

Special Meeting

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, March 11, 2013, 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: Mr. David Badanes, Ms. Julia Binger, Mr. James Maloney, Mrs. Lori McCue, Mr. Andrew Rapiejko, Mr. Joseph Sabia, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson, Mrs. Tammie Topel (arrived at 6:10 p.m.), 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
Dr. Thomas Caramore, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

1. President Waldenburg called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Badanes, to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to potential litigation, contract negotiations, and matters pertaining to the employment history of particular persons.

Unanimously carried by those present.

At 7:19 p.m. the Board reconvened in public session in the Cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

Public attendance: There were approximately 50 persons present.

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

There were no minutes for approval.

Mr. Drew Cronin, Director of Physical Education and Athletics, announced that the boys track team finished in the top six in the nation achieving All American status. Brigid Brennan of the girls track team was voted Suffolk County MVP. The boys' basketball team won the Long Island Championship and will be playing New Rochelle on Saturday in the State semi-finals. Mr. Cronin noted that at the Long Island Championship basketball game, a student on the Baldwin team was injured and Shawn Scattergood, the District's athletic trainer, tended to and followed up with the young man who needed surgery for his injury. Mr. Cronin stated that Hofstra's head of security complimented the District on the conduct of its fans, coaches and players.

5. DISCUSSION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED 2013-2014 BUDGET

In response to Board questions from the March 4th meeting, Mr. Tony Resca, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, stated that the cost to pave the high school gravel parking lot was approximately \$280,000 and there are no plans to complete that at this time. Mr. Resca stated that the proposed budget includes purchasing 4x4 plow trucks which were used extensively this year. Mr. Resca noted that the plow trucks are used year round.

Trustee Badanes asked if the administration could look into recycling of paper and cardboard.

Dr. Marylou McDermott, Superintendent, presented the draft 2013-2014 budget in the areas of personnel and benefits. Dr. McDermott stated that the 2012-2013 budget for personnel salaries was \$82,850,716 and the proposed 2013-2014 budget is \$82,792,644. The percent change from the 2012-2013 budget to the proposed 2013-2014 budget is -0.07% and the dollar change is -\$58,072.

Dr. McDermott reviewed the elementary enrollment projections, middle school enrollment projections and high school enrollment projections for 2013-2014. A reduction of 189 students is projected at the elementary level, an increase of 31 students is projected at the middle school level, and a reduction of 93 students is projected at the high school level.

The 2013-2014 Benefits budget includes an increase in ERS of \$185,757.00 resulting in a percent change of 6.49%, an increase in TRS of \$2,909,061.00 resulting in a percent change of 36.49%, an increase in FICA of \$74,455.00 resulting in a percent change of 1.26%, an increase in Health Insurances of \$1,141,204.00 resulting in a percent change of 6.77%, a decrease in Workers' Compensation of \$12,533.00 resulting in a percent change of -1.43%, and a decrease in other benefits of \$13,831.00 resulting in a percent change of -2.00%. The overall increase in the 2013-2014 Benefits Budget is approximately 12.18%.

The Board discussed projected elementary class size, the composition of classes, students with special needs, kindergarten enrollment, teacher retirements, high school staff reduction based on student scheduling, current and future expectations on ERS and TRS contributions, calculation of the legal allowable budget cap limit, health insurance costs and the affordable care act.

The Board reviewed the following budget function codes:

| <u>Function Code</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1040 | District Clerk |
| 1240 | Chief School Administrator |
| 1310 | Accounting |
| 1311 | Business Administration |
| 1320 | Auditing |
| 1325 | Treasurer |
| 1345 | Purchasing |
| 1430 | Human Resources |
| 1480 | Public Information and Services |
| 1620 | Operation of Plant |

Dr. McDermott stated that the salary code increase was due to the hiring of new greeters and the increase in hours.

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| 1621 | Maintenance of Plant |
| 1660 | Central Warehouse |
| 1670 | Central Printing and Mailing |
| 2010 | Curriculum Development and Supervision |
| 2020 | Supervision – Regular School |
| 2040 | Supervision – Special School |
| 2070 | In-Service Training – Instruction |
| 2110 | Teaching – Regular School |

In response to a question, Mr. Matt Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration, stated that department chairs are k-12 administrators that have responsibilities for assessment in k-6 and for observation and assessment in 7-12. Curriculum coordinators are teacher leaders in District that work within the buildings on a day to day basis with the teachers on common core standards.

There was a brief discussion regarding fund budgeted for negotiations and contingent expenses, use of reserves, the 4% unassigned fund balance, and capital projects.

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| 2250 | Programs for Students with Disabilities |
| 2310 | Continuing Education School |
| 2320 | Summer School |
| 2610 | School Library and Audio Visual |
| 2630 | Computer Assisted Instruction |
| 2805 | Attendance |

In response to a question, Ms. Irene McLaughlin, Northport High School Principal, stated that they are exploring software that will help track students in the building and attendance.

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| 2810 | Guidance |
| 2815 | Health Services |
| 2820 | Psychological Services |
| 2822 | Education Related Support Services |
| 2825 | Social Work Services |
| 2850 | Co-Curricular Activities |

In response to a question, Mr. Drew Cronin, Director of Physical Education and Athletics, stated that even with declining enrollment there has been no decline in participation in co-curricular activities and noted that there has been an increase in participation.

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| 2855 | Interscholastic Athletics |
| 5510 | District Operated Transportation |
| 7140 | Community Recreation |
| 8060 | Community – Civic Activities |
| 9010 | ERS |

In response to a question, Ms. Molander stated that the District receives a projection from the State on what the District will have to pay.

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| 9020 | TRS |
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In response to a question, Ms. Molander stated that the District pays 16.25% on the calculated salaries that fall under TRS including instructional staff and administrators.

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| 9030 | Social Security |
| 9040 | Workers' Compensation |
| 9045 | Life Insurance |
| 9050 | Unemployment Insurance |
| 9055 | Disability Insurance |
| 9060 | Health Insurance |
| 9087 | Extended Sick Leave |
| 9088 | Accrued Leave Payout |
| 9089 | Other Employee Benefits |

In response to a question, Dr. McDermott, stated that the current proposed 2013-2014 budget is at a 2.86 tax levy which is below the allowable 3.4% tax levy limit.

President Waldenburg stated that the public should come the next Board meeting scheduled for March 18th to voice their opinions on the 2013-2014 proposed budget.

There was discussion regarding the change in the budget process and the presentations made at the Board meetings.

Mr. David Ambro from The Observer stated that he felt the budget was not presented with the thoroughness and bottom line as it was previously done in the past.

Motion was made by Trustee Rapiejko, seconded by Trustee McCue to extend the meeting.

Vote on Trustee Rapiejko's motion was as follows:

YES: Mr. Badanes, Ms. Binger, Mrs. McCue

NO: Mr. Maloney, Mr. Rapiejko, Mr. Sabia, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Topel, Mr. Waldenburg

Motion failed.

6. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:30 p.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk

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