

**NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
www.northsalemsschools.org
DECEMBER 2, 2009**

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the North Salem Central School District was called to order at 6:30 PM in the Board Conference Room by Board Vice President Judith Schurmacher.

At 6:30 PM, a motion was made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Katherine Daniels, and carried (6-0), to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person. Judith Schurmacher was appointed Clerk Pro-Tem for this Executive Session.

At 7:30 PM, on a motion made by made Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Katherine Daniels and carried (6-0), the Board adjourned the Executive Session and reconvened to the Public Session.

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Absent:

Mr. Jonathan Freeman, Trustee

Also Present:

Dr. Kenneth Freeston, Superintendent
Dr. Michael Hibbard, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Human Resources
Ms. MaryJo Hauser, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services
Ms. Barbara Briganti, Director of Business Administration
Ms. Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk
Members of North Salem Staff
Members of the Public

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM Board President Katherine Daniels followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Announcements

Katherine Daniels made the following announcements:

- Ms. Daniels stated that the Safe and Sound Bond Referendum did not pass. The Board and Administration will take time to reflect on what the voters have said and will take time to carefully consider how to move forward.
- Ms. Daniels complimented the first edition of the 2009-2010 NSTA/PTO Newsletter which is posted on the website.
- The High School Drama Club is hosting a cabaret/coffee house
- The Book Fair is going on at PQ this week and will be at the Middle School/High School December 7, 2009.
- The Middle School/High School Winter Concert is Thursday, December 4th.

Public Comment

None

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Freeston commented on the Safe and Sound Bond Referendum, stating that working together with the Board and the Administration, the project and referendum was based on the core belief that the District needs to be thoughtful and purposeful when making big decisions. The five year facilities plan was very thorough in analyzing the district's needs. The District will need to begin working in 2010, on a new five year plan which addresses the expenses of the much needed facilities projects.

The challenge will be to get the public involved. Dr. Freeston stated that during the six to eight week outreach leading up to the vote there was very little interest expressed.

Dr. Freeston thanked the staff, the Facilities Committee and the Board for their work.

Andrew Brown also spoke of the need for public involvement through committee outreach and board meeting attendance. Mr. Brown stated that the Board needs to think about how to get the public involved in the plan, so that there is a greater understanding of the needs, options and impact of the project.

Paul Giamundo acknowledged the work that the Facilities Committee did and the committee's commitment to working on the five year plan. Mr. Giamundo thanked Dr. Freeston for his leadership with the committee and the facilities work.

Dr. Freeston stated that he will attend and be a part of a team of school leaders working on the BOCES budget, which will also be helpful to the District's budget planning for the 2010-2011 Budget.

Dr. Freeston will also take part in a Tri-State visit with the Bronxville School District.

Director of Business Administration's Report

Barbara Briganti stated that as of yet, there will be no cuts in State Aid that will effect North Salem. The District is still waiting for the ARRA funds for this year which have not been received.

Discussion took place regarding TRS contributions as well as the creation of the Tier 5 for the New York Retirement System.

Board Reports

Andrew Brown commented on the Safety Committee which is working on evacuation drill plans and making the parking lot (both parking and traffic) safer, particularly with regard to sporting events.

Katherine Daniels stated that the Policy Committee has met twice working on updating the Harassment Policy, Credit Card Policy, Authorized Signature Policy and the entire 5000 series including the Code of Conduct.

Paul Giamundo attended the clearing house meeting regarding negotiations during which some districts that are having difficulty settling their contracts gave presentations.

Presentation 2010-2011 Budget Development Process

A discussion took place regarding the budget planning process for the 2010-2011 budget.

Dr. Freeston highlighted the following areas:

- Most importantly to focus on expenditures which can be controlled more than revenue which cannot.
- One challenge to work on is the explanation of the public about the tax rates.
- The salary lines will be set this year as all contracts have been settled.
- The contingency budget this year will be 0% and therefore if the budget does not pass, there will be no money in the contingency budget for equipment or capital improvements.
- The Board will have to look at the many items pulled out of the bond referendum and put into the operating budget, primarily equipment, which may create challenges if the contingency budget is passed.

Dr. Freeston stated that this budget season is going to be challenging for all school districts, as districts try to find ways to keep students at the center of what they do while balancing pressure to make cuts.

Barabara Briganti explained that if the contingency budget gets passed, any outside use of school facilities that would incur costs, will not be able to take place.

Dr. Freeston closed by stating that the administration will begin to meet and work together to plan through collaborative consensus the budget process and that the dynamic will change this year as discussions will revolve primarily around what comes out of the budget.

Action Items

Acceptance of Vote – Annual District Election and Budget

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (6-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the results of the December 1, 2009 Safe and Sound Bond vote as verified by the District Clerk certification attached (Appendix A).

Amendments to OMNI 403(b) Plan Document

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (6-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the North Salem Central School District ("District") maintains the North Salem Central School District 403(b) Retirement Plan ("Plan"); and

WHEREAS, the Plan was duly adopted on the 3rd day of December, 2008 by the District's Board of Education ("Board"); and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to restate and amend the Plan as regards section 2.7 Non-elective Employer Contributions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that section 2.7 of the Plan is hereby restated and amended to read as follows:

2.7 Non-elective Employer Contributions

Employer Non-Elective Contributions shall be permitted under the Plan at the discretion of the Employer to certain class(es) of Employee(s), as specified or referenced in the Plan Adoption Agreement and/or consistent with terms and conditions of the Employer's collective bargaining agreement(s), memorandum(s) of agreement, or similar written arrangement.

The Employer shall be solely responsible for determining that a contribution is Non-Elective. Neither The OMNI Group, Inc., nor any record keeper, nor any Participating Service Provider, shall have any right or duty to inquire into the amount or appropriateness of any Non-Elective Employer Contribution made by the Employer, the method used in determining the amount of any such contribution, or to collect the same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Plan, as restated and amended is hereby approved and adopted.

Book Approval

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (6-0) the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the adoption of the following book for instructional use.

Title	<u>Chains</u>
Publisher	Simon & Schuster
Copyright Date	2008

Consent Agenda

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (6-0) the Board of Education approved the following Consent Agenda:

Resignations

Mr. William Dahl (*Amend*)

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Mr. William Dahl, Health Teacher, June 30, 2010 (previously approved as Physical Education Teacher).

Ms. Denise Frasca

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Ms. Denise Frasca, Special Education Teacher (.2 FTE), effective November 22, 2009 (previously approved with “until a replacement can be hired”).

Appointments

Ms. Christine Carolan

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Christine Carolan, as a substitute teacher, Grades 6 - 12, for the 2009-2010 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. Georgette (Jodi) Shearer

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Georgette (Jodi) Shearer, as a substitute teacher, Grades 6 - 12, for the 2009-2010 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. Denise Frasca

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the 52-week probationary appointment of Ms. Denise Frasca as a Paraprofessional, assigned to the Middle/High School, effective November 23, 2009, for 4 hours an day, 5 days a week. Ms. Frasca will be placed as a Paraprofessional, Step 6 according to the CSEA contract. Ms. Frasca replaces Ms. Josephine Coviello.

Ms. Christine Carolan

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Christine Carolan, as a substitute paraprofessional, for grades 6 -12, at a rate of \$11.00/hr for the 2009-2010 school year.

Approvals

Mr. Joel Cassidy

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the change in hours from 1.0 to 1.2, for the 2009-2010 school year, effective November 23, 2009 (per contract Article XXXI, 15% increase).

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 2009-2010 school year.

<u>Name of Individual</u>	<u>Stipend Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Barbara Rue	Musical Choreographer	per contract
Alison Hublard Hershman	Musical Costumer	per contract

Unpaid Leave of Absence

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants Ms. Cynthia Fox an unpaid leave of absence from on or about November 25, 2009 to on or about February 1, 2010.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (7-0) the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca Narvaez
Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk