

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 15, 2008—Oquenock School
President George Smith, Presiding

PRESENT: Mr. G. Smith, Mr. Gellar, Mrs. Bieselin, Mr. Bloom, Mrs. Heine, Mrs. LaRosa,
Mr. W. Smith
Administrators: Dr. Blau, Mrs. Duffy, Mr. Stern, Mr. Zocchia
Attorney: Mr. Volz

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 p.m., followed by the Pledge. No one wished to speak during "An Invitation to the Public". The principal of Oquenock, Mrs. Morrison, welcomed everyone to Oquenock. A video was shown.

RECOGNITION: National Nurses' Week: Patricia Reimer. Mock Trial Competition: Eric B., Ricky F., Gregory F., Eric H., Nicole H., Annie L., Gavin McG., Sean O'G., Amanda Q., Stadler T., Matthew T., Trevor W., Bridget S., Shane A. and Kevin R.. Rich Thompson, Coach.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes for the Special Meetings on April 1, 2008, April 8, and April 16; and the Regular Meeting of April 10, 2008, as amended. April 16 meeting amended as follows: page 1, paragraph #4: include comments: "The hiring of Dr. Blau's step-daughter, Ms. Mercado, came about as condition in Dr. Blau's negotiation demands to extend her contract. The Board President, Mr. G. Smith, did not bring the contract extension request to the board for discussion for several months, as was his prerogative, due to acrimony among Board members. At the time of the presentation to the Board by Mr. G. Smith, the Board agreed unanimously "in principle" to the terms of the extension request, with some slight modification. In addition, at the time of the initial discussion of terms of the extension request, the requirement for the Board to hire Ms. Mercado was unanimously agreed to "in principle" by all members, pending a demonstration that Ms. Mercado's hiring meet the extenuating circumstance requirement of the nepotism policy and that Dr. Blau would agree not to participate in negotiating the next teacher's contract. Subsequently, there was a difference of opinion by trustees Heine and Bloom, as to whether extenuating circumstances, as to Ms. Mercado's qualifications, did in fact exist and they ultimately voted against authorization of Ms. Mercado's hiring."

Last paragraph: include comments: Legal services contract extended, due to statement from Guercio & Guercio, stating their firm has never classified an attorney as an employee of any municipal client while working for their firm. Recent newspaper articles charged many legal firms with the practice of which an attorney is classified as an "employee" of several districts at the same time, while maintaining a private law practice.

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: James Gilmartin, Director of Social Studies, effective July 1, 2008 to July 2, 2011 (\$88,500 annual salary; district-wide).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Heine and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Dr. Judith L. Toussaint, Director of World Languages/ESL, effective July 1, 2008 to July 2, 2011 (\$100,000 annual salary, district-wide).

Motion was made by Mrs. Heine, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Arianna Breitfeller, Reading Teacher, effective September 2, 2008 to September 3, 2010 (Captree/H.S., Step 4², replacing M. Aramini).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Heine and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Kevin McLoughlin, Library Media Specialist, effective September 2, 2008 to September 3, 2010 (Beach Street, Step 9⁸, replacing G. Frain).

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mrs. Heine and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Kristina Rosenberg, Reading Teacher, effective September 2, 2008 to September 3, 2011 (Bayview, Sep 2², replacing L. McDermott).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: RESIGNATION: Arianna Breitfeller, Special Education Teacher, effective September 2, 2008, (Bayview).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: RESIGNATION: James Gilmartin, Social Studies Teacher, effective July 1, 2008, (Udall, H.S.).

Motion was made by Mrs. Heine, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: RESIGNATION: Kevin McLoughlin, Elementary Teacher, effective September 2, 2008, (Manetuck).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD BEARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE (paid): Robin Caputo, Elementary Teacher, effective March 3, 2008 (Manetuck, Kindergarten).

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD BEARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE (paid): Robin Napolitano, Reading Teacher, effective May 8, 2008 (Manetuck).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Heine and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD BEARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE (paid): Dina Stramara, Elementary Teacher, effective April 28, 2008 (Westbrook, Grade 4).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Cathleen Cronin, Cafeteria Aide, effective April 29, 2008, Step 1, Bayview.

Motion was made by Mrs. Heine, seconded by Mrs. Biesel and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: LEAVE OF ABSENCE (Pursuant to FMLA—12 Weeks continuous Medical Coverage): Annemarie Watson, Senior Account Clerk, effective April 9, 2008 to April 28, 2008.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: RETIREMENT: Carolyn J. Cross, District Clerk, effective June 28, 2008.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS (\$105 per diem): Charles Ambrosio, effective April 8, 2008; Daniel Dunninger, effective April 8, 2008; Lauren Ferruggiari, effective April 9, 2008; Maria Luisa Gil, effective April 14, 2008; Michael Krasnicki, effective April 4, 2008; Kristin Larsen, effective April 14, 2008; *Dolores Miller, effective May 12, 2008; Margaret Moore, effective April 8, 2008; Kathryn Noonan, effective April 4, 2008; Joseph Polley, effective April 11, 2008.

CURRICULUM UPDATE: Mr. Stern announced that West Islip has been named a high performance gap-closing school for 2006-07 school year. He explained what this meant, and how schools were chosen.

REPORT OF BOARD COMMITTEES: Mrs. Heine reported on Finance Committee meeting of 5/13. The Policy Committee did not meet. Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to table approval of File 6215: Nepotism. A First Reading for File 8130: Religious Expression in the Public Schools took place. Mrs. Biesel reported on School Board/Student Liaison Committee meeting on 5/14 and 5/15. Mr. Gellar reported on Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting of 5/15. Mrs. LaRosa reported on Committee on Special Education/Preschool Special Education recommendations, re: classification/placement/I.E.P. modifications of students as delineated: CPSE ID# 6212, 6134, 6125, 6412, 6482, 6488, 6484, 6489, 6261, 6111, 6487, 6208, 6417; CSE ID# 4616, 3126, 6385, 97038, 6296, 4640, 101168, 5470. Mrs. LaRosa thanked SEPTA and teachers for play "Snow White" last month. "Spirit of inclusion was alive", and it was a great experience for the children. Mrs. LaRosa appreciates the teachers' time. The Legislative Action Committee did not meet; however, Mr. Gellar spoke about a letter campaign. Please check district website for sample letter to send about unfunded mandates.

The Treasurer's Report for March was presented. Beginning balance \$30,220,564.84 and ending balance \$35,311,694.96.

Motion was made by Mrs. Heine, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve budget transfers, as recommended by Finance Committee.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Biesel and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve bond issue change order, capital improvement: Credit \$1,785 for Palace Electrical.

Motion was made by Mrs. Heine, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve health service contracts with West Islip UFSD and Manhasset UFSD (St. Mary's) 2 students @ \$705.56 = \$1,411.12.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mrs. Heine and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Special Education tuition payment with East Islip UFSD \$100,025.00.

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mrs. Biesel and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the following donations, with thanks: Suffolk Transportation Scholarship for \$1,000.; PAWS donation for \$27,513.; Suffolk County Superintendent for B&G \$1,000; and Box Tops in Education to PJ Bellew \$1,032.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to declare as surplus, the following, and dispose of as Business Office sees fit: lathe machine at Udall Rd. M.S., Sharp copy machine at Captree; Cisco Books at H.S.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Leasehold Space Agreement with Eastern Suffolk BOCES .

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Joint Municipal Cooperative Bidding Program Resolution with ES BOCES.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Heine and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve contract extension with Smartweb.

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mrs. Biesel and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Memorandum of Agreement – Administrative Assistant Apprentices, subject to changes as discussed by Mr. Bloom.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mrs. Heine and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve dates for Reorganizational and Board Meetings for 2008-09 school year.

Motion was made by Mrs. Heine, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Jesse Greenwald Scholarship recipient – Kristin Alotta.

Reminder that Tuesday is the Annual Budget Vote and Board Member Election, at the High School, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday, May 22 will be closed, due to a snow day give back.

Mrs. Heine thanked the Superintendent for her "awesome" budget hearing presentation video. Mr. W. Smith had comments about organizational change and transition.

Mrs. Biesel read a personal statement, regarding rumor.

No one wished to speak during "An Invitation to the Public".

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 10:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened and adjourned at 11:10 p.m. on motion made by Mr. W. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted by,

Carolyn J. Cross
District Clerk

All correspondence, reports or related materials referred to in these minutes are on file in the District Office.

PUBLIC HEARING – BUDGET HEARING

May 13, 2008—Beach Street Middle School

A Public Hearing was held on May 13, 2008. Dr. Blau presented the budget to the community, and budget books were available.

ANNUAL MEETING OF WEST ISLIP UFSD

May 20, 2008—High School

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M., when the polls were declared open by District Clerk/Chairperson Carolyn J. Cross.

At 10:00 P.M., the polls were closed and results were recorded as follows:

Total Votes Cast

Yes Votes	2376
No Votes	930

<u>For the Seat of Sharon Biesel:</u>	Sharon Biesel	1798*
	John Gedney	1290

<u>For the Seat of Barbara Heine:</u>	Robert W. Ulrich	1972*
	Barbara Heine	1182

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn J. Cross
District Clerk

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 29, 2008—District Office

President George Smith, Presiding

PRESENT: Mr. G. Smith, Mr. Gellar, Mrs. Biesel, Mr. Bloom (8:25 p.m.), Mrs. Heine, Mrs. LaRosa, Mr. W. Smith

Administrators: Dr. Blau, Mrs. Duffy, Mr. Stern, Mr. Zocchia

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m., followed by the Pledge. Discussions: tutoring survey; capital reimbursements from past bonds/capital accounts; asset tracking software; technology plan; tuition for Driver's Education; summer school tuition.

Motion was made by Mr. W. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Heine and carried when all board members present (Mr. Bloom not present for vote) voted in favor to approve Technology Plan, 2008-2011.

NYSHIP gave a presentation.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Biesel and carried when all board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:45 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 9:58 p.m. on motion by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Biesel and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Heine and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve attendance zone change for students named in Executive Session.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m. on motion by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn J. Cross

District Clerk