

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

**REGULAR MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING**
January 11, 2010

Members Present: Rebecca Mundy, Thomas Graffagnino, Kathleen Reilly, Mark Kanarvogel, Kenneth Lewis, Jr., Stephen Gessner, Linda Eklund

Members Absent: Gina Giambruno, Student Liaison

Others Present: Superintendent, Sharon Clifford; District Clerk, Deborah Vecchio; Assistant Superintendent, Donna Guiffre; School District Business Leader, Sam Schneider; Ted Hills from the Shelter Island Reporter and 14 faculty/staff/students and 8 community resident(s).

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

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Kathleen Reilly, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education voted to go into an executive session at 7:06 p.m. for the purpose of two (2) specific personnel matters. Executive Session

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., seconded by Linda Eklund, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby adjourns executive session at 7:22 p.m. Adjourn Executive Session

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Linda Eklund, seconded by Thomas Graffagnino, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby reconvenes the regular meeting at 7:25 p.m. Reconvene Regular Meeting

Motion carried unanimously

Visitor's Comments – None

Visitor's
Comments

A motion was made by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., seconded by Mark Kanarvogel, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the Special Meeting of November 12, 2009. Approval of the Minutes

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Mark Kanarvogel, seconded by Kathleen Reilly, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 7, 2009.

Motion carried unanimously

Approval of the Minutes (con't)

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Stephen Gessner, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 14, 2009.

After discussion by the Board of Education and Sam Schneider, School District Business Leader, the resolution was amended as follows:

A motion was made by Linda Eklund, seconded by Kathleen Reilly, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 14, 2009 with one correction as noted.

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Linda Eklund, seconded by Thomas Graffagnino, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2009.

Motion carried unanimously

Treasurer's Report

Correspondence

A. Ms. Rebecca Mundy read a note from Emily Gibbs thanking the Board of Education for their support and for allowing the National Honor Society students to have a cardboard campout to raise money for Habitat for Humanity.

Correspondence

Presentation –

A. Ms. Rebecca Mundy welcomed Kristina Seely, Literacy Coach, and Roberta Garris, Literacy Program Coordinator, who did a presentation on the district's Balanced Literacy program and the criteria used to assess student progress in this program. Also discussed was how effective the Balanced Literacy program is when it comes to assessing a student's progress verses using the state's ELA (English Language Arts) test as a means of evaluating a student's progress.

Presentation

The Balanced Literacy Program keeps record of an individual student's progress based on a one-on-one evaluation, which is conducted twice per year. The evaluation determines if a student is making mistakes and why in the areas of fluency and comprehension and also records their reading

process. The program also gives students the ability to be challenged, instills a desire to read, and allows the students to articulate how they feel about reading.

Presentation
(con't)

Some parents expressed concern that they do not want the district to lose sight of testing, while other parents want students to become life-long readers instead of effective test-takers. Ms. Seely explained that there are many districts that put an emphasis on tests and do a lot of test prep. She stated that these students only read in a test oriented way, which is very limiting. Mrs. Clifford stated that the state assessment system is going to change, and when it does, our students will be more prepared than students in other schools who have been taught to the test. Mrs. Clifford also commended the teachers. She stated that the journey has been long.

Through the Balanced Literacy Program, the goals of the district are to make the students strong readers and writers, which eventually will make their test taking skills stronger.

A motion was made by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., seconded by Thomas Graffagnino, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby appoints Carol Euring to serve as Claims Auditor to the Shelter Island Union Free School District, at a rate of \$50 per hour, effective January 19, 2010, pending clearance for employment by the NYS Department of Education (fingerprint initiative).

Appointment of
C. Euring, Claims
Auditor

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Linda Eklund, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby appoints the following personnel to provide home instruction at the rate of \$57.06 per hour for the 2009-2010 school year:

Appointment of
personnel to
provide home
instruction

- A. Robin Anderson for up to twelve hours
- B. Laura Leever for up to six hours
- C. Peter Miedema for up to six hours
- D. Mark Quintana for up to twelve hours

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., seconded by Thomas Graffagnino, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the recommendation from the Committee on Special Education for the 2009-2010 school year for student(s) #8840.

CSE
Recommendation

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Mark Kanarvogel, seconded by Kathleen Reilly, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the recommendation from the Section 504 Committee for the 2009-2010 school year for student(s) #8346 and #8378.

Motion carried unanimously

Section 504
Committee

First Reading of the following policy:

A. District Code of Conduct

First Reading of
policy

Second Reading of the following policies:

A. Policy #5661 – District Wellness

B. Policy #2310 – Membership In Associations

Second Reading
of policies

A motion was made by Linda Eklund, seconded by Kathleen Reilly, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves and adopts Policy #5661 – District Wellness, effective January 11, 2010.

Motion carried unanimously

Adoption of
Policy #5661 –
District Wellness

A motion was made by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., seconded by Kathleen Reilly, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves and adopts Policy #2310 – Membership In Associations to read as follows:

“The School District shall be a member of the New York State School Board Association. Additionally, the Board may maintain membership and participate cooperatively in other associations.”

Adoption of
Policy #2310 –
Membership In
Associations

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., seconded by Mark Kanarvogel, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the 2010-2011 Budget Calendar.

Approval of the
2010 – 2011
Budget Calendar

The Board of Education discussed moving the regularly scheduled board meeting of May 17, 2010 to Monday, May 10, 2010 at 7 p.m. The Public Budget Hearing originally scheduled for 7 p.m. on May 10th has been scheduled for 6 p.m. on May 10th.

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Stephen Gessner, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves the 2010-2011 Budget Calendar with the changes as discussed.

Motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., seconded by Thomas Graffagnino, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby approves to change the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting from May 17, 2010 at 7 p.m. to May 10, 2010 at 7 p.m. and will be combined with the Public Budget Hearing.

Motion carried unanimously

Approval to change the May 2010 BOE Mtg.

A motion was made by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., seconded by Linda Eklund, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the Budget and Revenue Status Reports, as of December 28, 2009, for the following funds:

- A. General Fund
- B. School Lunch Fund
- C. Federal Fund

Motion carried unanimously

Acceptance of the Budget and Revenue Status Reports

A motion was made by Kathleen Reilly, seconded by Thomas Graffagnino, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts and approves the Budget Transfers Report, for the period December 11, 2009 through December 28, 2009, that in accordance with Board Policy, the Superintendent has approved, as well as the transfers that need specific Board approval.

Motion carried unanimously

Acceptance of the Budget Transfers Report

A motion was made by Linda Eklund, seconded by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., BE IT RESOLVED THAT: as required by regulations of the State Education Department Commissioner, the Board of Education of the Shelter Island UFSD hereby accepts the administrations corrective action plan from the audit management letter for the period ending June 30, 2009.

Motion carried unanimously

Acceptance of the Administrations Corrective Action Plan

A motion was made by Stephen Gessner, seconded by Thomas Graffagnino, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby authorizes the opening of the following bank account, effective immediately, Capital One SuperNow Checking.

Motion carried unanimously

Authorization to open a bank account

Facility – None

Facility

Items For Consideration –

A. Mrs. Sharon Clifford discussed with the Board whether or not to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the Race To The Top.

Items For Consideration

The Commissioner of Education, Mr. Steiner, extended the deadline for district's to sign the Memorandum. Race To The Top are federal funds designated for each school district. Each state is required to submit an application for receipt of these funds. Mrs. Clifford would like the Board to consider the following: one of the exhibits of the Memorandum is asking to finance charter schools; the funds are aimed at schools that are struggling (we are in good standing); and the district could incur costs to receive the funds. Mrs. Clifford's recommendation is not to sign the Memorandum of Understanding; however, she would not oppose if the Board of Education wanted to sign the memorandum.

Items For
Consideration
(con't)

Old Business – None

Old Business

Administrator's Report –

Administrator's
Report

A. Mrs. Clifford thanked Kristina Seely, Roberta Garris, and Jen Rylott for the Balanced Literacy presentation. She stated that they are the backbone of the elementary, and models for their students.

Board Member Reports –

Board Member
Reports

A. Ms. Linda Eklund asked Mr. Schneider, at the last Board of Education meeting, if the district can accept donations to underwrite the cost of taping the budget workshop meetings. Mr. Schneider said that the district can accept donations. Ms. Eklund also asked about receiving historical budget data before the first budget workshop.

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Kathleen Reilly, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby authorizes the taping of the five (5) Budget Workshop Meetings and the Public Budget Hearing regarding the 2010-2011 budget.

Authorization to
tape Budget
Workshop
Meetings/Public
Budget Hearing

Motion carried unanimously

B. Mr. Stephen Gessner asked for clarification of the confidentiality agreement. Mrs. Clifford has asked the districts' counsel to clarify the agreement in writing. Mr. Gessner also commented on the detail of the Budget Revenue and Status Report. He thinks it is wonderful.

C. Mr. Mark Kanarvogel reported that the gymnasium floor is very slippery. Ms. Donna Guiffre is working with the coaches and Athletic Director to keep the floor as dust free as possible. The floor is being cleaned between games. Mr. Schneider commented that the floor cannot be sanded anymore because it will start to remove the paint. Mr. Schneider is looking into waxing the floor, but does not want to make the floor even more slippery. Mr. Rogers, Maintenance Crew Leader, is also purchasing new chemicals.

Mr. Kanarvogel also asked about the status of trimming a tree outside of the main office.

Board Member
Reports (con't)

D. Ms. Rebecca Mundy reported that the National Honor Society dinner held on Thursday, January 7th, was a lovely evening. She said that the students did a wonderful job, and the Board of Education were exceptional waiters.

Visitor's Comments - None

Visitor's
Comments

A motion was made by Linda Eklund, seconded by Kenneth Lewis, Jr., BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education voted to go into an executive session at 8:55 p.m. for the purpose of a specific personnel matter.

Executive Session

Motion carried unanimously

The Board came out of executive session at 10:28 p.m.

A motion was made by Thomas Graffagnino, seconded by Kathleen Reilly, to adjourn the meeting.

Adjournment

Motion carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

Deborah Vecchio
District Clerk

The next meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Monday, February 8, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.