

Education Committee meeting December 8, 2011

Members: S. Gellar, A. LaRosa, R. Simon, B. Burns, M. Parvey

Also in attendance: S. Brady, R. Maginniss

The meeting convened at 7:20 p.m.

I. Elementary / Secondary

A. Upcoming professional staff development

Mrs. Burns and Dr. Parvey spoke of the dire need for professional development monies to be built into the 2012-2013 budget. They are aware of the financial constraints in which the district finds itself, but it is imperative that West Islip teachers and administrators be trained on the many changes to curriculum, instructional practices, and assessment methodologies required for successful implementation of the Common Core Standards.

Approximately \$50,000 was budgeted in the current school year, in addition to Title II funds. These dollars will be invested in initial training in the Common Core State Standards for the grades and departments that are more directly impacted by the changes. Next year, training will continue for these same grades/departments, and will also be offered to the balance of the instructional staff.

B. Implementation of the Common Core

A discussion about the common core ensued, in which the assistant superintendents explained the implications to curriculum and instructional practices. Dr. Parvey shared information about the PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) assessments. The PARCC is a consortium of states working together to develop a common set of K-12 assessments in English and math, anchored in the skills necessary for college and career readiness. The PARCC assessments will be ready for states to administer during the 2014-15 school year, although some of the skills addressed in the common core will be measured in the New York State assessments in the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.