

APPROVED MINUTES

HARBORFIELDS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GREENLAWN, NEW YORK

Kind of Meeting	-	Special Meeting
Date of Meeting	-	September 5, 2007
Place of Meeting	-	OMS Board Room
Board Members Present	-	Mr. Brennan, Mr. Mastroianni, Mrs. Boba, Dr. Chen, Mr. Giuliano, Mr. Schoer, Mr. Toles
Board Members Absent	-	None
Others Present	-	Dr. Wilson, Ms. Todaro, Mr. Nimmo, Mr. Hartner, Community Members

Mr. Brennan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, the Board moved to Executive Session at 6:31 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the terms and conditions of employment and salaries, and labor negotiations.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, the Board reconvened the special meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Mr. Hartner left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Mr. Brennan led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and instructed those where to exit the building in case of an emergency. He also instructed those in attendance to turn off cell phones and silence all beepers.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident stated that she hoped the Relay for Life would continue this year. She continued that high school students are already preparing for this event.

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report – Opening Day of School

Dr. Wilson advised the Board that the first day of school went very well. She continued that we have some good financial news. The tax rate will be going down from 4.4% to 4.3% due to an increase in assessed value of property. Dr. Wilson continued that she received the following reports from the principals.

Mrs. Kelly reported that the opening day at Washington Drive went very well. Students were happy to see their teachers and kindergarten students were excited and quickly learning the routines.

Ms. Tuzzi reported that at TJJL everything went off without a hitch. Dismissal was smooth and all children arrived home safely.

Mrs. Giordano reported that at OMS the first day went well. Students were happy to be back. Thanks to the efforts of Mr. McNamara the master schedule ran beautifully. The traffic pattern was well supervised by Mr. Cronk to ensure the safety of all of our students. We have one section of 7th grade science running at 30 (due to additional section of accelerated science) and one section of Italian 8 running at 31 due to an increase in the number of Earth Science sections. Dismissal went well. Many teacher volunteers were outside assisting with helping the youngsters find their buses.

Dr. Bennardo reported that the first day of school went very well with 1100 students settling into classes and starting a new instructional year. The students were remarkably cooperative and played a large role in the smooth operation of the day. The new parking lot entrance is working well but we do have a major backup from the railroad tracks going south. This is a result of the fact that it is very difficult to make a left into any of our entrances as traffic comes from the north. We are offering parents a southern loop and center parking lot drop off option as well as a center bus loop option both before and after bus traffic. Dr. Bennardo continued that we have more than 30 students in some elective areas (Power Vocabulary, Criminal Justice, Psychology, Marine Science, Forensics, Keyboarding, College Marketing, Career and Finance). We have a few sections over 30 including AP Government, AP Environmental, BIO Honors, AP Bio as well as some others.

Dr. Wilson additionally advised the Board that our new student rep will be joining us at our September 19 meeting.

HUMAN RESOURCES RESOLUTIONS

Call for removal of resolutions from the HUMAN RESOURCES consent agenda

Mr. Brennan called for removal of item 5.4 (Employment Benefit Agreements for Non-Unit Central Office Administrators) from the agenda.

Consent Agenda – Human Resources

Upon motion duly made by Mrs. Chen, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, all resolutions in the area of Human Resources, with the exception of 5.4) on the agenda of the September 5, 2007 Board of Education meeting were approved by consent.

5.1 Professional Appointments

Upon motion duly made by Mrs. Chen, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following professional appointments in accordance with the schedule attached to the official minutes of September 5, 2007 were approved.

Regular Substitute		
Name	School	Assignment
Cener, Colby	HHS	Special Education Teacher
Part-time		
Name	School	Assignment
Hoffman, John	OMS	Teaching Assistant
Wyrick, Vivian	HHS	Teaching Assistant

5.2 Civil Service Appointments

Upon motion duly made by Mrs. Chen, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following civil service appointments in accordance with the schedule attached to the official minutes of September 5, 2007 were approved.

Probationary		
Csogi, Kathleen	HHS	Senior Clerk Typist
Nubel, Roger	HHS	Custodial Worker I

5.3 Substitute List Addendum

Upon motion duly made by Mrs. Chen, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the substitute list addendum for the 2007-2008 school year as attached to the official minutes of September 5, 2007 was approved.

5.4 Employment Benefit Agreements for Non-Unit Central Office Administrators

Upon motion duly made by Mrs. Boba, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Employment Benefit Agreements for the Non-Unit Central Office Administrators listed below were approved, as contained in the official minutes of September 5, 2007.

It was further resolved, that the President of the Board of Education was authorized to execute the agreements on behalf of the Harborfields Central School District.

- Dr. Janet Ceparano Wilson, Superintendent of Schools
- William H. Nimmo, Assistant Superintendent for Business
- Michael Hartner, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Board of Education Goals/Action Plans for 2007-2008

The Board again discussed their goals and directives for the 2007-08 school year. The following are the four goals which the Board discussed at this meeting. They will be presented at the September 19 meeting for approval.

- Continue to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for all students by conducting an assessment of districtwide safety through the services of an outside consultant.
- Review and update sections 4000, 5000, and 6000 Board of Education policies to be conducted by the Board of Education subcommittees and the superintendent of schools.
- Improve instructional delivery by enhancing evaluation procedures for all staff members including the Board of Education, superintendent of schools, administrators, and teachers.
- Analyze costs and revenues in order to identify potential cost savings or alternative sources of revenue to the district including energy costs, health care costs, bidding procedures, and utilization of district property including a space utilization study.

Directives

- Provide an update on progress of the Special Education assessment conducted in the 2005-06 school year. This should be a verbal summary.
- Engage a consultant to conduct an assessment of technology utilization and costs.
- Develop strategies for increasing the percentage of students attaining Regents/Advanced Regents diplomas including the analysis of subgroup performance.

Other Reports

- Provide a study of districtwide overtime which will be included in the budget process.
- Investigate a process for formulating a districtwide sick bank for all employees.

- Explore strategies for gathering feedback from recent Harborfields High School graduates regarding their preparation for post high school college level programs.
- Provide an update on the progress of the Universal Pre-Kindergarten program. This should be a verbal report.

New York State School Boards Association “Proposed Resolutions and Voting Delegate’s Guide for the Annual Business Meeting

The Board discussed the Bylaw Amendments and Resolutions for the Annual Business Meeting at the NYSSBA Convention. The Board was in agreement with most resolutions that were recommended for adoption by the NYSSBA and was in agreement with most resolutions not recommended for adoption by the NYSSBA. The Board will ask questions on resolutions that they were not in favor of at the N-SSBA Annual Resolutions Dinner to be held on September 25, 2007.

“Relay for Life” – American Cancer Society

Dr. Wilson stated that there were a number of concerns last year regarding the “Relay for Life” from community residents about the noise and lights at the high school. Dr. Wilson advised that the Relay for Life would stop the music by 11 p.m. and they would deliver letters to each of the residents surrounding the high school property explaining their intentions. They would also reposition lights so as not to disturb the surrounding homes. Mr. Brennan stated that they must do a public relations job.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident stated that when we hold such an event at the high school a letter should be written to all members of the community so that everyone knows about it. It should be one letter from Relay for Life and the District.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mrs. Chen, and carried unanimously, the Board adjourned the special meeting of September 5, 2007 at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Muller
District Clerk