

Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Thursday evening, November 19, 2015, beginning at 6:04 p.m., in the Board Conference Room at the William J. Brosnan School, 158 Laurel Avenue, Northport, New York, with Mr. Andrew Rapiejko, Chairperson, opening the meeting and presiding.

Members present: Mr. David Badanes, Ms. Julia Binger (arrived at 6:35 p.m.), Mrs. Lori McCue, Mrs. Donna McNaughton, Mrs. Regina Pisacani, Mr. Andrew Rapiejko, Mr. David Stein, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson, Mrs. Tammie Topel

Members absent: None

Also present: Mr. Robert Banzer, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Matthew Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration
Ms. Irene McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Ms. Diana Cannino, Board Counsel, Ingerman Smith LLP

1. President Rapiejko called the meeting to order.

Public attendance: There were approximately thirty persons present.

2. Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Pisacani, to immediately convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to a privileged legal matter and matters pertaining to the employment history of a particular person.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 7:15 p.m. the Board reconvened in Public Session.

3. Mr. Rapiejko led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
4. Pointed out the emergency exits.

Motion was made by Trustee Binger, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to approve item 5.01

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.01 Minutes

5.01.1 Regular Meeting – October 22, 2015

Unanimously carried.

6. STUDENT AND STAFF RECOGNITION/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

6.01 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

6.01.1 Ms. Denise Keenan, Assistant Principal Northport High School, introduced Anna Kippley, Business Education Department Student of the Month.

Ms. Keenan stated that Anna is a dedicated Business Education student who has immersed herself in all things Business. She is also a great public speaker and has been the morning announcer for the past three years. Anna has taken an active role in the Academy of Finance Program and this year was chosen to be AOF President. She attends monthly Advisory Board Meetings and was selected to represent Northport High School's AOF program at the National Academy Foundation's Annual Fundraising Gala held at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Columbus Circle. This past summer, Anna interned at the NPD Group, a leading international market research firm. Mr. Unser, Group President – Cross Practices stated that he never met a high school student who understands so much about accounting and marketing or has a more thorough grasp of advanced financial topics.

Several teachers noted that Anna is a positive role model for the other students and is well respected by her peers. She is poised and polished in her professional appearance and how she communicates with others. Ms. Keenan stated that the Business Department is incredibly proud of Anna and know she will go on to accomplish great things in the future.

President Rapiejko and Superintendent Banzer presented Anna with a commendation from the Board and congratulated her on her fine accomplishments.

6.02 President Rapiejko reviewed the upcoming meetings of November 23rd, December 10th, January 14th, January 28th and February 11th.

Superintendent Banzer stated that he attended the Northport Chamber of Commerce Meeting on Tuesday and was delighted to speak to the group and learn more about the business community. On Wednesday the ESL and ENL luncheon was held celebrating all that those students have accomplished.

Mr. Banzer stated that there is an Executive Session scheduled for Monday, November 23rd and the agenda will be amended to include a public portion to discuss a letter received from the Town regarding the proposed vineyard adjacent to Norwood Avenue School. A public meeting will be held at the Town of Huntington on December 2nd.

President Rapiejko stated that he attended the playoff football game on Friday and congratulated the team on their perseverance.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Board requiring Board action.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT/PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
David Ambro The Observer	Asked the Board to take a close look at the site plan for the vineyard submitted to the Town of Huntington and requested that the Board and community attend the meeting at the Town on December 2 nd and comment on the plans.
Eugenia Roche Parent	Stated her concerns with the elementary parent/teacher conference schedule with only one evening being set aside. Ms. Roche stated that most household have two working parents and hopes that the District will revisit how conferences are planned so that all parents can attend.

9. SPECIAL REPORTS

9.01 Dr. Patricia Schmitt, English Department Chairperson, presented the 2015-2016 English Department Instructional Initiatives.

Dr. Schmitt reviewed the 2014-2015 ELA Instructional Initiatives which included revising and formulating the 11th and 12th grade curricula, working with elementary coordinators to revise and continue to develop writing units of study aligned with the Common Core, and continuing to infuse materials and practices provided on EngageNY. The 2015-2016 ELA Instructional Initiatives are to implement newly created and revised curricular units for the 7th-9th grades, explore technologies and methodologies that support the writing process and enhance information provided to parents, and to use data collected from on-demand writing, writing portfolios, and NWEA to target instruction.

Dr. Schmitt reviewed the 2014-2015 Library/Media Instructional Initiatives which included expanding and communicating the importance of digital citizenship (databases/faculty meetings), supporting skills and practices that enhance academic honesty (professional development), and continuing to align library media standards with the overall goals of the school community (business insights: essentials). The 2015-2016 Library/Media Instructional Initiatives are to develop digital collections to support project-based learning, expand and communicate the importance of digital citizenship, and implement full-day kindergarten curriculum.

Dr. Schmitt reviewed assessment data including a comparison of the number of students not tested from 2013-2015, Grades 3-8 State English, Cohort Regents Proficiency and Mastery Levels, Advanced Placement Courses, and IB English Higher Level.

There was a discussion of the number of students challenging classes, 9th and 10th grade curriculum level of rigor, efficacy of the extra period at the middle school level, measurement of rubrics, and the outcome of implementing labs.

9.02 Ms. Tara Gaiss, Coordinator of Reading and AIS/RtI and Ms. Robin Rann, District Chairperson of Mathematics, reviewed the process taken in changing the K-5 Report Cards and the changes to the K-5 Report Cards. The Standards Base Reporting aligns report cards to standards and current practices, identifies individual strength and stretch areas, helps teachers adjust instruction and design interventions, and helps parents and students understand grade level expectations.

During the 2013-2014 school year, the grading sub-committee of the Elementary Curriculum Counsel recommended developing new standards-based report cards that encourage more consistency in reporting, emphasize descriptive over average/quantitative grading and reporting, promote growth, and support the use of rubrics. During the 2014-2015 school year, the Report Card Committee was established for developing new report cards with the following goals in mind: to report on performance, progress, and process in a way that parents can understand, to support parent conference conversations and are grade-specific and standards-based (reflecting Common Core Standards). A team of 21 members comprised of teachers, psychologist, coordinators, and building and district administrators met monthly during the 2014-2015 school year as a whole committee, with several additional sub-committee (ELA/Math) meetings. The committee examined/critiqued twelve standards-based report cards from surrounding districts, formulated a new report card structure, broke into two sub-groups to identify standards for each grade's report card, developed remaining areas of the report card, and the ongoing progress was reported at monthly Elementary Curriculum Council meetings.

Ms. Gaiss and Ms. Rann reviewed the reporting process. Grades reflect a student's understanding within a given standards three times per year. Grades reflect a child's ability to apply grade level concepts that are introduced each trimester. Instructional reading benchmark level (reading record level) is reported each trimester. Reading continuum level is reported each trimester. In addition to concept development in mathematics, fluency and problem solving skills are evaluated each trimester.

Ms. Gaiss and Ms. Rann reviewed the following elements of the report cards: Performance Key, Reading Continuum, Grade Level Math Fluencies, Learning Behaviors and Growth Habits Key, and the Comments and Goal Setting. The draft progress report templates were circulated to the grade-levels in the spring of 2015. The final progress report draft was reviewed at grade-level meetings on June 8, 2015 with revisions distributed via e-mail to teachers in September 2015. There was five hours of training on November 3rd for classroom teachers covering ELA, Mathematics, Learning Behaviors and Growth Habits. A two hour professional development session for teachers was held in late November.

Parent Communication regarding the changes to the K-5 Report Cards: Monthly reports during the 2014-2015 school year with drafts presented in June of 2015 were given to parent representatives of the Elementary Curriculum Council. A two-hour presentation to PTA Council was held on November 10th. Presentations to building PTAs by elementary principals were held in the fall of 2015. A webinar for parents will be held for parents on November 30th and this will be recorded and posted on the District's website. Live parent workshop in the East Northport Middle School North Cafeteria will be held on December 2nd. A question and answer document for parents is on the District's website.

There was a brief discussion regarding the changes. The Board thanks Ms. Gaiss and Ms. Rann for their very informative report.

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

Motion was made by Trustee Badanes, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to approve items 10.01, 10.02 and 10.04.

10.01 Receiving for a second read and adopting the following policy:

10.01.1 Policy #8635 – “Information Security Breach and Notification”

10.02 Receiving for a first read the following policies:

10.02.1 Policy #5140 – “Concussion Management”

10.02.2 Policy #5710 – “Violent and Disruptive Reporting”

10.02.3 Policy #8414 – “Idling of Buses”

10.02.4 Policy #8505 – “Charging School Meals”

At 10:30 p.m., motion was made by Trustee Pisacani, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to extend the meeting.

Unanimously carried.

10.04 Approving the Personnel Actions Report dated November 19, 2015, attached and made part of the official minutes.

Vote on Trustee Badanes' motion to approve items 10.01, 10.02 and 10.04 was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Topel, to approve item 10.03.

10.03 Approving request for foreign travel for students to countries outside of the United States during the 2015-2016 school year:

- Montreal and Quebec City (June 24 – June 28, 2016)

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion was as follows:

YES: Ms. Binger, Mrs. McCue, Mrs. McNaughton, Mrs. Pisacani, Mr. Rapiejko, Mr. Stein, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Topel

ABSTAIN: Mr. Badanes

Motion passed.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Topel, to approve all items under 11.

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, FINANCIAL – FOR BOARD ACTION

11.01 Approving the annual membership dues in the New York State School Boards Association in the amount of \$11,782.00

11.02 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$4,459 from Northport-East Northport residents whose names are more fully set forth in the attached document, for the purpose of the Northport High School Introduction to Dance trip to New York City on March 16, 2016 and increase the 2015-2016 budget code A2110.4161.30.2903 by \$4,459 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2015-2016 budget by \$4,459 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from Northport-East Northport residents."

11.03 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Lynda Mulley Hunt, who will visit students and speak to them about her books and writing process, in an amount not to exceed \$1,200 (NMS).

11.04 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Long Island Gay and Lesbian Youth (LIGALY, Inc.) for a Community Educator to present the T101 workshop for various staff in the District, in an amount not to exceed \$150 (SSS)

11.05 Approving a 2015-2016 Special Education Services Contract between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District

11.06 Approving a 2015-2016 Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Christine Baudin, for speech language therapy services (Spec. Ed.)

11.07 Approving a 2015-2016 Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Green Chimneys Children's Services, Inc. (Spec. Ed.)

11.08 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and North Fork Express (NAS)

11.09 Approving a Consultant Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and the Long Island Center for Arts and Sciences (FAS)

11.10 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Gerber Tours, Inc. (FAS)

11.11 Approving a Rider to Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Mount Alvernia (NHS)

11.12 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)

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

11.13.1 Treasurer's Report for the period September 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015

11.07.2 Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements for September 2015

11.14 Approving the Schedule of Investments as of September 30, 2015

11.15 Approving the Collateral Schedule as of September 30, 2015

11.16 Approving the Bank Reconciliation Report for the Month Ended September 30, 2015

11.17 Approving the General Fund Projected Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ending 2015-2016, Actual Data July 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015, Estimated Data October 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Vote on Trustee McCue's, motion to approve all items under 11. was unanimously carried.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Topel, to reorder the agenda and move item 13.02 before 13.01.

Unanimously carried.

13.02 Reform Agenda Advocacy

The Board reviewed the draft letter regarding the newly enacted Annual Professional Performance Review which will be sent to local and state legislators. Minor revisions were made to the letter.

Trustee Stein stated that it was a great letter and commended the Trustees who worked on it. Mr. Stein stated that there are three components: APPR, Common Core and assessments. Mr. Stein stated that as leaders of the District the Board should take a position of some kind and generate a statement that embraces getting the Common Core and Assessments reviewed.

President Rapiejko tasked the Superintendent to prepare a letter regarding assessments.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to approve the Reform Agenda Advocacy letter with the minor revisions.

Unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to table item 13.01

13.01 Update from Board Members who attended the New York State School Boards Association Annual Meeting and Convention held October 18th – October 20th in New York, NY

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion to table item 13.01 was unanimously carried.

14. NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made by Trustee Badanes, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to approve item 14.01.

14.01 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education herewith approves the settlement of litigation commenced by a particular former employee of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and approves of the Settlement Agreement and Release dated November 18, 2015. Said Settlement Agreement and General Release was reviewed by the Board of Education in Executive Session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the resignation of a particular former employee of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and retroactively converts the termination to a resignation effective July 31, 2011. Said resignation was reviewed by the Board of Education in Executive Session.”

Unanimously carried.

15. ADJOURNMENT

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

Unanimously carried.

At 11:37 p.m., the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

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