

Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, November 1, 2010, 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. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr., Chairperson, opening the meeting and presiding.

Members present: Ms. Julia Binger, Mr. Joe Gannon, Mr. Tim Madden, Mrs. Lori McCue, Mrs. Donna McNaughton, Mr. Andrew Rapiejko, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson (arrived at 6:35 p.m.), Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr., Mrs. Karen Wills

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Terry Bouton, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Mr. Matthew Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration

1. President Waldenburg called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee Gannon, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to convene in Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to negotiations. Mr. Gannon stated that public discussion would impact the negotiations.

Unanimously carried.

At 7:30 p.m., the Board reconvened in public session in the cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Public attendance: There were approximately 50 persons present.

2. Mr. Waldenburg led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and

3. Pointed out the emergency exits.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, TREASURER'S REPORT AND MONTHLY SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

- 4.01 There were no minutes for approval

5. SPECIAL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent of Schools, announced that Northport High School Senior Lucas Hoffmann was named a semi-finalist in the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology

- 5.01 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

- 5.01.1 Mr. Daniel Drance, District Chairperson of Mathematics K-12, introduced Caleb Zulawski, Mathematics Department Student of the Month. Mr. Drance stated that Caleb is a strong, well rounded student who ranks near the very top of his senior class and has shown a particular passion for and excellence in mathematics. Caleb has been on the Math Team for the past three years, a select participant for the annual Suffolk County Mathematics Tournament, and Northport High School's local winner in the American Mathematics Competitions contest for the past two years. Mr. Drance stated that Caleb has been Northport's top performer in the highly competitive Suffolk County Mathematics Teachers Association's annual Math Contest and is one of the highest achieving mathletes ever. Caleb is a member

of orchestra, jazz band, music conservatory, pit orchestra and marching band and has completed the rigorous AP Music curriculum. Mr. Drance noted that Caleb's remarkable academic strength and versatility is culminated in his earning the prestigious International Baccalaureate Diploma. Caleb plans to continue his education in the study of engineering at college.

The President of the Board and the Superintendent congratulated Caleb on his fine accomplishments and presented him with a commendation from the Board.

5.01.2 Ms. Daniel Drance, District Chairperson of Mathematics K-12, presented the 2010-2011 Instructional Initiatives in Mathematics. Mr. Drance reviewed the 2009-2010 elementary, middle and high school mathematics initiatives. The 2010-2011 initiatives include uploading curricula and common assessment to *Moodle* for the High School and Middle Schools; creating *Moodle* resource courses relevant to Elementary Instruction, seeking out and providing Professional Development that strengthens the use of technology in the classroom; sharing and analyzing 2009-2010 State testing data with staff to help target and differentiate instruction; emphasizing the need to include components of re-teaching, reinforcement and enrichment in each lesson; and using in-class test data and services such as NWEA to measure student growth. Mr. Drance reviewed differentiated instruction and the 2009-2010 assessment data.

There was a brief discussion regarding 6<sup>th</sup> grade math, assessments for acceleration, AP courses, assessing the needs of all students, AIS services, and Castle learning.

President Waldenburg and Superintendent McDermott thanked Mr. Drance for his informative report.

#### 5.03 Annual Report on Secondary Class Size

There was a discussion regarding the singleton course at East Northport Middle School, secondary classes not running due to under subscription, co-seated courses, elimination of courses after a period of under-enrollment, and level loading.

In response to a question, Ms. Irene McLaughlin, Northport High School Principal, stated that they look at every section, using the guidelines, and try to keep the enrollment as constant as possible.

5.04 The President of the Board reviewed the upcoming Board of Education meetings of November 15<sup>th</sup>, November 29<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### 6. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no letters of communication

#### 7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Larry Beck Audit Committee Member	Stated that in his opinion the Audit Committee is not really a functioning entity. Mr. Beck stated that he has made several requests for information and to have meetings and that it is difficult to make any recommendations to the Board when he does not have any information. Mr. Beck asked if the Board has received a draft of the external audit report and when the internal audit report draft will be received. Mr. Beck stated that the draft internal audit report was unprofessional.

Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business, stated that the draft external audit report is currently with the accounting firm's quality control unit and should be released later this week.

There was a discussion regarding the draft internal audit report, changes requested by the Audit Committee, additional details to the draft report, the internal auditor engagement letter, prior internal audit reports, and minutes of executive sessions.

President Waldenburg stated that he would be happy to meet with Mr. Beck to discuss his concerns.

Dr. Nina Dorata  
Resident

Asked why the external audit reports are late and stated that the Board must be proactive and in getting the financial statements completed. Dr. Dorata stated that it is unacceptable that the Board could be so lax and not pursue why the reports are not done.

Ms. Kathleen Molander stated that Mr. Peter Rodriguez of Cullen and Danowski LLP advised the District to utilize the 30 day grace period and there would be no mark against the District.

Andrew Rapiejko  
Board Member

Asked if the District was planning on taking any action regarding the LIPA tax grievance, or if there were any thoughts on what the District could do.

President Waldenburg stated that when LIPA was created then Governor Pataki met with the community and indicated, in the proposal from LIPA to take control of the facilities, that LIPA would assume the tax burden in the form of PILOTS – payments in lieu of taxes. Mr. Waldenburg stated that National Grid challenging the tax assessments is a betrayal of a promise made ten years ago and urged every community member to contact their elected officials to put pressure on LIPA.

Motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Gannon, to approve all items under 8. and 9., with the exception of severed item 8.01.6

## 8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, GENERAL - FOR BOARD ACTION

8.01 Personnel Schedules, each dated November 1, 2010, and each attached and made part of the official minutes:

- 8.01.1 Schedule A - Certified Staff
- 8.01.2 Schedule B - Non-Instructional Staff
- 8.01.3 Schedule C - Salary Transfers
- 8.01.4 Schedule D - Extra Pay
- 8.01.5 Schedule K - PDC NASA
- 8.01.6 Schedule L - PDC UTN - severed

8.02 Receive for a first reading the following policy:

8.02.1 Policy #9225 – *“Acceptable Use Policy for Users (Employees, Consultants, Volunteers and Other District Authorized Personnel) Use of District Computers, Networks, Internet Access, and E-Mail System”*

8.03 Receiving for a second reading and adopting revisions to the following policies:

- 8.03.1 Policy #2300 – *“Board of Education Meetings – Types, Agenda, Procedures and Minutes”*
- 8.03.2 Policy #6690 – *“Audit Committee”*

8.04 Approving a Network Outreach Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and MSG Varsity Network LLC

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

9.01 Taking specified action on the following BIDS:

9.01.1 Award – Computer Security Software/Hardware

9.02 Approving the disposition of outdated and/or badly worn library materials at Northport High School, Dickinson Avenue Elementary School and Bellerose Avenue Elementary School

After a brief discussion regarding the disposition of the library materials, Mr. Matt Nelson, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Administration, stated that arrangements will be made to bring the books to the William J. Brosnan School for a book fair or donation.

9.03 Approving a 2010-2011 Special Education Services Contract between Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Harborfields Central School District

9.04 Approving 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 Instructional Service Agreements between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Anderson Center for Autism

Vote on Trustee McNaughton's motion to approve all items under 8. and 9., with the exception of severed item 8.01.6, was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Gannon, seconded by Trustee Wills, to approve previously severed item 8.01.6

8.01.6 Schedule L – PDC UTN

Vote on Trustee Gannon's motion was as follows:

YES: Ms. Binger, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Madden, Mrs. McCue, Mr. Rapiejko, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. Waldenburg, Mrs. Wills

ABSTAIN: Mrs. McNaughton

Motion passed.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.01 Schedule H – Use of Facilities

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

12.01 Motion was made by Trustee Wills, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to approve a New York State School Boards Association Custom Workshop for the Board of Education and Superintendent in an amount not to exceed \$1,800.

Unanimously carried.

13. ADJOURNMENT INTO PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Motion was made by Trustee Wills, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to adjourn the Regular Meeting and reconvene in Public Work Session in the Board Conference Room.

Unanimously carried.

14. PUBLIC WORK SESSION

14.01 Discussion of proposed changes to the 2011-2012 budget process

Dr. McDermott presented the refinements to the 2011-2012 budget process. The format will be refined to present the budget in function format instead of program format. Dr. McDermott noted that the program format organizes codes by subject areas or departments, and the function format organizes codes by broad service areas. Dr. McDermott stated that the change to sorting by function presents the same data but documents are aligned with New York State financial reporting system. Dr. McDermott noted other advantages include efficient and effective use of *Finance Manager* reports, percent and dollar changes are automatically calculated; eliminates the need to export data to *Excel* spreadsheets for calculation which reduces the risk of human error; preserves the integrity of the data; allows for better use of clerical time; and the final budget can be viewed on-line in multiple formats (function, object and program).

There was a brief discussion regarding the refinements to the budget process.

At 10:15 the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

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Beth M. Nystrom  
District Clerk

bmn