

Public Work Session

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, May 21, 2012, beginning at 7:10 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 (arrived at 7:50 p.m.), 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

1. President Waldenburg called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the appointment of particular persons.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 7:45 p.m., the Board reconvened in public session in the Cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Public attendance: There were 13 persons present.

2. Mr. Waldenburg led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
3. Pointed out the emergency exits.
4. DISCUSSION OF CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

Trustee Thompson, Policy Committee Chairperson, and the Board reviewed, page by page, the proposed changes to the District's Code of Conduct policy with regard to the Dignity for All Students Act. According to the Dignity for All Students Act, the changes are required to be in place by July 1, 2012. The proposed changes to the Code of Conduct policy have been reviewed by Board Counsel.

Ms. Cynthia Fitzgerald, Director of Pupil Services, and Mr. Terrence Hinson, District Chairperson of Guidance, reviewed the Dignity for All Students Act, the requirements the District must comply with, and how the District will be educating employees and students on the Dignity for All Students Act.

The Board recommended capitalization, spelling and spacing changes to the policy.

The Board requested that Board Counsel provide language to be inserted into the policy to address cheating.

The Board requested Board Counsel provide clarification regarding the definition of a "crime" as mentioned on page 9, paragraph 3.

Dr. McDermott suggested the word "penalties" be replaced with "consequences."

The Board inquired if the term "Interim Alternative Education Setting" is language stated in Education Law §3214.

The Board requested language regarding Visitors to the Schools be revised to state that visitors must register with reception and sign out with reception.

At 9:30 p.m., motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to extend the meeting.

Unanimously carried.

The Board requested clarification regarding the terms “intentionally” and “willfully” as used under “Prohibited Conduct” in the policy.

The Board asked for a legal description of “controlled substances”.

The Board requested that the recommended changes to the Code of Conduct policy be reviewed by Board Counsel and that the policy be presented at the next regular meeting of the Board of Education for a first reading.

Motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Rapiejko, to adjourn the meeting.

Unanimously carried.

At 10:00 p.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

bmn