

Regular Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District was held on Monday evening, February 27, 2012, beginning at 6:40 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, Mrs. Lori McCue, Mrs. Donna McNaughton, 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  
Dr. Terry Bouton, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
Ms. Kathleen Molander, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Mr. Matthew Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Administration

1. President Waldenburg called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Trustee Sabia, seconded by Trustee McCue, to convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the employment history of particular persons. The Board convened into Executive Session because discussion of such matters in public may compromise privacy rights.

Unanimously carried.

At 7:45 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
3. Pointed out the emergency exits.

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, February 1, 2012
- 4.01.2 Regular Meeting, February 6, 2012

Unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Rapiejko, 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 December 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011
- 4.02.2 Monthly Summary of Receipts and Disbursements for December 2011

Unanimously carried.

4.03 For Information: Claims Auditor's Report for Warrant and Schedule of Claims for payments dated:

December 2011 (Wire Transfer Report), December 2, 2011 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), December 15, 2011 (Accounts Payable Warrant), December 16, 2011 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), December 30, 2011 (Accounts Payable Warrant), December 30, 2011 (Payroll Trust & Agency Warrant), December 2011 (Claims Audit Report)

5. SPECIAL REPORT/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

5.01 Accomplishments of Staff and Students

5.01.1 Mr. Robert McGrath, District Chairperson of Science, introduced Eric Drewitz, Science Department Student of the Month.

Mr. McGrath stated that Eric has taken all four core science courses, four years of science research, and three advanced placement sciences, scoring with distinction in every course and earning a remarkable eleven credits in science over a four year period. Eric plans to attend Oswego University and he would like to earn a Ph.D. in Atmospheric Science/Meteorology. Ultimately, he would like to work for the National Weather Service in Upton, NY, conduct Atmospheric Science research at a major university, or work as a Climate Scientist at the Climate Prediction Center. Mr. McGrath stated that Eric has been a key member of the Science Olympiad team, taking on the responsibility of "training" other students for various events. Fueled by an interest in Long Island's aquifer system and drinking water contamination, Eric completed a research project in 10<sup>th</sup> grade designed to determine which type of sediment absorbs ammonium ions most efficiently. Eric's results provided scientists with a better understanding of the processes involved in the transport and nitrification of ammonium and how much total nitrogen is lost to the surrounding soil. Mr. McGrath stated that Eric combines integrity with a sense of certainty about who he is, and his self-motivation and disciplined work habits are what drives him to succeed. Mr. McGrath stated that Eric is one of Northport's shining science stars.

President Waldenburg and Superintendent McDermott congratulated Eric on his achievements and presented him with a commendation from the Board.

5.01.2 Mr. Robert McGrath, District Chairperson of Science, introduced Aidan Dwyer, Outstanding Achievement in Science Award Winner

Mr. McGrath stated that Aidan was named one of twelve students to receive the 2011 Young Naturalist Award from the American Museum of Natural History. He has been referred to as an "innovator", and an "internet sensation". Aidan investigated the mathematical relationship between the arrangement of branches and leaves in deciduous trees and their ability to collect sunlight. This led to the realization that these species utilized the Fibonacci Sequence in their branch and leaf design. After computer analysis, Aidan discovered that his Fibonacci tree design surpassed the performance of conventional methods in sunlight collection. Mr. McGrath stated that since winning the American Museum of Natural History Young Naturalist Award, Aidan has presented to hundreds of people at two conferences; one hosted by PopTech, and at the World Future Energy Summit in Abu Dhabi where he received a Young Future Leader Award. Two weeks ago Aidan was invited to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual White House Science Fair where he had the opportunity to discuss his research with President Obama.

President Waldenburg and Superintendent McDermott congratulated Aidan on his achievements and presented him with a commendation from the Board.

5.02 Review of Instructional Initiatives in the following areas:

5.02.1 Science

Mr. McGrath reviewed the Science Initiatives from 2010-2011 and the Science Initiatives for 2011-2012. Mr. McGrath stated that at the elementary level the initiatives are to utilize Moodle to post Anchor Activities and revise current elementary science curricula to include opportunities that explore and discover the scientific method; Common Core Learning Standards in ELA and Mathematics will be utilized more fully with Science learning as a greater use of comprehension and writing assessments leads to better understanding for students within and across the disciplines; and to continue to expand professional development opportunities through instructional technology that encourages the expansion of the elementary science fairs in each building. The Intermediate Level Science initiative it to formulate guidelines and procedures for implementing an all Regents level curriculum in eighth grade beginning (with 50%) in September 2012. Mr. McGrath stated that the goal for 2012-2013 eighth grade enrollment will be twenty percent Living Environment, thirty percent Earth Science, and fifty percent Intermediate Level Science. Mr. McGrath noted that the open enrollment recommendation process will be based on a review of NWEA math and reading scores, and strong emphasis on teacher recommendation. The Commencement Level Science initiatives are to utilize professional development to design and implement new scientific investigation(s) courses that promote a culture of academic respect across the grade levels, and to continue to align midyear assessments with current curriculum and seek to promote a level of collegiality that encourages mutual teacher/student respect. Mr. McGrath reviewed the data for the Grade 4 Science Assessment, Grade Eight Intermediate Level Science Assessment, Physical Setting Earth Science Regents Exam, Living Environment Regents Exam, Physical Setting Chemistry Regents Exam, Physical Setting Physics Regents Exam, Northport High School AP Science Exams, and International Baccalaureate Science Exams.

There was a discussion regarding the middle school science curriculum, science assessment data, advanced Regents diploma, and the science research program.

President Waldenburg thanked Mr. McGrath for his informative report.

5.04 The President of the Board reviewed the upcoming meetings of March 5<sup>th</sup>, March 19<sup>th</sup> and March 26<sup>th</sup>.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Board

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Cathie Josephson Parent	Asked why Sign Language is not offered at the high school and how would the District know if there was an interest when there is nothing out asking if there is an interest.

Mr. Matt Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, stated that after a number of years with no interest, the course is removed from the catalogue. Ms. Irene McLaughlin, High School Principal, stated that another issue with Sign Language is that it does not satisfy the World Language Requirement and it would purely be an elective. President Waldenburg stated that it is something that the Board should consider and he would like to see it at least offered to students.

Rachel Friedman Parent	Stated that there are New York State Standards for Health Education and asked if the District is meeting those standards. Ms. Friedman also stated that it is a lot for
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the physical education teachers to teacher and that NYS regulation stated that elementary health education shall be taught by regular classroom teachers.

Mr. Drew Cronin, Director of Physical Education and Athletics, stated that the physical education teacher present health topics during the physical education classes without cutting into activity time. Mr. Cronin stated that Ms. Vitale-Hicks and Ms. Braun deliver the puberty and AIDS/HIV curriculum, and the physical education classes educate on healthy lifestyles, nutrition, bullying, decision making and life skills.

Dr. McDermott stated that the health program will be looked at comprehensively and will be restructured to maximize classroom delivery of the curriculum. Dr. McDermott noted that it will be discussed with the elementary curriculum counsel.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, GENERAL

Motion was made by Trustee Thompson, seconded by Trustee Sabia, to approve all items under 8. and 9., including Supplemental 8.01.1 (Schedule A, Page 3, #2-5), and excluding severed item 8.01.4 (Schedule D).

8.01 Personnel Schedules, each dated February 27, 2012, and each attached and made part of the official minutes:

- 8.01.1 Schedule A – Certified Staff (including Supplemental A, Page 3, #1-5)
- 8.01.2 Schedule B – Non-Instructional Staff
- 8.01.3 Schedule C – Salary Transfers
- 8.01.4 Schedule D – SEVERED

President Waldenburg announced the retirements of Janet Turner and Paul Quinn, and thanked them for their many years of services to the District.

8.02 Adopting the proposed School Calendar for 2012-2013

8.03 Receiving for a first reading the following policies:

Trustee Rapiejko requested that new language be put in the Animals in the Schools policy to cover service dogs.

Motion was made by Trustee Rapiejko, seconded by Trustee Topel, to table item 8.03.1

Unanimously carried

- 8.03.1 TABLED
- 8.03.2 Policy #5151 – “Homeless Children”

8.04 Approving the following resolution:

“BE IT RESOLVED, that as part of its implementation of the provisions of Education Law §3012-c regarding Annual Professional Performance Reviews of classroom teachers, the Board of Education of the Northport-East Northport Union Free School District hereby adopts the *Danielson's Framework for Teaching (2007 Edition)* Teacher Rubric, which teacher practice rubric has been approved by the New York State Education Department. *Danielson's Framework for Teaching (2007 Edition)* shall be the teacher practice rubric utilized in the annual professional performance review of all classroom teachers across the district, and shall be incorporated in the Annual Professional Performance Review Plan ultimately adopted by the Board of Education upon the completion of pending negotiations with the United Teachers of Northport”

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 \$50.00 from Donald and Donna McNaughton to the Michael C. Kauffman Memorial Scholarship

9.02.2 \$300.00 from Mark D. Petrone to the Michael C. Kauffman Memorial Scholarship

9.02.3 \$5.00 from Charles and Tara Healy Jr. to the Dora Clark Memorial Scholarship

9.02.4 \$100.00 from Camilo B. Sierra DVM and \$479.00 from various donors received at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Faculty Scholarship Concert to be donated as follows: \$50.00 to the Robert Padgett Memorial Scholarship, \$200.00 to the Dora Clarke Memorial Scholarship, \$279.00 to the Garland Butts Memorial Scholarship, and \$50.00 to the James J. Cassara Scholarship

9.03 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:

9.03.1 Amityville Union Free School District, one (1) student attending St. Martins of Tours School @ \$806.00, totaling \$806.00

9.03.2 Jericho Union Free School District, twelve (12) students attending Long Island Lutheran @ \$969.15, one (1) student attending Long Island Luther for four months @ \$387.66, and one (1) student attending Solomon Schechter @ \$969.15, totaling \$12,986.61

9.04 Approving the following resolution:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the donation of \$50.00 toward the purchase of supplies for Norwood Avenue Elementary School and increase the 2011-2012 budget code A2110.5030.14.0200 by \$50.00 for this purpose

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves an increase in the revenue code A2705 of the 2011-2012 budget by \$50.00 with the understanding that this increase in revenue is the result of matching grant funds made by employees of the Travelers Companies, Inc.”

9.05 Approving a request from Ms. Susan Warren-Bachmore to establish “The Jesse Warren Memorial Scholarship Fund, aka JTG Scholarship Fund”

9.06 Establishing the 2011-2012 health service charge for out-of-district students attending non-public schools at \$695.45 per pupil and that the Superintendent be authorized to execute contracts with the school districts indicated in the attached memorandum in the amounts specified

9.07 Receiving the Updated 2011-2012 Districtwide Five Year Capital Projects Improvement Plan, and authorizing the administration to continue planning for a separate proposition seeking authorization to expend funds from the capital improvements fund

There was a discussion regarding capital reserve funds, general maintenance repairs and budgeting for repairs, boiler upgrades, window replacement, energy performance contracts and the recommendations in the five year plan.

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

Unanimously carried.

9.08 Receiving the Initial Risk Assessment Report for the Period Ending December 31, 2011 from the District's Internal Auditors R.S. Abrams & Co. LLP

Vote on Trustee Thompson's motion to approve all items under 8. and 9., including Supplemental 8.01.1 (Schedule A, Page 3, #1-5), and excluding severed item 8.01.4 (Schedule D) and tabled item 8.03.1 was unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to approve item 8.01.4 (Schedule D)

8.01.4 Schedule D – Extra Pay

Vote on Trustee McCue's motion to approve item 8.01.4 (Schedule D) was as follows:

YES: Ms. Binger, Mrs. Gavin, Mrs. McCue, Mrs. McNaughton, Mr. Rapiejko, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Topel, Mr. Waldenburg  
NO: Mr. Sabia

Motion passed.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY

10.01 Schedule I – Home Instruction

10.02 Student Activity Account Reports for December 2011 from:

10.02.1 Northport High School

10.02.2 East Northport Middle School

10.03.3 Northport Middle School

10.03 Investment Report for December 2011

10.04 Collateral Schedule for December 2011

10.05 Bank Reconciliation Report for December 2011

10.06 Monthly Revenue and Budget Status Report for December 2011

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

13. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:36 p.m., motion was made by Trustee McCue, seconded by Trustee Thompson, to adjourn the Regular Meeting and convene into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the appointment of a particular corporation.

Unanimously carried.

At 11:00 p.m. the Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

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Beth M. Nystrom  
District Clerk

bmh