

Regular Meeting

A Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, January 27, 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 Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr., Chairperson, opening the meeting and presiding.

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

Members absent: None

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 Waldenburg called the meeting to order.

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

Unanimously carried.

At 7:05 p.m. the Board reconvened in public session in the Cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Public attendance: There were approximately 100 persons present.

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

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to approve all items under 4.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 4.01 Minutes

- 4.01.1 Regular Meeting, January 13, 2014
- 4.01.2 Special Meeting, January 20, 2014

Unanimously carried.

5. SPECIAL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

- 5.01 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

- 5.01.1 Ms. Sabina Larkin, Ocean Avenue Elementary School Principal, introduced Ocean Avenue Elementary Students who performed selections from the school production *Alice in Wonderland Jr.*

- 5.01.2 Mr. Drew Cronin, Director of Physical Education and Athletics,

introduced Casey Lauter, Physical Education Department Student of the Month.

Mr. Cronin stated that Casey has consistently demonstrated enthusiasm for Physical Education and her performance in class reflects her caring, assertive attitude. Casey is a level 10 gymnast, has successfully competed in the Junior Olympic National Championships on three occasions, and is currently ranked sixth in the nation on balance beam. Mr. Cronin noted that Casey is committed to her school work as well as helping out the community through various community service projects. She has been a member of the National Honor Society since 2011 and maintains a GPA of over 100. Casey will attend the University of New Hampshire where she has earned a full athletic scholarship.

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

5.01.3 Ms. Tracey Braun, Health Education Teacher, introduced Stephanie Safonte, Health Education Department Student of the Month.

Ms. Braun stated that Stephanie has proven to be a leader and self-starter over the past three years at Northport High School and has excelled in everything she has attempted to do. She was drawn to sports medicine through her experiences in health education and athletics. Ms. Braun stated that Stephanie is reliable, willing to help in any way possible, and is truly an asset to the care of the student athletes in the District. Stephanie is a member of the National Honor Society as well as the treasurer of the class of 2014. Ms. Braun stated that Stephanie is a truly wonderfully well-rounded student who will be very successful in the years to come. She will attend Duquesne, Hofstra or Stony Brook University and plans on majoring in Sports Medicine with the hopes of one day becoming a physician.

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

5.01.4 Mr. Drew Cronin, Director of Physical Education and Athletics, recognized the following student athletes for their achievements: Kristen Desmond, Soccer, Coach – Aija Gipp; Nicole Papsco, Swimming – Coach – Mark Kretzer; Michael Brannigan, Cross Country, Coach – Jason Stromm

5.01.6 Ms. Jennifer Nesfield, District Chairperson for World Languages and ESL, introduced Taesoo Kim, English Language Learner Student of the Month

Ms. Nesfield stated that Taesoo is a remarkable young man who has distinguished himself academically and has shown exceptional personal growth over the last six years. Taesoo's teachers at Northport Middle School quickly recognized his mathematical abilities and chose to accelerate him. Ms. Tippet, his former ESL teacher, said that Taesoo has an innate academic ability. Taesoo chose to double up in math and take the most difficult classes available to him in selecting his courses for the tenth grade. This year he is taking AP Physics without having taken any other Physics course, and is pursuing AP English, IB Economics and working on an AOIT internship. Ms. Nesfield stated that Taesoo is a young man who has learned to embrace the changes in his life, trust in his abilities, and will flourish in any profession he chooses to pursue.

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

5.01.5 Ms. Jennifer Nesfield, District Chairperson for World Languages and ESL, introduced Monica Dietlin, World Languages Department Student of the Month

Ms. Nesfield stated that Monica is part of an exceptional group of students who have opted to study multiple world languages, excelling in French, Spanish, German and Japanese. Monica's inquisitiveness,

creativity and intelligence have made an indelible impression on many members of the Northport High School faculty. Ms. Nesfield noted that Monica was inducted into the World Language Honor Society in October and was chosen by the faculty to present the keynote address at the induction ceremony. Monica achieved high scores on both the Spanish and French New York State Regents Examinations and continues to earn top grades in her IB French course. In addition to her studies, Monica participates in multiple community service activities. Ms. Nesfield stated that Monica has a generous spirit and limitless potential.

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

5.02 Mr. Peter Rodriguez of Cullen & Danowski, LLP, the District's external auditors, presented on the District's rating of "susceptibility" to fiscal stress from the New York State Comptroller's Office.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that there are seven financial indicators the State Comptroller's Office uses to report on the fiscal stress of school districts. These indicators were applied to all 700 districts in the state with the report available on the Comptroller's website. Mr. Rodriguez stated that fund balance is 50% of the calculation. The District received negative points from the borrowing of Tax Anticipation Notes that exceeded 15% of revenues and was brought into susceptible to fiscal stress status by using fund balance for voter approved capital projects which added to the operating deficit.

There was a discussion regarding any negative effects on rating services, spending down reserves, the 2% tax cap and reserves and fund balance.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that the susceptible to fiscal stress rating is more of an anomaly but the District still should be watching the fund balance.

5.03 Review of the following Instructional Initiatives:

5.03.1 World Languages and ESL

Ms. Jennifer Nesfield, District Chairperson for World Languages and ESL, presented the 2013-2014 World Languages and ESL Instructional Initiatives

Ms. Nesfield reviewed the 2012-2013 initiatives which included developing a spiraling curriculum for writing on all levels incorporating diverse writing formats, including new literacies and authentic writing; aligning curricula and assessments to support the Common Standards, including, but not limited to the creation of local assessments and Student Learning Objectives; continued forward movement with differentiated instruction efforts, expanding the use of tiered assignments and anchor activities at all levels of instruction; nurturing a culture of respect in the World Languages classrooms by highlighting cultural differences and similarities between the various target language populations and Americans.

Ms. Nesfield stated that the 2013-2014 World Languages Department Initiatives are to continue to implement the Common Core Learning Standards in all World Language classes; provide the World Language faculty with additional professional development that will help them to further develop and improve students' target language presentational writing skills at all levels and require the students to use higher order thinking to relate non-fictional text to their written pieces; and provide the faculty with professional development that will help them explore the use of Flipped Instruction practices. Flipped instruction, using the Moodle environment, in particular, will help diversify the teachers' use of instructional technology.

Ms. Nesfield reviewed data on the Common Assessments FLACS Checkpoint A, FLACS Checkpoint B and the International Baccalaureate scores. Ms. Nesfield reviewed the After School Elementary Language

Program stating that there are 178 students registered.

Ms. Nesfield reviewed the English as a Second Language 2012-2013 Instructional Initiatives which included aligning curricula and assessments to support the Common Standards, moving forward with differentiated instruction efforts, expanding the use of tiered assignments and anchor activities, and continuing to nurture a culture of respect in the ESL classrooms by highlighting cultural differences and similarities between the various populations represented and American society.

Ms. Nesfield stated that the 2013-2014 English as a Second Language Departmental Initiatives include continuing to implement the Common Core Learning Standards in all ESL classes and work with mainstream English and Math teachers to adopt and adapt CCLS modules in order to make them more accessible to the ELLs; provide the ESL faculty with professional development that will help them comprehend the changes to the state ESL screening exam and successfully administer the new NYSITELL to incoming students identified as possible LEP students; and provide the faculty with professional development that will help them explore the use of Flipped Instruction practices. Ms. Nesfield reviewed the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) results.

There was a brief question and answer period and the Board thanked Ms. Nesfield for her very informative report.

#### 5.04 For Information: Upcoming Meetings

President Waldenburg reviewed the upcoming Board meetings of February 10<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, March 10<sup>th</sup>, March 17<sup>th</sup> and March 24<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. McDermott stated that Northport Middle School was closed last week due to a heating problem and again today due to a water main break. The Superintendent noted that the water main break has been fixed and students will be returning to school tomorrow. Dr. McDermott reviewed the plan in place for students if another unforeseen incident occurs where 6<sup>th</sup> graders will go to the William J. Brosnan School and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will go to the high school.

Ms. Kelly Clark, a parent, inquired about the condition of Northport Middle School, stating that maintaining the basics of the building are a high priority.

There was a discussion regarding equity among the school buildings in regards to maintenance and students losing instructional time.

#### 6. COMMUNICATIONS

6.01 There were no communications to the Board

#### 7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Allison Noonan SEPTA President	Stated that she would like the Board to consider at least making a statement that would address the concerns the community has regarding releasing student's private information. Ms. Noonan also asked what options parents have besides letter writing if they don't want their child's data released through BOCES to inBloom.

There was discussion regarding student data collection, information is provided to the state and what it is issued for, and storage of the information.

The Board directed the Superintendent to draft a letter to the State regarding the deep concerns from the

community with regards to student identifiable information provided to the state and the storage of that information at inBloom.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to approve all items under 8. and 9.

8. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT, GENERAL – FOR BOARD ACTION

8.01 Personnel Actions Report, dated January 27, 2014, attached and made part of the official minutes, including addendum resolution.

8.02 Approving the Academic Intervention Services Plan, Grades 6-12, January 2014 – December 2016

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

9.01 Approving the following donations to the District:

9.01.1 \$50.00 from Anna and Charles Hernandez in memory of Katherine Delguidice to the Lt. Commander Christopher Tragna Memorial Scholarship

9.01.2 \$50.00 from Frances and Bertram Delmage in memory of Katherine Delguidice to the Lt. Commander Christopher Tragna Memorial Scholarship

9.01.3 \$100.00 from Julie and William Brosnan to the Robert and Marjorie Krueger Memorial Scholarship

9.02 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$1,370 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 a Northport High School Urban Studies class field trip on December 17, 2013 and increase the 2013-2014 budget code A2110.4161.30.2903 by \$1,370 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2013-2014 budget by \$1,370 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from Northport-East Northport residents."

9.03 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$6,647 from Northport-East Northport residents whose names are more fully set forth in the attached document, for the purposes of the Northport High School Orchestra trip to Boston and increase the 2013-2014 budget code A2110.4010.00.2100 by \$6,647 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2013-2014 budget by \$6,647 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from Northport-East Northport residents."

9.04 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$2,200 from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account, for the purposes of nursing services for students attending the trip to Greenkill Outdoor Education Center February 26, 2014 to February 28, 2014 and increase the 2013-2014 budget code A2110.4161.23.2902 by \$2,200 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2013-2014 budget by \$2,200 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account.”

9.05 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$10,200 from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account for the purposes of students attending the trip to Greenkill Outdoor Education Center February 26, 2014 to February 28, 2014 and increase the 2013-2014 budget code A2110.4161.23.2902 by \$10,200 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2013-2014 budget by \$10,200 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account”

9.06 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Homecare Therapies dba Horizon Healthcare Staffing (SSS)

9.07 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Jungle Bob Enterprises, Inc. (FAS)

9.08 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and DJF Events Inc. (ENMS)

9.09 Approving an Agreement between Free the Children and the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District (NAS)

9.10 Approving an Agreement between Free the Children and the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District (OAS)

9.11 Approving a 2013-2014 Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and The Daytop Preparatory School

9.12 Approving a 2013-2014 Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Harmony Heights

9.13 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education having reviewed a settlement agreement in executive session concerning a student matter hereby approves such agreement and directs the Board President to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board”

Vote on Trustee McCue’s motion to approve all items under 8. and 9. was unanimously carried.

10. SUPERINTENDENT’ REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

Dr. McDermott stated that the administration assessed what was done last year with the budget process and received feedback. The desire is to make the budget process as understandable as possible for the

public and the Board. Dr. McDermott stated that she will present a conceptual overview of the budget at the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. A global overview of the budget, including discussion of transportation, BOCES and special education will be presented at the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Discussion of personnel and benefits, which makes up 75% of the budget, will be held at the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Then on March 24<sup>th</sup> revenue, fund balance and reserves will be discussed.

Trustee Badanes stated that there is a Board policy that states the Board must adopt guidelines for the budget development by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Motion was made by Trustee Badanes, seconded by Trustee Topel, to adopt the budget guideline proposal as presented by Dr. McDermott, that the Superintendent will present a conceptual overview of the budget on February 10<sup>th</sup>, a global overview including transportation, BOCES and Special Education on March 10<sup>th</sup>, personnel and benefits on March 17<sup>th</sup>, and revenue, fund balance and reserves on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

Vote on Trustee Badanes motion was unanimously carried.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Trustee Sabia, seconded by Trustee Binger, to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the potential employment of a particular corporation.

Unanimously carried.

At 10:57 p.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

---

Beth M. Nystrom  
District Clerk