

January 27, 2016

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, January 27, 2016, in Conference Room B of the Administration Building, 60 Weston Street, Huntington Station.

**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  
Assistant Superintendent for Instruction & Curriculum  
Business Administrator  
District Clerk

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

\*Mrs. Carey delayed; arrived at 8:05 p.m.

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

**Executive Session:**      Motion by Mrs. DeGaetano, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, 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. Ciappetta, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, 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.

**Girl Scout Gold  
Award  
Presentation:**

Dr. Bennardo asked Millicent (Milly) LeClaire to come forward and shared that he was very pleased when members of scouting associations come “home” to work on their service projects. Milly addressed the Board and shared that she was currently a senior at Walt Whitman High School and has been involved with Girl Scouts since she was five years old. She was working on the Gold Award, and her plans were to create a food pantry and clothes drive at Walt Whitman High School and Stimson Middle School. She coordinated her efforts with both Principal Murphy and Principal Smith to secure the best location in each building for the pantry. Milly also stated that she plans on using social media to bring attention and publicize the food and clothes pantry. Mrs. DeGaetano expressed her support of the endeavor. Dr. Bennardo suggested

January 27, 2016

suggested including Mrs. Harris and the social workers in each building and reported that the administration stands ready to assist in any way possible. The Board provided their approval of the project; Milly thanked the Board of Education and received a round of applause for her presentation.

**Eagle Scout  
Presentation:**

Dr. Bennardo shared that Principal Murphy worked with Boy Scout Brian Trifon with his Eagle Project. He also reported that only four percent of the population achieves this highly regarded distinction of Eagle Scout. Brian addressed the Board and stated that he would like to secure permission from the Board of Education for the construction and installation of a koi pond and waterfall, to be situated in the front of Walt Whitman High School. The project would provide a semi-natural marine ecosystem that the high school's Marine Biology Department could utilize to study and observe marine life. Brian also reported that donations will be secured from Home Depot and Lowe's Home Improvement stores. Mr. Ciappetta asked if the pond needed to be fenced; Principal Murphy reported that he will work with other groups regarding the installation of a 3-3.5 foot privacy fence, which will assist in protecting the area. Principal Murphy also suggested that future Eagle Scout projects could include benches by the pond to expand upon the beautification of the setting. Dr. Bennardo asked Mr. Kennedy, Supervisor of Facilities, to comment on the proposed project. Mr. Kennedy shared that his team was willing to assist Brian in any way, from ground digging to whatever else was needed. Principal Murphy confirmed that the maintenance of the pond and koi fish will be the responsibility of the Marine Biology Department. Mr. Nitkewicz asked Brian what grade he was in; Brian responded that he was a tenth-grader. Mrs. DeGaetano asked for further clarification with the fence. The fence would measure approximately 16 x 18 feet. The Board provided their approval of the project; Brian thanked the Board of Education and received a round of applause for his presentation.

**Stimson Middle  
School – 50<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
Proclamation:**

Dr. Bennardo reported that the Stimson Middle School has had several presentations commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the school. He shared that tonight the Board wished to formally acknowledge the anniversary with a proclamation. Dr. Bennardo credited Principal Smith and duly noted the positive momentum and energy encompassing Stimson Middle School. Dr. Bennardo thanked Principal Smith and his faculty. A photograph was taken with the Board and Cabinet presenting Principal Smith with the proclamation.

**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. Brieff be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District approve the following items:

January 27, 2016

<b>Minutes:</b>	Minutes of Board meeting held on December 9, 2015.
<b>Schedule of Investment Accounts:</b>	Schedule of Investment Accounts, as of November/December 2015, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 871-872.
<b>Treasurer's Report:</b>	Treasurer's Report, November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 873-874.
<b>Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation, November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 875-914.
<b>Monthly Collateral Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Collateral Reconciliation, as of November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 915-916.
<b>Revenue Status Report, General Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, General Fund, November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 917-918.
<b>Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund, November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 919-920.
<b>Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund, November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 921-922.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) General Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), General Fund, for November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 923-938.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) School Lunch Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), School Lunch Fund, for November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 939-940.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Special Aid Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Special Aid Fund, for November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 941-944.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Capital Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Capital Fund, for November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 945-946.

January 27, 2016

**Budgetary Transfer Report:** Budgetary Transfer Report, for November/December 2015, copies made part of these legal minutes, pp. 947-950.

**Tax Levy Schedule:** Tax Levy Schedule, November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 951-952.

**Library Tax Levy:** Library Tax Levy, November/December 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 951-952.

**Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report:** Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report, November/December, 2015, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 953-963.

**Bids:** Recommended by Administration  
 Interior Upgrades – 2 Melville Road Schedule #16-02C  
 HVAC Upgrades – 2 Melville Road Schedule #16-04C  
 A copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 964-969.

<b>Schedule of Bills (Warrants):</b>	General (A)	Warrant 72	\$306,743.62
	“ “	73	\$10,575.00
	“ “	74	\$1,458,456.50
	“ “	V000A	(\$10,570.00)
	School Lunch	24	\$14,209.99
	Special Aid Fund (F)	28	\$16,929.45
	Capital Reserve (H)	11	\$383.39
	“ “	V010H	(\$383.39)

Approved Board Packet of January 15, 2016

General (A)	Warrant 67	\$47,207.76
“ “	68	\$1,985,884.92
“ “	69	\$4,522.64
“ “	70	\$823.05
“ “	71	\$10,031.06
“ “	V068	(\$515.00)
School Lunch	22	\$45,413.60
“ “	23	\$645.14
“ “	V022	(\$50.95)
Special Aid Fund (F)	27	\$11,526.07

**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.

**Communications:** Dr. Bennardo asked Principal Murphy to elaborate on his invitation to the Board of Education members regarding the first annual ACT/SAT Scholar Ceremony. Principal Murphy shared that he and Mrs. Lugovina wished to acknowledge the many bright students who did so well on the ACT and SATs. For those students who secured a 1300 on the SAT and/or a 29 on the ACT, a ceremony on February 9, 2016, will

January 27, 2016

acknowledge this accomplishment. Additionally, there will be a plaque with those students' names inscribed and hung outside the main office as a source of pride for the school. This distinction will continue year after year, having the names added accordingly.

The question was posed as to when the make-up SAT exams will be administered (due to the blizzard of January 23); Dr. Bennardo confirmed that the make-up date will be February 27, 2016.

**2016/2017 School  
Calendar:**

Motion by Mr. Ciappetta, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the 2016/2017 school calendar, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 970-971.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bennardo reported that the District was unique in that it had a calendar committee comprised of members of every bargaining unit. There were years when the calendar posed certain challenges, however, this year's calendar was fairly straight forward. Dr. Bennardo credited the South Huntington Teachers Association for their willingness to schedule a Superintendent's Conference Day before Labor Day, allowing for a calendar to mirror the surrounding districts and Western Suffolk BOCES. Our district contains 182 instructional days and 3 conference days, which was more than most districts.

**Smart Schools  
Investment Plan  
Approval:**

Motion by Mrs. DeGaetano, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the preliminary Smart Schools Investment Plan.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bennardo stated that the Smart Schools Investment Plan was the bond proposed last year as part of the Governor's proposal to bring technology to all school districts in the state. It was a very specific and targeted investment plan whereby districts spend the money first, and are reimbursed at a later date. Dr. Bennardo indicated that the District's plan was a very measured plan as the length of the reimbursement process was unknown.

Dr. Bloom reported that our allocation was \$2,900,702. The first \$100,000 will be used for replacement of interactive boards, and an additional \$100,000 will be utilized for the District's 1:1 program. Dr. Bloom explained how the process works; this "draft" investment plan was required to be posted on the website for a 30-day period after this evening's Board approval of the preliminary plan. Within this 30-day period, a public hearing was required. The Board adopts the plan, and the District subsequently submits the plan to the State Education Department. The approval process was estimated to take as long as six to eight months. Dr. Bloom detailed the aspect of the plan whereby non-public schools within the district's boundaries were provided with the

January 27, 2016

opportunity for the loaning of hardware purchases for their use. Mrs. Brieff questioned the process for the non-public schools; Dr. Bloom responded that he spoke with non-public school officials and provided them with their share of the allocation. Additionally, a date will be identified for their purchase requirements, such as Chrome books and interactive boards. Mr. Ciappetta asked what the amount of their allocation was; Dr. Bloom reported \$65,390, of which St. Anthony's amount was \$57,520. Discussion ensued regarding the bond. Dr. Bloom cautioned the Board that the unknown piece was not knowing how long the District must wait for the reimbursement, thus the recommendation for submission of the plan in a measured manner.

**Establishment of  
the John Thomann  
Memorial  
Scholarship:**

Motion by Mrs. DeGaetano, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the John Thomann Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to be awarded annually to a student who possesses a strong character, participates in community service, and works hard in school.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bennardo reported that the scholarship was provided by the wife of the late John Thomann. Mrs. DeGaetano expressed that she knew John Thomann personally. She shared that he was an extremely successful business man; in fact, he was the head engineer when the new Yankee Stadium was constructed. He left behind a wife and two children. Mrs. DeGaetano shared that his passing was a tragic loss to the community.

**Establishment of  
Janet's Loving  
Gifts Scholarship:**

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 the establishment of the Janet's Loving Gifts Annual Scholarship in the amount of \$500 to be offered to a female student who demonstrates financial need and wishes to pursue an education in Accounting.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of  
Amendment to  
Board Policy §8280  
Instruction for  
English Language  
Learners:**

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

Motion by Mr. Ciappetta, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the amendment to Board Policy §8280, Instruction for English Language Learners.

Motion carried unanimously.

January 27, 2016

**Contract Extensions:** Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the following contract extensions:

Schedule #16-55 Extension Pneumatic Temperature Controls

Schedule #16-07 Snacks

Schedule #16-10 Ice Cream

Schedule #16-09 Paper

Schedule #16-02 Commodities

Schedule #16-08 Frozen

Schedule #16-11 Meat

Schedule #16-06 Dairy

Schedule #16-05 Staples

Schedule #16-13 Drinks

Motion carried unanimously.

**Recommendations for Placement by CSE/CPSE:** Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District, having reviewed minutes of the Committee on Special Education dated December 3, 17, 21, 22, 2015, and January 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 2016, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated December 22, 2015, and January 5, 7, 11, 12, 13, 19, 21, 2016, 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. 972-985.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Personnel:** Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, 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. 986-994, and authorizes implementation thereof:

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 13: Salary Change (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. School Grade Enrollment Report from Mrs. Harris; December 1 through December 23, 2015
2. Memorandum from Dr. Centamore re Board of Education Teacher of the Year Presentation (Meeting of February 10, 2016)
3. Letter from Dr. Bennardo to Minds in Motion recipients

January 27, 2016

**Information and Reports Continued:**

4. Letter from Dr. Wright to Parents re Challenge Program and Unified Sports Program
5. *Board & Administrator* – January 2016
6. The Long-Islander (2)
7. Letter from Dr. Bennardo to students re Raymour & Flanigan performance
8. Letter from Dr. Bennardo to Natural Helper program participants
9. W/S BOCES Shared Services Directory 2016/2017 (Board Only)

Information Sent to Board Week Ending January 15, 2016

1. Invitation from Countrywood Site-Based Management Team to Board Members re Read Across America Program and Community Read-In on March 2, 2016 (Board Only)
2. Letters from Dr. Bennardo re the following: American Legion Auxillary Girls' State recipients; Lee Nober re recognition for Instructional Excellence by Farmingdale State College Board of Trustees; Silas Wood students re Performance at PTA Council Holiday Luncheon; Taylor Fox re Gold Medal from Columbia Scholastic Press Association; Students who assisted with Girl Scout Toy Drive; SCMEA All-County recipients; Stimson Showstoppers re performance at Milleridge Inn; WWHS students receiving DECA recognition; WWHS students in Adelphi University Art program; WWHS students re Suffolk Community College's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Competition; and students involved with the Town of Huntington Inaugural Ceremony
3. Letter from Principal Toto re Intramural Dance Program at Silas Wood
4. Minutes of SHTA Executive Board Meeting (January 11, 2016)
5. The Long-Islander (2)

**Comments from Board Members and Staff:**

Mrs. Brieff reported on the January 22, 2016, Western Suffolk BOCES Legislative Program where local superintendents spoke of the need to increase funding. Superintendents stressed the need for Gap Elimination restoration and more foundation aid. Mrs. Brieff noted that the Careers & Technology aid formula was non-existent, frozen since 1990 to present. Additionally, fiscal relief was needed for unfunded mandates, i.e., unaccompanied minors. Mrs. Brieff hoped that legislators would assist districts in addressing these needs. Mr. Kaden added that there was more support now than ever in the Senate and shared Mrs. Brieff's point of view.

Discussion ensued regarding the recent Varsity Boys Soccer team's trip to the State Capitol in Albany where Assemblyman Lupinacci introduced the team on the Assembly floor, and the squad members witnessed the passing of the resolution recording their New York Championship designation. Senator John Flanagan brought the team to the Senate Chamber, which provided the team with a true sense of state government in action. Dr. Bennardo thanked Mr. Ciappetta for joining him and Dr. Wright on the excursion. Dr. Bennardo credited Assemblyman



January 27, 2016

Lupinacci with being so gracious of his time with the members of the soccer team.

In addition, Dr. Bennardo thanked Mr. Kennedy for the unwavering loyalty and dedication displayed throughout the snowstorm of Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> through Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Kennedy remained within the district and monitored the arduous snow removal process and kept the faulty boiler going throughout the long weekend. Dr. Bennardo continued in thanking Mr. Kennedy's team, the teachers and parents for their cooperation under less than perfect conditions.

**Voice of the Residents:**

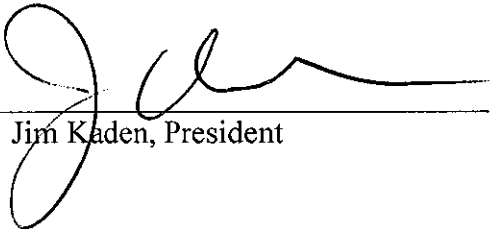
Visitors were invited to participate.

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



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Jim Kaden, President



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Laura McLean, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 871 through 994.