

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

REGULAR MEETING
March 16, 2015

Members Present: Stephen Gessner, Thomas Graffagnino, Mark Kanarvogel, Elizabeth Melichar, Marilyn Pysher, and Linda Eklund

Others Present: Leonard Skuggevik, Superintendent; Jennifer Rylott, Academic Administrator; Todd Gulluscio, Director of Physical Education/District Operations; Jacqueline Dunning, District Clerk; Deborah Vecchio, District Treasurer; Julie Lane, Shelter Island Reporter; Mary Ellen McGayhey, Videographer; 4 faculty/staff/ student and 7 community resident/other

Absent: Alfred Brigham, Sr., and Elizabeth Dunning, Student Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by President Gessner.

A motion was by made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Elizabeth Melichar, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education voted to go into an executive session at 6:31 pm to discuss the employment of a particular individual in the District.

Motion carried unanimously.

The regular meeting began at 7:04 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marilynn Pysher 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.

Budget Presentation

Ms. Jennifer Rylott welcomed everyone to the third budget presentation in preparation of the 2015-2016 school budget. Ms. Rylott presented the topic of Special Education, which included an overview of the Special Education Department, an overview of the District’s Special Education Programs & Related Services, the accomplishments of the department, and an explanation of the future of the department. Ms. Rylott then reviewed each of the individual Special Education budget lines.

Ms. Rylott ended her presentation and opened the floor to any questions and concerns, of which there were none.

Next, Mr. Skuggevik presented the topic of Educational Program, which included Salaries, Contractual, Travel & Conferences, Equipment, Materials & Supplies and Texts, and BOCES Services.

Mr. Skuggevik reviewed the schedule of the dates and topics for the remaining 2015-2016 school budget meetings, and noted that all the meetings will begin at 7:00 pm. The schedule is as follows.

- March 23, 2015 – Capital and Athletics
- March 30, 2015 – Budget Overview
- April 22, 2015 – Budget Adoption

Mr. Skuggevik ended his presentation and opened the floor to any questions and concerns of which there were none.

Consent Agenda

Call to Order

Executive Session

Pledge of Allegiance

Mission Statement

Budget Presentation

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Marilyn Pysker, seconded by Linda Eklund, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board hereby approves the following:

- a. Approval of Minutes
 - 1. Regular Meeting of February 9, 2015

Motion carried unanimously.

Visitor Questions - None

Correspondence -- None

Presentation

On behalf of the current 7th grade class, Mr. Brian Becker asked the members of the Board of Education for approval to continue the 7th Grade Schooner Field Trip. He explained that the Shelter Island Educational Foundation will cover the majority of the cost of the trip and parents are required to cover \$250 per student. Mr. Becker also explained that the only cost to the District this year will be for chaperone pay and substitute pay. There will be no transportation costs this year, as the ship will pick up and drop off our students in Dering Harbor. The dates of the proposed field trip are June 8, 2015 through June 12, 2015.

A motion was made by Mark Kanarvogel, seconded by Elizabeth Melichar, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the seventh grade class to attend the annual Black Dog Schooner Field Trip on Monday, June 8, 2015 through Friday, June 12, 2015.

Motion carried unanimously.

On behalf of the Edible School Garden, Ms. Vicki Weslek asked the members of the Board of Education for approval to install an 8' x 10' shed on school grounds for the purpose of storing gardening tools and materials. Ms. Weslek explained that she spoke with Mr. Reardon and he is willing to build the shed with one of his classes.

Members of the Board of Education asked Mr. Michael Dunning, Building & Grounds Crew Chief, to please make sure such a structure is in compliance with State Regulations, as well as to check with our insurance company. Mr. Dunning agreed to do this research.

A motion was made by Elizabeth Melichar, seconded by Thomas Graffagnino, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves an 8' x 10' shed to be placed on school grounds for the purpose of storing gardening tools and materials. The approval of this structure is contingent on it being compliant with State Regulations and receiving clearance from the District's insurance company.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Weslek thanked the Board of Education for their support of the shed, and then went on to report about the Empty Bowls Fundraiser that will be held on Sunday, March 22, 2015, at 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm, in the cafeteria. The funds raised at this event will be used to purchase the materials for building the shed, as well as supplies for the garden.

In closing, Ms. Weslek mentioned that the Edible School Garden is currently working with Sylvester Manor to set up a system for receiving the Edible School Garden funds and once the system is in place, she will let the District know.

Personnel

A motion was made by Linda Eklund, seconded by Thomas Graffagnino, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Personnel Actions: 9.1- 9.2

- 9.1 Retirement Incentive Agreement

*Consent Agenda
(continued)*

*Visitor
Questions*

Correspondence

Presentation

*Consent Agenda
Personnel*

- a. Adoption of the retirement incentive by and between the Shelter Island Union free School District and the Shelter Island Faculty Association (Teachers)

*Consent
Agenda
Personnel
(continued)*

9.2 Resignation of Personnel

- a. Teri Piccozzi, ESL Teacher, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2015

Motion carried unanimously.

Program

A motion was made by Elizabeth Melichar, seconded by Stephen Gessner, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Program Action: 10.1

*Consent
Agenda
Program*

10.1 CSE/Sub-CSE/504 Recommendation for the 2014-2015 School Year

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

Motion carried unanimously

Finance

A motion was made by Linda Eklund, seconded by Thomas Graffagnino, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Finance Actions: 11.1

*Consent
Agenda Finance*

11.1 Financial Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report – February 2015
- b. Extra Class Report – February 2015
- c. Appropriations Status Report
- d. Revenue Status Report
- e. Claim Auditor's Report – February 2015
- f. Payroll Audit Report – February 2015

Motion carried unanimously.

Business

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Linda Eklund, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Business Actions: 12.1

*Consent
Agenda
Business*

12.1 Contracts

- a. Approve the contract for transportation services, for a passenger coach, for the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Field Trip as follows; and authorize the Board President to execute said contract.
 - 1. Hampton Jitney on May 12, 2015, in the amount of \$2,058
- b. Approve the agreement between the Board of Education of the Shelter Island School District and the Suffolk County Board of Elections, allowing the Suffolk County Board of Elections to use the school as polling place for Primary and General Elections in 2015 and 2016; and authorize the District Clerk to execute said agreement.
- c. Approve the agreement between the Board of Education of the Shelter Island School District and Munistat Services, Incorporated, of Port Jefferson Station, NY, for certain services relative to the issuance of the District's 2015 Tax Anticipation Notes (TAN), in the amount of \$1,750, retroactive to January 29, 2015, until work is completed; and authorize Board President to execute said contract.

Motion carried unanimously.

Facility

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Stephen Gessner, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent on the following Facility Action: 13.1

13.1 Old Truck

- a. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Shelter Island Union Free School District has a 1995 Ford F-150 Pickup Truck that has been rendered obsolete and of no value.
- b. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to dispose of said truck in an appropriate manner.

Motion carried unanimously.

Items for Consideration

a. Re-Organizational Meeting – Wednesday, July 1, 2015

A motion was made by Elizabeth Melichar, seconded by Thomas Graffagnino, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the District’s Re-Organizational Meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 1, 2015.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Letter to the Editor

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Linda Eklund, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the District’s Re-Organizational Meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 1, 2015.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Nominations for ESBOCES Board

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Linda Eklund, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby nominates the following candidates for the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Board.

- 1. Stephen Gessner (Shelter Island Union Free School District)
- 2. Stephen Dewey (Eastport-South Manor Central School District)
- 3. Joseph LoSchiavo (Patchogue-Medford Union Fee School District)
- 4. Jeffrey Smith (Mattituck-Cutchogue Union Free School District)

d.

Motion carried. Elizabeth Melichar recused herself.

Old Business - None

Director of Physical Education/District Operations Report

Mr. Todd Gulluscio gave an on the status of the banners. As it has been concluded that we do not have the space to hang 20+ banners, Mr. Gulluscio suggested consolidation banners. Consolidation banners will allow the District to post several accomplishment per sport, on each banner. Mr. Gulluscio presented artwork for the banners and the Board of Education was very pleased. Mr. Gulluscio explained that the banners currently hanging in the gym will stay, and the consolidation banners will begin with the District’s athletic accomplishments beginning with the year 2000. The cost for the new consolidation banners is approximately \$4,000. The banners will be ordered this year, if money can be found in the budget. Otherwise, they will be budgeted for and ordered as part of next year’s budget.

Mr. Gulluscio thanked everyone who cast their votes for the Get Moving NY Contest. Although Shelter Island UFSD didn’t win, the District did receive over 1,000 votes, which is a huge accomplishment for such a small district. Mr. Gulluscio also thanked the music department and physical education department for their collaboration on this project.

Mr. Gulluscio informed the Board that the Impact Concussion Testing has been completed for all grade levels and he thanked Mary Kanarvogel, R.N., for administering these tests.

*Consent Agenda
Facility*

*Items for
Consideration*

Old Business

*Director of
Physical
Education/District
Operations
Report*

In closing, Mr. Gulluscio updated the Board of Education regarding the national physical education scope and sequence. He and the physical education department reviewed the document thoroughly and discovered “striking with an implement” (tennis racket, baseball bat, etc.) as an area of weakness for the District. The physical education teachers are looking for ways to incorporate more of this into the school year.

*Director of
Physical
Education/District
Operations
Report (cont’d)*

Academic Administrator’s Report

Ms. Rylott announced that the PTSA’s Parents as Reading Partners (PARP) program began on March 2, 2015 with the 6th grade class performing, The Lorax, for the elementary students. The program runs through March 19, 2015 when there will be a closing ceremony of bedtime stories, cookies, and milk, at 6:30 pm, in the cafeteria and elementary classrooms.

*Academic
Administrator’s
Report*

Ms. Rylott explained that the interviews for the grade 4/5 ELA/Social Studies teacher position have begun and the committee anticipates having a final candidate within the next few weeks.

Ms. Rylott spoke about the Pre K/Kindergarten program and stated that the District will continue running the current model next year. Applications for the program are scheduled to be mailed to parents who responded to the Census, during the week of April 20 2015. If anyone didn’t respond to the Census, and would like to apply for this program, they should contact Ms. Rylott for an application. As there are only six (6) seats available, a lottery will be held, and such lottery is anticipated to be held during the week of May 4, 2015.

Ms. Rylott reported that she and Mr. Skuggevik met with the Pre K/K parents in the fall of 2014 and were ask to report winter benchmark data when it became available. In the fall, only a few probes (assessments) are age appropriate. In the winter, more probes are administered, as more probes become age appropriate. There was one English Language Arts probe that was administered in the fall and then again in the winter, we are seeing growth from 76% of students being average to well above average in the fall, to 94% of students being average to well above average in the winter. In math, two probes were administered in the fall and again in the winter. In the fall, both probes showed 71% of students being average to well above average. In the winter, one probe showed growth to 82% and the other probe showed growth at 94%. Ms. Rylott indicated that the students will be assessed again in June and she would be happy to meet with parents again to report on that data, as well.

*Superintendent’s
Report*

Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Skuggevik congratulated Dr. Frank Emmett for his recent accomplishment of presenting his paper at the University of Alabama English Symposium.

Mr. Skuggevik then thanked everyone who filled out the Superintendent Evaluation. From the results of the evaluation, Mr. Skuggevik believes he is able to fix his deficiencies. For anyone who hasn’t filled out the survey, Mr. Skuggevik pointed out that a link to the survey is featured on the home page of the District’s website.

Mr. Skuggevik reviewed his goals which include the following.

- Be part of the community
- Learn the history of the District
- Earn trust and confidence by sharing vision and remaining transparent
- Begin to create plan to solidify business office
- Create more opportunities for college credits
- Create opportunities for teacher collaboration
- Create plan to hand out iPads to all
- Scope & Sequence creation and alignment
- Implement business office plan
- First rollout of iPad initiative
- Create plan for student/peer mentor program
- Begin discussions to create an internship program with local businesses

- Contract negotiations

Mr. Skuggevik reviewed the breakout of scores for the District's Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) Plan and compared the local control scores to the State's scores for our District. Mr. Skuggevik stated that the State accuses districts of inflating scores, yet the data he presented shows the complete opposite.

Mr. Skuggevik spoke about The Alliance to Save Public Education which is a group of Superintendents from Suffolk County, Nassau County, Westchester County, and Monroe County who have banded together to ask legislature to refrain from enacting the Governor's proposals for New York State Education without a thoughtful debate.

Board Member Reports - None

Student Liaison Report - None

Visitor Comments

Mrs. Katie Springer, an elementary parent, asked Mrs. Rylott if she would report the June Pre K/Kindergarten data at a future Board Meeting instead of having a separate parent meeting. Mrs. Rylott agreed and stated it may not be until July because the assessments are given in June and teachers and administration will need time to collect and review all of the data.

Mrs. Springer also inquired about the use of iPads in the classrooms and whether or not the District is monitoring screen time. As a parent, she doesn't want her child working on the computer, SmartBoard and iPad. Mrs. Rylott explained, the younger the grade, the less technology they use. Ms. Linda Eklund, Board of Education Member, also stated that each teacher uses technology differently. She encouraged Mrs. Springer to meet with her child's teacher, and perhaps even ask to come in to see how technology is being used.

Ms. Sarah Shepherd, an elementary parent, inquired about an alternative location for students who are opting out of the state testing. Mr. Skuggevik stated that students opting out will be sent to an alternative location and that it will most likely be the auditorium.

Mr. Brian Becker stressed to the audience and community that everyone needs to be aware of the significance of Governor Cuomo trying to take away local control of education and his attack on the public school system as a whole. He asked everyone to educate themselves on the matter, in order to make informed decisions about APPR, Common Core and opting out of testing.

At this time, Ms. Jennifer Rylott recognized the Board of Education's acceptancel of Mrs. Teri Piccozzi's retirement that occurred earlier in the meeting. Ms. Rylott thanked Mrs. Piccozzi for her many years of service and wished her all the best in retirement.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Marilyn Pyscher, seconded by Linda Eklund, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Jacqueline Dunning
District Clerk

The next Budget Meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Monday, March 23, 2015, at 7:00 pm, in the Conference Room.

*Superintendent's
Report (continued)*

*Board Member
Reports*

*Student Liaison
Report*

Visitor Comments

Adjournment