

APPROVED MINUTES

HARBORFIELDS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GREENLAWN, NEW YORK 11740

Kind of Meeting	-	Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting	-	February 11, 2009
Place of Meeting	-	OMS Board Room
Board Members Present	-	Mr. Brennan, Mr. Mastroianni, Mr. Banks, Mrs. Boba, Mr. Giuliano, Mr. Schoer, Mr. Toles
Board Members Absent	-	None
Others Present	-	Mr. Carasiti, Ms. Todaro, Mr. Nimmo, Mr. Hartner, Ms. DeVivio, Mr. Valente, Mr. Lasinski, Mr. Sims, Principals, and Community Members

Mr. Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Mr. Toles, and carried (6-0), the Board moved into Executive Session at 7:01 p.m. for the purpose of personnel regarding particular individuals and legal matters. Mr. Banks arrived at 7:08 p.m.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Toles and carried unanimously the Board moved out of Executive Session at 7:46 p.m.

Upon motion duly made by Mrs. Boba, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, the Board returned to the regular meeting at 7:47 p.m. Mr. Brennan led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and instructed those in attendance where to exit the building in case of an emergency. He asked those present to silence cell phones and beepers.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

Songs: "*Percentage: The Best Math Symbol*" – Olivia Bartfield and Emily Staib, grade 6 students, sang this song to the music of Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer. The Board enjoyed their performance.

Student Representative's Report

Meaghan O'Hare, student representative from HHS, congratulated the Board on receiving a proclamation from the Town of Huntington and stated that a good school district is the reflection of a good school Board. She continued that Kyle Phillips

received the Golden Athlete Award and Maggie Seery is a National Merit Finalist. She reported that Playfest between all grade levels put on productions and the freshman won. The high school students enjoyed spirit week and pajama day.

A resident stated that the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students recently participated in the Word Masters Challenge. The highest score you can obtain is a 20 and we had 15 children who scored above 18 and 3 scored a perfect 20. She thanked the Board for supporting our schools and for continuing to challenge our students.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Carasiti advised the Board that he would discuss the budget at the end of the meeting.

The Wellness Initiative and Programs

Mr. Valente, Mr. Lasinski, and Mr. Sims reported on the Wellness Initiative and Programs in the district. Mr. Valente reported that childhood obesity in the United States has more than tripled in the past two decades which according to the US Surgeon General is responsible for 300,000 deaths every year. He further stated that medical conditions linked with overweight school-aged children are asthma, joint problems, type 2 diabetes, depression and anxiety, and sleep apnea. There are also social problems such as being teased or bullied, loneliness, or low self-esteem. Mr. Sims talked about the wellness centers at the high school and middle school stating that they are used extensively by all students throughout the day and evening. Mr. Sims went on to say that it remains a goal to have age appropriate wellness centers in each of the elementary schools by 2013. Mr. Lasinski discussed drug and alcohol use by youngsters. He discussed issues of concern stating that non-medical use of OxyContin and Vicodin in the past year remained high. He went on to say that 7 out of 11 of the most frequently abused drugs are prescriptions or over-the-counter. He advised parents to be careful of what they have in their medicine cabinets. A comprehensive report on The Wellness Initiative and Programs can be obtained in the office of the Director of Physical Education, Health and Athletics. Mrs. Giordano thanked Michael Sims for the outstanding job that he does and Dr. Bennardo echoed those sentiments to Paul Lasinski.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

The following minutes were accepted by the Board of Education:

- Regular Meeting, January 21, 2009
- Special Meeting, January 28, 2009

FINANCE RESOLUTIONS

Call for removal of resolutions from the FINANCE consent agenda

Mr. Mastroianni asked for removal of items 4.4 and 4.5 from the finance consent agenda. Mr. Schoer asked for removal of item 4.6 from the finance consent agenda.

Consent Agenda - Finance

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Toles, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, all resolutions in the area of Finance, with the exceptions of 4.4, 4.5, and 4.6 on the agenda of the February 11, 2009 Board of Education meeting were approved by consent.

4.1 Treasurer's Report

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Toles, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Treasurer's Report for January 2009 was approved.

4.2 Schedules of Bills

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Toles, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the schedules of bills attached to the agenda of February 11, 2009 were accepted.

4.3 Financial Status Report

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Toles, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Financial Status Report for December 2008 was accepted.

4.7 Authorization for Request For Proposals—Energy Performance Contracting Project

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Toles, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorized B.B.S. Architects & Engineers, P.C. to prepare a Request for Proposals for the Energy Performance Contracting project; and

It was further resolved that should the Board of Education determine to move forward with an Energy Performance Contracting project, B.B.S. Architects & Engineers, P.C. is hereby authorized to perform the design services under any such energy performance contract, with the cost of such services to be part of the energy performance contract.

4.4 Gifts

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following gifts were accepted with thanks:

- \$569.60 from General Mills – Box Tops for Education to be applied to the TJL Needy Children Fund through the Trust and Agency Account
- Photographic equipment for the high school art program from Dr. Margaret Ames, DMD, MS to be used at the discretion of Thomas Gellert, Director of Art and Music
- \$50.00 for the Alan Prince Brief Scholarship Fund to be applied through the Trust and Agency Fund

4.5 Gift and Increase in Appropriations

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Toles, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following gift be accepted with thanks:

- \$306.51 from Harborfields High School PTSA to be used at the discretion of Dr. David Bennardo, Principal, HHS

It was further resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, pursuant to the anticipated receipt of the gift, appropriations for 2008-2009 be increased as follows:

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with the understanding that this increase in appropriations is matched by unanticipated revenue and will therefore result in no impact on the tax levy.

4.6 Surplus Equipment

Mr. Schoer stated that before throwing equipment away we should try to contact people who may be interested in using them such as Lucy Sumner. Mr. Carasiti stated that prior to discarding items perhaps we should try to sell them.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Mastroianni, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the surplus equipment as described in the attachments to the official minutes of February 11, 2009 were declared surplus and disposed of accordingly.

- Several pieces of outdated technology equipment at OMS

HUMAN RESOURCES RESOLUTIONS

Call for removal of resolutions from the HUMAN RESOURCES consent agenda

There were no items removed from the Human Resources consent agenda.

Consent Agenda – Human Resources

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, all resolutions in the area of Human Resources on the agenda of the February 11, 2009 Board of Education meeting were approved by consent.

5.1 Leaves of Absence

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following leaves of absence were approved:

Name	Assignment	School	Dates Paid	Dates Unpaid
DaSilva, Michelle	Social Studies Teacher	HHS	6/8/09-11/9/09	N/A
Pennisi, Jennifer	Speech Teacher	WDPS	5/11/09-10/5/09	N/A

5.2 Permanent Appointments

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following employees were granted permanent appointment.

Permanent Appointments			
Name	School	Assignment	Effective Date
Lang, Carol	WDPS	Clerk Typist	3/1/09
McGovern, David	HHS	Custodial Worker I	2/21/09
Schaefer, Anne	OMS	School Teacher Aide	3/1/09

5.3 Change in Status

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following change in status in accordance with the schedule attached to the official minutes of February 11, 2009 was approved:

- Santomauro, Kathleen, from Senior Clerk Typist, WDPS, to Principal Stenographer, WDPS, effective February 12, 2009.

5.4 Substitute List Addendum 2008-2009

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the substitute list addendum as attached to the official minutes of February 11, 2009 was approved.

5.5 Extension of Emergency Conditional Appointments

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following employees were granted an extension of emergency conditional appointment status pending clearance from the New York State Education Department.

Emergency Conditional		
Name	Assignment	School
Duffy, Joyce	Substitute Teacher	District
Hansen, Bryan	Substitute Custodial Worker	District
Sledz, Noelle	Substitute Clerical, Teaching Assistant and School Teacher Aide	District
Strassberg, Joan	Substitute Clerical Worker	District
Turco, Geraldine	Substitute Clerical Worker	District

5.6 Extra Compensation Appointment Schedule 2008-2009

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointees specified on the Extracompensation Appointment Schedule attached to the official minutes of February 11, 2009 were approved.

5.7 Appointment of Chairperson of Annual Election and Budget Vote

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Maryann Viglucci was appointed **as Chairperson of the Annual Election and Budget Vote** to be held on May 19, 2009.

5.8 Compensation to Inspectors from the Board of Elections for Attendance and Mileage to Carillon House for Residents to Vote by Absentee Ballot

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Inspectors from the Board of Elections receive \$10 per hour or a minimum per diem rate of \$50.00 and \$0.55 per mile to attend the Carillon House for residents to vote by absentee ballot at the Harborfields Annual Vote and Election to be held on May 19, 2009 under Elections Laws §8-407 and §1501-c.

- Lottie Bennett, Rose Dougherty, Clare Intemann, and Ken Shelby

5.9 District Board of Education Members, District Clerk, and District Office Administrators to Attend Conference

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education members, district clerk, district office administrators and staff were authorized to attend the conference listed below and be reimbursed for expenses in accordance with policy file 2521.

- NYSSBA Conference entitled, "K-12 Foundations: Imagine the Possibilities", March 5, 2009, Islandia Marriott, Islandia, NY

INSTRUCTION CONSENT AGENDA

Call for removal of resolutions from the INSTRUCTION consent agenda

There were no items removed from the Instruction consent agenda.

Consent Agenda – Instruction

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, all resolutions in the area of Instruction on the agenda of the February 11, 2009 Board of Education meeting were approved by consent.

6.1 Review of IEP Recommendations and Authorization For Placement and Services

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, review by the Board of Education of the IEP recommendations of the January 14, 2009, January 15, 2009, January 21, 2009 and January 22, 2009, meetings of the Committee on Special Education, and amendments to Committee on Special

Education dated January 15, 2009 and January 16, 2009, the January 15, 2009, meeting of the Committee on Preschool Special Education, and the January 12, 2009 and January 20, 2009 meetings of the Subcommittee on Special Education, authorization was granted to provide for the placement and services contained in the recommendations of the CSE, CPSE, and SCSE.

6.2 Guidance Internship

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following guidance internship was approved:

- O'Brien, Sean, graduate student from Long Island University, C.W. Post to complete a non-paid, 90 hour guidance internship at Harborfields High School commencing in February 2009.

6.3 Overnight Field Trip

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the overnight field trip listed below was approved:

- Natural Helpers' Field Trip to Quinipet Camp and Retreat Center, Shelter Island Heights, New York, from November 1-3, 2009

BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

NYSSBA Workshop "Fiscal Management in Hard Financial Times" Islandia Marriott, January 22, 2009

Mr. Brennan, Mr. Banks, and Mr. Carasiti attended this workshop. Mr. Mastroianni stated that it was reported that NYSHIP has overcharged the state, counties and other government agencies (i.e. school districts) which participate in NYSHIP over \$900,000,000. Mr. Brennan stated that there were some very high powered people from different fields conducting this workshop and five of the six lived in the Harborfields School District.

SCSSA, Advocacy Workshop, January 24, 2009, Sherwood Center, Holbrook, New York

Mr. Brennan, Mr. Mastroianni, Mrs. Boba, Mr. Schoer, Mr. Toles, Mr. Carasiti, Mr. Hartner and Mr. Nimmo attended this workshop. Mr. Brennan stated that all politicians, senators and assembly people, attended this workshop. Mr. Schoer stated that several Board members will lobby Albany for additional monies and that although the state budget is going up 1%, education money is going down. Long Island is taking the brunt of the reduction.

N-SSBA workshop entitled “Survivor-L.I. Confronting & Managing Financial Challenges”, January 27, 2009, Hilton Huntington, Melville, New York

Mr. Brennan, Mr. Schoer, Mr. Toles, and Mr. Carasiti attended this workshop. Mr. Brennan stated that it is much of the same. Mr. Toles said that it was a good learning experience regarding what is going on in the world today. Mr. Schoer reported that the superintendent from Oceanside advised that teacher retirement contributions will go up significantly. There doesn't seem to be any light at the end of the tunnel.

N-SSBA National School Boards Federal Relations Network, January 31-February 4, 2009, Washington D.C.

Mr. Brennan attended the NSBA Federal Relations Network. Mr. Brennan stated that HR 1 started out great until senate got hold of it. He continued that he met with Senator Schumer who is pro-education. He also met with Senator Gillibrand and stated that the verdict on her is still out; however, she does listen to her constituents. Mr. Brennan also discussed Medicaid reimbursement, stabilization fund, Pre-K, and NCLB funding.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Carasiti advised the Board that we have a tremendous challenge ahead of us. The budget process this year is very different from past years. The marching orders this year is that every line item in the budget will be frozen or reduced. We have a figure for a status quo budget. The fund balance will be over \$1 million short. On February 27 the Board will receive their first draft of the budget in preparation for the March 7 budget meeting. There will also be a community forum along with a regular meeting on March 18. Mr. Carasiti continued that we have been working since the beginning of December and we know we have to cut \$2.5 million which means an increase in class size as follows: increase K by 2 students; increase grades 1-2 by 2 students, increase grades 3-8 by 1 student. The minimum must be 17 students to run a class. Some programs will be eliminated. Mr. Carasiti further stated that we have an educational program to protect but we also must protect the taxpayers. This will be distasteful to a lot of people – we may not like it but we have to accept it. There will be reductions in staff and it will be sizeable.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident asked if there will be public participation at the March 7 budget meeting. Mr. Brennan stated that there would be public participation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion duly made by Mrs. Boba, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously, the Board moved to Executive session at 9:30 p.m. for the purpose of litigation.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried unanimously, the Board returned to the regular meeting at 10:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Mastroianni, and carried unanimously, the Board adjourned the regular meeting of February 11, 2009 at 10:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Muller
District Clerk