

January 31, 2018

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on Wednesday, January 31, 2018, at Walt Whitman High School, 301 West Hills Road, Huntington Station, New York.

**Present:**        **Board Members:**

President  
Vice President

Mr. Ciappetta  
Mrs. Carey  
Mr. Bronson  
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

**Absent:**        Mrs. DeGaetano, Board Member

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

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

Mr. Ciappetta opened the Business Meeting at 7:44 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Moment of Silence:**        Mr. Ciappetta shared with the audience that the South Huntington learning family recently lost a member, Phil Schaffer. Mr. Ciappetta added that Phil served as the District's Data Control Specialist for the past 12 years. Before coming to South Huntington, Phil worked for Eastern Suffolk BOCES, as well as for Con Edison. Mr. Ciappetta said that as the Data Control Specialist, Phil served in a behind-the-scenes position. His responsibilities included navigating massive amounts of district information, ensuring the accuracy, quality and integrity for safeguarding and retrieval purposes. Phil managed timelines, closing dates and extensions with absolute precision. Mr. Ciappetta reported that in Phil's memory and honor, the Instruction and Curriculum Office established a scholarship that will be provided to a graduate of Walt Whitman High School. Contributions to the scholarship

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were ongoing through March 31, 2018, and the funds collected will be matched by Phil's family. For those interested in contributing to the scholarship, Mr. Ciappetta asked that contact be made through the Superintendent's Office.

**Teacher of the Year Recognition:**

Personnel Administrator Frank Fallon welcomed family, friends, staff members and honored guests to this evening's celebration whereby recognition will be provided to seven outstanding teachers who go above and beyond. Mr. Fallon explained that the Teacher of the Year Program is one of the most prestigious in the United States.

Mr. Ciappetta approached the podium and explained that he felt compelled to speak as Board President, as the Board of Education treasured the relationship with its teachers. Mr. Ciappetta added that despite the smartest administration and the most dedicated Board of Education, without great teachers, children would not receive the education they deserve. Mr. Ciappetta shared that we recognize these seven individuals for their professionalism, compassion and dedication—qualities that hallmark our District. Mr. Ciappetta spoke of the nick names for public employees in New York City, such as the police as the "finest" and firefighters as the "bravest." He shared he would call teachers the "kindest," as there was no kinder act than helping a child to learn. Mr. Ciappetta congratulated each of the Teachers of the Year, and sincerely thanked them for their service to the District.

Dr. Bennardo echoed Mr. Ciappetta's comments and shared a poignant story from his childhood. At a long ago Thanksgiving dinner, an older cousin, a senior in high school at that time, had announced he would not pursue teaching as a career. Dr. Bennardo explained that both his parents were teachers, as were most of his relatives. His father made no immediate comment at the remark at first, but later stated that his children were his most precious jewels, and those precious jewels were brightly polished by none other than teachers. Dr. Bennardo gently shared that teachers love the ones that we love, such a unique relationship. He thanked all teachers in the audience for what they did to shine a bright light on our District.

Mr. Callahan addressed the audience and provided touching remarks regarding each of the Teacher of the Year nominees and congratulated each teacher on this special recognition.

Huntington Town Supervisor Chad Lupinacci approached the podium and congratulated the Teachers of the Year on behalf of the Town of Huntington. He added that our teachers inspire students to fulfill their goals, whether it was attendance at a college or university or a trade school. Tonight, he shared, was a proud night for the South Huntington community.

Mr. Fallon asked Mr. Ciappetta, Mrs. Carey and Dr. Bennardo to join him at the podium for the presentation of the Teacher of the Year plaques. Additionally, each building principal spoke to the attributes of their

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building's Teacher of the Year. The following teachers were recognized:

Countrywood Primary Center – Patricia Trebour  
Oakwood Primary Center – Jeannette DeNuzzo  
Birchwood Intermediate School – Jennifer Yonkers  
Maplewood Intermediate School – Kristin Trapani  
Silas Wood Sixth-Grade Center – Margaret Silvera  
Stimson Middle School – Marissa McCord

Walt Whitman High School – Annmarie Bunce as the South Huntington U.F.S.D. Teacher of the Year.

As the South Huntington Teacher of the Year, Ms. Bunce addressed the audience and thanked several people who influenced and inspired her—namely, her first Department Chairperson Alice D'Addario, her second Department Chairperson, Dr. Corcoran, and Special Education teacher Ben Blair, who had passed away almost two years ago. Ms. Bunce shared how appreciative she was of their wisdom enabling her to be the best she could be. Ms. Bunce cited her belief in looking deeply into a student's life, as it can change you, and what you say was so very important. Mrs. Bunce recalled the attack of the Twin Towers on 9/11; she firmly stated that on that terrible day, our District shined. The morning of the attack, one of her students approached her and in fear shared that his father worked at One World Trade Center. Ms. Bunce escorted the student to the Guidance Department, where communication was made, and the student learned that the father was late for a meeting and never made it to the building. The delay saved his life. The connections made on that fateful day, shared Ms. Bunce, were long lasting ones. Ms. Bunce provided accolades to the District and added that she worked with a great teaching team, a great building-level administrative team, and a great District.

Ms. Bunce addressed the current Board of Education and from the heart thanked them profusely for the support they provided to make the District shine. Ms. Bunce stated that our Board of Education allowed for fabulous programs, such as Relay for Life that raised \$35,000 in 2005; the PLUS program, one that deals with a small group of students, but allowed by the Board as it was the right thing to do. Ms. Bunce spoke of the alternative high school, also a Board initiative, a setting that provided amazing results for students who require more individualized attention. In closing, Ms. Bunce shared how grateful she was for this honor. She spoke to the connections with people that cannot be faked; furthermore, that teaching cannot be faked, and you cannot fake energy. Her only regret was that the students were at the high school for four very short years. The audience provided Ms. Bunce with an overwhelming standing ovation.

Mr. Fallon thanked the Board of Education for their support for this program and announced that there would be a 15-minute break for photo opportunities.

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<b>Adoption of Agenda:</b>	Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Bronson, be it Resolved that the agenda be adopted. Motion carried unanimously.
<b>Motion on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants):</b>	Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, 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 December 13, 2017.
<b>Schedule of Investment Accounts:</b>	Schedule of Investment Accounts, as of November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 981-982.
<b>Treasurer's Report:</b>	Treasurer's Report, November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 983-984.
<b>Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation, November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 985-1022.
<b>Monthly Collateral Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Collateral Reconciliation, as of November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1023-1024.
<b>Revenue Status Report, General Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, General Fund, for November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1025-1026.
<b>Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund, November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1027-1028.
<b>Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund, November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1029-1030.
<b>Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund, November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1031-1032.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) General Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), General Fund, for November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1033-1048.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) School Lunch Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), School Lunch Fund, for November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1049-1050.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Special Aid Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Special Aid Fund, for November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1051-1054.

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<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Capital Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Capital Fund, for November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1055-1056.			
<b>Budgetary Transfer Report:</b>	Budgetary Transfer Report, for November and December, 2017, copies made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1057-1058.			
<b>Tax Levy Schedule:</b>	Tax Levy Schedule, November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1059-1060.			
<b>Library Tax Levy:</b>	Library Tax Levy, November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1059-1060.			
<b>Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report:</b>	Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report, November and December, 2017, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1061-1077.			
<b>Schedule of Bills (Warrants):</b>	General (A)	Schedule 65	\$122,383.52	
		66	\$45,392.09	
	School Lunch	Schedule 27	\$33,552.08	
		V027	(\$166.39)	
	Special Aid (F)	Schedule 27	\$10,370.53	
	Capital Checking (H)	Schedule 10	\$3,970.02	
		V010	(\$3,970.02)	
		11	\$3,970.02	
	<u>Approved – Weekly Packet of January 19, 2018</u>			
	General (A)	Medicare	Schedule 54	\$455,266.00
			59	\$27,104.62
			60	\$248,592.53
			61	\$11,666.67
			62	\$70,837.83
			63	\$1,480,985.25
	School Lunch	Schedule 26	\$7,027.54	
	Special Aid (F)	26	\$7,992.26	
	<u>Approved – Weekly Packet of January 12, 2018</u>			
	General (A)	Schedule 57	\$14,033.73	
		58	\$1,607,357.83	
	School Lunch	Schedule 25	\$33,921.52	
	Special Aid (F)	Schedule 25	\$39,102.24	
	Capital Fund (H)	Schedule 9	\$3,992.00	

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- 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.
- 2018/2019 Calendar Approval:** 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 recommendation for the 2018/2019 school calendar as submitted by the Calendar Committee, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1078.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- Donation Approval:** 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 \$1,500 donation from Dr. Jodi L. Knott to be used exclusively for the Stimson Middle School Dance Team, with the appropriate budget code to be increased accordingly.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- Donation Approval:** 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 \$2,000 donation from Mathnasium to be used exclusively for the co-sponsorship of the NDA Regional Dance Team Championship, with the appropriate budget code to be increased accordingly.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- Request for Course Approvals:** Motion by Mr. Joyner, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the two full-year courses—Virtual Enterprise 2 and Accelerated Geometry Honors—for approval for the 2018/2019 school year.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- Percussion Equipment to be Deemed Obsolete:** 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 deems the percussion equipment identified as obsolete and approves the equipment to be put out to bid accordingly.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- Extension of Agreement with Huntington Hospital:** Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mr. Joyner, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the extension of the agreement through June 30, 2018, with Huntington Hospital that provides career exploration opportunities for Walt Whitman High School students, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1079-1082.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- Single Audit Report Approval:** 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 accepts, as submitted, the Single Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, prepared for the District by R. S. Abrams & Co., L.L.P., a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1083-1088.  
Motion carried unanimously.

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**Field Trip Request Approval:** Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mr. Joyner, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the overnight field trip to the Riverside Convention Center in Rochester, New York, March 6-9, 2018, for students participating in the NYS DECA Competition.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Field Trip Request Approval:** 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 field trip to the Museum of Modern Art in New York City on February 2, 2018, for the World Language Honor Society students.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Field Trip Request Approval:** 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 three day-trip requests for the Walt Whitman High School Marching Band to travel to various marching band competitions in New Jersey on February 24, 2018, March 31, 2018, and April 8, 2018.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Contract Approval for Per Diem** Mrs. LaCara moved, with a second from Mrs. Carey, to table this matter as it was no longer necessary.

**Special Education Administrator:** Motion, to table, carried unanimously.

Dr. Bennardo shared that, gratefully, the need for the per diem administrator no longer existed; the staff member had returned to work and was doing well.

**Level III Field Use Charges Approval Re Policy §3280, Community Use of Facilities:** 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 adopts the Board Policy §3280 Field Use Charges for Level III Use of Turf Field and all other Athletic Fields, as well as the Level III Use of the Performing Arts Center, as submitted, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1089.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ciappetta reported that the Facilities Committee reviewed the Field Use Charges, as did Mr. Bronson, Chairperson of the Board Policy Committee. Dr. Bennardo stated that the Level III users were profit-making organizations that bring in large numbers of teams, especially with tournaments. There could be several hundred people at one time utilizing the fields, and the related wear and tear was significant. The charges posed on the organizations will provide the funding for maintaining the athletic fields. Mr. Nitkewicz noted that the damage done (to the fields) prevented our own students from free access to the fields.

Motion by Mr. Bronson, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District, having

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

reviewed minutes of the Committee on Special Education dated December 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 2017, January 3, 10, 11, 16, 18, 2018, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated November 13, 2017, January 2, 8, 9, 16, 18, 2018, 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. 1090-1103. Motion carried unanimously.

**Personnel:**

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mr. Joyner, 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.1104-1118, and authorizes implementation thereof:

Schedule 2: Probationary Appointments (Instructional)  
 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 15: Appointments (Non-Instructional)  
 Schedule 16: Terminations (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.

**Information and  
Reports:**

Information and Reports

1. Invitation to the Board of Education from the Countrywood Site-Based Management Team for Read Across America on 3/2/18
2. Personnel Postings
3. The Long-Islander
4. Adult Education Brochure/Spring – Sponsored for the First Time by Medi-Center, Robert E. Scully, M.D., F.A.C.P. (Provided at Meeting)
5. Western Suffolk BOCES 2018-2019 Shared Services Guide (Provided at Meeting)
6. NYSIR News, December 2017 and NYSIR Legal Digest, Winter, 2017 (Provided at Meeting)
7. SHTA Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting – January 22, 2018
8. Appreciation Letter to Senior Follies Participants from Principal Murphy
9. Parent/Guardian Letter re AP Exam Cost/Fee
10. Congratulatory Letter to DECA Students re Recent Competition from Principal Murphy
11. Sponsorship Thank You Letters re Cheerleading Competition from Superintendent
12. Thank You Letters re Dance Competition from Superintendent



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Information and Reports – Board Packet of January 19, 2018

1. Facilities Committee Agenda
2. Ingerman Smith Attendance and School Calendar Guidelines Update to Part II dated January 16, 2018
3. Western Suffolk BOCES Appreciation Letter re Lending Staff Member in Weather Emergency Situation
4. The Long-Islander (3 Articles)
5. Newsday (1 Article)

Information and Reports Board Packet of January 12, 2018

1. Handwritten Congratulatory Letters to Each Building's Teacher of the Year from Superintendent
2. Congratulatory Letter to DECA Students re Recent Competition from Superintendent
3. Appreciation Letter to Sponsors re Recent Events from Superintendent
4. Donation Thank You Letter to Kaden Family from Superintendent
5. Congratulatory Letter to SCMEA Participants re All County Festival from Superintendent
6. Thank You to Student Musicians for Huntington Township Inauguration from Superintendent
7. Ingerman Smith Memo re New Law Amending FOIL Requests
8. Ingerman Smith Memo re Update No. 2 re Attendance and School Calendar Guidelines for State Aid
9. Personnel Postings
10. Thank You Letter to Board of Education re Journal Ad for Gugliotta Tournament from Coach Fitzpatrick
11. The Silas Scoop for January, 2018
12. The Long-Islander (2 Articles)

**Committee Updates:**

Mr. Joyner reported on the forthcoming SHEF fundraising Gala event scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2018, at the Oyster Bay Mansion in Woodbury. Mr. Joyner shared that the event will start at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour and three individuals will be recognized—one from the District's past—Alice D'Addario; one from the District's present—Kim Latko; and one from the District's future—Bob Budha. Mr. Joyner provided information pertaining to each honoree and added that participation at the fundraising event should prove to be worthwhile and entertaining. Publicity regarding the gala will be released shortly to staff and community members.

Mr. Nitkewicz reported that the Audit Committee had met January 29<sup>th</sup> and he was pleased to share that nothing of significance was reported by Cerini and Associates with their Claims Audit Report. The same was true with the Internal Audit Report submitted by Nawrocki Smith.

Mr. Ciappetta reported on the Facilities Committee's meeting from January 22<sup>nd</sup> and shared the progress of various projects as follows:

- Work with the Student Services office at WWHS will be addressed over the February break;

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- The Board Room at the JKAO should be completed on or around February 28, 2018;
- The Main Office at WWHS will be worked on over the forthcoming summer;
- Damage at tennis courts at WWHS and Stimson to be addressed, money has been allocated. This was a weather-related project as it needed to be above 55 degrees for the corrections to be made;
- The Facility Survey had closed, and the results have been reviewed. A more formal presentation will be conducted after the results have been further evaluated;
- The Teen Center work will be covered by a grant; it was a three-phase project that should begin in the spring.

**Comments from Board Members and Staff:**

Mr. Nitkewicz expressed concern regarding the lack of school for the Life Skills students during the administration of the Regents and mid-terms during the four-day period from January 22-25, 2018. While it had been suggested that the Curriculum Committee address this issue, he was unsure that it was in fact a Curriculum Committee matter. Mrs. Carey responded that the Curriculum Committee can discuss this issue and report back accordingly. Mr. Nitkewicz articulated his position that it was a Board issue, not a curriculum matter. Mr. Ciappetta asked Dr. Bennardo to look into this concern further and report back to the Board. Dr. Bennardo agreed to do so.

Mr. Ciappetta thanked everyone involved with tonight's Teacher of the Year Program that showcased our District so beautifully.

**Voice of the Residents:**

Visitors were invited to participate.

**Adjournment:**

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

The meeting was declared adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

  
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Nicholas R. Ciappetta, J.D., President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura McLean, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 981 through 1118.