

Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, February 9, 2015, beginning at 6:05 p.m., in the Board Conference Room at the William J. Brosnan School, 158 Laurel Avenue, Northport, New York, with Ms. Julia R. Binger, Chairperson, opening the meeting and presiding. The agenda included items from the January 26, 2015 meeting which was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Members present: Mr. David Badanes, Ms. Julia Binger, Mr. James Maloney, Mrs. Lori McCue, Mrs. Donna McNaughton, Mrs. Regina Pisacani (arrived at 6:15 p.m.), Mr. Andrew Rapiejko, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson, Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr.

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. Thomas Caramore, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Mr. Matthew Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration  
Ms. Rosemarie Coletti, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
Mr. John Gross, Mr. Christopher Venator, Ms. Rachel Lorig, Board Counsel

1. President Binger called the meeting to order.

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

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 7:09 p.m. the Board reconvened in public session in the Cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Public attendance: There were approximately 75 persons present.

2. Ms. Binger led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
3. Pointed out the emergency exits.

President Binger asked Counsel Gross to provide information regarding the Open Meetings Law with regards to Board Trustees attending PTA meetings.

Counsel Gross stated that the Open Meetings Law does not say it is improper for a quorum of a board to be together at a meeting of another entity when there is no intent to gather for conducting public business. Attendance of more than a quorum of the Board at another activity where the purpose is to gain education, training, listen to a speaker or to attend as part of the audience is permissible. The Committee on Open Government opines that only when the Board gathers to conduct business of the Board of Education does the Open Meetings Law apply.

There was a brief discussion regarding the attendance of Board Trustees at other meetings.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to approve all items under 4.01

4.01 Minutes

4.01.1 Regular Meeting, January 12, 2015

Unanimously carried.

5. SPECIAL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

5.01 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

Dr. Thomas Caramore, Interim Superintendent of Schools, made the following announcements: The Northport High School National Honor Society inducted approximately 150 students at a very impressive and well attended ceremony. Northport High School Senior Mike Brannigan was featured in Sports Illustrated as the National High School Student of the Month. The Western Suffolk BOCES Shared Services directory cover features three Board members. The Children's Concert will be held on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. featuring Disney music. The snow makeup calendar days of May 22<sup>nd</sup> and May 26<sup>th</sup> are now school days and if there are any additional snow days they will be taken from the April break. Due to the snow storms there will be two extra days added for kindergarten registration.

5.01.1 President Binger presented the New York State School Boards Association Board U Board Excellent Award to Trustee Lori McCue, Trustee Donna McNaughton, and Trustee Jennifer Thompson, recognizing extensive time and effort for school board members who strive to continually expand their governance knowledge and skills.

5.02 Dr. Thomas Caramore, Interim Superintendent of Schools, discussed the 2015-2016 budget development process.

Dr. Caramore stated that the budget process started back in October/November with the guidelines being distributed by the Assistant Superintendent for Business. A careful review of all budget codes, line by line, for possible reduction in expenditures is performed and a review of staffing is completed by the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources with an emphasis on appropriate staffing to continue programs. Once the District receives its tax levy limit on approximately March 1<sup>st</sup> capital projects will be discussed. The Board will be touring the District buildings on March 14<sup>th</sup> and will review completed projects. The revenue side of the budget will be reviewed and recommendations for a final budget that is at or below the recommended tax increase will be presented to the Board. Dr. Caramore stated that he will continue the trend that the Board has established for the last three years. Dr. Caramore noted that the UTN and clerical units are without a contract and the contracts for the other units will expire June 30, 2015. Governor Cuomo is withholding specific state aid which may not be available until after the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Dr. Caramore noted that the District's state aid ratio is one of the lowest in Western Suffolk BOCES. Dr. Caramore reviewed the 2015-2016 Budget Cycle Calendar.

There was a brief discussing regarding state aid, CPI, and calculation of the tax cap.

5.03 For Information: Upcoming Meetings.

President Binger announced that the Superintendent Search has been narrowed down to four candidates and the interviews will be held this week.

Dr. Caramore stated that the 2015-2015 School Calendar should be on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

The President of the Board reviewed the upcoming Board of Education meetings scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup>, March 9<sup>th</sup>, March 16<sup>th</sup> and March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

Communications received regarding District Fields:

- 6.01.1 E-mail from Mr. Steve Klis, received January 7, 2015
- 6.01.2 E-mail from Ms. Kathy Smith, received January 12, 2015
- 6.01.3 E-mail from Lori & Michael Langella, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.4 E-mail from Ms. Ann Marie Little, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.5 E-mail from Suzanne & Jim Fox, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.6 E-mail from Ms. Claudia Cetta, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.7 E-mail from Ms. Michele Bica, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.8 E-mail from Ms. Lara McKenna, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.9 E-mail from Ms. Jennifer Schuman, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.10 E-mail from Ms. Michelle Power, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.11 E-mail from Ms. Ann McLam, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.12 E-mail from TJC523, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.13 E-mail from Ms. Paula Healy, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.14 E-mail from Ms. Gina Cartwright, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.15 E-mail from Ms. Stephanie Gilligan, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.16 E-mail from Ms. Stacey Klis, received January 13, 2015
- 6.01.17 E-mail from Ms. Amy Deal, received January 14, 2015
- 6.01.18 E-mail from Ms. Agnes Fitzgerald, received January 14, 2015
- 6.01.19 E-mail from Mr. Gerry Zimmerman, received January 14, 2015
- 6.01.20 E-mail from Ms. Una Murdoch, received January 15, 2015
- 6.01.21 E-mail from Ms. Diane O'Hara, received January 15, 2015
- 6.01.22 E-mail from Ms. Nicole Hedgecock, received January 15, 2015
- 6.01.23 E-mail from Ms. Jeanne Vivona, received January 15, 2015
- 6.01.24 E-mail from Mr. Scott Lewis, received January 26, 2015
- 6.01.25 E-mail from Mr. Mike Webb, received January 26, 2015
- 6.01.26 E-mail from Ms. Nicole Stola, received January 26, 2015
- 6.01.27 E-mail from Mr. Terry Kippley, received January 26, 2015

Mr. Frank Stola addressed the Board stating that he is a parent of three children in the school district and the condition of the athletic fields are embarrassing and dangerous including the condition of the bleachers. Mr. Stola stated that he wanted to bring this to the attention of the Board and asked them to do something about it.

Dr. Caramore stated that the District has not approved a bond for District improvements since 2000, noting that it is very difficult, especially with the tax cap, to take care of things that need to be taken care of. Dr. Caramore stated that in his opinion the only way to take care of the needs of the District is through a comprehensive bond vote with community support behind it. Dr. Caramore stated that it is very important that residents understand that some of the facilities are in really poor shape and need to be addressed.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Lisa Becker Giangiulio Parent	Read a letter to the Board in support of implementing full day kindergarten
Dean Schlanger Parent	Stated his support of implementing full day kindergarten

- Katie Joseph  
Parent Stated her support of implementing full day kindergarten
- Maureen Lazauskas  
Resident Stated her support of implementing full day kindergarten
- David Stein  
Parent Stated his support of implementing full day kindergarten and presented a petition to the Board signed by approximately 2,000 people in support of full day kindergarten
- Christopher Donlan  
Parent Stated his support of implementing full day kindergarten
- Shawne Albero  
Parent Stated her support in implementing full day kindergarten
- Sara Abbass  
Parent Stated her support of implementing full day kindergarten and her concern about the lack of parental involvement in the classroom.
- Trustee Thompson stated that there is a policy regarding parental involvement in the school and she would research it and get back to Ms. Abbass.
- There was a brief discussion regarding student use of electronics during recess and Dr. Caramore stated he will speak to the principals regarding the procedures.
- Denise Summers Mumm  
UTN-EN Read a letter to the Board regarding the budget process, transparency, State Comptrollers Audit, the formation of a budget and finance committee and support for implementing full day kindergarten.
- Dr. Caramore stated that he needed more time to work with the administrators to go over the actual numbers and modifications needed at the schools. Dr. Caramore stated that the District has to generate a surplus every year so the tax rate does not go up. Dr. Caramore stated that he is confident that he will be able to accomplish a number of things within the budget.
- Trustee McCue stated that there is a perception that the Board is not supportive of implementing a full day kindergarten program and stated that she believes the Board is in favor of putting forward a full day kindergarten program but needs the support of the community to come out and vote on the budget.
- Stephanie Ferland  
Parent Stated her support for the implementation of full day kindergarten.
- Lisa Hamada  
Lovena Gonzales  
Parents Stated their support for the implementation of a full day kindergarten program especially for the English Language Learners
- Jay Eisenberg  
Parent Asked what the parameters were for the students to be outside for recess during the cold weather and stated his concern regarding students using electronic devices during recess.
- Dr. Caramore stated that he will speak with the principals regarding the procedures for recess.
- Rachel Friedman  
Parent Asked how the District gets information to residents regarding funding for full day kindergarten when they don't have children in the schools.



Unanimously carried.

The Board reviewed each policy page by page and discussed revisions to the policies.

Motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to approve item 8.03 with recommended revisions.

Unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee McCue, to approve all items under 9.

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

9.01 Declaring 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.

Trustee Pisacani requested additional information regarding the condition of the equipment being disposed.

9.02 Approving the Treasurer's Report and Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements

30, 2014 9.02.1 Treasurer's Report for the period November 1, 2014 through November

9.02.2 Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements for November 2014

9.03 Approving Schedule of Investments

9.03.1 Schedule of Investments as of November 30, 2014

9.04 Approving Collateral Report:

9.04.1 Collateral Report for November 2014

9.05 Approving Bank Reconciliation Report

9.05.1 Bank Reconciliation Report for the month ended November 30, 2014

9.06 Approving General Fund Projected Cash Flow Statement:

9.06.1 For the year ending 2014-2015, Actual Data July 1, 2014 – November 30, 2014, Estimated Data December 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

9.07 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report, School Lunch Fund:

9.07.1 Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report, School Lunch Fund for the month ending November 30, 2014

9.08 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report, Special Aid Fund:

9.08.1 Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report, Special Aid Fund for the month ending November 30, 2014

- 9.09 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report, General Fund:
  - 9.09.1 Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report, General Fund for the month ending November 30, 2014
- 9.10 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report, Capital Fund:
  - 9.10.1 Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report, Capital Fund for the month ending November 30, 2014
- 9.11 Approving School Lunch Profit and Loss Statement for the month ending November 30, 2014
- 9.12 Approving transfer of general fund appropriations in the 2014-2015 budget
- 9.13 Approving the 2014-2015 non-resident tuition charges and the 2013-2014 actual non-resident tuition charges, identifying the amounts that will be charged to other school districts for any of their students who are enrolled in our District
- 9.14 Approving the following documents related to the auditorium renovations at Northport High School:
  - 9.14.1 General Allowance Authorization #1 for SED #58-04-04-03-0-003-021, in the amount of \$7,000.00
  - 9.14.2 General Allowance Authorization #1 for SED #58-04-04-03-0-007-016, in the amount of \$1,000.00
  - 9.14.3 General Allowance Authorization #2 for SED #58-04-04-03-0-010-027, in the amount of \$7,000.00
  - 9.14.4 Change Order #1 for SED #58-04-04-03-0-010-027, increase in the amount of \$723.27
- 9.15 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Clifford S. Trotter Associates
- 9.16 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Karen Korematsu
- 9.17 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Alert Coach Lines, Inc.
- 9.18 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Classic Coach
- 9.19 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Gerber Tours
- 9.20 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and North Fork Express (NAS)
- 9.21 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and North Fork Express (NHS)

9.22 Approving an Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Little Flower Union Free School District

9.23 Recommendation to approve the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$10,200 from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account, for the purposes of students attending the trip to Greenkill Outdoor Education Center February 25, 2015 to February 27, 2015 and increase the 2014-2015 budget code A5540.4161.23.2902 by \$10,200 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2014-2015 budget by \$10,200 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account.”

9.24 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT 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 the students attending the trip to Greenkill Outdoor Education Center February 25, 2015 to February 27, 2015 and increase the 2014-2015 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 2014-2015 budget by \$2,400 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account.”

9.25 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$34,615 from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account, for the purposes of students attending the trip to Greenkill Outdoor Education Center February 25, 2015 to February 27, 2015 and increase the 2014-2015 budget code A2110.4161.23.2902 by \$34,615 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2014-2015 budget by \$34,615 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account.”

9.26 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$370 from the 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 trip on January 14, 2015 and increase the 2014-2015 budget code A2110.4161.30.2902 by \$370 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2014-2015 budget by \$370 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from Northport-East Northport residents.”

9.27 Approving the following resolution:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the donation of \$1,761.20 from Box Tops for Education and \$5.45 from Value Drugs Reward Program toward the purchase of supplies for Dickinson Avenue Elementary School and increase the 2014-2015 budget code A2110.5030.11.0200 by \$1,766.65



for this purpose.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2014-2015 budget by \$1,766.65 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of Dickinson Avenue Elementary School's participation in Box Tops for Education and Value Drugs Rewards Programs."

9.28 Receiving the following donations to the District:

- 9.28.1 \$500.00 from Linda and Charles Gruhn to the Happy School Bus Scholarship
- 9.28.2 \$150.00 from Margaret Trachtenberg to the David Trachtenberg Memorial Scholarship
- 9.28.3 \$2,750.00 from ENMS Clash of the Classes Fundraiser and various ENMS Staff Members to the Leslie Spanko Memorial Scholarship
- 9.28.4 \$100.00 from Anna and Charles Hernandez to the Lieutenant Commander Christopher Tragna Scholarship
- 9.28.5 \$275.00 from the Dickinson Avenue PTSA to the Cultural Arts Program A2060.4900.00.2804
- 9.28.6 \$924.00 from the Northport Middle School PTSA to the Cultural Arts Program A2060.4900.00.2804

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

December 5, 2014 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), December 15, 2014 (Accounts Payable Warrant), December 19, 2014 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), December 30, 2014 (Accounts Payable Warrant), December 2014 (Claims Audit Report)

9.30 Approving Claims Auditor's Report – Payroll Audit for Payroll Distribution/Audit dated December 5, 2014 (NHS)

9.31 Approving a School Agreement 2015 between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Journeys Into American Indian Territory (DAS)

9.32 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Perkins School for the Blind (Spec. Ed.)

9.33 Approving a Reservation and Contract for Services between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Sweetbriar Nature Center (OAS)

9.34 Approving a Reservation and Contract between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Mansion/Museum/Planetarium (FAS)

9.35 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Quogue Wildlife Refuge (NMS)

9.36 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Center for Science Teaching & Learning (NMS)

9.37 Approving an Educational Theater Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and the John W. Engeman Theater at Northport (FAS)

Vote on Trustee Waldenburg's motion to approve all items under 9.0 was unanimously carried.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.01 Schedule H – Use of Facilities

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

12.01 Status of Boy's Swim Team

Dr. Caramore stated that Section XI has already been notified of the intent to have a boy's swim team next year and the approximate cost will be \$12,000 for pool time, a coach and transportation.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to revise the 2014-2015 Board of Education Schedule of Meetings and move the April 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting to Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to include a greeter at the Brosnan Building and to direct Dr. Caramore to investigate the factors involved in the addition of a greeter.

There was a brief discussion regarding the addition of a greeter and Dr. Caramore stated that he was not convinced that the addition of a greeter at the Brosnan Building was money well spent.

Trustee McNaughton stated that the AHIP program is situated at the Brosnan Building and the students are vulnerable.

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion was as follows:

YES: Mr. Badanes, Ms. Binger, Mr. Maloney, Mrs. McCue, Mrs. McNaughton, Mr. Rapiejko, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. Waldenburg

NO: Mrs. Pisacani

Motion passed.

13. ADJOURNMENT

At 12:20 a.m., motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to adjourn the regular meeting and convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to contract negotiations and matters pertaining to the employment history of particular persons.

Unanimously carried.

At 1:45 a.m., the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

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Beth M. Nystrom  
District Clerk