

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION/BUDGET  
WORKSESSION**

April 1, 2008—Beach Street Middle School  
President Smith, Presiding

PRESENT: Mr. Smith, Mr. Gellar, Mrs. Bieselin, Mr. Bloom, Mrs. Heine, Mrs. LaRosa,  
Mr. W. Smith

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

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge. Mr. Stern and Mr. Pathak made a technology presentation concerning the status of the technology, initiatives and changes in computer infrastructure from 2002 to date.

Other items discussed: athletic program, state of the budget discussion, busing, playgrounds.

Contingency budget relative to community approved budget will be discussed at next worksession. Board decided to hold an additional budget worksession on Tuesday, April 8, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Beach Street Middle School library.

Two residents spoke during the public input session.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. on motion made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn J. Cross

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION/BUDGET  
WORKSESSION**

April 8, 2008—Beach Street Middle School  
President George Smith, Presiding

PRESENT: Mr. Smith, Mr. Gellar, Mrs. Biesel, Mr. Bloom (7:45 p.m.) Mrs. Heine,  
Mrs. LaRosa, Mr. W. Smith  
Administrators: Dr. Blau, Mrs. Duffy, Mr. Stern, Mr. Zocchia

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge. Agenda items discussed: professional and technical services analysis; budget update; contingent budget; non-recurring items 2008; staffing change list; buildings and grounds/finance questions.

“An Invitation to the Public” was held, with three residents speaking. Subjects of concern have been recorded in log.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m. on motion made 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

# REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 10, 2008--Westbrook School  
President George Smith, Presiding

PRESENT: Mr. 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 8:02 p.m., followed by the Pledge. Mr. Maniscalco, Principal of Westbrook, welcomed everyone and showed a video of Westbrook. No one wished to speak during "An Invitation to the Public".

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of Special Meetings on March 5, 19, 27, 29, 2008, and the Regular Meeting on March 13, 2008.

STUDENT RECOGNITION: Varsity Wrestling: All County: Patrick B., Sean M., Alex F.. *League III Varsity Coach of the Year:* John Sparacio. *League III Jr. Varsity Coach of the Year:* Nicholas LaGiglia. Boys Varsity Winter Track: All County: Joseph C. and David K..

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve personnel for 2008-09 Budget Vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: RESIGNATION: Elizabeth Martins, English Teacher, effective June 27, 2008.

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: RESIGNATION: Andrea DiVita, Elementary Teacher, effective June 27, 2008.

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD BEARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE (paid): Christine Chocko, Elementary Teacher, effective March 12, 2008 (Manetuck, Grade 4); Barbara Krollage, English Teacher, effective May 5, 2008 (H.S.).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD REARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE (unpaid) (Pursuant to FEMLA—12 weeks continuous medical coverage): Dina Altschuler, Science Teacher, effective April 7, 2008 to June 27, 2008 (H.S., currently on CBLOA).

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Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mrs. Heine and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the following TEACHING: CHILD REARING LEAVE OF ABSENCES, (unpaid) effective September 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009:

Stephanie Azzariti, Elementary Teacher; Deborah Chizik, Elementary Teacher; Anne Davis, Elementary Teacher; Jennifer Dellafranca, Elementary Teacher; Kelly Farrell, Elementary Teacher; Christine E. McCann, Special Education Teacher; David Morgan, Social Worker, H.S.; Jane Murray, English Teacher, H.S.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANTS: TENURE APPOINTMENT: Susan Lombardi, Beach Street Middle School, effective April 15, 2008.

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: Fortunata DeMartino, Special Education Aide, effective March 31, 2008 (Step 1, PJ Bellew School, new position).

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Richard Kelly, Head Custodian, effective April 28, 2008 (Step 1, Manetuck, replacing D. Martin who is now a Chief custodian).

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: CHANGE IN STATUS: Terri Brett, Special Education Aide, effective March 31, 2008 (Step 3, Bayview, change from 3-hr cafeteria aide, new position).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Heine and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS (\$105 per diem): \*Elisabeth Dolan, effective April 2, 2008; Michael Krebs, effective January 28, 2008, *student teacher*; Angela Logallo, effective April 2, 2008; Megan Mahon, effective April 2, 2008; \*Gerard Selya, effective April 2, 2008.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: MENTOR PROGRAM 2007-08: Mentors (\$1,000 stipend): Resignation: Carrie Yuli, Elementary (Jeremy Garritano, PJ Bellew), effective March 7, 2008 (\$625 prorated stipend).

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: MENTOR PROGRAM 2007-08: Mentors (\$1,000 stipend): Appointment: Amanda Harvey, Elementary (Jeremy Garritano, PJ Bellew), effective March 10, 2008 (\$375 prorated stipend).

\*Conditional Pending Fingerprint Clearance

**CURRICULUM UPDATE:** Mr. Stern presented the Board with a CD for Accountability & Overview Reports, 2006-07. Copies are available to the public, and will be on district website.

The Finance Committee and Buildings & Grounds Committee did not meet, due to budget work session meeting. The Policy Committee did not meet; however, two policies were presented for second readings: File 1320 Nomination and Election of Board Officers and File 3310 Public Access to Records. Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mrs. Biesel and carried when all board members present voted in favor to adopt these policies. No meetings were held for: School Board/Student Liaison, Public Relations, Audit, Legislative Action. Mr. Gellar thanked everyone for support in letter campaign for state aid. The Education Committee met on April 1, as reported on by Mrs. LaRosa. Mrs. Biesel reported on Committee on Special Education/Preschool Special Education recommendations re: classification/placement/I.E.P. modifications of students as delineated: CSE ID#6211, 100717, 98573, 6020, 6204, 97009, 22195, 20877, 6182, 21026, 5542, 5884, 101177, 98168, 5707, 5650, 22182; CPSE ID#6328, 6198, 6406, 6432, 6412, 6477, 6417. The Health and Wellness Committee met on March 17, 2008, and was reported on by Mrs. Biesel. The next meeting is on May 21, at 10 a.m. June 26 is the pre-prom at Robert Moses, Field 4.

The Treasurer's Report for February was presented. Beginning balance was \$34,020,921.81 and ending balance was \$30,220,564.84.

Motion was made by Mrs. Heine, seconded by Mrs. Biesel and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve budget transfers.

Motion was made by Mrs. Heine, seconded by Mrs. Biesel and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve foster tuition payment of \$9,194. to West Babylon UFSD.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve, as surplus, four pianos at H.S. and Beach St. M.S., and dispose of as Business Office sees fit.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the following donations, with thanks: Everett Piano from Debbie Massaro \$1,900; Arts in Education, PJ Bellew PTA \$810.; Target to Manetuck \$628.; Target to Westbrook \$615.93.

Motion was made by Mr. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Proposed Budget 2008-09 in the amount of \$99,697,309.

President Smith discussed RFP's (requests for proposals), for IT services, Legal and Insurance. He addressed questions and comments from board members.

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NOTICES/REMINDERS: Monday, April 21, 2008: Nominating petitions for board trustee seats due at District Office by 5:00 PM; Tuesday, May 6, 2008: budget available for residents; Tuesday, May 13, 2008: Public Budget Hearing and Voter Registration – Beach Street Auditorium at 7:30 PM and registration from 2 PM – 8 PM.

OTHER ITEMS FOR BOARD MEMBERS INFO: Mrs. Heine discussed speaking with legislators and thanking them for their work in obtaining an increase in state aid for us. Also, spoke about Wicks Law Reform, and is angry about changes in this law. Asked Board to draft letter to legislators about the changes. Mrs. Heine discussed bullying problems. Dr. Blau replied all bullying issues are dealt with on a case by case basis, and that all cases are unique. Mrs. LaRosa said bullying issues should be dealt with early, by building character education. Mrs. Heine said we need to put policies in place and do more. Dr. Blau suggested Mrs. Heine should call her on any bullying incident, and that she will give her all the information on case by case basis. Mrs. Heine went on to talk about the homestead rate and the public asking what can be done. Discussion of hospital buying property for their use, which would take those homes off our tax roles. It is a big issue and the board agreed to set up a meeting with Good Samaritan Hospital to discuss this. Mrs. Heine wanted to discuss WITA retirement incentive for 100% paid health care. President Smith said this is a negotiated item, and should be discussed in Executive Session.

An Invitation to the Public was held, with 4 residents speaking. Subjects of concern have been recorded in log.

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

Meeting reconvened at 11:45 p.m. on motion made by Mr. W. Smith, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m. on motion made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Bloom 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.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
April 16, 2008—District Office  
President George Smith, Presiding

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

Meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m., followed by the Pledge. Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselín, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:34 p.m., except Mr. Bloom who was opposed, for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations and/or litigation. Meeting reconvened at 7:45 p.m. on motion made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselín and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselín and carried when all board members present voted in favor to cast vote for the following candidates for the BOCES Board: Walter Denzler, Three Village SD; Susan Lipman, West Islip SD; Joel Petersen, Remsenburg-Speonk SD; William Miller, Longwood SD; and Andrew Wittman, Bayport-Blue Point SD.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselín and carried when all board members present voted in favor, except for Mrs. LaRosa and Mrs. Bieselín, not to approve resolution approving the BOCES 2008-09 Administrative Budget:

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa and carried when all board members present voted in favor, except Mr. Bloom and Mrs. Heine, who were opposed, to approve TEACHING: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Theresa Sweeney-Mercado, Special Education Teacher, effective September 2, 2008 to September 3, 2011, District-wide, Step 5<sup>5</sup>, new position – Intervention Specialist. President Smith stated that Ms. Sweeney-Mercado is the step-daughter of Dr. Blau, and since we have a nepotism policy that requires 2/3 vote, he started a discussion before motion was voted on. \*Amended 5/15/08 by Mrs. Heine: Add comments: Dr. Blau would not negotiate the next teacher's contract. This hire did not come as a negotiating demand, but with the understanding that the hiring of Mrs. Mercado was agreed to unanimously by the Board, at a previous board meeting.

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD REARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE (unpaid) (*Pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993—12 weeks continuous medical coverage*): Tricia Mileti, Health Teacher, effective April 14, 2008 to June 27, 2008 (H.S., currently on CBLOA).

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselín, seconded by Mr. Gellar and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: RETIREMENT: Mary Ann Fertig, School Nurse, effective June 27, 2008 (PJ Bellew School).

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Discussion items: Nepotism Policy – after revisions and discussion, the Board decided to send policy back to Policy Committee for revision, before adopting. RFP's were discussed for legal and IT services. Mr. Bloom mentioned we should extend attorney contract for Guercio for a year, and have an RFP next year.\* RFP for IT services was revised.

\*Amended May 15, 2008: 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 by several school districts at the same time, while maintaining a private law practice.

Motion was made by Mrs. Heine, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin and carried when all board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:28 p.m. (Mr. Bloom was out of the room) for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 10:10 pm. on motion made by Mr. W. Smith seconded by Mrs. Heine and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm. 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.



