

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, January 15, 2014, in the Forum Stimson Middle School, 401 Oakwood Road, Huntington Station, New York.

Present: **Board Members:**

President
Vice President

Mr. Kaden
Mr. Ciappetta
Mrs. Brieff
Mrs. Carey
Mrs. DeGaetano
Mrs. LaCara
Mr. Nitkewicz

Staff:

Superintendent of Schools
Deputy Superintendent
Asst. Supt. for Personnel & District Services
Interim Business Administrator
District Clerk

Dr. Bennardo
Ms. Harris
Dr. Centamore
Mr. Light
Mrs. Hammond

Absent: Supervisor of Assessment and Technology

Dr. Bloom

Call to Order: Mr. Kaden opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Executive Session: Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular person.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Ciappetta, be it Resolved that the Executive Session be adjourned.
Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kaden opened the Business Meeting at 7:30 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda: Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the revised tentative agenda be adopted.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants): Motion by Mr. Ciappetta, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District approve the following items:

Minutes: Minutes of Board meeting held on November 20, 2013.

Schedule of Bills (Warrants):	General Fund	Warrant 82	\$ 49,972.10
	"	83	1,624,079.18
	"	V083	(1,399.40)
	"	84	141.80
	School Lunch	22	2,520.02
	Special Aid	27	40,113.12

Approved – Board Packet of December 20, 2013

General Fund	Warrant 76	\$ 50,222.86
"	77	281,745.84
"	78	6,858.50
"	79	505,000.00
"	80	512,985.67
"	V080	(512,985.67)
"	81	512,985.67
School Lunch Fund	21	13,606.23
Special Aid	26	101,367.07

Vote on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants): Mr. Kaden asked for any additional comments or questions on the above items, and then called for a vote on the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

Change Order: Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mr. Ciappetta, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District approve Deduct Change Order No. C1 for Maplewood Interior Renovations a decrease to Condos in the amount of \$568.90, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 705.
Motion carried unanimously.

Communications:

1. Thank you letter from Coaches Fitzpatrick, Eatmon and Russell re Gugliotta tournament donation
2. E-mail letters from Mary DeFalco re Common Core

Donation from the Wildcat Youth Wrestling Club: Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the donation of a wrestling competition mat valued at \$9,955 from the Wildcat Youth Wrestling Club.
Motion carried unanimously.

Donation from the Giannuzzi Family: Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the donation of fourteen pairs of sneakers for the Walt Whitman High School JV Basketball Team in the amount of \$1,200 and fifteen pairs of sneakers for the Walt Whitman High School Varsity Basketball Team in the amount of \$1,275 for a total donation of \$2,475 from the Giannuzzi family.
Motion carried unanimously.

- Donation from Lexus of Massapequa:** Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the donation of \$5,000 to Stimson Middle School from Lexus of Massapequa in recognition of Ashar Farooq's first place win in their essay contest.
Motion carried unanimously.
- Donation from the Registered Professional Nurses Association:** Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the donation from the Registered Professional Nurses Association of \$2,000 to be deposited into the South Huntington UFSD Scholarship Fund.
Motion carried unanimously.
- Field Trip Request Cheer USA Nationals Competition:** Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the field trip request to attend the Cheer USA Nationals Competition to be held on February 7-10, 2014, at the Disney Caribbean Beach Resort in Orlando Florida.
Motion carried unanimously.
- Conference Attendance at NSBA Advocacy Institute:** Motion by Mr. Ciappetta, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves attendance by Edward J. Nitkewicz at the NSBA Advocacy Institute to be held on February 2-4, 2014, in Washington, D.C.
Motion carried unanimously.
- Conference Attendance at N-SSBA Conference:** Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves Board and Cabinet attendance at the N-SSBA "Suburban Schools in the Center of the Storm" conference to be held at the Huntington Hilton on January 30, 2014.
Motion carried unanimously.
- Highlights of the 2014-15 School Budget Meetings:** Dr. Bennardo gave a brief overview of the budget meetings dates and process and explained that the administration was in the process of gathering some of the known variables for the budget development, such as salary, pension and healthcare increases which comprise the majority of the additional budget-to-budget expenses. Dr. Bennardo stated that it was too early in the process to know the state aid figure but it was possible that the cap could be lower this year at 1.66%. Dr. Bennardo noted that the cap could be 2% or the rate of inflation and inflation was lower this year. Dr. Bennardo stated that the picture would get much clearer when we have our first glance at the state aid projections. Dr. Bennardo stated that if the district received the same amount of state aid that we received last year, it was possible, with some creativity, to remain level. Dr. Bennardo stated that the challenge of the 2% tax cap was how

**Highlights of the
2014-15 School
Budget Meetings:
(Continued)**

to grow. Dr. Bennardo noted that some of our neighboring school districts would be cutting to survive. Dr. Bennardo stated that a good variable for our district is the grant writing being done by Dr. Bloom and Ms. Harris.

**Attendance at
Touro Winter
Alumni Reception
Honoring Edward
J. Nitkewicz:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves Board and Cabinet attendance at the Touro Law Annual Winter Alumni Reception honoring Board Member Edward Nitkewicz with the Public Service Award. The event is to be held on January 30, 2014, at LeMarais Restaurant in Manhattan.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nitkewicz thanked the members who were planning to attend the event. Mr. Nitkewicz noted that Kathleen Rice was last year's recipient of the Public Service Award.

**Recommendations
for Placement by
CSE/CPSE:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Ciappetta, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District, having reviewed minutes of the Committee on Special Education dated November 13, 14, 20, 25, 26, 27, December 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20, 2013, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated December 10 and 17, 2013, and January 2, 7 and 8, 2014, is satisfied that the procedures of Chapter 853 of the Education Law were followed and accepts the recommendations for placement set forth, copies made part of these legal minutes, pp. 706-719.

Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel:

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Ciappetta, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District, having reviewed the recommendations of the Chief School Administrator, is satisfied that the provisions of Section 3012 of Education Law were followed, and thereby accepts those recommendations as set forth in schedules made part of these legal minutes, pp. 720-729, and authorizes implementation thereof:

Schedule 7 - Temporary Replacement Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 9 - Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 12 - Leaves of Absence; Ext. of Sick Leave

Schedule 15 - Appointments (Non-Instructional)

Schedule 16 - Terminations (Non-Instructional)

Schedule 17 - Leaves of Absence (Non-Instructional)

Schedule 22 - Substitute Employee Appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)

Motion carried unanimously.

**Information and
Reports:**

1. Memo to Dr. Bennardo from Mr. Light re Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2013, Facilities Committee meeting
2. Privileged and Confidential memo from Ingerman Smith, L.L.P.

Information and Reports:
(Continued)

3. Letter to Mrs. Hammond from Donna Roche, South Huntington Public Library, re the library's annual election and budget vote to be held on April 8, 2014
4. Memo to SCSSA Members from Gary D. Bixhorn re Advocacy Workshop – January 25, 2014
5. Letter to Parents/Guardians from Ms. Acker re Kaplan Test Prep Program and SAT Review Sessions
6. Letter to Parents/Guardians/Students from Ms. Acker re mid-year examinations
7. Letter to 8th Grade Parents/Guardians from Ms. Acker re Parent Orientation to be held on January 14, 2014
8. Letter to Parent/Guardian from Mr. Toto re visit from librarians of the South Huntington Public Library
9. Personnel Posting (1)
10. *Countrywood Chronicle*, January 2014
11. *The Silas Scoop*, January 2014
12. Brochure re "Gang and Youth Violence Prevention: Moving Forward" conference to be held at Hofstra University on February 25, 2014
13. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 1-9-14

Information Sent to Board Week Ending December 20, 2013

1. Memo to the Board of Education from Dr. Wright re Cheer USA Nationals
2. Congratulatory letter to Whitman's Students of the Month for November 2013 from Dr. Bennardo
3. Congratulatory letter to Birchwood Boosters for the Month of November
4. Stem Curriculum Fair 2014 Packet
5. Personnel Postings (8)
6. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 12-19-13

Committee Updates:

None given.

Comments from Board Members and Staff:

Mr. Ciappetta stated that at the last SHEF meeting, the committee worked on the details of the golf outing. Mr. Ciappetta also stated that SHEF was partnering with the South Huntington Public Library to offer "The Wizard of Oz" on Saturday, March 8, at 7 p.m. Registration begins on February 1.

Mrs. DeGaetano stated that she attended the 8th grade orientation and had some concerns about the fact that 8th graders who were in the band must stay in band for 9th grade. Mrs. DeGaetano also stated that Studio in Art was a prerequisite for many other art classes. Mrs. DeGaetano's concern was that band children did not have an option – they must stay in band. Mrs. DeGaetano feels that these students are being penalized if they would prefer to leave band. Mrs. DeGaetano remarked that some of these students might be more interested in taking art courses. Mr.

**Comments from
Board Members
and Staff:
(Continued)**

Ciappetta stated that there was a need for more art teachers. Dr. Bennardo stated that he would provide information as to what that would mean, budget wise, to increase art teachers. Mr. Nitkewicz noted that there would be budgetary implications. Mrs. Brieff stated that she would like to review art electives before the budget meetings. Mr. Kaden questioned why the state required a prerequisite in art. Mr. Ciappetta stated that he would like to see the state regulations. Mr. Kaden stated that he felt it was problematic if the district was not allowing students in band to take Studio in Art. Dr. Bennardo stated that he would get the latest regulations and also the number of students who were closed out of Studio in Art.

Mrs. Brieff noted that SHAIIEF raised \$2,000 and the district had to decide what they wanted to do with the donation. Mr. Kaden stated that the Board would have to give this some thought.

A brief discussion was held on eighth graders and the Common Core Regents. Dr. Bennardo noted that the district was offering four Common Core parent academies and reported on the first two academies.

**Voice of the
Residents:**

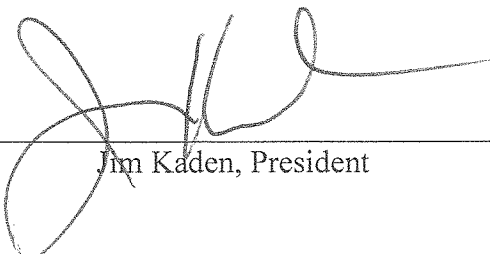
Visitors were invited to participate.

Maureen Basedow stated that at the last PTA meeting, a discussion was held regarding a fundraiser for Island Harvest. Students were being asked to bring their loose change to school. Mrs. Basedow suggested that students be asked to donate a can of food rather than money. Mr. Nitkewicz stated that he had done work with Island Harvest and this was their method of fundraising. Mr. Kaden suggested that it was probable that Island Harvest could purchase food at a cheaper cost. PTA President Dominic LeClaire was present at the meeting and gave an explanation of the Island Harvest fundraiser.

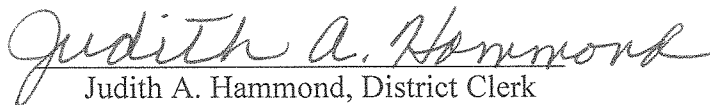
Adjournment:

Motion by Mr. Ciappetta, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the meeting be adjourned.
Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Jim Kaden, President



Judith A. Hammond, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 705 through 729.