is required to provide services but which New York State and the Federal Government does not provide funding for such as auditing, scoring state tests, and many ancillary costs. Dr. Giarrizzo added, the SuperLac group of North Shore, Garden City and Manhasset, are working on a plan through a common lens to try and effect change that would benefit all of us.

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

Personnel

Extension of Probationary Period – Certified

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education herewith authorizes and approves a certain Letter Agreement and General Release between a certain probationary employee (#01408) and the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education herewith extends the probationary period for the above-referenced probationary employee from June 30, 2018 to June 30, 2019, in accordance with the above-referenced Letter Agreement and General Release

Leave of Absence for Child Rearing Purposes - Certified

Recommend: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Laura DiLallo, Science, effective September 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

Recommend: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Jennifer Matarese, Occupational Therapist, effective September 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

Recommend: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Jessica McNeill, Music, effective September 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019

Recommend: To approve a leave of absence for child rearing purposes for Kelly Rakeman, Elementary, effective September 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

Approval of Additions to the Per Diem Substitute List

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

Janice Thomas                      Teacher Substitute

Approval of Extra-Curricular Activity Advisors & Supervisors

Recommend: To approve the following extra-curricular activity advisor & supervisor:

Middle School

Vocal Music Director    Brian Messemer                      Step 2\*

\*previously approved on Step 1

Elementary

Level 2

GWL Newscast

Stephanie Smith

Step 1

Athletic Supervision

Mary Lou Iuvara

Prior to approval Trustee Galati stated he would be abstaining from the vote as he did not feel it was appropriate to vote for the CBA as he had formerly been a member of the teachers' unit. He went on to say he was not happy with a part of the agreement, specifically having to do with an equity issue due to the increase in the per capita price which will increase the cost of extra-curricular field trips. He went on to say he feels this will put a larger divide between parents who can afford to send their children on the trips and those who cannot. He said he feels this will make it more difficult for some students to participate in field experiences. Trustee Russo agreed with Trustee Galati. She said she is concerned that with the rising costs we won't be able to offer as many opportunities. She is hopeful there will be a careful review with administrators, faculty and students to make sure there is student engagement, that student voice is in the selection of clubs and that clubs are monitored and reviewed annually. President Labbate said she believes clubs are reviewed every year and are continually monitored. She went on to say there are ways for students to be supported so they are not excluded from participating on trips due to financial reasons. Dr. Giarrizzo added, we would make sure that every student has a chance to participate in these opportunities.

On motion of Trustee Berliner and seconded by Trustee Jones with Trustees Berliner, Jones, Labbate, Ludmar and Russo for and Trustee Galati abstaining, it was:

Approval of Memorandum of Agreement Between The North Shore CSD and The North Shore Schools Federated Employees

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves a Memorandum of Agreement dated March 19, 2018 between the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District and the North Shore Schools Federated Employees

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

Approval of Federal Single Audit Report

RESOLVED: To accept the Federal Single Audit Report from Cullen & Danowski, LLP for fiscal year ended June 30, 2017

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

Approval of Special Retainer Agreement with Frazer & Feldman, LLP

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District agrees to retain the services of Frazer & Feldman as special counsel effective April 13, 2018 through June 30, 2018 in accordance with the terms of a special retainer agreement between the parties, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute such agreement on behalf of the Board.

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

Approval of Spring 2018 Community Education Instructor

Recommend: To approve Michelle Marino as the SAT Review Instructor for the Spring 2018 Semester of Community Education

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

Approval to Participate in a Cooperative Bid for Transportation Materials & Supplies (Bus, Van & Auto Parts & Transmission)

WHEREAS, It is the plan of the Boards of Education of Garden City UFSD, Herricks UFSD, Mineola UFSD, Great Neck UFSD, Levittown UFSD, North Shore Central School District, Port Washington UFSD, East Rockaway School District, Roslyn UFSD, Long Beach UFSD, Island Park UFSD, Floral Park-Bellerose School District, Plainedge School District, Jericho School District, and East Williston UFSD, Bethpage UFSD, County of Nassau, New York, Southampton UFSD, County of Suffolk, New York to bid jointly for Materials & Supplies (Bus & Auto Parts & Transmission) and

WHEREAS, The North Shore Central School District is desirous of participating with other school districts in Nassau County in the joint bidding of the commodities mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0 and

WHEREAS, The North Shore Central School District wishes to appoint a committee to assume the responsibility for drafting of specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids, reporting the results to the Boards of Education and making recommendations thereon, therefore BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby appoints David C. Murphy, Jr., for the Garden City School District to represent it in all matters related above, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the North Shore Central School District Board of Education authorizes the above mentioned committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned commodities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the North Shore Central School District Board of Education agrees to assume its equitable share of the costs of the cooperative bidding, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the North Shore Central School District Board of Education agrees (1) to abide by the majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards: (2) that unless all bids are rejected, it will award contracts according to the recommendations of the committee: (3) that after award of contract(s) it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s)

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

Approval of Facilities Use Agreement with The Roman Catholic Church of St. Rocco

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 Roman Catholic Church of St. Rocco ("St. Rocco") for the use of classrooms and facilities at the parish center of St. Rocco in the form attached hereto;

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 Berliner and all in favor, it was:

Approval of Budget Transfers

Recommend: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$21,000 to cover resource room services at Green Vale School (reimbursed by their home district)

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

Approval of Change Order #1 from Web Construction Corp.

Recommend: To approve change order #1 from Web Construction Corp., for Bond Referendum Phase 3 at the High School, in the amount of \$2,030.04 (addition)

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

Approval of Agreement with Edward G. Scheu

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby approves the Agreement between the School District Edward G. Scheu for a writing workshop to be provided to the District on April 23, 2018, pending review by counsel;

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**

Tim Madden, Sea Cliff, asked for a summary of the memorandum of agreement that was just discussed and approved. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that when the teachers negotiated their contract last June, one of the points that was left to be negotiated separately was the extra-curricular schedule including chaperones. He further explained that when chaperones go on the international trips, those chaperoning fees are passed on to students, so when the rates paid to chaperones are increased, those expenses are passed on to the student as well.

Mr. Madden asked about the question raised at the last meeting regarding whether the tax levy was being adopted at the same time that the budget was adopted. Dr. Giarrizzo responded the difference between the budget that was adopted and the balance from revenue sources (the tax levy) cannot be modified upwards, it can only be modified for less, therefore the tax levy is basically set. Trustee Jones clarified, if revenue comes in less, we would have to find sources elsewhere to make up the difference. Dr. Giarrizzo added, once the financials are audited, we will have a better picture of our needs.

Lisa Vizza, Glen Head, noted many special education students are not able to attend the international trips because they are language exempt or unable to fit music into their schedules due to special classes. She suggested thinking about equity experiences for this cohort of students who cannot take advantage of these opportunities. Ms. Vizza asked if the athletic policy will be articulated at any point, whether the equity study is available to the community, and if the Bach Harrison Study will be part of a board discussion in the future. Dr. Giarrizzo responded, the equity study was removed from the website due to ADA compliance issues but is available for review at Central Office and the Bach Harrison Study will be discussed at the May 3 Board of Education meeting. Finally, Ms. Vizza asked how much of an increase we received in state funding. Dr. Giarrizzo responded, we expect to receive an additional \$55,000 in state aid according to the most recent aid report from the state.

**Old Business**

Trustee Russo asked if the CASA presentation on Monday will be considered as one of the presentations outlined in the Coalition Agreement that requires payment of \$3,000. She noted the presentation is at no cost through the District Attorney's Office. Dr. Giarrizzo responded he has not received an invoice from CASA for any presentation to date, but there is a possibility that he will receive an invoice for this presentation.

Trustee Jones would like to know that items addressed in the equity study are in the strategic action plan. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that on May 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be a discussion on the Bach Harrison Survey and if the board is interested, the second meeting in May could be focused on the equity study. There was consensus to include a discussion on the equity study on the May 31, 2018 agenda.

Trustee Galati asked for a follow-up on the AP courses which are not running. Dr. Giarrizzo responded he met with Mr. Cousins and looked at the course requests. Both the AP Physics 1 and Environmental Science courses are still not running due to insufficient numbers.

Trustee Ludmar asked for an update on the Weave Together group. Dr. Giarrizzo explained that he is scheduled to meet with the students next week. He offered the students two seats on the Strategic Planning Diversity Action Team and they are working on who those representatives will be.

Dr. Giarrizzo gave an overview on a cost analysis for North Shore vs. Manhasset. Dr. Giarrizzo explained the major differences between a North Shore and Manhasset education, including: North Shore employs more teachers (making benefit costs higher); North Shore offers 5 languages vs. 3 at Manhasset, Middle School Elective Program at North Shore not offered at Manhasset; IB, Science Research, Math Research, Reading, Writing Center, Math Center, BOCES, ILC all provided at North Shore not provided at Manhasset. Trustee Russo commented that she noticed the analysis did not break out the number of administrators. Although she could not verify the number at Manhasset, she assumes our numbers are larger. She also noted our Music Program is not broken out and assumes we do our program differently which might be a cost driver. She spoke about the World Language program and the possibility that North Shore may not be able to support 5 languages going forward as the population declines and when facing the pressures of a tax cap. She asked if the FLES program, which supports 6 teachers with benefits, is achieving the goals that were set 6 or 7 years ago. She thanked Mr. Romano for his question and noted things we value here as a community may not be openly embraced by Manhasset.

#### **New Business**

There was no new business discussed.

#### **Executive Session**

At 9:10 p.m. on motion of Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Berliner and all in favor, the Board moved to convene an executive session in the Library to consider matters regarding proposed, pending or current litigation.

#### **Adjournment**

At 10:30 p.m. on motion of Trustee Russo and seconded by Trustee Ludmar and all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Ciampi  
District Clerk