

HARBORFIELDS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
GREENLAWN, NEW YORK

Kind of Meeting	-	Special Meeting
Date of Meeting	-	April 17, 2013
Place of Meeting	-	OMS Auditorium
Board Members Present	-	Mr. Giuliano, Dr. McDonagh, Mr. Banks, Ms. Boba, Mr. Mastroianni, Mr. Schoer, and Mr. Toles
Board Members Absent	-	None
Others Present	-	Ms. Todaro, Mr. Sallie, Ms. Whelan, and Community Members

Mr. Giuliano called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Toles, and carried (6-0), the Board and district office administrators moved to Executive Session at 6:09 p.m. in order to receive a security assessment report from BOCES. Ms. Boba entered the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

The Board returned to the special meeting at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Giuliano led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance, and he instructed those in attendance where to exit the building in case of an emergency. He asked that all cell phones and beepers be silenced during the meeting.

BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The following students and staff were recognized by the Board of Education for their achievements:

- Toni Deren, Falyn Dwyer, Kristen Kelly, Amy Luxemberg, Kiran Magee, Helena Ottaviano, Eileen Quinn, Bridgit Ryan Donasja Scott, Allie Tunick, Alex Werbitsky, Amy Werbitsky, Jamine White, and Katie White, for finishing the Girls Basketball season with a 20-3 record, a Suffolk County League V Title, a Suffolk Class A Championship, and a Long Island Class A Championship.
- Russ Tietjen, Erin Roche and Bill Zatulkis, for their support and dedication to the Girls Basketball Team in helping them achieve their 20-3 record, a Suffolk County League V Title, a Suffolk Class A Championship and a Long Island Class A Championship.
- Jonathan Patron, All Long Island Award for Boys Basketball.
- Dan Bilawsky, for supporting the many district-wide events throughout the year.

- John Valente, Suffolk Zone Physical Education Director of the year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Todaro announced that the New York State ELA Assessment testing was taking place this week for grades 3-8, and only one student in Harborfields had chosen to opt out of the testing.

Ms. Todaro gave a presentation on the 2013-2014 proposed budget. She provided a recap of the budget development process and the two budget scenarios previously presented (3.18% and 3.75%). She spoke about the additional \$441,916 in state aid the district is slated to receive and announced that an additional \$100,000 from reserves would be applied to the budget. She noted that these additional funds enabled the district to restore programs and staff, and will also allow the district to add a position (0.2) at the high school for an Advanced Placement course. She further noted that the 2013-2014 proposed budget stays within the allowable tax levy cap of 3.18%.

Ms. Todaro stated that she was pleased to announce that Harborfields High School was ranked 2nd in Suffolk County, 11th on Long Island and 24th in New York State among a list of the nation's "Most Challenging High Schools" published by the *Washington Post*. A total of 1,933 high schools were ranked throughout the nation on an index the *Washington Post* determined using a ratio of graduating high school seniors to the number of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and Advanced International Certificate of Education tests given in a single year.

Ms. Todaro announced that the district's administrators have agreed to take a salary freeze for 2013-2014 and as a result, no administrative positions would be reduced.

Ms. Todaro thanked the community for their feedback during the budget process, and she thanked the Board and district staff for their dedication and support throughout the process. She announced that the Board is establishing a District Advisory Committee, which will be comprised of community and staff members. The Committee will provide input to the Board regarding items related to the development of the district's annual budget. Applications may be obtained by visiting the district's website or contacting the Superintendent's office and will be accepted through May 31, 2013.

The Board members expressed their support of the proposed budget. They offered their thanks to Ms. Todaro and her staff for their hard work in putting together a budget that is both educationally sound and fiscally responsible, and they expressed their appreciation to the community for their fair and objective feedback throughout the process.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident congratulated the Board and administration on the hard work that's been done with the budget. The resident encouraged the Board to continue to examine the issue of declining enrollment and its possible effect on our building utilization.

Several residents thanked the Board and administration for listening to the input from the community during the budget process and for finding creative solutions; the feeling is that the community was heard and they are very appreciative.

A resident thanked the district's administrative staff for taking a salary freeze.

A resident commended the Board for their difficult job. He encouraged the Board to consider, at some point in the future, installing a synthetic turf field, which could possibly be used for generating revenue.

A resident thanked the Board and administration stating that they've done a fantastic job on the budget; it reflects what the community has been saying, and it provides a foundation for some type of 3-5 year plan going forward.

A student from Harborfields High School thanked the Board for doing their best to have so many opportunities available for students at the high school. This was evident when she went on college visits and met with students from other high schools who were amazed at what we have here at Harborfields. She wants to see those opportunities continue.

FINANCE

4.1 2013-2014 Budget Adoption

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Banks and carried unanimously (7-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopted the 2013-2014 school district budget in the amount of \$77,368,995 to be presented to eligible voters of the Harborfields Central School District at the Annual Election and Budget Vote to be held on May 21, 2013.

4.2 2013-2014 School District Property Tax Report Card

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Toles, seconded by Mr. Schoer, and carried unanimously (7-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the 2013-2014 Property Tax Report Card attached to the official minutes of the agenda of April 17, 2013 was approved by the Board of Education.

HUMAN RESOURCES

5.1 Memorandum of Agreement

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Schoer, seconded by Mr. Toles, and carried unanimously (7-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Memorandum of Agreement between Harborfields Central School District and the Harborfields Building Administrators Association attached to the agenda of April 17, 2013 was approved by the Board of Education.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident thanked the Board and administration for giving the community an opportunity to be heard. She also acknowledged the hard work of the PTA Council President, Colleen Rapa, and the "Get Out The Vote" Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Schoer and carried unanimously (7-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board adjourned the special meeting of April 17, 2013 at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon M. Whelan
District Clerk