

NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560
www.northsalemsschools.org
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
December 17, 2008

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the North Salem Central School District was called to order at 6:10 PM in the PQ conference room by Board President Katherine Daniels.

At 6:10 PM, a motion was made by Judith Schurmacher and seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (6-0), 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 7:10 PM, on a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Smadbeck and carried (6-0), 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. Stephen Bobolia, Trustee
Mr. Andrew Brown, Trustee

Absent:

Mr. Jonathan Freeman, 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. Pat Cyganovich, Principal Middle School/High School
Roberta Reiner, Principal PQ Elementary School
Rocco Varuolo, Director of Technology
Ms. Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk
Members of North Salem Staff
Members of the Public

An open forum was held during which members of the public, the Board of Education and the North Salem Administration discussed various topics including: district goals, scheduling and cancellation of school due to inclement weather, curriculum and support for music programs.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:47 PM by Katherine Daniels and followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Announcements

Board President Katherine Daniels thanked, on behalf of the Board, Mr. George Neuhaus for his time and commitment while serving on the Audit Committee. Ms. Daniels congratulated Mr. Ron Hendrie who recently awarded the NCSA Coach of the Year.

Acceptance of Minutes

On a motion made by Paul Giamundo, seconded by Judith Schurmacher and carried (6-0) the Board of Education voted to accept the minutes for December 3, 2008.

Student Board Representatives

The student board representatives from the North Salem High School/Middle School reported on recent and upcoming events in the High School/Middle School as well as events at Pequenaconck Elementary School.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Freeston remarked on the new teacher classroom observations he is conducting and is delighted with the high-energy and high engagement level he is seeing within the classrooms.

Director of Business Administration's Report

- The Geothermal projects and digging of the well will be worked on during the winter break.
- The Aramark report comparing previous years has not yet been completed, the Business Office is waiting for Aramark to breakdown the data into quarters.
- The Board would like the Monthly Expenditure Report to include variances with notes and compare year to year.

Board Reports

Katherine Daniels reported that the Audit Committee met and is recommending the appointment of Mr. Peter Rossi to a two-year term, Mr. Robert Herlihy to a two-year term and Mr. Thomas Costello to a one year term.

Paul Giamundo congratulated and recognized the Madrigal Singers and Douglas Coates for a wonderful concert.

Paul Giamundo reported on a Westchester Putnam School Board Association recent meeting during which the Board discussed legislative priorities. The Board will be changing two things this year: it will make regional appointments to meet with legislators in their offices and is encouraging Board members to bring PTO members as guests to the WPSBA meetings to initialize more grassroots communication. The next meeting is January 29th and the topic will be regional negotiations.

The Communications Committee has created a logo that will be distributed out to the district, to get the word out about "Online in 2009". The committee is also sending some recommendations on a flyer policy to the Policy Committee .

Presentations

Fiscal Committee-Recommendations on Tax Cert Reserve and Insurance

Mr. John White reported on three topics assigned to the committee-0

- Subcommittee work with School Transportation started and began an outline, it is now waiting for the new Director of Facilities to begin before meeting any further.
- Certioraris – data collection and analysis is complete, the report will be finalized in January.
- Insurance-a representative met with the committee and looked at summaries of all items covered by insurance and proper coverage. The analysis did not yield any recommendations for major changes however the Fiscal Committee recommends that excess catastrophic coverage go from \$12 million to \$19 million in coverage starting in January, 2009.

On a motion made by Katherine Daniels, seconded by Mr. Paul Giamundo and carried (6-0), the Board of Education voted to accept the recommendation of the Fiscal Committee to increase the excess insurance coverage from \$12 million to \$19 million as of January 1, 2009 at the estimated annual cost of \$6000, prorated for the rest of the school year (2008-2009).

Music Department Presentation and Report

Melissa Abramo presented the Board and public with a presentation highlighting the programs in the district schools and reporting on the suggested goals as recommended by the North Salem School District Music Curriculum Study Project.

Action Items

Memorandum of Understanding

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 6-0 the board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to sign the memorandum of agreement between the North Salem School Related Professionals and the North Salem School District regarding work assignments on December 29, 30 and 31.

Memorandum of Agreement

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 6-0 the board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Human Resources to sign the memorandum of agreement between the North Salem Teachers Association and the North Salem School District regarding compensation to teachers for leading study groups or teaching professional development work.

Audit Committee

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 6-0 the board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints Mr. Tom Costello to a one year term on the District Audit Committee commencing on January 1, 2009 and Robert Herlihy and Peter Rossi to two year terms on the District's Audit Committee commencing on January 1, 2009 and ending on December 31, 2010.

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

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 6-0 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 November 2008.

Modify Piano Donation and Purchase

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 6-0 the board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education amends the acceptance of the donation a new piano to the Pequenenakonck Elementary School Music Department from Ms. Ana Hoffman to reflect the value of \$ 4911 (previously approved at \$ 4700).

Piano Donation and Purchase

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 6-0 the board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent increase the 2008-09 budget respective to the donation previously accepted for Regular Day Instruction - Music Equipment code A2110-200-11-2250 and the respective revenue donations A 2705 in the amount of \$4911.

Interim Director of Facilities

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 6-0 the board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to offer an employment contract for an Interim Director of Facilities before the January 7, 2009 Board meeting.

Alternate Purchasing Agent

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 6-0 the board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education appoints Dr. Kenneth Freeston to be the alternate purchasing agent for the 2008-2009 school year.

Budget Transfers

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 6-0 the board approved the following budget transfers:

09-018 RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$123,000 to A 2110-130-00-0000 Regular Education Services – 7-12 Certified Salaries with \$120,000 from A 2250-150-90-0000 Special Education Teaching Salaries and \$3,000 from A 9030-830-90-0000 Employee Benefits – Social Security.

09-019 RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$22,000 to A 2110-120-00-0000 Regular Education Services – K-3 Certified Salaries from A 9030-830-90-0000 Employee Benefits – Social Security.

Consent Agenda

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 6-0 the board approved the following Consent Agenda:

Appointment Certified

Ms. Louise Opfer-Elsroth

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Louise Opfer-Elsroth as a substitute teacher, Grades 6-12, for the 2008-2009 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.

Classified

Ms. Sara Kaplan

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Sara Kaplan as a Substitute Teacher Aide for grades 6 thru 12, for the 2008-2009 school year, at an hourly rate of \$11.00, subject to fingerprint clearance.

Approval

Ms. Margaret Ianniello

Secretary to Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Human Resources

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education set 2008-2009 Salary for the following position at the following amounts:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Secretary to Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Human Resources	\$ 57,626

Contractual Services

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Ms. Jennifer Wilson to provide additional IT services at a rate of \$200 an hour not to exceed 20 hours.

Academic Intervention Support

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following individuals to fill the positions for Academic Intervention Support to support student achievement on state and national assessments at a rate of \$65.00 per hour, for the 2008-2009 school year.

Scott Lenhart	AP Environmental Science	4 hours
Sandy McDonough	AP Environmental Science	4 hours
Robert Mittelstadt	AP U.S. History	8 hours
Mary Lou Giannetto	Integrated Algebra 8	8 hours
Julie Scallero	AP World History	8 hours
Heide DeMorris	French Regents	4 hours
<i>(Amend to replace previous appointment of 8 hours)</i>		
Colm O’Callaghan	French Regents	4 hours
Heide DeMorris	Spanish Regents	4 hours
<i>(Amend to replace previous appointment of 8 hours)</i>		
Colm O’Callaghan	Spanish Regents	4 hours
Colm O’Callaghan	AP Spanish	8 hours
Randy Kasack	AP Chemistry	8 hours
Randy Kasack	Chemistry Regents	8 hours

Professional Development

Mr. Jay Jazayeri

RESOLVED upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves payment to Mr. Jay Jazayeri as the instructor for Professional Development for Civil Services Employees, in the amount of \$100/hour, for 22.5 hours, for a total of \$2,250, for the 2008-2009 school year. *This is the same rate of payment used by the Teacher Center.*

In-House Study Groups

Ms. Elizabeth Maier

RESOLVED upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves payment to Ms. Elizabeth Maier as the instructor of the Vocabulary Study Group, Part I, II and III in the amount of \$50.00/hour, for 45 hours, for a total of \$2,250, for the 2008-2009 school year. *This is the same rate of payment used by the Teacher Center.*

Intern – Administrative Intern

Lisa Djonbalic

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Ms. Lisa Djonbalic as an Administrative Intern in the District Office effective January 2009 thru May 2009. Dr. Michael Hibbard will mentor Ms. Djonbalic.

Stipends

Amend Stipend

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby amends the resolution approving the stipend position of Rosemaria DosSantos for Continuing Education, which was adopted on October 22, 2008 as follows, replacing the stipend amount of \$4,500 with \$ 3,853.72, which is the correct prorated amount effective October 15, 2008 for the 2008-2009 school year.

LANE ADVANCEMENTS – FEBRUARY 1, 2009

Name	Current Degree Status	Current Step	New Lane Requested	New Salary
Rob Gilchrist	MA	13	MA 30	\$100,348.00

Discussion Items

Fiscal Policies-The Board discussed the changes to the fiscal policies that incorporate both School Counsel’s recommendations and NYSSBA recommendations. Dr. Freeston commented that these changes are in line with the Board Goal/Action Plan for this year. The Board discussed the changes which will be incorporated into the series and read for a second time at the next Board Meeting.

Benchmark Districts-Dr. Freeston asked the Board to consider an initial listing of Benchmarking Districts and asked the Board to begin to look at comparative demographics and data from all of the listed districts to decide whether or not these are the best choices.

Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session

At 10:10 PM, on a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried 6-0, the Board of Education voted to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters of specific personnel.

Adjournment

At 10:50 PM, on a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried 6-0 the Board of Education voted to enter back into regular session in order to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk