

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

SPECIAL MEETING
December 7, 2009

Members Present: Rebecca Mundy, Thomas Graffagnino, Mark Kanarvogel,
Kenneth Lewis, Jr.
Linda Eklund entered at 6:45 p.m.; Kathleen Reilly entered at 6:45 p.m.

Members Absent: Stephen Gessner; 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; 10 community
members and 9 faculty/staff/student members

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by President Rebecca Mundy,
followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Call To Order

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Mark
Kanarvogel, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education voted to
go into an executive session at 6:36 p.m. to discuss a specific personnel
matter. Executive Session

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Linda Eklund, seconded by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., BE
IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby adjourns
executive session at 7:30 p.m. Adjourn
Executive Session

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Kenneth Lewis,
Jr., BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby
reconvenes the Special Meeting at 7:35 p.m. Reconvene
Meeting

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., seconded by Linda Eklund,
BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves
to add Thomas Graffagnino to the Legal Committee for the 2009-2010
school year. Approval to add
Thomas
Graffagnino to the
Legal Committee

Motion carried unanimously

Presentation -

Ms. Rebecca Mundy welcomed the Middle School team of teachers, as
well as James Dibble, Ph.D, and Veronica Siller.

Presentation

Ms. Ginny Gibbs, Middle School Math teacher and Middle School Coordinator, did a presentation to the Board and community members on Character Education with regard to the Middle School students. Ms. Gibbs defined Character Education as planting the seeds for developing good character by teaching basic values and methods for dealing positively, ethically, and successfully with all aspects of life. It is a continual process. Ms. Gibbs also explained that the Middle School has a Character Education tree, which displays a Word of the Week on the main Middle School Bulletin Board. The Word of the Week is used by the students and teachers in many ways throughout the week.

Presentation
(con't)

Mr. Bob Barber, Middle School Social Studies Teacher, addressed advisory in the Middle School. Advisories are set-up so older students can interact with younger students, since advisories are cross graded for grades 6-8, advisors can advocate for the student, and the advisor acts as a good role model for the student.

Mrs. Sharon Clifford briefly spoke about the positive reinforcements of the Middle School such as the quarterly awards ceremony, the end of the year awards ceremony, and advisory competitions.

Ms. Veronica Siller discussed the 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens and the Health Smart comprehensive 7-12 program. Ms. Siller stated that the Health Smart program focuses on a student being the best they can be, they engage in a lot of role playing, and the program is an advocate for healthy choices. Activities start from Kindergarten and continue thru the Middle School. Some of the outcomes of the program for students are being tobacco and alcohol free, healthy eating, more physical activity, staying safe from violence and injury, resolving conflicts, managing stress and seeking help, practice abstinence and prevention of HIV, STD's, and pregnancy, protection from disease, and respect of their bodies and their future. The program is a great way to bring families, students, and the school together.

Dr. James Dibble discussed Middle School development and growth and stated that students in the Middle School require patience and guidance by their parents.

Visitor's Report –

A. Ms. Marilyn Pyscher of Communities That Care, stated that the Character Education program dovetails with the Communities That Care program. Ms. Pyscher described some of the programs that CTC provides such as Guiding Good Choices for ages 9-14, reinforcement of the program along with the DARE program, and the buddy program which matches a Middle School student with a junior or senior.

Visitor's Report

Ms. Ginny Gibbs thanked parents and stated that she is privileged and honored to work with the students.

Mrs. Sharon Clifford thanked the Middle School team, Dr. Dibble, and Ms. Veronica Siller for presenting the Character Education program. She also stated that the school's doors are always open, students need to think before they act, students have to learn that they have a voice, and they should not let bumps go unattended.

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., to adjourn the meeting.

Adjournment

Motion carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Deborah Vecchio
District Clerk

The next meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Monday, December 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

