

Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, September 26, 2011, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in the Board Conference Room at 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, Mrs. Kristen Gavin, Mrs. Lori McCue, Mrs. Donna McNaughton, Mr. Andrew Rapiejko, Mr. Joseph Sabia, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson, Mrs. Tammie Topel, Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr.

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
Ms. Carrie-Anne Tondo, Board Counsel

1. President Waldenburg called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Binger, to convene in Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the appointment of a particular corporation and matters pertaining to pending litigation, the discussion of such in public may compromise privacy rights and may compromise the District's position in that litigation.

Unanimously carried.

At 8:00 p.m., the Board reconvened in public session in the cafeteria at William J. Brosnan School.

Public attendance: There were approximately 60 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

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to approve all items under 4.01

4.01 Minutes

4.01.1 Regular Meeting, September 12, 2011

Unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Topel, to approve all items under 4.02

4.02 Treasurer's Report and Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements

4.02.1 Treasurer's Report for the period July 1, 2011 through July 30, 2011

4.02.2 Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements for July 2011

Unanimously carried.

4.03 For Information: Claims Auditor's Report for Warrant and Schedule of Claims for payments dated:

July 2011 (Wire Transfer Report), July 15, 2011 (Accounts Payable Warrant), July 15, 2011 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), July 29, 2011 (Accounts Payable Warrant), July 29, 2011 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), July 2011 (Claims Audit Report)

5. SPECIAL REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

5.01 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

5.01.1 Ms. Jennifer Nesfield, District Chairperson of World Languages and ESL, introduced the following students who tested Proficient on the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) in May 2011:

Kindergarten

Emma Honore, Tatiana Martinez, Scarlet Rodriguez, Jack So

Grade 1

Stefany Jimenez, Yency Nataren, Wences Valencia

Grade 2

David Granados, Abbas Syed, Alice Yanes

Grade 4

Paulina Palencia-Catalan, Jency Ponce, Taimur Sheikh, Ayesha Siddiq

Grade 5

Syed Hasnain Haider, Michelle Reyes, Daniel So

Grade 7

Helga Arauz, Junior Granados

Grade 9

Taesoo Kim, Nicholas Villacis

Grade 10

Luvín Raymundo

5.02 The President of the Board reviewed the upcoming meetings of October 3rd, October 17th, November 7th and November 21st.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

6.01 Email from Mr. Albert Prisco to Members of the Board, received September 19, 2011, re: Mergers and Doctor Cantor

Mr. Prisco addressed the Board and stated that he was very impressed with the article in "The Observer" last week quoting Dr. Martin Cantor, head of the Long Island Center for Socio-Economic Policy, regarding town-wide school district mergers. Mr. Prisco suggested that the Board invite Dr. Cantor to a meeting so the Board and the public can question him on his ideas. Mr. Prisco stated that it is hard to make a decision without giving the public knowledge and facts.

President Waldenburg suggested that this should be a topic of town meetings. Mr. Waldenburg noted that

he has seen information about mergers which showed that it might be beneficial for other districts but not for Northport.

Trustee Thompson stated that she was not ready to pursue what Mr. Prisco is proposing.

6.02 Letter from The Nolan Family to Members of the Board, received September 20, 2011, re: Transportation

The Nolan family did not attend the meeting. President Waldenburg stated that their letter requested that the Board deny a request for transportation.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Tim Farrell Parent	Stated that he understands that his request for transportation is a complicated issued and thanked the Board for their consideration. Mr. Farrell stated that he wrote a letter last week to the Board addressing four criteria that few people would meet in approval of his request. Mr. Farrell noted that he read the District's transportation policies, stating that the in-district policy specifies distances and age of children, but the non-public school policy does not take into consideration the age of the child. Mr. Farrell stated that the Board has the right to make an exception in regards to non-public transportation and that the Board of Education's mission is to educate all Northport students with whatever tools they having including transportation.

President Waldenburg thanked Mr. Farrell for his kind words and stated that there was discussion regarding transportation options including having the parent take the child to an adjacent district. Mr. Waldenburg stated that the Board would have to hear from counsel on whether the District is permitted to this within the confines of the law.

There was a brief discussion regarding the number of families denied transportation in the current school year and changes in transportation requiring voter approval.

Nina Dorata Resident	Asked if there was an update on the LIPA tax case
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Ms. Carrie-Anne Tondo, Board Counsel, stated that a summons and complaint was filed on behalf of the Board of Education in May of 2011. Counsel Tondo stated that she received some responsive papers and is in the process of responding to them. Ms. Tondo stated that she is not free to comment on the nature of those responses at this time.

Antoinette Blanck UTN President	Stated that she has the privilege of participating with 500 teachers nationwide in education nation which was part of a town hall broadcast. Ms. Blanck stated that there was a lot of talk regarding collaboration between teachers, Board of Education and administrators. Ms. Blanck requested that a Board-Teachers relations meeting be scheduled as soon as possible to discuss collaboration and how the UTN and Board can work together to do what is best for the students.
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President Waldenburg stated that the District Clerk will poll the Board members to setup a date for the meeting.

Superintendent McDermott extended an invitation to Ms. Blanck to visit classrooms with her.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Topel, to approve all items under 8.01.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, GENERAL

8.01 Personnel Schedules, each dated September 26, 2011, and each attached and made part of the official minutes:

- 8.01.1 Schedule B – Non-Instructional Staff
- 8.01.2 Schedule C – Salary Transfers
- 8.01.3 Schedule D – Extra Pay
- 8.01.4 Schedule J – Committee on Special Education

There was a brief discussion regarding the number of sessions a club has and how many children are involved in clubs. The Board requested information regarding attendance in clubs.

The board requested information regarding crowd supervision and security for after school activities, including the duration of the events and the necessity to have both security and chaperones.

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion to approve all items under 8.01 was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Topel, seconded by Trustee Binger, to approve all items under 8.02

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

8.02.1 Policy #2160 – *“School District Officer and Employee Code of Ethics”*
(replaces the following policies: #4001 – Code of Ethics for All Officers and Employees, #9270.1 – Code of Ethics for Board Members, #4116.24 – Personnel Duties and Responsibilities, #1313 – Gifts to School Personnel, #4134.1 – Paid Tutoring by District Staff, #8230 – Remuneration and Reimbursement

8.02.2 Policy #8332 – *“District Owned Cellular Telephones”*

8.02.3 Policy #9511 – *“Pay Rates for: Continuing Education and Recreation Teachers, Temporary, Substitute and Student Non-Instructional Employees”*

Vote on Trustee Topel's motion to approve all items under 8.02 was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to approve all items under 8.03, 8.04, and 8.05.

8.03 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Education Law §3811, the Board hereby appoints Ingerman Smith, LLP to represent Christina Pulaski in the federal district court under Case No. CV-11-4090”

8.04 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Board Policy and State Regulation, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Mr. David Nydick to serve as Impartial Hearing Officer for the purpose of conducting an impartial hearing in accord with Policy 4321, Program for Students with Disabilities Under IDEA”

8.05 Appointing the following member to serve on the District's Operations and Maintenance Committee:

- Mrs. Laura Ronan

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion to approve all items under 8.03, 8.04, and 8.05 was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee McCue, approve all items under 9., with the exception of severed item 9.05.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT FINANCIAL

9.01 Taking specified action on the following BIDS:

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

9.01.1 Award – Uniforms

9.02 Approving transfer of general fund appropriations in the 2010-2011 budget

9.03 Approving transfer of general fund appropriations in the 2011-2012 budget

9.04 Receiving the following donation to the school district:

9.04.1 A Dell Inspiron 550 Minitower Desktop with monitor and keyboard for the use of students in the A Midwinter Night's Dream ALS Awareness Club from Mr. Donald Strasser, value estimated by the donor to be approximately \$400.00

9.05 Severed

9.06 Approving the following resolution:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the donation of \$525.62 toward the purchase of supplies for Norwood Avenue Elementary School and increase the 2011-2012 budget code A2110.5030.14.0200 by \$525.62 for this purpose.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2011-2012 budget by \$525.62 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of Norwood Avenue Elementary School's participation in the Target Take Charge of Education Program”

9.07 Approving the following resolution:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the donation of \$952.91 toward the purchase of supplies for Fifth Avenue Elementary School and increase the 2011-2012 budget code A2110.5030.12.0200 by \$952.91 for this purpose.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2011-2012 budget by \$952.91 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of Fifth Avenue Elementary School's participation in the Target Take Charge of Education Program”

9.08 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the 2007-2008 Proposition No. 3 for EXCEL Capital Projects the Board of Education approves the transfer of undesignated fund balance from the General Fund to the Capital Fund in the amount of \$772,281.00”

9.09 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the 2008-2009 Proposition No. 3 establishing a Capital Reserve Fund the Board of Education approves the funding of said reserve fund by a transfer of undesignated fund balance in an amount not to exceed \$600,000.00”

9.10 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the transfer of undesignated fund balance from the General Fund to the School Lunch Fund in the amount of \$107,122.10 to support the 2010-2011 operating deficit”

9.11 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve a reserve for advances from undesignated fund balance in the amount of \$179,017.88 to support the operating deficits of the School Lunch Fund for the 2007-2008, 2008-2009, and 2009-2010 fiscal years”

9.12 Approving the following resolution:

“WHEREAS, the Board of Education, at its meeting on June 20, 2011, approved a resolution to fund the Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund in an amount not to exceed \$2,800,000.00

WHEREAS, the Board of Education approves an amendment to this resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of §6-r of the General Municipal Law, the Board of Education approves the funding of the Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund by a transfer of undesignated fund balance (and/or budgetary appropriation) from the 2010-2011 fiscal year in an amount not to exceed \$3,600,000.00”

Vote on Trustee McNaughton’s motion to approve all items under 9., with the exception of severed item 9.05, was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Rapijko, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to remove from table for reconsideration and approval of item 9.05.

9.05 Appointing R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP as Internal Auditor for the 2011-2012 fiscal year, with an option to renew for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 fiscal years

Trustee Rapijko stated that the appointment of R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP as Internal Auditors was tabled at the Board Meeting held on September 12, 2011. Mr. Rapijko stated that the Audit Committee met on September 19, 2011 and took no additional action from their August 1, 2011 meeting recommending to the Board the appointment of R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP as the District’s Internal Auditor.

Vote on Trustee Rapijko’s motion to remove from table for reconsideration and approval of item 9.05 was unanimously carried.

10. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.01 Schedule I – Home Instruction

10.02 Student Activity Account Reports for July, 2011 from:

- 10.02.1 Northport High School
- 10.02.2 East Northport Middle School
- 10.02.3 Northport Middle School

- 10.03 Investment Report for July 2011
- 10.04 Collateral Schedule for July 2011
- 10.05 Bank Reconciliation Report for July 2011

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Vice President McNaughton stated that there was discussion at a recent PTSA meeting regarding the idea of having narcotics detection dogs come into the high school. Mrs. McNaughton suggested including the Drug and Alcohol Task Force in the policy formation discussion and also high school students.

Trustee Thompson inquired if the Board needed to formalize an agreement with Northport Cow Harbor Soccer Club regarding the use of the District's fields on Sunday, October 9th. President Waldenburg stated that the Board will get appropriate advice from counsel by the October 3rd Board meeting.

Trustee Rapiejko inquired about the conditions of the fields after the hurricane. Mr. Tony Resca, Superintendent for Buildings and Grounds, stated that there was very little damage to the fields and that approximately 12 trees were lost. Mr. Resca noted that they fell a little behind on the middle schools fields due to significant debris cleanup.

12. NEW BUSINESS

13. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:15 p.m., motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to adjourn the regular meeting and reconvene in Executive Session to discuss matters leading to the appointment of an individual or corporation.

Unanimously carried.

At 12:00 a.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

bmn