

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 Stephen E. Karopczyc School, 74 Farmedge Road, Levittown, New York, on Wednesday, November 16, 2011.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Mahon, President, at 7:00 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Patricia Mahon, President
Mr. Kenneth Rochon, Vice President (arrived 7:01 PM)
Mrs. Kristen Daum
Mr. Daniel Donahue
Mrs. Kim McDonough
Mrs. Barbara Medellin
Mr. George Storm

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. Randy Glasser, General Legal Counsel
Mr. Greg Gillen, General Legal Counsel
Mrs. Concetta Carr, District Clerk

**EXECUTIVE:
SESSION:** On **Motion** of Mrs. McDonough, seconded by Mr. Storm, and unanimously carried (6-0), the Board of Education recessed into Executive Session at 7:00 PM to discuss collective bargaining issues.

The meeting returned from Executive Session at approximately 7:28 PM.
The meeting resumed with the public at 7:30 PM.

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

MINUTES: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mr. Rochon, seconded by Mrs. Medellin, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the following minutes:

Work Session & Executive Session – October 19, 2011
Regular Meeting & Executive Session – October 26, 2011
Committee on Special Education – October 25, November 1, 2, 2011
Committee on Preschool Special Education – October 27, 2011

PRESENTATION: Dr. Arlene Genden Sage, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education, gave a presentation to clarify what was in *Newsday* last week regarding our school district being listed as a school that needs improvement. She explained how a school becomes designated as one that needs improvement and the corrective action that the district is taking. In our case, it is the Island Trees Memorial Middle School that was identified for the performance of a single student group on a single accountability measure; specifically, students with disabilities did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) on the ELA for two years which resulted in the Differentiated Accountability notation of Improvement Phase – Basic. The I.T. Memorial Middle School is in the process of conducting a self-review study called a School Quality Review to identify strengths and additional areas for improvement. Dr. Murphy also explained that this is something that is going to occur all over the state and will increase over time and more schools will be put on the list. Standards change at a faster rate than in the past making it difficult for districts to keep up. He also went on to explain that at the August meeting, the Board of Education discussed the goals and plans to improve performance. A plan was put together and is being implemented by the District. Dr. Murphy went over the steps the district is taking to raise student achievement at all the schools.

**COMMENTS
FROM**

VISITORS: A resident had a question about Agenda Item #17 – Use of Buildings.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Board of Education Acceptance of Audit Report

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mrs. Medellin, seconded by Mrs. Daum, and unanimously carried (7-0) to accept from R. S. Abrams & Co., LLP the following audited reports for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011:

1. Management's Discussion & Analysis
2. Auditors Report and Financial Statements
3. Management Letter
4. Extra Classroom Activity Fund Financial Statements and Auditors Report
5. SAS 114 Letter
6. Single Audit Report

2. **Board of Education Approval of Island Trees High School Team Trip to MSG Varsity's The Challenge Taping In Manhattan**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mrs. Daum, seconded by Mrs. McDonough, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the request for the Island Trees High School team, comprised of five students, to compete in MSG Varsity's *The Challenge*, being taped in Manhattan on Sunday, January 22.

3. **Board of Education Approval of Island Trees High School Band Field Trip to Broadway Production**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mrs. McDonough, seconded by Mr. Storm, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the request for the Island Trees High School Band field trip to the Broadway production of "Godspell" on Wednesday, November 30, 2011, at a cost to the students of approximately \$85.

4. **Board of Education Approval of Donation from the Stokes PTA to Michael F. Stokes School**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mr. Storm, seconded by Mr. Donahue, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the donation of ten (10) gymnastics mats at a cost of \$139.00 each for a total of \$1,390, and a 22" HD1080p digital picture frame valued at \$529.00, to the Michael F. Stokes School from the Stokes PTA, and directs that a letter be sent from the Board of Education thanking them for their generosity.

5. **Board of Education Approval of Donation of School Supplies to Michael F. Stokes School**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mr. Donahue, seconded by Mr. Rochon, and unanimously carried (7-0) approve the donation of school supplies from Mrs. Monica Gigante, 106 Halsey Avenue, Hicksville, NY 11801, valued at \$40.00, to the Michael F. Stokes School which will be used for educational purposes, and directs that a letter be sent from the Board of Education thanking her for her generosity.

6. Board of Education Approval of Donation of Percussion Accessories to the Island Trees Fine & Performing Arts Department

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mr. Rochon, seconded by Mrs. Medellin, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the donation of percussion accessories (drum throne, bongos, music stands and drum pad) from Mrs. Colleen Henken, 540 Parker Avenue, Levittown, NY 11756, valued at approximately \$300.00, to the Island Trees Fine & Performing Arts Department, and directs that a letter be sent from the Board of Education thanking her for her generosity.

7. Board of Education Approval to Declare Surplus and Dispose of Island Trees Memorial Middle School, J. Fred Sparke School, and Michael F. Stokes School Library Books

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mrs. Medellin, seconded by Mrs. Daum, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve to declare surplus and dispose of library books that are obsolete or in poor condition from the Island Trees Memorial Middle School, J. Fred Sparke School, and Michael F. Stokes School as it sees fit pursuant to the State Education Department's recommended procedures.

8. Board of Education Approval of Energy Performance Contract Amendment

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mrs. Daum, seconded by Mrs. McDonough, and unanimously carried (7-0) to agree to amend the performance contract agreement with Johnson Controls Inc. to reflect recommendations made by the New York State Department of Education during project review, and authorizes the Board President to sign said amendment upon the receipt of a revised amendment incorporating the recommendations of District Counsel.

Note: There is no change in the total contract amount as a result of this amendment.

9. Board of Education Approval of Award for Replacement of Hot Water Heater at J. Fred Sparke School

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mrs. McDonough, seconded by Mr. Storm, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve to award RFQ #673.012.003, Replacement of Hot Water Heater at the J. Fred Sparke Elementary School, to Magee Bros., Inc., 256 Jerusalem Ave., Hempstead, NY 11550, in the amount of \$12,385.00, and authorizes the Board President to enter into a contract for same.

10. Board of Education Approval of Special Education Services Contract with the Hicksville U.F.S.D. for the 2011-2012 School Year

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mr. Storm, seconded by Mr. Donahue, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the special education services contract with the Hicksville U.F.S.D., as prepared by District Counsel, for the 2011-2012 school year, and authorizes the Board President to sign such contract.

11. Board of Education Approval of Architectural Services Award

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mr. Donahue, seconded by Mr. Rochon, and unanimously carried (7-0) and in accordance with the District's RFP for architectural/engineering services, RFP #673.012.002, to approve to award a professional services contract to BBS Architects & Engineers as per their proposal presented on October 5, 2011, exclusive of the alternate for concrete capping inspection, and authorizes the Board President to sign said contract, subject to review and approval by District Counsel.

12. Board of Education Approval of Budget Transfers

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mr. Rochon, seconded by Mrs. Medellin, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve budget transfers in various salary codes as necessary to adjust for building assignment changes, in the aggregate amount of \$392,378 as presented, representing no change in the approved General Fund budget total.

13. Board of Education Approval of New Policy #5281 – Selection/Classification – First Reading

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mrs. Medellin, seconded by Mrs. Daum, and unanimously carried (7-0) to accept as a first reading the new Selection/Classification Policy #5281, as presented.

14. Board of Education Approval of Special Education Services Provider Contract with Eden II School for Autistic Children dba Eden II/Genesis Programs for the 2011-2012 School Year

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mrs. Daum, seconded by Mrs. McDonough, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the special education services provider contract with Eden II School for Autistic Children dba

Eden II/Genesis Programs for the 2011-2012 school year, which was reviewed and approved by District Counsel, and authorizes the Board President to sign such contract.

15. Board of Education Approval of Special Education Services Contract with Eden II School for Autistic Children for the 2011-2012 School Year

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mrs. McDonough, seconded by Mr. Storm, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the special education services contract with Eden II School for Autistic Children for the 2011-2012 school year, which was reviewed and approved by District Counsel, and authorizes the Board President to sign such contract.

16. Board of Education Approval of Personnel Report

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mr. Storm, seconded by Mr. Donahue, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve, as presented, the Personnel Report dated November 16, 2011, items 1 through 63 inclusive.

17. Board of Education Approval of Use of Buildings

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by Mr. Donahue, seconded by Mr. Rochon, and unanimously carried (7-0), to approve the use of buildings or fields by the following community and school organizations for the 2011-2012 school year subject to the limitations of policy and regulation:

Steppin –N- Style Dance Inc.
Mickey Lebrecht Studio of Dance
Claudia Perri School of Dance
Princeton Review
Girl Scout Troop 3539
Girl Scout Troop 3195
Island Trees Council of PTA's
Island Trees Soccer Club
Island Trees Key Club
Stokes PTA

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Board of Education accepted the Financial Report for September, 2011, as presented.

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

A resident commented on budget, taxes, and contract negotiations.

A resident commented on the educational situation at Island Trees and the Core Curriculum.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The PTA Council announced the “Light the Night,” which will take place on December 11, 2011, at 5 p.m. Candle kits are being sold for \$10 each, and proceeds will be used to purchase an LED sign in front of the Island Trees Memorial Middle School.

Ms. Mahon announced that the drama production “The Average Lives of Wayton High,” written by high school senior Kina Higgins, is being presented at the high school on November 18 and 19, 2011.

Ms. Mahon wished everyone a “Happy Thanksgiving.”

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION:**

On **Motion** of Mr. Donahue, seconded by Mr. Rochon, and unanimously carried (7-0), the meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:27 PM. to discuss an issue regarding a student.

**RETURN TO
REGULAR
SESSION:**

On **Motion** of Mr. Storm, seconded by Mr. Rochon, and unanimously carried (7-0), the members came out of Executive Session at 9:44 PM.

ADJOURNED: On **Motion** of Mrs. Daum, seconded by Mr. Storm, and unanimously carried (7-0), the meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr
District Clerk

Minutes approved _____