

Public Work Session and Special Business Meeting

A Public Work Session of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, October 15, 2012, beginning at 7:15 p.m., in the Cafeteria 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. Carrie-Anne Tondo, Board Counsel

1. President Waldenburg called the meeting to order.

Public attendance: There were approximately 30 persons present.

2. Mr. Waldenburg led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
3. Pointed out the emergency exits.
4. SPECIAL REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent of Schools, announced that Northport High School Art Teacher Constance Wolf will be presenting an IB Art Workshop at the New York State Art Teachers Association Conference in November. Dr. McDermott also announced that Visual Arts Chairperson Julia Lang-Shapiro has been nominated by her peers as Eastern Region Vice President of the National Art Education Association.

4.01 Ms. Denise Keenan, Administrator in Charge of Business Education, introduced Sarah Watson, Business Department Student of the Month. Ms. Keenan stated that Sarah has taken IB Business and Management HL, College Financial Planning, College Entrepreneurship in the International Arena, AOF College Accounting, College Business Law, AOF Introduction to Business, and Fashion Marketing and Advertising. Sarah is also enrolled in several IB and AP courses challenging herself to increase her knowledge and skills. Ms. Keenan stated that Sarah is an integral member of the Academy of Finance and completed her internship at KPMG, LLP, one of the “Big 4” accounting firms, working in three different departments – Advisory, Audit, and Tax. Sarah has been enrolled in the Work Study program since 2010, logging over 1,000 hours including jobs at KPMB, AMC Theaters and TJ Maxx. Ms. Keenan stated that Sarah is an outstanding student and the perfect recipient of the Student of the Month Award.

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

4.02 Mr. Dan McKeon, Administrator in Charge of Family and Consumer Science Education, introduced Sarah Jerome, Family and Consumer Science Department Student of the Month. Mr. McKeon stated that Sarah has completed course work in Early Childhood Education, Family Dynamics, Literacy Lab, Child Psychology, and is currently enrolled in Early Childhood Planning and Administration. Sarah is co-president of Northport High School’s chapter of Future Educators Association

(FEA). Mr. McKeon noted that Sarah is a hard working and dedicated individual. She has co-chaired committees for various fundraisers, educational activities, and community service projects including Ready Readers Club, Read Aloud, Family Literacy Nights, Character Education Puppet Shows, Disability Awareness Day and Cooking with Kids. Sarah has a sincere interest in the area of child development and psychology and she has made the decision to pursue a career in education. Mr. McKeon congratulated Sarah on being named the Northport High School Family and Consumer Science Department Student of the Month.

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

4.03 Ms. Melissa O'Malia, Social Studies Chairperson K-12, introduced Isabel Staccuneddu, Social Studies Department Student of the Month. Ms. O'Malia stated that during her four years at Northport High School, Isabel has availed herself of the diverse offerings of the Social Studies Department. Isabel studied AP World History her sophomore year, AP United States History and IB Economics her junior year, and this year she is continuing to challenge herself by taking AP Comparative Government. Ms. O'Malia noted that in addition to Isabel's academic pursuits, she devotes a great deal of time to her school community. Isabel is president of the Academy of Finance, is a member of the business organization DECA, and is a member of the "Schools for School's club with is currently working with non-government organizations in Africa. Ms. O'Malia noted that Isabel spent her summer taking "Introduction to Chinese" and "Introduction to Macroeconomics" at Harvard University. Isabel plans on pursuing a career as a doctor and would like to combine her interest in helping the international community with her interest in the medical field. Ms. O'Malia stated that the Social Studies Department is very proud to recognize Isabel as the Student of the Month.

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

4.04 Ms. Cynthia Fitzgerald, Director of Student Support Services, introduced School Nurse Kathy Schildhorn and paid tribute to her extraordinary efforts during a medical emergency.

President Waldenburg and Superintendent McDermott thanked Ms. Schildhorn for her actions and presented her with a commendation from the Board

4.05 Dr. Patricia Schmitt, English Chairperson K-12, introduced Northport High School English Teacher Shannon Craft, recipient of the New York State English Council's Teacher of Excellence Award.

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

4.06 Ms. Melissa O'Malia, Social Studies Chairperson K-12, presented the 2012-2013 Social Studies Instructional Initiatives. Ms. O'Malia stated that the first initiative is to develop units within the Social Studies discipline utilizing the Common Core standards including having students analyze primary source materials, read multiple accounts and perspectives, extrapolate evidence to support claims, and understand the historical context in which something occurred. Initiative #2 is to concentrate on reaching all students on all academic levels through the instructional approach of "flipping the classroom" so that the classroom can become a place of active learning, questioning and discussion. Initiative #3 is to establish and implement essential learning goals and targets (Student Learning Objectives) and evaluate the validity, reliability, and comparability of pre and post assessments. Initiative #4 is to encourage students to be responsible citizens by engaging in discussion about civic engagement in their respective social studies classrooms.

There was a discussion regarding implementation of pre and post assessments, midterm and Regents data, student learning objectives and teaching cultural diversity.

The Board thanked Ms. O'Malia for her very informative report.

At 8:00 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to convene into Executive Session to discuss intervention in a proceeding against National Grid Generation, LLC that is pending before the Federal Energy Regulation Commission and to discuss potential legal actions by the Board in connection with a zoning matter.

Unanimously carried.

At 8:30 p.m. the Board reconvened in public session.

4.07 Mr. David Newman from ECG Engineering, P.C. and Mr. Dan Haffel from Johnson Controls Inc. presented an Update on the Energy Performance Contracting Opportunity for the District.

Mr. Newman stated that the Energy Performance Contracting concept was authorized by NYS Energy Law Article 9, allowing school districts to partner with Energy Services Company (ESCO) to identify and implement energy savings measures. Mr. Newman stated that all project costs must be paid out of future energy savings the upgrades will generate and that the savings are guaranteed by ESCO. Mr. Newman reviewed ECG's role in the process, activity to date, project cost and overall value, the annual energy savings, and the percent reduction in costs and total energy conservation measures.

Mr. Dan Haffel stated that energy performance contracting is an agreement that allows school districts to take budgeted utility and operational costs and reallocate them into energy saving capital improvements without the need for increased taxes. Mr. Haffel reviewed the project overview noting annual district energy savings of \$722,877 (37%), project cost of \$14,075,260, 20 Facility Improvement Measures, a payback period of 17.8 years and 100% guarantee savings. Mr. Haffel reviewed the energy conservation measures, costs and savings summary, Johnson Control qualifications, and the project timeline.

There was discussion regarding how often districts can enter energy performance contracts, duration of changes and net savings, completion date, work hours, future costs, outside contractors, warranty on equipment, margin of error, technology advances and recommended projects.

The Board thanked Mr. Newman and Mr. Haffel for their reports.

Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Badanes to approve the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes its school attorneys, Ingerman Smith, L.L.P., to take all necessary and appropriate action to intervene on behalf of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District in a pending matter before the Federal Regulatory Commission entitled The Incorporated Village of Port Jefferson v. National Grid Generation, L.L.C., Docket No. EL12-89-000.”

Ms. Carrie-Anne Tondo, Board Counsel, stated that a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Complaint was initiated by the Incorporated Village of Port Jefferson against National Grid Generation seeking an investigation and hearing into fraudulent exercises. Ms. Tondo stated that the resolution authorizes counsel to intervene on the Board's behalf. Ms. Tondo noted that a joint statement with the Town of Huntington will be released after their board meeting.

Vote on Trustee Waldenburg's motion to approve the resolution was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee McCue, to approve the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes its legal counsel, Ingerman Smith, L.L.P., to prepare and file an amicus curiae brief on behalf of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District in a pending proceeding before the Suffolk County Supreme Court entitled 7-Eleven, Inc. and C&I Restaurant Corp. West vs. the Town of Huntington, The Town of Huntington Zoning Board of Appeals, the Town of Huntington Department of Planning and Environment, and the Town Board of the Town of Huntington, Bearing Index No. 12-19077.”

Trustee Sabia stated that it was a gamble to spend over \$6,000 to file the brief when counsel already stated the District’s case and the public spoke in opposition to the zoning application.

Trustee Rapiejko stated that the Board only has one shot at this and they took a stance several months ago opposing the zoning board application for safety reasons. Mr. Rapiejko felt that it would be \$6,400 well spent on a child safety matter.

Trustee Badanes stated that in some respects he agreed with Trustee Sabia. Trustee Badanes stated that his inclination is to always put everything in front of the court and the costs were relatively small for an abundance of caution.

Trustee Binger stated that she agreed with Trustee Badanes and that the brief will show the extent of concern that the District has about the 7-11 being built.

Trustee McCue stated that the Board made a commitment to members of the community to see this through and that the costs were relatively manageable.

There was further discussion regarding monetary limit, legal fee budget, updates from counsel, content of the brief and the safety of children.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to call the question.

Vote on Trustee McCue’s motion to call the question was unanimously carried.

Vote on Trustee Waldenburg’s motion to approve the resolution was as follows:

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

NO: Mr. Sabia

Motion passed.

At 10:30 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to extend the meeting.

Unanimously carried.

Trustee McCue and Trustee Topel stated that they would have liked to have the Business Department and Family and Consumer Science Department Initiatives on the agenda to be presented to the Board.

Dr. McDermott stated that the department presentations to the Board were going to focus on the five core subject areas on the common core standards. Dr. McDermott stated that they could schedule the other departmental presentations after the core subjects are presented.

Ms. Antoinette Blanck, UTN President, stated that it would be helpful to the community to have the presentations before the students have to make their class selections for the following year.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Board

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Allison Noonan Parent	Stated that the form to register students for the elementary after school language program stated that a nurse is not on duty during the program hours. Ms. Noonan stated that she was concerned that any student that might need nursing services would be precluded from attending the program.

Ms. Christina Pulaski, Director of Special Education, stated that if a child's IEP states that they need nursing services that accommodation would follow through to after school activities.

7. ADJOURN PUBLIC WORK SESSION AND CONVENE INTO SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

At 10:35 p.m., the Board adjourned the Public Work Session and convened into a Special Business Meeting.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, FINANCIAL

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to approve all items under 8. (8.01 through 8.05).

Motion was made by Trustee Badanes, seconded by Trustee Rapiejko, to sever items 8.04 and 8.05.

Unanimously carried.

8.01 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the September 19, 2012 Proposition No. 2 establishing a Capital Reserve Fund known as the “Capital Reserve II Fund”, the Board of Education approves the funding of said reserve fund by a transfer of its 2011-2012 unassigned fund balance in the amount of \$1,000,000.”

8.02 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the unassigned fund balance in the amount of \$1,595,000 and an increase in the 2012-2013 General Fund appropriation A9950.9002.00.8300 (Interfund Transfer to Capital Fund) in the amount of \$1,595,000 as approved by the qualified voters of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District on September 19, 2012.”

8.03 Approving the following resolutions for Appropriated Reserves, Budget Confirmation and Set Tax Levy for 2012-2013

8.03.1 "RESOLVED that, pursuant to voter approval on May 15, 2012 of Proposition No. 1, the 2012-2013 Budget Appropriations shall be:

Proposition 1	Annual School District Budget	\$153,941,712
	Total Budget Appropriation	\$153,941,712"

8.03.2 "RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 1318, Subdivision 1, of the Real Property Tax Law, the District shall retain \$6,147,283 of its 2011-2012 total unassigned fund balance, said amount being 3.99% of the voter approved budget and shall apply to the 2012-2013 tax levy the sum of \$3,775,784, the remainder of the 2011-2012 total unassigned fund balance."

8.03.3 "RESOLVED that, pursuant to Subdivision 12 of Section 1604 of the Education Law, the estimated receipts, including the application of the remaining unassigned fund balance as determined above in 8.03.2 and the required levy of taxes for school district purposes, be established as follows:

Estimated Receipts	\$20,667,773
Tax Levy (includes estimated STAR Reimbursements of \$9,800,000)	\$133,273,939"

8.03.4 "RESOLVED that, pursuant to 259 and Subdivision 5(a), Section 1804 of the Education Law, the following additional tax levy also be established:

For the School District Library as requested by the Library Trustees \$9,130,350"

8.03.5 "RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 8 of the Suffolk County Tax Act and based upon the assessed valuation which has been certified to the District by the Town Assessor, the following computed tax rate per \$100 of assessed valuations be adopted and order certified to the Supervisor of the Town, together with the dollar amounts to be raised by the President of the Board:

	<u>Amount to be levied</u>	<u>Estimated Tax Rate/\$100AV</u>
For Regular School Purposes	\$133,273,939	\$164.32
For School District Public Library	\$9,130,350	\$11.26"

There was discussion regarding the deadline for setting the tax levy, calculation of the tax levy and calculation of the estimated tax rate.

Several Board Trustees requested that the Board receive the information on setting the tax levy earlier.

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion to approve all items under 8., excluding severed items 8.04 and 8.05 was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to approve items 8.04 and 8.05.

8.04 Approving an agreement between the Northport-east Northport Union Free School District and Classic Coach subject to preparation of a written agreement approved by District Counsel"

Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent of Business, stated that counsel advised that any agreement requiring a signature should be presented before the Board and signed by the President of the Board of Education.

8.05 Approving an agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and John W. Engeman Theater of Northport subject to preparation of a written agreement approved by District Counsel.

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion to approve items 8.04 and 8.05 was unanimously carried.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9.01 Discussion of attendance at Annual Business Meeting of the New York State School Boards Association and positions on the 2012 Proposed Resolutions.

President Waldenburg stated that if a Trustee plans on attending the NYSSBA Convention in Rochester, NY, the Board must state its position on the 2012 Proposed Resolutions for the Trustee to vote upon.

Trustee McCue stated that she attended last year's conference and learned invaluable information. Mrs. McCue stated that next year the Board should plan earlier on.

Vice President Thompson stated that Board Trustees can also attend the Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association Resolutions Dinner which is held at the beginning of October.

10. ADJOURNMENT

President Waldenburg reviewed the upcoming meetings of November 5th and November 19th.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Trustee Sabia, seconded by Trustee Topel, to adjourn the Special Business Meeting.

Unanimously carried.

At 11:25 p.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

bmh