

Special Meeting to Finalize Budget

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Wednesday evening, April 22, 2009, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in the Career Counseling Center at Northport High School, 154 Laurel Hill Road, Northport, New York, with Mrs. Arlene S. Munson, President, opening the meeting and presiding.

Members present: Mr. Warren S. Arthur, Mrs. Liz Dragone, Mr. Joe Gannon, Mr. Rob Ingraham, Mr. Steven A. Meyerowitz, Mrs. Arlene S. Munson, Dr. Kay Hutchins Sato, Mr. Stephen V. Waldenburg, Jr., Mrs. Karen Wills

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent of Schools

1. The President of the Board called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee Wills, seconded by Trustee Ingraham, to convene in Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Unanimously carried.

At 8:00 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Arthur, seconded by Trustee Sato, to reconvene in public session in the large cafeteria at Northport High School.

Unanimously carried.

Public attendance: There were approximately 180 persons present.

2. Mrs. Munson led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
3. Pointed out the emergency exits.
4. SPECIAL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

4.1 Mr. Peter Falotico, Director of Art, Media and Computer, introduced Senior Colby Grace, Northport High School Art Department Student of the Month. Mr. Falotico stated Colby is the best sculpture student the high school has ever seen. Colby has won major art awards and scholarships from The Huntington Arts Council, South Bay Art Association, The Brookhaven National Laboratories, The Nassau County Holocaust Memorial and Education Center, and a Congressional Art Award. Mr. Falotico stated that Colby is the first student to be commissioned to create and erect a major historical monument. His sculpture will honor all generations of American soldiers and their families and will be erected in Northport Village Park this summer. Mr. Falotico stated that Colby's genuine love of art and pride in his work will guide him while he is making a positive difference in the world.

The President of the Board and the Superintendent congratulated Colby on his fine achievement and presented him with a commendation from the Board.

Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent, announced the following scholarship winners: Tyler Logigian was named a student winner in the 2008-2009 Principal's Leadership Award Scholarship Program sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and funded by Herff Jones. There were only 100 winners chosen out of 3,100 applications. Glen Meyerowitz was selected as a National Scholar in the 2009

Coca-Cola Scholars Program in recognition of his leadership, motivation and determination. For this recognition Glen received a \$5,000 award. DJ Ronde was selected as a semifinalist in the 2009 Presidential Scholars Competition sponsored by the United States Department of Education. Of the 2.8 million high school seniors in the country, a group of 3,000 were selected for the competition as a result of their scores on the SAT and ACT exams as well as their academic and extracurricular accomplishments. DJ was identified as one of the 560 semifinalists in the nation.

4.2 Dr. McDermott presented Trustee Liz Dragone with a Development Achievement Citation from the New York State School Boards Association.

5. There were five candidates who submitted their petitions to the District Clerk before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 20th. Four candidates were present and drew their names to determine their positions on the official ballot for the May 19, 2009 Annual District Meeting and Election. Mr. Fortuna was not present and the District Clerk drew his position. The order on the ballot is: Donna McNaughton, Stephen Waldenburg, Tim Madden, Andrew Rapiejko, Phil Fortuna.

Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Ingraham, to change the order of the agenda and consider communications received under 8.1 before convening into Committee of the Whole.

Unanimously carried.

8.1.1 Email from Ms. Lisa Schiede, received April 15, 2009, re: Fourth grade class size at Fifth Avenue Elementary School. Ms. Schiede addressed the Board and asked the Board to consider adding another section to the 4th grade at Fifth Avenue.

8.1.2 Email from Eileen & Peter Zimbelmann, received April 15, 2009, re: Fourth grade class size at Fifth Avenue Elementary School. Mrs. Zimbelmann addressed the Board and asked the Board to consider adding another section for the 4th grade at 5th Avenue.

6. At 8:15 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Sato, to convene into Committee-of-the-Whole to discuss informally the budget that will be presented to the voters on May 19, 2009.

Unanimously carried.

7. At 10:20 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Meyerowitz, seconded by Trustee Dragone, to come out of Committee-of-the-Whole and to convene into a Special Meeting.

Unanimously carried.

8. Finalize proposition that will be submitted to the voters on May 19, 2009.

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

8.1 BE IT RESOLVED, that the following proposition shall be submitted to the voters at the May 19, 2009 Annual Vote as "Proposition No. 1:"

RESOLVED, that the Annual School District Budget for the 2009-2010 School Year in the amount of \$146,268,851 and the necessary taxes therefor be approved.

The new proposed budget figure of \$146,268,851 represents a 2.09% spending increase, estimated tax levy

of 1.88%, and tax rate of 1.98%.

Vote on Trustee Waldenburg's motion was unanimously carried.

There being no further business to discuss at this time, motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Dragone, to adjourn the meeting and to convene into a brief special meeting to consider business items.

Unanimously carried.

At 10:21 p.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

bmn