

Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, January 25, 2010, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in the Board Conference Room at the William J. Brosnan School, 158 Laurel Avenue, Northport, New York, with Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr., Chairperson, opening the meeting and presiding.

Members present: Mrs. Liz Dragone, Mr. Joe Gannon, Mr. Rob Ingraham, Mr. Tim Madden, Mrs. Donna McNaughton, Dr. Kay Hutchins Sato, Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr., Mrs. Karen Wills

Members absent: None
One board seat vacant

Also present: Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. John Lynch, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services
Dr. Terry Bouton, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Matthew Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration

1. President Waldenburg called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee Wills, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to convene in Executive Session to discuss matters leading to the appointment of particular persons.

Unanimously carried.

At 7:40 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Ingraham, seconded by Trustee Sato, to reconvene in public session in the Cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Unanimously carried.

Public attendance: There were approximately 35 persons present.

2. Mr. Waldenburg led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
3. Pointed out the emergency exits.

Nominations were requested for the Office of Vice President of the Board of Education.

Mrs. Dragone was nominated for Vice President by Trustee Ingraham, seconded by Trustee Sato.

There were no other nominations.

Mrs. Dragone was unanimously elected Vice President of the Board of Education for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year.

Ms. Beth Nystrom, District Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Vice President, Mrs. Dragone.

Motion was made by Trustee Gannon, seconded by Trustee Sato, to reorder the agenda and move agenda items 6. (Communications) and 7. (Public Participation) after 12. (New Business).

Vote on Trustee Gannon's motion was as follows:

YES: Mrs. Dragone, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Ingraham, Mrs. McNaughton, Dr. Sato, Mr. Waldenburg, Mrs. Wills
NO: Mr. Madden

Motion passed.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, TREASURER'S REPORT AND MONTHLY SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Motion was made by Trustee Ingraham, seconded by Trustee Wills, to approve all items under 4.1:

- 4.1 Minutes
 - 4.1.1 Regular Meeting, January 11, 2010

Unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Wills, seconded by Trustee Dragone, to approve all items under 4.2:

- 4.2 Treasurer's Report and Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements
 - 4.2.1 Revised Treasurer's Report for the period June 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009
 - 4.2.2 Revised Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements for June, 2009

Unanimously carried.

5. SPECIAL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

- 5.1 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

5.1.1 Mr. Gaurav Passi, High School Assistant Principal and Administrator in Charge of Family and Consumer Sciences, introduced the Family and Consumer Sciences Department Student of the Month, Nicole Havrilla. Mr. Passi stated that Nicole is a hard working and dedicated student who has successfully completed a wide array of courses in the Family and Consumer Sciences Department. Nicole is a leader in Northport High School's chapter of the Future Educators Association, currently serving as president of the organization. Mr. Passi noted that Nicole has co-chaired committees for various fundraisers, educational activities and community service projects. Nicole exhibits compassion, empathy and patience while working with young children, revealing a sincere interest in the area of elementary education. Mr. Passi stated that Nicole naturally possesses many of the fine qualities needed to become a promising educator and her personal initiative, superior work ethic, creativity, and strong verbal skills are an asset to the school, the program, and the classroom.

President Waldenburg and Superintendent McDermott congratulated Nicole on her fine achievements and presented her with a commendation from the Board.

- 5.2 Review of Instructional Initiatives in the following areas:

5.2.1 Mr. Christopher Donarummo, High School Assistant Principal, presented the 2009-2010 Instructional Initiatives in the area of Business Education. Mr. Donarummo reviewed the electronic portfolio stating that they will be created during sophomore, junior and senior year for all Academy of Finance students. The portfolios will include student profiles and academic progress. Mr. Donarummo reviewed the benefits of developing curriculum maps for all Academy of Finance courses including focused student learning objectives and creating the framework for online Moodle courses. Mr. Donarummo stated the Business Department will continue to focus on specific grade level expectations, realigning curriculum to the National Academy Foundation and New York State Learning Standards,

developing additional instructional activities and authentic learning experiences, common assessments, and developing a supplement of online resources for students and staff. The Business Department will continue to develop and integrate components of character education through instructional activities and additional learning opportunities. Mr. Donarummo stated that 46 students were placed at various organizations during the 2009 Summer Academy of Finance Internships. Mr. Donarummo noted that in the 2008-2009 school year 40 students graduated with a certificate from the Academy of Finance.

There was a brief discussion regarding internships and networking with businesses in the community.

President Waldenburg and Superintendent McDermott thanked Mr. Donarummo for his informative report.

5.2.2 Mr. Gaurav Passi, High School Assistant Principal, presented the 2009-2010 Instructional Initiatives in the area of Family and Consumer Science. Mr. Passi stated that Family and Consumer Science education prepares students for both the work and family spheres of life. The courses are designed to help students become critically reflective of the social forces which impact individuals and families. Mr. Passi reviewed the instructional initiatives in the areas of wellness and nutrition, literacy, career preparation/exploration, character education, curriculum mapping and instructional technology. Mr. Passi noted that the department will continue to promote the District's wellness policy by educating students how to live healthy and nutritious lifestyles, and that literacy is a central component of fall lessons will continue to be engrained across the curriculum. Students explore potential career opportunities in Culinary Arts, Education and Entrepreneurship while being involved in various community service initiatives. Mr. Passi noted that curriculum mapping using Moodle will help to identify essential learning outcomes and objectives of each unit of study and instructional technology will be utilized to enhance classroom lessons.

There was a brief discussion regarding nutrition and wellness and the simulated student teacher experience.

President Waldenburg and Superintendent McDermott thanked Mr. Passi for his fine report.

Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent, stated that the Board and she have received several emails regarding the presentation she made at the January 11th Board meeting and she wanted to make some clarifications. Dr. McDermott stated that the report she presented was a rollover budget, not a proposed budget. The report indicated what current programs and budgetary items are in place, and if the District was to rollover the budget and honor contractual agreements what those budgetary figures would be. Dr. McDermott stated that the Board will direct the Superintendent at the February 8th meeting how to formulate the 2010-2011 budget. Dr. McDermott reiterated that it was not a proposed budget.

Dr. McDermott presented a financial update on factors impacting the 2010-2011 budget formation. Dr. McDermott noted that the Governor announced a proposed state aid cut of \$1,100,000, and that the District has been informed of 21 teacher retirements which would save the District approximately \$840,000. Dr. McDermott stated that the factors that remain unknown are contract negotiations, transportation contracts and health insurance increases for 2011. Dr. McDermott reviewed the net expenditure changes for the 2010-2011 projects. Dr. McDermott noted that with the update regarding State Aid and teacher retirements, that if the District were to rollover the 2009-2010 budget, the budget to budget dollar increase would be \$8,156,508, which is a 5.58% percent increase, with a tax rate increase of 7.62%. Dr. McDermott stated that the Board needs to examine these factors and provide guidance to Superintendent and administration in crafting the proposed 2010-2011 budget.

There was a brief discussion regarding the BOCES technology lease, transfer to Capital Fund, School Lunch, digital communication system, and bus replacement.

President Waldenburg stated that the Board will analyze the information received from the Superintendent and will give the Superintendent direction at the February 8th meeting. Mr. Waldenburg opened discussion up to the audience members requesting brief questions regarding clarifications to Dr. McDermott's report.

Several audience members stated that the Board has an obligation to the taxpayers and that the Board should consider zero based budgeting and not start with a rollover budget. There were questions regarding contractual increases and the digital communications system.

5.3 The President of the Board reviewed the upcoming Board of Education meetings scheduled for February 8th, February 22nd, March 8th, March 15th, and March 22nd. President Waldenburg stated that the Board will provide budget direction to the Superintendent at the February 8th meeting.

Motion was made by Trustee Ingraham, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to approve all items under 8. and 9., including Supplemental 9.5 (Grant Application) and 9.6 (Grant Application).

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

8.1 Personnel Schedules, each dated January 25, 2010, and each attached and made part of the official minutes:

- 8.1.1 Schedule A - Certified Staff
- 8.1.2 Schedule B - Non-Instructional Staff
- 8.1.3 Schedule C - Salary Transfers
- 8.1.4 Schedule D - Extra Pay

President Waldenburg announced the retirement of 21 teachers and the Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services, John Lynch. Mr. Waldenburg stated his appreciation of their years of dedication and service to the District.

8.2 Authorizing the recertification of the District Shared Decision Making Plan as per the State required Biennial Review.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, FINANCIAL - FOR BOARD ACTION

9.1 Approving the following donations to the District:

9.1.1 \$35.00 from Ms. Elizabeth S. James to the Deborah A. Shavaliere Memorial Scholarship Fund

9.1.2 \$1,315.00 from various donors to the Robert W. Krueger Scholarship Fund

9.2 Approving a 2009-2010 Consulting Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Eden II School for Autistic Children, Inc.

9.3 Approving a 2009-2010 Special Education Services Contract between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Greenburg-North Castle Union Free School District.

9.4 Approving an Amendment to Service Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and YMCA of Long Island, Inc. d/b/a/ YMCA "The Place".

9.5 Authorizing the administration to apply for a Suffolk's Edge Teacher Center Grant in the amount of \$1,500.00 to be used at East Northport Middle School to continue to integrate language arts into science activities through the use of netbooks and Moodle.

9.6 Authorizing the administration to apply for a Sprint Character Education Grant in an amount up to \$25,000.00 to be used to cover staff salaries for out of school time related to curriculum development, teacher training, and expenses for project related supplies and travel. Further, funds will be utilized for consultants, speakers and honorarium as needed to provide additional support for the goals of this initiative.

Vote on Trustee Ingraham's motion to approve all items under 8. and 9., including Supplemental 9.5 (Grant Application) and Supplemental 9.6 (Grant Application) was unanimously carried.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.1 Schedule I – Home Instruction

10.2 Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report as of June 2009

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

6. COMMUNICATIONS

6.1 Letter from Ms. Denise Summers Mumm, United Taxpayers of Northport-East Northport, received January 13, 2010, to Members of the Board, re: Audit Committee

Ms. Mumm addressed the Board regarding the Audit Committee recommendations in her letter and stated she had questions regarding the science research program.

President Waldenburg stated that the Board received her recommendations and that the science department chairperson is schedule to present his report at the February 22nd Board meeting and will answer her questions at that time.

6.2 Communications received regarding the 2010-2011 Budget:

6.2.1 Email from Mr. Bob Gueits, received January 19, 2010

6.2.2 Email from Ms. Linda Ebert, received January 19, 2010

6.2.3 Email from Mr. and Mrs. Paul Case, received January 19, 2010

6.2.4 Email from Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Gobbi, received January 19, 2010

6.2.5 Email from Mr. and Mrs. Charles Slevin, received January 19, 2010

6.2.6 Email from Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Sparacino, received January 19, 2010

6.2.7 Email from Ms. Margaret Chellis, received January 19, 2010

6.2.8 Email from Ms. Jeanne Ricciardi, received January 19, 2010

6.2.9 Email from Mr. Charles Libby, received January 19, 2010

6.2.10 Email from Ms. Jane Ruthkowski, received January 19, 2010

6.2.11 Copy of letter from Mr. Charles Slevin to the Editor of Newsday, received

January 19, 2010

6.1.12 Email from Ms. Ann Columbus, received January 19, 2010

President Waldenburg stated that the Board has received the emails regarding the budget and the Superintendent's presentation and they understand the comments. Mr. Waldenburg stated that they are at the very beginning stage of formulating the 2010-2011 budget.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Armand D'Accordo UTN-EN	Stated that starting with a rollover budget is the problem.
Cathie Josephson Parent	Stated that it is very hard to hear the Board presentations when there are other audience members talking during them.
Jean Baron UTN-EN	Stated that she was very disappointed that Dr. McDermott could not state whether or not contract negotiations were included in the budget.

There being no further business to discuss at this time, motion was made by Trustee Sato, seconded by Trustee Gannon, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education and reconvene in a Public Work Session in the Board Conference Room.

At 9:20 p.m., the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

bmn