

NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560
www.northsalemsschools.org
May 21, 2008
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
5:30 PM Executive Session Board Conference Room
7:30 PM Public Session North Salem Middle School Cafeteria

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order - 5:30 PM- Board Conference Room**
- II. Motion to Enter Executive Session** – it is anticipated that the Board will enter executive session to discuss negotiations, personnel matters and legal advice.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Announcements**
 - Annual District Election and Budget-**
 - Budget Vote Results
 - Candidate Vote Results
- V. Student Reports**
- VI. Board Recognition**
 - Valedictorian
 - Salutatorian
 - Recipients of 2008 Scholarship for Academic Excellence Award
 - New York Lottery Scholarship Recipient
 - BOCES Student of Distinction and Induction into BOCES National Honor Society
- VII. Public Hearing**-Partial tax exemptions for qualified members of volunteer fire companies, fire departments and volunteer ambulance services, as provided for in New York State Real Property Tax Law Sections 466-c and 466-d.
 - B. Board Discussion on Tax Exemption**
- VIII. Public Comment**
- IX. Approval of Minutes**
 - April 29, 2008
- X. Superintendent's Report**
- XI. Board Reports**

XII. Committee Reports Year End Wrap up

- Wellness Committee – MaryJo Hauser
- Pupil Personnel Committee – MaryJo Hauser
- Curriculum – Michael Hibbard

XIII. Action Items

A. Partial Tax Exemption for Qualified Members-Volunteer Fire Companies, Fire Departments and Volunteer Ambulance Services

WHEREAS the applicable provisions of Real Property Tax Law §§ 466-c and 466-d authorize school districts to adopt tax exemptions for enrolled and duly certified members (hereinafter “Certified Members”) of a volunteer fire company, fire department and/or incorporated voluntary ambulance service (hereinafter a “Qualifying Organization”) in recognition of the public service rendered by such persons; and

WHEREAS the Board of Education has been requested to adopt such tax exemptions; and

WHEREAS after publication of notice thereof, a public hearing was duly held by the Board of Education on May 21, 2008; and

WHEREAS it appears to the Board of Education that the public interest will be served by adoption of the tax exemptions provided for by Real Property Tax Law §§ 466-c and 466-d; now, therefor, be it

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 466-c, real property in Putnam County (provided its population remains within the range stated in the statute) owned by a Certified Member of a Qualifying Organization (or owned by such Certified Member and his/her spouse) shall, commencing July 1, 2008, be exempt from school taxation, exclusive of special assessments, to the extent of ten percent (10%) of the assessed valuation of such property, but not to exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) multiplied by the latest state equalization rate for the assessing unit in which such real property is located; and be it further

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Real Property Tax Law § 466-d, real property in Westchester County (provided its population remains within the range stated in the statute) owned by a Certified Member of a Qualifying Organization (or owned by such Certified Member and his/her spouse) shall, commencing July 1, 2008, be exempt from school taxation, exclusive of special assessments, to the extent of ten percent (10%) of the assessed valuation of such property; and be it further

RESOLVED that the aforesaid exemptions for both Putnam and Westchester Counties shall be subject to the following requirements (hereinafter referred to as the “minimum Legal Requirements”):

1. That the taxpayer resides in the city, town or village which is served by the Qualifying Organization;
2. That the property is the primary residence of the taxpayer;

3. That the property is used exclusively for residential purposes; *provided, however*, that in the event any portion of the property is not used exclusively for the applicant's residence but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided for herein;
4. The taxpayer has been duly certified to the School District by the Qualifying Organization, as provided for herein, as having served as an enrolled member of the Qualifying Organization for at least five years; and
5. That as provided for by Real Property Tax Law §§ 466-c and 466-d, the taxpayer shall file application for such exemption with the assessor of the town, village or other municipal entity which collects taxes on behalf of the School District, on the form prescribed by law, on or before the taxable status date; and be it further

RESOLVED that the aforesaid exemptions with respect to Westchester County shall be subject to the additional requirement that, for volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers, the area served by the volunteer fire company or volunteer ambulance company does not encompass any area served by a fire company having more than five professional firefighters or an ambulance company having five or more professional ambulance workers, as the case may be; and be it further

RESOLVED that in order for a taxpayer to be approved as a Certified Member, the Qualifying Organization shall, not later than March 1 of each year, furnish appropriately authenticated documentation in form and substance satisfactory to the Superintendent of Schools (which may consist of reports of fire and ambulance responses or other equivalent proof) demonstrating that during the School District's preceding fiscal year and for a total of no fewer than five years, the taxpayer (a) has been an enrolled member in good standing of the Qualifying Organization, (b) has been actively engaged in the activities of the Qualifying Organization in accordance with the standards set forth in Schedules A and B attached to this resolution, and (c) otherwise meets the Minimum Legal Requirements to qualify as a Certified Member; and be it further

RESOLVED that any volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker residing in Westchester County who would otherwise be prevented from continuing to be certified as an active service member by reason of permanent disability due to the exercise of his/her duties as a volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker shall be entitled to the annual certification as a Certified Member during the period of his/her disability; and be it further

RESOLVED that the School District's independent auditors shall be requested to report annually to the Board of Education respecting the number and aggregate financial impact of the exemptions granted pursuant hereto; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution, and the exemptions provided for herein, shall expire on June 30, 2013, and that there shall be no such exemptions in effect for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013, unless affirmatively extended by a further majority vote of this Board of Education.

SCHEDULE A – MEMBERS OF VOLUNTARY AMBULANCE SERVICES

In addition to meeting the Minimum Legal Requirements as set forth in the Board of Education's enabling resolution, the taxpayer must be qualified, in the School District's preceding fiscal year, as an "Active Riding Member" of the incorporated voluntary ambulance service.

SCHEDULE B – MEMBERS OF VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES

In addition to meeting the Minimum Legal Requirements as set forth in the Board of Education's enabling resolution, the taxpayer must be qualified, in the School District's preceding fiscal year, for "Active – Full Benefits" status, but for the purpose of determining such status, not counting points awarded for "miscellaneous activities," committee service, service as a "life member," or service as an officer of the fire company in prior years.

B. Acceptance of Vote – Annual District Election and Budget

C. Math Lab & Director of Technology Office Renovations

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approve the expenditure of 2007-2008 funds for the specific purposes of renovating classroom W-36 to accommodate the new math office and to renovate the existing math office in to a Technology Director office space.

D. Gift Acceptance

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the donation of six benches for the North Salem High School Courtyard from the North Salem High School/Middle School PTO.

E. Gift Acceptance

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the donation of two picnic tables for the North Salem High School from the North Salem High School/Middle School PTO.

F. Disposal of Fixed Assets

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

G. Annual Reorganization Meeting

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby establishes July 2, 2008 as the date for the Annual Reorganization Meeting for 2008-2009.

H. Acceptance of Student Activities Reports for March 2008

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the acceptance of the Student Activities Reports for January 2008.

I. Budget Transfers

08-040

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$2,600.00 from A 2010-404-04-0000 Curriculum, Development & Supervision-Conference/Travel/Dues to A 2010-150-04-2000 Curriculum, Development & Supervision – Instructional Salaries.

08-041

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$2,800.00 from A 2010-404-90-0000 Curriculum, Development & Supervision-Conference/Travel District wide to A 2010-150-04-2000 Curriculum, Development & Supervision – Instructional Salaries.

08-042

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$3560.00 from A 2010-443-04-0000 Curriculum, Development & Supervision-Staff Development (Teacher's Center) to A 2010-150-04-2000 Curriculum, Development & Supervision – Instructional Salaries.

08-043

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$2,000.00 from A 2010-444-11-0000 Curriculum, Development & Supervision-Staff Development PQ to A 2010-150-04-2000 Curriculum, Development & Supervision – Instructional Salaries.

08-044

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$680.00 from A 2010-444-31-0000 Curriculum, Development & Supervision-Staff Development MS/HS to A 2010-150-04-2000 Curriculum, Development & Supervision – Instructional Salaries.

08-045

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$4070.00 from H 1620-293-11-3009 Roof Renovation – General Construction - PQ to H 2110-201-11-3009 Capital Renovation – Construction Management PQ.

08-046

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$964.67 from H 2110-244-11-3009 Capital Renovation - Legal to H 2110-245-11-3009 Capital Renovation – Architect's Fees PQ.

08-047

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$7122.39 from H 1620-293-31-6012 Capital Renovation – General Construction HS to H 2110-245-31-6012 Capital Renovation – Architect's Fees HS.

08-048

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$10,960.00 from H 1620-293-31-6012 Capital Renovation – General Construction HS to H 2110-245-31-3009 Capital Renovation – Construction Renovation-Construction Management HS.

08-049

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$5,000.00 from A 2855-400-31-0000 Athletics – Post Season Expense to A 2855-180-31-0000 Athletics – Chaperones / Scorekeepers.

08-050

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$16,699.00 from A 2110-400-00-0000 Regular Day Instruction-Contractual to A 2110-450-31-2100 Regular Day Instruction-MS/HS Math Supplies.

08-051

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$2,407.00 from A 2110-400-00-0000 Regular Day Instruction-Contractual to A 2110-480-31-1600 Regular Day Instruction-MS/HS World Language Textbooks.

08-052

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$5,046.00 from A 2110-400-31-0100 Regular Day Instruction-Contractual Tutoring to A 2110-480-31-2300 Regular Day Instruction-MS/HS Science Textbooks.

08-053

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$8,247.00 from A 2110-400-31-0100 Regular Day Instruction-Contractual Tutoring to A 2110-480-31-2500 Regular Day Instruction-MS/HS Social Studies Textbooks.

08-054

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$2,500.00 from A 1420-400-90-0000 Legal Services to A 1240-161-01-0000 Central Administration – Clerical Substitutes.

J. Consent Agenda

The use of the Consent Agenda permits the Board of Education to make more effective use of its time by adopting a single motion to cover those relatively routine matters, which are included. Any member of the Board who wishes to discuss individually a particular piece of business on the Consent Agenda may so indicate and that item will be considered and voted on separately, thus preserving the right of all Board members to be heard on any issue.

XIV. Discussion Items

- Policy Reading: The Board will conduct the first reading of policy # 4321.9 Declassification of Students with Disabilities

- Policy Reading: The Board will conduct the first reading of policy # 4321.11 Public Report on Revisions to District Policies, Practices and Procedures upon a Finding of Significant Disproportionality
- Policy Reading: The Board will conduct a first reading of the proposed revisions to Policy #5280-R Interscholastic Athletic and Co-Curricular Policy

XV. Old Business

XVI. New Business

XVII. Public Comments

XVIII. Consideration of Executive Session Subject to Board Approval

XIX. Adjournment

Future Agenda Items

- Continued Committee Wrap-up Discussions June 4, 2008
- Public Review/Action Plan June 18, 2008