

September 28, 2016

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, September 28, 2016, in the Gymnasium of the Silas Wood Sixth-Grade School, 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

Asst. Supt. for Business & District Operations

Deputy Superintendent

Asst. Supt. for Instruction & Curriculum

District Clerk

Dr. Bennardo

Dr. Centamore

Ms. Harris

Dr. Bloom

Mrs. McLean

Absent: **Mr. Frank Fallon**

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

Audit Report: Ms. Marianne Van Duyne thanked the Board of Education for inviting her to this evening's Board meeting. She shared that the Audit Committee met last week and reviewed the financial statements and the extra-classroom account reports. Ms. Van Duyne explained that the rating provided was "unmodified opinion," which was the best rating a school district can obtain. Ms. Van Duyne also shared that internal controls had been reviewed, and there were no weaknesses to report. A management letter was issued, included in the packet, with recommendations regarding other matters. Ms. Van Duyne commented that the District's internal controls were over and above what needed to be in place. She reported that the District was very pro-active in implementing recommendations made by the auditors. Ms. Van Duyne also conveyed that this report was produced earlier than usual as the audit was conducted in a very smooth and efficient manner. Ms. Van Duyne welcomed Dr. Centamore as the newly appointed business official and stated he did a great job, as well as Karen Vultaggio, who was always able to provide whatever paperwork was required for the auditors. In closing, Ms. Van Duyne shared that she enjoyed working with the District.

Dr. Bennardo provided a slide presentation in which he discussed deficient spending—simply put, spending more money than what was brought in. In 2010/11 and 2011/12, the District spent more than three-million dollars more than what had been taken in. In 2012/13, an election year, and the State provided a ten percent state-aid "gift." At that time it was understood the "gift" was a one-time occurrence. From that point forward to present, the District underspent, and we

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were “in the black” for three straight years. Dr. Bennardo stated that the Law allows Districts to save up to four percent of their current budget, and we were finally in a position to save once again.

For the 2017/2018 school budget, the tax cap will be below the one percent with gap elimination reported, and Dr. Bennardo communicated that it could be a .7 percent tax cap. Additionally, there will be less robust state-aid increases. He further stated that last year we received three percent from the State, this year may only be two percent. Dr. Bennardo shared that total revenues were just over \$150,000,000.

Dr. Bennardo thanked Ms. Van Duyne for reporting to the Board this evening.

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

Mr. Kaden announced the Project Excel Summer Youth Employment Recognition and turned this portion of the meeting over to Deputy Superintendent Jacqueline Harris. Mrs. Harris greeted the Board of Education, Cabinet members, parents and students in the audience and explained that through the Suffolk County Department of Labor, our students were placed in various positions throughout the District and paid for their work through the Labor Department. The students did a fabulous job and had very rewarding work experiences. Mrs. Harris asked Mr. Perkins, the coordinator for the Project Excel Program, to speak on behalf of the Summer Youth Employment Program. Mr. Perkins thanked everyone present, and extended heartfelt gratitude to the administration for making this program possible. Mr. Perkins explained that the program taught core values—work ethic, responsibility, and staying on task skills. Several of the Project Excel students and District administrators were asked to attend the Suffolk County Department of Labor recognition on September 14th, where accolades were provided to the students and the program. Mr. Perkins thanked the parents for their support of the program, and for their assistance with transporting the students to and from their work sites all summer long. He was pleased to report the many ways the students showed their appreciation for their parents with the money that was earned through the program. One of the students, Walt Whitman High School Junior John Monteforte was asked to speak, and in so doing, John expressed his sincere appreciation for the Project Excel Program, which he has been involved with since the sixth grade. John shared that he made many new friends through the summer program, and he could not wait to report to work each day.

Mr. Perkins asked the Board of Education and Cabinet members to join him at the podium, while Mrs. Harris read the names of each of the Project Excel students, who were provided with a certificate. After all students were presented with their certificates, a group photograph was taken by Mr. Bartholomew, and a ten-minute recess was announced for the students and audience members to enjoy the celebratory cupcakes brought in for the occasion.

**Adoption of
Agenda:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the revised agenda be adopted.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Motion on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants):	Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, 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 17, 2016.
Schedule of Investment Accounts:	Schedule of Investment Accounts, as of July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 545.
Treasurer's Report:	Treasurer's Report, July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 546.
Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation:	Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation, July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp.547-565.
Monthly Collateral Reconciliation:	Monthly Collateral Reconciliation, as of July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 566.
Revenue Status Report, General Fund:	Revenue Status Report, General Fund, for July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 567.
Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund:	Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund, July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 568.
Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund:	Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund, July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 569.
Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund:	Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund, July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 570.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) General Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), General Fund, for July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 571-578.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) School Lunch Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), School Lunch Fund, for July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 579.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Special Aid Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Special Aid Fund, for July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 580-581.

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Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Capital Fund: Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Capital Fund, for July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 582.

Budgetary Transfer Report: Budgetary Transfer Report, for July 2016, copies made part of these legal minutes, p. 583.

Tax Levy Schedule: Tax Levy Schedule, July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 584.

Library Tax Levy: Library Tax Levy, July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 584.

Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report: Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report, July 2016, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 585-590.

Schedule of Bills (Warrants):	General (A)	Schedule 26	\$126,127.47
	“ “	27	\$1,688,894.28
	“ “	28	\$96,743.75
	“ “	29	\$66,500.00
	“ “	V000	(\$35.90)
	School Lunch ©	Schedule 10	\$251.04
	Special Aid (F)	9	\$131,036.31

Approved Board Packet of September 16, 2016

General (A)	Schedule 18	\$1,255,000.000
“ “	19	\$189,775.00
“ “	20	\$9,891.66
“ ”	21	\$268,211.34
Dental	22	\$11,666.67
“ “	23	\$5,352.57
“ “	24	\$57,285.49
“ “	25	\$54,625.00
“ “	V017	\$322.62

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.

Approval of 2017-2018 Budget Development Calendar: Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the 2017-2018 Budget Development Calendar, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 591-592. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Approval of \$1,500
Donation from
Huntington Toyota:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Ciappetta, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the \$1,500 donation from Huntington Toyota to be utilized for the October 8, 2016, Wildcat Marching Band Home Show.
Motion carried unanimously.

**Appointment of
Voting Delegate for
NYSSBA's 2016
Annual Business
Meeting:**

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby designates Jim Kaden to serve as Voting Delegate, and Nicholas R. Ciappetta, J.D., as an alternate Voting Delegate, at the New York State School Board Association's Annual Business Meeting to be held on Saturday, October 29, 2016, beginning at 8 a.m. at the Buffalo Convention Center in the Convention Center Ballroom.
Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Mrs. Carey, 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 May 25, 26, June 8, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 26, 30, July 11, 25, 27, 28, August 4, 8, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 26, 30, September 2, 8, 13, 14, 16, 19, 2016, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated April 18, August 30, 31, September 1, 7, 8, 12, 13, 2016, and 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. 593-616.
Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Tax
Levy:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that pursuant to Section 8 of the Suffolk County Tax Act and based upon the assessed valuation of \$43,314,220, which has been certified to the District by the Assessor of the Town wholly within the School District, the following computed tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to be adopted and ordered certified to the Supervisor of the Town, together with the dollar amount to be raised by the President of this Board.

	AMOUNT TO BE LEVIED	COMPUTED TAX RATE
Per \$1,000		
For Regular School Purposes	\$110,621,172	\$2,553.92
For District Public Library	\$5,870,191	\$135.53
School & Library Tax/\$1,000	\$116,491,363	\$2,689.45

Motion carried unanimously.

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**Western Suffolk
BOCES
Tutorial/Special
Education Services
RFP:**

Motion by Mr. Ciappetta, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, WHEREAS, various educational and municipal corporations located within the State of New York desire to bid jointly for Tutorial & Special Education Services for Students, Western Suffolk BOCES & Component School Districts, RFP #16-17-03P-IE5-LH, Opened March 17, 2016, Term of Contract from 7/1/2016 through 6/30/2017; and

WHEREAS, the South Huntington Union Free School District, is desirous of selectively participating with other educational and/or municipal corporations in the State of New York in joint bidding in the areas mentioned above pursuant to General Municipal Law §119-o and Education Law §1950; and

WHEREAS, the District is a municipality within the meaning of General Municipal Law §119-n and is eligible to participate in the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Second Supervisory District of Suffolk County (hereinafter Western Suffolk BOCES) Joint Municipal Cooperative Bidding Initiative in the areas mentioned above; and

WHEREAS, with respect to all activities conducted by the Western Suffolk BOCES, the District wishes to delegate to Western Suffolk BOCES the responsibility for drafting of specifications, advertising for bids/proposals, extending awards of bids/proposals, and reporting the results to the District.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the District hereby appoints Western Suffolk BOCES to represent it and to act as the lead agent in all matters related to the services as described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District hereby authorizes Western Suffolk BOCES to place all legal advertisements for any required cooperative bidding in Newsday, which is designated as the official newspaper for Western Suffolk BOCES; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Agreement with the District shall be for a term of one (1) year as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o.2.j.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bennardo asked Mrs. Harris to comment; Mrs. Harris explained that the agreement provided a negotiated rate for all districts to pay the same fee for services.

**Obsolete School
Books:**

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 the recommendation that the Mathematics textbooks, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 617, be deemed as obsolete.

Motion carried unanimously.

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**Approval of
Building-Level
Emergency
Response Plans:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Ciappetta, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the Building-Level Emergency Response Plans for the 2016/2017 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of
Contract Between
Pederson-Krag
Center and
District:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Ciappetta, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the agreement between the District and Pederson-Krag Center, Inc., for a consultant to be situated at Walt Whitman High School and shall include, but not be limited to, providing prevention, education, and treatment of chemical dependency issues to students within the District, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 618-622.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bennardo reported that through a grant Pederson-Krag has secured, a specialized counselor will work at Walt Whitman High School; it was Mrs. Harris and Principal Murphy who developed this relationship with Pederson-Krag. There is no cost to the District.

**Approval of
Athletic Trainer's
Memorandum of
Salary & Benefits:**

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 Memorandum of Salary and Benefits made between the District and Mr. Peter White, District Athletic Trainer, effective October 1, 2016, through June 30, 2021, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 623.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Lead
Evaluators of
Teachers:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, WHEREAS, the District has provided appropriate training for its lead evaluators and evaluators, which includes independent observers, in accordance with §30-3.10 of the Rules of the Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, §30-3.10 of the Rules of the Board of Regents requires lead evaluators to be certified as qualified lead evaluators in accordance with the requirements set forth under §30-3.10 and the training plan designed for certification of lead evaluators set forth in the District's APPR Plan, for the purpose of conducting and/or completing the evaluation of teachers pursuant to Education Law §3012-d; and

WHEREAS, the individuals named have successfully completed a training course that meets the requirements prescribed in §30-3.10 of the Rules of the Board of Regents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, effective September 1, 2016, the District certifies the individuals noted on the memorandum from Dr. Bloom and Mr. Fallon, dated Sept. 26, 2016, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 624.

Motion carried unanimously.

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Approval of Lead Evaluators of Principals:

Motion by Mrs. Brief, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, WHEREAS, the District has provide appropriate training for its lead evaluators and evaluators, which includes independent observers, in accordance with §30-3.10 of the Rules of the Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, §30-3.10 of the Rules of the Board of Regents requires lead evaluators to be certified as qualified lead evaluators in accordance with the requirements set forth under §30-3.10 and the training plan designed for certification of lead evaluators set forth in the District's APPR Plan, for the purpose of conducting and/or completing the evaluation of teachers pursuant to Education Law §3012-d; and

WHEREAS, the individuals named have successfully completed a training course that meets the requirements prescribed in §30-3.10 of the Rules of the Board of Regents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, effective September 1, 2016, the District certifies the following individuals as lead evaluators:

- David P. Bennardo, Superintendent of Schools
- Jared Bloom, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction & Curriculum

Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel:

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, 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. 625-641, and authorizes implementation thereof:

Schedule 7: Temporary Replacement Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 9: Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)
 Schedule 10: Tenure Appointments
 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)
 Schedule 19: Temporary/Seasonal Appointment (Non-Instructional)
 Schedule 20: Re-Appointments (Non-Instructional)
 Schedule 22: Substitute Employee appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)

Motion carried unanimously.

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Information and Reports:

Information and Reports

1. Audit Report from R.S. Abrams
2. Memorandum from Dr. Centamore to Dr. Bennardo re Bond Refunding
3. Letter from Principal Murphy to Parents/Students of 2017 and 2018 Graduating Classes re Military Recruitment/Opt-Out Procedure
4. Board & Administrator, September 2016 Issue
5. Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association 2016 Proposed Resolutions Worksheet for NYSSBA's Annual Business Meeting, October 29, 2016

Information Sent to Board Week Ending September 16, 2016:

1. Ingerman Smith Memorandums: Undue Burden Independent Evaluator Hardship Waiver and Mandatory Lead Testing of Water
2. Parent Mailing from Principal Smith
3. Parent Mailing from Principal Toto
4. SHTA Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting, September 12, 2016
5. Heckscher Park Museum Brochure highlighting Silas Wood's Spinning Spirals
6. The Long-Islander, September 15, 2016
7. NYSIR News, August – 2016 (Board Only)
8. In Envelope: Invitation to the Hall of Fame Festivities from Mrs. Harris

Comments from Board Members and Staff:

Mr. Ciappetta shared that he had attended the September 14th NSSBA meeting where Commissioner Elia was the keynote speaker. She spoke at length and shared what was occurring with topics such as Standards, Curriculum and Assessments. The Commissioner indicated that there was a push to have local school boards control curriculums. A survey will be provided to districts regarding standards for feedback purposes; the Board of Regents will be voting on this matter in February of 2017. In addition, there was a moratorium on evaluations. Mr. Ciappetta added that there are storm clouds on the horizon; the low tax cap for next year's budget, coupled with the anticipation of less state aid, will make for an extremely challenging situation across the State. There was also conversation regarding local approval of projects, as the State was tremendously back-logged. Mr. Ciappetta stated that the Law needs to be changed for more local control with approvals; it was unnecessary to have the State scrutinizing plans. The opt-out movement was also addressed with the Commissioner seeking to lessen its impact. Overall, Mr. Ciappetta was pleased with the Commissioner's demeanor; she appeared fair and gracious.

Mr. Ciappetta also stated how successful the Hall of Fame and related Homecoming activities were. He jokingly recalled the Military Push-Up station where the contest was to do 100 push-ups in two minutes. Mr. Nitkewicz proudly recalled doing the 100 push-ups in only 90 seconds.

Dr. Bennardo provided updates as to the forthcoming weekend's events; there was an Autism Walk at Jones Beach on Sunday and a Marching Band Competition in Mineola as well. Mr. Nitkewicz shared how grateful he was to the South Huntington Community in supporting this cause. He shared he will be

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at Field 5 at Jones Beach with his team should anyone wish to join. The walk begins at 8 a.m.

Dr. Bennardo also provided a synopsis of the water testing for possible lead contamination that was again highlighted in the newspapers and media channels. With the new State criteria of 15 parts/billion, down from 20 parts/billion, all 290 sites within the District will be tested again. With the original testing at 20 parts/billion, all but six sites passed, and the six sites that did not were changed out. Dr. Bennardo shared that all sites will be retested, including those not considered “drinkable” sites, such as sinks used by janitors, etc.

Dr. Bennardo also addressed the four portable classrooms located at the elementary schools and the mold situation. Through past energy audits, the air circulation systems were updated to be more efficient, and this may have, in fact, created a situation for mold. Dr. Bennardo explained that these “trailers,” while having a life span that may have expired, the fact remained that the District had spent considerable monies in updating the portables through the years that had lengthened their use. Despite the updates and continuous, preventative care that was furnished, it appeared to be an air flow issue. Dr. Bennardo reported that testing will be conducted on a quarterly basis. He was confident that with Dr. Centamore, Mr. Kennedy and the District’s architect, the issue would be rectified.

Voice of the Residents:

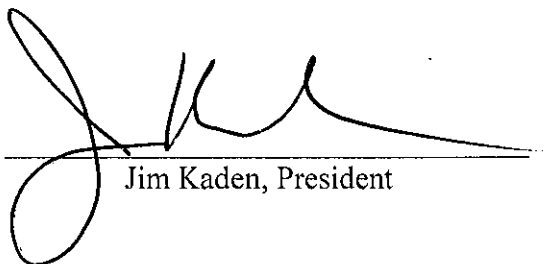
Visitors were invited to participate.

Adjournment:

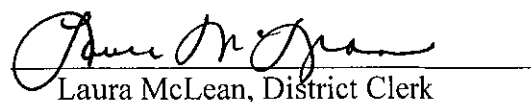
Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:37 p.m.



Jim Kaden, President



Laura McLean, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 545 through 641.