

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, May 24, 2006.

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

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

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. Concetta Carr, District Clerk.

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

**PLEDGE**

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

**MINUTES**  
**APPROVAL**

RESOLVED, To approve the following minutes, as presented:

Regular Meeting & Executive Session – April 25, 2006

Budget Hearing – May 2, 2006

Committee on Special Education – February 28, March 7, 10, 14, 21, 27, 28, 2006

Subcommittees on Special Education – February 28, March 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 29, 31, 2006

Committee on Preschool Special Education – March 1, 14, 21, 23, 28, 2006

*Unanimously carried*

Ayes 7

Nays 0

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

The Superintendent made the following announcements:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The 2006-2007 School Budget passed with a better than 2 to 1 margin (761 YES votes, 350 NO votes).
2. Congratulations to Christine Holt and Joseph Buda on their election to the school board. They will be sworn in at the board meeting on July 5.
3. Kyle Acito, a seventh grader in the middle school, was selected as Junior Volunteer of the Year.
4. The high school Newsday Stock Market teams came in first place on Long Island. They will be honored at a ceremony at Dowling College. Congratulations to the teams and Mr. Doug Rigo, Social Studies Dept. Chairperson.
5. The Creative Arts Fair at the high school started this evening at 6:30 PM. The artwork by our students is magnificent.
6. Island Trees will be participating in the Annual Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28.
7. There will be a public hearing at the High School regarding the lead remediation in the basement on Thursday, May 25, 2006, at 7:30 PM in the auditorium. In attendance will be representatives from the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, NYS Dept. of Health, our district engineer and architect, and district administration. This project will tentatively be done this summer. If it is not done this summer, it will be deferred until the following summer. The building will be completely vacated before any work is begun. Mr. Condela thanked Mr. Parla for the two years of planning he has devoted to this project.
8. Mrs. Pamela Hostetter will be the new full-time Administrative Assistant at the high school, and Mr. William Marr will be the half-time Dean at the middle school commencing July 1, 2006. Mr. Parla congratulated both of them.

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

PIANO  
DONATION

WHEREAS Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Castro of 15 Hamlet Road in Levittown desires to donate an upright acoustic piano to the district to be put to use in the General Music classes at M.F. Stokes School, and

WHEREAS the District Director of Fine and Performing Arts finds this piano to be in excellent condition

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accept the donation of an upright acoustic piano from Mr. and Mrs. Castro with gratitude.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

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

**LEASE**  
**AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS the Island Trees U.F.S.D. is requesting approval to enter into a lease agreement with Pitney Bowes to provide an Address Right Pro machine (Mail Creation – 8), and

WHEREAS the lease agreement is for 51 months at \$380 per month

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Island Trees U.F.S.D. has approval to enter into the lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for an Address Right Pro machine.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

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

**LEASE**  
**AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS the Island Trees U.F.S.D. is requesting approval to enter into a lease agreement with Pitney Bowes to provide a Digital Mailing machine (Mail Stream Solution -2), and

WHEREAS the lease agreement is for 51 months at \$261 per month

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Island Trees U.F.S.D. has approval to enter into

the lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for a Digital Mailing machine.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

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

**SECURITY**  
**CONTRACT**

WHEREAS the Island Trees U.F.S.D. has entered into a contract with Westech Investigations, Inc., to provide part-time security services at the high school, and

WHEREAS the agreement is for one security person at a rate of \$19.50 per hour for four (4) hours per day.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Island Trees U.F.S.D. has approval to participate in the contract with Westech Investigations, Inc.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

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

**POLICY 3320 –**  
**PURCHASING**  
**PROCEDURES**

WHEREAS, Policy Number 3320 of the Business Policy of the Island Trees Union Free School District was originally adopted on April 26, 1973; and,

WHEREAS, Policy Number 3320 was amended on December 6, 1995, and May 27, 1998

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Policy Number 3320 of the Board of Education Policy Manual is hereby amended to include the following language:

“The purchase of commodities, goods and equipment from State or BOCES contracts does not preclude from obtaining two additional quotes. This pertains to both ranges from \$2,500-\$4,999 and from \$5,000 to \$9,999.”

Item 1 – Procedures for the Purchase of Commodities, Goods and Equipment Within Certain Ranges - \$2,500 - \$4,999:

“Must obtain fax quotes on vendor letterhead from at least 3 separate vendors.”

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

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

**DISNEY TRIP TO FLORIDA**

WHEREAS one of the middle school grade 8 science enrichment teams, consisting of four students, has been named one of seven national finalists, and

WHEREAS the team has won an all expenses paid trip to Disney World in Orlando, Florida, for the 2006 Christopher Columbus Awards, National Championship Week, and

WHEREAS Mrs. Eileen Anderson, middle school Science teacher, is requesting approval from the Board of Education for the four students to attend the Christopher Columbus Awards, National Championship Week, and

WHEREAS Mr. Jeffrey Spuches, middle school Special Education teacher, will chaperone the four students

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the trip to Florida for the middle school grade 8 science enrichment team.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

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

**REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES**

WHEREAS the high school Physics classes attended Great Adventure for Physics Day on Friday, April 28, and

WHEREAS the bus had mechanical problems for the return trip and students remained in the parking lot for five hours, and

WHEREAS the students ordered dinner, and

WHEREAS Mrs. Laura Rigo, Science Department Chairperson is requesting reimbursement for the cost of their dinner

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That Mrs. Laura Rigo be reimbursed \$182.25 for dinners purchased by students.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

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

WHEREAS the Island Trees School District wishes to adopt the Deferred Compensation Plan for Employees of the State of New York and Other Participating Public Jurisdictions (the "Plan") for voluntary participation of all eligible employees, and

**STATE OF NY**  
**DEFERRED**  
**COMPENSATION**  
**PLAN**

WHEREAS the Island Trees School District is a local public employer eligible to adopt the Plan pursuant to Section 5 of the State Finance Law, and

WHEREAS the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Administration has reviewed the Plan established in accordance with Section 457 of the Internal Revenue Code and Section 5 of the State Finance Law of the State of New York, and

WHEREAS the purpose of the Plan is to encourage employees to make and continue careers with the Island Trees School District by providing eligible employees with a convenient and tax-favored method of saving on a regular and long-term basis and thereby provide for their retirement

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Island Trees School District hereby adopts the

Plan for the voluntary participation of all eligible employees; and it is further

RESOLVED, That the appropriate officials of the Island Trees School District are hereby authorized to take such actions and enter such agreements as are required or necessary for the adoption, implementation, and maintenance of the Plan; and it is further

RESOLVED, That the Administrative Services Agency is hereby authorized to file copies of these resolutions and other required documents with the President of the State of New York Civil Service Commission.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

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

**TYPE II SEORA**

WHEREAS the Board of Education of the Island Trees UFSD is the lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Process for the purpose of required determinations respecting the proposed Capital Improvement Projects as follows:

- a. Island Trees High School                      SED #28-02-26-03-0-003-028
  - 1. Lead Remediation
  - 2. Asbestos Abatement

WHEREAS in 1995, amendments were made to the SEQRA Regulation (Part 617) to classify projects, which will be excluded from the requirements for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (Type II Actions). The projects mentioned above are now classified as Type II Actions as determined by 6NYCRR§617.5, and

WHEREAS these projects fall under the following categories:

- A. Routine Maintenance and Repair 6NYCRR§617.5 (c)(1): Maintenance or repair involving no substantial change in an existing facility.
- B. Replace or Rehabilitation 6NYCRR§617.5 (c)(2): Replacement or rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure of facility, in kind,

on the same site, unless the work excess a threshold for a Type I action in 6NYCRR§617.4.

- C. 6NYCRR§617.5 (c)(8): Routine activities of educational institutions, including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area and school closings, but not changes in use related to such closings.

THEREFORE, as the lead agency for the SEQRA determination, all the above referenced projects fall under Categories “A” or “B” above. The procedure for Type II Actions, with regard to the SEQRA Process for Capital Projects noted above is “No Additional Required Action under 6NYCRR§617.5(a)”.

*Unanimously carried*                      Ayes 7                      Nays 0

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

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

WHEREAS the 2005-06 budget appropriation for legal and architect fees for the sand tunnel project is under appropriated by approximately \$30,000, and

WHEREAS transfers between object codes may not exceed \$10,000 in any period without approval by the Board of Education

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, To approve a transfer of funds between the Tan Interest and Legal Services codes.

*Unanimously carried*                      Ayes 7                      Nays 0

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

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the work to remediate the sand tunnel at the High School is required to ensure the health and safety of staff and students. Therefore, the Board of Education declares \$464,000.00 as an ordinary contingent expense and approves the transfer of this amount from the General Fund to the Capital Fund to cover the cost related to the remediation of the lead in the sand tunnel at the High



School.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

On motion of Mr. Rochon, 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.

*Human Awareness Club*  
Hunger Fundraiser

No Fee

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

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

**PERSONNEL  
REPORT**

RESOLVED, To approve, as presented, the Personnel Report dated May 24, 2006, items 1 through 248 inclusive.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

**REPORT BY ASST. SUPT. FOR FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

The Board of Education accepted the Financial Reports for April 2006, as presented.

**FINANCIAL  
REPORT REC'D.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**OLD BUSINESS**

A resident asked the Board of Education if any teachers took the retirement incentive? The resident was told that not enough teachers were interested.

Mr. Condela thanked the community for their support of the budget. This will allow the district to continue to have full programs for our students next year.

Mr. Condela congratulated the newly elected Board members, Mr. Joseph Buda and Mrs. Christine Holt.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Parla addressed the issue of vandalism that has been occurring especially behind Stokes and Sparke schools. The Board of Education met with Gary Hudes and Deputy Inspector Cronin from the 8<sup>th</sup> Precinct to discuss safety and security issues in the district. Mr. Rochon proposed some ideas for the traffic problems at the high school and middle school. The services of Westech Security outside the high school has helped with problems in the community around the school. A security light, donated by one of the board members, will be mounted behind Sparke school. Security personnel will be at the school properties during the weekends. Mr. Joseph Buda will attend a meeting in Farmingdale regarding "Gangs and Vandalism." Mr. Parla stressed that the district is not letting these problems go unnoticed, and certain strategies are being implemented to improve the situation.

On motion of Mr. Condela, seconded by Mr. Fazio and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 8:37 PM.

**TO EXEC. SESSION**

The following items were addressed in Executive Session:

**EXEC. SESSION**

1. Personnel Matters

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 PM

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr  
District Clerk

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_