

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

**WORK SESSSION
BUDGET MEETING**
March 3, 2010

Members Present: Rebecca Mundy, Thomas Graffagnino, Linda Eklund, Kenneth Lewis, Jr.,
Kathleen Reilly, Stephen Gessner
Mark Kanarvogel entered at 8:15 p.m.

Members Absent: Gina Giambruno, Student Liaison

Others Present: Superintendent, Sharon Clifford; Assistant Superintendent, Donna
Guiffre; District Clerk, Deborah Vecchio; School District Business
Leader, Sam Schneider; Ted Hills, Shelter Island Reporter; 6
faculty/staff/students; 0 community members

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Mundy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Call To Order

Presentation – Presentation

Ms. Rebecca Mundy welcomed everyone to the fourth budget presentation meeting and stated that they are getting into the thick of the budget. Ms. Mundy also asked the Business Office and Mrs. Clifford to give full projected expenses in all areas, as well as in the area of grants. She stated that it is important to be transparent.

Before discussion of the budget, the Board of Education had one item of business.

A motion was made by Linda Eklund, seconded by Kathleen Reilly, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby appoints Michael Connell as the JV Boys Baseball coach for the 2009-2010 school year, at a rate of \$4,114, as per salary Schedule C of the teacher contract. M. Connell
JV Boys Baseball
coach

Motion carried unanimously

Ms. Donna Guiffre began tonight's meeting with an overview of the district's Special Education program including salaries, salaries for the summer, equipment, contractual expenses, materials and supplies, transportation, residential tuition, other public school tuition, travel, special education contingency, charter school special education, other public school special education, non-public school special education, textbooks, and BOCES.

Ms. Guiffre explained that students are recommended for Special Education by the Committee on Special Education and that the district is responsible for the costs of educating children in the least restrictive environment that includes either in-district services or out of district placement. She also explained Federal and State Mandates (IDEA 2004 and Part 200). Ms. Guiffre discussed Occupational Education and the charter school, CDCH. BOCES provides the Occupational Education program, which is hands-on training and experience in areas such as auto body, clinical medical assisting, carpentry, cosmetology, law enforcement, nurse assisting, and plumbing & heating. Currently, preliminary registration is for 13 students to attend an Occupational Education program. Each student costs \$11,583 plus transportation. Also discussed was the Charter School, CDCH. Shelter Island School is responsible for tuition payments, special services, and transportation costs for any student(s) who attend CDCH. The cost of Shelter Island students attending CDCH for 2010-2011 is \$66,000 plus a \$75,000 contingency, for tuition & related services, and \$25,000 for busing. The contingency is included in case a parent elects to enroll a student.

Ms. Virginia Gibbs, Middle School Math teacher, presented to the Board the summer school program at Shelter Island School. She stated that summer school programs may provide opportunities for acceleration, enrichment, skills improvement or to allow students to make-up course work, which they were unable to master during the regular school year, and is an additional opportunity for the district to meet the needs of all students, including students with disabilities. Summer school is not mandated by the state, the district chooses to have the program. Full-time Shelter Island resident students attend our summer school program for free; while seasonal residents pay a nominal fee. The district's summer school program is offered to grades K-6 for reading/writing and grades K-8 for mathematics. The program also offers an intensive literacy program, which serves only Shelter Island students entering grades 2-9 who are below grade level. Approximately 70 – 80 students attend our summer program. The total proposed cost for summer school teaching salaries is \$16,427. Mr. Sam Schneider briefly discussed Tutoring & Home Instruction. The total percentage change proposed, over the current budget, in the area of tutoring & home instruction is -58.65%.

Mr. Sam Schneider and Mr. Mark Palios, Guidance Counselor, did a presentation regarding Guidance Services in the district. Areas of discussion included standardized tests, salaries, travel, materials and supplies, and contractual expenses, such as college fairs, software, memberships, independent study, and BOCES visits. Mr. Schneider also talked about psychological services. Psychological services are mandated on the Committee for Special Education.

Ms. Clifford thanked everyone, especially Sam and the faculty, who presented this evening. Ms. Clifford appreciates everyone coming out for the meetings.

Presentation
(con't)

Ms. Clifford spoke to the Board about curriculum development. Ms. Clifford stated that federal grants have supported most of the costs in this area, which include salaries for staff development and curriculum writing, travel to conferences, materials and supplies, and BOCES.

Ms. Clifford and Mr. Sam Schneider presented to the Board the area of Teaching and Instruction, which includes equipment, contractual expenses, field trips, materials and supplies, textbooks, and BOCES. Equipment is defined as anything that costs \$500 or more. Ms. Clifford stated that the staff has been very responsive to needs, and if they do not need something, they will not order it. In the area of contractual expenses, which are items such as tool sharpening, sewing machine repair, tent and chairs, instrument repairs, and car repairs, the proposed percentage change is 1.51% over the current budget. In the area of district paid field trips, the proposed percentage change over the current budget is 10.94%. This percentage reflects field trip fees; transportation and chaperone costs are budgeted elsewhere. Ms. Clifford commented that the Educational Foundation offsets some of the field trips and students may also have fees that they pay for. Some of the field trips include the aquarium, Block Island, Conference for Kids, Holocaust Memorial, Kayak Trip, Music Competitions, NYC Trip, Schooner Trip, Science Congresses, and Splish Splash. Materials and supplies for the district, overall, is down -4.42%. Test prep is a new section of the budget. Previously, these expenses were part of the materials and supplies budget lines. There will be an increase in textbooks due to the large middle school class, additional books for English, and the next series of books in foreign language. The BOCES Services, Teaching and Instruction, which include Arts-In-Education, the elementary science program, and non-public school textbook distribution, and textbook charges, will increase 4.00% over the current budget.

Mr. Sam Schneider discussed with the Board adding additional budget meetings on March 25th and April 8th.

Ms. Rebecca Mundy thanked everyone from the staff for presenting and for all of the in-depth information.

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education voted to go into an executive session at 8:40 p.m. for the purpose of a specific personnel issue, specific student matter, and a specific legal matter.

Executive
Session

Motion carried unanimously

The Board came out of executive session at 9:36 p.m.

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Stephen Gessner, to adjourn the meeting.

Adjournment

Motion carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Deborah Vecchio
District Clerk

The next meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Monday, March 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

