

**Northport-East Northport Union Free School District Special Meeting - William J. Brosnan School
(Monday, March 26, 2018 – postponed from March 22, 2018)**

Generated by Beth M Nystrom on Tuesday, March 27, 2018

Members present

David Badanes, Lori McCue, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan (arrived at 6:03 p.m.), Andrew Rapiejko, David Stein, Tammie Topel

Members absent

None

Also present

Mr. Robert Banzer, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business

Ms. Irene McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Mr. Matthew Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Technology and Assessment

Dr. Dana Boshnack, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning

Public Attendance: Approximately 35 people

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Rapiejko called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. IF NECESSARY, THE CHAIR MAY ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION - Note: It is anticipated that the Board will meet in public at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room to act upon a resolution, upon majority vote, to immediately convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the employment history of particular persons, and matters pertaining to potential litigation.

Action: 2.01 Motion to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the employment history of particular persons, and matters pertaining to collective negotiations.

Motion by David Stein, second by Donna McNaughton.

Final Resolution: Motion passes

Yes: David Badanes, Lori McCue, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, Andrew Rapiejko, David Stein

At 7:34 p.m. the Board reconvened in public session in the cafeteria at the William J. Brosnan School.

3. Mr. Rapiejko led those present in the **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**; and

4. Pointed out the **EMERGENCY EXITS**

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes for approval.

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

Mr. Robert Banzer, Superintendent of Schools, announced that the spring calendar will not need to be altered due to the snow days.

At the last Board of Education meeting, the Board went into Executive Session and came back out into public meeting and it was recommended that John Lackner be appointed as the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds. Mr. Banzer stated that he will be joining the District at the end of April.

Mr. Banzer stated that building tours will begin the week of April 9th and run through the month. The will start at 6:30 p.m. and the schedule will be posted on the District's website. The building tours are open to the public.

President Rapiejko read the following statement:

As the community knows, the Long Island Power Authority filed suit some time ago to lower the taxes paid on the Northport Power Plant. This Board of Education countered this claim with a lawsuit some 7 years ago asserting promises made by LIPA, Governor Pataki and others to never to lower the taxes, unless they were abusively increased by the tax assessing jurisdictions, which has never occurred.

The Members of the Board of Education and District Administration have received a number of inquiries about a recent editorial that appeared in Newsday concerning the power plant and LIPA's recent settlement offer made to tax assessing jurisdictions, and not to the School District. The editorial is factually inaccurate. Also, it does not address the impact to our School District as a result of LIPA's failure to honor promises made when the LIPA/LILCO takeover occurred in 1997. The promise made by LIPA was minimized by the Newsday editorial board - it was not just a letter issued in 1997 that contained the promise to never challenge the tax assessments. There were multiple letters, documents and statements made concerning this promise and commitment to the School District and others.

Because we are in the midst of litigation concerning the promises made by LIPA and others, upon the advice of counsel, we are not at liberty to discuss this matter further, except to share with you that the School District and the Board of Education has vigorously sought, and continues to seek, to have LIPA honor the promise it made to the School District when LIPA took over LILCO. We have successfully staved off the impact to our School District for over 7 years, preventing the loss of hundreds of millions of dollars. The Board is considering all options available as we move forward. As soon as it is possible, we will request District counsel's attendance at a public Board meeting to address this matter further. Again, we trust that the community understands the sensitive status of this litigation and other discussions ongoing at this time.

Presentations: 6.01 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

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

Ms. Keenan stated that Ryan takes his responsibilities as a student and as a leader seriously, yet is always good natured and appropriately humorous in his action. He has impressed the Business Education teachers with his maturity and dedication to the Business program. He is sensitive and always willing to help others. Ryan was selected to be the President of the Academy of Finance. In this role, he represents the AOF students at Advisory Board meetings and other events and advocates for the students and the program. He completed his AOF internship at Taglich Brothers working on the sales side of finance. Ryan was "hired" as the Vice President of Sales for Port Clothing, our Virtual Enterprise Company. Virtual Enterprise is a course where students create a virtual business, perform business functions in a virtual setting, and interact with other VE firms around the world. Ms. Keenan stated that Ryan was asked to be on a panel of students that met with the district's new teachers to discuss from a student's standpoint, what makes for great teaching and learning and what types of teaching have the biggest impact on students. Ryan attended the Mercy College Business Leadership Academy where he spent a week on Mercy's campus and worked with their professors and top business leaders.

Ms. Keenan stated that Ryan is a three year member of DECA, an international business club. He is also a talented athlete, playing varsity football and baseball. Ryan is involved in several extracurricular activities and is a member of the Boy Scouts of America where he earned his Eagle Scout and held the position of Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Ryan stands out because of his friendly personality and pure passion for learning. Ryan is well-liked and admired by both his peers and teachers. Mr. Keenan stated that there is not doubt that Ryan has a very bright future ahead of him.

President Rapijko and Superintendent Banzer congratulated Ryan on his fine accomplishments and presented him with a commendation from the Board.

7. DISCUSSION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED 2018-2019 BUDGET

Discussion: 7.01 Discussion of Revenue, Fund Balance, Reserves

Mr. Robert Banzer, Superintendent of Schools, and Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business, presented the 2018-2019 Budget Overview of Revenue, Reserves and Capital Projects.

Mr. Banzer stated that the budget priorities are to present a budget that supports the mission, vision, core beliefs and priorities of the district; to continue historically low tax levy increases; and to seek efficiencies and savings. Mr. Banzer reviewed the budget development process, the expenditure summary and the budget history.

The revenue consideration projections for 2018-2019 are: Tax Levy \$146,119,423, State Aid \$15,898,489, Assigned Fund Balance \$2,400,000, Use of Reserves \$24,969; Miscellaneous Revenue \$2,157,500, for a total of \$166,810,381 in projected revenue. The projected 2018-2019 tax levy increase is 2.20% and the allowable levy limit is 2.38%. Mr. Banzer reviewed the reserve and fund balance history.

Capital Projects to consider for 2018-2019 from the General Fund are roof repair at the high school \$480,000, Bellerose \$150,000, Dickinson \$215,000, window replacement districtwide as needed \$215,000, for a total of \$925,000. Capital projects to consider for 2018-2019 from the Capital Reserve are fencing/gates/bollards/doors/windows districtwide as needed \$450,000, heating/ventilation replacement/repair districtwide as needed \$450,000, for a total of \$900,000.

There was a discussion regarding roof repair, warranty and claim on roof repair, re-funding of capital reserve, solar panels on roofs, State Aid for repairs to the WJB building, heating, air condition and ventilation in the WJB gymnasium, bond work, univent replacement and repair.

Trustee Badanes requested that the administration look to lower the budget without affecting personnel and program.

Trustee Topel requested that air conditioning be added to the gymnasium at the William J. Brosnan School.

Mr. Banzer stated that the District is waiting for approvals from the state to work on the science rooms in G and K wings at Northport Middle School as well as at the high school and East Northport Middle School.

In response to a question regarding CO2 levels and the testing done by J.C. Broderick, Mr. Banzer stated that when there are more people in a room there is a higher CO2 level and the results from J.C. Broderick indicated that there were no high priority areas, ventilation was a medium priority which means the ventilation needs to be looked at and univents repaired or replaced.

President Rapiejko stated that the Board has received a tremendous amount of input from public participation at Board Meetings, through emails and interactions at stores regarding the possibility of arming guards or not arming guards. Mr. Rapiejko stated that he feels the Board needs to move forward with making a decision with respect to that. In order for the Board to make an informed decision and get information needed to make the best decision, Mr. Rapiejko proposed amending an agenda to include a work session on use or non-use of armed security. Trustee McNaughton seconded Mr. Rapiejko's proposal.

All Board members were in favor of scheduling a work session to give the Board an opportunity to gather information and get information from the police, information on insurance, and information from Counsel.

8. BOARD AND COMMUNITY DISCUSSION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED 2018-2019 BUDGET

Discussion: 8.01 Opportunity for public input regarding the school budget for 2018-2019

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Roseann Moran Parent	Stated that she was not in favor of training teachers to carry firearms but does recommend hiring security guards with qualifying firearms and use of gun sniffing dogs. Ms. Moran stated that funds for turf field should be use for security enhancements.

Mr. Banzer stated that the funding from the bond projects has to be used for that specific purpose. There are a number of pieces of legislation being discussed now regarding security for schools.

Bethany Watts Parent	Requested that part of the 2018-2019 proposed budget be set aside for testing the soil at Northport Middle School.
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Nicole Raganella Parent	Stated that there is \$450,000 in the budget for barricades, etc. and asked what security the district has in place for an active shooter that gets into the building.
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Chris Gloeckner Parent	Asked if the Board would consider putting the question of armed security guards as a question on the ballot for the May vote.
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Anthony Raganella Parent	Asked how long it will take to schedule the work session on armed security Guards and if the budget includes metal detectors and bulletproof glass on first floor windows/doors.
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Shawne Albero Parent	Asked if there are monies in the budget to hire a certified behavior analyst to address students who are suffering from a behavior that is impacting their education, and if there are specific programs budgeted for social emotional skills.
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Mary Gilmore Parent	Read a letter to the Board regarding her concerns about arming security personnel and stated that she is 100% against it.
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Rob Ingraham Resident	Stated that with the upcoming budget deliberations he is hopeful the board will do nothing to shortchange students and be mindful of budget increases that effect members of the community. Mr. Ingraham suggested that the before the work session on arming guards the Board ascertain the position of key organizations based on expertise.
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9. NEW BUSINESS

Action: 9.01 Resolution

Recommendation to approve the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves and authorizes an Agreement and Release dated March 26, 2018 with a parent of a student made known to the Board in Executive Session pertaining to the placement of such students at a placement outside of the District.”

Motion by David Stein, second by Donna McNaughton.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: David Badanes, Lori McCue, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, Andrew Rapiejko, David Stein, Tammie Topel

10. ADJOURNMENT - Board policy requires adjournment by 10:30 pm, unless meeting is extended by vote.

Information: 9.01 Upcoming Meetings

SPECIAL MEETING TO FINALIZE BUDGET

Thursday, April 12, 2018

7:00 p.m.

William J. Brosnan School Cafeteria

SPECIAL MEETING TO VOTE ON BOCES ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET & TRUSTEES

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

7:00 p.m.

William J. Brosnan School Cafeteria

HEARING ON FINALIZED BUDGET

Thursday, May 3, 2018

7:00 p.m.

William J. Brosnan School Cafeteria

SPECIAL MEETING TO ACCEPT VOTING RETURNS

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Approximately 9:30 p.m.

William J. Brosnan School Cafeteria

Action: 9.02 Adjournment

Recommendation to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to current litigation

Motion by David Stein, second by David Badanes.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: David Badanes, Lori McCue, Donna McNaughton, Allison C Noonan, Andrew Rapiejko, David Stein, Tammie Topel

At 9:06 p.m. the Board convened into Executive Session.

At 10:15 p.m., the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth M. Nystrom
District Clerk