

APPROVED MINUTES

HARBORFIELDS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GREENLAWN, NEW YORK 11740

Kind of Meeting	-	Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting	-	December 10, 2008
Place of Meeting	-	OMS Board Room
Board Members Present	-	Mr. Brennan, Mr. Mastroianni, Mr. Banks, Ms. Boba, Mr. Schoer, Mr. Toles
Board Members Absent	-	Mr. Giuliano
Others Present	-	Mr. Carasiti, Ms. Todaro, Mr. Nimmo, Mr. Hartner, Ms. DeVivio

Mr. Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:48 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He then instructed those in attendance where to exit the building in case of an emergency and requested all cell phones and beepers be silenced.

Appointment of District Clerk Pro-Tem

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried (6-0), Janet T. Pancir was appointed as District Clerk Pro-Tem for this meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation at this time.

REPORTS

Student Representative's Report

Meaghan O'Hare, student representative from HHS, reported to the Board and community on the sports teams in the high school. She reported on the highlights of the games and the championship games played. She continued to report that the high school students are doing charity work at this time of the year in an effort to help families in the district who are in need. Additionally, Meaghan informed the Board and community of the "Mr. & Mrs. Harborfields" beauty pageant in the high school as an upcoming event.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Carasiti proudly advised the Board of Education and community that the Harborfields High School has received a silver medal ranking for 2009 as one of the nation's top high schools as reported by the *US News and World Reports* magazine. He then asked Dr. Bennardo to address the audience about this prestigious honor. Dr. Bennardo continued that Harborfields High School was among the 504 top performing high schools in the nation based on rigorous criteria on the advanced placement scores and college readiness index. Harborfields is one of 27 high schools in the state and the only one in Suffolk County to be named.

Mr. Carasiti noted that Harborfields Central School District has one of the lowest per pupil expenditures and all are proud of this wonderful achievement. He congratulated Dr. Bennardo, the talented teachers in the high school, and also recognized Ms. Todaro, Deputy Superintendent, for her dedication to the education of our students in Harborfields.

HUMAN RESOURCES RESOLUTION

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Brennan read a resolution to the audience appointing Frank J. Carasiti to the position of Superintendent of Schools. There was a standing ovation for Mr. Carasiti with accolades from several Board members recognizing his leadership qualities, kindness and dedication to education.

5.1A Professional Appointment-Administrative

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mrs. Boba, and carried (6-0), the Board hereby authorized its president to execute a three year employment contract with Frank J. Carasiti, dated December 10, 2008, to serve as Superintendent of Schools, effective July 1, 2009 and terminating on June 30, 2012, as presented to the Board at this meeting. A copy of said employment contract is incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting; and

It was further resolved that the terms of the Interim Superintendent's Contract between the Board and Frank J. Carasiti dated May 12, 2008 are to be rescinded, effective close of business on June 30, 2009.

The Life of a Middle School Athlete

Jordan Cox, Physical Education Teacher, TJL (presently Acting Assistant Principal at TJL), presented an overview on "The Life of a Middle School Athlete." He gave a power point presentation including several video clips which highlighted the importance of sportsmanship and character building acquired by students' participating in sports. The video clips were very touching showcasing

the kindness and sportsmanship of team members under the most competitive trying situations.

R.E.F.I.T. Presentation

Dr. Howard Koenig, Executive Director of R.E.F.I.T., described the acronyms to mean Reform Educational Financing Inequities Today. He gave a brief overview of the purpose of the organization as representing its membership in Albany to foster the inequities of evaluating Long Island school districts in comparison to upstate. He discussed the unconscionable threat of mid-year cuts in state aid to school districts and assured the audience that it was not happening this school year. The impact of the financial crisis will be felt next year and in years after by the state aid cuts.

Mr. Carasiti, having experience with the organization in his previous district, recommended that the Board of Education become a member of R.E.F.I.T. The cost of the membership is \$600.00 and the benefit to the district is important.

3.1 BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

The following minutes were accepted by the Board of Education:

- Regular Meeting, November 19, 2008

FINANCE RESOLUTIONS

Call for removal of resolutions from the FINANCE consent agenda

Mr. Schoer asked for removal of items 4.5 from the finance consent agenda.

Consent Agenda - Finance

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, all resolutions in the area of Finance, with the exception of those noted above, on the agenda of the December 10, 2008 Board of Education meeting were approved by consent.

4.1 Treasurer's Report

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Treasurer's Report for November 2008 was approved.

4.2 Schedules of Bills

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the schedules of bills attached to the agenda of December 10, 2008 were accepted.

4.3 Financial Status Report

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the financial status report attached to the agenda of December 10, 2008 was accepted.

4.4 School Service/Specialized Education Agreements

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following School Service/Specialized Education Agreement between the Harborfields Central School District and the contractor listed below, in accordance with Part 200 of the regulations of the Commissioner of Education for children with handicapping conditions was approved.

- **Variety Child Learning Center** to provide adequate instruction, related services and/or a facility to a disabled student(s) residing in the Harborfields Central School District in accordance with the individualized education program (IEP) for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 in accordance with the rate schedule contained in said agreement.

4.6 Surplus Books

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following surplus books as listed in the attachments to the agenda of December 10, 2008 were declared surplus and will be disposed of accordingly.

4.7 Third Party Administrator for Tax Sheltered Annuities Authorization and Adoption of the District's Section 403(b) Retirement Plan Document

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorized the OMNI Group, Inc. to serve as the district's third-party administrator pursuant to the district's Section 403(b) Internal Revenue Code Retirement Basic Plan document and Adoption Agreement; and the Superintendent of Schools is hereby authorized to sign or have signed the OMNI Group, Inc. Model Section 403(b) Plan Adoption Agreement dated October 16, 2008.

It is further resolved that the Board hereby adopted the district's Section 403(b) Internal Revenue Code Plan Document, as amended and restated effective as of January 1, 2009, as presented to the Board at this meeting of December 10, 2008. A copy of said document shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

4.5 Grants and Increase in Appropriations

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried (6-0), this item was returned to the consent agenda.

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following gifts were accepted.

- \$4,667.52 from Verizon to be used at the discretion of Diana Todaro, Deputy Superintendent
- \$35,667.86 from Cablevision to be used at the discretion of Diana Todaro, Deputy Superintendent
- \$811.97 from AT & T and 880.32 from USA Mobility Wireless to be used at the discretion of Diana Todaro, Deputy Superintendent
- \$701.28 from Verizon Wireless to be used at the discretion of Diana Todaro, Deputy Superintendent

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

- 2630.2000.42.2630.....\$ 4667.52
- 2630.2000.42.2630.....\$35,667.86
- 2630.2000.42.2630.....\$ 1,692.29
- 2630.2000.42.2630.....\$ 701.28

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

HUMAN RESOURCES RESOLUTIONS

Consent Agenda – Human Resources

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, all resolutions in the area of Human Resources, with the exception of those noted above, on the agenda of the December 10, 2008 Board of Education meeting were approved by consent.

5.1 Leaves of Absence

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following leaves of absence were approved.

Name	Assignment	School	Dates Paid	Dates Unpaid
D'Angio-Kelly, Catherine	Physical Education Teacher	TJL	4/24/09-9/25/09	N/A
Pomerantz, Laura	Music Teacher	WDPS	4/1/09-8/31/09	N/A
Valerio, Michelle	Part-time Teaching Assistant	TJL	N/A	12/2/08-3/6/09
*Castiello, BethAnn	Assistant Principal	TJL	12/1/08-2/27/09	3/2/09-03/6/09

*Revised dates

5.2 Professional Appointment

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following professional appointments in accordance with the schedule attached to the official minutes of December 10, 2008 were approved.

Temporary		
Name	School	Assignment
*Cox, Jordan	TJL	Acting Assistant Principal
Part-time		
Zagaja, Sara	OMS	Teaching Assistant

* See revised dates on schedule

5.3 Decrease in Hours

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following personnel were granted a decrease in hours:

- Carlstrom, Stephanie, Part-time Teaching Assistant, TJL, from 26.25 hours per week to 15.75 hours per week effective December 11, 2008
- Novio, Nanette, Part-time Teaching Assistant, from 6.0 hours per day to 5.75 hours per day effective September 1, 2008

5.4 Substitute List Addendum 2008-2009

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the substitute list addendum as attached to the official minutes of December 10, 2008 was approved.

5.5 Extension of Emergency Conditional Appointment

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), 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
Blankman, Laurie	Substitute Clerical, Teaching Assistant/School Teacher Aide	District
Duffy, Joyce	Substitute Teacher	District

5.6 Extracompensation Appointment Schedule 2008-2009

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointees specified on the Extracompensation Appointment Schedule attached to the official minutes of December 10, 2008 were approved.

5.7 District Board of Education Members, District Clerk, and District Office Administrators to Attend Conferences

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education members, District Clerk, and Central Office Administrators were authorized to attend conferences and be reimbursed for expenses in accordance with policy file 2521.

- N-SSBA conference entitled "Survivor-Long Island-Confronting and Managing Financial Challenges, January 27, 2009 at the Hilton Long Island/Huntington
- Long Island Association Economic Executive Breakfast, December 9, 2008, Crest Hollow Country Club, Woodbury, NY

INSTRUCTION CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda – Instruction

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, all resolutions in the area of Instruction, with the exception of those noted above, on the agenda of the December 10, 2008 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. Toles, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, review by the Board of Education of the IEP recommendations of the November 12, 2008, November 17, 2008, November 19, 2008, November 21, 2008, and December 2, 2008 meetings of the Committee on Special Education, the November 20, 2008 meeting of the Committee on Preschool Special Education, and the November 6, 2008, November 7, 2008, November 13, 2008, November 20, 2008, November 24, 2008 and November 25, 2008 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.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

N-SSBA Semi-Annual Dinner meeting, December 2, 2008, Watermill Restaurant, Smithtown, New York

Mr. Carasiti explained that the dinner meeting was not very productive since there was nothing new learned that wasn't known already about the financial budget in Albany. Mr. Schoer agreed that the situation is depressing.

Western Suffolk BOCES Annual Holiday Dinner meeting, Wilson Tech Center, December 4, 2008

Mr. Banks commented on the holiday dinner indicating that he was very impressed by the BOCES programs that were presented that evening by the students. It cleared any misconceptions he had about BOCES and he was delighted with the evening.

Mr. Mastroianni was very impressed by the evening highlighting several events that were particularly phenomenal.

Mr. Brennan commented on the culinary students and the fantastic dinner that was served to all by the students.

Mr. Schoer highlighted the accomplishments of a particular special education student who gained skills in the BOCES program to enter the workplace with tremendous success.

Long Island Association Economic Executive Breakfast, December 9, 2008, Crest Hollow Country Club, Woodbury, New York

Mr. Carasiti informed the audience that ten representatives from the Harborfields district attended this breakfast to hear Governor Patterson speak on the economic situation in Albany. He further commented that he was very impressed with the Governor but the budget news is not very good for the district.

ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

Red Cross Shelter Agreement

Mr. Carasiti recommended to the Board of Education that a representative from the Red Cross be invited into the office to discuss specific buildings and needs before taking action on a contract for Harborfields to be a disaster shelter.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Toles, and carried (6-0), the Board of Education adjourned the regular meeting of December 10, 2008 at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet T. Pancir
District Clerk Pro-tem

/jtp