

Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, June 21, 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, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson, Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr.

Members absent: Mrs. Karen Wills

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 Dragone, seconded by Trustee Gannon, to convene in Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to an individual employee.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 7:45 p.m., motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Madden, to reconvene in public session in the Cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Unanimously carried by those present.

Public attendance: There were approximately 120 persons present.

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

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

Motion was made by Trustee Gannon, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to approve all items under 4.1:

- 4.1 Minutes
 - 4.1.1 Special Hearing, June 2, 2010
 - 4.1.2 Regular Meeting, June 7, 2010

Unanimously carried by those present.

- 4.2 For Information: Claims Auditor's Report for Warrants and Schedule of Claims for payments dated: November 2009 (Wire Transfer Report), December 2009 (Wire Transfer Report), December 2009 (Payroll Report), December 2009 (Claims Audit Report), December 11, 2009 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), December 15, 2009 (Accounts Payable Warrant), December 16, 2009 (Accounts Payable Warrant), December 23, 2009 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), December 30, 2009 (Accounts Payable Warrant), January 2010 (Wire Transfer Report), January 2010 (Payroll Report),

January 2010 (Claims Audit Report), January 8, 2010 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), January 15, 2010 (Accounts Payable Warrant), January 22, 2010 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), January 29, 2010 (Accounts Payable Warrant), February 2010 (Wire Transfer Report), February 2010 (Payroll Report), February 2010 (Claims Audit Report), February 5, 2010 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), February 5, 2010 (Payroll Audit at Fifth Avenue Elementary School), February 9, 2010 (Accounts Payable Warrant), February 16, 2010 (Accounts Payable Warrant), February 19, 2010 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), February 26, 2010 (Accounts Payable Warrant), March 2010 (Wire Transfer Report), March 2010 (Payroll Report), March 2010 (Claims Audit Report), March 5, 2010 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), March 15, 2010 (Accounts Payable Warrant), March 19, 2010 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), March 31, 2010 (Accounts Payable Warrant), April 2010 (Wire Transfer Report), April 2010 (Payroll Report), April 2010 (Claims Audit Report), April 1, 2010 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), April 15, 2010 (Accounts Payable Warrant), April 16, 2010 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), April 16, 2010 (Payroll Audit at Northport Middle School), April 30, 2010 (Accounts Payable Warrant), April 30, 2010 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant)

5. SPECIAL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

5.1 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

5.1.1 Mr. David Scott, Project P.A.T.C.H. Coordinator, introduced the following students who competed with distinction in the Civil Law Moot Court Competition:

Semi-finalist – Danielle Reinbachs, Bridgette Koestner, Andrew Brockwell

Champions – Noel Purcell, Dorothy Pitti, Thomas Kearns

5.1.2 Mr. Andrew Manzo, Social Studies Chairperson K-12, introduced the following Social Studies Teachers:

Mr. Len Romano received the Long Island Council for the Social Studies Presidential Leadership Award.

Mr. David Scott was recognized for his contributions to civic education by the Huntington Youth Court

5.2 Motion was made by Trustee Dragone, seconded by Trustee McNaughton to authorize payment of five \$500 awards in accord with Board-UTN Collective Bargaining Agreement to the following teachers as a Professional Achievement Award for 2009-2010:

- 5.2.1 Linda Skidmore - Social Studies Teacher, Northport High School
- Santo Scarpinito – Social Studies Teacher, Northport High School
- 5.2.2 Louise Higgins – Sixth Grade Teacher, Northport Middle School
- 5.2.3 Sandra Schumacher – Librarian, Dickinson Avenue School
- 5.2.4 Cristen Salisbury – Music Teacher, Pulaski Road School
- 5.2.5 Len Romano – Social Studies Teacher, Northport High School

Unanimously carried by those present.

5.3 Dr. Marylou McDermott introduced Mr. John Lynch, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services, who presented an update on The Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force. Dr. McDermott thanked Mr. Lynch for his thirty-five years of dedicated service to the District, not only to his professional responsibilities but to the health and safety of the children.

Mr. Lynch stated that the Drug and Alcohol Task Force was formed in August 2006 and continues to meet on a regular basis. Mr. Lynch stated that the Task Force was formed to protect and educate children, parents and the community about the dangers of drug and alcohol use. The Task Force has implemented

many programs including student education forums, parent education forums, a high school drug and alcohol counselor, and an alternative program to school suspension. Mr. Lynch stated that this year the Task Force embarked upon the community component and is officially launching The Drug and Alcohol Task Force Website. Mr. Lynch thanked Anthony Ferrandino, Chelsea Brown, and Cliff Sobel and Rhonda Dorsett of the Phoenix Group and their staff for designing the website and getting it up and running. Mr. Lynch and Mr. Ferrandino demonstrated the website as a valuable resource for parents, community members and students. Mr. Lynch stated that the website provides true and reliable information from reputable organizations.

Mr. Lynch introduced Mr. Joseph Fortuna of Print International who developed 40 banners with the Drug and Alcohol Task Force logo at no cost to the District. Mr. Lynch stated that these banners are on display through all the schools, the Village court, the Northport and East Northport Chambers of Commerce, the YDA, and other venues where students assemble.

The President of the Board and the Superintendent thanked Mr. Lynch for his presentation and presented commendations to Mr. Fortuna of Print International, and Mr. Sobel, Ms. Dorsett, and the staff of The Phoenix Group.

5.4 The President of the Board reviewed the upcoming Board of Education meetings July 7th, and August 30th.

President Waldenburg thanked retiring Board Vice President Liz Dragone, Trustee Kay Hutchins Sato and Trustee Rob Ingraham for their dedication and work on behalf of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District. President Waldenburg asked for a five minute break to celebrate the Board members' retirements.

President Waldenburg stated that the Board has received many communications related to issues at the elementary schools and high school. Mr. Waldenburg stated that the Board met in executive session with Board counsel to try to resolve the issues, and gave the superintendent direction to find ways to alleviate the problems by reallocating money within the existing budget.

Dr. McDermott stated that there was much concern expressed by parents and the high school administration about the reductions for students in terms of elective choices at the high school under the confines of the 2.18% tax rate increase budget. Dr. McDermott stated that there were more student requests than seats available. Dr. McDermott noted that the administration explored a "seminar" scheduling option to minimize the impact of partially scheduled 9th and 10th graders. At the June 7th Board of Education meeting, the Board directed the Superintendent to add FTEs to accommodate as many student requests as possible.

Dr. McDermott stated that she met with the principals of all the elementary schools to discuss class size at the elementary level. A decision was made jointly with the six elementary principals to add a section at Bellerose Avenue in 2nd grade, to add a section at Dickinson Avenue in the 3rd grade, to add a section at Fifth Avenue in the 3rd grade, and to add a section at Pulaski Road in the 3rd grade. Dr. McDermott stated that they will continue to monitor Norwood and Ocean Avenue Schools.

Dr. McDermott stated that the restoration of 8.6 FTEs at the high school will create an additional 617 full-year and 770 half-year seats in the following subject areas: Art 2.5 FTEs, Business 0.8 FTEs, English 1.05 FTEs, Health 0.2 FTEs, Family and Consumer Science 1.6 FTEs, Math 0.45 FTEs, Social Studies 1.0 FTEs and Technology 1.0 FTEs. All 9th and 10th grade students will be scheduled for lunch and requests for "no lunch" option will be considered after all students have been scheduled.

Dr. McDermott stated that all costs for the restoration of additional FTEs are within the confines of the 0.83% budget spending increase approved by the voters on May 18, 2010. The reallocation of budgetary

appropriations in monies will come from labor negotiations, reduced transportation costs due to CPI published on June 17th, and reduced costs for unemployment insurance due to restoration of FTEs.

There was a discussion regarding the number of course restorations, student schedules, restored electives, union negotiations, budgeted money, class size and the budget process for the next year. Dr. McDermott stated that the administration will begin the budget process earlier and look at programs based on the academic needs of students. Dr. McDermott noted that a freshman writing seminar and health course may address the concerns about student writing skills and health topics pertaining to the high school student. In response to several questions, Ms. Cynthia Lore, Chairperson of Student Support Services, stated that the counseling department will look at all schedules, do the best to accommodate elective courses, and meet with students on an individual basis to address scheduling issues.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

6.1 The following communications were received regarding high school curriculum cuts:

- 6.1.1 Letter from Ms. Jillian Ryan, received June 10, 2010
- 6.1.2 Email from Ms. Jacquelyn Schaefer, received June 11, 2010
- 6.1.3 Email from Ms. Donna Martino, received June 11, 2010
- 6.1.4 Email from Ms. Carrie Doris, received June 14, 2010
- 6.1.5 Email from Ms. Mary Jane Rohan, received June 14, 2010

Ms. Rohan addressed the Board and stated that she felt blind-sided when she heard about the proposed changes and hoped the District would be more forthcoming with the impact of the budget next year.

The following communications were received regarding 2nd grade class size at Bellerose:

- 6.1.6 Email from Dr. Sandra Ionnotti, received June 14, 2010

Dr. Ionnotti thanked the Board for putting an emphasis on class size.

- 6.1.7 Email from Ms. Lisa Saturno, received June 14, 2010
- 6.1.8 Email from Ms. Danielle McQuade, received June 14, 2010

Ms. McQuade stated she greatly appreciated the changes made by the Board.

Motion was made by Trustee Ingraham, seconded by Trustee Sato, to approve the following resolution:

“WHEREAS, the school budget, prepared through the joint efforts of the Superintendent of Schools, her staff and the Board of Education, was approved by the voters of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District at the annual meeting held on May 18, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the said budget provided for a 0.83% increase in the amount over the budget previously adopted for the 2009-2010 school year; and

WHEREAS, effective June 30, 2010, the labor agreement between the United Teachers of Northport and the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District will expire; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Taylor Law of the State of New York, the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District has the legal obligation to engage in good-faith bargaining with representatives of the United Teachers of Northport for a successor agreement to the expired agreement hereinbefore

mentioned; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid 2010-2011 budget included plans for the abolition of 40 teaching positions; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education directed its Superintendent of Schools and counsel to meet with representatives of the United Teachers of Northport prior to the commencement of regular collective bargaining to negotiate with the Union a “shorter term” agreement reflecting a complete wage freeze for the school year 2010-2011 in exchange for the restoration of the teaching positions previously targeted for abolition; and

WHEREAS, representatives of the District and representatives of the Union met on multiple occasions and failed to reach agreement, having bargained to the point of impasse on the proposed “shorter term” agreement, which would have achieved restoration of teaching positions, and

WHEREAS, the United Teachers of Northport and the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District have returned to traditional bargaining for a longer term successor agreement to the one expiring on June 30, 2010, and have exhausted their efforts to agree upon a complete wage freeze in exchange for reinstatement of the targeted job abolitions; and

WHEREAS, if implemented, the proposed job abolitions will result in significant decrease in educational opportunities for students; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, together with the Superintendent of Schools, has undertaken a careful review of the approved budget to determine if there is funding that can be made available for restoration of a portion of those teaching positions that are targeted for abolition, including a review of those planned budgetary allocations for negotiations, and a review of other components of the budget that may be reallocated; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined, in its business judgment, that it can authorize a partial restoration of teaching positions utilizing in part monies that had been otherwise allocated for potential use in labor negotiations, together with certain sums arising from other planned economies, understanding full well that it must fully comply with its obligation during impending negotiations to bargain in good faith;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education herewith approves the sum of \$1,007,000 and authorizes the restoration of the following indicated positions, and directs the Superintendent of Schools to forthwith notify the incumbents of said positions of this action by the Board of Education.”

In response to a question, President Waldenburg stated that it was a business judgment by the Board to reallocate the appropriations for the needs of the students.

Vote on Trustee Ingraham’s motion to approve the resolution was unanimously carried by those present.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Mary Gilmore Parent	Asked the Board for information about an incident that happened at Ocean Avenue School regarding a first grade student

Dr. McDermott stated that she could not discuss an individual child in public and asked Ms. Gilmore to call her office.

Albert Prisco
Resident

Stated that the District should be embarrassed with having a building named the William. J. Brosnan School. Mr. Prisco also suggested that the Board negotiate with the Teachers' Union regarding sick days and not allow the accumulation of sick days for payout at retirement.

President Waldenburg thanked Mr. Prisco for his suggestions and stated that the Board does consider them in their negotiations.

Parent

Asked if the Reading Recovery Program was being eliminated.

Mr. Matt Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration, stated that the District will be using two programs next year and that the Reading Recovery Program will still be used but in small groups, not on an individual basis.

Warren Arthur
Resident

Expressed his admiration to the Board, Superintendent and staff for making the restorations in these difficult economic times. Mr. Arthur thanked John Lynch, Liz Dragone, Kay Hutchins Sato and Rob Ingraham for their many years of service.

There was a brief discussion regarding high school class size, student schedules and appointments with high school counselors.

Motion was made by Trustee Dragone, seconded by Trustee Gannon, to approve all items under 8. excluding severed item 8.1.1 (Schedule A).

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

8.1 Personnel Schedules, each dated June 21, 2010, and each attached and made part of the official minutes:

- 8.1.1 Schedule A - Certified Staff - SEVERED
- 8.1.2 Schedule B - Non-Instructional Staff
- 8.1.3 Schedule D - Extra Pay

8.2 Receiving for a second reading and adopting the following textbooks:

- 8.2.1 Principles of Computer Security Computer Security and Forensics
Wm. Arthur Conklin, et. al. Technology Dept., Grades 10-12
McGraw Hill
- 8.2.2 The Attitude Advantage AOF/AOIT Summer Internship
Fruehlin & Moore Grades 11-12
Goodheart-Willcox

8.3 Receiving for a second reading and adopting revisions to the following policy:

- 8.3.1 Policy #5405 – “Wellness Policy”

8.4 Receiving for a first reading the following policy:

8.4.1 Policy #1741 – *“Home-Schooled Students”*

8.5 Receiving for a first reading, revisions to the following policies:

8.5.1 Policy #2260 – *“Citizens Advisory Committees”* – (old policy numbering system #1221 – Citizens Advisory Committees for the Board of Education)

8.5.2 Policy #4526 – *“Computer Network for Education”* – (replaces policy #4526, name change from Network/Internet Access)

8.5.3 Policy #4532 – *“School Volunteers”* – (old policy numbering system #1315/3532.11 – Designation of Authorized School Volunteers)

8.5.4 Policy #9435 – *“Administrative Internships”* – (old policy numbering system #2310 – Internships)

8.6 Rescinding the following policies:

8.6.1 *“Philosophy of Education”*

8.6.2 Policy #1200 – *“Community Participation in School Affairs”*

8.6.3 Policy #1340 – *“Regulations of the Board of Education Related to Inspection and Copying of Records Pursuant to Freedom of Information Law”* (Converted to Regulation to Policy #1120 – School Records)

Vote on Trustee Dragone’s motion to approve all items under 8. excluding severed item 8.1.1 (Schedule A) was unanimously carried by those present.

Motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Ingraham, to approve item 8.1.1 (Schedule A) including Supplemental 8.1.1 (#68-166)

8.1.1 Schedule A - Certified Staff (including Supplemental 8.1.1 #68-166)

Trustee Ingraham announced the retirement Northport Middle School Counselor Thomas Fazio. Mr. Ingraham also noted with regret the resignations of Northport High School Assistant Principals Christopher Donarummo and Gaurav Passi.

Vote on Trustee McNaughton’s motion to approve item 8.1.1 including Supplemental 8.1.1 (#68-166) was as follows:

YES: Mr. Gannon, Mr. Ingraham, Mr. Madden, Mrs. McNaughton, Dr. Sato, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. Waldenburg

ABSTAIN: Mrs. Dragone

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Trustee Madden, seconded by Trustee Dragone, to approve all items under 9., including Supplemental 9.14 (Transfer of General Funds), Supplemental 9.15 (Resolution), and Supplemental 9.16 (Resolution)

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

9.1 Approving a general resolution for the purpose of participating in a cooperative bid coordinated by the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) of Suffolk County for generally needed services and standardized supply and equipment items

9.2 Approving a general resolution for the purpose of participating in a cooperative bid coordinated by the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) of Nassau County for the purchase of various commodities and/or services

9.3 Approving a general resolution for the purpose of continuing participation with the municipal cooperative purchasing agreement with the Town of Huntington, dated October 10, 2008

9.4 Approving a general resolution to join the Long Island Food Service Director's Association Cooperative Bid

9.5 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED” that the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District does hereby elect to provide the benefits of Part B of Chapter 105 of the Laws, 2010, commencing on June 22, 2010 for all eligible employees who retire with an effective date of retirement set during the 71 day period beginning with and immediately following the commencement date and who are otherwise eligible as specified by Part B of Chapter 105, Laws of 2010”

9.6 Receiving the following donations to the District:

9.6.1 \$300.00 from Mrs. Barbara Beck to the Robert Rothar Beck Memorial Scholarship Fund

9.6.2 \$440.00 from various donors to the Michael C. Kauffman Memorial Scholarship Fund

9.7 Approving a Municipal Cooperation Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and the Town of Huntington

9.8 Approving an Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and the United Teachers of Northport (GOEC)

9.9 Approving an Engagement Letter between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Albrecht, Viggiano, Zureck & Company, PC for the preparation of the District's June 30, 2010 financial statements

9.10 Approving a Service Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and The Omni Group for 403(b) third party administration services for the academic year 2010-2011

9.11 Approving an Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Actuarial & Technical Solutions, Inc. for updating the District's initial GASB 45 actuarial valuation

9.12 Receiving grants and donations in the amount of \$950.00 for the Edible Garden at Northport Middle School

9.13 Approving the Type A lunch prices for 2010-2011 at \$2.00 for K-5, and \$2.25 for secondary schools 6-12

9.14 Approving transfer of general fund appropriations in the 2009-2010 budget

9.15 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District hereby establishes a Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 6-r to be initially funded from excess fund balance from the 2009-2010 fiscal year in an amount not to exceed \$1,900,000.00”

9.16 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Employee Benefits Accrued Liability Reserve Fund pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 6-p for the 2009-2010 fiscal year in an amount not to exceed \$650,000.00 and to increase the appropriations A9089.1500.00.6001 (\$605,000.00) and A9089.1501.00.6001 (\$45,000.00) and to return to the reserve any funds not expended”

Vote on Trustee Madden’s motion to approve all items under 9., including Supplemental 9.14, 9.15 and 9.16 was unanimously carried by those present.

10. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT - FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.1 Student Activity Account Reports for April 2010 from:

- 10.1.1 Northport High School
- 10.1.2 East Northport Middle School
- 10.1.3 Northport Middle School

10.3 Schedule I – Home Instruction

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

12.1 Motion was made by Trustee Gannon, seconded by Trustee Dragone, to approve the following resolution:

“RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to execute a certain Fourth Amendment to the 2006 Employment Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Dr. Marylou McDermott”

Unanimously carried by those present

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Trustee Sato, seconded by Trustee Gannon, to adjourn the meeting.

At 9:55 p.m., the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk