

Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Thursday evening, February 11, 2016, beginning at 6:07 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 (arrived at 7:35 p.m.), Mr. Andrew Rapiejko, Mr. David Stein, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson, Mrs. Tammie Topel

Members absent: None

Also present: Mr. Robert Banzer, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Matthew Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration
Ms. Irene McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

1. President Rapiejko called the meeting to order.

Public attendance: There were approximately fifty persons present.

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

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 7:16 p.m. the Board reconvened in Public Session.

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

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Topel, to approve item 5.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.01 Minutes

5.01.1 January 14, 2016 – Regular Meeting

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 Ms. Jennifer Nesfield, District Chairperson for World Languages and ENL, introduced Natalie Nowak, World Languages Department Student of the Month

Ms. Nesfield stated that Natalie has taken classes in both Spanish and French over the last four years and has shown an innate aptitude for both languages. Natalie has made an indelible impression on the World Language department during her four years at Northport High School. Natalie's IB Spanish teacher stated

that Natalie brings maturity, empathy, and a sense of global connectedness to the classroom discussions. Ms. Nesfield stated that given her love of languages, her intrinsic motivation, and her ability to speak effectively and eloquently, it is no surprise that this remarkable young woman was selected by the department to present the keynote address at the World Language Honor Society Inductions in October.

Natalie not only has an interest in languages and world culture, but also has expressed an interest in finding a profession where she can help raise social consciousness. She has consistently earned top grades in her language courses, as well as in AP Statistics, AP Comparative Government, and IB English Literature. Natalie is part of the school's marching band and serves as co-captain for the Northport High School Academic Team. Ms. Nesfield stated that Natalie is a wonderful example of a student who recognizes the importance of learning about different people and cultures.

President Rapiejko and Superintendent Banzer congratulated Natalie on her fine accomplishments and presented her with a commendation from the Board.

6.01.2 Ms. Jennifer Nesfield, District Chairperson for World Languages and ENL, introduced Bahadir Kiziltepe, English Language Learner Department Student of the Month

Ms. Nesfield stated that Baha is an amazing young man who has distinguished himself both personally and academically over the last two years. Bahadir's positive outlook and thirst for knowledge have served him well since his arrival from Turkey two short years ago. Baha worked hard to improve his English skills, catch up on missing credits, and pass all of the required Regents examinations in order to graduate on time. Ms. Nesfield noted that this inquisitive spirit, strong work ethic, and natural academic abilities have helped Baha excel in a myriad of classes including College Calculus, Physics, and Robotics.

Ms. Nesfield stated that she had the opportunity to spend time with Baha over the last two years and he has not only improved his English language skills, but has also enriched the lives of his family, his fellow students, and many of the high school faculty. In addition, to learning the English language, Baha has embraced his new environment and spent time getting used to his new country. Ms. Nesfield stated that Bahadir has limitless potential and will be successful in any profession he chooses to pursue.

Ms. Nesfield stated that Bahadir is a source of pride for his family, the English as a New Language Department, and Northport High School.

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

6.02 President Rapiejko reviewed the upcoming meetings of March 3rd, March 10th, March 17th, and March 31st.

Superintendent Banzer stated that the varsity cheerleaders competed in the national cheerleading competition in Orlando, Florida. Over 600 teams from all over the country participated in the medium varsity division and the varsity team qualified for the semi-final round. Mr. Banzer congratulated the team and the coaches Danielle Milazzo and Cara Petri.

Mr. Dan Danbusky, Northport High School Principal, stated that the high school debate team participated in the "Ethics Bowl" at Hofstra University. Mr. Danbusky received an email from one of the judges commending the students on their conduct at the competition.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Board requiring Board action.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT/PARTICIPATION

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Comment</u> |
|---------------------------|--|
| Joe Sabia Resident | Stated that he would like to see the School Board go back to zero based budgets and to not break the tax cap, and if there is a bond vote to separate the fields from the building repairs. |
| Rachel Friedman Parent | Stated that children should be educated as far as diversity and it should be addressed in the school calendar. Ms. Friedman also stated that she sent an email to the District and did not receive a response. |

9. SPECIAL REPORTS

9.01 Mr. Robert Banzer, Superintendent of Schools, presented the 2016-2017 Budget Overview.

Mr. Banzer stated that the budget priorities are to improve academic achievement, maintain programs and class size; to continue historically low tax levy increases; and to look for efficiencies and savings. Mr. Banzer reviewed the revenue sources, comparing the tax levy increase from 2012-2013 to 2015-2016 and showing the year to year State Aid Comparison from 2015-2016 to 2016-2017. The projected 2016-2017 State Aid is \$13,859,733 which is \$53,860 less from 2015-2016. Mr. Banzer noted that the Full Day Kindergarten Aid was for one year only and if there is full restoration of the Gap Elimination Adjustment there will be an additional \$840,048 in State Aid. The Cost Drives include salaries and benefits which take up approximately 78% of the budget, and enrollment.

Mr. Banzer reviewed the Budget Development meetings schedule for March 10th, March 17th and March 31st. The Board will adopt the final budget on April 14th and hold a Public Hearing on the Final Budget on May 5th. The Budget Vote will be held on Tuesday, May 17th.

There was a brief discussion regarding the tax levy limit and CPI, full day kindergarten State Aid, and enrollment.

Mr. David Ambro, Editor of The Observer, stated that he was surprised at not seeing a bottom line for the budget at this point and stated that public should know what is in the budget sooner rather than later.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to approve all items under 10.

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

10.01 Approving the Personnel Actions Report dated February 11, 2016, attached and made part of the official minutes.

10.02 Adopting the proposed School Calendar for 2016-2017

10.03 Approving the following resolution:

"WHEREAS on June 15, 2015 the District received a petition from a resident seeking to place a proposition before the voters at the next annual meeting, which is the 2016 annual budget vote and election, to decrease the membership of the school board from nine (9) members to seven (7) members; and

WHEREAS, the District Clerk has determined that the petition was timely submitted and it contains the requisite number of signatures as required by law; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Education Law §1703, the District is required to place the proposition before the voters at the 2016 annual budget vote and election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the District Clerk is directed to place a proposition on the ballot for the 2016 annual budget vote and election which reads, in substantially the following form:

Shall the number of members of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District be decreased from nine (9) to seven (7) members?

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Clerk shall include in the notice of the annual election and budget vote a statement that the proposition to decrease such board will be presented at the annual budget vote and election for determination."

10.04 Approving for a first reading the following policy:

10.04.1 Policy #3220 – "Evaluation of the Superintendent" (replaces current policy #4117.1 – Evaluation of Superintendent of Schools, Procedure for)

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion to approve all items under 10. was unanimously carried.

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

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

11.01 Approving the attached list of equipment, owned by the School District that is no longer cost effective to repair, as surplus and approve disposal in accordance with Board Policy

11.02 Approving the following resolution:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PIGGYBACKING ON THE EAST ISLIP UFSD CONTRACT FOR GYMNASIUM BLEACHERS - FOLDING DOORS - BASKETBALL BACKSTOP - STAGE RIGGING SAFETY INSPECTION, CERTIFICATION AND REPAIR (BID #042215-5)

WHEREAS, the EAST ISLIP U.F.S.D. has made available to other municipalities a contract for gymnasium bleachers - folding doors - basketball backstop - stage rigging safety inspection, certification and repair; and

WHEREAS, said contract for gymnasium bleachers - folding doors - basketball backstop - stage rigging safety inspection, certification and repair was let for bid consistent with the requirements of General Municipal Law, section 103; and

WHEREAS, the Northport-East Northport U.F.S.D. is permitted to utilize said contract in accordance with the terms and conditions of the bid and requirements of General Municipal Law, section 103; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the purchase of gymnasium bleachers - folding doors - basketball backstop - stage rigging safety inspection, certification and repair from East Islip U.F.S.D. in accordance with the requirements of General Municipal Law, section 103."

11.03 Receiving the following donations to the District:

- Scholarship
- 11.03.1 \$700.00 from Linda and Charles Gruhn to the Happy School Bus
- Memorial Scholarship
- 11.03.2 \$150.00 from Margaret Trachtenberg to the David A. Trachtenberg
- 11.03.3 Two hundred nineteen (219) art books and three (3) boxes of art supplies from Linner S. Vasoll to the Northport High School Art Department, value estimated by the donor to be approximately \$4,500.00

11.04 Approving the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$2,400 from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account, for the purposes of nursing services for students attending the trip to Greenkill Outdoor Education Center February 24, 2016 to February 26, 2016 and increase the 2015-2016 budget code A2110.4161.23.2902 by \$2,400 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 \$2,400 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the Northport Middle School Activity Account."

11.05 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$10,150 from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account, for the purposes of students attending the trip to Greenkill Outdoor Education Center February 24, 2016 to February 26, 2016 and increase the 2015-2016 budget code A5540.4161.23.2902 by \$10,150 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 \$10,150 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the Northport Middle School Activity Account."

11.06 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Motivational Media Assemblies in the amount of \$675.00 (ENMS)

11.07 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Linda Kimball in the amount of \$200 (Fine and Performing Arts)

11.08 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Toby Walker in the amount of \$850 (ENMS)

11.09 Approving a revised Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Shawn Scattergood, District Athletic Trainer, in the amount of \$25,804

11.10 Approving the Claims Auditor's Report for Warrants and Schedule of Claims for payments dated:

December 4, 2015 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), December 15, 2015 (Accounts Payable Warrant), December 18, 2015 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), December 30, 2015 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), December 30, 2015 (Accounts Payable Warrant), December 31, 2015 (Payroll Trust & Agency

Warrant), December 2015 (Claims Audit Report)

11.11 Recommendation to approve the Claims Auditor's Report – Payroll Audit for Payroll Distribution/Audit dated December 4, 2015 (NHS)

11.12 Approving the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District entered into an Agreement with Johnson Controls, Inc. on December 9, 2013, for the purpose of improving the efficiency of the District's energy systems for the amount of \$12,965,659;

WHEREAS, said Agreement, together with the scope of work, schedules and energy conservation measures was submitted to the New York State Education Department (NYSED) for review and approval pursuant to the Regulations of the Commissioner of the State of New York;

WHEREAS, on or about April 1, 2015, the School District and Johnson Controls, Inc. entered into an amendment to the Agreement to include modifications made by the State Education Department ("SED") in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract Amendment annexed hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education desires to amend the terms of the Agreement again to modify various scopes of work, savings numbers, schedules and certain terms and conditions to increase the value of the energy project and maximize the energy savings achieved by the School District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District hereby approves a second Contract Amendment to the Agreement with Johnson Controls, Inc. subject to the preparation of a written amendment by legal counsel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Board President to execute such Contract Amendment between the Board of Education and Johnson Controls, Inc. on behalf of the Board of Education."

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

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

12.01 Schedule H – Use of Facilities

12.02 Budget Transfers – As per Board Policy #6150 all transfers between salary codes up to \$25,000 and transfers between all other codes up to \$10,000 are to be reported to the Board of Education as an information item

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Badanes stated that there was an article in The Observer regarding rain gardens and the possibility of the William J. Brosnan School being a potential site.

The Board requested that information be sent to the Superintendent regarding a presentation.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to adjourn the meeting.

Unanimously carried.

At 8:51 p.m., the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

Bmn