

Public Work Session and Business Meeting

A Public Work Session and Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, October 20, 2014, beginning at 6:05 p.m., in the Board Conference Room at the William J. Brosnan School, 158 Laurel Avenue, Northport, New York, with Ms. Julia R. Binger, Chairperson, opening the meeting and presiding.

Members present: Mr. David Badanes, Ms. Julia Binger, Mr. James Maloney, Mrs. Lori McCue, Mrs. Donna McNaughton, Mr. Andrew Rapiejko, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson, Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr.

Members absent: Mrs. Pisacani

Also present: Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Matthew Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration
Ms. Rosemarie Coletti, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

1. President Binger called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the employment history of particular persons.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 7:11 p.m. the Board reconvened in public session in the Cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Public attendance: There were approximately 65 persons present.

2. Ms. Binger led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
3. Pointed out the emergency exits.
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.01 Minutes

There were no minutes for approval.

5. SPECIAL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent of School, announced that there was an employer recognition breakfast held on Wednesday morning for the Academy of Information Technology and on Thursday for the Academy of Finance. Japanese students from the Seisa School visited the high school on Thursday.

Dr. Izzet Mergen, Director of Music, stated that the 53rd Annual Newsday Marching Band Festival was held on Thursday, October 16th. Northport Tiger Marching Band was the largest participating band and performed the finale. On Saturday, October 18th, the marching band participated in the Northport Fire Department's 25th Anniversary Celebration by marching in the parade.

Mr. Sean Boylan and Mr. Anthony Ferrandino, Drug and Alcohol Task Force presented on the recent activities of the Drug and Alcohol Task Force. Mr. Boylan stated that the Task Force meets the second Wednesday of every month. In August/September they review the goals and objectives for the upcoming year. They participated in the Cow Harbor Day Parade and open house. Mr. Ferrandino stated that the

students of SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) made a public service announcement to stress the importance of communication between parents and children. RAP (Recovery, Awareness, Prevention) will be take place this week. The week is dedicated to highlight healthy decision making as it pertains to drug and alcohol use. Appropriate events will take place in both middle schools and the high school, with a Community Drug and Alcohol Forum on Wednesday, October 22nd and a YDA sponsored sober drive-in movie event on October 24th.

There was a discussion regarding the misconception that drug use is worse in Northport than other districts. Mr. Boylan and Mr. Ferrandino discussed a 2011 youth drug server which compares Northport to other districts and stated that Northport's results were exactly the same across the county, region and state.

President Binger stated that the Board met on Saturday morning with the Superintendent Search Team to adopt a schedule. Open recruitment will begin in early November through December 19th. Screening and interviewing will then follow and the team will meet with the Board to review the candidates, final interviews will be scheduled in March, and appointment of the new superintendent in April.

The superintendent search timeline will be posted to the District's website.

5.01 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

5.01.1 Mr. Dan McKeon, Northport High School Assistant Principal, introduced Paul Nakonieczny, Science Department Student of the Month.

Mr. McKeon stated that Paul has taken a full load of science courses since 8th grade and is currently completing a very challenging two-year sequence in International Baccalaureate Physics at the Higher Level. Paul has also taken courses in IB Design Technology, Project Lead the Way Principals of Engineering, AP Calculus, AP Calculus, AP Statistics, and AP Computer Science. Paul was a standout against a field of very qualified candidates and was awarded the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute medal as a junior. Mr. McKeon stated that Paul will try to combine his passions for science, math and technology as he goes on to college where he hopes to study Astrophysics, Aeronautical Engineering, and/or Computer Science. He has applied to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, UCLA, Boston University and UC Berkeley.

President Binger and Superintendent McDermott congratulated Paul on his fine accomplishments and presented him with a commendation from the Board.

5.01.2 Mr. Dan McKeon, Northport High School Assistant Principal, introduced James Garvey, Technology Department Student of the Month.

Mr. McKeon stated that James has taken advantage of many courses the Technology department offers including Project Lead the Way Drawing and Design for Production, Civil Engineering and Architecture, Principals of Engineering, and two courses in Automotive Technology. James has become involved in every one of the extracurricular clubs and programs that the Technology program offers including Woodworking Club, Technology Honor Society and the Robotics Team. Mr. McKeon stated that James also uses his skills, knowledge and passion for technology to benefit the community. As part of his Eagle Scout project he designed and built boat racks for Steer Beach. James is considering continuing his studies in Technology and Engineering by majoring in Robotics Engineering at Boston University.

President Binger and Superintendent McDermott congratulated James on his fine accomplishments and presented him with a commendation from the Board.

5.01.3 Ms. Melissa O'Malia, District Chairperson of Social Studies, introduced Giacomo DiLiberto, Social Studies Department Student of the Month

Ms. O'Malia stated that Giacomo has availed himself of the diverse offerings at the Social Studies Department including American Law, AP European History, AP Comparative and Criminal Justice, IB History of the Americas, IB Economics, IB History of the Americas in 12th grade and IB Theory of Knowledge. Giacomo is also a member of the Model UN and a co-founder of the Debate Club. Ms. O'Malia noted that Giacomo completed an internship with Congressman Steve Israel this past summer and got a glimpse of the inner workings of government. His academic work has not gone unnoticed by his teachers. The Social Studies Department is sure that whatever path Giacomo pursues, he will achieve great success.

President Binger and Superintendent McDermott congratulated Giacomo on his fine accomplishments and presented him with a commendation from the Board.

5.01.4 Ms. Denise Keenan, Northport High School Assistant Principal, introduced Brooke Miccio, Business Department Student of the Month.

Ms. Keenan stated that Brooke is a dedicated student in the Business Education Department who has impressed her teachers and advisors alike. Brooke was elected Senior Class Vice President, DECA President, Academy of Finance Secretary and was one of three students chosen to intern at KPMG where she has an unprecedented experience in the field of accounting. Ms. Keenan was selected to participate in the District's High School Heroes Program where she visited the elementary schools to teach first through fifth graders business topics including economics, production and circular flow of money. Brooke would like to expand her leadership skills by studying business in college and go on to become a leader at a Fortune 500 company.

President Binger and Superintendent McDermott congratulated Brooke on her fine accomplishments and presented her with a commendation from the Board.

5.01.5 Dr. Patricia Schmitt, District Chairperson of English Language Arts, introduced Anan Chisholm, English Department Student of the Month

Dr. Schmitt stated that Ana's performance in the field of English, academic aspirations, service to the community, and scholarship reflect her commitment to the art of language and texts. Her academic excellence coupled with her desire to use her talents and time to enhance the lives of others identifies her as a leader among her peers. As an IB candidate, Ana engages in an intense course of study and her impressive grades over the past four years attest to her tenacity and penchant for scholarship. Dr. Schmitt noted that Ana balances her intense academic schedule with her extra-curricular activities and humanitarian services. She is a member of the Junior Sailing Association, tutors fourth grade students twice a week and participated in tour choir. As a member of the Schools for Schools program she assists in the mission to help communities in Central Africa procure the funds and materials necessary to send children to school. Ana's future aspirations include attending college in pursuit of a degree in the field of engineering or medicine. She intends to apply to The University of Pennsylvania, Boston College and Holy Cross.

President Binger and Superintendent McDermott congratulated Ana on her fine accomplishments and presented her with a commendation from the Board.

5.01.6 Dr. Patricia Schmitt, District Chairperson of English Language Arts, introduced Ms. Diana Aiello and Mr. Robert Feinstein, recipients of The New York State English Council's Teacher of Excellence Award.

5.01.7 Dr. Patricia Schmitt, District Chairperson of English Language Arts, presented the 2014-2015 English Department Instructional Initiatives.

Dr. Schmitt reviewed the following 2014-2015 Instructional Initiatives in English Language Arts: Revise and formalize the 11th and 12th grade curricula; work with elementary coordinators to revise and continue to develop writing units of study aligned with the Common Core; continue to infuse materials and practices provided on engageny. Revising and formalizing the 11th and 12th grade curricula included summer curriculum units of study with resources, department analysis of the Common Core assessment, and 11th grade transitional year. Revision and continued development of K-5 writing curricula included alignment to reading curriculum revised last year; including a balance of writing from texts, personal narrative, and information writing; and units including Common Core Standards, teaching points and rubrics. Continued infusion of material and practiced provided on engageny included P-12 text list and suggested texts, close reading practices, and use of materials and resources to scaffold instruction. The Library/Media 2014-2015 Instructional Initiatives include expanding and communicating the importance of digital citizenship, support skills and practices that enhance academic honesty, and continuing to align library media standards with the overall goals of the school community.

Dr. Schmitt reviewed the assessment data on Grade 3 State English, Grade 4 State English, Grade 5 State English, Grade 6 State English, Grade 7 State English, Grade 8 State English, Advanced Placement Courses and IB English Higher Level.

The Board thanked Dr. Schmitt for her very informative report.

5.01.8 Governor Andrew Cuomo declared the week of October 27 – October 31, 2014 as Board Recognition Week. The Governor declared this special week to commend school board members for their dedicated service to the children of New York State. The nine members of the Board received commendations from Western Suffolk BOCES and the Northport-East Northport School District and PTA.

5.02 President Binger reviewed the upcoming meetings of November 3rd, November 17th and December 8th.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Board.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Robyn Carlson Parent	Stated that she is here for the 4 th time regarding her bus issue. She was granted a second ride along and they are not measuring to the front entrance. Ms. Carlson asked for the regulations to be updated to bring entrance to where the students get on the walkway to go into the school.

Dr. McDermott stated that she believes is should be fair and the designated entrance should be the main entrance of every school. Dr. McDermott stated that the regulation will be reviewed.

Antoinette Blanck UTN President	Stated that meeting on Saturday was set to be an executive session and then the notice was changed. Ms. Blanck stated that the Board President is supposed to meet with the UTN President to discuss the superintendent search. Ms. Blanck stated she sent a letter to the Board President reminding her of what the process is contractually and she is upset and
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disappointed that the Board will move forward this.

President Binger stated that the meeting was intended to be completely in executive session but after discussion with Board counsel it was determined that half the meeting would be public.

Tammie Topel
Parent

Asked where the Drug and Alcohol Task Force t-shirts were being sold and how much they cost. Ms. Topel stated that Dr. McDermott mentioned that \$700,000 was needed for unanticipated special education expenses and would it be appropriate for those monies to be taken from the 4% unallocated fund.

Trustee McNaughton stated that t-shirts are \$10.00.

Dr. McDermott stated that the 4% fund is generally for emergencies and if the \$700,000 was taken from the unassigned fund balance it would leave a very large hole.

Vicki Gibb
Resident

Asked where the District is with regards to implementing full day kindergarten and the status of the study.

Dr. McDermott stated that the study started in September. Information was gathered from the building principals and the process generally takes at least four months up to six months.

Ms. Molander stated that the study will also look at enrollment and enrollment projections and the space utilization study will look at the possibility of incorporating full day kindergarten or closing a building. The Board will receive the report once it is complete.

Trustee Thompson stated that the results of the study will be presented in a public forum.

Tammie Topel

Ms. Topel asked how the superintendent search team was selected, if the Board was contacted by anyone else regarding the superintendent search, what fees are associated with it, and what role Syntax plays in the superintendent search.

Trustee Badanes stated that the four people on the superintendent search team volunteered their services. President Binger stated that a former assistant superintendent did speak with her about the superintendent search.

Trustee McNaughton stated that the search team does not have a secretarial staff so Syntax will be used for advertising and creation of the brochure. Trustee Waldenburg stated that Syntax is not involved in selecting or interviewing candidates.

Mary Gilmore
Parent

Asked the board to clarify what happened at the Saturday morning meeting and how communication was handled regarding the meeting with the Board members.

President Binger stated that a revised public notice was sent out Friday afternoon around 3:00 p.m. and was posted on the District's website. The agenda for the meeting was posted Friday as well.

A few Board members stated that they did not know that part of the meeting was going to be held in public until Saturday morning.

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

Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to approve items 9.01 through 9.05

9.01 Taking specified action on the following BIDS:

SCHOOL LUNCH

9.01.1 AWARD: Uniforms – School Lunch

TRANSPORTATION:

9.01.2 AWARD: Transportation for District Students with Disabilities Attending Out of District School

9.02 Declaring a General Electric dishwasher, asset #107410, owned by the School District that is outdated, broken and no longer cost effective to repair as surplus and approve disposal in accordance with Board Policy.

9.03 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$2,070 from Northport-East Northport residents whose names are more fully set forth in the attached document, for the purposes of covering the cost of transportation for the Northport High School Urban Studies class field trips on September 30 and October 1, 2014 and increase the 2014-2015 budget code A2110.4161.30.2903 by \$2,070 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2014-2015 budget by \$2,070 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from Northport-East Northport residents”

9.04 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Wilderness Traveling Museum (NAS)

9.05 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Wilderness Traveling Museum (BAS)

Vote on Trustee Waldenburg’s motion to approve items 9.01 through 9.05 was unanimously carried by those present.

Motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to approve item 9.06

9.06 Approving a Consultant Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Long Island Center for Arts and Sciences

Vote on Trustee McNaughton’s motion to approve item 9.06 was as follows:

YES: Mr. Badanes, Ms. Binger, Mr. Maloney, Mrs. McCue, Mrs. McNaughton, Mr. Rapiejko, Mrs. Thompson
ABSTAIN: Mr. Waldenburg

Motion passed.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ms. Ellen Hatch, PTA Council Co-President, stated that there was a PTA donation on the Board's agenda on October 6th that was waiting approval and that all follow-up documentation was provided regarding the donation.

Motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to remove from table and bring forth item 9.04.3 from the October 6th agenda for a vote.

Unanimously carried by those present.

Motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to approve item 9.04.3.

9.04 Accepting the following donations to the District:

9.04.3 An Education Work Station 24" Full Color Poster and Banner Printing System, laminating film, mounting film, adhesive film, quick dry photo gloss film, delivery, installation and training from the Dickinson Avenue PTA to Dickinson Avenue Elementary School, value estimated by the donor to be \$4,894.94

Unanimously carried by those present.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Trustee Badanes, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to adjourn the meeting.

Unanimously carried.

At 9:35 p.m., the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

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