

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 14, 2013 – Beach Street Middle School

PRESENT: Mr. Gellar, Mrs. LaRosa, Mr. Maginniss, Mr. Smith, Mr. Zotto (arrived 8:17 p.m.)

ABSENT: Mr. Brady, Mr. Ulrich

ADMINISTRATORS: Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Duffy and Mr. Simon

ABSENT: None

ATTORNEY: Mr. Volz

Meeting was called to order at 8:02 PM, followed by the Pledge.

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

Mr. Gellar informed the audience that this board meeting was being video-taped and the technology is now available for future board meetings, school concerts, etc. to be video-taped and viewed on the school website. He thanked Sue Huscilowitz and Joanne LaDuca for all their efforts.

Motion was made by Annmarie LaRosa, seconded by George Smith and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2013 Regular Meeting and the February 27, 2013 Planning Session.

The following students were recognized as National Geographic Geography Bee Winners: Blaise Coppola, Grade 8; John Franchina, Grade 5; Jason Gaiardelli, Grade 4; Nicholas Sandoval, Grade 5; Dorian Scourtos, Grade 4 and Angelo Spiratos, Grade 7.

The following student was recognized as District-wide Elementary WISE Geography Bee Winner: John Franchina, Grade 5.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by George Smith, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Kimberly Peters, Special Education, effective March 19, 2013 – June 18, 2013.

Motion was made by Annmarie LaRosa, seconded by George Smith, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-BEARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Michelle Studley- Broderick, Mathematics, effective February 21, 2013.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-BEARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Kerri DeBetta, Elementary, effective April 1, 2013.

Motion was made by George Smith, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAN: Yves Gaston, effective March 15, 2013.

Motion was made by George Smith, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: SUBSTITUTE FOOD SERVICE WORKER: Linda Thompson, effective March 15, 2013.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Kathleen Culkin, Part-Time Food Service Worker, effective March 15, 2013.

Motion was made by Annmarie LaRosa, seconded by Ron Maginniss, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: ADVISORS/CLUBS 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR: UDALL MIDDLE SCHOOL: Diana Massaro, Udall Costume Director.

CURRICULUM UPDATE: Bernadette Burns informed the audience that teachers continue to receive professional development in the application of the Common Core State Standard to instruction. A Parent Academy will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2013 at Beach Street Middle School Cafeteria. Pamphlets regarding workshops and registration are available at the schools and on the district's website. English Language Arts Director Karen Appollo and Reading Teacher Sheila Siragusa will present at the upcoming conference focusing on the Common Core hosted by the Long Island Language Arts Council and Nassau Reading Council.

REPORT OF BOARD COMMITTEES:

Finance: Ron Maginniss discussed the topics addressed at the meeting that was held of 3/12/13 where the treasurer's report, payroll summary report, financial statements for the month of January, internal claims audit report, warrants, system manager audit trail, budget transfers, donations, surplus equipment, health service contracts, SEDCAR contracts and change orders were all discussed. Wendy Duffy reported that the district received \$33,000,000.00 in Real Estate taxes and \$9,600,000.00 in Star Aid.

Buildings and Grounds: George Smith reported on the meeting that was held on 3/12/13. Some of the topics discussed were air quality testing at Bayview and Paul J. Bellew, the results were fine; planning for Atlantic project; room modifications of rental property to be done by pre-approved contractors at the full expense of the tenant; completion of athletic storage buildings; repairing of fields and grooming grounds; drainage and pavement issues and handicap lift to boys gym were discussed. Custodians continue to do an outstanding job in all areas.

Education Committee: Annmarie LaRosa reported on the meeting that was held on 3/14/13. She informed the audience that approximately 70 parents have registered for the Parent Academy. The Academy is a really good opportunity for parents to understand the state standards. The workshops offered will provide parents an overview of the tools they can use at home to support their child's learning.

Legislative Action Committee: Steve Gellar reported on the meetings that took place 2/19/13 and 3/6/13. Mr. Gellar spoke about the Legislative Letter-Writing Campaign. The following three letters are on the district's website regarding Funding, Leveled Pension and Sequestration. Mr. Gellar encouraged everyone to print and sign these three letters and return them to any school building by Monday, March 18, 2013. Annmarie LaRosa also spoke to the audience on how important these efforts are in terms of getting more state aid for the district.

Safety and Security Committee: Mike Zotto reported on the meeting that took place 2/26/13. Some of the topics discussed were the following: update and revision of building safety plans; emergency procedure guides; the need for cameras, classroom locks, communication systems, swipe card and entry additions; security personnel requirements and training; links to emergency responders; updated building map and keys to Suffolk County Police Department.

Committee on Special Education/Preschool: Ron Maginniss reported on the meeting that was held 3/14/13. Mrs. Dowling reported that annual reviews for students are almost done and will be completed in the middle of April. STAC forms are being completed as well. Student placements were also discussed.

The Treasurer's Report for January 2013 was presented. Beginning balance as of December 31, 2012 \$3,265,304.79, ending balance as of January 31, 2013 \$39,071,218.11.

Motion was made by Annmarie LaRosa, seconded by Ron Maginniss, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve budget transfers numbered 3058 to 3067 for the 2012-2013 school year.

Motion was made by George Smith, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following Change Orders: Pella General Const. Corp. (\$1,343); Pella Gen. Const. Corp. (\$5,000); Metro Group of Long Island-HS Building A (\$3000); Metro Group of Long Island HS Building B (\$3,000) and Metro Group of Long Island HS Building C (\$3,000).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following Health Service Contracts for the 2012-13 school year with Uniondale UFSD - \$600.56 and Patchogue-Medford UFSD - \$747.14.

Motion was made by George Smith, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following SEDCAR Contracts for the 2012-13 school year with All About Kids, ACLD, AHRC, Building Blocks Pre School, Cleary School for the Deaf, Connetquot Central School District of Islip, DDI, The Hagedorn Little Village School, Harmony Heights School, Just Kids Early Childhood Learning Center, Kids in Action of Long Island, Inc., Kidz Therapy Services, Leeway School, Maryhaven Center for Hope, Metro Therapy, Nassau Suffolk Services for the Autistic, New England Center for Children, Inc., Suffolk County Department of Health Services, Summit School and Henry Viscardi School.

Motion was made by Mike Zotto, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following donation: MSG Varsity/W. Islip Athletics in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Motion was made by George Smith, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to declare the following surplus items: True Z 7 Upright Exercise Bike, Cybex 500 Upright Exercise Bike, True Z 7 Recumbent Exercise Bike, True 750 EA Elliptical Trainer and JAM N Stand Up Row Machine.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Motion was made by George Smith, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the Student-Teacher Calendar for 2013-2014.

Steve Gellar gave a quick update regarding the leasing of the buildings. The buildings are two-thirds filled and the district continues their efforts to fill to capacity. The Divine Rhythms Lease has not been executed yet because they want to increase the amount of space they are renting. The Atlantic deal agreement is complete in principal and the district is getting closer to finalizing the deal.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Simon spoke about the 2013-2014 Student-Teacher Calendar. The calendar was previously adopted in December but new information was received that changed the end of the year by one week. Monday, September 9th will be the first day of school for students because Rosh Hashanah falls on the Sept. 5th and 6th. Superintendent Conference Days will take place on September 3rd and 4th. The last day of classes is Friday, June 27th and High School graduation will take place on Saturday, June 28, 2014.

Mr. Simon also spoke about a program he attended at Hofstra University on Evaluation of Presidential Leadership. High School junior and seniors had to answer questions regarding Leadership Challenges President Obama faces in his second term, Youth Voters and How to Achieve Congressional Bipartisan Cooperation. The panel consisted of Dr. Howard Dean and Mr. Ed Rollins. Mr. Simon thanked Mr. Gilmartin and Mr. Chizik for having the students participate in this informative program.

NOTICES/REMINDERS:

Mr. Simon reminded the audience about the electronic budget survey. There were over 1,000 responses. The next budget meeting will be held on March 20, 2013 in the Beach Street Cafeteria and the results of the survey will be presented.

Budget Work sessions will be held in the Beach Street cafeteria at 7:30 p.m. on March 20, 2013, April 3, 2013 and April 8, 2013.

Nominating Petitions for Board Trustee Seats available at District Office on Friday, March 15, 2013. Nominating Petitions to be returned by Monday, April 22, 2013 by 5:00 p.m.

The following residents wished to speak during an "Invitation to the Public" - Donald Marmo, Joseph Elberti, Craig Miller and Erich Sternkopf.

Donald Marmo, 131 Wilson Place, West Islip, NY – Mr. Marmo had concerns regarding the Atlantic Auto Mall transaction. He felt that the deal is not advantageous to students and tax payers and does not help bring revenue into the district. Mr. Smith informed Mr. Marmo that the fields can be rented from time to time and there is also the possibility of renting the fields for outside tournaments. West Islip community groups who pay taxes can also benefit.

Joseph Elberti, 2 Myson Street, West Islip, NY – Mr. Elberti wanted to know if the district meets with other school districts in the area to discuss how budget challenges are being handled. Mr. Simon informed Mr. Elberti that he does meet with districts in the Islip cluster and that budget challenges and ideas are shared and discussed. He also pointed out that each district has a unique set of circumstances and not every idea applies to every district.

Craig Miller, 41 Evelyn Road, West Islip, NY – Mr. Miller had concerns regarding class size in Paul J. Bellew. He wanted to know if class size will grow significantly next year. Mr. Gellar informed Mr. Miller that the district is still in the budget process and nothing would be firmed up until September. Students could move in or out of the district and things could change. It is too early to know that information and there are too many variables.

Eric Sternkopf, 647 Everdell Avenue, West Islip, NY – Erich is a senior at the High School and had concerns regarding the cost and function of High School Swipe Cards. Mr. Gellar and Mrs. LaRosa will be looking into this matter further.

Motion was made by Mike Zotto, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:15 PM for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 9:49 PM on motion by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM on a motion by Mike Zotto, seconded by Annmarie LaRosa and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mary Hock

Mary Hock
District Clerk

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