

Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, June 4, 2012, beginning at 6:05 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, Mrs. Kristen Gavin (arrived at 7:20 p.m.), Mrs. Lori McCue, Mrs. Donna McNaughton, Mr. Andrew Rapiejko, Mr. Joseph Sabia, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson, Mrs. Tammie Topel (arrived at 6:25 p.m.), 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. Regina Cafarella, Board Counsel
Mr. Christopher Powers, Board Counsel

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 employment history of particular persons and matters leading to the appointment of particular persons. The Board convened into Executive Session because discussion of such matters in public may compromise privacy rights.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 7:55 p.m., the Board reconvened in public session in the cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Public attendance: There were approximately 120 persons present.

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

Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee McNaughton, to reorder the agenda to move item 5.01.4 before item 5.01.1 and to move item 5.03 before item 5.02.

Unanimously carried.

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 Special Meeting, May 2, 2012
- 4.01.2 Public Hearing, May 7, 2012
- 4.01.3 Special Meeting, May 14, 2012
- 4.01.4 Special Meeting, May 15, 2012

Unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Topel, seconded by Trustee Sabia, 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 March 1, 2012 through March 31, 2012

4.02.2 Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements for March 2012

Unanimously carried.

4.03 For Information: Claims Auditor's Report for Warrants and Schedule of Claims and Payroll Audit

4.03.1 Warrants and Schedule of Claims for payments dated:

March 2012 (Wire Transfer Report), March 15, 2012 (Accounts Payable Warrant), March 9, 2012 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), March 30, 2012 (Accounts Payable Warrant), March 23, 2012 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), March 2012 (Claims Audit Report)

4.03.2 Payroll Audit for distributions dated: March 9, 2012 (Norwood Avenue Elementary School)

5. SPECIAL REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent, announced that the Relay for Life held at the high school on June 2-3 raised over \$218,000 and was attended by over 2,000 people. Dr. McDermott stated that former teachers Rich Castellano and Elliott Klein addressed the participants and teacher David Trachtenburg delivered a wonderful message to the community.

Dr. McDermott stated that the Annual Art and Music Festival was held on Sunday, June 3rd at Northport Village Park.

President Waldenburg stated that he attended the Art and Music Festival and that the level of work displayed from elementary school to high school was outstanding and reflects directly on the quality of the District's teachers.

5.01 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

5.01.4 Dr. Marylou McDermott introduced Vincent Amandola, commending his extraordinary actions on behalf of a fellow student during an emergency situation.

5.01.1 Mr. Scott Pellegrino, Elementary Science Instructional Coordinator, introduced the following elementary student Science Fair Award Recipients:

2012 Brookhaven National Laboratory Elementary School Science Fair Honorable Mention

Patrick Cooney, Kindergarten, "Does My Anole Lizard Eat More in Day or Night?"

Lia Edlin-Miller, Kindergarten, "Which Beans Absorb Best?"

Cameron Miles, Kindergarten, "Where Do Worms Like to Live?"

Lauren Rogers, 2nd Grade, "Fruit Decay"

Isabella Sidoruk, 3rd Grade, "Who is Dirtier - My Dog or My Brother?"

5.01.2 Mr. Daniel Drance, Mathematics Chairperson K-12, introduced the following Mathematics Award Recipients:

Math Fair Medal Winners:

East Northport Middle School

Alec Brewer, 7th Grade, Bronze; Shawn Weigand, 7th Grade, Bronze; Cameron Cacic, 8th Grade, Bronze

Northport Middle School

Gabriella Bica, 7th Grade, Bronze; Gregory Dilimetin, 7th Grade, Gold; Cybele Laisney, 7th Grade, Bronze; Samuel Maritato, 7th Grade, Silver; Zachary Melchione, 7th Grade, Silver; Brian Tannenbaum, 7th Grade, Bronze; Elizabeth Crofts, 8th Grade, Bronze; Tyler DuPont, 8th Grade, Bronze; Elizabeth Hensley, 8th Grade, Bronze; Rebecca MacLeod, 8th Grade, Bronze; Jasper Petronella, 8th Grade, Silver; Jake Robinson, 8th Grade, Bronze; Emma Todd, 8th Grade, Silver; Connor Montgomery, 8th Grade Team A, Silver; Joseph Stockman, 8th Grade Team A, Silver

Northport High School

Adam Chang, 9th Grade, Bronze; Michael Clare, 9th Grade, Silver; Christopher O'Hara, 9th Grade, Bronze; Christopher Raffa, 9th Grade, Bronze; Joseph Wetzel, 9th Grade, Bronze; Natasha Albanese, 10th Grade, Gold; Kean Amidi-Abraham, 10th Grade, Bronze; Jasen (Jae Sung) Choi, 10th Grade, Bronze; Nicholas DelGaudio, 10th Grade, Gold; Michael Driesen, 10th Grade, Bronze; Matthew Fezza, 10th Grade, Silver; Joshua Gaines, 10th Grade, Gold; Connor Powers, 10th Grade, Bronze; Peter Reiss, 10th Grade, Bronze; Sonny Rimler, 10th Grade, Gold; Joshua Williams, 10th Grade, Gold; John Davidson Hatch, 11th Grade, Bronze; Andrew Lauria, 11th Grade, Bronze; Brian Liu, 11th Grade, Bronze; Benjamin Maritato, 11th Grade, Silver; Justin Riggs, 11th Grade, Silver

Suffolk County Mathematics Tournament:

First Place (Upper Division Team): *County Champions* - Matthew Dannenberg, Brian Liu, Caroline Lovaglio, Ian Montague, Justin Riggs; **Second Place Individual** (Grade 12) - Matthew Dannenberg; **Fourth Place Individual** (Grade 11) - Justin Riggs

Suffolk County Mathematics Contest (Suffolk County standings):

Third Place (tie, Level E) - Daniel Kim; **Fifth Place** (tie, Level E) - Brian McDonagh; **Fourth Place** (tie, Level II) - Connor Montgomery; **Fifth Place** (tie, Level III) - Adam Chang

Mathletes (Recognized as an individual "High Scorer" in the Suffolk County Senior High Math League):

Matthew Dannenberg, Brian Liu, Ian Montague

5.01.3 Mr. Daniel Drance, Mathematic Chairperson K-12, introduced Ms. Donna McGinn, Suffolk County Mathematics Teacher's Association Outstanding Teacher of the Year

5.03 Ms. Cynthia Fitzgerald, Director of Pupil Services, and Mr. Terrence Hinson, District Chairperson of Guidance, presented on the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA)

Ms. Fitzgerald stated that the Dignity for All Students Act was signed into law September 13, 2010 and takes effect July 1, 2012. The Act addresses issues related to harassment and discrimination in schools, including amendments to codes of conduct. The Act amended State Education Law by creating a new Article 2 – Dignity for All Students and amending Section 801(a) of State Education Law regarding instruction in civility, citizenship, and character education by expanding the concepts of tolerance, respect for others and dignity. No student shall be subjected to harassment, discrimination, or bullying by employees or students. No student shall be subjected to discrimination based on their: actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or sex. The Dignity Act applies to all public schools, BOCES, and charter schools. It applies to incidents on school property and public school sponsored functions.

Ms. Fitzgerald stated that an age-appropriate version of the policy written in plain language shall be included in the code of conduct. Codes of Conduct are to be posted on the school website. Boards of

Education shall create policies and guidelines that shall include, but not be limited to: creating a school environment free from discrimination or harassment, and providing school training programs to raise the awareness and sensitivity of school employees to potential discrimination or harassment, and enable employees to prevent and respond to discrimination and harassment. The Dignity Act requires that at least one employee in each school must be trained to be the Dignity Act Coordinator. The Dignity Act Coordinator must be accessible to students and other employees for consultation and advice.

Mr. Hinson stated that K-12 student instruction in civility and social skills will include tolerance, respect for others, and dignity including awareness and sensitivity to discrimination or harassment and civility in relations of people of different races, weights, national origins, ethnic groups, religions, religious practices, mental or physical abilities, sexual orientation, gender identity and sexes.

There was discussion regarding how the Dignity Act applies on school property and how electronic issues are dealt with including cyber bullying off school grounds, the notification and education of parents and students, the reporting of incidents, investigations of and consequences of violations, required State reporting, and requirements of teachers, bus drivers, coaches.

Trustee Thompson requested that Board Counsel review the law and the United Teachers of Northport contract to make sure they are aligned.

The Board Trustees thanked Ms. Fitzgerald and Mr. Hinson for the informative report.

President Waldenburg recommended reordering the agenda to move the Code of Conduct Policy #5310 up for consideration.

Trustee Topel stated that she would like to move forward with the Special Education presentation and not reorder the agenda.

Motion was made by Trustee Waldenburg, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to reorder the agenda and move item 8.04.1 Code of Conduct Policy up for consideration.

Vote on Trustee Waldenburg's motion was as follows:

YES: Mr. Waldenburg

NO: Ms. Binger, Mrs. Gavin, Mrs. McCue, Mrs. McNaughton, Mr. Rapijko, Mr. Sabia, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Topel

Motion failed.

5.02 Ms. Christina Pulaski, Special Education Director, presented on the District's Special Education Programs.

Ms. Pulaski reviewed the 2010-2011 Department Initiatives of continuing to enhance curriculum development using Moodle Management System focusing on developing strategies and interventions to support special education students in the general education curriculum; providing professional development opportunities that will enhance students' study skills and strategies through the integration of technology; continued monitoring of the Federal and New York State regulations as they apply to special education services, specifically with an emphasis on the New York State Individual Education Program (IEP) and notices.

The 2011-2012 Instructional Initiatives are to continue involvement in the curriculum writing of anchor activities to ensure that students with disabilities successfully gain access to the general education curriculum, recognizing that all students can learn and that no two students are the same, the Special Education Department focuses on differentiation and the development of anchor activities; continue to

support the implementation of interactive white board lessons to expand curriculum development in the self contained classes to parallel that of the general education classes, and to develop parent support pages using the Moodle Management System; provide professional development opportunities to comply with the Federal and New York State Regulations, as they apply to the New York State Individual Education Program (IEP) on the elementary level, and to implement the State form for the Prior Written Notice across the District; and, provide professional development opportunities in the development of Functional Behavior Assessment and Behavior Intervention Plans in order to support a “Culture of Respect” for all students.

Ms. Pulaski reviewed preschoolers with a disability, stating that there are 74 classified preschoolers, 30 3-year-olds and 44 4-year-olds, 40 students receiving related services only, and 34 students enrolled in other preschool services including special education programs and special education itinerant services (SEIT). Ms. Pulaski reviewed the data on school age students (ages 5-21) by disability, location of services, grades 3-8 State English Exams, grade 3-8 State Math Exams, the New York State Report Card on Adequate Yearly Progress, the Comprehensive English Regents Exam, Integrated Algebra Regents Exam, graduation rate for students with disabilities, and high school diploma data.

Ms. Pulaski reviewed an overview of the District Special Education Services including General Education Class with Related Services (elementary, middle school, high school), Indirect Consultant Teacher Services (elementary, middle school, high school), Resource Room Program 5:1 (elementary, middle school, high school), Direct Consultant Teacher Services (elementary school), Special Classes (elementary and middle school), Inclusion Academic Classes/Direct Consultant Teacher (middle school, high school), Special Class Programs 12:1:1 (high school), Special Class Project Success Program 12:1:1 (high school), Special Class Program 8:1:2 (high school), Declassification Support Services (elementary, middle school, high school), and the Extended School Year Program.

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

Unanimously carried.

There was discussion of the extended school year, direct consultant teaching, transition services, post grad students including life skills and providing students work opportunities, music therapy, professional development, and peer reviewed research.

The Board Trustees thanked Ms. Pulaski for her very informative report.

5.03 The President of the Board reviewed the upcoming meetings of June 18th, July 2nd and August 27th.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Board

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Name

Comment

Rachel Friedman
Parent

Stated that she was invited in March to be a part of the health education committee but was unable to attend the first meeting. Ms. Friedman stated that she sent several emails to Mr. Cronin and has not heard back when the next meeting will be and what happened at the first meeting.

Dr. McDermott stated that the District is trying to look at the health program comprehensively and believes that part of the programs can be successfully delivered through the classroom teacher.

Mr. Matt Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration, stated that the committee consists of two health teachers, a nurse, Mr. Cronin and Ms. Fitzgerald. Mr. Nelson asked Mrs. Friedman to call Mr. Cronin to speak with him about upcoming meetings.

Antoinette Blanck Thanked Ms. Molander, the finance department and human resources for all the
UTN President hard work in updating the teachers' salaries after the contract settlement.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, GENERAL

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to approve items under 8., including Supplemental 8.01.2 (Schedule B #17), and excluding withdrawn item 8.01.1 (Schedule A #51).

8.01 Personnel Schedules, each dated June 4, 2012, and each attached and made part of the official minutes:

- 8.01.1 Schedule A – Certified Staff
- 8.01.2 Schedule B – Non-Instructional Staff
- 8.01.3 Schedule D – Extra Pay
- 8.01.4 Schedule J – Committee on Special Education
- 8.01.5 Schedule L – PDC UTN

President Waldenburg announced the administrative appointments of Robin Rann as District Chairperson of Mathematics, Patricia Essensfeld as Dickinson Avenue Elementary Principal, and Tara Gaiss as K-12 Coordinator of Reading/AIS. Mr. Waldenburg announced the retirements of Dora Ranj from Northport Middle School and Kathy Clark-Comisky from Pulaski Road School.

8.02 Approving a request to the State for an exemption from the requirement for a breakfast program.

8.03 Receiving for a first reading the following policies:

- 8.03.1 Policy #4850 – “Dissection of Animals in the Schools”
- 8.03.2 Policy #5310.1 – “Student Lockers, Desks and Other School Storage

Places”

David Badanes Stated that he is strongly opposed to any drug sniffing dogs in our schools and he is
Trustee-elect strongly opposed to illegal drugs in our schools, but when it comes to civil liberties
and civil rights he cannot compromise our student's rights and neither should the
Board. Mr. Badanes stated that the District should do everything legally possible
and morally ethical to stop and prevent illegal drug use but he believes the proposal
is not only illegal, it will be ineffective and could lead to costly law suits. Mr.
Badanes stated he wholeheartedly disagreed that students do not have any right or
expectation of privacy for anything stored within school lockers and questions the
effectiveness of drug sniffing dogs. Mr. Badanes urged the Board to table the
change in the student locker policy until the new Board members are placed on the
Board and suggested a civil rights attorney address the Board on the legal
implications of the new policy as well as the drug sniffing dogs.

Vice President McNaughton asked Counsel Powers for a clarification of the policy.

Mr. Powers stated that lockers are storage areas for students to use and the cases referenced in the policy are crystal clear in that school officials are allowed to go into school lockers. Mr. Powers stated that lockers are very much accessible as long as the student body has been placed on notice.

8.03.3 Policy #9510.5 – “Terms and Conditions of Employment for School Monitors (Greeters)”

8.04 Receiving for a first reading revisions to the following policies:

8.04.1 Policy #5310 – “Code of Conduct”

8.04.2 Policy #6240 – “Investment Policy”

8.04.3 Policy #9510.4 – “Terms and Conditions of Employment for Security Personnel”

Vote on Trustee McCue’s motion to approve all items under 8. was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Topel, seconded by Trustee Binger, to approve all items under 9.

9. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT FINANCIAL

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

9.02 Receiving the following donations to the District:

9.02.1 \$300.00 from Eric Wolf Welch to the Geraldine Wolf Welch Memorial Scholarship

9.02.2 \$5,000.00 from Steven L. Ingerman to the Henrietta Ackerly Memorial Scholarship

9.02.3 \$500.00 from David Quigley to the Laurene G. Quigley Memorial Scholarship

9.03 Approving the following resolution:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the donation of \$200 toward the purchase of supplies for Dickinson Avenue Elementary School Future Corps projects and increase the 2012-2013 budget code A2110.5030.11.0200 by \$200 for this purpose.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves and increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2012-2013 budget by \$200 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of a grant from Newsday.”

9.04 Approving the following resolution to participate in the Western Suffolk BOCES Cooperative RFP #12-02P for Translation Services:

“WHEREAS, various educational and municipal corporations located within the State of New York desire to bid jointly for translation services (RFP #12-02P); and

WHEREAS, the Northport-East Northport U.F.S.D. an educational/municipal corporation (hereinafter the “District”) is desirous of selectively participating with other educational and/or municipal corporations in the State of New York in joint bidding in the areas mentioned above pursuant to General Municipal Law §119—o and Education Law Section 1950; and

WHEREAS, the District is a municipality within the meaning of General Municipal Law, §119-n and is eligible to participate in the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Second

Supervisory District of Suffolk County (hereinafter Western Suffolk BOCES) cooperative RFP for translation services in the area(s) mentioned above; and

WHEREAS, with respect to all activities conducted by the BOPCES, the District wishes to delegate to Western Suffolk BOCES the responsibility for drafting of specifications, advertising for bids/proposals, accepting and opening bids/proposals, tabulating bids/proposals, awarding the bids/proposals, and reporting the results to the District.

BE IT RESOLVED that the District hereby appoints Western Suffolk BOCES to represent it and to act as the lead agent in all matters related to the services as described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District hereby authorizes Western Suffolk BOCES to place all legal advertisements for any required cooperative bidding in Newsday, which is designated as the official newspaper for Western Suffolk BOCES; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Agreement with the District shall be for a term of one (1) year as authorized by General Municipal Law 119-o.2.j.”

9.05 Authorizing the Board President to sign a contract with the following school districts to provide health services for Northport-East Northport students attending schools in that district during the 2011-2012 school year:

9.05.1 Hauppauge Union Free School District, three (3) students attending the Ivy League School @ \$778.69, totaling \$2,336.07

9.05.2 Commack Union Free School District, eighteen (18) students attending Holy Family Regional School @ \$796.12, and two (2) students attending Jewish Academy of Suffolk County @ \$796.12, totaling \$15,922.40.

9.06 Approving a Multi-Year Lease between Northport-East Northport UFSD and Western Suffolk BOCES under Co-SER 501/502 through Western Suffolk BOCES

Vote on Trustee Topel’s motion to approve all items under 9.0 was unanimously carried.

10. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.01 Schedule H – Use of Facilities

10.02 Schedule I – Home Instruction

10.03 Student Activity Account Reports for March 2012 from:

10.03.1 Northport High School

10.03.2 East Northport Middle School

10.03.3 Northport Middle School

10.04 Investment Report for March 2012

10.05 Collateral Schedule for March 2012

10.06 Bank Reconciliation Report for March 2012

10.07 Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report as of March 2012

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

Dr. McDermott stated that in order for the District to accomplish projects around the District over the summer, a request was made from the Clerical Unit to change the summer hours to a Monday through Thursday schedule, and the Clerical Unit agreed to the changes.

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

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve an Agreement dated May 30, 2012 between the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District and the United Public Service Employees Union on behalf of the Northport-East Northport Clerical Unit”

Unanimously carried.

12.02 Dr. McDermott stated that the District had put aside potential settlement funds equating to a step increment and now with the agreement settled with the teachers’ union which included a zero percent increase in the first year, the District now has revenue of \$1.97 million and the Board has to decide what they want to do with it before the tax levy is set in October. Dr. McDermott stated that the funds could be used for capital projects, applied to reserves or returned to the taxpayers.

President Waldenburg noted that any capital projects would have to go to a referendum.

Trustees Sabia and Thompson stated that they would like to see the funds split up, some going to capital projects and some being returned to the taxpayer.

President Waldenburg stated that another option would be to put a referendum forward to increase the amounts allowable to be put into and expended from in the current capital reserve fund.

There was discussion regarding capital projects in the five year plan from the Operations and Maintenance Committee and long term planning for capital projects around the District, modification of the current capital reserve fund to ten years with a maximum amount of \$12 million.

UTN President Antoinette Blanck stated that she understood the need for capital improvement, but as president of the teachers’ union she negotiated with the District in good faith to reach a settlement that was fair and equitable to all. Ms. Blanck stated that the Board made it very clear the demand for a hard freeze for the 2010-2011 school year and unbeknownst to the UTN there was budgeted \$1.9 million. Ms. Blanck stated that the UTN has made sacrifices and the community and taxpayers have made sacrifices but where is the benefit. Ms. Blanck stated she is very concerned over this.

Dr. McDermott stated that the UTN was provided with detailed financial information, there was full disclosure and the District’s financial statements were always available. Dr. McDermott stated that the external auditors advised the District on this business decision and that there could have been a Board that did not believe in a hard freeze for the teachers. Dr. McDermott stated that the decision was made in good faith and the District had to have money there in case a different decision was made.

Ms. Kathleen Molander stated that the Board could put forth two referendums, one on how the \$1.97 million revenue would be spent, and one to change the parameters of the current capital reserve.

Motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Topel, to direct the Administration and Board Counsel to provide resolutions to amend the current capital reserve fund to a yearly contribution of \$1.5 million, \$12 million maximum total reserve, and extending the term another ten years, and to do the capital projects as described in the Superintendent's Update.

Unanimously carried.

13. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, motion was made by Trustee McNaughton, seconded by Trustee Topel, to adjourn the meeting.

Unanimously carried.

At 1:45 a.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

bmn