

September 13, 2017

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on September 13, 2017, in the Board Room, #110, of the James Kaden Administrative Offices, 60 Weston Street, Huntington Station, New York.

Present: Board Members:

President
Vice President

Mr. Ciappetta
Mrs. Carey
Mr. Bronson
Mrs. DeGaetano
Mr. Joyner
Mrs. LaCara
Mr. Nitkewicz

Staff:

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

Dr. Bennardo
Dr. Centamore
Dr. Harris
Dr. Bloom
Mr. Fallon
Mrs. McLean

**Dedication of the
James Kaden
Administrative
Offices:**

At 7:30 p.m., Dr. Bennardo thanked everyone for coming to this evening's dedication ceremony, and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Pamela Carey, Walt Whitman High School student, sang the National Anthem. In attendance were elected officials— Assemblyman Chad Lupinacci and Councilman Mark Cuthbertson—as well as Brian Sapp from the Governor's Office; Susan Bergtraum, President of the New York State School Boards Association; Lorraine Deller of the Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association; current and former Board members, Cabinet members, principals, assistant principals, and central office administrators. Dennis Callahan, President of the South Huntington Teachers Association, was also present, as was Pat Dell, President of the Paraprofessional Association, with numerous faculty members and several residents. Superintendent Bennardo welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Kaden, and spoke highly of the professional and personal relationship that developed in the past five years with Mr. Kaden. Mr. Ciappetta also addressed the audience, thanking the elected officials and distinguished guests for attending this evening. He shared that their presence sent a message that school board service was important and deserving of appreciation. Mr. Ciappetta spoke of the vast knowledge Mr. Kaden possessed with finances and educational law; he also shared that Mr. Kaden's leadership skills were unmatched, and he practiced what he preached. Most importantly, Mr. Ciappetta added that Mr. Kaden made a difference in the lives of countless children.

Mr. Kaden thanked the audience for coming, and appeared very appreciative of having the District Office building named after him. He shared that he had hoped he made a difference in the lives of students.

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Mr. Ciappetta approached the podium and stated that the building dedication ensured Jim Kaden's legacy. He then asked audience members to raise their glasses filled with sparkling cider and provided the toast, "To a man with a beautiful mind, that is only matched by his beautiful soul." The audience toasted Mr. Kaden, and he and his wife approached the symbolic ribbon with distinguished guests for the ribbon-cutting; the audience enthusiastically applauded as the ribbon was cut, and the building was renamed and dedicated as the James Kaden Administrative Offices.

The audience lingered and conversed, and the warm September evening provided the perfect backdrop for an extremely special evening.

Call to Order:

Mr. Ciappetta opened the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

**Sponsorship
Recognition of
Park Shore Day
Camp:**

Mr. Fallon presented Mr. Bob Budha, owner of the Park Shore Day Camp and Extreme STEAM Science, with a beautifully framed plaque in recognition of the many contributions provided to the District—namely, the sponsorship of Stimson Middle School field trips to the Cradle of Aviation; the donation of Dash robots to enhance coding skills; the sponsorship for the entire third-grade class attending the Park Shore Day Camp for a day; and partnering with Walt Whitman High School in the Regional Science and Technology Fair in May of 2018. With this last initiative, Mr. Budha provided the District with \$5,000 ensuring that South Huntington would be a leader in technology. Mr. Fallon spoke of Mr. Budha's business contacts, such as a professor from Stony Brook University and a coding expert from Honeywell—both individuals have met with Dr. Bloom, and enhancements have been created from these contacts. In closing, Mr. Fallon expressed his deep appreciation for Mr. Budha's generosity, but even more importantly, for his sincere desire to make a difference in how students learn.

Mr. Budha provided generous praise to our District leaders—our administration—and added that it was such a pleasure to collaborate with educators who are not afraid "to take the ball and run with it" when teaching children. He added how much he appreciated the recognition, and he looked forward to continuously partnering with the District.

**Sponsorship
Recognition of
Platinum
Properties:**

Mr. Ciappetta explained to the audience that the District's sponsorship growth increased these past five years with Dr. Bennardo as superintendent. Mr. Ciappetta further explained that Platinum Properties had been in business for many years now, and at the helm were two graduates of Walt Whitman High School—Eliot Lonardo and Jonas Wagner. The third partner, Lisa Leggio, was a resident of the district with two children, now alumni. Mr. Ciappetta commented that Platinum Properties was very successful in selling homes and assisting in the purchase of homes. The recognition this evening was for the full sponsorship of the District's newsletter, Spotlight. Additionally, Mr. Wagner shared that Platinum Properties will be donating five percent of their commission to the South Huntington Educational Foundation. Mr. Ciappetta presented the beautifully framed plaque to the three partners and the Board, Cabinet and audience members applauded their generosity.

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**Summer Sports
Camp Recap:**

Dr. Wright provided the history of the District's Summer Sports Camp, which started in 1999 by Physical Education teachers Tom Fitzpatrick and Vincent Altebrando and former teacher, Tracey Hudson. At that time it was a half-day program. Expansion of the program occurred in 2005 with four full weeks and offered every fall, winter and spring sport for Grades K-9 students. Since that time Ultimate Freesbie and Cross Training were added. The Music and Arts summer programs ran separately from the sports camp, however, this year these programs did not have sufficient enrollment to run. Additionally, the Coding Camp was added as a summer program two years ago with tremendous success. Students participated in the Coding Camp in the morning and segued into the sports camp in the afternoon thus providing an enriched, full-day program. Dr. Wright shared the following statistics:

Coding Camp – Grades K-6 had 122 students, 18 were out-of-district. Five scholarships were provided; eight high school students and approximately six teachers were employed; the program afforded 51 hours of community service. Dr. Wright provided credit to Dr. Bloom who fueled the Coding Camp.

Sports Camp – 575 students attended for four weeks; 85 were out-of-district. Dr. Wright stated that the additional signs advertising the camp assisted with securing the large number of out-of-district students. 45 scholarships were provided (a 1:13 ratio), and the scholarships were provided to the PTA, Booster Club, etc., to be utilized with various raffles. 48 coaches, 2 trainers and 12 students worked the Sports Camp. There were 56 volunteers and the program afforded 500 hours of community service. 3,199 lunches were served. There were 45 students that enrolled in the Coding Camp who then attended the Sports Camp.

Dr. Wright thanked the Board of Education for their support of the programs that truly benefited the South Huntington community during the summer months.

Dr. Bennardo expressed his appreciation to Dr. Wright for the recap and commented that with almost 100 out-of-district students attending our summer programs, additional revenue was garnered, as well as the exposure of our fine reputation in operating such programs.

**Adoption of
Agenda:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the agenda be adopted.
Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Mr. Bronson, 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 July 11, 2017.

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Schedule of Investment Accounts:	Schedule of Investment Accounts, as of July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 400.
Treasurer's Report:	Treasurer's Report, July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 401.
Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation:	Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation, July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 402-421.
Monthly Collateral Reconciliation:	Monthly Collateral Reconciliation, as of July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 422.
Revenue Status Report, General Fund:	Revenue Status Report, General Fund, for July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 423.
Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund:	Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund, July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 424.
Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund:	Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund, July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 425.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) General Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), General Fund, for July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 426-433.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) School Lunch Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), School Lunch Fund, for July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 434.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Special Aid Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Special Aid Fund, for July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 435-436.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Capital Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Capital Fund, for July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 437.

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Tax Levy Schedule: Tax Levy Schedule, July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 438.

Library Tax Levy: Library Tax Levy, July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 438.

Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report: Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report, July 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 439-443.

Schedule of Bills (Warrants):	General (A)	Warrant 19	\$99,072.61
	School Lunch (C)	Warrant 9	\$2,660.40
		10	\$955.00
	Special Aid (F)	Warrant 7	\$219,863.92

Approved – Weekly Packet of September 1, 2017

General (A)	Warrant 17	\$227,616.93
	18	\$119.85
	V008	(\$1,100.00)
	V017	(\$2,039.65)
School Lunch (C)	Warrant 8	\$271.88
	V004	(\$500.00)
Special Aid (F)	Warrant 6	\$46,879.01

Approved – Weekly Packet of August 25, 2017

General (A)	Warrant 14	\$196,382.74
	15	\$4,075.41
	16	\$1,736,282.60
Special Aid (F)	5	\$87,691.95

Vote on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants): Mr. Ciappetta asked for any additional comments or questions on the above items, and then called for a vote on the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution to Reject Proposal Submitted for Purchase of Depot Road Property: Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, to table this matter. Motion, to table, approved unanimously.

Resolution for Direct Deposit Program: Mr. Bronson offered the following resolution and Mrs. DeGaetano moved its adoption:

Whereas, it has been recommended by our external auditors, Nawrocki & Smith, to implement a required direct deposit program for all employees in order to prevent fraud,

And Whereas, the South Huntington Union Free School District has included specific language for direct deposit for our employees based on this recommendation in each of the collective bargaining units;

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Be it Resolved, effective immediately the South Huntington Union Free School District will require all new non-affiliated employees to participate in direct deposit for their wages.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the
School-Wide Plan
for the 2017/2018
School Year:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Bronson, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the Title 1 designation from Targeted Assistance to School-Wide Assistance for the Countrywood and Oakwood Primary Schools, as well as the Birchwood and Maplewood Intermediate Schools, for the 2017/2018 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

At Dr. Bennardo's request, Dr. Bloom thanked Dr. D'Elia for such a thorough presentation of the move to School-Wide designation that he had provided at the Board meeting of August 23, 2017. Dr. Bloom recapped that the move to this designation provides greater flexibility with regards to purchasing and staffing.

**Approval of the
Consultant Services
Contract for
Substance Abuse
Counselor with
PSCH, Inc.:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the contract for the substance abuse counselor with PSCH, Inc. (formerly Pederson-Krag) for the 2017/2018 school year, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 444-448.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bennardo shared that the arrangement existed last year, quite successfully, having a student substance abuse counselor on the premises at Walt Whitman High School. The funding for this program is through the New York State Office of Mental Health, and the District does not incur any costs or expenses as a result of this agreement.

**Approval of the
2017/2018 LAP for
Stimson Middle
School/ENL Math:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Joyner, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the Local Assistance Plan for the Henry L. Stimson Middle School for the 2017/2018 school year with the identified subgroup of ENL Mathematics.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bennardo explained that while the identification was made five or six years ago, the District is required to submit the LAP annually. The plan identifies strategies to be implemented, resources to be used, necessary professional development, and benchmark goals to support the identified sub-group.

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**Approval of
Amendment to
H2M Contract:**

Mrs. Carey moved, with a second from Mr. Nitkewicz, to amend the Amendment to the Agreement between the District and H2M Architects, Engineers, Land Surveying and Landscape Architecture, D.P.C., d/b/a/ H2M Architects + Engineers dated July 11, 2017, (the “Agreement”) by striking the words “which applications” in the first sentence of Paragraph N and inserting the words “said applications,” now, therefore,

Be it Resolved that the Amendment to the H2M contract, as amended, be adopted;

Be it Further Resolved that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute said Amendment to the Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 449-451.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Joyner, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District, having reviewed minutes of the Committee on Special Education dated March 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 31, April 3, 4, 24, 26, 27, May 3, 8, 11, 17, 24, 25, 30, June 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, July 7, 10, 11, 25, 26, August 1, 3, 9, 17, 18, 24, 28, 30, 31, 2017, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated April 21, July 6, August 14, 28, 31, 2017, 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. 452-493.

Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel:

Motion by Mrs. Carey, 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, pp. 494-513, and authorizes implementation thereof:

Schedule 2: Probationary Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 3: Administrative/Supervisory Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 5: Part-time Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 6: Summer School Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 7: Temporary Replacement Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 9: Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)

Schedule 10: Tenure Appointments

Schedule 11: Terminations (Instructional)

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 20: Re-Appointments (Non-Instructional)

Schedule 22: Substitute Employee appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)

Mr. Bronson abstained; motion carried.

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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 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.)

Approved Packet of August 25, 2017:

- Schedule 5: Part-time Appointments (Instructional)
- Schedule 6: Summer School Appointments (Instructional)
- Schedule 7: Temporary Replacement Appointments (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 15: Appointments (Non-Instructional)
- Schedule 22: Substitute Employee appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)

Information and Reports:Information and Reports

1. Parent Letter from Principal Murphy re Program Orientation Night
2. Parent Letter from Principal Murphy re 9/11 Tribute
3. Parent Letter from Principal Murphy re New Weighting System
4. Senior Parent Letter from Principal Murphy re The Common Application and Financial Aid Information Night, September 19, 2017, 7 p.m.
5. Letter to Reverend Saba Mchunguzi from Board President Nicholas Ciappetta
6. Personnel Postings
7. Countrywood Chronicle for September, 2017
8. Oakwood Calendar/Principal's Newsletter for September, 2017

Information Sent to Board Week Ending September 1, 2017

1. Principal Murphy Testing Letters to Parents
2. Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association's Salary Workbook and Fringe Benefit Study for 2016/2017
3. The Long Islander
4. Personnel Postings

Information Sent to Board Week Ending August 25, 2017

1. Invitation to Dedication of the James Kaden Administrative Offices at the Board of Education Meeting of September 13, 2017, to Elected Officials From Board President Nicholas R. Ciappetta and Superintendent Bennardo
2. Personnel Postings
3. Summer Mailing Packet to Parents from Principal Smith
4. Facilities Committee Meeting of August 8, 2017

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**Committee
Updates:**

Mr. Ciappetta spoke briefly of the recent Facilities Committee meeting in which the Stimson outdoor basketball court was discussed; it was likely to be a potential litigation matter. Difficulties exist with the conference room at the James Kaden Administrative Offices; and the Student Services renovation at Walt Whitman High School will be addressed at the next Board meeting.

Mr. Nitkewicz reported on the Audit Committee; Mr. Kaden will be the new community member on the committee, and Mr. Bronson will continue on the committee in his new capacity as a Board member. Mr. Nitkewicz also shared that resident Mrs. Erin Meijer will also serve as a community member. The next committee meeting was scheduled for September 20th.

Mr. Ciappetta thanked Mrs. Meijer, who was in the audience, for agreeing to serve on the committee.

**Comments from
Board Members
and Staff:**

Mr. Nitkewicz congratulated Dr. Harris for obtaining her doctorate and thanked Dr. Harris for her service to the District.

Mr. Nitkewicz expressed his gratitude to the community, faculty and staff for their attendance at the Autism Speaks gala event. Mr. Nitkewicz added that the Autism Walk at Jones Beach was scheduled for October 1, 2017, and he welcomed the South Huntington learning community to join his team.

Lastly, Mr. Nitkewicz publically welcomed Mr. Sidney Joyner and Mr. Andrew Bronson to the South Huntington School District's Board of Education. He added that it had been quite some time since new members were added, and their transition to the Board was entirely seamless.

Mr. Ciappetta applauded those involved with the Unity Awareness Day for their efforts in making the event so successful. Mr. Ciappetta provided complimented Dr. Bennardo and Mrs. Thompson for spearheading the event. Mr. Ciappetta spoke highly of the event's purpose and proudly stated that "Every day is Unity Day in South Huntington."

Mr. Ciappetta paid tribute to Pamela Carey for singing the National Anthem during the dedication ceremony earlier in the evening, as well as the Custodial, Buildings and Grounds crew for doing such a great job.

Mr. Ciappetta reminded the audience that the SHEF Family Fun Day was scheduled for Saturday, September 16th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mr. Ciappetta commented on his tour of the school buildings on the first day of school; he claimed that one would have thought it was the 120th day of year. Dr. Bennardo agreed, and complimented the staff—teachers, teacher assistants, paras, nurses, secretaries, food service workers—all instructional and non-instructional staff—for making opening day go so smoothly.

Mr. Nitkewicz provided praise to Mr. Kaden for 24 years of public service, and

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shared that Mr. Ciappetta has filled very large footsteps already. Mr. Nitkewicz further added that Vice President Laura Carey deserved similar recognition. Her advancement from PTA Council President to Board Member to Vice President in a relatively short time was to be commended.

Voice of the Residents:

A resident in the audience posed the question to Mr. Ciappetta of the Governor's initiative announced the day prior to place State troopers at Huntington High School to thwart gang violence; will South Huntington be approached to do same? Mr. Ciappetta responded that the South Huntington School District was not selected. Dr. Bennardo added that the press conference was held at the Central Islip School District and that was where the Governor made the announcement. Dr. Bennardo further added that the South Huntington School District had not been asked by the Governor whatsoever.

Resident Erin Meijer commented on Mr. Ciappetta's favorable comments regarding the first day of school. As the parent of a kindergarten student, she shared how pleased she was that her son "hit the ground running." Mrs. Meijer complimented Mrs. Kenney and her staff for their support and the manner in which they do their jobs so effectively.

Adjournment:

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

The meeting was declared adjourned at 9:07 p.m.



Nicholas R. Ciappetta, J.D., President



Laura McLean, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 400 through 513.