

Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Thursday evening, October 22, 2015, beginning at 6:00 p.m., in the Board Conference Room at the William J. Brosnan School, 158 Laurel Avenue, Northport, New York, with Mr. Andrew Rapiejko, Chairperson, opening the meeting and presiding.

Members present: Mr. David Badanes, Ms. Julia Binger, Mrs. Lori McCue, Mrs. Donna McNaughton, Mrs. Regina Pisacani, Mr. Andrew Rapiejko, Mr. David Stein (arrived at 6:30 p.m.), Mrs. Jennifer Thompson (arrived at 8:15 p.m.), Mrs. Tammie Topel

Members absent: None

Also present: Mr. Robert Banzer, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Matthew Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration
Mr. Lou Curra, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

1. President Rapiejko called the meeting to order.

Public attendance: There were approximately seventy-five persons present.

2. Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to immediately convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to current litigation and matters pertaining to the employment history of particular persons.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 7:04 p.m. the Board reconvened in Public Session.

3. Mr. Rapiejko led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
4. Pointed out the emergency exits.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to approve item 5.01

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.01 Minutes

5.01.1 Regular Meeting – September 24, 2015

Unanimously carried by those present.

6. STUDENT AND STAFF RECOGNITION/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

6.01 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

6.01.1 Mr. David Storch, District Chairperson of Science and Technology, introduced Aidan Dwyer, Science Department Student of the Month.

Mr. Storch stated that Aidan has taken honors scientific investigation courses in Living Environment and Chemistry, four years of science research, and is currently working toward the completion of a two year

sequence in IB Physics at the Higher Level. Aidan's science research accomplishments parallel that of a graduate student in university study. This past May at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair Aidan was selected as a recipient of a full scholarship to Drexel University, a prize only given to 10 Intel ISEF students. He was also selected as a 3rd place winner in the category of Energy.

Mr. Storch noted that Aidan has discussed his science project with President Barack Obama at the White House Science Fair; was featured in a news article in an interview with CNN; talked at a Proctor and Gamble conference; is featured in a GE/Focus Forward documentary film titled "The Secret of Trees" at the American Museum of Natural History; presented his research at a PopTech conference in Maine and at the World Future Energy Summit in Abu Dhabi, among many other accomplishments.

Mr. Storch stated that Aidan is a remarkable scientist, entrepreneur and inventor and his research and accomplishments will serve as an inspiration to all Northport-East Northport students for many years to come.

President Rapiejko and Superintendent Banzer presented Aidan with a commendation from the Board and congratulated him on his fine accomplishments.

6.01.2 Mr. David Storch, District Chairperson of Science and Technology, introduced Alexander Johnson, Technology Department Student of the Month

Mr. Storch stated that Alex is a bright and self-motivated young man with an outstanding sense of integrity. Over the past four years Alex has taken an astounding ten different technology courses achieving mastery in each one. His coursework in technology education includes all four Project Lead the Way engineering courses, a full suite of courses in the Academy of Information Technology, and IB Design Technology. Alex currently is challenging AP Calculus and AP Physics as he considers a major in electrical engineering at Rochester Institute of Technology.

Alex's hard work and persistence in all his STEM courses exemplify his strong work ethic and desire to succeed as a future engineer. His IB Design Technology independent project was particularly noteworthy and included a working prototype of an ingenious compact skateboard that can collapse into a student backpack. Mr. Storch noted that Alex demonstrates a level of poise and sensitivity that is the personification of a scholar and a gentleman. He has the ability to comprehend complex concepts quickly and with ease.

Mr. Storch stated that Aidan not only excels in the technology education classroom, but has fully engaged in the department's extra-curricular opportunities as well. He has been a seminal member and driving force in Northport High School's Robotics Team 5099 and is the Technology Honor Society President.

President Rapiejko and Superintendent Banzer presented Alex with a commendation from the Board and congratulated him on his fine accomplishments.

6.01.3 Ms. Trish McGrane, Transportation Supervisor, recognized bus driver Claudia Saltos who won the Suffolk County Bus Rodeo

6.01.4 Mr. Sean Boylan and Mr. Anthony Ferrandino, Drug and Alcohol Task Force Advisors, honored the students who marched in the Cow Harbor Day Parade with the Drug and Alcohol Task Force and presented an update on the activities of the Drug and Alcohol Task Force.

6.01.5 Governor Andrew Cuomo declared the week of October 26 – October 30, 2015 School Board Recognition Week. The Governor declared this week to commend school board members for their dedicated service to the children of New York State. The nine members of the Board received commendations from Western Suffolk BOCES and the Northport-East Northport School District

and PTA Council.

6.02 President Rapiejko reviewed the upcoming meetings of November 5th, November 19th, and December 10th.

Superintendent Banzer thanked the community and administration for bearing with the possibility of a bus strike by the Baumann employees and stated that pending a positive vote that this will be behind us for a long time.

Mr. Banzer stated that the process of finding a high school principal is continuing with another round of interviews this week.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Board requiring Board action.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT/PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
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Carl Litt Resident	Requested that the contracts on the agenda for Board approval state a subject matter and the cost of the service.
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9. SPECIAL REPORTS

9.01 Annual Report of the Independent Auditor, prepared by Cullen & Danowski, LLP, for the year ended June 30, 2015 – Mr. Peter Rodriguez presenting

Mr. Rodriguez stated that his firm audited the financial statements of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District for the year ended June 30, 2015. Management's responsibility is for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted including the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal controls. The Auditor's responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on the audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Mr. Rodriguez stated that they gather enough evidence to express an opinion. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the District's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2015 received an unmodified opinion, free of material misstatements. An unmodified opinion is the highest opinion which represents that there are no material weaknesses. Mr. Rodriguez stated that his firm performed a single audit on federal grants and also expressed an unmodified opinion with no instances of noncompliance with grants, laws and regulations. The District's Extraclassroom Activity Funds received a qualified opinion. Mr. Rodriguez noted that the students do not keep enough records to audit cash receipts. A management letter was issued with comments on the prior year's follow-up and comments to help with the control structure. Mr. Rodriguez noted that the District received all clean opinions with positive reports.

Trustee McCue, Audit Committee Chairperson, stated that the Audit Committee, at their last meeting, recommended that the Board accept the report.

9.02 Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to accept the Annual Report of the Independent Auditor, prepared by Cullen & Danowski, LLP, for the year ended June 30, 2015.

Unanimously carried by those present.

9.03 Presentation on APPR, Common Core and Assessments – Superintendent Banzer presenting

Mr. Banzer reviewed the Reform Agenda fundamentals: adopting internationally-benchmarked standards and assessments that prepare students for success in college and the workplace; building instructional data systems that measure student success and inform teachers and principals how they can improve their practice; recruiting, developing, retaining, and rewarding effective teachers and principals; and turning around the lowest-achieving schools. Currently the ELA & Math Common Core Standards have been adopted and implemented, the Social Studies Standards were adopted; and the Science Standards are under review. Mr. Banzer reviewed the shifts in ELA/literacy and Mathematics, and the District's communication and outreach to parents, administrators, teachers and PTAs regarding the ELA and Math Common Core shifts.

The New York State K-12 Social Studies Framework integrates Common Core Standards and National Social Studies Standards. The “shifts” in instruction mirror those in ELA (using information text as evidence to support or refute a thesis). The “shifts” are designed to help students develop the skills necessary of 21st Century college, career and citizenship standards. The changes in curriculum and instruction are being phased in now K-12. The current grade 8 cohort will be the first to sit for new assessments.

The current science standards (1996) were scheduled for review during the 2011-12 school year as part of the New York State Board of Regent's Standards Review Initiative. The New York State Education Department strategically timed this review process and adoption to align with the development of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). A steering committee was formed in August 2014 and a Science Standards Writing Team began work in earnest September 2014 – September 2015. A public survey is currently being developed to gather stakeholder feedback on a new set of P-12 NYS science learning standards. Adoption of a 5-year strategic plan is anticipated in 2016.

The New York State Education Commissioner is reviewing the Common Core ELA & Math Standards with a website which will let the public weigh in on Common Core. The Site will go live Wednesday, October 21st, and remain open through the end of the calendar year. An advisory group made up of stakeholders will review the survey results and suggest changes to the standards.

Amid growing boycotts of standardized tests, Governor Cuomo named members to a Common Core task force to conduct a “top to bottom review” of the state's academic standards, curriculum and exams.

Mr. Banzer reviewed the following assessment changes: 3-8 Math and ELA Assessments will have less questions in 2015-2016; NYSED insists on greater input by teachers in the test development process; Questar was awarded test development contract for 3-8 Math and ELA assessments and will replace Pearson for the 2016-2017 school year; computer based testing to be field testing.

Mr. Banzer reviewed the changes to the Teacher/Principal APPR. Education Law §3012c was replaced with Education Law §3012 d as part of the 2015 NYS Budget. The law provided NYSED & Commissioner some decision making authority which creates some flexibility for district. It required the district to negotiate new APPR by November 15, 2015 unless the district applies for and receives a hardship waiver extending the deadline. Mr. Banzer noted that the District submitted the first hardship waiver which has been approved. The waiver is for four months but the District can apply again for further extension. The District must demonstrate good faith bargaining effort with teachers and principals.

Mr. Banzer reviewed the APPR under §3012 d. It requires the following student performance measure: 4-8 teachers require state provided student growth scores and a backup Student Learning Objective (SLO) is required. All other teachers require at least one SLO and a backup SLO is optional. In either case, the assessment used in the SLO must be approved by SED. The Board of Regents sets weights of SLOs,

Score is between 0-20 per Commissioner's regulations, and overall student performance ratings are pre-determined. The APPR under §3012 d including the following Teacher Observations: A minimum of two observations are required; one by a principal or other trained administrator, another by an impartial independent trained evaluator, one observation must be unannounced, and video observations are permitted if negotiated. Teacher practice rubric must be approved by state and locally negotiated. The current practice rubric (Danielson) stays in place until list is released. The requirements for evaluator training remain in place. The overall teacher performance is based on the following: Each observation uses a 1-4 rubric scale, producing an overall score between 1-4. Overall score is determined using a weighted average between 1-4 of all observations. Weight of principal observation is weighted no less than 80% and no more than 90%. Weight of independent observation is weighted no less than 10% and no more than 20%.

The Board thanked Mr. Banzer for his very informative report.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, GENERAL – FOR BOARD ACTION

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Topel, to approve items 10.01 through 10.03, including the addendum 10.01 Personnel Actions Report.

10.01 Approving the Personnel Actions Report dated October 22, 2015, attached and made part of the official minutes.

10.02 Approving the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District has met the criteria set forth in the application for an APPR Hardship Waiver promulgated by the State Education Department;

WHEREAS, for the reasons set forth in the APPR Hardship Waiver application, the District is unable to meet the statutory deadline requiring implementation of an APPR Plan compliant with Education Law §3012-d;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves and ratifies the District's October 14, 2015 submission of the APPR Hardship Waiver application to the State Education Department;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby ratifies the execution of the application by the Superintendent of Schools and the Board President."

10.03 Approving the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District, at its regular meeting on October 22, 2015, hereby takes action to approve the following:

The Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) regulations of the Board of Regents provides that, in order to be certified as lead evaluators, administrators must be trained in the following nine elements:

1. The New York State Teaching Standards, and their related elements and performance indicators or Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium Standards and their related functions;
2. Evidence-based observation techniques that are grounded in research;
3. Application and use of the student growth percentile model and the value-added growth model as defined in 8 NYCRR §30-2.2;
4. Application and use of the State-approved teacher rubric used in the evaluations of teachers including training on the effective application of such rubric to observe a teacher's practice;

5. Application and use of the assessment tools that the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District utilizes to evaluate its teachers;
6. Application and use of the State-approved locally selected measures of student achievement used by the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District to evaluate its teachers;
7. Use of the Statewide Instructional Reporting System;
8. The scoring methodology utilized by the State Education Department and the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District to evaluate a teacher under 8 NYCRR Subpart 30-2, including;
 - a) how scores are generated for each subcomponent and the composite effectiveness score of teachers or principals, and
 - b) application and use of the scoring ranges prescribed by the Commissioner for the four designated rating categories used for the overall rating of teachers or principals and their subcomponent ratings; and
9. Specific considerations in evaluating teachers and principals of English language learners and students with disabilities.

The following administrators have participated in either the Lead Evaluator Training or the Lead Evaluator Recertification Training provided by the Western Suffolk BOCES this school year, which included the required components, and are considered to be Certified Lead Evaluators for the 2015-2016 school year:

Lead Evaluator Training (October 7 & 8, 2015):

Catherine Silletti, Sean Hurley, David Storch, Tara Gaiss, Robin Rann, Patricia Essensfeld, Lori Beekman, Daniel Danbusky

Lead Evaluator Recertification Training (October 14 or 15, 2015):

Pasquale DeStefano, Jeffrey Haubrich, Timothy Hoss, Michael Genovese, Irene McLaughlin, Izzet Mergen, Paul Klimuszko, Shannon Dantuono, Denise Keenan, Cynthia Fitzgerald, Daniel McKeon, Allyson Giaimo, Sabina Larkin, Thomas Harrison, Chelsea Brown, Karrie Kruger, Christina Pulaski, Jennifer Nesfield, Judy Proscia, Patricia Schmitt"

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion to approve items 10.01 through 10.03 was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Stein, to approve item 10.04

10.04 Receiving for a second reading and adopting the following policies:

10.04.1 Policy #8140 – "Unsafe School Transfer Choice"

10.04.2 Policy #8630 – "Computer Resources and Data Management"

10.04.3 Policy #6415 – "Wire Transfers"

Unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Pisacani, to approve all items under 11.

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, FINANCIAL – FOR BOARD ACTION

11.01. Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$12,480 from Northport-East Northport residents whose names are more fully set forth in the attached document, for the purpose of covering the cost of the 6th Grade Field Trip to Captree State Park and Fire Island Lighthouse on September 28 and 29, 2015 and increase the 2015-2016 budget code A2060.4900.00.2804 by \$12,480 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2015-2016 budget by \$12,480 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from Northport-East Northport residents."

11.02 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$7,043.40 from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account, for the purpose of students attending the Western Suffolk BOCES Great South Bay Investigation field trip on September 22, 24 and 25, 2015 and increase the 2015-2016 budget code A2060.4900.00.2804 by \$7,043.40 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2015-2016 budget by \$7,043.40 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the Northport Middle School Activity Account."

11.03 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$250 from the Long Island Arts Alliance, in order to defray the cost of transportation for the Northport High School Introduction to Dance trip to New York City for the 2015-2016 school year and increase the 2015-2016 budget code A2110.4161.30.2903 by \$250 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2015-2016 budget by \$250 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of a donation from the Long Island Arts Alliance."

11.04 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$1,155 from Northport-East Northport residents whose names are more fully set forth in the attached document, for the purposes of covering the cost of transportation for the Northport High School Urban Studies class field trips on October 1 and October 7, 2015 and increase the 2015-2016 budget code A2110.4161.30.2903 by \$1,155 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2015-2016 budget by \$1,155 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from Northport-East Northport residents."

11.05 Approving a Consultant Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and David Levine (NMS)

11.06 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Jay M. Siegel, Esq. (HR)

11.07 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and DLG Music Inc. (Music)

11.08 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Pinto/Huntington Village Therapy (SSS)

11.09 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Training Wheels Group LLC (SSS)

11.10 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Gerald Cooney/Jack of All Trades, LLC (SSS)

11.11 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and David J. Flood/DJF Events, Inc. (SSS)

11.12 Approving a Group Reservation between the Nassau County Department Parks, Recreation and Museums, Garvies Point Museum and Preserve and the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District (FAS)

11.13 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Kym Laube/Hugs, Inc. (SSS)

11.14 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Lara Hunter, LCSW/Stony Brook University-Student Health Services (SSS)

11.15 Approving the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, the Boys of Summer Baseball League would like to donate the labor and materials necessary to install an irrigation system and complete renovation work at the Northport High School baseball field (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Boys of Summer Baseball League has represented that it has engaged the services of a licensed and insured landscaping company to furnish all labor and materials necessary for the completion of the work at the sole cost and expense of the Boys of Summer Baseball League; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District is desirous of accepting the donation at the Northport High School varsity baseball field.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District hereby accepts the donation subject to the preparation of a written agreement

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the Board President to execute any and all agreements and documents necessary to allow for the commencement of the project."

Vote on Trustee Thompson's, motion to approve all items under 11. was unanimously carried.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. NEW BUSINESS

15. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Topel, to adjourn the meeting.

Unanimously carried.

At 9:32 p.m., the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

bmh