

A Workshop Meeting of the Board of Education, Seaford Union Free School District, was held on Thursday, March 30, 2017, in the All Purpose Room of the Manor Elementary School, 1590 Washington Avenue, Seaford, New York.

PRESENT: Mr. Bruce A. Kahn - President
Mr. Brian W. Fagan – Vice President
Mr. Patrick Rail – Trustee
Ms. Janice Baldwin – Trustee
Ms. Stacie Stark – Trustee

Mr. Brian L. Conboy
Mr. John Striffolino
Ms. Elisa Pellati
Mr. Christopher Venator – Attorney

At 7:32 p.m., the President of the Board of Education opened the Workshop Meeting. As the first order of business, Board President Bruce Kahn led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN MEETING

None

OPENING REMARKS

None

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Topics covered in Mr. Conboy's Administrative Report dated March 24, 2017, included:

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Discussions tonight on budget/state aid
New York State budget not settled yet; trying to meet budget deadline
Governor Cuomo may freeze depending on Federal funding
Confident we can produce a balanced budget even if we don't receive an additional amount of State Aid
Large transfer that will be on the April Agenda
ELA testing
- Refusal rate similar to last year
Dr. Pecora has been in District getting to know the District
- Toured all buildings
- Joined Mr. Striffolino's professional development today
Use of funds in repair reserve
Painting of HS gym and repair of some fencing
\$150,000 available in repair reserve
Must have public hearing on this prior to using those funds
Consider holding that public hearing on the same night as Budget Hearing
Ashley Soliwoda has been named News 12 Scholar Athlete for this month

Discussion on letter sent home to parents concerning "opting" out of testing

- Any thoughts changing letter sent home to parents
Mr. Conboy advised that he had no thoughts on changing letter
- At meeting of 10 Superintendents from Long Island last year, Commissioner stated Superintendent's responsibility to reduce opt out
- In Commissioners Regulations 100.3 & 100.4 language is clear; no right for anyone to opt out
- Guidance from SED says students have ability to opt out; nothing that specifically allows or authorizes
- Not really opt out; it is a refusal
- This could be a discussion item in the future
- Letter is based on memo written in 2013 from Assistant Commissioner Steven Katz which specifically states what Superintendents were required to do in communicating with people who wanted their children to not take the test
- Mr. Conboy stated, as Superintendent of Schools, he needs from someone at SED to give specific direction that he is allowed to tell parents that they have every right to opt their child out
- He has never received such direction; not included in Commissioners regulations
- Superintendent and Board are required by oath, to follow the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of New York State which includes the New York State Education Department
- Commissioners regulations state what is mandatory
- Change wording of letter in the future; possible discussion item for letters which go out next year
- Perhaps need as a Board to pressure the State more to figure out what to do about this; it is ridiculous what is going on
- Last line in letter says to contact the principal of your child's school to understand what the procedures will be on the day of the test
- Farce right now; waste of people's time; something needs to be done about it
- Good thing to discuss in the future with new Superintendent

Board President Bruce Kahn gave an update on the Harbor Roadway Project:

Meeting was held on March 17th with County, Architects, Contractor, Ms. Cavassa and Ms. Pellati
Contractor waiting for signed contract; will be signed this evening
Timeline for project has been set
Hoping to break ground around April 15th and be done by July (assuming weather, etc.)
Will try to minimize impact on community while work goes on

Comments, Questions and/or Concerns raised by the Public:

RESIDENT'S REMARKS

Will the Middle School forever have only one Guidance Counselor
- Is that something next year or in the future that could be changed
Who picks the Food Service Company
- Is there anything that can be done to improve the quality of the fruits and vegetables
- Children prefer raw vegetables over cooked
- Wish guidelines were a little clearer for parents
- Even if it could be ala carte
Is it possible to have 2 parent teacher conferences
- Fall/Spring
- Or do later than we currently do
- Speaking about Elementary level
- Parents felt that if they had a meeting with the teacher in March they could plan/strategize to continue the learning process through the summer to be more prepared for the new school year

Budget Planning for 2017/2018 - State Aid, Fund Balance, Revenue and Expense. Areas covered in Assistant Superintendent for Business Elisa Pellati's Power Point Presentation:

**BUDGET PLANNING FOR
2017/2018 – STATE AID, FUND
BALANCE, REVENUE & EXPENSE**

Budget Development
- Revenue=Expense
- Budget Formula Revised for Tax Cap
- Restrict Tax Levy + State & Federal Aid + Local Revenues + Use of Reserves = Expenditure Plan
Revenue
- Tax Levy – Property tax subject to “Cap”
- State Aid – Formula Driven or Expense Driven
- Other Revenue – Interest Earnings, Refunds, Tuitions
Seaford Funding Profile
- 75.3% Property Taxes
- 18.7% State Aid
- 4.0% Other
- 2.0% Fund Balance
2017/2018 New York State Budget
- 2017/2018 State Budget should be approved by 4/1/2017
• \$961 million proposed increase in funding for education
- Foundation Aid: \$428 million proposed increase
• Repeal existing formula and create a new two-part formula
• Includes \$50 million increase for Community Schools Aid
Current State Aid
- Foundation Aid
- High Tax Aid
- BOCES
- Excess Cost Aid
- Software, Textbook & Library
- Hardware & Technology
- Building Aid
- Transportation Aid
- Comparison – 2017/2018 and 2016/2017 Budget
• \$ Change; % Change
Other Revenue Sources
- PILOTS
- Drivers Education
- Tuition from Other Districts
- Health Services
- Miscellaneous (Interest, Interfund Transfer, etc.)
- E-Rate Funding
- Interest on Investments
- Total Other Revenue
- Comparison – 2017/2018 and 2016/2017 Budget
• \$ Change; % Change

BUDGET PLANNING FOR 2017/2018 – STATE AID, FUND BALANCE,
REVENUE & EXPENSE (cont'd)

Assigned Fund Balance

- Appropriated Fund Balance
- Appropriated from EBALR
- Appropriated from ERS
- Appropriates from Tax Reduction
- Total Appropriated Fund Balance
- Comparison – 2017/2018 and 2016/2017 Budget
 - \$ Change; % Change

Budget Formula

- Restricted Tax Levy
- State Aid
- Other Revenues
- Appropriated Fund Balance
- Appropriated from Reserves
- Expenditure Budget
- Comparison – 2017/2018 and 2016/2017 Budget
 - \$ Change; % Change

Upcoming Meetings:

<u>April 6</u> Budget Adoption (tentative)	<u>April 20</u> BOCES Vote	<u>May 4</u> Budget Hearing Seaford High School	<u>May 16</u> Budget Vote 7:00 am – 9:00 pm Manor & Harbor Schools
--	-------------------------------	---	---

Brief discussion on timeline to approve budget, getting all printing necessary completed, State Aid and effect of the delay in passing the New York State Budget on our budget

Closing remarks by the Administration and Board

CLOSING REMARKS

- ◆ Two Board seats open this year; if anyone is interested in running for the Board they should see the District Clerk for a candidate packet
- ◆ Anyone interested in registering to vote should see the District Clerk
- ◆ Thank you to Administration for the presentation

At 8:15 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Fagan, second by Mr. Rail, to adjourn the Workshop Meeting and enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing updates on Administrators, Clerical & Aides Negotiations, four specific personnel matters and one real estate issue.

ADJOURN WORKSHOP MEETING

No Discussion.
All Ayes
Motion Carried.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Fagan, second by Mr. Rail, to adjourn Executive Session at 10:03 p.m.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Discussion.
All Ayes
Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen T. Ouellette
District Clerk

Stacie Stark
Vice District Clerk