

**NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**NORTH SALEM, NEW YORK 10560**  
[www.northsalemschools.org](http://www.northsalemschools.org)  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**MARCH 10, 2010**

**Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the North Salem Central School District was called to order at 7:05 PM in the Board Conference Room by Board Vice-President Judith Schurmacher.

At 7:05 PM, a motion was made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo, and carried (6-0), to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing legal advice and the employment history of a particular person. Judith Schurmacher was appointed Clerk Pro-Tem for this Executive Session.

At 7:32 PM, on a motion made by made Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo 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. Jonathan Freeman, Trustee  
Mr. Andrew Brown, 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 7:36 PM Board President Katherine Daniels followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Announcements**

Board President Katherine Daniels made the following announcements:

- Ms. Daniels stated that there have been questions regarding the process of interviewing prospective candidates for the board vacancy. Ms. Daniels clarified the process stating, albeit awkward, the interviews and voting on the candidates were required to be in public session, in accordance with the Open Meetings Law.

- Ms. Daniels has drafted and sent three letters regarding the elimination of the School Resource Officer to Governor Paterson, Senator Leibell, and Assemblyman Greg Ball.
- Ms. Daniels thanked the North Salem PTO and the North Salem Teacher's Association for the informational newsletters regarding the budget.
- Congratulations to the Girls Basketball team for their victory over Tuxedo; they now advance to the State Regional Finals.
- Application for transportation to private/parochial schools: transportation requests for North Salem resident students attending non-public school schools must be submitted to transportation services by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Board Trustee and Budget Vote**

There are four seats open in May 18, 2010 Trustee Election.

**To run for the School Board** a candidate must be a qualified voter of the district (i.e., a United States citizen); and must have resided in the School District for an uninterrupted period of at least one year prior to the election date. A person who has been convicted of a state or federal felony may not serve on a school board unless: (1) he/she has been pardoned or otherwise restored to the rights of citizenship by the Governor or the President; or (2) his/her maximum sentence of imprisonment has expired; or (3) he/she has been discharged from parole.

### **Petition Signatures**

In accordance with §2018 of the State Education Law, nominating petitions for the May 18, 2010 election require at least twenty-five (25) qualified signatures. (It is suggested that additional qualified signatures be obtained.)

The filing deadline for filing nominating petitions is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 19, 2010. Petitions must be filed with the District Clerk at her office in the District Office at 230 June Road, North Salem, New York.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Scott Lenhart, president of North Salem Teacher's Association, addressed the board regarding the proposed cut of the elementary school Social Worker stating that this position helps students address problems before the problems can escalate. Mr. Lenhart suggested that the Board reconsider cutting the Social Worker position from PQ.

Ms. Laurie Stagno, resident, paraprofessional and Vice President of CSEA, asked the Board to support the paraprofessionals of North Salem.

Ms. Heather Ely asked the Board to consider how the budget cuts, particularly the Assistant Principal and Social Worker positions at PQ, will affect the students and asked the Board to consider cuts that don't involve positions with direct student contact.

Mr. Steve Fuller, Teacher PQ Elementary School, asked that the specifics of the cuts be further explained with respect to how many paraprofessionals are being cut totaling the 5.84 FTE, as well as how the work that the Assistant Principal at the Elementary School be delegated.

Dr. Freeston answered that the 5.84 FTE cut represents 7 individuals and that at this time specifics were not available regarding the delegation of duties as this was still a proposed budget.

### **Acceptance of Minutes**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (6-0) the Board of Education accepted the Executive Session Minutes of March 3, 2010.

### **Presentations**

Dr. Freeston recapped his budget presentation regarding the proposed 2010-2011 budget with no changes to the previous week's recap, a copy of this presentation can be found online at [www.northsalemsschools.org](http://www.northsalemsschools.org) under the 2010-2011 Budget link.

### **Instructional Supervision and Instructional Teaching**

Ms. Roberta Reiner and Dr. Patricia Cyganovich presented the K through 12 proposed budget outlining staff reductions, enrollment and staffing and the 2010-2011 per pupil allocation; this presentation can be viewed as a video under board meetings or in presentation format as under the 2010-2011 Budget link.

### **Co-curricular Activities and Athletics**

Mr. Henry Sassone, Athletic Director, outlined the athletic department's changes, accomplishments as well as student enrollment in athletic programs. The number of students participating in athletic programs this year is as follows: 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade, 177 students, a total of 87% and 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 303 students, a total of 70%.

Mr. Sassone stated that this is the second year of the realignment, the highlights this year have been: more competition and a reduction in travel time and mileage allowing students to have more study and family time.

In 2010-2011, the majority of non-league games will be played against schools that touch the North Salem borders: Brewster, Carmel, Mahopac, John Jay Cross River, JFK, Lincoln Hall and Somers.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Freeston reported on the following:

- The Middle School musical was a tremendous success; Dr. Freeston congratulated and thanked all of those involved for making it possible.
- Dr. Freeston congratulated to the Girls Basketball team and remarked on what an accomplishment it is for a team from such a small district to compete at the State level.
- The NSTA has approved the draft 2010-2011 School Calendar and this will be placed on the next agenda for Board approval.

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

- The Board recently adopted a policy for a text book loan program; the applications for this program are due in the Business Office by June 1, 2010.
- Ms. Briganti spoke with the District's architect today, plans for the water project are still with the Department of Health, the applications are all set and ready to go to State Educational Department, once the Department of Health approves.

### **Board Reports**

Mr. Paul Giamundo will attend the Westchester Putnam School Board Association legislative forum tomorrow night.

### **Action Items**

### **Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report, Budget Status and Revenue Status, Warrant Report, Student Activities Fund Report and Monthly Expenditure Report for the month of February 2010.**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (6-0) 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, Student Activities Fund Report and Monthly Expenditure Report for the month of February 2010.

### **Establishment of Erik Nicoletti Fund**

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

**RESOLVED that** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education authorizes the establishment of the Erik Nicoletti Fund.

### **BOCES BID SUPPLIES**

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

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the participating school districts of the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services, adopting this Resolution to bid jointly in those supplies, commodities, materials and equipment set forth below.

**RESOLVED**, that the North Salem Central School District agrees to participate with other school districts of the Southern Westchester Board of Educational Services, Westchester County, New York adopting this in the joint bidding of:

Art Supplies  
General School Supplies  
Office Supplies

Fine Paper Supplies  
Audio Visual Supplies & Equipment  
Custodial Supplies  
Custodial Paper Supplies  
Lumber Supplies  
Laser & Ink Jet Toners  
Microcomputer Software  
Microcomputer Hardware  
Office & Classroom Furniture  
Graphing Calculators

***FURTHER RESOLVED***, that this Resolution shall remain in effect until June 30, 2011 and

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that it is agreed that the specifications as presented will be used, and that this Board agrees to bid its required amount of said commodities jointly with other participating school districts in Southern Westchester and the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services. The recommendation of the Purchasing Steering Committee will be considered when this Board acts on the purchase of said Commodities.

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that the invitation to bid will be advertised by BOCES in the Journal News in accordance with the provisions of Section 103 to the General Municipal Law.

#### **Gift Acceptance**

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

***RESOLVED***, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts with gratitude the donation of an A Power-Tech Universal Gym, valued at \$1,299 from Mr. Thomas Spillane and the Spillane family.

#### **Acceptance of CSE and CPSE dated March 10, 2010**

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

***RESOLVED***, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the acceptance of CSE and CPSE Reports dated March 10, 2010.

#### **Consent Agenda**

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

#### **Resignation**

#### **Amend**

**Ms. Barbara Gross**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education amends the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Ms. Barbara Gross, Reading Teacher, effective June 30, 2010 (previously approved as English Teacher).

**Ms. Kerry DeSandre**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the resignation, of Ms. Kerry DeSandre-After School Paraprofessional Cross Country Track effective February 25, 2010.

**Appointment**

**Certified**

**Ms. Beth Lager**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Beth Lager, 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. Nicole Iarossi**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Nicole Iarossi, as a substitute teacher, Grades K-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. Marci Riina**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Marci Riina, as a substitute teacher, Grades K-5, 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. Laura Shumpert Key**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Laura Shumpert Key, as a substitute teacher, Grades K-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. Laura Head**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Laura Head, as a substitute teacher, Grades K-6, 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. Marci Riina**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Marci Riina, as a substitute paraprofessional, for grades K - 5, at a rate of \$11.00/hr for the 2009-2010 school year, subject to fingerprint clearance.

**Ms. Laura Head**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Ms. Laura Head, as a substitute paraprofessional, for grades K - 12, at a rate of \$11.00/hr for the 2009-2010 school year, subject to fingerprint clearance.

**Approval**

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Elizabeth Bauerlein for home tutoring on an as needed basis at a rate of \$45 an hour for the 2009-2010 school year.

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Jody Folster for home tutoring on an as needed basis at a rate of \$45 an hour for the 2009-2010 school year.

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Beth Lager for home tutoring on an as needed basis at a rate of \$45 an hour for the 2009-2010 school year.

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Margaret Seligman for home tutoring on an as needed basis at a rate of \$45 an hour for the 2009-2010 school year.

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves Laura Shumpert Key for home tutoring on an as needed basis at a rate of \$45 an hour for the 2009-2010 school year.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

Board President Katherine Daniels received the NYSBBA Resolution Took Kit; proposals resolutions are due on June 14, 2010.

**Public Comments**

Donna Flayhan, Co-president of the PQ PTO, asked a series of questions related to administrative cuts, nonresident students and security.

Ms. Laurie Stagno asked about the policy of accepting nonresident students.

Board members and Dr. Freeston stated that the District accepts nonresident students of employees with the following guidelines, if there is sufficient space and appropriate in-district programs to

accommodate the non-resident student without the creation of additional classes and if no increase in the size of faculty or staff will be necessary to accommodate the student, with a cost of supplies billed to the families. There is therefore no additional cost to the District as this reflects services in place. This is a longstanding policy in North Salem that can be changed through board review and modification of the existing policy.

Dr. Freeston reiterated that there are no cuts presented or proposed to the Board that were not difficult decisions and that do not affect the students, but that the tax levy must be kept at a workable percentage.

**Adjournment**

On a motion made by Judith Schurmacher, seconded by Paul Giamundo and carried (6-0) the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 10:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Rebecca Narvaez*

Rebecca Narvaez, District Clerk