

September 2, 2015

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, September 2, 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. DeGaetano
Mrs. LaCara
Mr. Nitkewicz

Staff:

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

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

Absent:

Mrs. Carey
Mrs. McLean

Call to Order: Mr. Kaden opened the meeting at 6:15 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 Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Executive Session be adjourned.
Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kaden opened the Business Meeting at 7:35 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Dr. Bennardo opened the meeting by stating that it was a pleasure to showcase two wonderful programs involving our students, one being our Project Excel Summer Youth Employment Program, spearheaded by Mr. David Perkins. Dr. Bennardo enjoyed interacting with the students and spoke to them about principalship. Dr. Bennardo introduced Mr. Perkins who thanked the Board of Education, Mrs. Harris, administration, trainers, mentoring supervisors, students, parents and Dr. Bennardo for being part of this vision and for giving the “green light” that helps so many families. Mr. Perkins spoke of how the students became more of a cohesive unit and bonded as a family. Mr. Perkins introduced Sonata Weingarten, a 9th grader, who spoke about her experiences. Sonata stated that because of this program she was able to work with children and she

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never thought she could, being so shy herself. She was very thankful to be part of this program. Mr. Perkins then introduced Julio Taku, a 10th grader, who stated that this program was the highlight of his summer and definitely a worthwhile use of his time. He spoke of how Mr. Perkins began the week of training, debriefing the students on the dress code, work relations, protocol, proper conduct and overall etiquette that should be obtained at the work place. Julio then went on to speak of a typical day in the program, and spoke of how amazing, smart, artistic, kind, funny and overall awesome these kids are. He truly appreciated and accepted these kids for who they are. Julio thanked Mrs. Harris, Mr. Perkins and the administration for making this program possible. Mr. Perkins then introduced Mrs. Harris who congratulated all the students and parents for the terrific job and she couldn't be more proud. Mrs. Harris then called each student up to the front of the room and gave them a certificate of participation and a group photo was taken.

**WWHS College
and Career
Exploration
Program
Presentation:**

Dr. Bennardo introduced Mr. Rob Callahan to speak on how we were connecting the world of education to the world of work. Mr. Callahan was our NYS certified Work-Based Learning Coordinator. Mr. Callahan gave a powerpoint presentation and explained the programs he has brought students into and the benefits of what they have learned to make decisions regarding their future in the business, technology, aviation, science, political fields, and many more. The students were amazed at the connections they have made and the internships they were able to obtain. Mr. Callahan reached over 1,000 students with this program. Mr. Nitkewicz expressed his interest and questioned, "how does one participate and get involved?" It's as simple as sending Mr. Callahan an e-mail and letting him know what it is you would like to participate in. Students sign on to an e-mail system through guidance. Once done, they receive regular e-mails and find out what events were available to them. Mr. Callahan saw every student who expressed an interest. Mrs. DeGaetano shared that over the summer she spoke to a student from our district who had taken the time to explain about her summer job with the Town of Huntington, working with clams, testing waters and enjoying her summer, all while getting paid. Mrs. DeGaetano was proud to find out that this was all made possible through our WWHS College and Career Exploration Program.

**Adoption of
Agenda:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the revised tentative agenda be adopted.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, 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 July 7, 2015 and July 13, 2015.

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Bids: The following bid, as recommended by Administration on the schedule made part of these legal minutes, p. 295.
Student Tutoring Services Schedule #16-01R

Schedule of Bills (Warrants):	General Fund	Schedule 18	\$208,595.09
	General	Dental 19	11,666.67
	School Lunch	5	1,200.00
	Special Aid (F)	8	95,451.87
	Capital Reserve (H)	3	7,617.48

Approved – Board Packet August 21, 2015

General	Schedule 14	\$1,458,456.50
“	15	463,290.34
“	16	3,260.75
“	17	17,642.73
“	V000	(480.00)
Special Aid (F)	7	293,514.51
Capital Reserve (H)	1	180,978.01

Approved – Board Packet August 14, 2015

General	Schedule 9	\$14,368.57
“	10	261,485.15
“	11	17,450.12
“	12	151,305.82
“	13	5,732.90
School Lunch	4	271.15
Special Aid (F)	5	831.82
“	6	3,675.68

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.

Mr. Ciappetta questioned why we went out to bid for Student Tutoring Services. Mrs. Harris explained that this agency will be available to us through the Title I grant, if we choose to use their services. Need is based on income and is a service for homeless students, in the home, library or shelter.

Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Tree Planting at Silas Wood in Memory of Harry Kent:

Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mr. Ciappetta, be it Resolved that Board of Education of the South Huntington School District approves the request of the Kent family to plant a tree with an accompanying memorial marker, both furnished by the family, at Silas Wood Sixth-Grade Center, in memory of retired principal, Harry Kent, who dedicated the years 1969-1984 to the South Huntington School District.

Motion carried unanimously.

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**Approval of
Amendment to
Policy §7242,
Student Directory
Information:**

All appropriate groups have had the opportunity to provide input and, as such, the policy is now being submitted to the Board of Education for final approval. After discussion, the Board of Education took the following action:

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the amendment to Policy §7242, Student Directory Information, as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

Concern from the Board of Education was articulated regarding this matter; if a parent did not desire the release or publication of information regarding their child, who will be scanning the pictures to make sure they were deleted from publications? When pictures are taken of classes, sports events, or award nights, if a parent has “opted out,” and the student is part of the publication, does the parent have the right to sue the district. There have been no issues in the younger grades.

**Approval for
Cabinet/Board
attendance to
Nassau-Suffolk
School Boards
Association’s
Annual Resolutions
Dinner Meeting:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District approves the attendance of Cabinet and Board of Education trustees to the Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association’s Annual Resolutions Dinner Meeting on September 29, 2015.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of
Memorandum of
Understanding
between the
Federation of
Organizations
Foster
Grandparent
Program and the
District:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District approves the Memorandum of Understanding between the Federation of Organizations Foster Grandparent Program and the South Huntington School District.

Dr. Centamore outlined the grandparent program, whereby those students who were identified as requiring relationship building have a foster grandparent work with them and establish a bond. The program is available at Oakwood and Birchwood Schools. Mrs. Brieff questioned why Countrywood and Maplewood did not have the same program in their buildings, and Dr. Centamore explained that the opportunity had been extended. Dr. Centamore also explained that as more grandparents volunteered to be part of this program, the greater the opportunity for placement will be in other schools.

Motion carried unanimously.

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**Approval of
Emergency
Masonry Repair at
WWHS:**

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District approve the emergency masonry work to Walt Whitman High School's exterior brick wall.

Mr. Light explained that the bricks were separating from the block library wall, were bulging and in danger of failing, which will cause water intrusion. The cafeteria is beneath the area of concern.

Mr. Kaden asked why the full repair could not be done, instead of doing a quick repair, which would have to be re-done when State Education Department approval was granted. Mr. Light explained that any structural change to a building requires approval by the State Education Department; plans need to be drawn up and it would require a bidding process. This process is lengthy and the concern is that the bulging area would only get worse. An emergency quick repair can be done within the week. H2M will bring in a contractor to do the job.

Dr. Bennardo suggested: 1.) Ask H2M if there is any way they can declare the entire repair an emergency, and if so, the Board of Education will give permission to do so; or 2.) Do the emergency work and then put out to bid for the complete job.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Request to Remain
in South
Huntington
Schools:**

Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District approves the request for the student's temporary enrollment (2 weeks) in Countrywood Primary Center, until student's registration in the Elwood School District is completed; a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 296.

Mrs. Harris explained that the Elwood School District is waiting for a lease agreement to prove residency for this child. Mr. Ciappetta interjected, "What happened to register first, ask questions later?" A suggestion was made that Dr. Bennardo call the Elwood Superintendent to discuss the enrollment of this child.

The Board is not opposed to an additional two weeks with a follow-up social call to determine the status of enrollment.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District, having reviewed minutes of the Committee on Special Education dated April 28, 30, May 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, June 1, 2, 4, 5, 11, 15, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 26, 30, July 9, 16, 20, 23, 30, August 6, 19, 2015 and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated March 16, 26, June 11, 15, July 1, 28, August 10, 11, 12, 17, 2015,

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is satisfied that the procedures of Chapter 853 of the Education Law were followed and accepts the recommendations for placements set forth, copies made part of these legal minutes, pp. 297-343.

Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel:

Motion by Mrs. DeGaetano, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, 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. 344-366, and authorizes implementation thereof:

Schedule 2 – Probationary Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 5 – Part-time Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 7 – Temporary Replacement Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 9 – Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 11 – Terminations (Instructional)
 Schedule 13 – Salary Change (Instructional)
 Schedule 15 – Appointments (Non-Instructional)
 Schedule 16 – Terminations (Non-Instructional)
 Schedule 17 – Leaves of Absence (Non-Instructional)
 Schedule 20 – Re-Appointments (Non-Instructional)
 Schedule 22 – Substitute Employee appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)

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Schedule 2 – Probationary Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 5 – Part-time Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 7 – Temporary Replacement Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 9 – Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 11 – Terminations (Instructional)
 Schedule 13 – Salary Change (Instructional)
 Schedule 15 – Appointments (Non-Instructional)
 Schedule 20 – Re-Appointments (Non-Instructional)
 Schedule 22 – Substitute Employee appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)

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Schedule 5 – Part-time Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 9 – Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 11 – Terminations (Instructional)
 Schedule 16 – Terminations (Non-Instructional)
 Schedule 22 – Substitute Employee appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)

Motion carried unanimously.

Information and Reports:

1. Memo to PTA Council Executive Board Members, PTA Building Presidents, Principals, Directors/Supervisors; Cabinet and Bargaining Unit Presidents from L. McLean re Revision to Board

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- Policy §8460, Field Trips (specifically to Extended and/or Travel Abroad Field Trips)
2. The Long-Islander, Article from Dr. Bennardo re Welcome Back to School
 3. The Silas Scoop from Silas Wood 6th Grade Center – Welcome Back
 4. Letter from Mr. Murphy to Parents regarding Health Examinations.
 5. Letter from Mr. Murphy to Parents regarding “Red, White and Blue” Day and the remembrance of September 11, 2001.
 6. Countrywood Chronicle – Welcome Back

In envelopes:

1. Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association’s 2014-2015 Salary Workbook and Fringe Benefit Study

Information Sent to Board Week Ending August 21, 2015

1. NYSIR News, August 2015 (Board Only)
2. Memorandum from Ingerman Smith re Affordable Care Act, August 14, 2015
3. Personnel Postings (6)
4. Letter from Mr. Murphy to Walt Whitman Students and Parents re 2015/16
5. Memo from Mr. Smith to Board of Education/Cabinet re 2nd Summer Mailing
6. Silas Wood 2nd Summer Mailing Packet
7. Nassau-Suffolk School Board’s Association’s Annual Resolutions Dinner Flyer, September 29, 2015
8. Distribution of recently approved Board Policy §7420, Sports and the Athletic Program for replacement in Board Policy Manual.

Information Sent to Board Week Ending August 14, 2015

1. Letter from Dr. Bennardo to all Faculty/Staff re Superintendent’s Conference Day.
2. Personnel Postings (4)

Comments from Board Members and Staff:

Mr. Nitkewicz stated that it was a privilege for him to speak on Monday at Walt Whitman High School regarding the ambassador program to the teachers and staff. He encouraged all to join together to take part in this special program. The opportunity for a special needs student and a regular education student to integrate benefits both students. It’s important to see what happens with a special needs student in a typical day. Once a student participates in this program, a “light will go on,” and the children will see how important it is to touch the lives of another human being. Mr. Nitkewicz appreciated this opportunity.

Mr. Ciappetta reminded the audience that this Sunday is SHEF’s Family Fun Day. Nice weather is expected. Dr. Bennardo was preparing a Friday communication to the entire district to remind the students and

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community to come and enjoy this fun-filled day.

Mr. Ciappetta also reminded the audience that October 12th is the SHEF Golf Outing at the Stonebridge Country Club, and our Assemblyman Chad Lupinacci will be honored at this event. Registration can be done online through the district website. SHEF is also accepting memberships at this time. Mrs. Brieff would like to see advertising magnets or T-shirts given out when memberships are obtained.

Mr. Nitkewicz made a public service announcement. On October 4th, there will be a “Walk Now for Autism” event at Jones Beach. He suggested that the students from the Ambassador program put together a group to serve as “team captains,” and start their community service for a very worthy cause. Mr. Nitkewicz shared that participation and/or support was greatly appreciated.

The Family Center for Autism is honoring Mr. Nitkewicz on October 5th at a golf outing, venue to be determined.

Voice of the Residents:

Visitors were invited to participate.

Executive Session:

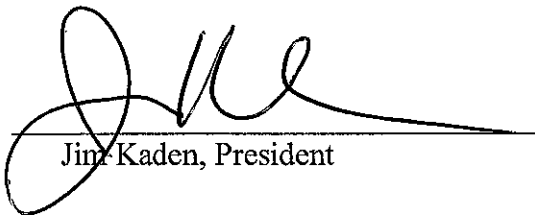
Motion by Mr. Ciappetta, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the Board of Education go into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular person.
Motion carried unanimously.

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

Adjournment:

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

The meeting was declared adjourned at 10:15 p.m.


Jim Kaden, President


Elaine Ferranti, Deputy District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 294 through 366.