

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2006

I. Call to Order

- A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the North Salem Central School District was called to order at 6:30 pm in the Board Conference Room by President Marie Martell.

Board Members Present at this Meeting

Mrs. Marie Martell, President
Mr. Paul Giamundo, Trustee
Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman, Trustee
Ms. Carla Palma, Trustee
Ms. Judith Schurmacher, Trustee

Absent

Ms. Lisa Douglas, Vice President

II. Motion to Enter Executive Session

- At 6:32 pm on a motion by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried, the Board moved to an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing specific personnel.
- At 6:55 pm Dr. Bruce Dennis and Mrs. Deborah Raizes joined the Board of Education.

III. Motion to Adjourn Executive Session and Reconvene to Public Session

- At 7:26 pm on a motion by Carla Palma, seconded by Judy Schumacher and carried, the Board adjourned the Executive Session and reconvened to the Public Session.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

- After the Pledge, Mrs. Martell welcomed everyone and introduced Bob Celente, Interim School Business Official. Mrs. Martell reminded everyone of the protocol for addressing the Board of Education and read the policy.

V. Presentation – Superintendent Search Process

- A. **Superintendent Search Consultants** - Mrs. Martell introduced the HYA Superintendent search consultants, Mrs. Deborah Raizes and Dr. Bruce Dennis, who presented the community and staff recommendations for the required qualifications and skills of the next superintendent and again, reviewed the details of the superintendent search process. They presented the leadership profile and report. (Attached to minutes).
- B. Dr. Dennis and Mrs. Raizes met with 76 people in total. A member of the audience asked for the distribution of responses. Mrs. Raizes answered that they received responses from: 4 administrators; 12 faculty; 5 board members; 4 support staff; 7 students; and 14 parents/community. That is just the forms returned, not the number of people they saw.

Review of dates with HYA:

- Meet with Board Wednesday, January 10, 2007, presenting slate of candidates – Executive Session.
- January 13, 14, 2007 (Saturday and Sunday) to interview a slate of six to eight candidates.
- Board – January 23, 24, 25, 2007 – meet with one finalist per night. The candidates will also meet with a group of representative constituents.
- January 26, 2007 – HYA to meet with the Board of Education at the Board Meeting to assist the Board in its final selection.
- March 1, 2007 – contract finalized and superintendent announced.

The Board of Education expressed confidence that including constituent feedback would be beneficial in the Board’s deliberations and help the new Superintendent begin his tenure with the support and confidence of the community and staff.

Members of the audience applauded the Board of Education’s inclusive plan as a positive step in building trust and confidence in the new Superintendent and Board of Education.

The Board of Education accepted the summary of qualifications for the next superintendent by consensus.

The Board of Education decided to include constituent representation in the interviews of the final three candidates. A Building Principal, Assistant Superintendent, PTO President, the Teacher Union President and CSEA President will interview the candidates the same nights as the Board of Education. HYA will have each interviewer sign a confidentiality statement and advise them in selecting questions. The Board of Education will receive feedback from the committee as to strengths and weaknesses of each candidate. The committee will not rank candidates.

VI. Announcements

- A. Dr. Freund to announced, with pride, the 2006 NCLB-Blue Ribbon School Award for the High School/Middle School. On November 1, 2006, a representative from the United States Department of Education is coming to present the school award.
- B. Mrs. Martell announced the Homecoming on Friday and Saturday and added a special “thank you” to the PTO and also to the Booster Club for their planning of the weekend.
- C. Upcoming meetings were announced.
 - October 24, 2006 – Facilities Committee.
 - October 25, 2006 - Strategic Planning Committee.
 - November 1, 2006 – Pupil Personnel Committee.
 - November 2, 2006 – Curriculum Council.
 - November 2, 2006 - Audit Committee.
 - November 3, 2006 – Fiscal Planning Committee.

VII. Student Reports

- Chris Dos Santos - Chris reported on upcoming student events, highlighting Homecoming.

VIII. Public Comment:

- A parent requested that his 8th grade son be allowed to compete as an independent varsity wrestler with John Jay High School.

IX. Correspondence

- Mrs. Martell noted two items.

X. Action Items

- A. **Roof Replacement** - Approval of contract with Kaeyer, Garment & Davidson (KG&D) as the architects for the anticipated roof replacement project. Motion by Carla Palma, second by Alison Hublard Hershman. Vote 5-0.
- B. **Roof Referendum** - Establishing a public referendum to discuss the roof referendum on Tuesday November 21, 2006 at 7:00 pm. Motion by Carla Palma, second by Alison Hublard Hershman. Vote: 5-0.

XI. Action Items (cont'd)

- C. **Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade (Engineering Contract)** - Approval of engineering contract for a waste water treatment plant. Motion by Carla Palma, second by Alison Hublard Hershman. Vote: 5-0. Dr. Freund commented that there is no cost to the district for the upgrade - NYC paying for this improvement. Dr. Freund also stated that it would be constructed in the next three to five years.

D. Policy Review

1. The Board had a second reading of the Purchasing Policy #6700 and Regulation Policy #6700R.

Mr. Giamundo stated that the Facilities Committee met this morning and came up with a proposed fee for not-for-profit organizations in town. It will be on the next Board agenda and in our packets this Friday.

2. The Board approved the Student Code of Conduct Policy #5300 - motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Judy Schurmacher. Vote: 5-0.

- E. **Modified Wrestling** – Resolution was tabled because it was not clear if wrestling is an individual or team sport. Motion to table the resolution was made by Paul Giamundo, second by Judy Schurmacher. Vote: 5-0.

Dr. Freund recommended approval of modified wrestling but not the parents' request that their son be allowed to compete as an independent varsity wrestler because it is contrary to the Athletic Policy. The parent expressed concern that his son could do emotional and physical damage to modified wrestlers whose skills are far less than their son's. Katonah-Lewisboro does not permit selection/classification of 7th and 8th graders. Dr. Freund read the pros and cons prepared by Henry Sassone, Athletic Director. The Board of Education will continue its discussion on November 1, 2006. Dr. Freund added the comment that approval of an independent modified program should not be construed as a future commitment to a varsity program.

- F. **Consent Agenda** - Motion made by Carla Palma, second by Alison Hublard Hershman. Mrs. Martell would like to thank the anonymous donor for the generous donations. Vote: 5-0.

XII. Old Business

- A. The Board of Education agreed to hold an election on December 5, 2006, at the same time as the roof referendum, to fill the vacant seat on the Board. The District Clerk has received three petitions and one letter of intent. Mrs. Martell introduced Gary Windus, Jon Freeman and Karen Aronian who were in attendance at the Board meeting. The League of Women Voters will be asked to hold a debate among the candidates.

XII. Old Business (cont'd)

- B. Mr. Giamundo and Dr. Freund thanked Ken Waldron for getting the cost of delivering donations from \$4,800.00 to zero dollars. “When people do things like this, the Board of Education should recognize individuals and the public should know,” stated Mr. Giamundo. He also thanked Mr. Waldron for saving the District considerable money by purchasing storage containers rather than constructing a shed at the Bus Facility.

XIII. Motion to Enter Second Executive Session

- At 10:30 pm, on a motion by Carla Palma, seconded by Alison Hublard Hershman and carried, the Board of Education moved to a second Executive Session for the purpose of discussing specific personnel and litigation.

XIV. Motion to Adjourn Second Executive Session

- The Board of Education came out of the Executive Session at 10:53 pm.

XV. Addenda to the Consent Agenda

- The Board of Education acted to approve the addenda to the Consent Agenda. Motion by Carla Palma, seconded by Alison Hublard Hershman and carried. Vote: 4-1. Paul Giamundo was the dissenting vote.

XIV. Motion to Adjourn Public Session

- At 10:55 pm, on a motion by Carla Palma, seconded by Judy Schurmacher and carried, the meeting was adjourned.