

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on September 27, 2017, in the Gymnasium of the Silas Wood Sixth-Grade Center, 23 Harding Place, 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

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

**Executive Session:**    Motion by Mr. Bronson, seconded by Mrs. Carey, 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. Joyner, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Executive Session be adjourned.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ciappetta opened the Business Meeting at 7:30 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Audit Report by  
Ms. Marianne Van  
Duyne:**

Ms. Van Duyne thanked the Board for the invitation to report this evening with Mr. Brendan Nelson, an associate of Ms. Van Duyne's. Ms. Van Duyne communicated that she recently met with the Audit Committee and reviewed the audit report completed on the Extraclassroom Activity Funds, as well as the financial statements, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. Ms. Van Duyne stated that the District received an "unmodified" opinion, which she explained was the best opinion that could be received. Ms. Van Duyne complimented the Business Office staff with the procedures that were adhered to and the manner in which they performed their duties. Ms. Van Duyne emphasized that the District had a high Moody rating, and reserves were being utilized appropriately; additionally, the balance sheet was in a strong position. The reports were previously distributed to each Board member for their review.

September 27, 2017

At Mr. Ciappetta's request, Mr. Nitkewicz reported on the role of the Audit Committee and the Committee's members—namely, Mr. Bronson, Mrs. Erin Meijer, a resident and parent of a kindergarten student, Mr. Jim Kaden, former Board of Education President, Ms. Ruthanne Cooley, also a resident in the district, and Mr. Nitkewicz as Chairperson. Mr. Nitkewicz shared that the District was in a healthy and safe financial position.

Mr. Ciappetta asked Ms. Van Duyne about the status of the District's reserves, to which Ms. Van Duyne responded that the reserves were at a level where they should be—they were being used appropriately.

Dr. Bennardo provided a bit of history citing that in 2011/2012, the District was appropriating more reserve money, using approximately 4.3 million dollars and replenishing only 3.9 million dollars. Dr. Bennardo reported that continuing in that manner would have placed the District in an "over the cliff" situation, a phrase that gained much popularity in the tax-cap era. Dr. Bennardo continued and shared that in 2012/2013, the District was able to replenish the reserves, and he was pleased to announce that this course of action continued to date.

Mr. Ciappetta thanked Ms. Van Duyne and Mr. Nelson for coming to this evening's Board meeting, and also acknowledged Mr. Nitkewicz for his fine work with the Audit Committee.

**Girl Scouts School  
Bench Recognition:**

Mr. Ciappetta announced that the South Huntington School District had a proud and rich tradition of scouting. He mentioned that 11 high school students had obtained the esteemed rank of Eagle Scout. Mr. Ciappetta then shared that the Girl Scouts of Troop 239 had raised the bar even higher with the initiative of collecting approximately two tons of plastic caps and lids from schools, families and friends—even some from Board members. The girl scouts cleaned, bagged, and shipped the plastics to a facility where they were grinded down, melted, and turned into beautiful school benches. Each bench was six-feet long, and maroon in color. Benches have been placed at Silas Wood, Maplewood and Birchwood; and soon will be installed at both Oakwood and Countrywood. Benches at Walt Whitman and Stimson will follow. Mr. Ciappetta provided gratitude for the sponsors of the benches—Mathnasium for Silas Wood, Countrywood and Oakwood; Ms. Celeste Barone and the Bilodeau family for the Maplewood bench; and Adventureland for the Birchwood bench. Mr. Ciappetta shared that the Birchwood bench had been dedicated in memory of Christopher Alfaro, the third-grade student who had passed away last year. Tribute was also provided to the leaders of Girl Scout Troop 239—Chris Reilly, Debra Reilly, Gina Barone, Michele Goldberg Cahn, Allison Sperduti and Heather Zoller. Mr. Ciappetta proudly announced that the stars of this evening were the girl scouts who met the requirements to earn the prestigious Bronze Award. Mr. Ciappetta thanked the scouts for their contribution to the South Huntington learning community and recognized each for being such special young leaders. He announced the names of the Daisy scouts, and each came to the podium to receive a Certificate of Appreciation reflecting the support they

September 27, 2017

provided to the Junior Girl Scouts. Mr. Ciappetta then announced the names of the Junior Girl Scouts, “the outstanding young leaders that they are” and each received a Certificate of Achievement. A group photograph was taken—the girl scouts with the Board of Education and Cabinet members—and Mr. Ciappetta invited everyone to partake of the “celebratory” cupcakes brought in for this wonderful occasion.

<b>Adoption of Agenda:</b>	Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the revised agenda be adopted. Motion carried unanimously.
<b>Motion on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants):</b>	Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District approve the following items:
<b>Minutes:</b>	Minutes of Board meeting held on August 23, 2017.
<b>Schedule of Investment Accounts:</b>	Schedule of Investment Accounts, as of August 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 524.
<b>Treasurer's Report:</b>	Treasurer's Report, August 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 525.
<b>Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation, August 2017, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 526-544.
<b>Monthly Collateral Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Collateral Reconciliation, as of August 2017, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 545.
<b>Revenue Status Report, General Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, General Fund, as of August 2017, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 546.
<b>Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund, August 2017, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 547.
<b>Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund, August 2017, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 548.
<b>Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund, August 2017, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 549.



September 27, 2017

<b>Schedule of Bills (Warrants):</b>	General (A)	Warrant 23	\$99.00
		24	\$1,865,654.91
		25	\$690,000.00
		26	\$77,306.25
		27	\$11,463.80
		V024	(\$195.00)
	School Lunch (C)	Warrant 12	\$18,136.50
Special Aid (F)	Warrant 9	\$95,852.60	
	V009	(\$392.00)	
<u>Approved - Board Packet of September 15, 2017</u>			
	General (A)	Warrant 20	\$82,498.89
		21	\$1,175,000.00
		22	\$170,950.00
School Lunch (C)	Warrant 11	\$3,011.10	
Special Aid (F)	Warrant 8	\$119,435.57	

**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.

**Guests and Delegations:** Ms. Marianne Van Duyne and Mr. Brendan Nelson of R. S. Abrams & Co., LLP

**Approval of Tax Levy:** Mr. Nitkewicz offered the following resolution and Mrs. Carey moved its adoption:

Resolved, that pursuant to Section 8 of the Suffolk County Tax Act and based upon the assessed valuation of \$43,085,091, 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:

	<u>Amount to Be Levied</u>	<u>Computed Tax Rate</u>
Per \$1,000.00		
For Regular School Purposes	\$112,183,534	\$2,603.77
For District Public Library	\$ 5,923,941	\$ 137.50
School & Library Tax/\$1,000	\$118,107,475	\$2,741.27

Motion carried unanimously.

September 27, 2017

**Approval of Music  
Consultant:**

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 appoints Mr. Allan Deitz to the position of Music Consultant retroactive for the period of July 7, 2017, through June 30, 2018, with terms outlined in attached agreement, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 572-577.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of  
Conference  
Workshop with  
Cost Over \$1,500:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the Travel/Conference Request for \$2,601.27, representing the registration fee for an Advanced Placement Spanish course taken during the summer of 2017, for Mr. Dennis Callahan.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bennardo explained that Mr. Callahan, scheduled to teach AP Spanish during the 2017/2018, took the required course over the summer.

**Approval of  
Attendance to the  
Nassau-Suffolk  
School Boards  
Association  
Conference:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the attendance of the Superintendent, Board President and Board Member to attend the Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association's Annual Resolutions Dinner Meeting, September 28, 2017.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of  
Attendance to the  
Boy Scouts of  
America 2017 Good  
Deed & Excellence  
in Education  
Award Dinner:**

Motion by Mr. Bronson, seconded by Mr. Joyner, that the agenda be amended to include the attendance of all Board members to the October 26, 2017, Award Dinner. Motion to amend approved unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. Carey, that the attendance of all Board members be approved to the Boy Scouts of America 2017 Good Deed & Excellence in Education Award Dinner whereby the Superintendent was being honored on October 26, 2017.

Motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

**Amendment to  
Plan-403(b)  
Retirement Plan:**

Mr. Joyner offered the following resolution and Mr. Bronson moved its adoption:

Whereas, the South Huntington UFSD ("District") maintains the South Huntington UFSD 403(b) Retirement Plan ("Plan"); and

Whereas, the Plan was duly adopted effective the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2009, by the District's Board of Education ("Board"); and

Whereas, the Board desires to amend the Plan to permit Roth 403(b) Contributions and the in-plan rollover of a Non-Roth Account to a Roth Account effective the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2017;

September 27, 2017

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that Section 6.6 Roth 403(b) Contributions of the Plan is hereby amended to read in accordance with the accompanying Resolution to Amend, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 578.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Confidential  
Personnel  
Resolution:**

Mrs. Carey offered the following resolution and Mr. Nitkewicz moved its adoption:

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby accepts charges preferred by the Superintendent of Schools pursuant to §75 of the Civil Service Law against an employee identified in the Notice of Charges dated September 27, 2017, and appoints Laurie Nolan, Esq., to serve as the Hearing Officer to make findings of fact and recommendations to the Board with respect to those charges, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 579-581.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of  
Donation from  
SHEF/Miles for  
Michael to District:**

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 donation in the amount of \$5,947 utilized for the purchase of a Marching Battery Percussion set for Stimson Middle School and three high-end cameras for the Photography classes at WWHS.

Motion carried unanimously.

At Mr. Ciappetta's request, Mrs. Buhse shared that she is working her way throughout the schools to ascertain the specific needs related to the Arts in each building, and assist in that manner utilizing monies raised through the Miles for Michael Run. Mr. Ciappetta thanked Mrs. Buhse for her fund-raising efforts and for the work she does on behalf of the students in the District.

**Approval of the  
National Dance  
Alliance  
Agreement:**

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 authorizes the District to enter into an Agreement with the National Dance Alliance for use of our Walt Whitman H.S. in January 2018; and

Be it Further Resolved that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President, or his designee, to execute such Agreement with the North Bay Spirit Championship/National Dance Alliance, which has been previously reviewed by Ingerman Smith, on behalf of the Board of Education. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Field  
Trip Request:**

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 field trip request to Camp Alvernia, Centerport, New York, for the Natural Helper members on Thursday, November 9, and Friday, November 10, 2017, for 50 students and 10 chaperones.

Motion carried unanimously.

September 27, 2017

**Approval of Field  
Trip Request:**

Motion by Mr. Bronson, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the field trip request to Orlando, Florida, to the National Dance Championship on Thursday, March 1 through Monday, March 5, 2018, for the Varsity Dance Team, Grades 9-12, for 21 students and two chaperones.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Field  
Trip Request:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Joyner, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the field trip request to Washington, D.C., for the Grade 8 National Junior Honor Society members on Monday, March 26 through Wednesday, March 28, 2018, for 120 students and 15 chaperones.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of  
Amendment to  
Board Policy §6213,  
Employment of  
Relatives of Board  
of Education  
Members:**

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. LaCara, be it Resolved that Policy §6213, Employment of Relatives of Board of Education Members, be amended as submitted.

Motion carried 6 to 0; Mr. Bronson abstained.

**Approval of Grant  
Disbursement  
Agreements:**

Mrs. LaCara offered the following resolution and Mr. Nitkewicz moved its adoption:

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the Grant Disbursement Agreement for Grant No. 7014 (Refurbishment of Softball and Baseball Fields), as well as Grant No. 7750 (Repair to Track at Walt Whitman High School).

Be it Further Resolved that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to sign this amendment.

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 May 17, 25, June 13, July 10, 19, 26, 27, Aug. 3, 9, 17, 18, 24, 31, Sept. 6, 11, 12, 13, 15, 19, 2017, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated Aug. 9, 10, 28, Sept. 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 19, 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. 582-598.

Motion carried unanimously.



September 27, 2017

**Personnel:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, that the agenda be amended with the removal of a permanent substitute teacher noted on Schedule 22 as announced by Dr. Bennardo. Motion to amend carried 6 to 0; Mr. Bronson abstained.

Motion by Mrs. Carey, 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. 599-613, and authorizes implementation thereof:

- Schedule 2: Probationary Appointments (Instructional)
- Schedule 5: Part-time Appointments (Instructional)
- Schedule 9: Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)
- Schedule 10: Tenure Appointments
- 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.)

Motion, as amended, carried 6 to 0; Mr. Bronson abstained.

**Information and Reports:**

1. Letter to Mr. Tyree of Town of Huntington re Sump Issue from Dr. Bennardo
2. Parent/Guardian Letter from Principal Murphy re The College Advantage Program
3. Student Thank You Letter from Principal Murphy re Assistance with Parent Orientation Night
4. Parent/Guardian Letter from Principal Smith re Curriculum Night, Sept. 28th
5. Track & Field Invitation – October 17, 2017, 10 a.m., WWHS Track
6. Personnel Postings (17)
7. The Long-Islander (4)

Information Sent to Board Week Ending September 15, 2017

1. Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes from September 12, 2017
2. Audit Committee Agenda for September 20, 2017
3. Memorandum from Dr. Harris re Frist Four Days of Enrollment
4. Save the Date for WS BOCES Annual Dinner, Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017
5. Save the Date for WS BOCES Legislative Program, January 19, 2018
6. SHTA Executive Board Meeting Minutes from Sept. 11, 2017, Meeting
7. Personnel Postings
8. The Silas Scoop, September 2017
9. Ingerman Smith--NYS Paid Family Leave Benefits Law, Sept. 15, 2017
10. The Long-Islander (2)

September 27, 2017

**Committee  
Updates:**

Mr. Ciappetta asked Mr. Joyner to report on the recent SHEF meeting that took place on September 19, 2017. Mr. Joyner thanked Mr. Ciappetta and shared that this was his first SHEF meeting. The first item discussed was regarding the SHEF Family Fun Day, and it was determined that the date be returned to the first Sunday after school begins. With the date used this year, the attendance was down, and there simply was too much competition with the various activities that took place with the second weekend—the Pickle Festival, the Cow Harbor Race, etc. Also discussed was the Chamber of Commerce event taking place on October 24, 2017, where SHEF will host the Chamber meeting prior to the SHEF meeting. This “business social” was hoped to increase sponsorship. In addition to finger foods, a tour will be conducted of the SHEF Maker Space (the Google Room). Mr. Joyner shared a payroll deduction initiative to garner more payroll contributions to SHEF will be implemented shortly. Additionally, Mr. Joyner spoke of the new logo development, and the gala event scheduled for April 19, 2018, where three individuals will be honored—a business person, teacher and former employee.

**Comments from  
Board Members  
and Staff:**

Mr. Nitkewicz announced the October 1<sup>st</sup> Autism Walk at Jones Beach starting at 9 a.m.; he added that he and his team will be there, and anyone wishing to walk were welcome to join him.

Mr. Ciappetta reported that the annual Wildcat Football game will take place on Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at Maplewood.

**Voice of the  
Residents:**

Visitors were invited to participate.

**Adjournment:**

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

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



Nicholas R. Ciappetta, J.D., President



Laura McLean, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 524 through 613.