

NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560
www.northsalemsschools.org
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2010

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the North Salem Central School District was called to order at 6:37 PM in the Board Conference Room by Board President Katherine Daniels.

At 6:37 PM, a motion was made by Paul Giamundo, seconded by Katherine Daniels and carried (5-0), to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing specific personnel, negotiations and litigation. Ms. Daniels was appointed Clerk Pro-Tem for this Executive Session.

At 7:35 PM, on a motion made by Paul Giamundo, seconded by Paul Smadbeck and carried (5-0), the Board adjourned the Executive Session and reconvened to the Public Session.

Board Members Present at this Meeting:

Ms. Katherine Daniels, President
Mr. Paul Giamundo, Trustee
Mr. Paul Smadbeck, Trustee
Mr. Andrew Brown, Trustee
Ms. Deborah D'Agostino, Trustee

Board Members Absent

Ms. Judith Schurmacher, Vice-President
Mr. Jonathan Freeman, Trustee

Also Present:

Dr. Kenneth Freeston, Superintendent
Dr. Michael Hibbard, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Human Resources
Ms. Barbara Briganti, Director of Business Administration
Mr. Gary Green, Director of Facilities, Operations, Maintenance and Transportation
Ms. Mary Rhuda, District Clerk
Members of the Public & Faculty

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM Katherine Daniels followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Student Board Representative Reports

Student Representatives, Nicholas Brown and Linda DosSantos each reported on past and upcoming events at both Pequenakonck and the Middle/High School.

Announcements

Ms. Daniels congratulated the Drama Club for their presentation of "Gumshoe High" and invites everyone to attend the groups next performance, "The Coffee House Cabaret" on December 3rd at

7:30 pm. Ms. Daniels also encourages everyone to come to both instrumental and vocal concerts at both PQ and the MS/HS.

Presentation

Mr. Robert Herlihy, of the Audit Committee gave an overview of topics that the Committee has been working on at the last two meetings, one in August and one in November. They have reviewed the internal controls related to fixed assets, review of the 2009 Management letter and the Districts responses to the Management letter. The Audit Committee recommends that the Board renew contracts with Accume Partners to provide internal auditing services and O'Connor, Munns & Dobbins to provide external auditing services. The next steps of the Audit Committee will be to review payroll controls in the first quarter of 2011, begin internal audit of Government Aid & Grants, and prepare 2011 committee agenda.

Public Comment

None.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Freeston attended an assembly for the MS/HS by speaker Marc Elliott. Mr. Elliott has Tourette's syndrome and his presentation was about tolerance and acceptance of others who may be different. After the presentation, Mr. Elliott remained on campus the rest of the day to speak with the students and staff. This talk is very fitting to coincide with our concerns about bullying and tolerance.

Dr. Cyganovich thanked Barbara Paesano and Sue Quigley for arranging this visit. And thanked the PTO and the Halloran Fund for sponsoring Mr. Elliott's visit.

The District was informed this week that the New York City DEP Project will be constructed near the entrance of Tompkins Field. In 1997 work began on an agreement with New York State, New York City and the Department of Environmental Protection to build this plant, it is now going to happen. The construction, which may begin in this summer, will have no cost to the District. The needs of the District; parking, staging areas, traffic flow, etc. will be included in the bid specs. More information will be shared as it is received.

2010-2011 Budget Development Process – Dr. Freeston and Barbara Briganti

This is the time of year where typically the Administrators would ask the Board what direction they would like them to take during the budget process, like adding new programs. With expenses up and revenues down, there is not much room for such action.

Ms. Daniels feels we may have to plan for the worse. Ms. D'Agostino believes we have to think conservatively, and this will not be the year for expansion.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that considering the way the retirement system is run, the difficulties the stock market had in 2008 will now be affecting our budget process. Ms. Briganti stated that the ERS and TRS figures have doubled.

Mr. Giamundo stated that reality dictates, and we have to look at places that we have not looked at before. It's very upsetting that some unpleasant decisions will have to be made.

Mr. Brown likened the budget to a pie, and that the pieces will all be there, but in different sizes.

In January, Dr. Freeston will present the Board with a rough look at figures of known amounts for the budget, which would included; pensions, bargaining unit increases and known state mandates.

Board Reports

Ms. Daniels attended the November meeting of the Westchester Putnam School Board Association Legislative Action Committee. The Legislature priorities for 2010/2011 will be focused on a handful of issues:

- Shaping tax cap legislation
- Repeal of Triboro Amendment
- Pension Reform
- Tenure Reform
- Predictability of State Aid

The Wellness Committee met with the new Whitsons on-site manager as well as discussed updates to the Wellness Page on the district website.

The PPS Committee compiled a 4th & 5th Grade Co-Teaching Survey for the students to complete.

Presentation

Dr. Hibbard presented a report on Spring 2010 Student Performance; Grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. He explained the New York State new performance levels, and the recent, sudden changes that have occurred. These changes result in more students scoring at levels 1 and 2 on the 2010 tests. Because of these changes, it is very difficult to compare the District's performance in 2010 to previous years. What we can do, is compare our performance to our benchmark districts performance. Once these comparisons have been done, Dr. Hibbard is and will be meeting with the schools that have performed well, and brainstorm to help North Salem attain higher scores. Dr. Hibbard showed and explained how each cohort – the year a group of students entered, or will enter the 9th grade, performed on tests given.

While reviewing the scores, it is determined if certain performance indicators (93 of them) are considered to be a "bump in the road" for our students. If it is considered to be a bump in the road, teachers will have a chance to adjust curriculum, instruction, materials and formative assessment to improve student performance.

Dr. Hubbard's presentation can be viewed on the District Website, or by clicking on the following: http://northsalem schools.org/Assets/1011_BUDGET/Student_Performance_12.2010.pdf

Acceptance of Minutes

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, and seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board accepted the minutes for the following meetings: November 17, 2010.

Action Items

Budget Transfers

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following transfer:

To: 2010-130-00-0000 Grades 7-12 Teacher Salaries	\$ 8,798
From: 2010-142-10-0000 Lane changes	\$ 8,798

BOCES Trustee Election

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the casting of one ballot for one of the two candidates, Ms. Tina Mackay or Ms. Alice Joselow, as trustee in the election to the Board of Cooperative Education Services. The term will run from November 30, 2010 through June 30, 2013.

BOCES Authorization

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, the North Salem Board of Education, in the event of a second tie vote in the election to fill a BOCES Board vacancy, authorizes BOCES to draw lots to select a winner from the two candidates.

Donation – Nicoletti Family on Behalf of Mr. Sheridan

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the acceptance of \$400 to be applied to the Erik V. Nicoletti Scholarship Fund.

Donation – Drawec Family

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the acceptance of \$25 to be applied to the Erik V. Nicoletti Scholarship Fund.

Brewster Ice Arena

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approve the 2010-2011 contract rental agreement with the Brewster Ice Arena for facility use for the winter 2010-2011 Modified and Varsity Ice Hockey Teams in the amount not to exceed \$15,000 and authorize the Superintendent to execute such agreement.

Tax Refund

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools authorize the Director of Business to process the tax refund for APC Group, LLC and Robert Armentano, for 2 and 4 Hardscrabble Road, North Salem in the amount of \$8,846.97, in compliance with Consent Judgment and Demand for Refund of Taxes.

Internal & External Auditing Services

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approve the appointment of O'Connor, Davies, Munns & Dobbins to provide external auditing services for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approve the appointment of Accume Partners to provide internal auditing services for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Acceptance of CSE and CPSE dated December 1, 2010

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the acceptance of CSE and CPSE Reports dated December 1, 2010

Consent Agenda

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

Certified

Mr. Ignatius Alexander

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. Ignatius Alexander as a Substitute Teacher, Grades 6 - 12, for the 2010-2011 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days; \$95 thereafter.

Ms. Megan Vaccaro

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Megan Vaccaro as a Special Education Leave Replacement Teacher from on or about December 6, 2010 to on or about April 4, 2011. Ms. Vaccaro will be placed on BA Step 1 (prorated) as per NSTA contract. Ms. Vaccaro is certified in Students with Disabilities (Grade 1-6) which permits her to teach in the state of New York. Ms. Vaccaro will be replacing Ms. Patrice Farney.

Mr. John Urgola

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. John Urgola as a Substitute Teacher, Grades 6 - 12, for the 2010-2011 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days; \$95 thereafter.

Ms. Leigh Anna Aquiliano

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Ms. Leigh Anna Aquiliano as a Student Teacher., Special Education, Grades 6-9, effective November 22, 2010 thru December 23, 2010.

Mr. Brian Richards

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. Brian Richards as a Substitute Teacher, Grades 6 - 12, for the 2010-2011 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days; \$95 thereafter.

Stipends

Ms. Susan Reilly

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Susan Reilly to fill the stipend position of Varsity Boys Ski Coach for the 2010-2011 school year per contracted rate.

Old Business

None.

New Business

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon recommendation of the Audit Committee approve the Corrective Action Plan for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2010.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Paul Smadbeck, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary R. Rhuda

Mary Rhuda
District Clerk