

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. **Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD approves the bid submitted by Harold McMahon Inc. for plumbing services at a rate of \$110 per hour per man effective January 29, 2008.

Motion: Kalish Seconded: Berhalter Vote: 5-0

B. **Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD approves the bid submitted by Richard P. Roesel Construction for carpentry services at a rate of \$65 per hour effective January 29, 2008.

Motion: Kalish Seconded: Berhalter Vote: 5-0

C. **Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD approves the application for Use of School Building submitted by Nina Merkert for Parent Night K-3 to be held on Wednesday, February 6, 2008, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the gymnasium.

Motion: Kalish Seconded: Kotz Vote: 5-0

D. **Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD approves Olivia Kotz, Eleventh Grader, to attend the Spring Semester High School Scholars Program at SUNY Stony Brook, located on the Southampton Campus, with a registration fee of \$100 to be reimbursed to the parents by the District.

Motion: Kotz Seconded: Conti Vote: 4-1
(Kotz-abstained)

E. **Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD approves the Memorandum of Agreement, dated January 2008, between the Bridgehampton Teachers’ Association and the District to compensate Nancy Bagshaw and Ken Giosi for additional classes for any day during the 2007-2008 school year when he/she was regularly assigned to teach in excess of five (5) teaching periods plus one (1) tutorial as defined in the CBA (see attached copy of the memorandum).

Motion: Kalish Seconded: Conti Vote: 5-0

F. **Resolved** that the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the month of January 2008 in the amount of \$97,800.00.

From: A1010.490	Board of Education – BOCES Services
\$50,000.00	Budgeted \$50,000 for Public Relations Services
A5540.400	Contract Transportation – Contract Transportation
\$27,800.00	Budgeted for additional Ross School bus which was not needed this year.
A2855.400	Interscholastic Athletics – Contractual Expense
<u>\$20,000.00</u>	Budgeted for services in A2855.150/160 payroll codes
\$97,800.00	

To: A1480.400	Public Information & Services – Contractual Expense
\$25,000.00	Approved \$25,000 for Mullen & McCaffrey for 2007-08

A1680.490	Central Data Processing – BOCES Services
\$12,800.00	Web Development – Web Hosting & Support Redesign Website
A2010.400	Curriculum Development & Supervision – Contractual Services
<u>\$60,000.00</u>	To reclassify Carol Masin to General Fund because Reading First Grant does not cover her services this year
\$97,800.00	

Motion: Kotz Seconded: Kalish Vote: 5-0

G. **Resolved**, that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD approves David Elliott as Senior Class Advisor for the remainder of the school year, including graduation at a stipend of \$886 as per negotiated agreement between the BTA and the BUFSO BOE.

Motion: Kotz Seconded: Kalish Vote: 5-0

IV. Reports:

A) State Comptroller Financial Condition and Internal Controls Audit – Mr. Walker, announced that the Audit report covered the period from July 1, 2005 to October 31, 2006. The audit made eight recommendations. A Copy of the State Comptroller Financial Condition and Internal Controls Audit Report, the Bridgehampton UFSD Response letter and a copy of a press release was distributed and made available to the public at the meeting. Copies of these documents can also be found in the District Clerk’s Office.

B) Property Tax Study and Fiscal Considerations for Budget Development by Shane Higuera – Mr. Higuera, of SBA Solutions, Inc. presented the methodology and findings of the property tax study he conducted at the Board’s request. The study compared the market value property tax rates for school purposes of 179 public school districts in Suffolk, Nassau, Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam Counties for the year 2005. The study’s findings revealed that Bridgehampton’s market value property tax rate for school purposes was the fifth lowest of the school districts in the five Counties studied. Additionally, Bridgehampton’s market value property tax rate for school purposes was nearly 6.5 times lower than the average school district in the study. To put this in perspective, the study compared the \$2,200 in school property taxes that would have been owed on a residence located within the Bridgehampton UFSD with a market value of \$1 million to the \$14,260 in school property taxes that would have been owed on a residence located in a school district at the mean market value school property tax rate with a market value of \$1 million.

Mr. Berhalter commented that the study was valuable to the Board and the community, because it addressed some issues like where the money goes and how it affects us as individuals who own property. He said it is beneficial to know that our tax rate is low in comparison to other districts in Suffolk and Nassau county. With that said he added, “it is still the obligation of the Board to be able present and explain a reasonable and sound budget. He said did not want people to feel that just because the tax rate was low, that the Board would overlook the dollars being spent in the budget.

Nicki Hemby, PTO president, asked if the tax rates are not an issue and it would not cost additional money to have non-resident students, then why couldn’t the district accept non-resident students? She also asked if the Board would re-consider lowering tuition rates for non-resident students similar to what Sagaponack School District charge. After a brief discussion Elizabeth Kotz, Vice President of the Board shared how and why the Board establish tuition rates. She explained that the Board felt compelled to fix a concern that had been lingering for years regarding

non-resident students being able to attend the district at no charge. Therefore the Board established tuition rates that they felt were fair and not as extreme as the Seneca Falls rates. She also shared that the article in Newsday was incorrect because it stated that the District was not following their own policy, when in reality the District was because the policy states that the Board had the right to waive tuition cost for non-resident students.

Dr. Youngblood shared that when the Auditor of the State Comptroller's Office was in the district compiling information for the audit, she specifically asked, if they had found something illegal, in the practice the district was using by accepting non-resident students. The Auditor replied, legal or illegal, the fact is that it is a misappropriation of funds of tax payers' dollars to educate non-resident students without charge. Dr. Youngblood stated, "Our practice is not illegal and the district is following the policy that is currently in place."

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD convenes into an executive session to discuss Personnel and Negotiations matters at 8:00 PM.

Motion: Berhalter Seconded: Kotz Vote: 5-0

Resolved that the Board of Education resumes back into public session and adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Motion: Kalish Seconded: Kotz Vote: 5-0

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Crews-Manigo, District Clerk

Executive Session
(Personnel)

V. ADJOURNMENT