

Minutes of the Work Session 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 Stephen E. Karopczyc School, 74 Farmedge Road, Levittown, New York, on Wednesday, January 21, 2015.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Daniel Donahue, President, at 7:00 PM.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Daniel Donahue, President  
Mr. Paul Giambona, Vice President  
Mrs. Kristen Daum  
Mr. Brian Fielding  
Mrs. Barbara Medellin  
Mr. Michael T. Rich, Jr.

**ABSENT:** Mrs. Kim McDonough

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Charles J. Murphy, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Arlene Genden Sage, Assistant Superintendent for Special Ed.  
Mrs. Susan Hlavenka, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Mrs. Elizabeth Roemer, Admin. for Ed. Progs., Literacy & Staff Devel.  
Mr. Richard Guercio, General Legal Counsel  
Mrs. Randy Glasser, General Legal Counsel  
Mrs. Concetta Carr, District Clerk

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mr. Donahue led the pledge of allegiance to the flag followed by a moment of silence for our troops.

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:** A resident thanked Mrs. Roemer and Mrs. Pusateri for their work with the Wonders Reading Program.  
A resident spoke regarding Common Core.  
A resident asked questions regarding the January 7, 2015, Special Board Meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS:** The Action Items listed on the agenda were reviewed and discussed.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Technology Enhancement – Google/Chromebook Training – Beth Roemer and John Rezek said the Chromebook carts are out and in constant use in the middle school They are seeing a lot of creative use of the Chromebooks. Teachers in the middle school are given two days of Google Classroom training and one day of training for high school teachers. Google

Classroom is team based interactive instruction in real-time with teacher guidance. At this point, the use of this technology is working well for our students.

2. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Instructional Model for 2015-16 – Dr. Murphy and Mrs. Roemer gave an update on the 5<sup>th</sup> grade instructional model for next year. They have been discussing this since last year. To maximize instructional time in ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies the plan is to have 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers team teach. Two 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers will share the responsibility – one will focus on ELA and Social Studies, and the other on Math and Science.
3. New ESL Regulations – Dr. Murphy spoke about the new ESL regulations. We have 3.6 ESL teachers in the district who teach 20 students each. State regulations are changing; so even though nothing is definite, districts have to budget for the 2015-16 school year to meet the new regulations. Island Trees needs to put \$250,000 into the program to hire 3 additional instructors. The district is looking into having teachers with dual certification to cover the regulations.
4. Island Trees Public Library – Dr. Murphy explained that the District will be working collaboratively with the Island Trees Public Library to create some more space for the library and the school community. It will be a long-term plan and possibly a new lease for the library.

**COMMENTS  
FROM VISITORS  
(OLD & NEW  
BUSINESS):**

A resident asked a question regarding the posting of the December Board minutes and about taping the Board meetings.

**SPECIAL MEETING:** The Board voted on an Action Item during a Special Meeting at 8:15 PM. The Board reconvened to the Work Session at 8:17 PM.

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION:**

On **Motion** of Mrs. Daum, seconded by Mrs. Medellin, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:18 PM to discuss a personnel issue.

**RETURN TO  
REGULAR  
SESSION:**

On **Motion** of Mrs. Daum, seconded by Mr. Giambona, and unanimously carried (6-0), the members came out of Executive Session at 8:52 PM.

**ADJOURNED:**

On **Motion** of Mrs. Daum, seconded by Mrs. Medellin, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr  
District Clerk

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