

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on Wednesday January 9, 2013, in the Forum of Stimson Middle School, 401 Oakwood Road, 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 Student Services  
Asst. Supt. for Personnel & District Services  
Interim Business Administrator  
Supervisor of Assessment and Technology  
Deputy District Clerk

Dr. Bennardo  
Ms. Harris  
Dr. Centamore  
Mr. Light  
Dr. Bloom  
Mrs. McLean

**Absent:**      District Clerk

Mrs. Hammond

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

**Executive Session:**      Motion by Mrs. Brieff, seconded by Mr. Ciappetta, 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. Kaden opened the Business Meeting at 7:30 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Musical  
Presentation:**

Dr. Bennardo introduced the Stimson Jazz Band. They put on a spectacular performance led by music teacher Mr. Zamek that was enjoyed by all in attendance. Mr. Kaden thanked the students for the performance.

**Presentation on  
School Building  
Safety Protocol:**

Dr. Bennardo stated that tonight’s presentation was a review of school building safety protocol. Dr. Bennardo established the following:

- The principals and teams have conducted internal security reviews providing areas of common need while simultaneously examining issues particular to each building;
- All door-buzzer systems were checked and upgraded to ensure operational integrity;

**Presentation on  
School Building  
Safety Protocol:  
(Continued)**

- A camera and intercom system will be test-piloted; the system is intended to view outside entrances of each building allowing for questioning of unknown visitors and requesting identification before permitting entry. If proven effective, EXCEL money will be used to cover associated costs;
- Panic buttons to be installed allowing the front-door 'greeter' to signal an emergency to designated locations within the school;
- Lockout, lockdown and active-threat procedures to be reviewed by each building's administration and reviewed further in a tabletop exercise with a Second Precinct representative. A practice drill to be conducted with students and staff;
- Security to be continuously evaluated at every level.

Dr. Bennardo asked for questions/comments from the Board and audience. Mr. Ciappetta questioned the cost for the camera and intercom system that would be test piloted; Dr. Bennardo responded that the cost was \$3,000 for one system and again reiterated that there were EXCEL monies available. Silas Wood Sixth-Grade Center was established as the test-school model.

A resident stated that she had primary-aged children so she was not aware of high school protocol; she asked if security guards at the high school were armed to which Dr. Bennardo replied negatively.

Mr. Ciappetta asked if a specific script is used by staff when a visitor requested to enter a school, and if not, can one be developed? Dr. Bennardo responded that yes, a common script could be prepared. Dr. Bennardo also commented that 99.7% of the time the visitor was known to the building staff.

Discussion ensued regarding the high school's unique needs and whether locking all outside doors at the high school be considered as opposed to having the doors open for students to pass in and out between classes. It was recognized that the current practice of students traveling outside to cross from one side of the campus to the other was acceptable and necessary as it allowed arrival to class in a timely manner. Ms. Acker shared that 39 doors at the high school would have signs posted, "Emergency Exit Only" and that the security guards would close/lock doors when classes were in session.

A resident questioned the qualifications of the district's security guards; Dr. Bennardo explained that the security guards utilized within the high school are retired law enforcement (reference made to their maroon jacket attire). The second set of security guards, those that wear the blue jackets, provide security to the districts' grounds and are licensed by New York State.

A resident questioned Dr. Bennardo as to how the district monitored security in the evenings with outside groups that utilized the district's buildings for practices, games, meetings, etc. Dr. Bennardo replied that

**Presentation on  
School Building  
Safety Protocol:  
(Continued)**

security guards were used for district-based, evening events, not for private organizations that used building facilities. A brief discussion ensued regarding security and how fire safety codes were maintained, specifically, that exits to the outside be provided at all times. The complexity of the concern was acknowledged.

A resident questioned lockdown procedures and stated that her child had 28 students in a portable classroom; how is the lockdown procedure handled in a portable classroom? Dr. Bennardo responded that in a lockdown situation, students were not permitted to leave the classroom. The procedure was the same for students in a portable classroom. Another resident asked if a specific code was used in a lockdown situation that addressed the specific nature of why the code was utilized. Mr. Kaden replied that the specific nature should be addressed as the code, i.e., if there was an active shooter in the building, it should be stated there was an active shooter in the building.

Dr. Bennardo shared that next week a Homeland Security meeting was scheduled to take place. Mr. Ciappetta stated that in an emergency, teachers lock students in the class; what about a room such as this? Dr. Bennardo responded that the Forum had the capacity for the doors to be locked as well.

A resident requested to speak and stated that she had a son at Walt Whitman High School. During the lockdown that took place in December, the students knew exactly what to do—they knew windows and doors needed to be closed. This was not only true for her son, but her son's friends as well. The resident credited Mrs. Acker and her fine team of administrators in their instruction of security measures to the students. The audience applauded Mrs. Acker and her team for their successful efforts in this regard.

Again a brief discussion took place regarding the purchase of the camera and intercom system. Dr. Bennardo again emphasized that the testing was necessary before the district committed to the purchase of eight or nine of the systems.

As there were no other questions from the Board and audience, Dr. Bennardo concluded the presentation.

**Adoption of  
Agenda:**

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

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

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:

**Minutes:**

Minutes of Board meeting held on November 28, 2012.

<b>Schedule of Investment Accounts:</b>	Schedule of Investment Accounts, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 707.
<b>Treasurer's Report:</b>	Treasurer's Report, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 708.
<b>Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 709-722.
<b>Monthly Collateral Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Collateral Reconciliation, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 723.
<b>Revenue Status Report, General Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, General Fund, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 724.
<b>Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 725.
<b>Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 726.
<b>Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 727.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) General Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), General Fund, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 728-731.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) School Lunch Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), School Lunch Fund, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 732.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Special Aid Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Special Aid Fund, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 733.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Capital Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Capital Fund, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 734-735.

**Budgetary Transfer Report:** Budgetary Transfer Report, October 2012, copies made part of these legal minutes, p. 736.

**Tax Levy Schedule:** Tax Levy Schedule, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 737.

**Library Tax Levy:** Library Tax Levy, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 737.

**Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report:** Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report, October 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 738-742.

**Claims Audit Report:** Claims Audit Report, November 2012, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 743-745.

<b>Schedule of Bills (Warrants):</b>	General Fund	Warrant 63	\$ 4,220.31
	"	64	164,464.80
	"	65	1,485.00
	"	66	9,163.21
	School Lunch	20	3,711.19
	Special Aid	23	55,898.13
	Capital Reserve Bond	21	79,147.45

Approved – Board Packet of December 21, 2012

General Fund	Warrant 59	\$ 122.50
"	60	221,238.31
"	61	493,368.80
"	62	490,000.00
School Lunch	19	36,759.07
Special Aid	22	8,537.65
"	V015	(375.00)
"	V020	(600.00)
Capital Reserve Bond	19	156,441.25
"	20	8,022.38

Approved – Board Packet of December 14, 2012

General Fund	Warrant 55	\$27,912.82
"	56	3,874,996.34
"	57	11,666.67
"	58	471,702.92
School Lunch Fund	17	12,275.75
"	18	10,833.77
Special Aid	21	5,462.06
Capital Reserve Bond	18	76,738.15

**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.

**Change Orders**

Motion by Mr. Ciappetta, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District approve Change Order No. C-1 for \$5.00, reflecting the unused portion of the allowance to Oakwood Interior Finishes, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 746.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mrs. Brieff, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District approve Change Order No. 2 requesting an extension of time, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 747.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Light reported that the second change order was for the elevator at the Oakwood Primary School, which was delivered that very day.

**Field Trip Request:**

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 Field Trip Request of Messrs. D'Ulisse and Altinel to the Bushnell Center for Performing Arts in Hartford, Connecticut, All Eastern Honors Ensembles, April 4-7, 2013, for the mixed chorus, Grades 11 and 12 for three (3) students.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Donation of Two SMART Boards:**

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the donation of two SMART Boards to be used in Room 310 and 519 of the Walt Whitman High School made through the Walt Whitman PTA from funds awarded by Lifetouch National School Studios in the amount of \$5,570.86.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Conference – Long Island Schools in the Eye of the Storm:**

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 attendance at the Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association's January 31, 2013, "L.I. Schools in the Eye of the Storm" conference.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bennardo stated that if anyone was interested in attending the January 31, 2013, conference, Mrs. Hammond should be notified.

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

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District, having reviewed minutes of the Committee on Special Education dated June 4, September 19, October 1, 3, 4, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 25, 26, November 6, 14, 19, 26, 28, December 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, 19, 20 and 21, 2012, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated August 28, October 23, December 4, 10, 11, 18, 28, 2012, January 2 and

**Recommendations  
for Placement by  
CSE/CPSE:  
(Continued)**

3, 2013, 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. 748-770.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Agreements related  
to Hurricane  
Sandy:**

Dr. Bennardo stated that the following agreements were necessary to resolve issues surrounding the eight (8) emergency school closing days due to Hurricane Sandy; the agreements are specific to hourly employees.

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District hereby approves the:

Agreement made on December 18, 2012, with Local 424/Cafeteria Workers providing the addition of one (1) business day to unit members who were unable to report to work on November 7, 2012;

Agreement made on November 19, 2012, with the South Huntington Paraprofessionals Association providing the addition of two (2) business days to unit members who were unable to report to work on November 6 or 7, 2012;

Agreement made on December 18, 2012, with Local 424/Cafeteria Workers providing the part-time, hourly unit members' compensation for six (6) school days from October 29 through November 6, 2012, without being required to use available time; these same employees may be required to work up to six (6) additional days later in the school year without additional compensation;

Agreement made on December 18, 2012, with Local 424/Transportation providing the ten-month, part-time, hourly unit members' compensation for seven (7) school days from October 29 through November 6, 2012 and November 8, 2012 without being required to use available time; these same employees may be required to work up to seven (7) additional days later in the school year without additional compensation;

Agreement made on December 17, 2012, with the South Huntington Office Staff Association providing the ten-month, part-time, hourly unit members' compensation for the seven (7) school days from October 29 through November 5, 2012, and November 8, 2012 without being required to use available time. These same employees may be required to work February 19<sup>th</sup> through February 22, 2013, and April 1, 2013, and possibly two (2) additional days without additional compensation.

Copies made part of these legal minutes, pp. 771-775.

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. 776-785, and authorizes implementation thereof:

Schedule 2 – Probationary Appointments (Instructional)

**Personnel:  
(Continued)**

Schedule 5 – Part-time 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 (½ Pay);  
 Sabbatical Leave (Instructional)  
 Schedule 16 – Terminations (Non-Instructional)  
 Schedule 22 – Substitute Employee Appointments (Instr./Non-Instr.)  
 Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Nitkewicz questioned Schedule 2 and asked Dr. Centamore if the individual was recalled from the Preferred Eligible List. Dr. Centamore responded negatively, and further shared that there were no individuals on this specific subject's PEL. Mr. Nitkewicz then asked the same question of the Schedule 8 appointment; Dr. Centamore responded that a PEL did exist in this certification area. He also stated that the employee worked for the district in a part-time capacity; this appointment returned the employee to full-time status.

**Information and  
Reports:**

1. *Oakwood Calendar*, January 2013
2. *The Silas Scoop*, January 2013
3. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 12-27-12 and 1-3-13

In envelopes:

1. Counsel Correspondence
2. *The Stimson Source*, January 2013

Information Sent to Board Week Ending December 21, 2012

1. Memo to Dr. Bennardo from Ms. Acker re Honored Students, together with Dr. Bennardo's congratulatory letter
2. Memo to Mr. Kaden from Mr. Light re Audit Committee Minutes
3. Memo to Dr. Bennardo from Mr. Light re Facilities Meeting Minutes
4. Letter from Madeline Fave re a personnel matter
5. Personnel Postings (6)
6. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 12-20-12
7. SCOPE 2013 Pocket Calendars (Board Members Only)

Information Sent to Board Week Ending December 14, 2012

1. Administrative Directory
2. Facilities Committee Agenda, 12-17-12
3. Memo to Dr. Bennardo from Ms. Harris re School Grade Enrollment Report for the First Attendance Period November 1, 2012, through November 30, 2012
4. Personnel Postings (3)
5. Flyer re Holiday Decoration/Ornament Drive
6. *The Silas Scoop*, December 2012
7. Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting, SHTA, 12-10-12
8. News articles: *The Long-Islander*, 12-13-12



**Information and  
Reports:  
(Continued)**

Administrative Reports/Committee Updates

1. Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting, 12-10-12

**Committee  
Updates:**

Audit Committee

Mrs. DeGaetano questioned the update on the Wildcat Sports Camp and requested an explanation of comments made within the report. Mr. Kaden replied that the scholarship paperwork contained multiple children in one family noted on one form, however, one form should have been completed for each child who received a scholarship. Mr. Kaden further stated that the registration process would be much tighter in the 2013 season than it was this past summer.

Mr. Kaden reported on the Purchasing/Vendor section of the minutes whereby the Little Flower UFSD contract exceeded the \$75,000 limit. He explained that the original contract was for one student, however, the district later approved the placement for an additional student who attended the school, hence additional costs were incurred.

Facilities Committee

Mr. Ciappetta reported on the recent Facilities Committee meeting that took place on December 17, 2012, and stated that security procedures were discussed. Also discussed was the boiler at Memorial, which is 56 years old and does require some welding repair work. Mr. Ciappetta also stated that FEMA is cooperating, and the district would be reimbursed for straight time and overtime paid to employees. Mr. Ciappetta shared that the high school sign would be replaced with a sign very similar to Stimson's sign, which he preferred. Also reported was the \$36,000 of Excel money that remained and was available for use. Discussion had taken place to replace the district office playground, but the decision was made to hold off on that specific project. It was determined and agreed that purchases for security measures took precedence. A brief discussion ensued regarding the district's newly installed Emergency Management System, a computerized program that allowed the Facilities Department to monitor and control the temperature of district buildings' classrooms/offices from a remote location. It was mentioned that the night temperature was set at 55 degrees.

**Comments from  
Board Members  
and Staff:**

Mr. Ciappetta reported that he recently traveled to Albany for Mr. Lupinacci's swearing-in ceremony as assemblyman. Mr. Lupinacci's family was in attendance as well, and Mr. Ciappetta commented on the exquisite beauty of the Chamber where the ceremony took place.

Discussion ensued regarding the Governor's State of the State address. The location of the seven casinos, all to be constructed upstate, was mentioned. The Governor's appeal to have a longer school day was also brought up to which both Mr. Nitkewicz and Mr. Ciappetta stated their dissatisfaction with the State's continued reluctance to provide mandate relief to districts.

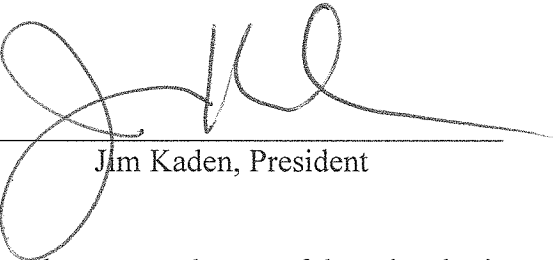
**Voice of the Residents:**

A resident stated that the Target store is now under construction on Jericho Turnpike. The resident stated that Lowe's would have paid \$300,000 in school taxes; she asked when Target would begin paying school taxes, and asked if they pay during the construction phase or when the store opens? Mr. Kaden replied that the building must be completed before the Town collects taxes. The same resident asked about the construction taking place at the Walt Whitman Mall; would an increase be incurred at the end of that construction project? Mr. Kaden replied that he was unsure if the mall would incur additional taxes because of the construction. The same resident expressed concern for the potential traffic congestion that could occur when Target opens; she expressed deep concern for areas surrounding Melville Road, Route 110 and Jericho Turnpike. She asked if the district had any dialogue with the Town of Huntington regarding safety issues and traffic patterns. Mr. Kaden replied negatively and shared that Jericho Turnpike was a state road and that communication, therefore, needed to be with the NYS Department of Transportation. Discussion ensued regarding this issue; Dr. Bennardo suggested that he send a letter to the Town regarding concerns specific to the Melville Road surrounding areas.

**Adjournment:**

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

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:35 p.m.



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Jim Kaden, President



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Laura McLean, Deputy District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 707 through 785.