

Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, June 15, 2009, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in the Library at Northport High School, 154 Laurel Hill Road, Northport, New York, with Mrs. Arlene S. Munson, President, opening the meeting and presiding.

Members present: Mr. Warren S. Arthur, Mrs. Liz Dragone, Mr. Joe Gannon, Mr. Rob Ingraham, Mr. Steven A. Meyerowitz, Mrs. Arlene S. Munson, Dr. Kay Hutchins Sato, Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr., Mrs. Karen Wills

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent of Schools

1. President Munson called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee Arthur, seconded by Trustee Sato, to convene in Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to individual students.

Unanimously carried.

At 7:40 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Dragone, to reconvene in public session in the library at Northport High School.

Unanimously carried.

Public attendance: There were approximately 90 persons present.

2. Mrs. Munson led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
3. Pointed out the emergency exits.
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Wills, to approve all items under 4.1:

- 4.1 Minutes
 - 4.1.1 Regular Meeting, June 1, 2009

Unanimously carried

President Munson recognized Trustee Arthur for his sixteen years of service on the Board and Trustee Meyerowitz for his twelve years of service. Mrs. Munson thanked Trustee Arthur and Trustee Meyerowitz for their passion and deep desire to do what was best for the education of the children of the District.

5. SPECIAL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Marylou McDermott announced the following accomplishment of staff and students: The A Midwinter Night's Dream committee, under the direction of Mr. Don Strasser, opened its Cryopreservation Laboratory at Stony Brook University Medical Center on Monday evening, June 8th. The first Relay for Life held at Northport High School, under the direction of Mr. David Storch, raised over \$95,000 to fight cancer. Mr. Andrew Bromm, Director of Food Services, was granted a 2009 Best Practices Award from the New York State Education Department.

5.1 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

5.1.1 Ms. Trisha Schmitt, Chairperson of English K-12, introduced the following award winners:

Huntington Youth Writers Contest - Daniel McGuinness - 1st Place Poetry Grade 4-5 "Water", Alexander Latham - 3rd Place Poetry Grade 4-5 "A Black Puck", Megan Kicks - 1st Place Story Grade 4-5 "The Real Santa Clause", Caroline Roseman - 2nd Place Story Grade 4-5 "Mr. Moran's Library", Hayley Hayhurst - Honorable Mention Poetry Grade 4-5 "Decimal Pie", Tyler Zelinger - 3rd Place Poetry Grade 6-8 "What is Love?", Jessica Haywood - Honorable Mention Story 6-8 "A Trip to the Mall", Justin Riggs - 1st Place Story Grade 6-8 "Slavetown", Ashley Brown - 3rd Place Poetry 6-8 "The Black Piano Key"

Fairfield University Book Award - Marta Rodenko

Dartmouth College Book Award - Victoria Walters

5.1.2 Mr. Andrew Manzo, Chairperson of Social Studies K-12, introduced the following 2009 Johns Hopkins State and Distinguished Winners:

High Honors Verbal and Distinction Math - Schuyler Melore

High Honors Math and Distinction Reading - Brian Liu

High Honors Verbal - Michael Barry

High Honors Math - Kyle Farabaugh

Distinction Verbal and Distinction Math - Erin Jenson

Distinction Verbal - Isabel Staccuneddu

Distinction Math - Julia Lennon, Benjamin Maritato

5.1.3 Mr. Peter Falotico, Director of Art, Media, Computer and Technology, introduced the following award winners:

Huntington Camera Club High School Photography Competition - Nicolas Bruno - Best in Show
Hobbies Category: Nicolas Bruno - 1st Place, Alexa Pichichero - 2nd Place, Syed Ali - 3rd Place, Julie Falango - Honorable Mention

Old and New Category: Patrick Shelton - 1st Place, Genevieve Murphy - 3rd Place

Open Category: Maureen Rodgers - 1st Place, Adam Pruzan - 2nd Place, Terence Corrigan - 3rd Place, Kayla Forman - Honorable Mention

Congressman Steve Israel, 28th Annual Congressional Art Awards - Katherine Atkinson - Congressional Award

The Art in Heart, Long Island Art Teachers Association Art Exhibition - Nina Matsumoto - 1st Place Crafts, Katherine Atkinson - 1st Place Printmaking, Danielle Elsener - 1st Place Fashion and Best in Show

Young Artists at the Heckscher Museum, Long Island's Best, 2009 - Alexandra Thake - Honorable Mention, Paulina Stewart- Renzo Bianchi Scholarship

The Terian Foundation Scholarships - Danielle Elsener -\$1,000 Fashion Design, Colby Grace - \$5,000 Sculpture

At 8:10 p.m. the President of the Board announced a five minute break for cake in honor of Trustees Arthur and Meyerowitz.

5.2 Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Dragone, authorizing payment of five \$500 awards in accord with Board-UTN Collective Bargaining Agreement to the following teachers as a Professional Achievement Award for 2008-2009:

- 5.2.1 Dewan Bajaj - Special Education Teacher, Northport High School
- 5.2.2 Frank Doyle - Music Teacher, Northport High School
- 5.2.3 Victoria Kramer - Science Teacher, East Northport Middle School
- 5.2.4 Anahi Walton-Schafer - World Language Teacher, Northport High School
- 5.2.5 Andrew Luberto - Social Studies Teacher, East Northport Middle School
Karen Polk - Reading Teacher, East Northport Middle School

Unanimously carried.

5.3 Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force Interim Report

Mr. John Lynch, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services, stated that Board of Education passed a resolution on August 26, 2006 to create the Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force. A formal report was presented at the January 8, 2007 Board of Education meeting which encouraged proactive efforts within the schools and community. Mr. Lynch stated that the Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force implemented several programs during the 2007-2008 school year with Board of Education support.

The Task Force sponsored an evening program on November 24, 2008 to connect with community leaders and stakeholders who could move the task force's message forward. Mr. Lynch stated that this interim report reflects the progress and hopes for the future and that numerous meetings with an average of thirty participants explored and implemented several initiatives.

Mr. Lynch announced that a Drug and Alcohol Task Force logo was designed by Phoenix Group, a local computer graphic design and e-learning company owned and operated by district residents Cliff and Rhonda Sobel. Mr. Lynch commented that the Sobel's voluntary efforts have enabled the Task Force to now have a visual identity which will hopefully become synonymous with parents, community, and school district efforts to protect our children from drug and alcohol use. Mr. Lynch noted that the Phoenix Group has also committed its resources on a voluntary basis to create an interactive website for the Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force.

Mr. Lynch stated that the task force divided into three sub groups: the Parent Education Subcommittee, the Youth Activities Subcommittee and the Community Outreach Subcommittee.

Mr. Lynch introduced Ms. Irene McLaughlin and Ms. Shannon Dantuono who facilitated the Parent Education Subcommittee. Ms. Dantuono stated that the Parent Education Group focused on researching and implementing additional opportunities to educate parents and students about issues surrounding drugs and alcohol. Ms. Dantuono acknowledged Ms. Lisa Michalek as the driving force behind the S.A.F.E. Homes Program and thanked her for her efforts and persistence to put this program in place. Ms. Dantuono noted that the primary purpose of the S.A.F.E. Homes network is to create a directory of parents who share the same core beliefs and values concerning teenage drug and alcohol use.

Ms. McLaughlin stated that pre-prom parent/student meetings were scheduled by the high school administration to highlight the expectation for drug and alcohol free pre-prom and post-prom events. The

meetings were mandatory for parents and students who wished to attend the Northport High School 2009 prom.

Ms. McLaughlin noted that the Parent Education Group focused on researching and implementing additional opportunities to educate parents and students about issues surrounding drugs and alcohol. The committee discussed the notion of integrating brief, consistent, creative messages related to drug and alcohol use, misuse, and abuse into existing school functions and events. The committee identified appropriate school events as venues to deliver the information at the middle school and high school levels. Ms. McLaughlin stated that the Parent Education Group strongly believes that present mandatory parent forums to parents of students in grades 6-12 should be continued. Ms. Dantuono noted that next year Northport Middle School and East Northport Middle School will host a parent forum for seventh grade parents.

Mr. Lynch introduced Ms. Robert Heller facilitator of the Youth Activities Subcommittee. Ms. Heller stated that the continuing and evolving mission of the Youth Activities subcommittee is to provide the young people in our community with opportunities to engage in healthful, safe, and supervised activities during their leisure time. Ms. Heller noted that the Northport-East Northport Community currently plays host to numerous organizations which the committee consulted with hoping to utilize their methods for success in order to promote new programs.

Ms. Heller noted the initiatives of the Youth Activities Subcommittee including creating a recreation center to provide young people with a place to engage in sports and other fitness related activities; creating a Northport-East Northport Skate Club, showcasing our talented youth during community events, having an area in local papers that advertises and promotes youth oriented activities; supporting and promoting current youth programs such as the YDA; supporting the Northport Arts Coalition which will be performing a series of one act plays; initiating the Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force website; utilizing community service as a way to build self esteem; initiating fund-raising projects to fund the task force; requesting all youth organizations, both school and community, to proudly display and support the task force's message to "educate and protect our children"; and to eventually have the Northport-East Northport Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force message and logo on every uniform, hat, banner, and community sponsored event.

Mr. Lynch introduced Ms. Mary Silberstein, Director of The Pederson-Krag Center in Huntington, who serves as facilitator of the Community Outreach Subcommittee. Ms. Silberstein congratulated the school district for initiating the Drug and Alcohol Task Force and the work of the volunteers for moving the task force forward.

Ms. Silberstein noted that the community connection is crucial to reinforcing the educational and parental guidance initiatives which educate and protect our children from drug and alcohol use. Ms. Silberstein discussed some initiatives which may come to fruition in the future. Those initiatives included requesting the East Northport and Northport Chamber of Commerce to strategically post the logo in their business and store windows; connecting with Gold's Gym to create programs concerning healthy children and relate them to the mission of the Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force; having a presence to provide information at both Cow Harbor Day and the East Northport Chamber of Commerce Annual Festival; asking local religious organizations to highlight the Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force initiatives in their newsletters and bulletins; partnering with the Northport Runners Club to display the logo throughout the Northport Cow Harbor 10K Race; approaching delicatessens and restaurants to support efforts; and publicizing the Northport-East Northport Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force logo throughout the community.

Mr. Lynch stated that the Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force is a viable and vital resource to our community, parents and school district. The Task Force looks forward to continuing its mission to eliminate the illegal use of alcohol, drugs, and other controlled substances which pose a threat to the health and welfare of our students and staff.

5.4 The President of the Board announced the District's school hours for 2009-2010 which included the extended kindergarten hours.

5.5 The President of the Board announced the upcoming Board of Education meetings of July 6th and August 31st, 2009.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

6.1 Email from Ms. Cathie Josephson, received May 26, 2009, re: Administrative Regulation #1250.

President Munson stated that the Board received the letter and Dr. McDermott will make an appointment to meet with Ms. Josephson regarding her concerns.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Arlene Munson Board President	Read a letter from Ms. Donna McNaughton of the East Northport Middle School PTSA thanking Ms. Kroon, Mr. DeStefano, Mr. Toppi and the 30+ teachers who volunteered for the second annual Clash of the Classes.
Mrs. Munson thanked The Observer for pointing out how very special the Northport-East Northport Community is in its editorial.	
Karen Wills Board Member	Stated that the Town of Huntington will be honoring the coalition between Northport High School and Harborfields High School for donating food to Students for 60,000 to bring to casa communal.
Liz Dragone Board Member	Stated that she also read the editorial in The Observer and stated the community is blessed to have each other. Ms. Dragone stated that the accomplishments of students, parents, teachers is mind boggling and that every time you turn around there is something wonderful going on in this community.
Karen Wills Board Members	Asked Dr. McDermott the dollar amount of scholarships awarded to the graduating seniors this year and the number of students accepted to Ivy League schools.
Dr. McDermott stated that as of today graduating seniors have been offered over \$11,764,000 in scholarships and fifteen students were accepted into Ivy League Universities.	
Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr. Board Vice President	Stated that he wished that certain community members who have commented negatively throughout the last year would come to nights like this where the students, teachers and community are honored for their outstanding achievements.
Frank Doyle High School Building Chair	Mr. Doyle stated that he is here on behalf of the 170 high school teachers regarding the restructuring of the commons position, commons manager, commons program coordinator. Mr. Doyle read his letter to the Board stating that the commons is the symbolic and traditional heart of Northport High School and is described as the largest single classroom. Mr. Doyle commented that they are concerned that the climate of the building will

Vote on Trustee Meyerowitz's motion was as follows:

YES: Mr. Arthur, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Ingraham, Mr. Meyerowitz, Mrs. Munson, Dr. Sato, Mr. Waldenburg, Mrs. Wills
ABSTAIN: Mrs. Dragone

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Gannon, to approve the remaining items under 8. and 9., including Supplemental 8.1.2 (Schedule B, #79-97) and Supplemental 8.1.3 (Schedule C, #16-17).

- 8.1.2 Schedule B - Non-Instructional Staff (including Supplemental B #79-97)
- 8.1.3 Schedule C - Salary Transfers (including Supplemental C #16-17)
- 8.1.4 Schedule D - Extra Pay
- 8.1.5 Schedule J - Committee on Special Education
- 8.1.6 Schedule L - PDC UTN

8.2 Receiving for a second reading and adopting the following policy:

8.2.1 Policy #4510 - "*Instructional Services - Instructional Materials*" (new numbering system - old number 6161.3)

8.3 Receiving for a second reading and adopting the following textbooks:

8.3.1 Introduction to Comparative Politics
Kesselman et al. Wadsworth AP Comparative Politics

8.3.2 Cultural Anthropology
Gary Ferraro Wadsworth IB Social & Cultural Anthropology

8.4 Approving the Professional Development Plan for 2009-2010.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, FINANCIAL - FOR BOARD ACTION

9.1 Taking specified action on the following BIDS:

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

9.1.1 Award - Uniforms

EDUCATIONAL

9.1.2 Award - Districtwide Printing

9.1.3 Reject - Musical Instrument Repair

9.2 Approving a general resolution for the purpose of participating in a cooperative bid coordinated by the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) of Suffolk County for various commodities and/or services.

9.3 Approving a general resolution for the purpose of participating in a cooperative bid coordinated by the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) of Nassau County for generally needed services and standardized supply and equipment items.

9.4 Approving the attached resolution enabling continued participation in the Long Island

Food Service Director's Association Cooperative Bid, and authorizing the Board President to sign the resolution.

9.5 Approving the attached resolution regarding a plan for a number of Public School District, other BOCES organizations, and the Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES to bid jointly for the purchase of various types of computers and technology commodities.

9.6 Extending transportation contracts for the 2009-2010 school year and bus maintenance contract for the school years 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012 in accord with State Education Law and Commissioner's Regulations with the following contractors as per their proposals in the documents:

- 9.6.1 Education Bus Transportation, Inc., (EBT Inc.), 2009-2010 school year
- 9.6.2 Huntington Coach Corp., 2009-2010 school year
- 9.6.3 Towne Bus Corp., 2009-2010 school year
- 9.6.4 Acme Bus Corp., 2009-2010 school year
- 9.6.5 Brookset Bus Corp., 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012 school years

9.7 Approving the attached contract to provide educational services between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and The Daytop Preparatory School.

9.8 Approving the attached resolution agreement for special education services for an elementary student.

9.9 Approving the following resolution:

“RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of Section 6-p of the General Municipal Law, the Board of Education approves funding the Employee Benefits Accrued Liability Reserve Fund by a transfer of undesignated fund balance (and/or budgetary appropriation) from the 2008-2009 fiscal year in an amount not to exceed \$790,000.”

9.10 Approving the enclosed contract for a Five Year Lease Agreement with Xerox Corporation for twenty-one copy machines.

9.11 Authorizing the Board President to sign a contract with the following districts to provide Health Services for Northport-East Northport students attending school in that district during the 2009-2009 school year:

9.11.1 Commack Union Free School District, thirty students attending Holy Family Regional School, three students attending Holy Family Regional School for 7.5 months, and one student attending Jewish Academy of Suffolk County @ \$493.40, totaling \$16,405.55.

9.11.2 Brentwood Union Free School District, three students attending St. Joseph's Academy @ \$576.60, totaling \$1,729.80.

9.12 Approving transfer of general fund appropriations in the 2008-2009 budget.

Vote on Trustee Meyerowitz's motion to approve the remaining items under 8. and 9., including Supplemental 8.1.2 (Schedule B #79-97) and Supplemental 8.1.3 (Schedule C, #16-17), was unanimously carried.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.1 Schedule I - Home Instruction

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

There being no further business to discuss at this time, motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Sato, to adjourn the meeting.

Unanimously carried.

At 10:42 p.m., the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

bmn