

Public Hearing on Finalized Budget

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, May 11, 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. Rosemarie Coletti, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
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 Badanes, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters contract negotiations and matters pertaining to the appointment of particular persons.

Unanimously carried.

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 7 persons present.

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

4. BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSITIONS ON THE MAY 19, 2015 BALLOT

Dr. Thomas Caramore, Superintendent of Schools, reviewed Proposition #1 Proposed Budget for 2015-2016. The proposed budget includes personnel salaries and benefits costs in the amount of \$121,302,198 and BOE, curriculum, transportation, facilities, special education, BOCES, etc. costs in the amount of \$38,286,127, totaling \$159,588,325. The budget to budget increase is 0.30%, projected tax levy increase is 1.30%, New York State allowable levy limit is 1.81%, the estimated tax rate increase for 2014-2015 1.60%, average prior 5-year tax levy increase is 1.71%, and the average prior 5-year tax rate increase is 1.85%. Dr. Caramore stated the component budget for 2015-2016 includes administrative costs of \$14,968,721 which is 9.38% of the total budget, program costs of \$121,263,483 which is 75.99% of the total budget, and capital costs of \$23,356,121 which is 14.63% of the total budget.

Dr. Caramore reviewed Proposition #2 Capital Projects for 2015-2016 which includes (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 conversation 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. Dr. Caramore noted that Proposition #2 does not impact the 2015-2016 tax levy.

Dr. Caramore stated that the Budget Vote will be held on May 19, 2015 from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at three polling places Dickinson Avenue School, Fifth Avenue School, and the William J. Brosnan School.

5. COMMUNITY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PROPOSITIONS ON THE MAY 19, 2015 BALLOT

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Denise & Michael Howard Parents	Asked about the results of the Child Safety Zone for the neighborhood of Northport Middle School for Timberpoint Drive

Dr. Caramore stated that the results were just received by the District and a letter was mailed to Mr. and Mrs. Howard on behalf of the Board. Dr. Caramore stated that the area did not meet the requirements to qualify as a Child Safety Zone. Dr. Caramore stated that the Board cannot legally provide transportation and there is nowhere to appeal the decision.

6. ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING AND CONVENE INTO SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

6.01 Designation by the Board President of Board Members to bring voting results to the William J. Brosnan School (Election Headquarters) on May 19, 2015 from Fifth Avenue Elementary School, Dickinson Avenue Elementary School and William J. Brosnan School

Trustee Regina Pisacani will bring the results from the William J. Brosnan School, Trustee James Maloney will bring the results from Dickinson Avenue Elementary School, and Trustee Donna McNaughton will bring the results from Fifth Avenue Elementary School

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes for approval.

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

Motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by McCue, to approve items 8.01 through 8.04

8.01 Approving the Personnel Actions Report dated May 11, 2015 attached and made part of the official minutes.

8.02 Approving Schedule J

8.03 Adopting the Calendar of 2015-2016 Board of Education Meetings

8.04 Appointing the following election workers for the May 19, 2015 Budget Vote and Election of Trustees:

Bob Neufeld, Tina Randazzo, Barbara Kaminski, William Masucci, Betty Macholz, Rebecca Byrne, Phyllis Burke, Anna Banzer, Mia Bechtold, Carole Dickter, Barbara Oestel, John Burke, Maureen O'Brien, Eva Koch, Helen Ensmenger, Cathy Brindisi, Aida Pintouri-Bould, Estelle Troglio, Susan Lee, Audrey McLaughlin, Jane Hudson, Joseph G. Maione, Barbara Cipullo, Jim Mahoney, Dorothy Walsh, Pat Naples, Janet Hayes, Isabelle Carpentier, Tiffany Hansen, George Faubert, Daniel Gillen, Maureen Mahoney-Kiefaber, Anne Cajigas, Roger Belanger, Jennifer Frost, Ken Doyle

Vote on Trustee Thompson's motion to approve items 8.01 through 8.04 was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to approve all items under 8.05

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

- 8.05.1 Policy #2100 “School Board Legal Status” (replacing current policy #9110)
- 8.05.2 Policy #2160 “School District Officer and Employee Code of Ethics” (revising current policy)
- 8.05.3 Policy #2200 “School Board Elections” (replacing current policies #9500, #9530, #9540)
- 8.05.4 Policy #2410 “Appointed Board Officers” (replacing current policies #9230, #9240)
- 8.05.5 Policy #2521 “School Board Conferences” (replacing current policy #8350.1)
- 8.05.6 Policy #6700 “Purchasing Policy” (revising current policy)

Vote on Trustee McCue’s motion to approve all items under 8.05 was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Badanes, seconded by Trustee Pisacani, to approve all items under 8.06

8.06 Receiving for a first reading the following policies:

- 8.06.1 Policy #1400 “Public Complaints”
- 8.06.2 Policy #2500 “Formulation, Adoption and Amendment of Policies (replacing current policies #8310, #8320, #9320)

The Board made minor revisions to policy #1400 and requested further clarification of policy #2500 by counsel.

Motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Maloney, to table item 8.06.2.

Unanimously carried.

Vote on Trustee Badanes motion to approve all items under 8.06, with the exception of tabled item 8.06.2 was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Maloney, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to approve all items under 9., including Supplemental 9.13

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

9.01 Taking specified action on the following BIDS:

EDUCATIONAL

9.01.1 AWARD: District Wide Capital Improvements Northport Middle School Auditorium

9.02 Approving the following resolution authorizing the issuance of Tax Anticipation Notes not to exceed \$40,000,000.00 in anticipation of the receipt of taxes to be levied for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016:

TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE RESOLUTION OF NORTHPORT-EAST NORTHPORT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, NEW YORK, ADOPTED MAY 11, 2015, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000,000 TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE RECEIPT OF TAXES TO BE LEVIED FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2016

“RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF NORTHPORT-EAST NORTHPORT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Tax Anticipation Notes (herein called “Notes”) of Northport-East Northport Union Free School District, in the County of Suffolk, New York (herein called “District”), in the principal amount of not to exceed \$40,000,000, and any notes in renewal thereof, are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the provisions of Sections 24.00 and 39.00 of the Local Finance Law, constituting Chapter 33-a of the Consolidated Laws of the State of New York (herein called “Law”).

Section 2. The following additional matters are hereby determined and declared:

(a) The Notes shall be issued in anticipation of the collection of real estate taxes to be levied for school purposes for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016, and the proceeds of the Notes shall be used only for the purposes for which said taxes are levied.

(b) The Notes shall mature within the period of one year from the date of their issuance.

(c) The Notes are not issued in renewal of other notes.

(d) The total amount of such taxes remains uncollected at the date of adoption of this resolution.

Section 3. The Notes hereby authorized shall contain the recital of validity prescribed by Section 52.00 of the Law and shall be general obligations of the District, and the faith and credit of the District are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the Notes and unless the Notes are otherwise paid or payment provided for, an amount sufficient for such payment shall be inserted in the budget of the District and a tax sufficient to provide for the payment thereof shall be levied and collected.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of this resolution and the Law, and pursuant to Sections 50.00, 56.00, 60.00 and 61.00 of the Law, the power to sell and issue the Notes authorized pursuant hereto, or any renewals thereof, and to determine the terms, form and contents, including the manner of execution, of such Notes, and to execute arbitrage certifications relative thereto, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer of the District.

Section 5. The Notes shall be executed in the name of the District by the manual signature of the President of the Board of Education, the Vice President of the Board of Education, the District Treasurer, the District Clerk, or such other officer of the District as shall be designated by the chief fiscal officer of the District, and shall have the corporate seal of the District impressed or imprinted thereon which corporate seal may be attested by the manual signature of the District Clerk.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.”

9.03 Approving the Claims Auditor’s Report for Warrants and Schedule of Claims for payments dated:

March 12, 2015 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), March 16, 2015 (Accounts Payable Warrant), March 27, 2015 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), March 31, 2015 (Accounts Payable Warrant), March 2015 (Claims Audit Report)

9.04 Approving Claims Auditor’s Report – Payroll Audit for the Payroll Distribution/Audit dated March 27, 2015 (Dickinson Avenue Elementary School)

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

9.05.1 Mineola Union Free School District, one (1) student attending Solomon Schechter @ \$800.00, totaling \$800.00

9.06 Receiving the following donations to the District:

9.06.1 \$890.00 from the April 17, 2015 Faculty Concert Music Scholarship Fundraiser to the following scholarships: \$240.00 to the Garland Butts Memorial Scholarship, \$220.00 to the Dora Clarke Memorial Scholarship, \$290.00 to the James J. Cassara Scholarship, \$140.00 to the Robert Padgett Memorial Scholarship

9.06.2 \$200.00 from Sonia Padgett to the Robert Padgett Memorial Scholarship

9.06.3 \$100.00 from Rebecca Padgett to the Robert Padgett Memorial Scholarship

9.06.4 \$125.00 from Mark Petrone to the Michael C. Kauffman Memorial Scholarship

9.06.5 \$50.00 from Donna and Donald McNaughton, Jr. to the Michael C. Kauffman Memorial Scholarship

9.06.6 \$200.00 from Jill Abrams and Robert Schildkraut to the Lt. Commander Christopher Tragna Memorial Scholarship

9.06.7 A Saucer Magnolia Tree and plaque to Northport Middle School in honor of beloved school nurse Margaret "Peggy" Carroll who passed on January 20, 2014, from Northport Middle School, value estimated by the donor to be approximately \$370.00

9.07 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$12,000 from the Northport Middle School Student activity Account, for the Northport Middle School trip to Medieval Times and increase the 2014-2015 budget code A2110.4161.23.2902 by \$12,000 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 \$12,000 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the Northport Middle School Student Activity Account."

9.08 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$5,000 from the East Northport Parents Charitable Foundation, for the purpose of students attending the Dickinson Avenue Elementary School trip to Washington, D.C. and increase the 2014-2015 budget code A2110.4010.00.2901 by \$5,000 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 \$5,000 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the East Northport Charitable Foundation."

9.09 Approving the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoints Sound Actuarial Consulting, LLC to provide an actuarial evaluation of the District's other postemployment benefit (OPEB) obligation under GASB45 for the year ending June 30, 2015 at a cost of \$8,900.00."

9.10 Approving the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the donation of \$3,500 from Suffolk's Edge Teacher Center to be used to support K-6 Reading and Writing Common Core and Shifts in ELA and increase the 2014-2015 budget code A2110.5030.01.2804 by \$3,500 for this purpose.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2014-2015 budget by \$3,500 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of a grant from Suffolk's Edge Teacher Center"

9.11 Approving a proposal from AssetWorks Appraisal to provide a comprehensive property inventory and appraisal update for the District to be in compliance with GASB 34”

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

9.13 Approving the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education designates Cold Spring Harbor Central School District as lead entity for purposes of submission of the Government Efficiency Plan on behalf of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools and the Chief Financial Officer to certify the submission of the Government Efficiency Plan on behalf of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and provide it to the Cold Spring Harbor Central School District as the lead entity."

Vote on Trustee Maloney’s motion to approve all items under 9., including Supplemental 9.13 was unanimously carried.

10. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.01 Schedule H – Use of Facilities

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11.01 Discussion of Open Meetings Law

Mr. John Gross and Mr. Chris Powers, Board Counsel, presented on the Open Meetings Law. Mr. Gross review the open meetings requirement, statutory definition of a meeting, case law definition of a meeting, and the Committee on Open Government definition of a meeting. Mr. Gross stated that the following are exemptions to the Open Meetings Law: judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings, any matter made confidential by federal or state law, board workshops, and meeting with counsel when attorney client privilege is implicated. Social events and gatherings are also exempt if no business is transacted. The Open Meetings Law applies to Board meetings, work session, planning meetings; committees consisting solely of board members; committees performing a government function. The Open Meetings Law does not apply to casual encounters, retreats; advisory committees (not solely board members) with no power to take final action; and meeting with private organizations. Mr. Gross discussed the risk avoidance “the morphing meeting” and stated that the best practice is to avoid controversy whether Open Meetings Law applies.

There was discussion of Board Member attendance at PTA meetings, Audit Committee meetings, Policy Committee meetings,

12. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Badanes and Trustee Thompson presented the Board with a letter written to Governor Cuomo regarding the State testing and stated that any other Board members could sign it if they would like to. There was a discussion regarding the letter, state testing and the Board writing a collaborative letter with input from administration, parents, PTAs, etc.

Dr. Caramore stated that the District received a letter from the Suffolk County Department of Health requesting that the high school continue to be used as a point of dispensing site. Dr. Caramore stated that if the Board wants to continue a notice would be put out for volunteers. There was a discussion of the letter and Dr. Caramore stated that he would consult with counsel.

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Binger announced the upcoming Board of Education meeting: Budget Vote and Election of Trustees on Tuesday, May 20th with the Special Meeting to Accept the Voting Returns, and Regular Meetings on June 1st and June 15th.

At 10:12 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Maloney, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to adjourn the meeting and move into executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the appointment of particular persons.

Unanimously carried.

At 11:30 p.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

bmn