

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 12, 2014, beginning at 6:00 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: Mr. David Badanes (absent from Executive Session), Ms. Julia Binger, Mr. James Maloney, Mrs. Lori McCue, 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
Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Matthew Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration
Ms. Rosemarie Coletti, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

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 7:09 p.m. the Board reconvened in public session in the Cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Public attendance: There were approximately 40 persons present.

2. Mr. Waldenburg led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance; and
2. Pointed out the emergency exits.

President Waldenburg asked for a moment of silence in memory of Linda Rose Blanck, sister of UTN President Antoinette Blanck, who passed away this past weekend.

4. BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSITIONS ON THE MAY 20, 2014 BALLOT

Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent of Schools, reviewed the proposed 2014-2015 budget which will be presented to the voters on the May 20, 2014 ballot. Dr. McDermott stated that it is the sixth year of a tax levy under 2%. The projected 2014-2015 budget is \$159,109,341 resulting in a budget to budget increase of 1.60% and a projected tax levy increase of 1.99%. Dr. McDermott noted that the New York State allowable tax levy limit is 2.18%. The estimated tax rate increase for 2014-2015 is 2.35%. The tax rate is set by the Town of Huntington in October. The average prior 5-year tax levy increase was 1.68% and average prior 5-year tax rate increase was 1.79%. The 2014-2015 component budget includes administrative costs of \$15,518,040, program costs of \$122,301,359, and capital costs of \$21,289,942. Dr. McDermott stated that Proposition 2 is for the expenditure of reserves for the capital project to upgrade fire alarms at six elementary schools for ADA compliance. Dr. McDermott noted that Proposition 2 does not impact the 2014-2015 tax levy.

Trustee Sabia asked the administration to explain how the budget presented included the elimination of 32 positions and now that number was up to 50. There was a discussion regarding the number of positions being eliminated and several Board members stated their confusion and frustration that it was not made clear that the 32.55 positions being eliminated did not include the retirements. There was a discussion regarding the effect on programs, the budget and staffing numbers. It was noted that the document

published on the District's website on Friday was incorrect and the correct one is up.

Dr. McDermott stated that she took full responsibility for the misstatement but the budget amount stayed the same.

5. COMMUNITY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PROPOSITIONS ON THE MAY 21, 2013 BALLOT

5.01 Communications received regarding the 2014-2015 Budget:

5.01.1 E-mail from Ms. Ellen Baxter Hatch, received May 12, 2014

5.01.2 E-mail from Ms. Ann Libbey, received May 12, 2014

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Comment</u> |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Stephanie Ferland Parent | Asked why the District is losing AIS teachers that are needed. |
| Michelle Dawson Parent | Asked about the 4 th grade section decrease at Pulaski for the 2014-2015 school year. Ms. Dawson stated there are currently 78 students and losing a section would increase the class size |
| Shawne Albero Parent | Asked how the District will maintain a healthy balance of senior teachers and new teachers and what other mechanism could be used instead of excessing. |
| Ellen Hatch Parent | Asked for justification of the excessing of elementary, music, and English teachers. Ms. Hatch stated that it appears excessive in relationship to the decrease in enrollment. |
| Fred Trudwig, Jr. Parent | Asked what the breakdown is of each of the elementary school's class sections. |
| Danielle McQuade Parent | Asked what happens if there is a need for more than seven additional positions? |
| Joe Schuvart Parent | Asked what needs to be done to get some of the school's fields watered or have topsoil added. |

There was discussion regarding the district-wide class size caps and the process for determining class size. Ms. Coletti reviewed the number of positions and areas in which they are being eliminated.

Dr. McDermott announced that Senators Flanagan and Marcellino would like to give the District bullet aid for capital improvements in the amount of approximately \$200,000.

6. ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING AND CONVENE INTO SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

At 9:42 p.m. the Board adjourned the public hearing and convened into a special business meeting.

6.01 President Waldenburg designated the following Board Trustees to bring the voting returns to the William J. Brosnan School (Election Headquarters) on May 20, 2014: Trustee Sabia will deliver the returns from Fifth Avenue Elementary School, Trustee Maloney will deliver the returns from Dickinson Avenue Elementary School, and Trustee McCue will deliver the results from the William J. Brosnan School.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to approve all items under 7.:

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

7.01 Minutes

- 7.01.1 Special Meeting to Finalize Budget, April 7, 2014
- 7.01.2 Special Meeting, April 21, 2014
- 7.01.3 Special Meeting to Vote on BOCES Budget and Trustees, April 24, 2014
- 7.01.4 Special Meeting, May 5, 2014

Unanimously carried.

8. SPECIAL REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

8.01 Class Rank ó Board and Community Discussion

Ms. Cynthia Fitzgerald, Director of Student Support Services, presented on the proposed changes to Class Rank, Weighting, Honors/Pass/Fail and Physical Education Grading.

- 8.01.1 Letter from Ms. Mary Gilmore, re: Physical Education grades

Ms. Gilmore did not support the changes to the physical education grades.

- 8.01.2 Letter from Ms. Mary Gilmore, re: Weighting system

Ms. Gilmore did not support the proposed changes to the weighting system.

- 8.01.3 E-mail from Ms. Jeanmarie Sidorowicz

Ms. Sidorowicz had concerns about the students who did not take advanced classes and how the District was going to ensure those students got into college.

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

Unanimously carried.

- 8.01.4 E-mail from Ms. Danielle McQuade

Ms. McQuade was not against the elimination of class rank, did not support the change to weighting, the pass/fail option of the grading for Physical Education.

- 8.01.5 E-mail from Ms. Kristel Weidenman

Ms. Weidenman was indifferent regarding class rank, against the course weighting, pass/fail option and the Physical Education grading.

- 8.01.6 E-mail from Ms. Ann Libbey

Ms. Libbey supported the weighting changes and the pass/fail elimination but did not support the Physical Education grading.

- 8.01.7 E-mail from Ms. Su-Mei Tamayo

Ms. Tamayo was strongly opposed to changing the weighting system, pass/fail option and Physical Education grading but supported the class rank as long as the top 10% were accounted for.

8.01.8 E-mail from Jonathan and Ellen Baxter Hatch

Ms. Hatch addressed the Board and expressed her concerns regarding class rank, weighting, pass/fail option and Physical Education grading. Ms. Hatch stated that the makeup policy in Physical Education needs to be addressed.

8.01.9 E-mail from Ms. Sharon Curcio

Ms. Curcio did not support the proposed changes to class rank or weighting.

8.01.10 E-mail from Mr. Kevin Barry

Mr. Barry did not support the proposed changes.

8.01.11 E-mail from Mr. Michael Kucza

Mr. Kucza stated that he supported doing what is best for the majority of students, the district and the community. Mr. Kucza stated the District should ensure that the students who pursue high achievement get that noted on their transcripts.

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Comment</u> |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Grace Dwyer-Mauro Parent | Expressed her concerns about the general push toward college preparedness for the young students and said let children be children. |
| Joe Schuvert Parent | Expressed his concerns about removing class ranking. |
| Jennifer Labruna Parent | Expressed her concerns about weighting and did not support the changes to Physical Education Grading |

The Board stated that they will make a decision regarding class rank, weighting, honors/pass/fail option and Physical Education grading at the June 2nd meeting.

Motion was made by Trustee Maloney, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to approve all items under 9.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, GENERAL ó FOR BOARD ACTION

9.01 Approving the Personnel Actions Report, dated May 12, 2014, attached and made part of the official minutes.

9.02 Approving Schedule J ó Committee on Special Education

9.03 Adopting the Calendar of 2014-2015 Board of Education Meetings

9.04 Appointing the following election workers for the May 20, 2014 Budget Vote and Election of Trustees:

Tina Randazzo, Nancy Seals, Barbara Kaminski, Antoinette Brown, Betty Macholz, Rebecca Byrne, Phyllis Burke, Anna Banzer, Daniel Gillen, John Burke, Carole Dickter, Joseph Albino, Maureen O'Brien, Eva Koch, Helen Ensmenger, Cathy Brindisi, Aida Pintouri-Bould, Estelle Troglia, Meaghan Enright, Susan Lee, Audrey McLaughlin, Barbara Cipullo, Jane Hudson, Joseph Maione, Jim Mahoney, Joan Zaffiris, Dorothy Walsh, Pat Naples, Janet Hayes, Isabelle Carpentier, Mia Bechtold, Matthew Pollock, Maureen Mahoney-Kiefaber, Anne Cajigas, Roger Belanger, Jennifer Frost, John Witte

9.05 Receiving for a first reading the following policies:

- 9.05.1 Policy #0100 - Equal Opportunity
- 9.05.2 Policy #0110 - Sexual Harassment
- 9.05.3 Policy #0115 - Dignity for All Students Act
- 9.05.4 Policy #1120 - School District Records (revised policy)
- 9.05.5 Policy #1500 - Public Use of Facilities (revised policy)
- 9.05.6 Policy #1530 - Smoking on School Grounds
- 9.05.7 Policy #1915 - Display of the Flag
- 9.05.8 Policy #1916 - Salute to the Flag and Daily Pledge of Allegiance
- 9.05.9 Policy #1925 - Interpreters for the Hearing Impaired

Vote on Trustee Maloney's motion to approve all items under 9. was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Rapijko, to approve all items under 10.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, FINANCIAL ó FOR BOARD ACTION

10.01 Taking specified action on the following BIDS:

EDUCATIONAL:

- 10.01.1 AWARD: Musical Instrument Accessories
- 10.01.2 AWARD: String Instrument Repair

10.02 Approving the following resolution authorizing the issuance of Tax Anticipation Notes not to exceed \$42,000,000.00 in anticipation of the receipt of taxes to be levied for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015

TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE RESOLUTION OF NORTHPORT-EAST NORTHPORT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, NEW YORK, ADOPTED MAY 12, 2014, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$42,000,000 TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE RECEIPT OF TAXES TO BE LEVIED FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2015

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 \$42,000,000, 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, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015, 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.

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

10.03.1 Treasurer's Report for the period February 1, 2014 through February 28, 2014

10.03.2 Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements for February 2014

10.04 Approving Schedule of Investments as of February 28, 2014

10.05 Approving Collateral Schedule for February 2014

10.06 Approving Bank Reconciliation Report for the Month Ended February 28, 2014

10.07 Approving the General Fund Projected Cash Flow Statement for the year ending 2013-2014, Actual Data July 1, 2013 ó February 28, 2014, Estimated Data March 1, 2014 ó June 30, 2014

10.08 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report ó School Lunch Fund for the month ending February 28, 2014

10.09 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report ó Special Aid Fund for the month ending February 28, 2014

10.10 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report ó General Fund for the month ending February 28, 2014

10.11 Approving Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report ó Capital Fund for the month ending February 28, 2014

10.12 Approving School Lunch Profit and Loss Statement, February 2014

10.13 Approving Claims Auditor's Report for Warrants and Schedule of Claims for payments dated:

February 14, 2014 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), February 14, 2014 (Accounts Payable Warrant), February 28, 2014 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), February 28, 2014 (Accounts Payable Warrant), February 2014 (Claims Audit Report)

10.14 Approving Claims Auditor's Report ó Payroll Audit for the Payroll Distribution/Audit dated February 28, 2014 (William J. Brosnan School)

10.15 Authorizing the Board President to sign contracts with the following school districts to provide health services for Northport-East Northport students attending schools in that district during the 2013-2014 school year:

10.15.1 Westbury Union Free School District, one (1) student attending Holy Child Academy @ \$815.62, totaling \$815.62.

10.15.2 Three Village Central School District, one (1) student attending Laurel Hill School @ \$944.53, totaling \$944.52.

10.16 Approving the Internal Audit Risk Assessment Update for the period ending December 31, 2013 from R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP

10.17 Authorizing the establishment of the öLeslie Spanko Memorial Scholarshipö

10.18 Approving a grant in the amount of \$7,500.00 from The New York Bar Foundation to be used to support the expenses related to the annual Law and Civic Education Summer Institute

10.19 Approving a Supplementary Education Services Agreement between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Strategic Protection Group, Inc. (HS)

10.20 Approving a Consultant Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and Journeys into American Indian Territory (BAS)

10.21 Approving a License and Operating Agreement between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and SCOPE Education Services for the 2014-2015 After School Child Care and Extended Kindergarten Program

10.22 Approving a 2014-2015 Consultant Services Contract between the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and The Long Island Home d/b/a South Oaks Hospital (Spec. Ed.)

10.23 Approving Contracts with the following school districts for 2013-2014 Health Service Charges to Other School Districts for students attending nonpublic schools: Brentwood, Commack, Elwood, Garden City, Half Hollow Hills, Harborfields, Hauppauge, Huntington, Islip, Kings Park, Massapequa, Mineola, NYC Dept of Education, Sachem, Smithtown, South Huntington

10.24 Receiving the following donations to the District:

10.24.1 \$500.00 from Margaret Shavalier to the Deborah A. Shavalier Memorial Scholarship

10.24.2 \$2,500.00 from the Lillian S. Brueggemann Scholarship Foundation to the Lillian S. Brueggemann Educational Scholarship

10.25 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$8,280 from Northport-East Northport residents whose names are more fully set forth in the attached document, for the purpose of the Northport Middle School Sixth Grade trip to Medieval Times in Lyndhurst, New Jersey, Tuesday, May 13, 2014, and increase the 2013-2014 budget code A2110.4161.23.2902 by \$8,280 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2013-2014 budget by \$8,280 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from Northport-East Northport residents."

10.26 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$36,625.61 from the East Northport Parents Charitable Foundation for the purpose of the Dickinson Avenue Elementary School trip to Washington D.C. on June 4, 2014 and increase the 2013-2014 budget code A2110.4010.00.2902 by \$36,625.61 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2013-2014 budget by \$36,625.61 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from the East Northport Parents Charitable Foundation."

10.27 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$251 from Northport-East Northport residents whose names are more fully set forth in the attached document, for the purpose of covering the cost of alternative Washington D.C. field trips for Northport Middle School students, and increase the 2013-2014 budget code A2110.4161.23.2902 by \$251 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2013-2014 budget by \$251 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from Northport-East Northport residents."

10.28 Approving the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby gratefully accepts a donation of \$487 from Northport-East Northport residents whose names are more fully set forth in the attached document, for the purposes of covering the cost of transportation for a Northport High School Urban Studies class field trip on March 20, 2014 and increase the 2013-2014 budget code A2110.4161.30.2903 by \$487 for this purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2013-2014 budget by \$487 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of donations from Northport-East Northport residents."

10.29 Approving transfer of general fund appropriations in the 2013-2014 budget.

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion to approve all items under 10. was unanimously carried.

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT ó FOR INFORMATION ONLY

11.01 Schedule H ó Use of Facilities

11.02 Proposed 2014-2015 school hours for the District's nine schools as well as for Trinity Regional East Northport and Long Island Lutheran Elementary

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Waldenburg reviewed the upcoming meetings of May 20th, June 2nd and June 16th.

Trustee Maloney asked about the hiring of a publicist for the District at a cost of \$2,500.

Dr. McDermott stated that they were hired for the budget season and it is a BOCES aidable expense.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Trustee Rapiekjo, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to adjourn the meeting.

At 12:39 a.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

bmn