

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

**PUBLIC BUDGET/REGULAR MTG
May 13, 2024**

Members Present: Kathleen Lynch, Tracy McCarthy, Margaret Colligan, Dawn Hedberg, and Anthony Rando

Others Present: Dr. Brian Doelger, Superintendent; Jennifer Rylott, Assistant Superintendent; Todd Gulluscio, Director of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Wellness & Personnel; Deborah Vecchio, District Treasurer/Deputy District Clerk; Julie Lane, Shelter Island Reporter; 11 faculty/staff/student and 2 community residents

Absent: Katherine Rossi-Snook, Karina Montalvo, Jacqueline Dunning, District Clerk, and Harrison Weslek, Student Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by President Lynch.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Tracy McCarthy, seconded by Anthony Rando, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby voted to go into an executive session at 5:01 p.m. to discuss the employment of particular individuals in the District.

The members of the Board of Education came out of Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. President Lynch led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and then asked for a moment of silence for Christian Napolitano.

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.

2024-2025 Public Budget Hearing

At this time, President Lynch read the following:

We will now conduct a public hearing on the 2024-2025 adopted budget. I therefore declare this hearing open at 6:02 pm. The Board of Education has formulated a budget that has a 2.32% tax levy increase and preserves programs for our students despite the economic times that are facing us. "I hope I can speak for my colleagues on the Board when I say that I am proud of our spending plan for next year."

If there are no objections from my fellow Board Members, I would offer the floor to Brian Doelger, Superintendent of Schools, who will deliver a brief presentation on the budget that will go before the voters on May 21, 2024, at 12:00 pm – 9:00 pm, in the school gymnasium.

Dr. Doelger welcomed everyone to the 2024-2025 Public Budget Hearing and presented a brief overview of the following topics.

- Accomplishments
- District Administration Budget Goals
- 2024-2025 Proposed Budget
- Revenue Budget – Lowers AFB/Stays Under Tax Cap
- School District Performance & Budgetary Goals Met

In closing, Dr. Doelger reminded everyone to vote on May 21, 2024, from 12:00 pm – 9:00 pm, in the school gymnasium, and provided instructions for receiving an absentee ballot.

At this time, President Lynch stated the following.

“Thank you, Dr. Doelger. The Board of Education will open the floor to public comments, but before that, are there any members of the Board of Education who have questions or wish to make comments?”

Ms. Margaret Colligan commented that everyone did a wonderful job on the budget.

Mr. Anthony Rando commented with so many costs out of our control and the school looking to reduce costs, administration did a great job.

President Lynch commented kudos to the team and stated that constructing the budget was a phenomenal feat. She asked the Public if they have any comments.

Mr. Jim Hughes asked the Board and Dr. Doelger - from the first meeting until now, how did you reconcile the final budget. Dr. Doelger stated that there was a major obstacle in a reduction of state aid and tough decisions had to be made. The state budget was late. It was due April 1st. The district spoke with Congressman Fred Thiele who assured districts that the state would give back the original reduction of state aid. The district recently had to add an extra route for private school busing and had to make some cuts but not to staffing. The district took the reduction from program and the use of reserves.

“Do my colleagues on the Board of Education have anything that they would like to add? (Nothing was added.)

As a reminder to the public, please remember to vote on May 21st. Polls are open from 12:00 pm – 9:00 pm, in the school gymnasium.

Seeing that no one else wishes to participate, President Lynch hereby declared this hearing closed at 6:18 pm.”

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Tracy McCarthy, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board hereby approves the following agenda items: 6.1 – 6.2

6.1 Ballot Propositions for May 21, 2024 Budget Vote & Election

- a. Proposition 1: Shall the Shelter Island Union Free School District Budget in the amount of \$13,099,796 for the fiscal year 2024-2025 be approved as proposed and the requisite portion thereof raised by taxation on the taxable property of the district?

6.2 Board of Education Candidates on Ballot for May 21, 2024 Budget Vote & Election

- a. Margaret Colligan
- b. Karina Montalvo

Motion carried unanimously

President Lynch thanked Margaret and Karina for running for their seats unopposed.

Visitor Questions (Specific to the agenda) - None

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Tracy McCarthy, seconded by Anthony Rando, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the following:

8.1 Approval of Minutes

- a. Budget Adoption/Regular Meeting of April 15, 2024
- b. Special Meeting of April 16, 2024

Motion carried unanimously

Correspondence

- a. A letter was received from ES BOCES thanking our Board of Education for their participation in voting for their budget and Board of Education members.

Student Liaison Report - None

Presentations -

11.1 Presentation Requiring Board Approval

- a. The students of the 6th and 7th grade presented their dual class trip itinerary to Disney World in October 2024. They will be visiting Magic Kingdom, attending a Physics seminar at Hollywood Studios, Animal Kingdom and Epcot. Approximate cost per student will be \$1,300 and includes airfare, hotel and food. The students have already been fundraising. Currently 17 students, 4 chaperones and 8 parent chaperones will be attending.

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Tracy McCarthy, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the trip to Disney World for grades 6 and 7 in October 2024.

Motion carried unanimously

11.2 Presentation Not Requiring Board Approval

- a. April 2024 Employee of the Month: Mrs. Jennifer Gulluscio

Mr. Todd Gulluscio announced that Mrs. Jennifer Gulluscio was named the April 2024 Employee of the Month and will let Jennifer Rylott speak about Mrs. Gulluscio. Mrs. Rylott stated that Mrs. Gulluscio is fabulous. She is always up to any task you give her, and she never hesitates to jump in and help. Despite having one of the most challenging case loads, she is willing to take on more and with a smile on her face. She devotes much of her time in school and out to ensure her students' needs are being met. She is generous, flexible and supportive and an all around great coworker. The district is lucky to have her.

Mrs. Gulluscio said it is easy to come here when you love your job and the kids. She thanked the Board of Education for letting her do what she loves.

Dr. Doelger stated that she is the best and thanked her for everything she does.

Personnel

A motion was made by Dawn Hedberg, seconded by Margaret Colligan, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Personnel actions: 12.1 - 12.4

12.1 Extra Teaching Periods

- a. Approve James Theinert, Math Secondary Teacher, to teach an additional 5 periods, on a bi-weekly basis, retroactive to May 6, 2024 through June 14, 2024, at a rate of \$1,545.30.
- b. Approve Lynn Green, Elementary Teacher, to teach an additional 5 periods, on a bi-weekly basis, retroactive to May 6, 2024 through June 14, 2024, at a rate of \$1,558.05.
- c. Approve Kerri Knipfing, Elementary Teacher, to teach an additional 5 periods, on a bi-weekly basis, retroactive to May 6, 2024 through June 14, 2024, at a rate of \$1,425.90.

d. Approve Jacqueline Sperling, Special Education Teacher, to teach an additional 10 periods, on a bi-weekly basis, retroactive to May 6, 2024 through June 14, 2024, at a rate of \$1,723.50.

12.2 Amend Motion of December 11, 2023

a. Approve the appointment of Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, for the 2023-2024 school year, to the following:

Michele Yirce at \$3,571.22
Kerri Knipfing at \$1,922.97

to

a. Approve the appointment of Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, for the 2023-2024 school year, to the following:

Michele Yirce at \$2,197.68 (Sept - December 2023)
Kerri Knipfing at \$3,296.51 (January - June 2024)

12.3 Co-Curricular Position for the 2023-2024 School Year

a. Approve the appointment of Student Council Co-Advisors, effective April 15, 2024 to June 26, 2024, as follows:

Erin Mulrain at \$395.25
Kristin Sweeney at \$395.25

12.4 Resignation of Personnel

a. Helene Starzee, effective June 30, 2024, for the purpose of retirement
b. Stephanie Tybaert, effective June 30, 2024, for the purpose of retirement

Motion carried unanimously

Program

A motion was made by Tracy McCarthy, seconded by Anthony Rando, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Program actions: 13.1 - 13.2

13.1 CPSE/CSE Recommendations for the 2023-2024 School Year

a. Committee on Preschool Special Education
b. Committee on Special Education

13.2 504/CPSE/CSE Recommendation for the 2024-2025 School Year

a. 504 Committee
b. Committee on Preschool Special Education
c. Committee on Special Education

Motion carried unanimously

Finance

A motion was made by Dawn Hedberg, seconded by Anthony Rando, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Finance actions: 14.1 – 14.3

- 14.1 Financial Reports
 - a. Treasurer’s Report – March 2024
 - b. Extra Class Report – March 2024
 - c. Appropriations Status Report
 - d. Revenue Status Report
 - e. Claims Audit Report – April 2024
 - f. Payroll Audit Report – April 2024

- 14.2 Budget Transfers & Journal Entries
 - a. Accept and approve Budget Transfers and Journal Entries, for the period of April 11, 2024 through May 9, 2024, that in accordance with Board Policy, the Superintendent has approved; as well as the transfers that need specific Board approval.

- 14.3 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN)
 - a. Adoption of the Tax Anticipation Note Resolution of the Shelter Island Union Free School District, New York, authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$2,000,000 Tax Anticipation Notes in anticipation of the receipt of taxes to be levied for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously

Business

A motion was made by Tracy McCarthy, seconded by Margaret Colligan, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Business action: 15.1 - 15.3

- 15.1 Contracts
 - a. Approve the **revised** Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Board of Education of the Shelter Island School District and The Nature Conservancy of Arlington, VA, for a mutual collaboration summer course. The period of said agreement is July 15, 2024 through July 26, 2024; and authorize the Board President to execute said agreement.

- 15.2 Private School Transportation
 - a. Approval to transport twenty-nine (29) students to the following private schools for the 2024-2025 school year:
 - Ross School – East Hampton, NY (5 students)
 - Hayground School – Bridgehampton, NY (10 students)
 - Our Lady of the Hamptons - Southampton, NY (12 students)
 - Peconic Community School - Cutchogue, NY (2 students)

- 15.3 Intermunicipal Agreement
 - a. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District hereby approves an Intermunicipal Agreement for student transportation between the Shelter Island Union Free School District and the East Hampton Union Free School District, dated May 13, 2024; and, authorizes the President of the Board of Education to sign such agreement.

Motion carried unanimously

Facility

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Tracy McCarthy, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Business action: 16.1

- 16.1 Excessing of Obsolete Equipment
 - a. Chromebook - Serial 5cd323q4rh (excessive water damage)
 - b. Ipad - Serial P2FP09264P

Motion carried unanimously

Items for Consideration

Class of 2024 Gifts

President Lynch asked if her fellow Board Members would like to continue with the traditional graduate gift and then stated that she will take on the project. (Note: these gifts are personally paid for by the members of the Board of Education.)

Chef Ann Foundation

President Lynch would like to reimagine the cafeteria program and asked that Ms. Tracy McCarthy review with everyone what the Chef Ann Foundation is and what they provide. She stated that they are a non-profit that works with schools with a Farm To Table focus. They work with a local purveyor who works with the staff. They provide grants, different food programs and training for staff.

President Lynch stated that we have a unique situation on Shelter Island and NYS regulations to follow and it will be a very engaging job to reimagine a new program. Mr. Todd Gulluscio stated that it is a good time to “dig a little deeper” and explore a multitude of options. The next meeting of the Wellness Committee is June 4, 2024.

Old Business - None

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

Mr. Todd Gulluscio reported that the High School Spring season is wrapping up. Track and Softball finished last week and Baseball is finishing today. The Junior High programs continue through May.

Mr. Gulluscio listed all of the end of year events as follows:

- 5/22 - Sports Physicals
- 6/5 - Elementary Bike Day
- 6/7 Elementary Field Day
- 6/14 - Gr. 6/7 PE Trip to TopGolf
- 6/18 - Gr. 6/7 3k Race to Beach/Field Day
- 6/18 - Athletic Awards Ceremony 5 p.m.

Mr. Gulluscio stated that next year’s Fall High School Sports start on Monday, August 26th. Junior High School will start on the first day of school. Next year’s schedules, minus golf, have been released but are not finalized yet.

Assistant Superintendent Report

Mrs. Jennifer Rylott reported that the Math state exam for grades 3 - 8th will be given April 30 - May 3rd. 60 students were eligible and 57 took the exam. The participation rate was 95% up from 92.75 last year. Eighth graders do not take the exam because they take the Algebra Regents exam. Tomorrow 5/14 is the Grade 5 Science exam, which is a new test this year.

Ms. Rylott gave an update on the Multicultural event, which will be held on June 11th from 4-6 in the backfield. There will be food, soccer games, music and stories. There is a signup form located on the homepage of the school's website located under the School News section for families to participate. She said it will be an exciting way to end the year.

Ms. Rylott was happy to report the new elective classes are being offered for next year. Geology of the Solar System, taught by Ms. Cavanah, The Science of Science Fiction, taught by Ms. Pfennig and Music in American Culture, taught by Mr. Wildstein. It has sparked new interest for the students.

To date, 5 of the districts' staff have applied to teach Dual College Credit courses. The district is now up to 4 classes with Ms. Brigham and Mr. Conrardy joining Mr. Brennan and Ms. Colligan.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brian Doelger reported on the following.

- Decency Day will be on May 14. It is being proclaimed at Town Hall tomorrow and the district will be celebrating by distributing Decency buttons and stickers.
- Last week was Teacher Appreciation. Dr. Doelger thanked all of our amazing teachers. He also thanked the PTSA for providing wonderful spreads. It was also Nurse Appreciation month. Dr. Doelger stated we have the best nurse in the world here at the school. Thank you to Nurse Mary for everything that she does for everyone.
- The Bucks are looking for housing. If you know of anyone, please reach out to Frank Vecchio or Brian Cass.
- The district held its last Fire Drill and lockdown of the school year
- Congratulations to the DARE Graduates
- Dr. Doelger is working on curriculum development with Jen and Christina
- Dr. Doelger has been talking to the public library to help form a new library here at the school. There will be a Buildings and Grounds meeting this week to start this endeavor.
- The Elementary concert is this Thursday, May 16th and the Secondary concert is next Wednesday, May 22nd at 6 p.m. in the auditorium.
- There is a Light the Night event being held on Friday, May 17th by the NHS. This event is to raise money for leukemia.
- The school budget vote is next Tuesday, May 21 from 12-9 in the gym.
- The district's thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Christian Napolitano. He was a wonderful guy and the community has stepped up in every way for the family.

Board Member Reports

Mr. Anthony Rando had a recreation committee meeting and thanked the administration for the Summer recreation fair. He was proud of the students who spoke tonight from the Middle School regarding the Disney trip.

Ms. Tracy McCarthy stated that the Spring Fling for Grades 6, 7 and 8 was last week. She thanked the PTSA. It was fantastic. The Shelter Island band will be going to Adventureland. The Elementary school will be visiting Sylvester Manor on 5/21. Grades 6-12 will be visiting on 5/30.

Ms. Margaret Colligan reported that the SI Lions Club scholarship applications are due on 5/17.

President Lynch reported that the Nature Conservancy at Mashomack hosted the Strongpoint Theinert Ranch Veterans. Everyone stayed at the Manor House. The event was put together by Rebecca Mundy. The Veterans gave back to Mashomack by giving/building a fence that was falling down on one of the trails. President Lynch reminded everyone to vote on May 21 from 12 - 9 in the gymnasium.

Visitor Comments - None

Adjournment

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Tracy McCarthy, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby adjourned the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Deborah Vecchio
Deputy District Clerk

The next meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 12 - 9 pm in the School Gymnasium.