

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION LOG

Regular Meeting – December 8, 2011

Mr. Jim Lanzarotta; Mr. Lanzarotta spoke about redistricting, union contracts, administrative cuts and the Superintendent's contract.

Mr. Tim Delaney; Mr. Delaney spoke about conduct at board meetings.

Ms. Valerie Winter; Ms Winter spoke about school closures, audit control, and the delay in receiving notification from the district due to her Bay Shore address.

Ms. Ruth Mineo; Ms. Mineo spoke about the closing of schools and stated that additional cuts should be made to the administrative staff.

Ms. Kathleen Takats; Ms. Takats spoke about her desires for a risk assessment audit.

Ms. Catherine Artusa; Ms. Artusa spoke about school closures and the need to trim administrative staff to effect a savings.

Ms. Valerie Rivera; Ms. Rivera spoke about school closures and wondered about the timing of the recent Smartboard purchase.

Ms. Andrea Gebler; Ms. Gebler discussed school building closures and felt the elementary population should not have to bear the entire burden of redistricting.

Ms. Geri Bearden; Ms. Bearden spoke about school closures and said she disagreed with the District's decision to close two elementary buildings. She asked the Board to reconsider its decision.

Ms. Jessica Horvath; Ms. Horvath spoke about school closures, said she disagrees with the Board's decision. An elementary school and a middle school should be closed so that the burden will be shared – not just inflicted on elementary students.

Ms. Kristine Cantwell; Ms. Cantwell asked the Board if the community has a say in which administrators "stay" and which "go".

Ms. Renee Steck; Ms. Steck asked the Board to consider closing only one elementary school and a middle school.

Ms. Carmela Caminito; Ms. Caminito asked the Board to reconsider its decision and close one elementary and one middle school.

Ms. Sharon Cannarella; Ms. Cannarella said the children should not be pulled into negativity regarding school closure. Support measures should be put into place to help the students during the transition.

Mr. Vincent Lospinuso; Mr. Lospinuso asked for the Board's assistance in trying to uncover illegal rentals within West Islip.

Ms. Luann Dunne; Ms. Dunne spoke about Paul J. Bellew and asked the Board to not close Bellew as it is located within other district property and should remain part of the campus. Ms. Dunne also expressed her desire that sixth grade remain as part of the middle school configuration.

Ms. Lesley Keane; Ms. Keane mentioned her disappointment in the Board's decision to close two elementary schools. She said she felt decisions are being made in haste. She also mentioned that she is glad the Board has decided to redistrict.

Ms. Doreen Hantzschel; Ms. Hantzschel discussed her concerns regarding the structure of the integrated program within the district. Ms. Hantzschel also asked the board to give additional consideration to the Foundations program.

Ms. Robyn Meyers; Ms. Meyers voiced her concerns that closing two elementary schools will have a negative impact on student education.

Ms. Marcelle Crudele; Ms. Crudele spoke about the district's need for additional commercial property to ease the financial tax burden on residents.

Mr. Brian Washington; Mr. Washington spoke about the need to maintain current class size. He asked the Board what other measures they are going to be taking in order to meet the two percent tax cap.

Mr. Lev Brickman; Mr. Brickman spoke about school closings and asked the Board for a timeline with regard to the RFP. Mr. Brickman inquired as to what type of tenant the Board was hoping to place in the rented buildings.

Ms. Sandra Galian; Ms. Galian said that she appreciates the Board's efforts during this difficult process. Ms. Galian asked if the Board will be considering traffic patterns when deciding which buildings to close.

Mr. Joe Elberti; Mr. Elberti spoke about the need for additional cuts and said administrative cuts should be the first considered.