

**NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560**  
[www.northsalemschools.org](http://www.northsalemschools.org)

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 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  
Ms. Katherine Daniels, Trustee  
Mr. Paul Giamundo, Trustee  
Ms. Carla Palma, Trustee  
Ms. Judith Schurmacher, Trustee  
Mr. Paul Smadbeck, Trustee

**Also Present:** Dr. Pat Cyganovich  
Dr. Sidney Freund  
Mary Jo Hauser  
Louise Lynch  
Roberta Reiner  
Ken Waldron  
John White  
Jen Wilson

**II. Motion to Enter Executive Session**

- At 6:32 p.m., on a motion by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Katherine Daniels and carried, the Board moved to an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing specific personnel and negotiations.

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

- At 7:00 p.m., on a motion by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Katherine Daniels and carried, the Board adjourned the Executive Session and reconvened to the Public Session.

#### **IV. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **V. Resignation**

- Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma, the Board of Education accepted the resignation of Carol Pawlinski as District Clerk effective March 22, 2007. Vote: 7-0.

#### **VI. Appointment**

- Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma, the Board of Education appointed Jennifer Wilson as District Clerk effective March 22, 2007 until June 30, 2007 at a stipend of \$3,000. Vote: 7-0.

#### **VII. Public Comments**

- A parent spoke in support of adding a music position to the 2007-08 budget.

#### **VIII. Reports**

- Jennifer Wilson, Director of Technology, reviewed the rigorous process undertaken to select a new Student Management System. eSchool Data has been selected. She also explained the implementation time line. A company representative demonstrated the software's capabilities. Carla Palma asked several questions regarding support and security. Katherine Daniels asked several questions about data portability, backup and service level commitments. Dr. Freund stated that BOCES was reviewing the cost proposal and it may be advantageous to contract with BOCES, factoring in State Aid, rather than directly with the vendor. Dr. Freund recommended tabling the budget transfer until we decide with whom to contract for the Student Management System.

#### **IX. Action Items**

- A. Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma, the Board of Education tabled the budget transfer of \$75,206.00 from A2250-150-90-0000 (Teaching-Special Education) to A2810-400-32-0000 (Guidance-Contractual-Other). Vote: 7-0.
- B. Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Judith Schurmacher, the Board of Education hereby approves the transfer of \$14,800.00 from A2020-163-11-0000 (Supervision-Clerical Salaries-PQ) to A2020-406-11-0000 (Supervision-Contractual-PQ). Vote: 7-0.
- C. Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma, the Board of Education hereby approves the transfer of \$\$67,190.00 from A2110-130-00-0000 (Teaching Regular Day School - 7-12 Salaries) to A1621-429-03-1000 (Maintenance of Plant-Grounds/Field Maintenance). Vote: 7-0.

- D. Motion by Alison Hublard Hershman, second by Carla Palma, the Board of Education hereby awards the bid for resurfacing of the PQ playground area and the MS/HS track to Copeland Coating Company, the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$67,190.00. Vote: 7-0.

## **X. Budget Work Session**

Mrs. Martell reviewed the ground rules for Public Comments and the suggested process from Dr. Freund. Any Board of Education member can add an item to the scorecard. A majority of the Board of Education will decide if an item is in or out of the budget.

Dr. Freund requested to be allowed to make a presentation regarding the health insurance problem discussed at last week's meeting.

Dr. Freund reviewed the District's history with MEBCO. He explained that we are essentially self insured and this is very risky given increasing costs of medical care and especially catastrophic illness. At this time, claims paid exceed annual premiums by approximately \$1,033,854. He explained the attached PowerPoint presentation. Dr. Freund thanked the Fiscal Planning Sub-Committee for its work. The sub-committee and Dr. Freund met with two insurance specialists, Ms. Lynch and Paul Giamundo and discussed the District's options. The recommendations he presented were as a result of this meeting. John White, Fiscal Committee CAC Chairperson, affirmed the committee's support of the recommendation to budget for Stop Loss Insurance. The recommended funding is \$150,000 from the current year budget and \$250,000 from the 2007-08 budget. Allocating \$150,000 in the current year would reduce the appropriated fund balance from 2006-07 to 2007-08, from \$1,650,000 to \$1,500,000.

Mrs. Martell read the following statement into the record.

The athletic policy sub-committee met last Thursday to discuss Modified Wrestling.

While we are not looking to develop our own Wrestling Program but to the extent that it exist right now with John Jay, whereas to the extent that John Jay allows some of our students to play on the Modified Independent Wrestling level, with virtually no cost to our district, our recommendation would be to continue to support the Modified Independent Wrestling Program.

But if John Jay has enough of their students and is turning our students away because we will need to begin our own program, the current Board will need to discuss further at the next budget time whether to continue and support our own Wrestling Program.

With the consideration that we have allowed Modified Independent Wrestling with John Jay, the sub-committee did not feel the need to modify the athletic policy because we are not at this time looking to develop our own program. But rather the Board in the reflection of minutes and this meeting make the above conditions clear as well it will be a matter of record.

Several items were added to the scorecard by the Board of Education. The attached chart summarizes the outcome of the Board's discussions and citizens' comments.

#### **XI. Budget**

- The expected final budget that the Board of Education will adopt on April 11, 2007, totals \$36,941,639. This is a 5.66% over the voter approved budget for 2006-07.

#### **XII. Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn at 11:59 pm by Carla Palma, second by Paul Smadbeck.