

HARBORFIELDS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
GREENLAWN, NEW YORK

Kind of Meeting	-	Regular Meeting
Date of Meeting	-	September 18, 2013
Place of Meeting	-	OMS Auditorium
Board Members Present	-	Dr. McDonagh, Ms. Boba, Ms. Gaughan, Mr. Giuliano, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Mastroianni
Board Members Absent	-	Mr. Banks
Others Present	-	Ms. Todaro, Dr. Ianni, Mr. Nimmo, Mr. Guercio, Esq., Mr. Sheahan, Esq., Mr. Jackson, Esq., Ms. Whelan and Community Members

Dr. McDonagh called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried (5-0), the Board and district office administrators moved to Executive Session at 6:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular individual, collective bargaining negotiations, and a potential bond issue. Mr. Hansen entered the meeting at 6:10 p.m. The Board was joined by the district's labor counsel, Mr. Christopher Guercio of Guercio & Guercio, LLP at 6:45 p.m., general counsel, Mr. John Sheahan of Guercio & Guercio, LLP, at 6:53 p.m. and bond counsel, Mr. William Jackson of Hawkins, Delafield & Wood, LLP at 6:55 p.m.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting at 7:48 p.m., and Dr. McDonagh led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and instructed them where to exit the building in case of an emergency.

BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Ms. Todaro announced that the district's schools were recognized by the New York State Education Department as Reward Schools, a designation that resulted from students' performance on state assessments and other accountability measures including graduation rates. She presented plaques to each of the school principals in recognition of this achievement.

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

- Kellie Roy, Commended Student in the first NYSATA News Essay Contest.
- Jamie Grossman, first place in the 1,500 meter race and second place in the 3,000 meter race at the USATF Jr. Olympic Championships in Greensboro, NC.
- Madalyn Murphy, 2013-2014 Long Island Arts Alliance Scholar-Artist.
- Jessica Schilling, Award of Merit from the Long Island Arts Alliance.

- William Macci and Keith Mills, semifinalists in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Competition.
- Daniel Saulle, participant in NAAME 2013 All-National Mixed Chorus.

The following staff members were recognized by the Board of Education:

- Jeanie Ritter, for encouraging and inspiring Kellie Roy to take part in the first NYSATA News Essay Contest.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Opening Day Reports

The principals and directors reported on the opening of school. Ms. Kelly reported that Washington Drive got off to a wonderful start and most of the students were comfortable in their classrooms within the first two days. Ms. Tuzzi reported that opening day at T.J. Lahey went very well, and the third grade students acclimated quickly. Ms. Giordano reported that OMS students got off to a running start. OMS held assemblies to introduce students to Common Core and prepare them for the changes they'll see to their curriculum program. Dr. Manning reported that the high school had a great opening day. He reported that the AP Computer Science course is off to a great start. He reminded everyone that the Homecoming parade and game is this Saturday, 9/21/13.

Mr. Gellert reported that the Music and Art departments were off to a busy start. Many students have received a slew of wonderful acknowledgements at the National level and several were accepted to All-County this fall. He further stated that they had a great band camp this summer at SUNY Farmingdale.

Ms. Melone reported that the special education staff worked very hard during the summer months to place all special education students which enabled the opening day to go very smoothly.

Mr. Pisano reported that opening day went quite well. He stated that the counselors did an excellent job in handling the routine schedule changes for some students. He announced that the guidance department would be meeting with seniors and juniors next week and that Harvard University would be coming in to speak to students and staff.

Mr. Valente reported that the athletic department was off to a good start. The high school athletic teams are already underway and OMS sports start next week. He reminded everyone that Homecoming was this weekend and hoped everyone would come out to support the football team.

Superintendent's Report

Ms. Todaro reported that both Superintendent's Conference Days went well, and due to having had two days in early September, the conference day normally scheduled for November has been eliminated. Ms. Todaro spoke about the new initiatives put in place over the summer; the security buzzer system and the paperless process. She stated the new buzzer system has enhanced security at each of the school buildings, and she reminded everyone that in an effort to reduce mailing costs, student report cards and progress reports will now be accessed through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. For those parents who wish to receive a paper copy of these reports, they must notify their child's school by October 1, 2013.

Student Representative's Report

Ms. Todaro introduced Ryan Cates, the 2013-2014 student representative from Harborfields High School. Mr. Cates is also the senior class president. Mr. Cates gave the following report:

- The high school held America Day in which everyone dressed in red, white, and blue in honor of the tragic events of 9/11/01.
- The high school is in the middle of Spirit Week and the students are really getting involved. So far this week they've had Pajama Day, Hawaiian Day and Jersey, Jorts, and Mustache Day and will finish off the week with Class Color followed by Green and White Day on Friday. The events will culminate with the Pep Rally on Friday night leading into the Homecoming Parade and game on Saturday.
- Students William Macci and Keith Mills were distinguished as 2014 National Merit Semi-finalists; placing in the top 1% out of 1.5 million students across the nation.
- Madalyn Murphy and Jessica Schilling were both recognized in the Long Island Scholar Artists program.
- Daniel Saulle was named to the All-National Mixed Chorus.
- Alisa Chang, Danielle Holes, Jack McLaughlin, Keith Mills, and Theo Simpson received honors for their high level of musical talent as 2013 Commended All-State musicians.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. McDonagh announced that the Board was making a slight adjustment to the normal format of the meeting in order to present information on one of the items on this evening's agenda: *Item 4.9 – Acceptance of Petition for Turf Field*. Dr. McDonagh deferred to Ms. Todaro to present the information and stated that the Board would then proceed to hear public comments and questions on the Board Agenda items.

Ms. Todaro stated that the district had received a petition to hold a special district meeting in order to present a voter proposition to the community to construct two synthetic turf fields and upgrade the high school athletic facilities. She explained that the petition is a voter petition and is not reflective of any district-sponsored proposition. Ms. Todaro indicated that the petition was forwarded to the district's general counsel for their review and feedback. Ms. Todaro then introduced Mr. John Sheahan from the law firm of Guercio & Guercio, LLP.

Mr. Sheahan offered a thumbnail sketch of the legal requirements with regard to a voter submitted petition. He explained that voters may submit a petition for a voter proposition on matters that are deemed within the power of the voters. Mr. Sheahan stated that the petition submitted to the district involves a capital project, funded by a bond issue, and, therefore, is within the authority of the voters of the district. He explained that the petition must meet certain legal requirements pursuant to Education Law and Board policy.

Mr. Sheahan spoke about the Board's obligation to accept or reject the petition within 20 days of its submission, and he noted that the petition submitted for the turf fields and athletic facilities upgrades meets the standards required by law. Should the Board accept the petition, the next step would be to complete the SEQRA process (State Environmental Quality Review Act) whereby a determination would be made regarding the classification of the project. A Type II classification means the project would have no environmental impact. Any other classification, Type I, etc., would require additional action by the Board. Upon completion of the SEQRA determination, the Board would then determine when the vote can take place. There is a minimum 45 day requirement for the legal notice to be posted prior to holding the special district meeting. Should the voters pass the proposition, the project would then proceed through the State Education Department's approval process.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident stated that in all likelihood the project was a Type II action. The DEC provides a list of Type II actions that meet the regulation and if full SEQRA is not needed, isn't this information received by the district? Mr. Sheahan advised that it depends on the nature of the project. Rehab actions such as floor tiles might not meet Type II since there could be asbestos involved. Mr. Sheahan stated that legal counsel can only provide the law, not an opinion on environmental issues.

A resident questioned the wisdom of holding an off-cycle vote, as it appears to lack transparency. She's concerned that come budget time, some people might not want to hear about trying to squeeze out \$20,000 on the heels of holding this type of vote.

A resident addressed the Board on behalf of her son who installed the basketball hoops at the library park last year as part of an Eagle Scout project. She stated that residents in the area were aware of her son's intentions, as he held two fund raising events (car washes) in the area and explained to everyone why he was raising the funds. She stated that she contacted the Suffolk County Police Department and learned that there was no

evidence of illegal activity occurring on those instances when police responded to calls regarding the park, nor any connection to the basketball hoops. She encouraged the Board to leave the hoops in place.

A resident addressed the Board regarding the library park. He noted that he has sent information to the Board on at least 12 incidents of unlawful activity he claims to have observed. He reminded the Board that at their August 21, 2013 meeting, the majority of Board members conceded that the hoops should be taken down, and he requested that the Board hold to that decision.

A resident questioned whether there is a public document as to the location of asbestos floor tile at the high school. Mr. Nimmo responded that a report is done every three years and is kept in the facilities office at the high school. The resident continued that the turf proposal includes removal of asbestos tiles, and he questioned whether the voters will be told that the asbestos abatement is a waste of money. Will the Board include that information in the proposition? Mr. Sheahan responded that the Board is not going to include language that presents a position either for or against.

A resident spoke of the correlation between a student's participation in music lessons and being successful in STEM. She stated that there is a great deal of evidence to support the contention that students who study music performed better in other areas, particularly in science, math, and technology. She reminded the Board that many children participate in the district's music program, and while we concentrate on the core curriculum, especially at budget time, we should also remember the benefits derived from the music program.

A resident stated that he resides on Gaines Avenue, near the library park. He commented that many of the local parents see the park as a safe haven for their children. He visits the park quite a bit and hasn't seen anything to concern him. It would be a tragedy to take down the hoops.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

The Board of Education accepted the following minutes:

- Regular Meeting, August 21, 2013

FINANCE

4.1 Treasurer's Report

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Mr. Mastroianni, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the Treasurer's Report for July 2013.

4.2 Schedule of Bills

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepted the Schedule of Bills as attached to the agenda of September 18, 2013.

4.3 Financial Status Report

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepted the Financial Status Report for July 2013.

4.4 Budgetary Transfer of Funds

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Mr. Mastroianni, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the budgetary transfer of funds, as listed in the attachments to the official minutes of September 18, 2013.

4.5 Acceptance of Gift

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Ms. Gaughan, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following gift was accepted:

- \$339.95 from Target's "Take Charge of Education" program to be applied to the Washington Drive Outreach Fund through the Expendable Trust Account.

4.6 Surplus Books & Equipment

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Mr. Mastroianni, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the surplus books and equipment, as described in the attachments to the agenda of September 18, 2013, were declared surplus and will be disposed of accordingly:

- Textbooks and Workbooks from WDPS
- World Book Encyclopedia from WDPS (23 copies)
- Listening Centers from WDPS (3)
- Headphones for Listening Centers from WDPS (3 dozen)
- Specialized Tape Players from Pupil Personnel (11)
- Specialized Books on Tape from Pupil Personnel (250)
- Delta 6 Light Speed from Pupil Personnel (2)
- Microtek Scanner from OMS (1)

4.7 Special Education Services Contract

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education

approved the following Special Education Services Agreement between the Harborfields Central School District ("Sending District") and the Greenburg-North Castle Union Free School District ("Receiving District"). Under the Education Law, the Sending District is authorized to contract with other public school districts for the instruction of students with disabilities if the Sending District is unable to provide for the education of such students.

- One (1) student from the Harborfields Central School District will be attending the Greenburg-North Castle Union Free School District from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

4.8 School Services/Specialized Education Agreements

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the following School Services/Specialized Education Agreement for the 2013-2014 school year between Harborfields Central School District and the contractor listed below, in accordance with Part 200 of the regulations of the Commissioner of Education for children:

- O'Brien Speech, Language, and Learning, PLLC to provide educational services for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 in accordance with the Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) of students at the rates contained in said agreement.

4.9 Acceptance of Petition for Turf Field

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the following resolution:

Whereas, the Board of Education has received a petition containing signatures by the requisite number of qualified voters under Section 2008 of the Education Law for the purpose of calling a special meeting to present a voter proposition to improve and upgrade the high school athletic facilities, including but not limited to, constructing two (2) synthetic turf fields, with access to the fields in accordance with the American with Disabilities Act ("ADA"), upgrading of grass fields and baseball fields, and improvements to the high school corridor to remove asbestos floor tiles; and

Whereas, upon advice of counsel, the Board of Education determines that the proposition requires modification prior to submission to voters of the District; and

Whereas, upon advice of counsel, the Board of Education is required to perform a review pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA") prior to submission of the proposition to voters;

Now therefore, it is resolved, that the Board of Education accepts the petition for athletic field improvements and upgrades, the construction of two (2) synthetic turf fields with ADA access, and abatement of asbestos floor files in the corridor at the high school

subject to the modification of the proposition language to ensure statutory compliance and to remove ambiguity and further subject to the competition of a SEQRA review; and

It is further resolved, that the Board of Education shall call a special meeting for the purpose of submitting a modified proposition to the voters of the District upon completion of the SEQRA review at a date to be determined by the Board of Education.

4.10 Agreement Between Harborfields Central School District and General Investigative Services

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Ms. Gaughan, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approved the agreement between Harborfields Central School District and the investigative service company listed below periodically requested by the district throughout the 2013-2014 school year:

- Fanning Investigative Services, Inc. to provide general investigative services for the period of September 19, 2013 through June 30, 2014 at a rate of \$70.00 per hour.

HUMAN RESOURCES

5.1 Resignations

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following resignations were accepted:

- Broderick, Michael, Guard, OMS, effective the close of business August 31, 2013.
- Santoro, Jessica, P/T Teaching Assistant, TJL, effective the close of business August 30, 2013.

5.2 Leaves of Absence

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following leave of absence was approved:

Name	Assignment	School	Dates Paid	Dates Unpaid
Kristin Greening	Social Studies Teacher	HHS	12/6/13 – 3/18/14	3/19/14 – 4/10/14

5.3 Creation of Positions

Certificated Employees:

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, effective September 1, 2013, the following teaching positions in the Harborfields Central School District are created in the following area of classification:

Professional:

- 0.1 English Teacher
- 0.2 Physical Education Teacher
- 0.2 Reading Teacher

5.4 Professional Appointments

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Ms. Gaughan, 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 September 18, 2013 were approved.

Part-time for the maximum period through June 30, 2014 to serve at the pleasure of the Board		
Name	School	Assignment
Lauren Annarumma	TJL	Part-time Teaching Assistant
Lisa Bergin	WDPS	Part-time Teaching Assistant
Maria Semertzides	TJL	Special Education Teacher (0.5)
Stefan Serie	WDPS	Physical Education Teacher (0.2)
Margaret Staib	HHS	Part-time Teaching Assistant

5.5 Change in Status

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), 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 September 18, 2013 was approved.

Name	Assignment	School	Type of Appointment	Effective Date
Lisa Carpenter	Reading Teacher	OMS	From: Part-time (0.4) To: Part-time (0.6)	9/1/13-6/30/13
Melissa Reisen	Elementary Teacher	TJL	Regular Substitute	From: 11/26/13-3/7/14 To: 9/1/13-3/7/14

5.6 Revision of Extra Assignments

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Mastroianni, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following extra assignments in accordance with the schedule attached to the official minutes of September 18, 2013 were approved.

Name	School	Assignment
Vincent Ambrosio	HHS	0.2 English Teacher
Steven Ellick	OMS	0.2 Technology Teacher
Pamela Long	OMS	0.2 Technology Teacher
Christy Roxo	OMS	0.2 FACS Teacher

5.7 Extra Compensation Appointment Schedule 2013-2014

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Ms. Boba, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointees specified on the Extra Compensation Appointment Schedule attached to the official minutes of September 18, 2013 were approved.

5.8 Civil Service Appointments

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Mr. Mastroianni, and carried (6-0), 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 18, 2013 were approved.

Probationary		
Name	School	Assignment
JoAnne Gribbin	OMS	Part-time Clerk Typist
Christine Mansbart	HHS	Food Service Worker

5.9 Addendum to the 2013-2014 Substitute List

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the substitute list addendum as attached to the official minutes of September 18, 2013 was approved for the maximum period through June 30, 2014 to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

5.10 Personnel Action – Mental Examination

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mastroianni, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, pursuant to § 913 of the Education Law, the employee named on confidential Schedule “A”, as attached to the official minutes of September 18, 2013, is hereby directed to appear for a mental examination in the office of Dr. Michael Schwartz, on the 20th day of September, 2013 at 8:30 a.m., and it is,

Further resolved, that Dr. Michael Schwartz, is hereby appointed school medical inspector pursuant to § 913 of the Education Law in order to evaluate said employee's ability to perform his duties.

5.11 Personnel Action – Medical Examination

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Mr. Mastroianni, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, pursuant to § 913 of the Education Law, the employee named on confidential Schedule "A", as attached to the official minutes of September 18, 2013, is hereby directed to appear for a medical examination in the office of Dr. John Lanzone, on the 27th day of September, 2013 at 12:15 p.m., and it is,

Further resolved, that Dr. John Lanzone, is hereby appointed school medical inspector pursuant to § 913 of the Education Law in order to evaluate said employee's ability to perform his duties.

5.12 Settlement of Claim

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Mr. Mastroianni, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby settles the claim of the individual identified on confidential schedule "A", as attached to the official minutes of September 18, 2013, and authorizes the President of the Board of Education to sign a Stipulation of Settlement, subject to approval of counsel.

INSTRUCTION

6.1 Overnight Field Trips

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Lee, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following overnight field trips were approved:

- Approximately 110 students from the Harborfields High School Marching Band, Kickline Team, and Vocal Ensemble to attend Disney Magic Music Days from January 15-18, 2015.
- Approximately 16 students from the Harborfields High School Cross Country team to participate in an overnight field trip to Brown University from October 18-19, 2013.

6.2 Review of IEP Recommendations and Authorization for Placement and Services

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Mastroianni, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, after reviewing the IEP recommendations, the Board of Education granted authorization to provide for the placement and services contained in the following recommendations of the CSE.

- **Committee on Special Education** meetings dated August 27, 2013, September 4, 2013, and September 11, 2013.

6.3 Approval of Appointment to the District Committee on Special Education and District Committee on Preschool Special Education

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following member of the professional staff was appointed to the District Committee on Special Education and District Committee on Preschool Special Education.

- Dr. Barry Greene, Interim Assistant Director of Special Education

6.4 Adoption of Revised Board of Education Policy

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Giuliano, seconded by Mr. Mastroianni, and carried (6-0), and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following revised policy as attached to the agenda of September 18, 2013 was adopted.

- File 4526.1: Internet Safety

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Harborfields Library Park

Ms. Todaro recalled that at the last meeting the Board discussed installing cameras at the library park, the cost of which would run around \$8,800. She noted that the district has maintained a security presence during the summer months and the approaching end of daylight savings time will likely reduce the cost of security. Ms. Todaro also noted that they have investigated the possibility of selling the 1.5 acres of property. Toward that end, central office administrators met with one real estate broker and have another meeting scheduled for next week. Ms. Todaro stated that they have also reached out to Town Councilman Mark Cuthbertson and Suffolk County Legislator William Spencer to see if the town or county was interested in the property. Her discussions with these representatives have concluded that it's a very, very lengthy process that could take years.

Discussion ensued regarding the security costs, and it was noted that security has not been in place long enough to obtain an annual cost history. Dr. McDonagh noted that at the last Board meeting, it was the consensus of the Board to authorize the removal of the hoops and place them in storage while continuing to explore a long-term strategy. Legal counsel has advised the Board that it would be necessary to adopt a resolution should the Board wish to have the action officially recorded. Dr. McDonagh questioned whether this remained the recommendation that the Board wished to proceed with. Ms. Boba stated that she was not in attendance at the last meeting and would not have voted in favor of taking down the hoops. As a result of renewed discussions and a shift in viewpoints, the consensus among Board members at this time (4-2) was to not remove the hoops. Dr. McDonagh emphasized the necessity to have a specific plan of action regarding this issue, and Ms. Todaro stated that administration would take full responsibility for developing one. In the meantime, the hoops will remain in place and security will continue.

Generators for Schools

Ms. Todaro reported that the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy last year presented quite a challenge with regard to maintaining channels of communication, Internet connections, and the district's server. The cost to install a generator to power an entire school would run approximately \$1,000,000 with an additional \$100,000 needed to get the building ready to accept the generator. The Board discussed possible funding alternatives such as investigating the possibility of obtaining grants to fund the generators. Additionally, a meeting will be scheduled with the local fire departments and the Red Cross to investigate shelter opportunities during school closures.

Board Policies

The Board decided to defer discussion on these policies to the policy subcommittee.

K-12 Enrollment

Ms. Todaro presented a quick update on the K-12 enrollment. Each principal is asked to submit a report on the number of students per classroom and the numbers were on target with what we projected. She noted that BOCES was off quite a bit on their enrollment projections for Kindergarten, and we have notified them of this discrepancy. The new enrollment projections are expected from BOCES in October.

District Advisory Committee

Mr. Nimmo reported that the committee is off to a great start. Two meetings have been held to date and the members have been introduced to school district finance concepts and the annual budget process. Three subcommittees have been formed: Facility Usage, Political Action, and Community Communication. As their names imply, each subcommittee will examine issues directly affecting their respective areas; potential revenue generation through facilities use, legislative advocacy for education reform, including tax and budget reform, and enhancing the district's communication with the community by reaching out through our key communicators to see what issues or

concerns they would like to address. Dr. McDonagh noted that he had the opportunity to participate in the second meeting of the committee, and he is looking forward to receiving their presentation at the January meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident stated that his children frequently play in the park behind Harborfields Public Library, and he expressed concern about the possibility that they are being surreptitiously videotaped by a neighbor. It is his opinion that the park is a fantastic place. With regard to the turf field proposal, he's heard a lot of talk about synthetic fields for quite some time now and finally someone has ran with the idea. He thinks it's being handled in an open manner, but has concerns that it's not an even playing field for all the kids.

A resident suggested that the Board look into establishing a police liaison with regard to the library park. All allegations of unlawful activity need to be addressed by law enforcement professionals. The police, not the district, should be contacted if illegal activity is observed.

A resident questioned what modifications were being made by the Board to the language in the turf field proposition. Mr. Sheahan responded that it would be put into the proper legal format for a bond proposition with clarification on the location of the field and the corridor for the floor tile.

A resident stated that the Board works tirelessly every year to get the budget done. She has an issue with the timing of the proposition, and believes that the vote should be done in May to coincide with the annual budget vote. This would also help defray the costs associated with holding two votes. She's concerned about a backlash; that parents who aren't invested in the turf field will take it out on the budget.

A resident expressed concern that the wording on the proposition regarding the asbestos tiles will give a false sense that we are remediating something that doesn't require it.

A resident suggested that the Board investigate companies that provide power purchase agreements with regard to generators. They have contracts available for 15, 20 and 30 year terms. The resident also thanked everyone that worked on the turf field campaign, and thanked the Board and district administration stating that this project is for all the kids. He noted that it will be an asset to the district, and while people may scoff at the tax increase, at the end of the day, the community will appreciate what it's getting for an extra \$40 per month.

A resident stated that she was surprised at the turf field project. She noted that as recently as five months ago, the district was discussing whether there would be enough money in the budget to keep programs, teachers, etc. and in the end, elected not to pierce the tax cap. For the price of a cup of coffee, the district could fund more important things. In response, Mr. Giuliano noted that the Board is not taking a position on the turf

field project; it is merely doing its due diligence with regard to the acceptance or rejection of the petition in accordance with the law.

A resident inquired about what sports would use the turf fields. Ms. Todaro responded that our Athletic Director, John Valente, has informed her that JV and Varsity sports such as football, soccer, field hockey, baseball, lacrosse, track and field, as well as the marching band would make use of the fields.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Boba, seconded by Mr. Giuliano, and carried (6-0), the Board adjourned the regular meeting of September 18, 2013 at 10:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon M. Whelan
District Clerk