

**NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560**  
[www.northsalem.k12.ny.us](http://www.northsalem.k12.ny.us)

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2007**

**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 p.m. in the Board Conference Room by President Marie Martell.

**Board Members Present at this Meeting**

Mrs. Marie Martell, President

Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman, Vice President (Arrived at 6:45 p.m.)

Ms. Katherine Daniels, Trustee

Mr. Paul Giamundo, Trustee

Ms. Carla Palma, Trustee (Arrived at 7:10 p.m.)

Ms. Judith Schurmacher, Trustee

Mr. Paul Smadbeck, Trustee

**Also Present:** Dr. Sidney Freund

**II. Motion to Enter Executive Session**

- At 6:31 p.m., on a motion by Judith Schurmacher, second by Paul Smadbeck and carried, the Board moved to an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing specific personnel and litigation.

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

- At 7:30 p.m., on a motion by Judith Schurmacher, second by Katherine Daniels and carried, the Board adjourned the Executive Session and reconvened to the Public Session.

**IV. Pledge of Allegiance**

**V. Announcements**

- Marie Martell wished everyone a Happy New Year and commented on the great concerts the schools performed prior to the holidays.
- Marie Martell introduced and welcomed Ms. Louise Lynch to the school district as the new Director of Business Administration. She also welcomed Carol Pawlinski as the new District Clerk, officially sworn in on January 2, 2007.

- Marie Martell congratulated the many scholar athletes who were present to receive awards. Henry Sassone, Athletic Director, explained that the NYSPHSSA Scholar/Athlete Team Award is given to those varsity teams whose designated number of participants have a minimum composite average of 90.0%. Pins and certificates were presented to student athletes from the following teams: varsity boys soccer, varsity boys cross country, varsity swim, varsity girls tennis, and varsity girls soccer. Mr. Sassone congratulated the and student athletes for their performance which balances excellence in sports and academics. Dr. Freund thanked Henry Sassone for his hard work as Athletic Director.

Henry Sassone also stated that Bob Martin, varsity girls soccer coach, on being named Coach of the Year.

## **VI. Committee Reports**

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- Athletic Committee – January 4, 2007, 7:30 a.m
  - Facilities Meeting – January 4, 2007, at 6:30 p.m.
  - Educational Technology – January 4, 2007
  - Fiscal Planning Committee – Friday, January 5, 2007, 8:30 a.m.
  - Town Task Force – March 1, 2007, Town Hall
  - Audit Committee – January 9, 2007.
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- Paul Giamundo reported that the dugout construction is nearly complete.
  - Paul Giamundo reported that the Facilities Committee is hard at work on its five-year plan.
  - Paul Giamundo stated that getting onto Suscom is still a work in progress.
  - Paul Giamundo stated that the senior holiday party at LeChateau was a tremendous success. The North Salem Madrigal Choir performed to the delight of the seniors. Mrs. Ann Foster did a wonderful job preparing the 11 students who performed.

## **VII. Budget Status Report**

Dr. Freund presented the Budget Status Report. He further explained that nearly \$2,000,000 would be left in salaries and benefits, because several staff retirements occurred after the budget had been approved. In addition, lane change monies were over budgeted, and the salary for at least one position had been budgeted for twice. Dr. Freund stated that the Fiscal Planning Committee will discuss strategies on how to handle this year's Fund Balance at the upcoming meeting of Friday, January 5, 2007, and that options will be discussed at a future Board meeting.

Paul Smadbeck requested a copy of the uniform system of accounts.

## **VIII. Public Comments**

None.

**IX. Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma. The Board of Education approved the minutes of the September 13, 2006, September 20, 2006, December 5, 2006, December 6, 2006, and December 20, 2006 minutes. Vote: 7-0.

**X. Action Items**

**A. Expense Reimbursement Policy-#6830 Final Reading and Adoption** Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla. Discussion regarding this being a revision of an existing policy. Dr. Freund stated he would be presenting this revision at the faculty meetings of both Pequenakonck Elementary School and the Middle School/High School on Monday, January 8, 2007. He further explained that an updated Policy Manual had been sent to NYSSBA for review and that once new/revised policies are adopted and noted as such, they will be sent to NYSSBA for the website. Vote: 7-0.

**B. New Board Member Orientation Policy-#2510 Final Reading and Adoption** Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma. No discussion. Vote: 7-0.

**C. Gift Acceptance** Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma. Marie Martell thanked Rocco Staino and the PTA for the generous gifts to the library. She also thanked Mr. Keith for the exercise machine for the weight room. Vote: 7-0.

**D. Budget Transfers** Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma. No discussion. Vote: 7-0.

**E. Approval of the Hudson Valley Consulting Agreement** Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma. Paul Giamundo stated that he thought it would be a good idea to sent out an RFP in the future and that, though he knew the agreement could be canceled with a 60-day notice, he wondered when RFP's would go out in the future. Dr. Freund explained that he had full intention of doing so by the end of the school year and also recommending this for next year. Paul Giamundo inquired if the Facilities Committee should review these and make recommendations. Dr. Freund answered that this was an administrative function. He stated that committees should be aware of what maintenance

contracts the District has executed and that these will be located in a central file in the District office. Dr. Freund also stated that all new contracts are automatically sent to our school attorney for review before bringing before the Board. Marie Martell stated that she was comfortable with the resolution prepared by Attorney Jeff Kehl and the 60-day cancellation notice but she was not comfortable with a three-year contract. Dr. Freund explained that this Board cannot bind another Board on an expenditure; that they can only commit for the school year they are serving. Vote: 7-0.

**F. Roof Replacement** Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma. No discussion. Vote: 7-0.

**G. Consent Agenda**

Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma.

**Substitute Clerical Rate:** The Board of Education passed this resolution. Dr. Freund clarified that this is only applied to Teacher Aides, while working in the capacity of a clerical substitute.

Dr. Freund congratulated Jennifer Pihota, second grade teacher at Pequenenack Elementary, on her tenure. Vote: 7-0.

**XI. Public Comments**

No public comments.

**XII. Old Business**

**A. Follow-up List**

- The school attorney is helping with the energy performance contract.
- Project SAVE – the District is updating this information and will appear on the next agenda.
- Finance training location is not local.
- Payroll outsourcing survey was received today (01/03/07). No district in Westchester County outsources; all work is done in-house.
- Paul Giamundo inquired about the Fixed Assets Survey Inventory. Louise Lynch stated that this is on target to begin by mid-January. Carla Palma expressed her concern that the Board had not yet met with the superintendent to review the principal goals for 2006-2007. Dr. Freund explained that the principals' goals had been set in September and that, since he had been here for such a short period of time, he did not provide a lot of input in their goal setting. However, their goals were consistent with the goals for the District that were established by the Board.

**XIII. Future Agenda Items and Meetings**

None.

**XIV. New Business**

- A.** Paul Giamundo stated that last year at this time, the Board was provided with an overtime expenditure which showed a 36% decrease from the prior year.

He asked for an update on overtime status to date to make the comparison with the prior two years. Dr. Freund will provide this.

- B.** Alison Hublard Hershman dated that the Middle School band concert will be held on January 11, 2007, and that the musical, "Grease," will be performed on February 8, 9, & 10, 2007 (Friday night, Saturday night, and Sunday matinee).

- C. Carla Palma inquired about the process for monitoring student performance mid-quarter, specifically in the middle school and high school. Dr. Freund stated that he would get a written response from Dr. Cyganovich. Carla Palma also questioned procedures for monitoring vacation use by non-instructional employees, specifically, how do we ensure adequate coverage throughout the year.

**X. Executive Session**

No further Executive Session.

**XI. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 8:39 p.m. by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Katherine Daniels.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Pawlinski  
District Clerk