

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education, Island Trees Union Free School District, Town of Hempstead, County of Nassau, Levittown, New York. The meeting was held at the Geneva N. Gallow School, 74 Farmedge Road, Levittown, New York, on Wednesday, February 15, 2006.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Robert M. Condela, at 8:02 PM.

PRESENT: Mr. Robert M. Condela, President
Mr. Carl Bonsignore, Vice President
Mr. Kenneth Fazio
Ms. Patricia Mahon
Mr. Peter Ray
Mr. Kenneth Rochon

ABSENT: Mr. Charles Bambino

Also Present: Mr. James Parla, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Salvatore Carambia, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Administration; Mr. David S. J. Rubin, Chief Legal Officer; and Mrs. Connie Carr, District Clerk.

Mr. Condela led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

PLEDGE

Mr. Condela called for a moment of silence to observe the death of Mrs. Marie Reilly. Mrs. Reilly was the chairperson of the Special Education Dept. at the high school. She was a very special person and will be greatly missed.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mr. Parla opened the meeting by praising one of our students, Kevin Covais, for being one of 24 final contestants on American Idol. Kevin has a great voice and Mr. Parla asked everyone to root for him and vote for him.

RECOGNITION

Mr. Parla announced that two students per art teacher in the K-12 art program at Island Trees were selected to exhibit their artwork at the Art Supervisors Association All County Art Exhibit on Saturday, March 18, at the Tilles Center at C.W. Post College.

Mr. Parla announced that the girls basketball team defeated Division Ave. High School on Friday, February 10. They won the conference and will go to the playoffs.

Mr. Parla informed everyone that the Board of Education

SAND TUNNEL

has engaged the services of an engineering firm, J.R. Holzmacher, for the lead abatement project at the high school. This firm and the district have been working with the Nassau County Dept. of Health, the State Education Dept., the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation, and the New York State Dept. of Health to come up with a plan for the removal of lead from the former rifle range at the high school. Mr. Parla assured everyone that this area is not accessible to students. The work plan has been finalized. There will be a fact sheet prepared by the DEC along with a letter from Mr. Parla that will be mailed to every resident in the district informing them of what the district is doing. The date will be set for an agreement to do the work. There will be a hearing and signs will be posted by the DEC and notices will be publicized in the local newspaper informing the community when the project will begin. The abatement will be done in the summer while no students are in the building. The high school will be empty for two weeks and employees will be relocated to other buildings until the work is completed. Mr. Parla will make more information available as he receives it.

Mr. Parla followed up with the Nutrition Committee. He met with representatives from Stony Brook University on Friday, February 10, to discuss partnering with them. They discussed the kinds of health and wellness issues that take place in the district. They have agreed to do a presentation for us and have agreed to include us as a partner. Mr. Parla asked them to select the dates when they would come in, and he will send a letter to the Nutrition Committee, physical education and health teachers, and school nurses inviting them to the presentation. Stony Brook will discuss what they will provide and the support services, and they will help us in addressing some of the health and wellness issues we are facing. They will look at our food services program to help us modify it. We have to have a Wellness policy in place by July 1. Stony Brook will help us write this policy. They come out of the School of Medicine at Stony Brook.

**STONY BROOK
PARTNERING**

Mr. Parla announced that 61 of our high school students were inducted into the National Honor Society. This is a special honor and congratulations were extended.

**NATIONAL HONOR
SOCIETY INDUCTION**

A survey was conducted by the Physical Education Dept.

GOLF TEAM

to see how many students would be interested in participating on a golf team. Out of 200 students, both boys and girls, 22% were interested. Before a team can be started, this has to be part of the budget deliberations.

On a motion of Mr. Fazio, and seconded by Mr. Ray,

MINUTES
APPROVAL

RESOLVED, To approve the following minutes, as presented:

Regular Meeting & Executive Session – January 25, 2006
Committee on Special Education – December 8, 13, 20, 2005
Committee on Preschool Special Education – December 7, 8, 20, 2005

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

On motion of Mr. Ray, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore,

POLICY 4148 – EMP.
AND VOLUNTEER
PROTECTION AND
PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW

WHEREAS, Policy Number 4148 of the Business Policy of the Island Trees Union Free School District was originally adopted on November 28, 1972; and,

WHEREAS, Policy Number 4148 was amended on January 31, 1996; and,

WHEREAS, Policy Number 4148 did not specifically cite Section 18 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Policy Number 4148 of the Board of Education Policy Manual is hereby amended to include the rights and benefits of Section 18 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York, which Section is deemed included herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Board of Education Policy Number 4148 is hereby amended to include the following language:

“The Board of Education, in accord with Subdivision 2 of Section 18 of the Public Officers Law of the State of New York, hereby adopts Section 18 of the Public Officers Law and

the benefits contained therein for all parties as defined by Subdivision 1(b) of Section 18 and does hereby confer all the benefits of Section 18 of the Public Officers Law to all parties defined and described in Section 1(b).”

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

On motion of Ms. Mahon, and seconded by Mr. Fazio,

SCHOOL CALENDAR

RESOLVED, To adopt the proposed 2006-2007 school calendar, as presented.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, and seconded by Mr. Rochon,

**REIMBURSEMENT
FOR FOOD SERVICE
WORKER TEE SHIRTS**

WHEREAS each year food service workers are provided tee shirts to be worn while working; and,

WHEREAS Mrs. Barbara Chang has purchased the tee shirts and is requesting reimbursement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that Mrs. Barbara Chang be reimbursed in the amount of \$279.00.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

On motion of Mr. Rochon, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore,

**RETIREMENT
INCENTIVE**

WHEREAS after much deliberation and an understanding of these unique and difficult financial times, the Board of Education has agreed to sponsor a **ONE-TIME RETIREMENT INCENTIVE**, and

WHEREAS the retirement incentive is so crafted that it will provide financial relief to the 2006-2007 budget, and

WHEREAS the Retirement Incentive will offer the retirees \$10,000 if ten (10) teachers tender their resignations, \$15,000 if fifteen (15) tender their resignations, and \$20,000 if thirty-one (31) or more teachers tender their resignations for the purpose of retirement, and

WHEREAS the Retirement Incentive is offered only to full-time teachers and staff who are members of the Island Trees U.T.I.T. who have worked in the Island Trees School District for at least ten years and are eligible by age and service to retire on June 30, 2006.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the Retirement Incentive offer of \$10,000 if ten (10) teachers retire, \$15,000 if fifteen (15) teachers retire, and \$20,000 if thirty-one (31) or more teachers tender their resignations for the purpose of retirement, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Retirement Incentive is only available to full-time teachers and staff who are members of the Island Trees U.T.I.T. who have worked in the Island Trees School District for at least ten years and are eligible by age and service to retire on June 30, 2006.

Ayes 5 Abstentions 1 (Peter Ray)

On motion of Mr. Fazio, and seconded by Mr. Ray,

PERSONNEL REPORT

RESOLVED, To approve, as presented, the Personnel Report dated February 15, 2006 items 1 through 28 inclusive.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

On motion of Mr. Ray, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore,

USE OF BUILDINGS

WHEREAS community and school organizations have applied for use of district facilities for the 2005-2006 school year, and

WHEREAS the required insurance certificates have been received

and all other requirements of policy and regulation of Island Trees and New York have been met, and

WHEREAS the principals and athletic director have certified that the use of these facilities will not interfere with the instructional program or co-curricular activities in our schools

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the requested use of buildings or fields is approved subject to the limitations of policy and regulation, as presented.

<i>Amblyopia Screening</i>	
Training	No Fee
<i>Amblyopia Testing</i>	
Testing	No Fee
<i>Broadway's Stage Door</i>	
Recital	\$470

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

REPORT BY ASST. SUPT. FOR FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

The Board of Education accepted the Financial Reports for December 2005, as presented.

FINANCIAL
REPORT REC'D.

OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

A budget meeting to review the budget proposal has been established for Saturday, March 4 at 8:30 a.m.
A resident raised a question regarding the retirement incentive. Is this being offered to get some teachers to retire? Mr. Condela replied that it will give relief to our budget.
A resident raised a question regarding the Personnel Report.

A resident raised a questions regarding the Food Service Director.

The district has started the process of finding a Food Service person from the Civil Service list.

The next Board of Education Work Session is scheduled for March 22 at 7:30 p.m. There will be a statement in the next district newsletter that work sessions are open to the public.

NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Ms. Mahon, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore,

WHEREAS Mr. Nick Grande, Administrative Assistant at Island Trees High School, has assumed the position of Assistant Principal on an interim basis, and

WHEREAS it is necessary to fill the position of high school administrative assistant on an interim basis for the remainder of the school year, and

WHEREAS Mr. Robert Hacket Jr. retired in July 2003 as a principal in the Massapequa School District, and

WHEREAS Mr. Hacket has been interviewed by the interim high school principal and superintendent of schools.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that Mr. Robert Hackett Jr. be approved as Interim Administrative Assistant, effective March 1, 2006 and for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year at a rate of \$400.00 per day, not including holidays.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

A resident raised a concern regarding the Internet Policy. Mr. Parla stated that we have an Internet Use policy.

A resident raised a concern regarding the hiring process of

NEW BUSINESS

**INTERIM ADMIN.
ASSISTANT**

NEW BUSINESS (CONT)

interim personnel. Mr. Parla stated that we have to go through the State Education Dept. for a waiver for someone to work while they are retired. He also stated that a thorough check is done, and that the Criminal Justice System is linked to the State Education Department.

Mr. Condela announced that Mr. John Price's wife underwent surgery today.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Salvatore Carambia
District Clerk

Minutes approved _____