

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, January 28, 2015, in Conference Room B of the Administration Building, 60 Weston Street, 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. Ciappetta, 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 Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, 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.

**Presentation of
Certificate of
Appreciation to the
Huntington Manor
Fire Department:**

Dr. Bennardo noted that last week he received a call that one of our school buses was on fire. Dr. Bennardo stated that the Huntington Manor Fire Department quickly responded and 50-60 buses were saved. The district only lost one bus. Dr. Bennardo stated that the loss of only one bus was achieved because of the men and women who volunteer their time to keep our community safe. Dr. Bennardo thanked Chief Frank McQuade of the Huntington Manor Fire Department and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation from the district. Chief McQuade accepted the plaque on behalf of the Huntington Manor Fire Department and thanked the Board of Education for their support of the Huntington Manor Fire Department.

Part 154 Update:

Dr. Bennardo and Dr. Bloom reviewed changes to the Commissioner's Regulations Part 154: Legal Requirements for the Education of English Language Learners (ELLs). Dr. Bennardo reviewed what was covered under Part 154 Regulations:

- ELL Identification
- Parent Notification & Information
- Retention of Records
- Program Placement
- Program Requirements
- Program Provision
- Program Continuity
- Grade Span
- Students with Disabilities
- Exit Criteria
- Intervention
- Former ELL Services
- Graduation Requirements
- Professional Development
- Teacher Certification
- District Planning and Reporting

Dr. Bennardo reviewed the main components of change:

- Subpart 154.1: Identification process of English Language Learners
- Subpart 154.2: New and expanded program requirements for the 2015-2016 school year
- Subpart 154.3: Regulations related to English Language Learners with a disability

Dr. Bloom reviewed the identification process which includes:

- A three-step ELL identification process that ensures holistic and individualized decisions is made on behalf of our students.
 1. Administration of the Home Language Questionnaire
 2. An individual interview with the student
 3. NYS English language proficiency diagnostic (NYSITELL)

Dr. Bloom stated that qualified interpreters must be fluent in the language and in English, must be an appropriate interpreter and must be trained regarding confidentiality and technical terminology. Qualified personnel are bilingual educators or TESOL teachers, or a teacher trained in cultural competency, language development and the needs of ELLs. Dr. Bloom noted that the amended Part 154 regulations called for these qualifications as requirements for administering the identification process.

**Part 154 Update:
(Continued)**

Dr. Bennardo then outlined the identification process, program placement and requirements. Dr. Bennardo stated that in 2015-2016 there would be a Language Proficiency Team (LPT) to accommodate students with language access needs and disabilities. The LPT makes determinations regarding initial ID of ELL status of a SWD. LPT consists of an administrator, BE/ENL teacher, PPS Director/designee and a translator. LPT's objective is to determine if there is a language issue for classified students. Dr. Bennardo then reviewed the assurances by the Superintendent:

- Comprehensive PD Plan to be submitted to the Commissioner
- Submission of Data to Commission as required
- BE and ENL would be offered at the requisite levels
- Parents of ELLS are receiving a program orientation
- Teachers are properly certified
- Teachers are receiving required professional development
- All aspects of Part 154 Regulations are being followed

Dr. Bennardo stated that the unprecedented immigration has significantly impacted our ELL numbers and to date there has been no financial assistance or academic flexibility associated with these new students, and Part 154 is placing unprecedented requirements on all services associated with this population.

Dr. Bennardo then reviewed the requirements and impacts:

- Requirement: A qualified bilingual teacher must manage registration.
 - Impact: The addition of teaching personnel to registration staff.
- Requirement: An ESL service can only be provided in a pull-out format if that teacher is dual certified in ESL and a specific subject area.
 - Impact: The addition of seven FTEs.
- Requirement: A three-year average class size must be used in determining sections.
 - Impact: Increase of two FTEs.
- Requirement: 15% of professional development for all teachers and 50% for ESL teachers must be ESL.
 - Impact: Financial impact to be determined.

Dr. Bloom noted that our district had partnered with Molloy College, and they would be providing ESL teachers.

Dr. Bennardo outlined where the district goes from here:

- Understand that the demographic shifts will continue, and the impacts of these realities are sure to grow.
- Recognize that Part 154, coupled with the latest registration guidance and national immigration patterns, are magnifying the impacts of well-intentioned policies.

**Part 154 Update:
(Continued)**

- Lobby for financial assistance to meet these requirements.
- Lobby for some academic flexibility to meet the changing needs.
- Understand the impact of these types of unfunded mandates on communities.

Following the presentation, the Board was given an opportunity for questions and discussion.

**Presentation of
zSpace 3D
Immersive
Experience:**

Dr. Bloom introduced STEM coach, Mari Scardapane. Ms. Scardapane stated that the zSpace Interactive 3D Learning Stations were currently being used at Birchwood Intermediate School. Ms. Scardapane began the presentation by showing a video clip of students at the Los Altos School District engaged in immersive learning using the zSpace Interactive 3D Learning Stations. In the video clip students were shown learning about the parts of the human heart from all sides, inside and out. Students were able to virtually dissect the heart and examine each part. Ms. Scardapane explained that our fifth grade students at Birchwood were dissecting the human cell. Photos were then projected onto the screen of our Birchwood students using the interactive 3D learning stations. Following the presentation, the Board was given an opportunity for questions and discussion. Dr. Bloom thanked Ms. Scardapane for training the teachers, Steve Bartholomew for taking the photos of the students and Dr. Bennardo for building the lab. Dr. Bennardo noted that the donation of these learning stations came to the district through the generosity of SHEF. Dr. Bennardo thanked SHEF for their continued support of our district.

**Adoption of
Agenda:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the revised tentative agenda be adopted.
Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion on Minutes
through Schedule
of Bills (Warrants):**

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, 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 December 10, 2014.

**Schedule of Bills
(Warrants):**

Schedule of Bills (Warrants)

General Fund	Warrant 69	\$ 1,445,244.00
"	70	1,613,951.43
"	71	374.40
"	72	150.00
School Lunch	25	30,528.69
"	26	300.00
Special Aid	24	19,577.58

Schedule of Bills	<u>Approved – Board Packet of January 16, 2015</u>		
(Warrants):	General Fund	Warrant 63	\$ 9,872.50
(Continued)	"	64	8,290.91
	"	65	44,937.44
	"	66 Dental	11,666.67
	"	67	1,737,374.10
	"	68	143.04
	School Lunch	24	33,210.16
	Special Aid	23	41,453.00

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. Confidential letter from Ms. Mazzaferro re a personnel matter

Request to Remain in South Huntington Schools: Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mr. Ciappetta, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the request to remain in South Huntington Schools, a copy of the request made part of these legal minutes, p. 778.
 Motion carried unanimously.

Conference: Stand Up 4 Long Island's Public Schools: 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 attendance at the N-SSBA, NCCSS, SCSSA conference, Stand Up 4 Long Island's Public Schools, to be held on January 29, 2015, at the Huntington Hilton.
 Motion carried unanimously.

Bid Award Schedule Anticipated Increases: 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 2014-2015 Bid Award Schedule Anticipated Increases, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 779.
 Motion carried unanimously.

Field Trip Request RBERN Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute: Motion by Mrs. Brief, 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 to the RBERN Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute in Albany, New York on March 21-23, 2015.
 Motion carried unanimously.

Proposals for Lease of Space at 2 Melville Road: Mr. Kaden noted that Easter Seals of New York had come up with another offer for the rental space at 2 Melville Road. The Board reviewed the additional offer which included internship opportunities for our high school students interested in community service or pursuing a career in early childhood education, occupational, physical or speech therapy. Easter Seals would offer 1,000 mentorship hours each year. In addition, Easter Seals would provide Applied Behavior Analysis training to district parents of children with developmental disabilities including

**Proposals for Lease
of Space at 2
Melville Road:
(Continued)**

autism twelve times per year. Easter Seals would also contribute \$63,000 to go towards modifications for two ADA-compliant bathrooms. Mrs. Brieff noted that both organizations are notable options, but she would favor Stars of Tomorrow as they were offering a lot to the district. Mrs. Brieff stated that she liked that they would contribute to updating Whitman's Performing Arts Center, would offer discounted hours to our students and that the owner is a graduate of the district. Mrs. Brieff stated that there was a lot in the offer from Stars of Tomorrow, but she was fine with a discussion of both offers but she was leaning towards Stars of Tomorrow. Mrs. DeGaetano stated that she would be fine with either organization, but asked for clarification of Stars of Tomorrow's offer to our students. Mr. Ciappetta expressed some concern about Stars of Tomorrow's profit statement. Mr. Kaden stated that he would be more interested in which organization offered more benefits to the district rather than to the students. A brief discussion was held on Easter Seals being an additional choice for parents of children with special needs and parents of preschool children. Easter Seals would also offer after-school care. Mr. Nitkewicz asked about a playground and where it would be located. Also, the Board asked Ms. Harris if there was a demand for more pre K services. Following that discussion, a brief discussion was held on Stars of Tomorrow. Ms. Neary, the owner of Stars of Tomorrow, was present at the meeting and gave an explanation of her profit statement. Mrs. Carey stated that she liked the option of dance services for Grades K-12. Mr. Kaden expressed concern that the district had considered reducing the dance program at Walt Whitman High School a few years ago as there was a lack of interest shown by the students. He questioned how much of a demand there was for these services. Mrs. DeGaetano noted that there was a much bigger demand for dance in Grades K-7. Mrs. Brieff stated that she felt the dance program fit in better with the art program that was already in the building. Mrs. Brieff also noted that Stars of Tomorrow would be providing a scholarship program. Mr. Nitkewicz noted that both were outstanding organizations, but he would prefer to go with Easter Seals. Following both discussions, the Board took the following action.

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 the lease proposal submitted by Stars of Tomorrow Inc. for rental space at 2 Melville Road, Huntington Station.

Motion carried 5-2, with Messrs. Kaden and Nitkewicz opposed.

Following the vote, Dr. Bennardo told Mr. Renart of Easter Seals New York that the district would continue to look for rental space within the district for Easter Seals. Dr. Bennardo noted that the Silas Wood Sixth Grade Center might possibly have space that could be used by Easter Seals.

**Teen Center
Garage Repairs:**

Dr. Bennardo reported that the garage at the Teen Center was falling apart. Dr. Bennardo stated that there were options that the Board needed to discuss. Mr. Ciappetta agreed that the garage was in disrepair. Mr. Ciappetta stated that the Board had the option to repair the garage, build a new garage, or install a pre-fab building, such as the butler building. Following a brief discussion about the costs of each option, it was the sense of the Board to install a pre-fab butler building.

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

Motion by Mrs. DeGaetano, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, 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 10, 12, 26, December 3, 10, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 2014, January 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13 and 14, 2015, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated January 6, 16 and 20, 2015, 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. 780-794.
Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel:

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, 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 submitted and a revised Schedule 12, made part of these legal minutes, pp. 795-806, and authorizes implementation thereof:
Schedule 2 - Probationary Appointments (Instructional)
Schedule 7 - Temporary Replacement Appointments (Instructional)
Schedule 8 - Re-Employment to Positions (Instructional)
Schedule 9 - Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)
Schedule 11 - Terminations (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 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 on Schedules 2 and 7 that was answered to his satisfaction.

**Information and
Reports:**

1. Invitation to the Board from Countrywood Site Based Management Team to participate in the Countrywood Community Read-In to be held on March 3, 2015
2. *Long Island Education: Costs and Outcomes*, August 2014, The Long Island Education Coalition (LIEC) & The Long Island Association (LIA)

**Information and Reports:
(Continued)**

3. Congratulatory letter to Whitman Students of the Month for December 2014 from Dr. Bennardo
4. Thank you letter to Mr. & Mrs. Jim Kaden from Dr. Bennardo re donation to the district
5. Memo to Building Principals and Supervisors from Dr. Centamore re Board of Education Teacher of the Year Presentation
6. Memo to Dr. Bennardo from Mr. Light re Facilities Committee Agenda
7. Letter to Mrs. Hammond from Donna Roche, South Huntington Public Library, re Annual Election and Budget Vote
8. Memo to Boards of Education from Ingerman Smith, L.L.P. re Breakfast Workshop on Recent Amendments to §100.2(y) of the Commissioner's Regulations Regarding Student Enrollment Procedures
9. Personnel Postings (3)
10. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 1-15-15 and 1-22-15

Information Sent to Board Week Ending January 16, 2015

1. Congratulatory letter to Arianna Carlson, Corina Lambraia and Sabrina O'Dette from Dr. Bennardo re participation in the Disney Christmas Parade
2. Thank you letter to Mr. Kaden and the Board of Education from Messrs. Fitzpatrick, Eatmon and Russell re donation to the December 2014 Gugliotta Tournament
3. Congratulatory letter to Birchwood Boosters for the month of December from Dr. Bennardo
4. Congratulatory letter to DECA students from Dr. Bennardo re success in recent competition
5. Congratulatory letter to Birchwood Boosters for the month of December from Dr. Bennardo
6. Confidential memo to Dr. Bennardo from Ms. Harris re a personnel matter
7. Memo to Dr. Bennardo from Ms. Harris re School Grade Enrollment Report for the Second Attendance Period December 1, 2014, through December 19, 2014
8. Letter to Parent/Guardian from Mr. Smith re HIV/AIDS education for seventh graders
9. Copy of January 14, 2015, Board meeting presentation by Stars of Tomorrow Inc.
10. Copy of January 14, 2015, Board meeting presentation by Easter Seals of New York
11. Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting, SHTA, 1-12-15
12. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 1-8-15

Committee Updates:

Mr. Kaden stated that at the last Board meeting there was a discussion regarding putting a playground at the District Office. Mr. Kaden noted that the Board had asked for the SHIP teachers' opinion on a playground or a fenced-in play area. Dr. Bennardo reported that Ms. Harris spoke

**Committee
Updates:
(Continued)**

with the teachers and they, at first, welcomed the idea of a fenced-in play area. However, in the best case scenario, they would not be unhappy with a playground and stated that it would get used. Mr. Ciappetta stated that the Facilities Committee meeting was cancelled due to the inclement weather but they will discuss adding a playground at the District Office at the next Facilities Committee meeting.

**Comments from
Board Members
and Staff:**

Mr. Ciappetta reported that SHEF would be holding their annual golf outing in early July. Mr. Ciappetta noted that this year's honoree was New York State Assemblyman and former Board Member Chad Lupinacci.

Mr. Ciappetta stated that Governor Cuomo had warned lawmakers that he would withhold his proposed increase in state aid if the legislature did not comply with the Governor's education reform proposals. Mr. Ciappetta noted that it was not in anyone's best interest to withhold state aid. Dr. Bennardo noted that without state aid runs, there would be no baseline to begin the budget period. Dr. Bennardo stated that the budget numbers could be done in theory, but it was a dangerous game.

**Voice of the
Residents:**

Visitors were invited to participate.

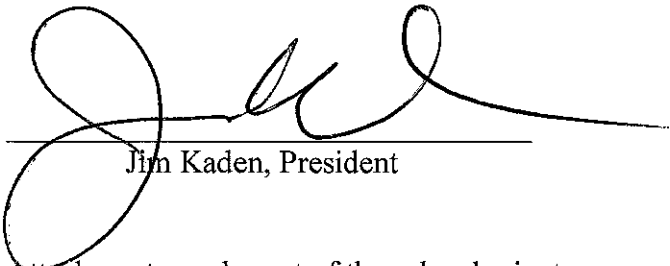
Executive Session:

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

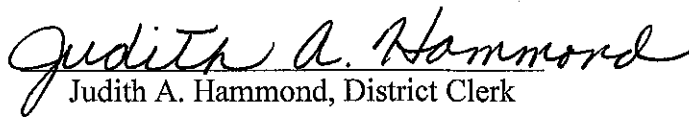
Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Executive Session be adjourned.
Motion carried unanimously.

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 778 through 806.