

Special Meeting

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday evening, April 1, 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 Ms. Julia R. Binger, Chairperson, opening the meeting and presiding.

Members present: Mr. David Badanes, Ms. Julia Binger, Mr. James Maloney, Mrs. Lori McCue, Mrs. Donna McNaughton, Mrs. Regina Pisacani, 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

1. President Binger called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to collective negotiations and matters pertaining to the employment history of particular persons.

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion was as follows:

YES: Ms. Binger, Mr. Maloney, Mrs. McCue, Mrs. McNaughton, Mrs. Pisacani, Mr. Rapiejko, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. Waldenburg.  
NO: Mr. Badanes

Motion passed.

At 7:29 p.m. the Board reconvened in public session in the Cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Public attendance: There were approximately 60 persons present.

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

There were no minutes for approval.

President Binger announced that there will be a Welcome Reception for the new superintendent on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria of the William J. Brosnan School at 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Caramore stated that the recently formed robotics team placed in the competition held at Hofstra University. There were 51 teams from Long Island, Upstate New York, Canada, Brazil and India. Northport scored high enough to be one of eight team captains to form an alliance. Dr. Caramore stated that this was a tremendous accomplishment in the robotics team's second year.

5. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED REGARDING THE 2014-2015 PROPOSED BUDGET AND PUBLIC COMMENT – BOARD MOTION TO CONVELE INTO COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE TO INFORMALLY DISCUSS PROPOSED BUDGET

Dr. Caramore reviewed the 2015-2016 Preliminary Budget discussing student enrollment, a projected budget of \$159,610,835, resulting in a budget-to-budget increase of 0.32%, projected tax levy increase of 1.32%, NYS allowable levy limit of 1.81%, and an estimated tax rate increase of 1.61%. The tax rate will be set by the Town of Huntington in October 2015. The projected revenue for 2015-2016 is 88% from the Tax Levy, 9% from State Aid, 1% from Reserves & Fund Balance, and 2% Miscellaneous. The State Aid amount is an improvement of approximately 1% which is the largest the District has received in recent memory.

Dr. Caramore reviewed the Fund Balance. The proposed 2015-2016 Assigned Fund Balance is \$2,390,000, -15.40% change; and the proposed 2015-2016 Unassigned Fund Balance is \$6,380,000, 0.25% change, for a total of \$8,770,000, -4.56% change.

Dr. Caramore reviewed the Restrict Reserves in the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve, Retirement Contribution Reserve, Unemployment Insurance Reserve, Workers' Compensation Reserve, and Insurance, estimating the total balance of all Restricted Reserves for June 30, 2015 to be \$8,282,863. Dr. Caramore is not recommending the use of any Restricted Reserves for 2015-2016.

Dr. Caramore reviewed the Capital Projects to consider for 2015-2016. The following Capital Projects are included in the preliminary budget: replacement of three (3) boilers and associated mechanical systems at Northport High School, estimated cost \$1,125,000; replacement of both exterior bleachers and press box at Northport High School, estimated cost \$825,000; for a total of \$1,950,000. The following Capital Projects may be funded by Capital Reserves: pave gravel lot at Northport High School including drainage, lighting and curbing, estimated cost \$325,000; auditorium theatrical lighting at East Northport Middle School, estimated cost \$100,000; replacement of two (2) boilers and associated mechanical systems with gas conversation at Norwood Avenue Elementary School, estimated cost \$750,000; for a total of \$1,175,000. As of June 30, 2014, the 2008 Capital Reserve Fund had a balance of \$272,503 and the 2012 Capital Reserve Fund had a balance of \$912,879, totaling \$1,185,382.

Dr. Caramore stated that there were a number of items that were originally listed in the 2015-2016 preliminary budget that will now be done in the current year's budget including \$21,000 for security, \$7,000 for transportation contracts, and \$45,000 to complete the purchase of new marching band uniforms.

There was a brief discussion reading the use of restricted reserves and the use and funding of capital reserves.

5.01 Communications received regarding the proposed 2015-2016 budget:

- 5.01.1 Letter from Ms. Nicole O'Rourke, re: Full Day Kindergarten
- 5.01.2 Letter from Mr. David Gaines, re: District Art Chairperson
- 5.01.3 Letter from Mr. and Mrs. Eric Alexander, re: District Art Chairperson
- 5.01.4 Letter from Ms. Christina Holihan, re: Music and Art

Ms. Holihan addressed the Board stating her concerns regarding the elimination of the Art Chairperson and combing the Art and Music Departments under one Director. Ms. Holihan stated that the extensive art curriculum at the high school deserves guidance and a leadership role.

5.01.4 Letter from Ms. Jennifer McNaughton, re: Art Chairperson for the District

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Name                      Comment

Denise Howard  
Michael Howard  
Parents Addressed the Board to advocate for a child safety zone at Timberpoint Drive to Northport Middle School and asked if the transportation committee could address this issue.

Dr. Caramore stated that the District received the petition for a child safety zone and it was sent to BOCES. Dr. Caramore stated that the Board has no authority to make exceptions and if the study comes back that it is not a child safety zone the Board cannot legally create one.

Cathie Josephson  
Parent Read a letter to the Board advocating for special needs students and asked the Board to have the same opportunities available for children with disabilities. Ms. Josephson asked the Board to budget for an adaptive swing on the playground.

Hannah Van Wickler  
Student Addressed the Board in support of keeping the Chairperson of Art position and keeping the music and art departments strong.

Marissa Faltings  
Student Address the Board in support of keeping the Chairperson of Art position and keeping the same opportunities for students.

Peter Mainetti  
Parent Address the Board in support of keeping the Chairperson of Art position, stating that he doesn't think someone could run both the art and music departments and maintain the level of excellence.

Joe Sabia  
Former Trustee Commended Dr. Caramore on his level-headed and smooth approach to the budget process this year and for producing a very fair budget.

Tammie Topel  
Former Trustee Addressed the Board on behalf of a special education parent new to the District and stated that the high school should be a truly inclusive high school. Ms. Topel spoke about the child safety zone and the unusual terrain of Northport. Ms. Topel also stated that it is prudent to fund reserves and that the community needs to be aware of this.

Stephanie Ferland  
Parent Stated that the Transportation Committee was formed just to look at bus stops that were changed due the new computer program.

Antoinette Blanck  
UTN President Stated that a child safety zone and the transportation committee are two very different things and that the committee's purpose was to review bus stops and had no bearing on who was to get a bus.

David Stein  
Parent Asked how the District gets funding from State Aid and if there is something that can be done to correct the disparity.

Dr. Caramore stated that it is a complicated formula that comes from the State. Ms. Kathleen Molander stated that the formula is based on income, assessed valuation, free and reduced lunch and several other factors.

Eleni Russell  
Parent Thanked the Board for putting forth full day kindergarten in the 2015-2016 budget. Ms. Russell asked the Board to consider putting the art chairperson position back in the budget.

5.02 Motion to convene into Committee-of-the-Whole to informally discuss the proposed 2015-2016 budget and resolutions

At 8:52 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to convene into Committee-of-the-Whole.

Unanimously carried.

6. MOTION TO RECONVENE INTO SPECIAL MEETING

At 9:54 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to reconvene into special meeting.

Unanimously carried.

6.01 Motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee McCue, to approve the following SEQRA resolution:

“**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District desires to embark upon the following capital improvements at the District’s facilities: 1) replacement of three (3) boilers and associated mechanical systems at Northport High School and (2) replacement of both exterior bleachers and press box at Northport High School, (1) paving of the gravel lot at Northport High School including drainage, lighting and curbing, (2) replacement of auditorium theatrical lighting at East Northport Middle School and (3) replacement of two (2) boilers with gas conversion and associated mechanical systems at Norwood Elementary School; and

**WHEREAS**, said capital improvements are subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

**WHEREAS**, maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c); and

**WHEREAS**, replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or a facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(2)); and

**WHEREAS**, routine activities such as renovations to, or expansions of existing public school facilities by less than 10,000 square feet are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQR Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(8)); and

**WHEREAS**, the SEQR Regulations declare Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQR; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education, as the only involved agency, has examined all information related to the capital improvement projects and has determined that the capital improvement projects for 1) replacement of three (3) boilers and associated mechanical systems at Northport High School and (2) replacement of both exterior bleachers and press box at Northport High School, (1) paving of the gravel lot at Northport High School including drainage, lighting and curbing, (2) replacement of auditorium theatrical lighting at East Northport Middle School and (3) replacement of two (2) boilers with gas conversion and associated mechanical systems at Norwood Elementary School are classified as Type II Actions pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(1),(2) and (8) of the SEQR Regulations;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby declares that the capital improvements outlined above are Type II Actions, which require no further review under SEQR; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby shall forward an official

copy of this Resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the correspondence from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in connection with its request for approval of the listed project from the New York State Education Department.”

Unanimously carried.

7. FINALIZATION OF PROPOSITIONS

7.01 Motion to Finalize the Propositions that will be submitted to the Voters on May 19, 2015

Motion was made by Trustee Badanes, seconded by Trustee Pisacani to approve the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the following proposition shall be submitted to the voters at the May 19, 2015 Annual Vote as ‘Proposition No. 1’:”

**RESOLVED, that the Annual School District Budget for the 2015-2016 School Year in the amount of \$159,588,325 and the necessary taxes therefore be approved**

Unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to approve the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education shall present to the qualified voters of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District at a special meeting to be held on May 19, 2015 the following proposition in substantially the following form as ‘Proposition No. 2’:”

SHALL the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District be authorized to expend the sum of \$272,503 from the 2008 General Construction/Electro-Mechanical Capital Reserve and \$902,497 from the 2012 Capital Reserve II, for a total of \$1,175,000 for capital improvements as follows: (1) paving of the gravel lot at Northport High School including drainage, lighting and curbing (2) replacement of auditorium theatrical lighting at East Northport Middle School and (3) replacement of two (2) boilers with gas conversion and associated mechanical systems at Norwood Avenue Elementary School, all of the foregoing to include all labor, materials, equipment, apparatus and incidental costs related thereto.

Unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to approve all items under 8. and 9., except withdrawn item 9.09.

8. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT, GENERAL – FOR BOARD ACTION

8.01 Approving the Personnel Actions Report, dated April 1, 2015, attached and made part of the official minutes.

Trustee Badanes announced the appointment of Mr. Robert Banzer as Superintendent of Schools effective July 1, 2015.

President Binger announced the retirements of Janet Schmidt, Teaching Assistant at Bellerose Avenue School, Delia Pace, Teacher Aide at Ocean Avenue School, and Karen Weiderman, Clerk Typist at Northport Middle School.

8.02 Approving Schedule J – Committee on Special Education

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

9.01 Approving the following donations to the District:

- Scholarship 9.01.1 \$500.00 from Sandra and Michael Leahy to the Leslie Spanko Memorial  
Scholarship 9.01.2 \$100.00 from Roberta Heller to the Leslie Spanko Memorial Scholarship  
Scholarship 9.01.3 \$100.00 from Kathleen Hartman to the Leslie Spanko Memorial  
Scholarship 9.01.4 \$100.00 from Rosemary and Kenneth Bair to the Leslie Spanko Memorial  
Scholarship 9.01.5 \$100.00 from Rebecca Galway to the Leslie Spanko Memorial  
Memorial Scholarship 9.01.6 \$10.00 from Valerie and Richard Romanczyk to the Leslie Spanko  
Memorial Scholarship 9.01.7 \$30.00 from Erin Cassino to the Leslie Spanko Memorial Scholarship  
Memorial Scholarship 9.01.8 \$25.00 from Suzanne and Stephen Dickinson to the Leslie Spanko  
Memorial Scholarship 9.01.9 A Dell PowerEdge 2900 server from Mr. Richard Gallo, Systems  
Administrator for Applied Visions Inc., to be used in the Northport High School Digital Networks-CCNA  
Discovery course to provide a simulated client server environment for experimentation and lab activities,  
value estimated by the donor to be approximately \$500

9.02 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$555 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 trip on March 12, 2015 and increase the 2014-2015 budget code A2110.4161.30.2903 by \$555 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 \$555 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from Northport-East Northport residents.”

9.03 Authorizing the Board President to sign contract with the following school districts to provide health services for Northport-East Northport students attending schools in that district during the 2014-2015 school year:

- 9.03.1 Huntington Union Free School District, fifteen (15) students attending St. Patrick’s School @ \$603.00, totaling \$9,045.00  
9.03.2 Smithtown Central School District, two (2) students attending Harbor Country Day School, two (2) students attending Sts. Philip & James School, and twelve (12) students attending Smithtown Christian School @ \$836.21, totaling \$13,379.36

9.04 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament, Inc. (NMS)

9.05 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Brightspark Travel, Inc. (NHS)

9.06 Approving a Consultant Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School district and Tim Green (ENMS)

9.07 Approving a License and Operating Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Kaplan K12 Learning Services, LLC (NHS)

9.08 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Schoolman Transportation System, Inc. d/b/a Classic Coach (NHS)

9.09 WITHDRAWN

9.10 Receiving the Districtwide Five Year Capital Project Improvement Plan for the fiscal years 2013-2014 to 2018-2019 inclusive

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

February 13, 2015 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), February 13, 2015 (Accounts Payable Warrant), February 27, 2015 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), February 27, 2015 (Accounts Payable Warrant), February 2015 (Claims Audit Report)

9.12 Approving Claims Auditor's Report – Payroll Audit for the Payroll Distribution/Audit dated February 27, 2015 (Central Office)

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

9.13.1 Treasurer's Report for the period January 1, 2015 through January 31, 2015

9.13.2 Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements for January 2015

9.14 Approving the Schedule of Investments as of January 31, 2015

9.15 Approving the Collateral Schedule as of January 31, 2015

9.16 Approving the Bank Reconciliation Report for the Month Ended January 31, 2015

9.17 Approving the General Fund Projected Cash Flow Statement for the year ending 2014-2015, Actual Data July 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015, Estimated Data February 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015

9.18 Approving transfer of general fund appropriations in the 2014-2015 budget

9.19 Approving the Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report – School Lunch Fund for the month ending January 31, 2015

9.20 Approving the Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report – Special Aid Fund for the month ending January 31, 2015

9.21 Approving the Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report – General Fund for the month ending January 31, 2015

9.22 Approving the Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report – Capital Fund for the month ending January 31, 2015

9.23 Approving the School Lunch Profit and Loss Statement for the month ending January 31, 2015

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

9.25 Approving the following resolution:

“WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District entered into an Energy Performance Agreement with Johnson Controls, Inc. on or about December 9, 2013 (the “Agreement”); and,

WHEREAS, the School District and Johnson Controls, Inc. desire to amend 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;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District hereby approves the Contract Amendment with Johnson Controls, Inc. in the form attached hereto; 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 Waldenburg’s motion to approve all items under 8. and 9., excluding withdrawn item 9.09 was unanimously carried.

10. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.01 Schedule H – Use of Facilities

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Binger announced the upcoming Board of Education meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, and Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Budget Vote and Election of Trustees on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, and the Special Meeting to Accept the Voting Returns on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Motion was made by Trustee Rapiejko, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to adjourn.

Unanimously carried.

At 10:09 p.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

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Beth M. Nystrom  
District Clerk

bmn