

NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560
www.northsalemschools.org
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
January 14, 2009

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the North Salem Central School District was called to order at 6:32 PM in the Board Conference Room by Board President Katherine Daniels.

At 6:32 PM, a motion was made by Judith Schurmacher and seconded by Katherine Daniels and carried (7-0), to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing specific matters of personnel. Judith Schurmacher was appointed Clerk Pro-Tem for this Executive Session.

At 7:27 PM, on a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Katherine Daniels 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
Ms. MaryJo Hauser, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services
Ms. Louise Lynch, Business Administration
Rocco Varuolo, Director of Technology
Ms. Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk
Members of North Salem Staff
Members of the Public

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM by Katherine Daniels and followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Announcements

Board President Katherine Daniels made the following announcements:

- Congratulations to members of the Class of 2009 that have been accepted to college and good luck to those still waiting for acceptances.

- The Westchester Putnam School Boards Association will be hosting a panel discussion on Regional Contracts on January 29, 2009 at 8 PM.
- There is also a legislative brunch for school board members being sponsored by the Mid Hudson School Study Council on February 7, 2009 to be held at West Point.

Andrew Brown announced that the Town of North Salem will be having a *Government Open House* at the Town Hall from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on February 7, 2009.

Public Comment

None.

Acceptance of Minutes

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher and seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried 7-0, the Board of Education voted to accept the minutes for December 17, 2008.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kenneth Freeston reported on the following:

- Community members can still sign up to receive e-mails regarding weather related school closings and can also sign up with Connecticut Weather to receive text messages—the Connect Ed phone calls are not used for weather related closings but for situations that come up unexpectedly.
- Inauguration Day is being discussed at great lengths in the schools and students will be together to watch the event. The North Salem Senior Citizens have been invited to watch the event with students to give a cross-generation perspective.
- The daily meetings for budget planning have started with the cost center heads and severe restraint in spending as well as coming in under budget is occurring within all contexts of the meetings.

Ms. MaryJo Hauser stated that the Board would be receiving a copy of the District Special Education plan this week, a statewide mandatory outline of the specialized services provided within the district. The plan will be placed onto the agenda for Board acceptance within the month.

Director of Business Administration's Report

Louise Lynch reported on the following:

- The new well was dug during the winter break providing 40 gallons of water per minute and resulting in water clear to the eye; test results on the water will be available shortly.
- The geothermal flush and fill have been completed, the district will see savings in propane as the water is now being heated only to 35 degrees as opposed to 55 degrees, before being put back into the ground.
- Bid specs are being developed for the well pump and plumbing.
- The generators will be tested this week in case they are needed for back up, due to severe cold weather or power problems.
- The Aramark report including the comparison of the 2007-2008 reports will be provided to the Board this week.

Board Reports

Dr. Freeston reported that the Facilities Committee continues to work on the critical project proposal. The committee wants to do a thorough review of the project with the board, prior to the budget. The committee would like to present the proposal to the board at a Board Workshop on February 11th. This meeting would be dedicated to the review of this project proposal.

The Policy Committee is finished looking at the fiscal policies. These are on the agenda for a second reading this week and will be on the agenda for a third reading and final adoption at the next meeting. The Sexual Harassment Policy that the committee has been working on will be given to board counsel for review shortly and then will be placed on the agenda for two readings. The next policy the committee would like to review is the policy for distributing information and the Code of Conduct.

The Pupil Personnel Committee met and broke up into two subcommittees working on documentation for co-teaching as well as pamphlets for parents.

Discussion

Board Goal and Action Plan-The Board and Superintendent read through each goal on the plan and reflected on the tasks involved and the meeting of such goals at this half way point through the school year.

The discussion for: Course Approvals, Proposed Course Approval for Topics in Algebra II/Trigonometry, and the Professional Development Master Plan was rescheduled for the Board Meeting on January 21, 2009.

Action Items

Bid Award-Fuel Additive

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

WHEREAS, North Salem School District solicited bids for fuel additives procured in the 2008-2009 school year.

RESOLVED, that as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorize the award for the purchase of fuel additives procured in the 2008-2009 school year to the lowest responsible bidder, North Country, at the following prices per 55 gallon drum:

Diesel \$2,477
Gas \$2,655

Appointment of Internal Auditor

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 by the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education authorize the President of the Board of Education to sign the agreement with Accume Partners for contractual services for the 2009 Internal Audit at an hourly rate of \$120.

Advance Voice Solutions Contract

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

RESOLVED, that as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve the Advanced Voice Solution contract extension effective January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009 at a base cost of \$4200 annually.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to execute such agreement.

Employee Retirement System Reporting

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

RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools establish the following as a standard workday for bus drivers, bus attendants and teacher aides for the purpose of determining days worked reportable to the New York State and Local Employee's Retirement System:

Bus Drivers

Five Day Work Week, 6.25 hours a day

Bus Attendants

Five Day Work Week, 6.25 hours a day

Teacher Aides

Five Day Work Week, 6 hours a day

Acceptance of CSE and CPSE Reports dated January 14, 2009

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 CPSE and CSE Reports dated January 14, 2009.

Acceptance of the Student Activity Reports for the month of November 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 November 2008.

Judy Schurmacher requested that Louise Lynch follow up to ensure that the deposits being completed within the time span recommended by the auditors.

Approval New Courses

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board voted to **table** the following resolutions until the January 21, 2009 Board of Education meeting.

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the addition of a Percussion Ensemble course to the North Salem Central School curriculum; this is a new course to the district's curriculum.

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the addition of a Studio in Creative Crafts course to the North Salem Central School curriculum; this is a new course to the district's curriculum.

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the addition of a Guitar I course to the North Salem Central School curriculum; this is a new course to the district's curriculum.

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the addition of a Musical Theatre Performance II course to the North Salem Central School curriculum; this is a new course to the district's curriculum.

Donation and Purchase of Uniforms for Modified Boys and Girls Lacrosse and Budget Modification

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 donation of \$3000 for the purchase of uniforms for Modified Boys and Girls Lacrosse teams from Werlatone, Inc..

FURTHER RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the increase of the 2008-09 budget respective to the donation, for Uniform Code A 2855-451-31-0000 by \$1500 as well as Supplies Code A 2855-450-31-0000 by \$1500.

Budget Transfers

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

09-020

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$8,600 to A 1240-400-01-0000 Chief School Administrator – Consultant/Contractual from A 1420-441-90-0000 Legal Services.

09-021

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$15,000 to A 1625-400-00-0000 Security – Professional Consultant from A 1420-441-90-0000 Legal Services.

Tax Levy Reduction Return

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 approve the return of the unspent funds in the amount of \$432,941 in the form of a reduction to the 2008-2009 tax levy as required by Education Law 3651 (5).

Approval of ACTUAL 2007-2008 Non-resident Tuition Rates

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 following 2007-2008 actual non-resident tuition rates:

Grade Level	Regular Education Tuition	Special Education Tuition
Full Day K-6	\$15,761	\$67,260
7-12	\$18,314	\$69,813

Approval of ESTIMATED 2008-2009 Non-resident Tuition Rates

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 following 2008-2009 estimated non-resident tuition rates:

Grade Level	Regular Education Tuition	Special Education Tuition
Full Day K-6	\$17,468	\$76,684
7-12	\$21,759	\$80,975

Consent Agenda

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

Appointment

Certified

Mr. James Capossela

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. James Capossela 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.

Mr. Philip Kuczma

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. Philip Kuczma 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.

Ms. Diane Balch

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Diane Balch as a substitute teacher, Grades 7-12, 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

Mr. Larry Devita

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. Larry Devita as a Substitute Custodial Worker for the 2008-2009 school year, at an hourly rate of \$14.00, effective December 23, 2008.

Approval

Professional Development with Music Faculty

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Mr. James Frankel to provide consulting and professional development for Music Faculty at a daily rate of \$1000, contracted for three days.

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.

David Popken	English SAT	8 hours
Jay Jazayeri	Math SAT	8 hours

Intern – Administrative Intern

Bridget Choubah

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

Mentor

Ms. Jan Malin

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints Ms. Jan Malin, Teacher Mentor Leave Replacement, Art, Stipend \$1,000 prorated starting on or about January 19, 2009 until on or about May 4, 2009.

Old Business

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

Paul Giamundo asked about the tax exemption for Volunteer Firefighter/Ambulance Corp. members. Paul Smadbeck has met with Town Supervisor Paul Greenwood and through their meeting it was decided that the best route was to mirror the State guidelines for the exemption. The Board of Education will look at the issue and the suggested guidelines again starting in April, in time to vote on a resolution before June 1, 2009.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and voted 7-0 the board adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk