

**SHELTER ISLAND UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING
August 26, 2024**

Members Present: Kathleen Lynch, Margaret Colligan, Katherine Rossi-Snook, and Dawn Hedberg

Others Present: Brian Doelger, Superintendent; Jennifer Rylott, Assistant Superintendent; Todd Gulluscio, Director of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Wellness & Personnel; 2 faculty/staff/students and 4 community residents/visitors

Absent: Tracy McCarthy; Karina Montalvo; Deborah Vecchio, District Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Lynch, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Margaret Colligan read the following Shelter Island School Mission Statement – Engage, Explore, Empower:

We want our students to cherish our small Island community while applying and expanding their learning about, understanding of, and engagement with the wider world. To do this, they must be: ethical and moral individuals; respectful and responsible communicators; creative and analytical thinkers; knowledgeable and literate readers, writers, mathematicians and scientists; participants in and audiences for art, drama, music, athletics, and other artistic, cultural, and social activities; skilled and successful workers and consumers; and committed and active citizens.

President Lynch stated the Board of Education will now conduct a public hearing at 6:01 p.m. on the 2024-2025 Shelter Island School District’s District-Wide School Safety/Continuity of Operations Plan. Being there were no objections, President Lynch offered the floor to Dr. Doelger who will deliver a brief presentation on the plan.

Dr. Doelger stated that the plan is required by NYSED and the SAVE Law and has been established to provide for the safety, health and security of students and staff and allows for input from the community. Dr. Doelger reviewed some key points and planned changes and stated the district is way ahead of the curve regarding safety. A copy of the plan can be found on the district website.

A motion was made by Katherine Rossi-Snook, seconded by Margaret Colligan, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the following action: 4.1:

- 4.1 WHEREAS, on Monday, August 26, 2024, the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District held a duly advertised public hearing to examine the 2024-2025 Shelter Island School District’s District-Wide School Safety/Continuity of Operations Plan.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is desirous in approving and adopting this plan; now, therefore be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District hereby approves and adopts the 2024-2025 Shelter Island School District’s District-Wide School Safety/Continuity of Operations Plan.

Motion carried unanimously

President Lynch declared the meeting closed at 6:19 p.m. The regular business portion of the meeting commenced.

Visitor Questions – None

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board hereby approves the following:

- 6.1 Approval of Minutes
 - a. Meeting of June 10, 2024
 - b. Re-Organizational Meeting of July 10, 2024
 - c. Special Meeting of August 6, 2024
 - d. Special Meeting of August 20, 2024

Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

*Call to Order
and Pledge of
Allegiance*

*Mission
Statement*

Public Hearing

*Visitor
Questions*

*Consent Agenda
– Approval of
Minutes*

Correspondence

President Lynch acknowledged receipt of a thank you note from Class of 2024 graduate, Kaitlyn Gulluscio and a letter from Shelter Island Public Library Director, Terry Lucas requesting a special meeting of the voters of the school district to be scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 2024.

Correspondence

Presentations

Presentations

Terry Lucas, Shelter Island Public Library Director was in attendance and requested the Board of Education approve a special meeting of the voters of the school district to be scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 2024 for the purpose of voting on the library's 2025 operating budget.

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board hereby approves the following agenda item: 8.1

8.1 2025 Library Budget Vote

Approve a special meeting of the voters of the school district be schedule for Saturday, October 26, 2024, pursuant to the request of the Board of Trustees of the Shelter Island Public Library, for the purpose of voting on the library's 2025 operating budget and that the District Clerk be and hereby is directed to take all such steps as are necessary to conduct said special meeting. (Note: due to renovations at the Shelter Island Public Library, this vote will take place at the Shelter Island School Conference Room)

Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda
– Personnel

Personnel

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Personnel action: 9.1-9.13

9.1 Extra Teaching Periods

a. Approve Sean Brennan, Social Studies 7-12 Teacher, to teach ten (10) extra periods on a bi-weekly basis from September 4, 2024 through January 30, 2025, at a rate of \$8,512.92

9.2 Amend Motion

a. Amend the motion of June 10, 2024 from:

Approve Alyssa Prior to provide guidance counseling services for the period of July 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024, not to exceed 6 days, at her daily rate.

to:

Approve Alyssa Prior to provide guidance counseling services for the period of July 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024, not to exceed 7 days, at her daily rate.

9.3 Mentor/Mentee for the 2024-2025 School Year, at a rate of \$1,500 per Shelter Island Faculty Association Contract

- a. Janine Mahoney/Morgan Callahan
- b. Mary Kanarvogel/Alyssa Prior

9.4 Memorandum of Agreement

a. Approve the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Shelter Island Faculty Association and the Shelter Island School District, granting extra compensation to Maryann Impastato, senior Account Clerk for additional Business Office responsibilities beyond her current title for the 2024-2025 school year; and authorize the Board President and Superintendent to execute said agreement.

9.5 Extra Compensation

a. Approve Deborah Vecchio, District Treasurer, for extra compensation for additional Business Office responsibilities beyond her current title in the amount of \$9,600.00 for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

9.6 Amended Agreement

a. BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the amended agreement between it and Dr. Brian Doelger, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute said agreement.

9.7 New Hires

- a. Luis A. Rodas, to a 26-week probationary position as 1.0 FTE Cook, effective September 1, 2024, at a salary of \$27,476, Step 1 of the 2024-2025 Cook salary scale, pending clearance for employment by the New York State Department of Education (fingerprint initiative).
- b. Catherine Davidson, to a 26-week probationary position as 0.66 FTE Food Service Worker, effective September 1, 2024, at a salary of \$21,982, prorated to \$14,508, Step 1 of the 2024-2025 Food Service Worker salary scale, pending clearance for employment by the New York State Department of Education (fingerprint initiative).

9.8 Substitute Cafeteria Worker for the 2024-2025 School Year, at \$110 Per Day

- a. Amanda Leonard; pending clearance for employment by the New York State Department of Education (fingerprint initiative).

9.9 Extra Duty

- a. Approve the following employees for Extra Duty for training purposes, at their individual hourly rate, for the period of August 26, 2024 through August 30, 2024.
 1. Luis A. Rodas, Cook, not to exceed 16 hours
 2. Catherine Davidson, Food Service Worker, not to exceed 16 hours
 3. Amanda Leonard, Cafeteria Substitute, not to exceed 16 hours

9.10 Substitute Teacher for the 2024-2025 School Year, at \$125 Per Day

- a. Marian McEnroe

9.11 Substitute Aides for the 2024-2025 School Year, at \$110 Per Day

- a. Cecilia Surerus
- b. Kaitlyn Gulluscio
- c. Amanda Leonard

9.12 Amend Motion

Amend the motion of July 10, 2024 from:

Home Instruction

- a. Approve Michelle Corbett for Global History Home Instruction per day, effective June 27 - August 16, 2024, at a rate of \$73.99 per hour (23/24) or at a rate of \$75.10 per hour (24/25), not to exceed 40 hours.
- b. Approve Janine Mahoney for Biology Home Instruction per day, effective June 27 - August 16, 2024, at a rate of \$73.99 per hour (23/24) or at a rate of \$75.10 per hour (24/25), not to exceed 40 hours.

to:

Home Instruction

- a. Approve Michelle Corbett for Global History Home Instruction per day, effective June 27, 2024 – **January 30, 2025**, at a rate of \$73.99 per hour (23/24) or at a rate of \$75.10 per hour (24/25), not to exceed 40 hours.
- b. Approve Janine Mahoney for Biology Home Instruction per day, effective June 27, 2024 – **January 30, 2025**, at a rate of \$73.99 per hour (23/24) or at a rate of \$75.10 per hour (24/25), not to exceed 40 hours.

9.13 Substitute Custodian for the 2024-2025 School Year

- a. Appoint Robert Montalvo, as a Substitute Custodian for the 2024-2025 school year, at \$20 an hour.

Motion carried unanimously

At this time, Mr. Todd Gulluscio welcomed Luis Rodas and Catherine Davidson to the team and stated that everyone is looking forward to quality food and service with a smile. Mr. Gulluscio announced that Mr. Rodas, Mrs. Davidson and Ms. Amanda Leonard, our substitute cafeteria worker, will receive training on this coming Thursday, August 29, 2024.

President Lynch welcomed our new cafeteria staff and stated that everyone is thrilled to have them both.

Program

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Program action: 10.1 – 10.2

- 10.1 First Reading of Policy
 - a. Policy #5130 – Budget Adoption
 - b. Policy #5670 – Records Management
 - c. Policy #6480 – **NEW** Expression of Breast Milk in the Workplace
 - d. Policy #6550 – Leaves of Absence
 - e. Policy #7580 – **NEW** Cell Phone Use

- 10.2 Deletion of Outdated Policies
 - a. Policy 5240 – School Tax Assessment and Collection
 - b. Policy 5241 – Property Tax Exemptions

Motion carried unanimously.

Prior to a motion being made, Katherine Rossi-Snook explained that her incoming fifth grade child has an Apple Watch that is set to be just a watch during the school day and he is not allowed to take it off anywhere other than at home. Ms. Rossi-Snook was wondering if the cell phone policy could include language that would allow for Apple Watches to be kept on the child if they are set in watch mode only. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that the following statement would be added to the policy, “Exceptions to this policy can be made at the discretion of the Superintendent. Specific IEP or 504 recommendation supersede this policy.”

Finance

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Dawn Hedberg, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Finance actions: 11.1 – 11.2

- 11.1 Financial Reports
 - a. Treasurer’s Report – June 2024
 - b. Extra Class Report – June 2024
 - c. Appropriations Status Report
 - d. Revenue Status Report
 - e. Claims Auditor Report – June 2024
 - f. Claims Auditor Report – July 2024
 - g. Payroll Audit Report – June 2024
 - h. Payroll Audit Report – July 2024

- 11.2 Budget Transfers & Journal Entries
 - a. Accept and approve the Budget Transfers and Journal Entries for the period of July 3, 2024 through August 19, 2024, that in accordance with Board Policy, the Superintendent has approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Business

A motion was made by Katherine Rossi-Snook, seconded by Margaret Colligan, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Business actions: 12.1

- 12.1 Contracts
 - a. Approve the final Eastern Suffolk BOCES contract for services in the 2023-2024 school year, at a final cost of \$277,438.37, which includes all services that were necessary to meet the needs of the District, and authorize the Board President to execute said agreement.
 - b. Approve the agreement between the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District and Family Service League, Incorporated, of Huntington, NY, for student services. The term of said agreement shall be to July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025; and authorize the Board President to execute said agreement.

Motion carried unanimously.

Facility

A motion was made by Katherine Rossi-Snook, seconded by Margaret Colligan, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Facility action: 13.1

13.1 Excessing of Equipment (obsolete)

- a. Microfiche Machine Serial #3619383 – Shelter Island Serial #20090091

Motion carried unanimously.

Items for Consideration

As only four (4) member of the Board of Education were present, they all agreed to table the discussion about the 2024-2025 Board Committees until the September 16, 2024 meeting.

Old Business – None

Director of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Wellness & Personnel Report

Mr. Todd Gulluscio reported that today was the first day of our fall athletic season and it was great to have children back on campus. He announced the first high school home games of the season and stated that the Junior High athletics season will start on the first day of school.

Mr. Gulluscio shared that the school will be working in conjunction with the Town of Shelter Island to bring an Opioid Speaker Series to the District. Two dates have been set – Friday, October 25, 2024 we will have School Resource Officer Gomez who is a national speaker, and on Wednesday, November 13th, we will have National Speaker and Author, Richard Jensen whose 30 for 30 story on ESPN won an Emmy. Mr. Gulluscio explained that the format for this series will be an 8th period assembly for grades 6-8, a 9th period assembly for grades 9-12, an optional session for staff from 2:30 – 3:00 pm for Q&A, and a parent/community session later in the evening.

Mr. Gulluscio again welcomed the new cafeteria team and shared that everyone is looking forward to training on Thursday in preparation of the upcoming year.

Assistant Superintendent’s Report

Mrs. Jennifer Rylott reported that the master schedule is finalized and that teachers and students have their schedules. Mrs. Rylott shared that the first day of orientation for the teachers is going to be a very busy day and she’s looking forward to having everyone back in the building.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Doelger began his report by reading a letter he received from Assemblyman Fred Thiele. In the letter, Assemblyman Thiele told Dr. Doelger that he was honored to have been asked to speak at the Class of 2024 Commencement Ceremony. He went on to reflect on the many years he and Dr. Doelger worked together and noted that even when Dr. Doelger was a social studies teacher, he knew he would go on to do greater things. Assemblyman Thiele shared that he has enjoyed his relationship with the Shelter Island School and the Shelter Island Community as a whole.

Dr. Doelger stated that the school is ready to open next week and he thanked the summer staff for all of their hard work this summer – administrators, clerical, office staff, business office and custodial staff. Dr. Doelger shared that he is very excited for the new cafeteria program and he is glad it all worked out with Aramark. Dr. Doelger announced that there will be a Vigil of Hope held on Thursday, August 28, 2024, at 7:00 pm and he will be speaking on the school’s behalf. Dr. Doelger shared that 6th Grade Orientation will be held on Thursday, August 28, 2024 and he’s looking forward to having students in the building. Dr. Doelger announced that the Faculty returns on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 and he has a great day planned for them, including guest speaker, Emily Kingsley who is a multi-Emmy winning writer on Sesame Street who having a child with special needs, focused her scripts on children with disabilities. In closing, Dr. Doelger excitedly stated that the best day of the year will be Wednesday, September 4, 2024 – Opening Day!

*Consent Agenda
– Facility*

*Items for
Consideration*

Old Business

*Dir of Athletics,
PE, Health,
Wellness &
Personnel
Report*

*Assistant
Superintendent
Report*

*Superintendent
Report*

Board Member Reports

Ms. Dawn Hedberg asked how the district is communicating the new cafeteria program to families. Dr. Doelger explained that his letter to parents mentioned the new program and Mr. Gulluscio stated that once the menu is set, we will push out more information about the program.

President Lynch thanked everyone who worked on getting the school ready over the summer. Ms. Lynch also shared that she and Dr. Doelger will be having their first meeting with a PR person to investigate how they can help us share all of our district’s good news. In closing, Ms. Lynch celebrated the first year of the district’s new septic system and noted that before the new system, it was estimated that the nitrate levels were approximately 80-100 and with the new system they are now in the very low 20s.

Visitor Questions

Ms. Katie Springer, parent of children who attend private school, asked about the transportation schedule for Our Lady of the Hamptons, as she and other parents were surprised by the new route they received earlier today.

Dr. Doelger explained that Mr. Gulluscio has been emailing both East Hampton and Sunrise Bus Company all summer asking for the bus routes and East Hampton just responded today and in fact, Sunrise still has not responded. Dr. Doelger explained that there are two buses for private school transportation – one services one district on the North Fork and the other bus services three schools on the South Fork.

Ms. Springer stated that last year the students were dismissed from school at 2:40 pm and returned to the Island anywhere between 3:25 pm and 3:35 pm. Ms. Springer explained that the new bus route has the children only arriving to South Ferry at approximately 4:30 pm which would then arrive at Shelter Island School around 4:45 pm to 4:50 pm.

Dr. Doelger explained that the new bus route is within the allowable maximum time that students may spend on a school bus, of which Ms. Springer debated. Dr. Doelger went on to read a section of Education Law (EL 3635) which pertains to the maximum time that a pupil may spend on a school bus. Following is the section of Education Law Dr. Doelger referred to.

“Many districts attempt to limit the time en route to one hour, but there are situations because of the distances traveled, where it is not possible to complete the trip within one hour. The Commissioner has held that nonpublic school students are not in like circumstances with public school students concerning the length of their school bus routes to school. Districts are expected provide economical and efficient transportation, and therefore, will often transport to more than one school on a single trip. The Commissioner of Education has held, in Judicial Decisions, that a trip of 1 ½ hours, in particular situations, was not unreasonable.”

President Lynch was sympathetic in the fact that this route is not the most ideal and explained to Ms. Springer that from the district’s perspective, they already had to cut over 200 items from the budget in order afford this bus to the South Fork. It is not within the budget to add a separate bus for transportation to and from Our Lady of the Hamptons. Ms. Lynch stated that it is unfortunate that Our Lady of the Hamptons is the school furthest away.

Ms. Springer stated this route is unsatisfactory and noted that a two-hour bus ride without a bathroom is unreasonable for a kindergarten student.

Ms. Lynch noted that the district looked at other ways to lower the cost and at first was looking at having parents drop off their children at the South Ferry terminal to be walked over by an aide to meet the bus on the other side, but everyone realized that was unreasonable and potentially unsafe. The only other choice here is to get a separate bus for transportation to Our Lady of the Hamptons, but the expense for that is astronomical. We just don’t have the funding.

Ms. Springer asked if the district could piggyback on to the County Bus to Southampton. Mrs. Rylott responded that the district cannot use a County bus.

At this time, the discussion about the bus route to South Fork schools ended.

Ms. Catherine Davidson thanked the Board of Education and Administration for the opportunity to work in the Cafeteria. She stated she is very excited and can't wait to start.

*Visitor
Questions
(continued)*

Mr. Luis A. Rodas also thanked the Board of Education and Administration for the opportunity to work in the Cafeteria.

Ms. Dawn Hedberg stated that it is great to see our new cafeteria hires and she believes the new cafeteria program is going to be great.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby voted to go into an executive session at 6:58 pm to discuss the employment of a particular individual in the District.

*Executive
Session*

Adjournment

A motion was made by Katherine Rossi-Snook, seconded by Margaret Colligan, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby adjourns the meeting.

Adjournment

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

Jacqueline Dunning
District Clerk

The next meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Monday, September 16, 2024, at 6:00 pm, in the Conference Room.