

NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560
www.northsalemsschools.org
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2008

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the North Salem Central School District was called to order at 6:35 PM in the Board Conference Room by Board President Katherine Daniels.

At 6:35 PM, a motion was made by Judith Schurmacher and seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (7-0), to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing specific matters of personnel and contract negotiations. Judith Schurmacher was appointed Clerk Pro-Tem for this Executive Session.

At 7:29 PM, on a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Smadbeck and carried (7-0), the Board adjourned the Executive Session and reconvened to the Public Session.

Board Members Present at this Meeting:

Ms. Katherine Daniels, President
Ms. Judith Schurmacher, Vice-President
Mr. Paul Giamundo, Trustee
Mr. Paul Smadbeck, Trustee
Mr. Jonathan Freeman, Trustee
Mr. Stephen Bobolia, Trustee
Mr. Andrew Brown, Trustee

Also Present:

Dr. Kenneth Freeston, Superintendent
Dr. Michael Hibbard, Asst. Superintendent for Instruction and Human Resources
Ms. MaryJo Hauser, Asst. Superintendent for PPS
Ms. Louise Lynch, Business Administration
Dr. Patricia Cyganvich, Principal Middle School/High School
Ms. Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk
Mr. Christopher Round, Chazen Companies
Members of North Salem Staff
Members of the Public

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM by Katherine Daniels and followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Announcements

Board President Katherine Daniels welcomed the Student Board Representatives and congratulated the fall athletes, especially the Boys Varsity Soccer Team who will compete for the State championship this weekend. Ms. Daniels announced that the Governor has indicated that there will be \$100 million dollars in cuts to education this year, the first time such dramatic cuts have taken place since 1990.

Student Board Representative Report

A student board representative, from the North Salem High School/Middle School, spoke of the recent and upcoming events in the High School/Middle School as well as events at Pequenakonck Elementary School.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kenneth Freeston commented on a conference he recently attended, the Suburban School Superintendent's Conference. The conference included the key note speaker, author of the book Fierce Conversations, a trip to the National Military Control Center to learn how the military defines problems, a visit to the Olympic Training Center and a speaker from the Brookings Institute analyzing the national election.

Director of Business Administration's Report

Louise Lynch explained budget transfers on the agenda and answered questions regarding the financial reports included on the agenda.

Board Reports

Dr. Freeston reported on the Facilities Committee meeting stating that the bids for the 90-day work, to fix the geothermal, were opened but were much too high and will not be accepted.

Dr. Freeston spoke about the SEQRA process and the scoping; stating that more detail is needed and that the Facilities Committee is reviewing the EAF long form to make sure that it has all of the important details incorporated into it. Given the current time schedule, the Facilities Committee does not feel it is appropriate to hold the public session of the scoping process in December.

Paul Giamundo commented on the Westchester Putnam School Board breakfast network he recently attended.

Katherine Daniels reported on the Pupil Personnel Committee, currently working on the co-teaching efforts within the district.

Presentations

Audit Committee-Management Letter and Corrective Action Plan-Bob Herlihy

Mr. Bob Herlihy, Chair of the Audit Committee, reported on the management letter from the external auditor and the district's response to the management letter. The management letter is the formal communication from the auditor's to the Board of Education and Audit Committee. The Audit Committee has reviewed both and recommends the Board approve the management letter and the district's response, the Corrective Action Plan.

The Audit Committee is currently looking to appoint a new member as well as to appoint a chair, change the member terms in the policy and the charter. These changes are incorporated into the fiscal policies, the series 6000, the board is currently looking at.

Fiscal Committee Report-John White

Mr. John White, Chair of the Fiscal Committee reported on the first meeting of the committee of the year; the group discussed the current economy and the capital budget. The Fiscal Committee recommends the Board trim the capital budget to only the most necessary items for the referendum and discussed the timing of the referendum. The Fiscal Committee recommends the Board put the facilities projects and necessary capital work onto the same ballot as the 2009-2010 budget, to show the public the board has fiscal restraint and cares about efficiency. The committee suggested that there may be additional opportunities to refine the projects and get additional funding, but at this time the committee feels it would be prudent to put the turf field project on hold and not spend additional funds on the SEQRA process.

Comprehensive Student Performance Report Part I

AP/SAT/ACT/PSAT/Colleges-Michael Hibbard

Dr. Michael Hibbard presented data on student performance with regard to AP tests, SAT and ACT testing—Dr. Hibbard commented on AP performance and involvement stating that it is a greater indicator for student success than the standardized testing.

Action Items

Authorization for Permit Application

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board approves the Superintendent to sign the certification for authorization; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent hereby authorizes John P. McGuire to execute and deliver to the Westchester County Department of Health, for and on behalf of the district, an application for a permit to operate/construct a new drinking water well and to execute and deliver any and all additional documents which may be appropriate or desirable in connection therewith.

Early Dismissal for North Salem School District

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board approves the early dismissal for the North Salem Central School District on Wednesday November 26, 2008.

Early Dismissal for North Salem School District

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board approves the early dismissal for student's only on December 15, 2008.

School District Closing

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board approved the following resolution

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board approves the closing of the North Salem Central School District from December 25, 2008 through January 2, 2009.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report, Budget Status and Revenue Status, Expenditure Report for the month of October 2008

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board approved the following resolution

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer's Report, Budget Status and Revenue Status, Expenditure Report for the month of October 2008.

Acceptance Student Activity Report October 2008

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board approved the following resolution

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the Student Activity Report for the month of October 2008.

Acceptance of CSE and CPSE dated November 12, 2008

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board approved the following resolution

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the acceptance of CSE and CPSE Reports dated November 12, 2008.

Adoption of Textbooks

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board approved the following resolution

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the adoption of the following textbooks for the 2008-2009 school year:

Title: The Making of the West Volume I - to 1740

Author: Katharine Lualdi

Publisher: Bedford/St. Martins

Copyright Date: 2009

Title: The Making of the West Volume II - since 1500

Author: Katharine Lualdi

Publisher: Bedford/St. Martins

Copyright Date: 2009

Title: The Making of the West Volume III - People and Cultures

Author: Katharine Lualdi

Publisher: Bedford/St. Martins

Copyright Date: 2009

Budget Transfers

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board approved the following budget transfers:

09-014

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$15,000 to A 9020-820-90-0000 Employee Benefits – Teacher’s Retirement from A 9060-865-90-0000 Employee Benefits – Dental/Vision Insurance.

09-015

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$15,000 to A 9020-820-90-0000 Employee Benefits – Teacher’s Retirement from A 9010-810-90-0000 Employee Benefits – NYS Employees Retirement.

09-016

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$35,000 to A 2110-120-00-0000 Regular Day Instruction – K-3 – Teacher Salaries from A 2110-121-00-0000 Regular Day Instruction – 4 thru 6 Teacher Salaries.

Consent Agenda

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board approved the following Consent Agenda:

Resignation

Mr. Ken Waldron

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Mr. Ken Waldron, Director of Facilities, November 18, 2008.

Appointment Certified ~ Tenure

Ms. Melissa Valenti

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the tenure appointment of Ms. Melissa Valenti in the Science 7 – 12 tenure area, effective December 3, 2008.

Appointment Certified

Ms. Christa Liotta

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Christa Liotta as a Leave Replacement Teacher, Grade 8 English, from on or about December 20, 2008 until on or about June 30, 2009. Ms. Liotta will be placed at BA step 1,

at the 2008-2009 contracted rate. Ms. Liotta has an initial certification in English Language Arts 7 - 12, to serve in the schools of New York State. Ms. Liotta is replacing Ms. Karyn Johnson.

Ms. Alison Llewellyn

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Alison Llewellyn as a substitute teacher, K-5, for the 2008-2009 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Heather Moran

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Heather Moran as a substitute teacher, 6-12, for the 2008-2009 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Jessica Olivieri

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Jessica Olivieri as a substitute teacher, K-6, for the 2008-2009 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Denise Plume

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Denise Plume as a substitute teacher, K-6, for the 2008-2009 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Christina Poggioreale

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Christina Poggioreale as a substitute teacher, K-8, for the 2008-2009 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Kelly Rowley

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Kelly Rowley as a substitute teacher, K-6, for the 2008-2009 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Katherine Kelly

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Katherine Kelly as a substitute teacher, 6 - 12, for the 2008-2009 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Patty Elluzzi

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Patty Elluzzi as a substitute teacher, K-5, for the 2008-2009 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Mr. Scott Dzibela

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. Scott Dzibela as a substitute teacher, 6 - 12, for the 2008-2009 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Samantha Kopf

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Samantha Kopf as a substitute teacher, 6 - 12, for the 2008-2009 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Mr. Christopher Tychostup

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. Christopher Tychostup as a substitute teacher, 6 - 12, for the 2008-2009 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Classified

Ms. Katherine Ferretti

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Katherine Ferretti as a Substitute Teacher Aide for grades K thru 5, for the 2008-2009 school year, at an hourly rate of \$11.00, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Alison Llewellyn

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Alison Llewellyn as a Substitute Teacher Aide for grades K thru 5, for the 2008-2009 school year, at an hourly rate of \$11.00, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Patty Elluzzi

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Patty Elluzzi as a Substitute Teacher Aide for grades K thru 5, for the 2008-2009 school year, at an hourly rate of \$11.00, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Suzanne Spagnoulo

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Suzanne Spagnoulo as a Substitute Teacher Aide for grades K thru 5, for the 2008-2009 school year, at an hourly rate of \$11.00, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Barbara Mueller

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Barbara Mueller for substitute clerical work, for the 2008-2009 school year, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Ms. Christine Young

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Christine Young for substitute clerical work, for the 2008-2009 school year, at an hourly rate of \$16.00, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Approval

Ms. Joanne Colangelo

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the waiving of the \$85.00 10 day salary process and start Ms. Collangelo’s per diem sub payment at \$95.00 a day. *Ms. Collangelo worked as a leave replacement through October 2008.*

Mentor

Ms. Jennifer Pihota

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Ms. Jennifer Pihota to provide mentoring support from November 2008 thru January 2009 at the contracted rate.

Stipends

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following individuals to fill the stipend positions as listed for the 2008-2009 school year.

<u>Name of Individual</u>	<u>Stipend Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Kylie McCarron	Environmental Club	per contract
Dan Collea	Science Club	per contract
Scott Lenhart	Ornithology Club	per contract
Jordan Birdsall	Book Club MS Boys	per contract
Heidi Cerosky	Girls Varsity Ski Coach	per contract

REMOVE

Bob Kear	Modified Soccer (B)	Per contract
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(Previously appointed but did not take the coaching position)

Discussion

The Board conducted the first reading of the Financial Policies-series 6000, policies relative to fiscal management.

Old Business

Facilities projects and the SEQRA process

Dr. Freeston stated that up until this point both he and the Board were considering three things when it came to upcoming projects: the economy, the necessary facilities projects and the turf field. Dr. Freeston stated that his feeling is that necessary projects need to be addressed, but February is not the right time for the referendum to vote on funding for these projects.

The Board and Dr. Freeston discussed the postponing of the line by line workshop meeting on November 25, so that the Facilities Committee can further work on the items necessary for the referendum vote which would now take place in May. The Facilities Committee will continue the line by line itemizing of necessary and deferred items and come back to the board with the cost estimates for line by line items, sometime in January or February.

Discussion followed regarding the public session on Dec 3rd for the scoping process, it was agreed that the session was not necessary in December. Discussion followed regarding how much had been spent, of the previously approved dollars, with regard to the studies and the SEQRA process. It was agreed to by the Board that the necessary facility projects will be included in a referendum on the May budget vote after the necessary items are decided on line by line, first by the Facilities Committee and then by the Board of Education.

Public Comment

Gary Windus spoke about the possible cuts in State Aid and whether this was the right time to be spending money on the SEQRA process; Mr. Windus stated that he is not in favor of pursuing the money spent on the SEQRA process leading to the possibility of a vote on the turf field due to the timing.

Paul Smadbeck stated that the Board has worked prudently and carefully to proceed with what needs to be done to move both projects forward (the necessary facilities project as well as the Turf Field) and let the public decide.

Dr. Freeston stated that the at this point the vote on the field has now been delayed until 2010 and that this has not been an easy process and decision for the Board, remarking that they have struggled and tried to make the best decision possible for the people in the school district.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher and seconded by Steve Bobolia the Board voted 7-0 to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk