

NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560
www.northsalemschools.org
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
January 21, 2009

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the North Salem Central School District was called to order at 6:02 PM in the Board Conference Room by Board President Katherine Daniels.

At 6:02 PM, a motion was made by Judith Schurmacher and seconded by Andrew Brown and carried (5-0), 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 7:40 PM, on a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0), 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. Stephen Bobolia, Trustee
Mr. Andrew Brown, Trustee

Absent: Mr. Paul Smadbeck, Trustee
Mr. Jonathan Freeman, Trustee

Also Present:

Members of the Audit Committee-Executive Session
Auditors from Safir Rosetti-Executive Session
Dr. Kenneth Freeston, Superintendent
Dr. Michael Hibbard, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Human Resources
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 7:47 PM by Katherine Daniels and followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Announcements

Board President Katherine Daniels made the following announcements:

- There will be a State Legislative Conference in Albany, from March 1 through March 3, Katherine plans on attending and encourages others to as well.
- There will be a workshop for prospective school board members sponsored by the Westchester Putnam School Boards Association on Saturday April 18th in White Plains. Please contact the District Clerk for more information.
- Katherine Daniels and Dr. Freeston (on behalf of the Board) have sent letters to both Congressman John Hall and Senator Vincent Leibell requesting that North Salem be included in the schools to receive funding in the federal stimulus package.
- Congratulations to Ron Hendrie recently named National Coach of the Year by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, for the High School Boys Division II .

Public Comment

None

Acceptance of Minutes

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education accepted the minutes from January 14, 2009, with noted changes.

Student Board Representatives

A student board representative 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 Pequenakonck Elementary School.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kenneth Freeston reported on the following:

- A new Director of Facilities is on the Consent Agenda, Mr. Gary Green.
- Budget meetings are continuing, the cost center heads are continuing to put initial numbers together in order to get as close as possible to a 0% increase in spending without cutting anything.

Dr. Freeston discussed with the Board the sharing of financial reports with the Fiscal Committee, prior to the Board getting this information, in order for the committee to have the numbers for their next meeting. The Board agreed that Dr. Freeston should share these reports with the committee based on the timing of their meeting and the timing of the next Board meeting.

Andrew Brown stated that he is comfortable with the information going out prior to its presentation to the Board, as long as it is understood that the Fiscal Committee's role is advising and analyzing the data and not decision making.

Director of Business Administration's Report

Director of Business Administrator Louise Lynch reported on the following:

- The initial results on the water in the new well are very positive with only very low, trace levels of iron and manganese found. Ms. Lynch will keep the Board posted on any more results as they come in.

- Budget transfers on the agenda reflect movement within leave replacements and permanent staff.
- Ms. Lynch explained the initial fund balance report. In response to a board member question, she explained that the 4% fund balance retention is not reflected on the fund balance report but is reflected in the ledger.

Board Reports

Paul Giamundo attended a workshop at Manhattenville College which presented information on how to prepare students for success in college.

MaryJo Hauser reported that the Pupil Personnel Committee has reviewed the draft parent pamphlet which will go out to print shortly. The committee also reviewed the goals and objectives for the next few months.

Katherine Daniels reported that the Policy Committee plans to work on the Code of Conduct next.

Presentations

Dr. Michael Hibbard described the courses on the agenda which correlate to the Music Self-study presentation and consultant work previously completed. The courses are on the agenda for approval to incorporate into the 2009-2010 budget.

Dr. Hibbard described the proposed course of Topics in Algebra II/Trigonometry which will be placed on the next agenda. This course will provide students with a more comprehensive mathematical preparation for college.

Dr. Hibbard presented the draft Professional Development Master Plan which describes the nature of professional development within the district and what the intended purposes are. The plan is a yearly review to look at the specifics of professional development that support improvements in student performance.

Action Items

Approval New Courses

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher and seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolutions:

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.

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

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher and seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education 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 December 2008.

Acceptance Student Activity Report December 2008

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher and seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education 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 December 2008.

Budget Transfers

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher and seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following budget transfers:

09-022

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$21,200 to A 2250-150-90-0000 Special Education Certified Salaries from A 1420-441-90-0000 Legal Services.

09-023

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of \$31,682 to A 2250-150-90-0000 Special Education Certified Salaries from A 9030-830-90-0000 Employee Benefits – Social Security.

09-024

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 – Teachers Retirement System from A 9030-830-90-0000 Employee Benefits – Social Security.

Stephen Bobolia questioned the transferring of funds from unrelated codes and suggested that transfers take place within related codes whenever possible.

Donation of Books

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher and seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (5-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation of Scholastic books for the North Salem Middle/High School Library from the Middles School/High School PTO, valued at \$400.

Policy Adoption

The Board conducted the third and final reading and adoption of the Financial Policies-series 6000, policies relative to fiscal management.

Consent Agenda

Appointment Certified

Ms. Ellen Fecci

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Ms. Ellen Fecci to the position of Kindergarten Leave Replacement effective on or about February 2, 2009 until on or about April 27, 2009. Ms. Fecci holds permanent certifications in G 1 thru 6. Ms. Fecci's placement on the schedule will be at the MA Step 4. Ms. Fecci will be a leave replacement for Ms. Rebecca Donofrio.

Classified

Mr. Gary Green

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the provisional appointment of Mr. Gary Green as Director of Facilities, Operations, Maintenance and Transportation, effective March 2, 2009, at an annual rate of \$115,000 subject to fingerprint clearance. Mr. Green replaces Mr. Kenneth Waldron who resigned.

Unpaid Leave of Absence

Ms. Denise Meliti

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following unpaid leave of absence for Ms. Denise Meliti from January 20, 2009 to May 1, 2009.

Ms. Amy Hester

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following unpaid leave of absence for Ms. Amy Hester from on or about June 29, 2009 to on or about October 7, 2009.

Mentor

Ms. Lauren Hussey-LoRusso

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints Ms. Lauren Hussey-LoRusso, Teacher Mentor Leave Replacement, Kindergarten, Stipend \$1,000 prorated starting on or about February 1, 2009 until on or about April 1, 2009.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

On a motion made by Judy Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried 5-0 the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk