

**NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560**  
[www.northsalemschools.org](http://www.northsalemschools.org)  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**JANUARY 6, 2010**

**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 6:36 PM, a motion was made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo, and carried (7-0), 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 Paul Giamundo and carried (7-0), 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  
Mr. Jonathan Freeman, Trustee

**Also Present:**

Dr. Kenneth Freeston, Superintendent  
Ms. MaryJo Hauser, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services  
Ms. Barbara Briganti, Director of Business Administration  
Ms. Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk  
Mr. Bob Herlihy, Chair Audit Committee  
Members of North Salem Staff  
Members of the Public

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:38- PM Board President Katherine Daniels followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Announcements**

Katherine Daniels made the following announcements:

- The National Honor Society induction ceremony took place on December 10<sup>th</sup> , at which fifty North Salem students were inducted, our largest group to date. This is a rigorous program and is the highest honor the faculty can bestow upon the student body. On behalf of the Board of Education, Ms. Daniels, congratulated all of the inductees on their achievement.
- Kindergarten registration for 2010-2011 begins on February 1 through February 5<sup>th</sup>. Children age 5 by November 30<sup>th</sup> are eligible to register. Please see the district website for further details.
- The Guidance Department will be hosting a Career Fair on Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. The Department is asking community members who are excited about their careers to participate. Please visit the district website for further information or contact the guidance office.
- On Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, the Westchester Putnam School Board Association is hosting a dinner and networking discussion regarding 2010-2011 school budget process and strategies. Let Rebecca know if you would like to attend.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Robert Treadway commented on the Safe and Sound Bond Resolution that did not pass on December 1, 2009 stating that he felt there were various reasons why the vote did not pass, including the state of the economy and the number of tax increases that community members face.

### **Student Board Representative Reports**

The Student Board Representatives reported on past and upcoming school and sporting events at the Elementary and Middle/High School.

### **Acceptance of Minutes**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (7-0) the Board accepted the minutes for November 18, 2009, December 2, 2009 and December 16, 2009.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Freeston reported on the recently announced plan to enable school districts to apply for stimulus money. New York has been allocated 700 million dollars within the Race to the Top (RTTT) federal stimulus grant program. Dr. Freeston stated that half of this money will go to local school districts and is distributed through a current year, Title I formula; North Salem would be entitled to as much as \$13,000.

On the agenda is a resolution approving the signatures of the Board President and Superintendent for the Memorandum of Understanding. The Memorandum of Understanding suggests that the Board President, Superintendent and the President of the teacher's union sign the application; school districts score more points toward the grant money if there are all three signatures. Dr. Freeston stated that, at this time, the president of the teacher's union is not planning on signing the application.

Dr. Freeston remarked that there has been a lot of press regarding the program and that he along with the Board think that it is better to be in line for the funding and to support the State in trying to get as much of the grant money as possible. The MOU includes a checklist of 15 or 20 initiatives, those checked off by North Salem, are in line with the District's mission statement and goals.

Dr. Freeston thanked the highly valued and cherished teachers that are retiring and are on the Consent Agenda. Dr. Freeston stated that with these additions, the minimum number of retirees for the incentive has been met and the second year of the teacher's contract will move forward. Dr. Freeston again thanked and recognized the North Salem Teachers Association for understanding the difficult economic times and collaborating with the Administration while negotiating the teachers' contract.

The Facilities Committee will meet within the next 30 days after which Barbara Brigant, Gary Green and Dr. Freeston will make a recommendation on a revision to the five year plan. Dr. Freeston stated that the first three years of the plan remain unfunded and which compels the committee to start a new five year plan with "year one" beginning July 2010. The "year one" projects must be the most critical as the committee looks at options on how to secure funding.

Katherine Daniels suggested that the Fiscal Committee look at models for funding.

Dr. Freeston stated that the committee will also work with the Stated Education Department to investigate which code and handicap accessible items can be paired for cost efficiency and what can be done in-house.

### **Director of Business Administration's Report**

#### **Long Range Study Update**

Barbara Briganti reported on the Long Range Study Update, a comprehensive report prepared by BOCES, outlining the community and services showing projections on enrollment through 2019.

#### **Food Service Report**

Lisa Cantor, Onsite Director Whitsons Catering and Lisa Evans, District Manager Whitsons Catering, highlighted the first half of the school year and gave a report on the programs and items offered to the District, including adherence to the School District Wellness Policy.

The District was reviewed by the Child Nutrition Department of the State Education Department and received a letter commending the District's Food Service Program.

Whitsons will be rolling out a kindergarten lunch program in February.

### **Presentations**

#### ***Audit Committee-Chair Robert Herlihy***

Mr. Herlihy reported the following:

- The Audit Committee has approved the Accume Report (Internal Audit on IT and the District's action plan).
- The Accume Report found no material control deficiencies but found areas in need of improvement.
- The Director of Technology reviewed the Action Plan and is addressing the needed improvements.

- The committee approved the District response to the External Audit's Management Letter which the Board formally approved in November.

A discussion took place regarding the next Internal Audit the suggestions for review are: reports to the Board, payroll functions and controls or fixed assets.

Mr. Herlihy thanked outgoing committee members, Mr. Thomas Costello and Katherine Daniels for their efforts and welcomed new member Mr. Patrick J. Heffernan and Board of Education member Paul Giamundo.

Paul Giamundo thanked Board President Katherine Daniels for her work on the Audit Committee.

### **Board Reports**

Andrew Brown reported on the Safety Committee meeting where members took part in training for Incident Command Systems, a program that teaches a hierarchy of communication and control during critical incidents.

Paul Giamundo reported on the Communication Committee stating that the committee continues to look at Tuesday Newsday and is working on a survey for the community to give feedback on the school district's website.

Paul Giamundo attended WPSBA forum where discussion took place regarding the cost of Special Education services and ERS/TRS funds.

### **Action Items**

#### **Stipulation of Settlement – Tax Refund**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (7-0) the Board approved the following resolution:

***BE IT RESOLVED that*** the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools acknowledges the Stipulation of Settlement to refund tax dollars to Albert & Albert, Attorney for the Petitioner, in the total amount of \$1,095.81.

#### **Authorization for Superintendent to Sign – Syntax**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (7-0) the Board approved the following resolution:

***BE IT RESOLVED that*** the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approve the contract with SYNTAX in the amount of \$27,625 (per the payment schedule in Addendum B) and authorize the Superintendent to execute such an agreement.

#### **Race-to-the-Top (RITT) Memorandum of Understanding**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (7-0) the Board approved the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby authorizes the Board President, Katherine Daniels, and the Superintendent, Dr. Kenneth R. Freeston, to sign the District's RITT MOU for submission to the New York State Education Department.

**Amend Resolution**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (7-0) the Board approved the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools amend the following resolution to include the approval of an hourly rate of \$155 for any additional hours.

**BE IT RESOLVED:** John Maguire of Consolidated Technology serve as Civil Engineer (Sanitary Engineer) for the 2009-2010 school year at the following rates: \$735/ a month for engineering and consulting services. Quarterly fees of \$349 for monitoring of field sampling and laboratory services and other mandated testing fees as indicated in the proposal and an hourly rate of \$155.00 for any additional hours.

**Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report, Budget Status and Revenue Status, Warrant Report and Monthly Expenditure Report for the month of November 2009**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (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 the Treasurer's Report, Budget Status and Revenue Status, Warrant Report and Monthly Expenditure Report for the month of November 2009.

**Acceptance Student Activity Report for October and November 2009**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (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 and November 2009.

**Audit Committee**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (7-0) the Board approved the following resolution:

**RESOLVED,** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints Mr. Patrick J. Heffernan for a three year term, the District's Audit Committee commencing on January 1, 2010 and ending on December 31, 2013.

**Consent Agenda**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (7-0) the Board approved the following Consent Agenda:

Board President Katherine Daniels thanked the retiring teachers for the hard work and dedication.

## **Resignation**

### **00086 (Employee ID)**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Employee ID # 00086 effective June 30, 2010.

### **Ms. Carole Lanzarone**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Ms. Carole Lanzarone, Special Education Teacher, effective June 30, 2010.

### **Mr. John Lauro**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Mr. John Lauro, Physical Education Teacher, effective June 30, 2010.

### **Ms. Elizabeth Carson-Tompkins**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Ms. Elizabeth Carson-Tompkins, English Language Arts Teacher, effective June 30, 2010.

### **Mr. John Urgola**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Mr. John Urgola, Special Education Teacher, effective June 30, 2010.

### **Ms. Julia Scallero**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Ms. Julia Scallero, Social Studies Teacher, effective June 30, 2010.

## **Appointment**

### **Christine Buckley**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Christine Buckley as a substitute teacher 6-12, for the 2009-2010 school year, at the substitute rate of \$85.00 for the first 10 days and \$95.00 thereafter.

### **Anna Morozuk**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Ms. Anna Morozuk to the position of Leave Replacement Spanish Teacher effective on or about January 4, 2010. Ms. Morozuk holds an initial certification in Spanish (7-12). Ms. Morozuk's placement on the salary schedule will be at the BA Step 1 as per the NSTA contract, pro-rated and effective January 4, 2010. Ms. Morozuk will replace Ms. Maria Orellana.

## **Approval**

**Summer 2009 Curriculum Projects**

**RESOLVED**, upon recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves payment, according to the NSTA contract, to the highlighted individual’s names and positions listed, in the attached charts dated 12/16/2009. The total for each project may not be exceeded except with the approval of the Board of Education, changes in the distribution such funding within a project may occur with the approval of the Superintendent of Schools.

**Volunteer Recommendation-National English Honor Society- Co-Advisors**

**RESOLVED**, upon recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Dr. Nick Kowgios and Mr. David Popken as co-advisors of the newly formed National English Honor Society at no additional compensation for the 2009-2010 school year.

**Stipends**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation by 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.

<b><u>Name of Individual</u></b>	<b><u>Stipend Title</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Robert Gilchrist	JV Baseball Coach	per contract
Brigida Favata	District Registrar	\$1250 (pro-rated 11/18/09)
Tiffany Navarro	Student Activity Treasurer	\$3600 (pro-rated 11/18/09)

**Step and Lane Advancements – Effective February 1, 2010**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Current Degree Status</u></b>	<b><u>Current Step</u></b>	<b><u>New Lane Requested</u></b>	<b><u>New Salary</u></b>
Jennifer Molloy	MA	Step 6	MA-30	Per the NSTA Contract

**Policy Reading**

The Board conducted the first of two readings for the revision of the following polices:

- Revision Policy # 1740 Access to Textbook Loan Regulation
- Revision Policy # 6410 Authorized Signatures
- Revision Policy # 6700 Purchasing Policies

**Old Business**

Dr. Freeston stated that the Regional Transportation Grant and Study, previously approved by the Board, is going to be funded by 90 %. Gary Green is attending the meetings and working on the project. The *study* will look at and plan for shared services which will lead to cost savings for the District.

**Adjournment**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (7-0) the Board of Education voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Rebecca Narvaez*

Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk