

NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560
www.northsalem.k12.ny.us

BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2006

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the North Salem Central School District was held on Wednesday, March 1, 2006 in the middle school cafeteria. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Board President Carla Palma.

Board members present at this time:

Carla Palma, President
Alison Hublard-Hershman, Vice President
Marie Martell, Trustee
Paul Giamundo, Trustee
Norma Hart, Trustee
Lisa Douglas, Trustee

Board members absent at this time:

John O'Meara, Trustee

Also present:

Peter R. Litchka, Superintendent
Sylvia Fassler-Wallach, Director of Finance
MaryJo Hauser, Assistant Superintendent, Pupil Personnel Services
Michael Courtney, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Personnel

Executive Session:

At 8:05 p.m. a motion was made by Norma Hart, seconded by Alison Hublard-Hershman, and carried to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene to Public Session in the middle school cafeteria.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

After the Pledge, Ms. Palma welcomed all present.

ACTION PERTAINING TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

None at this time.

COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None at this time.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Carla Palma

- Reminder – Legislative Breakfast on Friday, 3/2 @ 7:30 a.m.

- Negotiations meeting 4/24 in Albany.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Marie Martell –

- Board of Education Curriculum Committee met on February 27 at PQ to discuss full-day kindergarten and first grade articulation. Committee feels North Salem is in good position to implement full-day kindergarten because we have staff and resources available. Cost to the district to implement full-day kindergarten in September, 2006 is \$59,000.
- Foundation for Learning – met on February 28th to further plan the Foundation’s 10th birthday celebration being held on April 28th at the Salem Golf Club. There will be a silent auction and raffle. Information on the Foundation for Learning and what it provides for students is available.
- The Foundation would like to thank Jennifer Wilson for putting a link on the North Salem website.
- Middle and high school students have the opportunity to win an IPOD by answering questions about the Foundation on the website. Hopefully this will allow students to familiarize themselves with the work of the Foundation.

Carla Palma

- The Long Term Strategic Planning Committee met on February 28th. The committee took its first look at the mission statement and goals of the committee for the areas of Transportation, Facilities, and Buildings and Grounds. The next meeting is scheduled for March 7th.
- Jennifer Wilson was sworn in as District Clerk this morning.

Paul Giamundo

- The Facilities Committee is meeting next Tuesday, March 7th, in the morning. It is hoped that people unable to attend evening meetings will be able to attend a morning meeting.
- Ken Waldron has dugout plans and is ready to submit them to the SED for approval that will allow this project to get underway.
- Clarification – Booster Club donated scoreboards at the high school; Little League also contributed to improvements at the PQ fields.
- Communications Committee – Had an agreement with SUSCOM to air our Board meetings on cable so residents in Putnam County section of the District can view them. They (SUSCOM) aired one meeting and pulled the plug. There is a meeting planned with SUSCOM and the Supervisor of Southeast to try to get the meetings back on cable.

Upcoming committee meetings:

- Finance – March 10th @ 8:30 a.m.

- Policy Committee – March 14th @ 7 p.m.
- Audit Committee – March 15th @ 8:30 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Peter Litchka

- Update on snow days – PQ and the MS/HS have used 12/9, 1/3, 1/19, 1/23 as snow days. In addition, the MS/HS has used 1/17. As of now, the MS/HS has used 5 days, PQ has used 4.
- Coils for heaters – Ken Waldron will advise, but the coils are in and have been installed. (Ken was inaudible on tape).

PRESENTATIONS

BUDGET OVERVIEW:

Ms. Carla Palma gave a brief overview of the timeline in place for the budget review process. The dates and times of the budget meetings are posted on the North Salem website.

BUDGET PRESENTATION – CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

- Overview and PowerPoint presentation showing breakdown of line items for all codes in this budget area.
- The proposed budget is \$35,522,400.00 for the 2006-2007 school year. It represents about an 8.5% budget-to-budget increase.
- For the BOE – an increase from \$36,200 to \$55,270 represents approximately \$10,000 for Superintendent search, and approximately \$8,000 for Board of Ed members to attend a 3-day conference. District Clerk line shows a .14% increase.
- Approximately a 1.14% increase for Central Admin, Superintendent, BOE. etc.

Finance – Ms. Sylvia Fassler-Wallach

- PowerPoint presentation and highlights – state mandated internal auditor - \$25,000; District Treasurer’s salary separated out from clerical salaries code.
- Insurance premiums – increased.
- No significant change in staffing.
- Overall a 6.94% budget-to-budget increase.

Facilities/Transportation

Ken Waldron

- Most significant increase - \$37,000 for equipment, specifically generators and emergency lighting. Need for this made clear during January’s storm.
- Hired an outside source (company) to help with our water/lab analysis. Very technical and we don’t have employees qualified to perform the necessary analyses.
- Bus replacement plan – on schedule pretty much – full day kindergarten should have an impact on busses.

- Strongly suggest we start a reserve fund for emergency repairs. Begin to set aside funds so when we have emergencies like we did in January, we have money set aside that is easily available.
- Overall, an 11.6% budget-to-budget increase.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Consent Agenda – Consent Agenda needs to be revised to indicate change in appointment of modified girls lacrosse coach to JV girls lacrosse coach. Motion was then made by Alison Hublard-Hershman, seconded by Norma Hart, and carried to approve the newly amended Consent Agenda.

Also, a thank you to the Martell Family for their donation.

- B. Acceptance of Treasurers Report and the Extra Classroom Report of December, 2005 and January, 2006.
Motion was made by Alison Hublard-Hershman, seconded by Norma Hart, and carried to accept the Treasurers Report and the Extra Classroom Report of December, 2005 and January, 2006.
- C. Re-Adoption of the Revised District SAVE Plan
Motion was made by Alison Hublard-Hershman, seconded by Norma Hart, and carried to accept the Re-Adoption of the Revised District SAVE Plan.

APPOINTMENTS – INSTRUCTIONAL

Patrice Milillo, appointed long-term leave replacement for Lenora Bettcher, second grade teacher, Step 1, Lane D, effective January 24, 2006 through February 28, 2006.
Debbie Hendrie, substitute teacher, K-5 substitute list, effective March 2, 2006.

APPOINTMENTS – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Maria Bruen, Continuing Education Advisor, per Stipend Schedule (#203)

APPOINTMENTS – NON-CONTRACTED PERSONNEL

Lauren Svendsen-Gardner, coach, JV softball, (girls), per Stipend Schedule
Jennifer Pihota, coach, JV lacrosse (girls), per Stipend Schedule

Corrections – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Jayne Lamana was appointed on Step 1 in error on February 1, 2006 Consent Agenda. Correct step is Step 3 (#197)

Diane Aber was appointed as a full time teacher's aide, leave replacement for Andrea Costello, effective October 28, 2005 through June 30, 2006 on January 4, 2006 Consent Agenda. Correct effective date is January 10, 2006 through June 30, 2006 (#196)

ACCEPTANCE OF GIFT:

Acceptance of donation from the Martell Family

Please accept the following donation for the North Salem Middle/High School Library:
2 CD audio of Hoot, by Carl Hiaasen

COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA

Community member –asked what the stipend pay for modified girls lacrosse coach.

OLD BUSINESS

Paul Giamundo – asked for an update on encumbered monies – discussion was tabled for Executive Session.

NEW BUSINESS

Board member Lisa Douglas asked about letter that was sent home with PQ students about Fifth Disease. Dr. Litchka was unaware of the letter. Ms. Douglas provided him with a copy. Apparently it was addressed to PQ staff but ended up in students' backpacks. Dr. Litchka will look into it.

Consideration of Executive Session

At 11:25 p.m, a motion was made by Carla Palma, seconded by Norma Hart, and carried to enter into Executive Session. Executive session adjourned at 11:55 p.m.

Jgl
5.06.06