

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

September 10, 2009 – Udall Road Middle School

President Steven Gellar, Presiding

PRESENT: MRS. BIESELIN, MR. BLOOM, MR. GELLAR, MRS. LAROSA, MR. SMITH,
MR. ULRICH, MR. ZOTTO

ABSENT: NONE

Administrators: Dr. Blau, Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Duffy, Dr. Parvey, Mr. Zocchia

Attorney: Mr. Volz

A moment of silence to commemorate September 11, 2001.

Meeting was called to order at 8:01 p.m., followed by the Pledge.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Biesel to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 18, 2009. Mr. Bloom felt that the minutes did not accurately reflect a lengthy discussion that was held regarding a proposed amendment to File 7312 – Student Dress Code. After a brief discussion, motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Biesel, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 18, 2009 with the revision that the Board of Education agreed to refer the proposed amendment to File 7312 – Student Dress Code to the Policy Committee. Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Biesel, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 27, 2009.

STUDENT RECOGNITION: Math Olympiads: Shane A., Christa B., Joseph B., Selena A., Alexander M., Michael L., Brandon I., Ryan S., and Brendan E..

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-BEARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE (paid): Deborah Chizik, Elementary Teacher; effective September 3, 2009 (Paul J. Bellew).

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-BEARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE (paid): Michelle Smedley, Mathematics Teacher; effective September 21, 2009 (Beach).

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mr. Ulrich to approve TEACHING: PART-TIME DEAN APPOINTMENT. Mr. Smith asked if the position was posted and how many candidates applied. After a brief discussion, motion was carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PART-TIME DEAN APPOINTMENT (Stipend \$6,280 {pro-rated}): Dawn Morgan, Teacher/Dean; effective September 23, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANT: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Catherine Lang; effective September 8, 2009 to September 7, 2012 (High School; Step 3; newly budgeted position {Flow-Through Funds}).

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: CHANGE IN TITLE: Jeffrey Vitkun, Acting Head Custodian; effective September 8, 2009 (Manetuck; replacing R. Kelly who is out sick).

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Zotto, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL FACULTY, \$8,362 per full year class, September 8, 2009 to June 30, 2010: Donna Mazur, Science Teacher; Denise Radesky, Health Teacher.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: MENTOR PROGRAM 2009 – 2010 SCHOOL YEAR: Catherine Dolan-Stefanak, Coordinator (\$1,500 stipend).

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: MENTOR PROGRAM 2009 – 2010 SCHOOL YEAR: Mentor (\$1,000 stipend): Tamra Burns (Melanie DeRosa, High School, Middle School); Beth Fiorini (Edward Jablonski, High School).

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Zotto, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: Instructional Swim and Family Swim Programs 2009-2010: KristiLee Schubert, Supervisor (\$40 per hour); Bob Kollar, Supervisor (\$40 per hour); Noreen Matthews, Supervisor (\$40 per hour); Jamie Storoshenko, Supervisor (\$40 per hour); Katrina A., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Paige C., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Sarah C., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Jaimie D., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Kasey D., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Megan H., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Victoria K., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Sarah L., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Casey M., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Genevieve M., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Tom M., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Kristen P., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour); Heather R., Lifeguard (\$10 per hour).

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: CONCERT MANAGER 2009 – 2010 SCHOOL YEAR: Salvatore Fiore, High School (\$3,372 stipend); Arthur Machowicz, Beach Street Middle School (\$775 stipend); William Eidenback, Udall Road Middle School (\$775 stipend).

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Zotto, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: AUDITORIUM TECHNICIAN 2009 – 2010 SCHOOL YEAR (School functions - \$75 per event; Rental Functions - \$50 per hour): Salvatore Fiore, High School; David Kaufman, High School; James Kraus, High School; Jerry Mangone, High School; Michael Saganic, High School; Arthur Machowicz, Beach Street Middle School; John Kennedy, Beach Street Middle School; John Simeone, Beach Street Middle School; William Eidenback, Udall Road Middle School; Melissa Senatore, Udall Road Middle School.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: SUBSTITUTE TEACHER (\$100 per diem): Michael Adelman, student teacher; Maria Bacchi, effective September 11, 2009; Gina Capitano, effective September 11, 2009; Jenna Curley, effective September 9, 2009, student teacher; Elizabeth Gast, effective September 3, 2009; Cody Hoyt, effective September 11, 2009; *Mary Markham, effective September 8, 2009; *Isabel Sinclair, effective September 11, 2009; Joseph Sparaco, effective September 3, 2009.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: SUBSTITUTE FOOD SERVICE WORKER (\$9.75/HR): Eileen Okula, effective September 14, 2009.

CURRICULUM UPDATE: Mrs. Burns provided an update on the International Baccalaureate Program. Two evening presentations for parents will be scheduled.

REPORT OF BOARD COMMITTEES: Mr. Smith reported on the Finance Committee meeting of 9/8/09. Mr. Bloom questioned the fee schedule included in the Special Education Agreement for Karin Burkhard, MD, and if the District could find other providers with lower rates. After a brief discussion, motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mrs. Biesel, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to table Special Education Agreement – Karin Burkhard, MD.

Mrs. LaRosa reported on the Education Committee meeting of 9/8/09. Mrs. Biesel reported on the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting of 8/27/09 and on the Committee on Special Education/Preschool Special Education meeting of 9/9/09 and recommendations re: classification/placement/I.E.P. modifications of students as delineated. Mr. Ulrich reported on the Bond Advisory Committee meeting of 9/8/09.

The following committees did not meet: Policy Committee, School Board/Student Liaison Committee, Audit Committee, Legislative Action Committee, Public Relations Committee, and Health and Wellness Committee.

The Treasurer's Report for July 2009 was presented. Beginning balance as of June 30, 2009 – \$12,946,437.59; ending balance as of July 31, 2009 – \$7,731,978.68.

*Conditional Pending Fingerprint Clearance

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Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor, except Mr. Bloom who opposed, to approve change order – Land Tek Group for \$60,000.00.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the following donation, with thanks: Suffolk Association of School Business Officials for \$500.00.

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Special Education services contract with South Huntington UFSD – 2008-2009.

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to declare as surplus, and dispose of as the Business Office sees fit, the following equipment: Four (4) General Electric Ranges, General Electric Refrigerator.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the following bid: Roll Paper Towel – awarded to Borax Paper Products.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: The 1st annual West Islip Summit will be held on October 28, 2009 at the West Islip High School. Community invitation to welcome our new principals – Dr. Anthony Bridgeman, West Islip High School; Mr. Daniel Marquardt, Udall Road Middle School; Mr. Andrew O'Farrell, Beach Street Middle School – sponsored by PAWS and West Islip Tribune will be held on September 22, 2009 from 5 pm – 7 pm at Farrell's of Brooklyn, Higbie Lane, West Islip.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Blau reported that the new school year had a smooth opening. The total enrollment for the district is 79 less than the enrollment at the end of the 2007/2008 school year. The final 2009/2010 school tax rate is lower than the 2008/2009 school tax rate. On homes with an average assessed value of \$45,000 the school tax will be \$22.59 less than the school tax for the 2008/2009 school year. The school calendar is not being printed and mailed this year but is available on the District website. New York State has changed the dates of the ELA testing to April 26 to April 28, 2010 and the math testing to May 5 to May 7, 2010. As a result K-8 students will not have school on May 10 and May 17 for scoring. Dr. Blau announced that she will be retiring at the end of July 2010. Mr. Gellar thanked Dr. Blau for her years of service.

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

OTHER ITEMS FOR BOARD MEMBERS INFORMATION: Mr. Bloom asked if the minutes of the Board of Education meetings are available to the public on the District website. The minutes are posted to the website after they are approved by the Board of Education at the following month's meeting. Mr. Bloom discussed the bike path leading to Bayview Elementary School and issues with respect to student's safety using that path due to parking lot changes at Good Samaritan Hospital. Mr. Bloom requested that proposed amendments to File 7312 – Student Dress Code be addressed at the next Policy Committee. Mr. Bloom spoke of a lack of class study on the history of West Islip and ways to promote it through programs with the West Islip Historical Society and the Weeks Library. Mrs. LaRosa encouraged the community to look at the website for the PAWS Foundation. PAWS is currently running a brick campaign to help landscape a portion of the area surrounding the new high school turf field.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:02 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to suspend employee discussed in Executive Session with pay and administratively assigned to home, effective September 11, 2009.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Zotto, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve School Construction Consultants contract.

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Biesel, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Memorandum of Agreement with WITA re: Erica Gross.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01 p.m. on motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Biesel, and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted by

Nicole M. Schiano
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

September 22, 2009 – District Office
President Steven Gellar, Presiding

PRESENT: MR. BLOOM, MR. GELLAR, MRS. LAROSA (arrived at 7:50 p.m.),
MR. SMITH (arrived at 7:35 p.m.), MR. ULRICH, MR. ZOTTO

ABSENT: MRS. BIESELIN

Administrators: Dr. Blau, Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Duffy, Dr. Parvey, Mr. Zocchia

Meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m., followed by the Pledge.

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Zotto, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-BEARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE (paid): Robyn Southard, Psychologist; effective September 14, 2009 (Kirdahy @ Captree).

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Zotto, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: RESIGNATION: John Batkiewicz, Custodial Worker I; effective September 25, 2009 (Beach Street).

Motion was made by Mr. Zotto, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: RESIGNATION: Diane Bider, Teacher Aide; effective September 25, 2009 (Manetuck).

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: *Michael Messere, Maintenance Mechanic II / Groundskeeper; effective September 28, 2009 (Step 1; Maintenance Department; replacing N. Vinciguerra who retired).

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: CHANGE IN TITLE: Tom McLoughlin, Custodial Worker I; effective September 28, 2009 (change from Acting Maintenance Mechanic III to a Custodial Worker I).

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Zotto, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: Instructional Swim and Family Swim Programs 2009-2010: John Bruno, Lifeguard (\$10 per hour).

The following agenda items were discussed, with no objection: Superintendent Search – Gary Bixhorn.

*Conditional Pending Fingerprint Clearance

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Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mr. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve release of Guercio & Guercio memorandum.

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Facilities Use Agreement with Islip.

A presentation was given by Mrs. Vertovez concerning the purpose of psychiatric evaluations.

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Special Education Contract – Psychiatric Evaluations.

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:32 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 9:05 p.m. on motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve carry over of 10 vacation days from 2008/2009 for James Bosse, Plant Facilities Administrator/Director of Buildings & Grounds.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m. on motion by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted by

Nicole M. Schiano
District Clerk

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