

July 13, 2015

A special business meeting of the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District was held on Monday, July 13, 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
District Clerk

Dr. Bennardo
Ms. Harris
Dr. Centamore
Dr. Bloom
Mrs. McLean

Absent: Mr. Light, Business Administrator

Call to Order: Mr. Kaden opened the meeting at 8 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Bennardo provided an explanation to residents in the audience that this evening's meeting was specifically scheduled for the interviewing of the final candidates for principal of Walt Whitman High School. He shared that screenings and interviews had taken place, which included all district-wide constituent groups. The final candidates were then interviewed by the Cabinet, and three finalists were being forwarded to the Board for the final interview process. As such, the Board will go into Executive Session to conduct the interviews, and if a candidate was selected, that candidate would be appointed later in the evening. Dr. Bennardo offered having the information communicated electronically if a decision was made, or if they preferred, they were more than welcomed to remain, however, it would be a two-hour span of time before the Board returned.

Mr. Nitkewicz stated that due to the timing of Mrs. Acker's departure from the District, it was necessary to expedite the interview process. Having this Board meeting open to the public allows for the appointment of a candidate after Executive Session is adjourned. Mr. Nitkewicz thanked the members of the audience for their patience and understanding.

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Executive Session: Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing the candidates for Principal of Walt Whitman High School.
Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

Approval of Salary and Monthly Allowance for Cabinet Members: Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District hereby approves the salary increases of 2% for the 2015-2016 school year, effective July 1, 2015, for the Deputy Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and District Services, and the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Curriculum;

Be it further Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District hereby approves and establishes moving forward a monthly transportation allowance of \$416.67 for the Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and District Services, effective July 1, 2015, and hereby approves and establishes moving forward a monthly technology/communication allowance of \$300 for the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Curriculum, effective July 1, 2015, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p.113.
Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel: Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, 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, p. 114, and authorizes implementation thereof:
Schedule 3: Administrative/Supervisory Appointments (Instructional)
Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Board Members and Staff: Dr. Bennardo introduced Mr. John Murphy, the newly appointed Principal of Walt Whitman High School. Mr. Murphy stood and addressed the Board, Cabinet and audience and said how excited he was for this opportunity. Mr. Murphy shared his educational philosophy of providing quality education to each and every student, no matter their background, and individualizing instruction for every student.

Dr. Bennardo reported that the principal search began in June with an ad

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in the New York Times as soon as Mrs. Acker had indicated her intent. Dr. Bennardo shared that he met with the bargaining unit leaders of the various constituent groups in the district, as well as a great number of residents regarding the search. Of the 75 potential candidates, 25 were screened and 13 were brought to the formal interview committee consisting of teachers, administrators, parents, secretaries, and students. Four of these candidates were forwarded to the Cabinet, of which three were selected for the Board to interview this evening.

Mr. Nitkewicz thanked everyone involved in the search and interview process. He shared that while the process was on-going, the Board was aware of the enormous effort taking place to secure top-level candidates. That job was done exceedingly well, making the Board's job more focused. Mr. Nitkewicz stated that this was a "community hire."

Voice of the Residents:

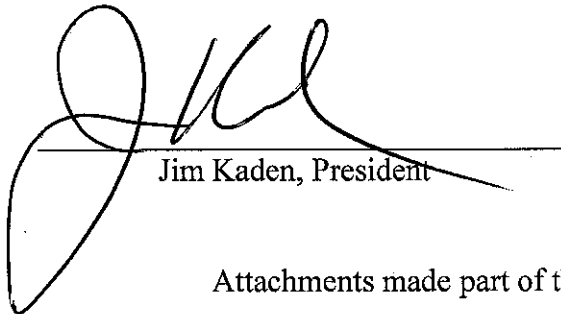
Residents in the audience asked the following questions, to which responses were provided:

- Mr. Murphy's full name
Mr. John Murphy
- Start date for Mr. Murphy
On or about August 3, 2015
- The district Mr. Murphy was coming from
The Brentwood School District, where Mr. Murphy is the assistant principal.

Adjournment:

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

The meeting was declared adjourned at 10:50 p.m.



Jim Kaden, President



Laura McLean, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 113 through 114.