

Regular Meeting

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, March 16, 2009, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in the Large Cafeteria at Northport High School, 154 Laurel Hill Road, Northport, New York, with Mrs. Arlene S. Munson, President, opening the meeting and presiding.

Members present: Mr. Warren S. Arthur, Mrs. Liz Dragone, Mr. Joe Gannon, Mr. Rob Ingraham, Mr. Steven A. Meyerowitz, Mrs. Arlene S. Munson, Dr. Kay Hutchins Sato, Mrs. Karen Wills

Members absent: Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr.

Also present: Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent of Schools

1. President Munson called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee Dragone, seconded by Trustee Gannon, to convene in Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 7:55 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Sato, to reconvene in public session in the large cafeteria at Northport High School.

Unanimously carried by those present.

Public attendance: There were approximately 95 persons present.

2. Mrs. Munson led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
3. Pointed out the emergency exits.
4. SPECIAL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT
 - 4.1 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

4.1.1 Mr. Christopher Donarummo, Northport High School Assistant Principal and Administrator in Charge of Business Education, introduced senior Matthew Watson, the Business Education Department Student of the Month. Mr. Donarummo stated that Matthew has distinguished himself as an impressive student leader and role model with a steadfast commitment to the Academy of Finance and the Business Honor Society. Matthew has maintained over a 97 average in his business course work and continues to excel in all other academic areas. He consistently challenges himself by taking International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, and other rigorous college-level courses. Mr. Donarummo stated that Matthew recently was recognized for his academic achievements by receiving a scholarship from the National Conference of C.P.A. Practitioners and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Next year Matthew will be attending college to continue his academic pursuit of accounting. Mr. Donarummo stated that Matthew is an exceptional young man who has made a lasting impression on the entire school community.

The President of the Board and the Superintendent congratulated Matthew on his accomplishments and presented him with a commendation from the Board.

Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent, announced that Northport High School Senior Glen Meyerowitz placed first overall in the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium held at Stony Brook University on Saturday, March 7th. In addition to a \$2,000 scholarship award, Glen also received an expense paid trip to the 47th National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium Competition in Colorado Springs. Dr. McDermott congratulated Glen and science research teacher, Bryan Horan.

4.2 Superintendent's proposed budget for 2009-2010

Motion was made by Trustee Ingraham, seconded by Trustee Gannon, to receive the Superintendent's proposed budget for 2009-2010.

Dr. McDermott stated in response to questions raised regarding zero based budgeting, that all school districts do some component of zero based budgeting. Teachers, teaching assistants and teacher aides are based on student enrollment and specific student needs; and school supplies and textbooks are based on per pupil allocation which are forms of zero based budgeting.

Dr. McDermott presented a PowerPoint slide which showed the reasons why individual salary codes might not reflect contractual percent increases. The reasons included: 1) increase or decrease in the number of teachers in a program based on anticipated student enrollment, 2) column advancement for teachers on the salary schedule, 3) teachers on leave replaced by lower salaried teachers, 4) protracted contract settlements, 5) fixed salary applied to open positions, 6) not all salaried employees subject to step advancements, and 7) contractual longevity payments.

5. DISCUSSION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED 2009-2010 BUDGET

5.1 The Board reviewed the following programs:

0100 Kindergarten Core Education

The Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources stated that the class sizes will remain the same with the reduction of the .5 teacher.

The Superintendent stated that with the additional 30 minutes of instruction the teaching staff will remain the same and there will be two additional lunch aides in each building.

The Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources stated that there is an open position salary for next year. The higher salary is a master step 5 plus 28% for benefits. Once the position is filled the benefits will go back into the benefits code.

It was noted that Pulaski Road Elementary School was building classroom libraries and now that they are established they are able to scale back on their supply expense.

0200 1st - 5th Grade Core Education

It was noted that the lower class size will continued to be met and the reduction of 6 teachers is based on a decrease in student enrollment

The Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, stated that the reduction of \$135,000 in equipment represents the replacement of playground equipment that is now complete.

0300 6th Grade Core Education

0400 English Education (including Theater Arts)

0500 Social Studies Education

The Assistant Superintendent for Instruction stated, in response to a question regarding districtwide educational supplies, that in grades 1 and 2 they purchased enough geography and social studies materials for first grade to share and now will be purchasing one for each classroom and extending the program into the second grade

It was noted that the 8.21% increase in middle school salaries represents a current part time teacher position which expires at the end of the year and therefore is covered by the open position salary, and that there may be savings realized once the position is filled

0501 Law Education

0600 Mathematics Education

The Mathematics Chairperson stated that Math A and B are being phased out and the District will fully phase in the new regents curriculum of integrated algebra, geometry and algebra 2/trigonometry. Mr. Drance also stated that the District has enough of the state mandated calculators to meet student needs.

0700 Science Education (including Outdoor Education)

It was noted that the student enrollment at the high school is also dropping, therefore the decrease in the number of science and math teachers.

It was also noted that the equipment reduction is due to the postponement of purchasing SmartBoards.

The Director of Art, Media, Computer and Technology stated that this year the District decided that it would be better to have a bandwidth that could support all of the computers in the District as opposed to more computers not enough bandwidth to support them.

0800 World Languages (including Global Communications)

It was noted that the department is researching a grant to move the global communications center from an analog lab to a digital lab.

0900 Reading

It was noted that the increase in the salary code at Dickinson Avenue School is due to a large decrease in grant money which covered several reading teachers salaries.

1000 AIS/Compensatory Learning (including Elementary Summer School)

The Superintendent noted that AIS is now done during the school day at the elementary level which has saved the District over \$60,000 and produced an increase in test scores as well.

1100 Investigate Program

The Superintendent noted that the current first grade model will remain in place.

1200 English as a Second Language

The World Languages Chairperson noted that department typically received Title III limited English

proficiency grant money which is used for translators for Regents exams, equipment and the purchase of SmartBoards.

1300 Library/Media Services

It was noted that the salary increase at Bellerose Avenue school was due to a leave replacement returning.

- 1400 Physical Education
- 1401 Boys Physical Education
- 1402 Girls Physical Education
- 1500 Extracurricular Activities

1501 Boys Athletics

It was noted that the transportation increases are due to a number of factors including the addition of more contests, the number of teams, and the success of the high school teams.

1502 Girls Athletics

It was noted that the District offered busing for athletes participating in bowling both to and from the bowling alley but parents are picking the students up from the bowling alley.

- 1503 Boys Intramurals
- 1504 Girls Intramurals

It was noted that there is a larger allocation at Ocean Avenue School based on special education and Special Olympics.

1505 Co-Curricular Activities

The Superintendent stated that she will provide a detailed report on the clubs at the elementary schools which would state which clubs might be eliminated or consolidated and which ones have a large number of students.

- 1600 Health Education
- 1700 Family & Consumer Sciences
- 1800 Technology Education

1900 Business Education

The Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources noted that the original 2008-2009 adjusted budget is high based on 5.9 fte which included the salaries of two teachers that retired. The salary is rolled over into the next year and will be replaced by lower salary teachers.

- 2000 Art Education (including Art & Music Festival)
- 2100 Music Education

It was noted by the Director of Music that the reduction in equipment is part of the shaving process and that no students will be affected by it.

- 2102 Summer Music Program
- 2103 Summer Music Clinic

- 2200 Computer Studies
- 2300 High School Program Options
- 2301 The Environment Team
- 2302 Commons Program

- 2304 BOCES Vocational Education

The Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services noted that the BOCES reduction reflects the number of students and does not reflect a reduction in services.

- 2305 Cultural Arts
- 2400 Academic Summer School
- 2600 Community Services
- 2601 Continuing Education
- 2602 Recreation

- 2603 Driver Education

It was noted by the Director of Community Services that students receive free and reduced lunch are not charged for driver's education and pay half tuition for summer camp. It was also noted that the tuition for driver's education has not been raised.

- 2604 Public Information

- 2605 Community Support

It was noted that the reduction in the community support code is to equalize payments between the YDA and the YMCA, The Place with no loss in terms of services to students.

A request was made by the Board to be provided with a list of the services that the agencies provide.

- 2700 Staff Development
- 2701 UTN PDC
- 2702 NASA PDC
- 2703 Professional Achievement
- 2704 In-Service Education

- 2800 Instructional Leadership
- 2801 Elementary Instructional Leadership
- 2802 Middle School Instructional Leadership
- 2803 High School Instructional Leadership

A Board member requested a breakdown of the salaries at the middle school and high school levels.

- 2804 Districtwide Instructional Leadership

It was noted that the additional BOCES expenditures are for state mandated costs and mandates from No Child Left Behind. The bandwidth expense is also reflected in the code.

- 2900 Instructional Support
- 2901 Elementary Instructional Support

It was noted that the reductions in the field trip codes are due to the use of in-district buses, not a reduction in the number of field trips.

2902 Middle School Instructional Support

It was noted that the large percentage code increase is due to a transfer from one overtime code to another.

2903 High School Instructional Support

It was noted that the decrease in the field trip code was due reschedule of field trips and the use of in-district buses.

2904 Districtwide Instructional Support

It was noted by the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources that the increase in codes are due to salaries not determined for employees not covered by contract as the dollar amount starts off high and is depleted as the year goes on through transfers to other codes.

- 3000 Non-Public Education
- 3001 Non-Public Textbook Expense
- 3002 Non-Public Health Services

It was noted that the contract services provided are for health services provided to non-public school students including nurses, psychologists, speech therapists, and social workers.

- 3100 Special Education
- 3101 Special Education/In-District

It was noted that one of the administrator salaries is paid through a grant.

3102 Tuition - Private Schools

It was noted that the increase in the contract services codes are due to the anticipated number of children in private school requiring services.

3103 Tuition & Services - BOCES

It was noted that Western Suffolk BOCES runs the special education placement of approximately 60 to 70 students each with individual services.

3104 Tuition - Public Schools

Motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Sato, to discontinue discussion of the remaining budget items until the Board meeting of March 30, 2009 and to move forward and consider the business items on the agenda this evening.

Unanimously carried by those present.

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, GENERAL - FOR BOARD ACTION

Motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Sato, to approve all items under 6.1 and 6.2:

6.1 Personnel Schedules, each dated March 16, 2009, and each attached and made part of the official minutes:

- 6.1.1 Schedule A - Certified Staff
- 6.1.2 Schedule B - Non-Instructional Staff
- 6.1.3 Schedule C - Salary Transfers
- 6.1.4 Schedule D - Extra Pay
- 6.1.5 Schedule J - Committee on Special Education
- 6.1.6 Schedule K - PDC NASA
- 6.1.7 Schedule L - PDC UTN

The President of the Board announced the retirements of Theresa DeRosa, Clerk Typist, Central Office, and Mary Ciavarella, Teacher Aide, Ocean Avenue School.

6.2 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Board Policy and State Regulation, the Board of Education approve the appointment of James McKeever to serve as Impartial Hearing Officer for the purpose of conducting an impartial hearing in accord with Policy 4321, Program for Students with Disabilities Under IDEA.”

Vote on Trustee Meyerowitz’s motion to approve all items under 6.1 and 6.2 was unanimously carried by those present.

Motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Sato, to approve item 6.3.1 but amending the 3rd paragraph, last sentence to read: *“In addition, the District will insure that no asbestos abatement projects shall be undertaken in a District building while students or staff are present in any portion of the building.”*

6.3 Receiving for a first reading the following policy:

- 6.3.1 #8110.0, *“Hazardous Waste and Handling of Toxic Substances”*

Vote on Trustee Meyerowitz’s motion to approve item 6.1.3 with amendment was unanimously carried by those present.

7. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT, FINANCIAL - FOR BOARD ACTION

Motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Dragone, to approve all items under 7.:

7.1 Taking specified action on the following BIDS:

EDUCATIONAL

- 7.1.1 Award - Medical Supplies and Equipment
- 7.1.2 Award - Science Supplies and Equipment
- 7.1.3 Award - Technology Supplies and Equipment

7.2 Approving the following change orders:

- 7.2.1 Change Order No. 1, Northport Middle School, SED No. 58-04-04-03-7-999-003, increase in the amount of \$2,039.77
- 7.2.2 Change Order No. 2, East Northport Middle School, SED No. 58-04-04-03-7-999-003, increase in the amount of \$3,454.02

7.3 Receiving the following donation to the District:

7.3.1 \$253.53 to Norwood Avenue Elementary School from Target Take
Charge of Education Program

7.4 Approving transfer of general fund appropriations in the 2008-2009 budget

Vote on Trustee Meyerowitz's motion to approve all items under 7. was unanimously carried by those present.

8. NEW BUSINESS

There being no further business to discuss at this time, motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Sato, to adjourn the meeting.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 10:50 p.m., the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

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