

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, September 17, 2014, in the Gymnasium of Silas Wood Sixth Grade Center, 23 Harding Place, 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 and District Services

Asst. Supt. for Instruction and Curriculum

Business Administrator

District Clerk

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

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

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

Mr. Kaden opened the Business Meeting at 7:45 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Project Excel  
Summer Youth  
Employment  
Program  
Recognition:**

Dr. Bennardo noted that this was a "labor of love" for Ms. Harris. Dr. Bennardo commended David Perkins for his contribution to this program. Dr. Bennardo stated that the first group of students that he met was an amazing group. Dr. Bennardo recalled that he saw many of these students working at the extended summer program and they did a wonderful job. Dr. Bennardo then introduced Ms. Harris. Ms. Harris stated that it was her honor to recognize these wonderful students and their families, and noted that the future is bright because of these students. Mr. Perkins thanked the Board of Education and administration for supporting the Project Excel program. Mr. Perkins gave a special thank you to Mr. Nitkewicz for his interaction with the students. Mr. Perkins also thanked the parents for being there for the students and the supervisors who worked with the students. Mr. Perkins introduced

**Project Excel  
Summer Youth  
Employment  
Program  
Recognition:  
(Continued)**

student, Sofia Charzuk, who spoke about her experiences. Sofia stated that because of this program and the experience she had, she now realized she would like to be a teacher. She thanked the Board and asked them to keep supporting the program. Sofia stated that she was at a loss for words but thanked everyone very much. Mr. Nitkewicz stated that, as a parent, he wanted to thank the students. Mr. Nitkewicz recalled how he had told the students that they would touch the lives of their students and that their students would, in turn, touch their lives. Mr. Nitkewicz told the students that they were the next generation to touch the lives of our students, and he thanked them. Mr. Kaden and Dr. Bennardo personally greeted the students as they were given certificates. Following the ceremony, a group photo was taken of the students, administrators and Board of Education.

**Adoption of  
Agenda:**

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, 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 Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, 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 August 13, 2014.

**Schedule of Bills  
(Warrants):**

General Fund	Warrant 21	\$ 1,511.76
"	22	1,205,000.00
"	23	227,775.00
"	24	272,421.26
"	V024	(300.00)
"	25 Dental	11,666.67
"	26	4,739.51
"	27	132,251.18
"	28	9,341.34
School Lunch	7	7,035.10
"	8	529.82
Special Aid	7	192,243.90

**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.

**Communications:**

1. Letter from Jay Worona, NYSSBA, re Recent Survey on Cases Filed Under Section 3020-a Sent to All Member Superintendents
2. Letter from Kenneth R. Cerini, Cerini & Associates, LLP, re Medicaid in Education Alert Issue #14-04

**Field Trip Request:** Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the field trip to the New York State Field Band Conference Championships to be held on October 24-27, 2014, in Syracuse, New York.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**SEQRA Resolution for Stimson Boiler Replacement:** Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, Whereas, the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District desires to embark upon a capital improvement project at the Stimson Middle School for the Boiler Replacement; and

Whereas, said capital improvement project at the Stimson Middle School, is subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

Whereas, replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 of this part, are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQRA Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (2)); and

Whereas, the SEQRA Regulations declare Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQRA; and

Whereas, the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District, as the only involved agency, has examined all information related to the capital improvement project and has determined that the capital improvement projects for the Boiler Replacement at the Stimson Middle School are classified as a Type II Action pursuant to Section 617.5 (2) of the SEQRA Regulations;

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of the State environmental Quality Review Act; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby declares that the Boiler Replacement at the Stimson Middle School is a Type II Action, which requires no further review under SEQRA; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby shall forward an official copy of this resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the correspondence from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in connection with its request for approval of the listed projects from the New York State Education Department

Motion carried unanimously.

**Appointment of  
Lead Evaluator of  
Teachers:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, Whereas, §30-2.9 of the Rules of the Board of Regents requires certification of lead evaluators for purposes of conducting evaluations of teachers in accordance with the requirements under §3012-c of the Education Law, respecting Annual Professional Performance Reviews; and

Whereas, the individual named below has successfully completed a course of training that meets the requirements prescribed in §30-2.9(b) of the Rules of the Board of Regents;

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the South Huntington Union Free School District certifies the following individual as lead evaluator: Daniel Lombardo, Department Chair Special Education.

Motion carried unanimously.

**N-SSBA  
Resolutions Dinner:**

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 Board and Cabinet attendance at the N-SSBA Resolutions Meeting to be held on Monday, September 29, 2014.

Motion carried unanimously.

**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 August 13, 14, 15, 18, 25, September 2, 3, 5, 8 and 9, 2014, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated May 29, August 5, 12, September 2, 3, 4, 5, 9 and 11, 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. 347-356.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Appointment of  
Special Compliance  
Officer:**

Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the resolution to appoint a Special Compliance Officer, a copy of the resolution made part of these legal minutes, p. 357.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion on the  
Logo Initiative:**

Dr. Bennardo stated that at the last Facility Committee meeting, the committee talked about the outdated school district signs on the district's borders. Dr. Bennardo noted that the signs refer to South Huntington as being a 21<sup>st</sup> Century school district. Dr. Bennardo reported that Ms. Acker had recommended that Lee Nober's class work on a new logo and slogan for our district. They would then ask the Board for final approval of the new signs. Dr. Bennardo noted that the new logo would also be put on our letterhead.

**Discussion on the Academic and Financial Impact of the Latest Student Enrollment News and Part 154 Changes:**

Dr. Bennardo stated that he had been receiving a series of parent phone calls regarding the new students to Long Island caused by the influx of immigrants illegally crossing the U.S.-Mexican border. Dr. Bennardo explained that he wanted to let the public know that the district had a plan in place. Nothing would be cut, shifted or moved in the budget. Dr. Bennardo stated that the district wanted to take a contemplative approach to this matter. Dr. Bennardo noted that this was not an issue that the district would let slip through the cracks, and he stated that the district had resources in place to take care of this need. Dr. Bennardo also noted that the district would be looking into the possibility of grants. Mr. Nitkewicz agreed that the district must give consideration to this matter and must meet our obligation. Mr. Kaden stated that he would like to see the financial information. Mrs. Brieff agreed that the district should look into any grant money that would be available.

**Discussion on the Financing Options for the Boiler:**

Dr. Bennardo reported that the boiler at Stimson Middle School had to be replaced. Dr. Bennardo noted that the district had hoped to use money from a repair budgetary line. The boiler replacement would be a bid item. Dr. Bennardo stated that he would continue to recommend that the district create a repair reserve fund. Mr. Kaden asked if money taken out of a repair reserve fund would need voter approval to be spent. Mr. Light stated that it would not. Dr. Bennardo noted that the district is able to meet its obligations because of the thoughtful planning that the Board has done over the years. Mr. Ciappetta asked what the advantages were to creating a fund rather than a budget line. Mr. Light explained the advantages. Mr. Kaden asked if money would be subject to building aid and Mr. Light answered in the affirmative. Mr. Ciappetta asked about building up capital reserve funds. Mr. Light explained that voter approval was necessary to use money from capital reserve funds but it would only be needed to authorize and put money in a repair fund. After voter authorization to set up the fund, the district could use money from the repair fund without any further voter approval. This would help with emergency repairs that needed to be done.

**Personnel:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. Carey, 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. 358-374, and authorizes implementation thereof:

Schedule 9 - Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 11 - Terminations (Instructional)

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

Schedule 13 - Salary Change (Instructional)

Schedule 15 - Appointments (Non-Instructional)

Schedule 16 - Terminations (Non-Instructional)

Schedule 17 - Leaves of Absence (Non-Instructional)

**Personnel:  
(Continued)**

Schedule 18 - Re-Employment to Positions (Non-Instructional)  
 Schedule 20 - Re-Appointments (Non-Instructional)  
 Schedule 22 - Substitute Employee Appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)  
 Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ciappetta had a question that was answered to his satisfaction by Dr. Bloom.

**Information and  
Reports:**Information and Reports

1. Thank you letter to participants of the SHEF Family Fun Day dunk tank from Dr. Bennardo
2. Letter to Parent/Guardian from Mr. Smith re Curriculum Night
3. Letter to Stimson Parents/Guardians re offer of three sessions of art lessons from the Spirit of Huntington Art Center
4. Personnel Postings (21)
5. Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
6. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 9-4-14

Information Sent to Board Week Ending September 5, 2014

1. Memo to Dr. Bennardo from Mr. Light re Budget Development Calendar
2. Memo to Dr. Bennardo from Mr. Light re Nawrocki Smith Final Risk Assessment Update Report
3. Memo to Dr. Bennardo from Mr. Light re Facilities Committee Agenda for September 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting
4. Personnel Postings (6)
5. *The Silas Scoop*, September 2014
6. *Countrywood Chronicle*, September 2014
7. Flyer re N-SSBA Annual Resolutions Dinner Meeting to be held on Monday, September 29, 2014
8. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 8-28-14

**Committee  
Updates:**Facilities

Mr. Ciappetta reported on the following from the September 8 meeting:

- The committee took a tour of Silas Wood and found the building in very good shape. Mr. Ciappetta noted that the painting that was done over the summer made a big difference. Mr. Ciappetta stated that there were a few areas that still needed work:
  - Radiators and window sills could be painted.
  - Lockers in the classroom could be painted.
  - Bathrooms need updating.
- The softball field at Central that is in need of bathroom facilities. One option would be to lease nicer porta-potties. H2M proposed a field house that would cost approximately \$148,000.
- SMS projects are still on hold awaiting approval in Albany.
- Senator Marcellino's \$50,000 Capital Improvement Grant.

Mr. Kaden asked about the cement slab on Downey Court. Dr. Bennardo stated that he would look into that.

**Comments from Board Members and Staff:**

Mrs. Carey thanked Mr. Toto and Mr. Oblatz for hosting tonight's Board meeting and for the letters addressed to each Board member from the students. Mrs. Carey read her letter which was from her own daughter who is a student at Silas Wood.

**Voice of the Residents:**

Visitors were invited to participate.

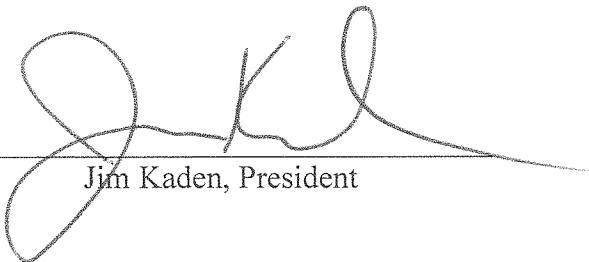
Jayne O'Toole spoke on behalf of the Wildcat Booster Club. The Booster Club was hoping that the Board would consider helping with the purchase of an outdoor concession stand. The Booster Club currently runs an outdoor concession on folding tables for Homecoming and most home football games. Mrs. O'Toole explained that it had become more difficult to do this as the labor required to set up was very time consuming. Supplies must be brought to Whitman during the week. Coolers must be filled with ice and drinks 2 ½ hours before game time. The setup of tables, tents and bringing the food and drinks takes two hours. Breakdown takes another hour. Mrs. O'Toole noted that last week it began to rain and the tents were leaking. A decision was made to close the concession stand at halftime. Mrs. O'Toole stated that an outdoor concession stand would allow the Booster Club to remain open during more events. Mrs. O'Toole stated that she had looked into a concession stand that was made from a converted container. A concrete slab, and a connection to both electric and water would be needed. The estimated cost would be between \$15,000-\$25,000. The Booster Club could come up with \$10,000 and they were wondering if the Board could help. Mr. Kaden stated that this would have the same requirements as a field house. It would have to be ADA compliant. Mr. Kaden also stated that he felt that getting state approval from Albany for a building structure would be a problem. Dr. Bennardo stated that he had been thinking about a combination of a container plus trailer with full electric. Mr. Light stated that he would be concerned about the Fire and Health Department laws. Following further discussion, Dr. Bennardo stated that he would investigate the matter.

Beverly Flanagan stated that she had a pre-K student who attended the SHIP program at the District Office. Ms. Flanagan noted that the District Office did not have an outdoor playground available to these students. Ms. Flanagan stated that her son was always saying that he would like to play outside. Ms. Harris stated that the program is 2 ½ hours, and there is a fully stocked gym available to the students. Ms. Harris stated that she would meet with the teacher to address this but she assured Ms. Flanagan that this was not an oversight and outdoor activities are part of the curriculum. Mr. Ciappetta noted that the Facilities Committee considered using part of the Marcellino grant to address the playground at the District Office. Following further discussion, Ms. Flanagan agreed that her son would be happy with any outdoor activity not necessarily just playground activities.

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

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

**Adjournment:** The meeting was declared adjourned at 9:45 p.m.



Jim Kaden, President



Judith A. Hammond, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 347 through 374.