

The official public hearing on the 2012-13 school budget was held by the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, in the Performing Arts Center of Walt Whitman High School, 301 West Hills Road, Huntington Station, New York. Regular business was also conducted.

Present: **Board Members:**

President
Vice President

Mr. Kaden
Mr. Teresky
Mrs. Brieff
Mr. Ciappetta *
Mr. Lupinacci
Mr. Nitkewicz

Staff:

Superintendent of Schools
Asst. Supt. for Business
Asst. Supt. for Student Services
Asst. Supt. for Instruction & Curriculum
Asst. Supt. for Personnel & District Services
District Clerk

Dr. Shea
Mrs. Occhiogrosso
Ms. Harris
Dr. Eagen
Dr. Centamore
Mrs. Hammond

* Mr. Ciappetta was excused at 8:25 p.m. to attend to an urgent family matter.

Absent: Board Member

Mrs. LaCara

Call to Order: Mr. Kaden opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Executive Session: Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mr. Teresky, 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. Lupinacci, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Executive Session be adjourned.
Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kaden opened the Business Meeting at 7:48 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Statement by
SHTA President
Dennis Callahan:**

Mr. Kaden announced that the district had good news to share. The district and the South Huntington Teachers' Association had reached an agreement. Mr. Kaden introduced SHTA President Dennis Callahan. Mr. Callahan stated that it was with great pleasure that he could announce a contract settlement between the South Huntington Teachers' Association and the Board of Education. Mr. Callahan stated that the three year deal would provide the school district with adequate funds to restore full day Kindergarten and middle school sports in the coming year. Mr. Callahan noted that his membership had agreed to significant

**Statement by
SHTA President
Dennis Callahan:
(Continued)**

salary concessions including a complete salary freeze in year one, elimination of the step increase in year 2 and a 0% salary increase in year 3. Mr. Callahan stated that the teachers made a hard financial sacrifice for the best interests of the children in South Huntington and approved the contract by a wide margin. Mr. Callahan stated that while restoring some of the programs was commendable, he challenged the Board to restore the remaining cuts in programs. Mr. Callahan suggested paying for the restorations by not replacing administration as they retire, accepting the retirement incentive even though they did not reach the required fifteen participants and dipping into the \$12 million dollars in reserves in order to make up any shortfall. Mr. Callahan also challenged the community to do their part and pass the budget. Mr. Callahan concluded by stating that it was important for everyone to rally together and work collaboratively as one unified South Huntington community.

Mr. Kaden expressed his thanks to Mr. Callahan and the teachers. Mr. Kaden noted that this was a very good process done with the community in mind.

**Proposed Budget
Amendments:**

The Board held a discussion with regard to the restoration of programs as a result of the contract settlement with the teachers' association. It was the unanimous decision of the Board to restore the following programs:

1. Full Day Kindergarten
2. Middle School Sports
3. WWHS Dance Program
4. Fall Theatre Program
5. Teacher Retirement Incentive

Several residents addressed the Board with the following requests or questions:

1. Restore cuts made to the music and arts program.
2. Restore middle school clubs.
3. Restore Challenge Program.
4. Restore WWHS Dance Program.
5. Why is South Huntington's tax rate so much higher than surrounding school districts?
6. A resident stated that the Kindergarten program is an academic matter and should be given the importance it deserves. She wanted to reinforce that.
7. A resident asked what the size of next year's Kindergarten classes would be? Dr. Shea stated that it would depend on the number of students registered but he would predict between 23-24 students next year.
8. A resident suggested that we look at other districts to see how they are keeping their programs intact. She would also like to see a lower tax rate and money spent more wisely.
9. Does the district look into refinancing their debt service? Mr. Kaden stated that the district does continually look into this and does refinance.

**Proposed Budget
Amendments:
(Continued)**

Many residents expressed their thanks and appreciation to the teachers' association for their contract settlement. Resident Mike Pastore thanked the Board for all their hard work and for the time they put into the budget.

Recess:

Mr. Kaden called for a brief recess.

**Public Hearing on
the 2012-2013
School Budget:**

Dr. Shea began the Public Hearing presentation by stating that the proposed budget that was adopted at the April 4 meeting was \$142,943,982. Dr. Shea noted that it was a 1.92% budget increase and a 4.74% tax rate increase. Dr. Shea then reviewed the 2012-13 revenue summary compared to 2011-12. Dr. Shea noted that there is a difference of -\$905,199 for 2012-13.

Dr. Shea reviewed the estimated tax rate implications which was based on estimated real property assessed valuation from the Town of Huntington and proposed state aid revenues:

- Budget to Budget Increase 1.92%
- Tax Rate Increase 4.74%
- Tax Rate/1000 \$2,323.17
- 2012-13 Increase \$105.07
- Increased Based on Home Assessed at \$3,500 \$367.75

Dr. Shea also reviewed the estimated tax rate analysis and the estimated tax increase on the assessed value of a home in South Huntington.

Dr. Shea noted that if the budget was defeated twice, it was the law that the district must go on contingency. Dr. Shea concluded his presentation with a review of the contingency budget numbers. The contingency budget would be \$136,149,838, which is a -2.93% budget change and a 1.12% tax rate change. Dr. Shea noted that the difference between the proposed budget and the contingency budget is -\$6,794,144. Dr. Shea noted that if the voters rejected the budget and the District went on contingency, the District would be required, by law, to cut out certain items from the budget. Dr. Shea reviewed some of these mandatory cuts:

- Equipment \$161,493
 - Use of Facilities 50,000
 - Student Supplies 15,000
 - Summer Camp/Programs 214,200
 - Administrative Cap 270,571
- \$711,210

**Public Hearing on
the 2012-2013
School Budget:
(Continued)**

Dr. Shea reviewed some of the additional cuts needed to reduce the budget by \$6,794,144:

• Supplies	\$131,680
• Copy Paper	25,000
• Extra-Curricular Activities	275,000
• Sports	851,123
• Summer School	263,950
• Alternative High School	227,022
• Administration	167,631
• Clerical	279,905
• Paraprofessionals	109,360
• Teachers	<u>3,752,263</u>
	\$6,082,934

Total Cuts	\$6,794,144
------------	-------------

Following Dr. Shea's presentation, the board and audience were then given an opportunity for questions and discussion.

It was noted that there would be a Meet the Candidates forum sponsored by the NAACP at the South Huntington Public Library on May 10 between the hours of 7:00-9:00 p.m.

A resident expressed her thanks and appreciation to the teachers' association for their generosity. She also thanked the Board for all their hard work.

A resident asked for an explanation of why our district is hit so hard by the lowering of assessed valuation. Mr. Kaden gave an explanation.

Dr. Shea personally thanked Mr. Callahan and the teachers' association for their settlement. Dr. Shea stated that clearly Mr. Callahan "gets it" knowing that he and his members needed to be a part of the solution.

A resident thanked the Board for restoring the bowling team. She also thanked Donna of the Booster Club for all her help. She encouraged everyone to volunteer their time and help the Booster Club.

Pat Dell stated that she was glad to see the teachers' association reached a settlement but she wanted to point out that several years ago the office staff, paraprofessionals and custodians agreed to a give back. She feels everyone should be thanked for what they have done.

Robert Bartolomeo stated that he hoped that everyone would remember next year that we have to be united. Mr. Bartolomeo noted that this was a difficult year and he thanked the Board for telling the public what they did not want to hear.

Adoption of Agenda:	Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the revised tentative agenda be adopted. Motion carried unanimously.
Motion on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants):	Motion by Mr. Lupinacci, 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 April 4, 2012.
Schedule of Investment Accounts:	Schedule of Investment Accounts, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1228.
Treasurer's Report:	Treasurer's Report, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1229.
Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation:	Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1230-1243.
Monthly Collateral Reconciliation:	Monthly Collateral Reconciliation, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1244.
Revenue Status Report, General Fund:	Revenue Status Report, General Fund, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1245.
Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund:	Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1246.
Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund:	Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1247.
Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund:	Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1248.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) General Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), General Fund, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1249-1253.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) School Lunch Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), School Lunch Fund, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1254.

Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Special Aid Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Special Aid Fund, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1255.		
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Capital Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Capital Fund, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1256-1257.		
Budgetary Transfer Report:	Budgetary Transfer Report, March 2012, copies made part of these legal minutes, p. 1258.		
Tax Levy Schedule:	Tax Levy Schedule, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1259.		
Library Tax Levy:	Library Tax Levy, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1259.		
Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report:	Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report, March 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1260-1263.		
Bids:	The following bids, as recommended by Administration on schedules made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1264-1268.		
	RFP for Group Health Insurance	Schedule 12-09R	
Schedule of Bills (Warrants):	General Fund	Warrant 103	\$ 1,234,787.35
	"	104	11,666.67
	"	V000	(81.25)
	School Lunch	43	6,537.18
	Special Aid	41	75,612.55
	Capital Reserve Bond	43	9,355.36
	"	44	9,355.36
	"	V043	(9,355.36)
	<u>Approved – Board Packet of April 27, 2012</u>		
	General Fund	Warrant 99	\$ 1,817.99
	"	100	2,285,235.04
	"	101	4,338.26
	"	102	34.20
	"	V097	(4,241.00)
	School Lunch	42	13,723.02
	Special Aid	40	14,908.95
	Capital Reserve Bond	42	9,716.21

Schedule of Bills	<u>Approved – Board Packet of April 13, 2012</u>		
(Warrants):	General Fund	Warrant 93	\$176,899.00
(Continued)	"	94	11,666.67
	"	95	6,574.56
	"	V091	(23.98)
	School Lunch	39	29,810.83
	"	40	319.88
	Special Aid	38	53,846.41
	Capital Reserve Bond	39	180,681.762

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

- Communications:**
1. **Confidential** letter from Marilyn Lemke re a student matter
 2. Letter from Brianna Calby re Whitman's Dance Program
 Ms. Calby read her letter earlier in the meeting.

Ratification of Memorandum of Agreement with SHTA: Motion by Mr. Lupinacci, seconded by Mrs. Briefff, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves and authorizes the April 24, 2012, Memorandum of Agreement with the South Huntington Teachers' Association;
 Be it Further Resolved, that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to sign a more formal agreement in conformity with the Memorandum of Agreement.
 Motion carried unanimously.

Organization Chart: Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Teresky, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the revised Organization Chart, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1269.
 Motion carried unanimously.

Donation of Theatre Extra-Classroom Funds to the General Fund: Motion by Mrs. Briefff, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the donation of \$9,673.50 from the Theatre Extra-classroom Funds to the General Fund for the purpose of funding the 2011-2012 Walt Whitman High School Fall Drama production.
 Motion carried unanimously.

- Recommendations for Placement by CSE/CPSE:** Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, 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 1, 8, 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, April 2, 3, 4, 10, 16, 18, 25 and 26, 2012, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated April 2, 20, 23 and May 1, 2012, 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. 1270-1296.
Motion carried unanimously.
- SHTA and SHCA Retirement Incentive:** Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Teresky, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves and authorizes the Retirement Incentive Agreement between the District and the South Huntington Teachers' Association and the South Huntington Chairpersons' Association.
Motion carried unanimously.
- Personnel:** Motion by Mr. Lupinacci, 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. 1297-1300, and authorizes implementation thereof:
Schedule 8 – Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)
Schedule 10 – Terminations (Instructional)
Schedule 15 – Terminations (Non-Instructional)
Schedule 23 – Substitute Employees (Instructional)
Motion carried unanimously.
- Information and Reports:**
1. Memo to Dr. Shea from Ms. Harris re School Grade Enrollment Report for the First Attendance Period April 2, 2012 through April 30, 2012
 2. **Confidential** memo from Ingerman Smith, LLP re a personnel matter
 3. Flyer re Ingerman Smith's APPR Breakfast Workshop to be held on Thursday, May 10, 2012
 4. Memo to the Board of Education from Dr. Shea re Proposed Board of Education Meeting Dates 2012-2013
 5. Memo to PTA Council Executive Board Members et al. from Dr. Centamore re Board Policy 6122 – Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination
 6. Letter to Seniors and Senior Parents/Guardians from Mrs. Acker re Yearbook Day
 7. Letter to Seniors and Senior Parents/Guardians from Mrs. Acker re Senior Prom
 8. Personnel Posting (1)

**Information and
Reports:
(Continued)**

9. May 2012 Calendar, Oakwood Primary Center
10. *The Silas Scoop*, May 2012
11. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 4-26-12
12. Suggestion (1), Birchwood Intermediate School

In envelopes:

1. *May Newsletter*, Birchwood Intermediate School
2. Minutes of the Special Executive Board Meeting, 4-30-12
3. Budget Notice Postcard

Information Sent to Board Week Ending April 27, 2012

1. Letter to Parents/Guardians from Dr. Shea re Countrywood incident
2. Letter to Staff from Dr. Shea re Countrywood incident
3. Letter to Parent/Guardian from Mrs. Kerrigan re Kindergarten Parent Orientation
4. Letter to Parent/Guardian from Mrs. Siegel re Kindergarten Parent Orientation
5. Letter to Mr. Kaden from Dorothy Boyle re traffic safety issues at Birchwood Intermediate School
6. Letter to Dr. Shea and the Board of Education from Sandra Lew re budget questions
7. Letter to Dr. Shea and the Board of Education from Brianna Calby re status of Whitman Dance Program
8. Memo to Dr. Shea from Mrs. Occhiogrosso re Meeting Minutes of Facilities Committee of April 3 and architect meeting of April 14
9. Invitation to Walt Whitman High School PTA's "Candy Couture Fashion Show"
10. Personnel Postings (2)
11. Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting, SHTA, 4-23-12
12. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 4-19-12

Information Sent to Board Week Ending April 13, 2012

1. Petition Started by Craig Stockfeder in Favor of Restoring Middle School Sports (792 Signers)
2. E-mails re Middle School Sports (4)
3. E-mail from Elaine McEntee re Budget Process
4. Memo to Mr. Kaden from Mrs. Occhiogrosso re Audit Committee Agenda
5. Memo to Dr. Shea from Mrs. Occhiogrosso re Internal Audit Reports
6. Memo to Dr. Shea from Ms. Acker re Honored Students
7. Letter to Mrs. Hammond from Donna Roche, South Huntington Public Library, re 2012-13 budget
8. *Countrywood Chronicle*, April 2012
9. *April Newsletter*, Birchwood Intermediate School
10. *The Silas Scoop*, April 2012
11. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 4-5-12

Committee Updates:

None given.

Comments from Board Members and Staff:

Mr. Nitkewicz thanked the South Huntington Teachers' Association and all unions who have helped in years past. Mr. Nitkewicz stated that he hoped we continued to remember the lessons of this year.

Mr. Lupinacci stated that the Hall of Fame committee met on Monday and nine inductees had been selected. Mr. Lupinacci noted that the celebration would be held during Homecoming weekend. Mr. Lupinacci stated that notification letters would be going out this week and the announcement of inductees would probably be made at the next Board meeting.

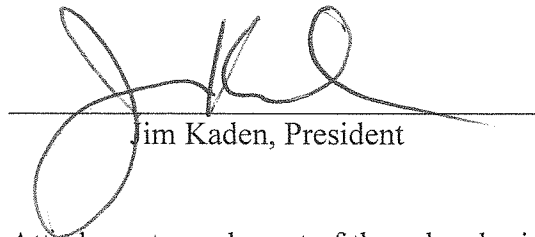
Voice of the Residents:

Visitors were invited to participate.

Adjournment:

Motion by Mr. Teresky, seconded by Mr. Lupinacci, be it Resolved that the meeting be adjourned.
Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 9:20 p.m.



Jim Kaden, President



Judith A. Hammond, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 1228 through 1300.