

**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 JANUARY 23, 2008**

**Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the North Salem Central School District was called to order at 5:54 PM in the Board Conference Room by President Marie Martell.

At 5:55 PM., a motion was made by Ms. Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Mr. Paul Smadbeck and carried, to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations and specific personnel.

At 7:22 PM, on a motion made by Ms. Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Mr. Paul Smadbeck and carried, the Board adjourned the Executive Session and reconvened to the Public Session.

**Board Members Present at this Meeting:**

Mrs. Marie L. Martell, President  
Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman, Vice-President  
Mr. Paul Giamundo, Trustee  
Ms. Judith Schurmacher, Trustee  
Ms. Katherine Daniels, Trustee  
Mr. Paul Smadbeck, Trustee

**Board Members Absent:**

Mr. Jonathan Freeman, Trustee

**Also Present:** Dr. Kenneth Freeston, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. MaryJo Hauser, Assistant Superintendent Pupil Personnel  
Dr. Michael Hibbard, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Human Resources  
School Counsel Jeff Kehl (Executive Session)  
Ms. Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk  
Members of North Salem School District Staff  
Members of the Public

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:39 PM by Board President Ms. Marie Martell and followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Student Recognition**

Athletic Director, Mr. Henry Sassone recognized the fall 2007 Scholar Athletes who have succeeded in both sports and academics.

**Director of Business Administration's Report**

Ms. Lynch stated that the Governor has released his State Aid revenue figures in the executive budget proposal and that the figures for North Salem are slightly greater than last year by approximately \$60,000 but are less than we anticipated. Ms. Lynch was optimistic that the State's approved budget would allow more in school aid than the Governor's initial proposal.

Ms. Lynch reported on the Aramark Food Service Program stating that are some personnel changes taking place and that all issues being discussed by committees and parents are being looked into. The plan is to add an e-mail address onto the school menus and a link onto the district's website, so that parents can address any concerns by contacting the food service program provider. The intent of this change is to hear concerns timely and directly rather than through third parties. We anticipate that we will be able to respond more timely, also.

Ms. Lynch stated that the SEQRA type II resolution on tonight's agenda is a standard action that is required prior to doing any capital work and that the resolution was looked over by both the district's counsel and the district's bond counsel.

The RFP for the external auditor is moving along and will be publicized very shortly by being put onto the website, a notice in the paper and by spreading the word in the auditing community.

### **Announcements**

None

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Approval of Minutes**

On a motion made by Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman and seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo, the Board of Education voted 6-0 to approve the minutes of December 4, 2007, January 9, 2008 and January 15, 2008.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Freeston stated that the next Facilities Committee meeting has been changed to this Tuesday and will focus on a time schedule that will included: actions by the Board, start up and construction of the projects and the approval steps that are needed to bring to the SED. The Geothermal Report for option 2 will be distributed to the Board this week.

### **Board Reports**

Mr. Paul Giamundo reported on the Wellness Committee meeting stating that it was a very informative meeting during which the committee worked on their mission statement. Mr. Giamundo pointed out that he now realizes that the Wellness Committee charge is not to address concerns with the food service program but to work on policy with respect to wellness.

Mr. Giamundo also reported on the dinner he attended with Ms. Marie Martell, sponsored by the Westchester Putnam School Board Association, the group discussion he attended was about working with elected officials. Mr. Giamundo reiterated how it important it is to read every section of a bill when determining whether or not one supports or does not support it.

Mr. Giamundo and Ms. Judith Schurmacher met with two representative from the North Salem Town Board to work together to build on the concepts and ground rules established last year by the joint task  
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force. Some of the items discussed were: the comprehensive plan, the establishing of a joint task force consortium to meet with the surrounding communities to form a network, legislative updates, the sharing of approved Board meeting minutes and the traffic concerns at the school entrances during busy times.

Ms. Judith Schurmacher reported on the Audit Committee meeting stating that the committee also discussed the Governor's State Aid report, the RFP for the external auditor and stated that the Audit Committee meetings are very productive.

Mr. Alison Hublard Hershman reported on the hard work being completed by all involved in the upcoming musical which will be shown on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> -- tickets will be on sale tomorrow.

Ms. Marie Martell reported on the Safety Committee's meeting with consultant Mr. Daniel DeLorenzi who gave an overview of his Security Assessment Report for the district. The Board met with Mr. DeLorenzi in greater detail in an Executive Session.

Ms. Martell also reported on the Westchester Putnam School Board Association dinner and worked with the group topic, "How to be a Successful School Board Member", ideas such as mentoring new board members, outgoing members working with new members and self-evaluation of the Board at the annual retreat were discussed.

Some upcoming events noted:

- January 28<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Martell will be attending a Select Leadership Forum entitled, Teacher Leaders-Untapped Resources
- January 29<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Martell will attend a forum with members from the Board of Regents and Commissioner Mills
- January 31<sup>st</sup> the Westchester Putnam School Boards Association will be having a meeting on Special Education and What Boards need to know about providing a free and appropriate education.

### **Action Items**

#### **Type II SEQRA Review-Declare District Lead Agency**

On a motion made by Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman and seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo, the Board of Education voted 6-0 that the following resolution be approved:

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education is planning a capital project at the Pequenakonck Elementary School and Middle School/High School;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has reviewed the components and aspects of the proposed project;

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved, that the Board of Education of the North Salem Central School District is hereby designated lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) for the proposed project; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby determines that the proposed capital project is a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5 (c) (1) (2) & (8) of the SEQRA Regulations and will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment.

**Policy # 3490 Use of Cellular Phones**

On a motion made by Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman and seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo, the Board of Education voted 6-0 that the following resolution be approved:

The Board will renumber the previously adopted policy to make it compatible to the State’s policy numbering system.

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the change in numbering of Policy #3940 Use of Cellular Phones to Policy # 8662.

**Adoption of 2007-2008 Education Technology Committee Charges**

On a motion made by Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman and seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo, the Board of Education voted 6-0 that the following resolution be approved:

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the adoption of the 2007-2008 revised Educational Technology Committee Charges.

**Adoption of Text Books**

On a motion made by Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman and seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo, the Board of Education voted 6-0 that the following resolution be approved:

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the adoption of the following textbook, for the 2007-2008 school year:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Into the Wild</i>
<i>Author</i>	<i>Jon Krakauer</i>
<i>Publisher</i>	<i>Random House, Inc.</i>
<i>Copyright Date</i>	<i>1996</i>

**Disposal of Obsolete Equipment-Library**

On a motion made by Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman and seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo, the Board of Education voted 6-0 that the following resolution be approved:

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education declares the attached list of disposable assets from the library as obsolete or disposable.

**Superintendent’s Attendance at the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Oxford Round Table**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education in recognition of the honor Dr. Freeston has received to attend the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Oxford Round Table on Quality School Leaders, approves his attendance from July 20, 2008 to July 25, 2008, at his own expense.

Mr. Paul Giamundo recognized what an honor this is for Dr. Freeston to be invited, as less than twenty people worldwide attend the round table.

**Budget Transfers**

On a motion made by Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman and seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo, the Board of Education voted 6-0 that the following resolution be approved:

**08-015**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer \$2500.00 from A 1310-161-01-0000 Business Administration – Substitute Salaries to A 1320-442-90-1000 Auditing – Internal Audit Fees.

**08-016**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer \$7600.00 from A 9030-830-90-0000 Employee Benefits – FICA to A 2020-163-31-0000 Supervision – Non-instructional.

**Gift Acceptance**

On a motion made by Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman and seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo, the Board of Education voted 6-0 that the following resolution be approved:

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation of books from the PTO Book Fair from the Middle/High School PTO for the library.

**Acceptance of Student Activities Reports for November and December 2007**

On a motion made by Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman and seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo, the Board of Education voted 6-0 that the following resolution be approved:

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the acceptance of the Student Activities Reports for November and December 2007.

**Consent Agenda**

On a motion made by Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman and seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo, the Board of Education voted 6-0 the Board approved the following Consent Agenda:

**Appointments**

**Certified**

**Ms. Georgianna Manzano**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Georgianna Manzano as a substitute teacher, Grades 6 - 12, for the 2007-08 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 per day for the first 10 days and \$95.00 per day thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

**Ms. Allison Southard**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Allison Southard as a substitute teacher, Grades 6 - 12, for the 2007-08 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 per day for the first 10 days and \$95.00 per day thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

**Ms. Diane Stapleton**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Diane Stapleton as a substitute teacher, Grades 6 - 12, for the 2007-08 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 per day for the first 10 days and \$95.00 per day thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

**Mr. Daryl Martini**

*RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. Daryl Martini as a substitute teacher, Grades 6 - 12, for the 2007-08 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 per day for the first 10 days and \$95.00 per day thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.*

**Mr. Kevin Rutledge**

*RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. Kevin Rutledge as a substitute teacher, Grades K-6, for the 2007-08 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 per day for the first 10 days and \$95.00 per day thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.*

**Step and Lane Advancements – Effective February 1, 2008**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Current Degree Status</b>	<b>Current Step</b>	<b>New Lane Requested</b>	<b>New Salary</b>
Mary Sireci	MA-30	17F	MA60-17H	\$108,269.00
Melissa Abramo	MA-60	9H	PhD/EdD/ABD – J9	\$99,377.00
Amy Reynolds	MA	10D	MA30-10F	\$88,782.00

**Stipends – 2007-2008 School Year**

<b>Name of Individual</b>	<b>Stipend Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Jennifer Ryan-Watson	Musical Director	\$3705.00
Barbara Rue	Choreographer	\$3441.00
Ron Marotta	Set Design	\$25.00 per hour, not to exceed \$3200.00

**Discussion Items**

**Policy Review # 4321.6**

The Board conducted the first reading of the Availability of Alternative Format Instructional Materials for Students with Disabilities.

**Old Business**

Mr. Paul Giamundo responded to some of the public comment brought up at the last meeting, with regard to the safety of turf fields, speaking from a facilities committee stand point Mr. Giamundo wanted to assure the public that the committee will work diligently to explore all safety concerns and issues.

Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman asked about some follow-up regarding the search for the music consultant. Dr. Michael Hibbard responded that the district is starting the self study and that the self study will include contacting and reviewing consultants.

**New Business**

Mr. Paul Giamundo commented on a North Salem parent who had recently attended a presentation by Dr. Michael Hibbard, and how satisfied and pleased the parent was with the comprehensive and reassuring presentation Dr. Hibbard provided.

Mr. Paul Giamundo reflected on some concerns he has for the upcoming budget, particularly when an item is approved for the budget with a dollar amount attached to it and a different item is purchased instead. Mr. Giamundo stated he is also concerned that there may be cases where money is approved for an item and the item is not purchased that year.

**Adjournment**

On a motion made by Ms. Alison Hublard Hershman and seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo, the Board of Education voted 6-0 the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk