

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

**PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING
May 8, 2023**

Members Present: Margaret Colligan, Katherine Rossi-Snook, Kathleen Lynch, Tracy McCarthy, Dawn Hedberg, and Karina Montalvo

Others Present: Dr. Brian Doelger, Superintendent; Jennifer Rylott, Assistant Superintendent; Todd Gulluscio, Director of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Wellness & Personnel; Jacqueline Dunning, District Clerk; Deborah Vecchio, District Treasurer; Julie Lane, Shelter Island Reporter; Julia Brennan, Shelter Island Gazette; 12 faculty/staff/ student and 26 community residents/other

Absent: Harrison Weslek, Student Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm by President Colligan.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Tracy McCarthy, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby voted to go into an executive session at 5:02 pm to discuss the employment of particular individuals in the District.

The members of the Board of Education came out of Executive Session at 5:57 pm. President Colligan led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Karina Montalvo 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.

2023-2024 Public Budget Hearing

At this time, President Colligan read the following:

We will now conduct a public hearing on the 2023-2024 adopted budget. I therefore declare this hearing open at 6:08 pm. The Board of Education has formulated a budget that remains under the tax cap 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 16, 2023, at 12:00 pm – 9:00 pm, in the school gymnasium.

Dr. Doelger welcomed everyone to the 2023-2024 Public Budget Hearing and presented a brief overview of the following topics.

- Accomplishments
- District Administration Budget Goals
- 2023-2024 Proposed Budget
- Revenue Budget – Stays Under Tax Cap
- School District Performance & Budgetary Goals Met
- Proposition #2 – Extending mileage for private school transportation from 15 miles to 17 miles

In closing, Dr. Doelger reminded everyone to vote on May 16, 2023, from 12:00 pm – 9:00 pm, in the school gymnasium, and provided instructions for receiving an absentee ballot.

At this time, Ms. Colligan 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?”

At this time, Board Member, Kathleen Lynch thanked everyone who worked on the budget.

Ms. Colligan then asked if there were any comments from the public that they wished to make at this time. (No questions or comments were made.)

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 16. Polls are open from 12:00 pm – 9:00 pm, in the school gymnasium.

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

Public Hearing on the Proposed Use of the 2020 Repair Reserve

We will now move on to the public hearing for the proposed use of the 2020 Repair Reserve. I therefore declare this hearing open at 6:18 pm.” President Colligan introduced Dr. Doelger.

Dr. Doelger explained that the bid opening for the septic system project took place on Friday, May 5, 2022 and the winning bid came in at \$1.4M. Dr. Doelger further explained that the purpose of this evening’s public hearing on the proposed use of the 2020 repair reserve was to move additional funds into the Plant Maintenance Contractual budget line. Dr. Doelger stressed that the money is in reserves and there will be no additional costs to the tax payer. He also stated that the project is still scheduled to be completed by the end of the summer. In closing, Dr. Doelger shared that he is in contact with Fred Thiele’s office to determine if there are any reimbursement opportunities for this project.

At this time, President Colligan stated the following.

“Thank you, Dr. Doelger. Are there any members of the Board of Education who have questions or wish to make comments?

At this time, Board Member Katherine Rossi-Snook addressed her fellow board members and Dr. Doelger, stating that she appreciates the time and thought given to the septic project and that she feels good about the direction the district is heading.

My colleagues on the Board of Education and I would like to invite anyone in the public to express any comments or questions about the use of the 2020 Repair Reserve. (No questions or comments were made.)

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

Seeing that no one else wishes to participate, I would like to ask for a motion to approve and/or accept the following action: 6.1

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

6.1 WHEREAS, on Monday, May 8, 2023, the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District held a duly advertised public hearing to examine the plans to expend the sum of \$450,000.00 from the 2020 repair reserve fund for the purpose of the septic system project at the Shelter Island School.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is desirous of seeing these repairs take place using funds as described herein; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District hereby authorizes an increase to the 2022-2023 budget, in the Plant Maintenance Contractual line A.1621.400.00.0000, in an amount not to exceed \$450,000.00, to be offset by the 2020 Reserve for Repair, pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 6-d; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent to sign any necessary contracts with vendors and service providers to effectuate these repairs.

Motion carried unanimously.

I hereby declare this hearing closed at 6:21 pm and we will move on to the regular business portion of the meeting.”

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Kathleen Lynch, seconded by Dawn Hedberg, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board hereby approves the following agenda items: 7.1 – 7.3

7.1 Petition for Transportation Proposition

- a. BE IT RESOLVED that a petition for transportation proposition to be included on the ballot for the May 16, 2023 annual budget vote and school election which was filed with the school district by a resident on March 15, 2023 is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Clerk is directed to inform the resident who submitted the Petition of the board of Educations’ approval of the Petition.

7.2 Ballot Propositions for May 16, 2023 Budget Vote & Election

- a. Proposition 1: Shall the Shelter Island Union Free School District Budget in the amount of \$12,664,093 for the fiscal year 2023-2024 be approved as proposed and the requisite portion thereof raised by taxation on the taxable property of the district?
- b. Proposition 2: Shall the maximum mileage limitation for the transportation of pupils to non-public schools be increased from 15 miles to 17 miles with the cost of proposed additional services to the district being \$102,498.12 for the 2023-2024 school year?

7.3 Board of Education Candidates on Ballot for May 16, 2023 Budget Vote & Election

- a. Emily R. Parsons
- b. Tracy McCarthy
- c. Dawn Hedberg
- d. Anthony J. Rando

Motion carried unanimously.

Visitor Questions (Specific to Agenda) – None

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Tracy McCarthy, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board hereby approves the following agenda items: 9.1

9.1 Approval of Minutes

- a. Budget Adoption/Regular Meeting of April 5, 2023
- b. Special Meeting of April 19, 2023

Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence – None

Presentations – None

Personnel

A motion was made by Kathleen Lynch, seconded by Tracy McCarthy BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Personnel Action: 12.1a

12.1a Tenure Recommendation

- a. Approval of the tenure recommendation of Catherine Brigham, in the tenure area of Art K-12, effective September 1, 2023

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Doelger congratulated Ms. Brigham and pointed out that Ms. Brigham never has to be asked to do anything twice; she’s the ultimate doer and team player.

Board Member Kathleen Lynch pointed out that Ms. Brigham teaches children from age 3-18 and agreed with Dr. Doelger that Ms. Brigham is a team player who brings professionalism and creativity to our district.

President Margaret Colligan thanked Ms. Brigham for all that she did during the COVID vaccination clinics at the school; as well as the paintings she had her students do at the Senior Center. President Colligan noted that Ms. Brigham always goes above and beyond.

Ms. Brigham thanked the Board of Education and Dr. Doelger for the opportunity to work with the students of the district and pointed out that she is fortunate to be part of a great community of professionals.

A motion was made by Kathleen Lynch, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Personnel Action: 12.1b

12.1b Tenure Recommendation

- b. Approval of the tenure recommendation of Claire Geehreg, in the tenure area of Elementary Education, K-6, effective September 1, 2023

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Doelger pointed out that Ms. Geehreg is one of the sweetest people he has ever met. He noted that she is a phenomenal teacher, noting that her classroom runs seamlessly, and that she is leaving her mark on our students.

Board Member Kathleen Lynch noted that Ms. Geehreg brings joy to the building and that she shines everywhere she goes.

President Colligan added that Ms. Geehreg always creates the best doors for the Holiday Door Decorating Contest.

Ms. Geehreg stated that it is a true privilege to grow up in the school building as a student and now work here as a teacher. She thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity and thanked Administration for their continued guidance.

A motion was made by Tracy McCarthy, seconded by Kathleen Lynch BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Personnel Action: 12.1c

12.1c Tenure Recommendation

- c. Approval of the tenure recommendation of Maggie Manarel, in the tenure area of Literacy Education, K-6, effective October 27, 2023

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Doelger stated that a reading specialist, Ms. Manarel has one of the important jobs in the world. He added that she is the consummate professional and noted that during the pandemic she was put into the Pre-K3 classroom and took over without a hitch. Dr. Doelger thanked Ms. Manarel for touching the lives of our students.

Board Member Kathleen Lynch noted that success is the ability to pivot and pointed out that Ms. Manarel's ability to pivot to being the Pre-K3 teacher was incredible. Ms. Lynch noted that Ms. Manarel brought so much love and compassion to the lives of our littlest learners.

Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Rylott pointed out that while Ms. Manarel is receiving tenure in the area of literacy, she also teaches in so many different areas – Math AIS, Special Education and iReady. Ms. Rylott referred to Ms. Manarel as a true professional who wears so many hats and does it all well.

Ms. Manarel thanked the Board of Education and Administration for the opportunity and acceptance in the community. She also thanked her colleagues and stated that she is so lucky to be a part of this great community.

A motion was made by Kathleen Lynch, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Personnel Action: 12.1d

12.1d Tenure Recommendation

- d. Approval of the tenure recommendation of Danielle Spears, in the tenure area of School Psychologist, effective July 1, 2023

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Doelger referred to Ms. Spears as a diligent professional who has a deep impact on our students.

Board Member Kathleen Lynch noted that Ms. Spears is always available to our students.

Mrs. [Jennifer Rylott](#) congratulated all of the teachers receiving tenure and noted that they are all team players and she appreciates everything they do for our students.

Mr. Todd Gulluscio also congratulated the teachers receiving tenure and stated that it was an honor to be with them from the interview process to where they are now receiving tenure.

On behalf of the Shelter Island Faculty Association, Union President Mary Kanarvogel stated that the union couldn't be happier to have the four teachers at the Shelter Island School for life.

At this time, Danielle Spears thanked the Board of Education and Administration for the opportunity to work with students in grades PreK3 - 12.

President Colligan congratulated all of the candidates and then continued the rest of the meeting.

Program

A motion was made by Kathleen Lynch, seconded by Tracy McCarthy, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Program Action: 13.1 – 13.2

13.1 504/CPSE/CSE Recommendations for the 2022-2023 School Year

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

13.2 CSE Recommendations for the 2023-2024 School Year

- a. Committee on Special Education

Motion carried unanimously.

Finance

A motion was made by Katherine Rossi-Snook, seconded by Kathleen Lynch, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Finance Actions: 14.1 – 14.4

14.1 Financial Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report – March 2023
- b. Extra Class Report – March 2023
- c. Appropriation Status Report
- d. Revenue Status Report
- e. Claim Auditor's Report – March 2023
- f. Payroll Audit Report – March 2023

14.2 Journal Entries

- a. Accept and approve Journal Entries, for the period of March 30, 2023 through May 1, 2023, in accordance with Board Policy, the Superintendent has approved.

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, 2024.

14.4 Donation & Budgetary Increase

- a. Authorize the Shelter Island School District to accept a donation of \$1,000 from New York Schools Insurance Reciprocal (NYSIR); and authorize to increase the budget line of Central Administration Materials & Supplies, A1240.450.00.0000 in the same amount.

Motion carried unanimously.

Business

A motion was made by Tracy McCarthy, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Finance Actions: 15.1

15.1 Contracts

- a. Approve the agreement 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 24, 2023 through August 4, 2023; 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 Bridgehampton Union Free School District for student services. The term of the contract shall be retroactive to September 6, 2022 through June 23, 2023; and authorize the Board President and Superintendent to execute said agreement; and authorize the Superintendent and Board President to execute said agreement.

15.2 Awarding of Bid for the 2021 Capital Improvements – Septic System Replacement

- a. Award the bid for the 2021 Capital Improvements – Septic System Replacement to Hirsch & Company of Shelter Island, NY

15.3 Private School Transportation

- a. Approval to transport fourteen (14) students to the following private schools for the 2023-2024 school year:
 - Ross School – East Hampton, NY (5 student)
 - Hayground School – Bridgehampton, NY (9 students)

Motion carried unanimously.

Facility

A motion was made by Kathleen Lynch, seconded by Tracy McCarthy, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Facility Action: 16.1

16.1 Excessing of Obsolete Equipment

- a. FM Tuner - Serial #20140071
- b. Synthesizer – Serial #20140072
- c. Audio Power Boost – Serial #20140073
- d. Mixer – Serial #20140074

Motion carried unanimously.

Items for Consideration

Class of 2023 Gifts

President Colligan asked if her fellow Board Members would like to continue with the traditional graduate gift and then asked for a volunteer to prepare the gifts. All members of the Board agreed that the same gift should be given and Kathleen Lynch volunteered to take on the project. (Note: these gifts are personally paid for by the members of the Board of Education.) Ms. Lynch did note that she was concerned about the individual tickets being phased out and stated that she would investigate. (Before the night ws out, Paige Morehead of South Ferry reached out to Ms. Lynch to say that South Ferry would assist with tickets.

Re-Organization Meeting Date

Ms. Colligan stated that the Re-Organizational Meeting will be set for July 10, 2023 and asked all Board Members to check their calendars and to let Jacqueline Dunning, District Clerk know as soon as possible if that date doesn't work with their schedule. Both Kathleen Lynch and Karina Montalvo stated that they will be away on July 10, 2023. District Clerk Jacqueline Dunning stated that she would work on finding a new date.

Old Business - None

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

Mr. Gulluscio's report consisted of the following topics.

- Spring Season Ending Soon
- Baseball Team doing very well
- Soccer Intramurals are going very well
- Desire to Lead program ends this evening
- Thank you to Sensei Michelle from Epic Martial Arts, as well as Soke Tony, Kathy Lynch, and the other volunteers for conducting our annual self defense class for high school students.
- Wellness Committee working on putting together an event next year for summer activity registration.
- Reviewed the end of year events – DARE “Celebrating Safely”, Bike Day, Various Field Days, Run/Walk to Beach, DARE Graduation, Kayak Trip and Athletic Awards.
- Fall 2023 Sports begin on August 21, 2023
- If you know anyone who would like to become a bus driver or an umpire/referee, please let Mr. Gulluscio know.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Rylott was pleased to announce that the participation in the ELA and Math State Exams was either equal or higher than last year. For ELA, 69 students were eligible and 63 participated which is a 91% participation rate – the same as last year. For Math, 57 students were eligible and 53 participated which is a 93% participation rate – slightly higher than last year.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Doelger congratulated the students and Mrs. Rylott for having the highest percentage of students taking the State Exams since he's been the Superintendent. He noted how this participation helps to increase our ranking and that the district has been cited by New York State Education Department for improving.

Dr. jDoelger congratulated the boys baseball team and girls softball teams and their coaches.

Dr. Doelger thanked the PTSA for providing two luncheons for the teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week; noting that Shelter Island School has the best teachers around. Dr. Doelger also thanked the PTSA for putting on the Spring Fling.

Dr. Dolger spoke about a visit from Congressman Nick LaLota and thanked Mr. Sean Brennan for hosting him in his classroom.

Dr. Doelger congratulated the newly inducted members of the National Junior Honor Society and he then announced the Class of 2023 Valedictorian, Hayden Rylott; and Salutatorian, Andrea Napoles.

In closing, Dr. Doelger thanked the community for their continued support and reminded everyone to come out to vote on May 16, 2023.

Board Member Reports

Dawn Hedberg congratulated the newly tenured teachers, noting that they are a wonderful group and she's quite happy to see them receive tenure.

Tracy McCarthy reported that Sylvester Manor hosted a Guild Hall field trip which paired up Shelter Island School students and a collage artist. Ms. McCarthy noted that the trip went off without a hitch and thanked the school for making the trip happen. Ms. McCarthy added that she is excited to see the art that the students create. Ms. McCarthy also reported that Grade 5 students visited the Manor as part of a new curriculum, "Whose Voices Have We Not Heard," and she thanked Ms. Yirce for making it happen. Ms. McCarthy described the experience as off-site based learning and hopes classes will be able to do more of this type of learning around the Island. In closing, Ms. McCarthy mentioned that the PTSA Spring Fling was super successful.

Margaret Colligan reported that she had the privilege to be in the classroom when Congressman Nick LaLota visited the school. She stated that the students had insightful questions and referred to the experience as "another feather in the cap of Shelter Island School.

Student Liaison Report – None

Visitor Comments

Community Member Robert Kohn congratulated the Board of Education for providing an excellent education for our students all while keeping the budget under the tax cap.

At this time, President Colligan invited everyone to enjoy some cake in celebration of tenure received at this evening's meeting.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Kathleen Lynch, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snooks, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Jacqueline Dunning
District Clerk

The next meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Monday, June 12, 2023, at 6:00 pm.