

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, December 10, 2014.

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
Mr. Brian Fielding
Mrs. Kim McDonough
Mrs. Barbara Medellin
Mr. Michael T. Rich, Jr. (arrived 7:45 PM)

ABSENT: Mrs. Kristen Daum

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.
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 and for Island Trees Alumni, Sean Mahoney, who passed away.

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS: None

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. High School Math and Science Requirements – Mr. Grande, Island Trees High School Principal was present to discuss the math and science requirements at the high school. Several years ago, the Advanced Regents diploma rate for Island Trees was low; so Mr. Grande and the Board started an extended math and science program at the high school where all seniors take a math and science course in their senior year.
2. ESL Changes – Mrs. Roemer explained the changes that are being made to the ESL program and will be taking place on July 1, 2015. ESL will be changed to ENL (English as a New Language). Students who receive two or more periods of ENL instruction need at least one period to be push-in. Also, we can't combine more than two contiguous grades in a class. Therefore, the district needs to increase staff to meet the changes.

3. Common Core English – Mrs. Roemer explained that the high school is preparing our 9th and 10th grade students for the new Common Core English Regents exam which they will take in 11th grade.
4. Budget Calendar – Dr. Murphy checked with the Board regarding the budget discussion dates.
5. ESpark/Apple Partnership iPad Quote – Dr. Murphy spoke about the quote he received for the eSpark program. He pointed out the differences between eSpark and Google Chromebooks programs. He decided it would be better to wait before making a decision since the Smart Schools Bond Act passed, and we need to know what device would be best for the PARCC computer-based testing.
6. Karopczyc Oil to Gas Conversion – The conversion process was put on hold at Karopczyc. Even though oil prices have come down, Dr. Murphy feels that in the long run it would be best to go ahead with the conversion. The Board agreed.
7. Tax Cap – Susan Hlavenka, Assistant Superintendent for Business, discussed the tax cap and the criteria the district must follow to remain compliant so that taxpayers will receive tax rebates into the future.

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

None

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION:**

On **Motion** of Mr. Giambona, seconded by Mr. Fielding, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:03 PM to discuss a personnel issue.

**RETURN TO
REGULAR
SESSION:**

On **Motion** of Mr. Giambona, seconded by Mrs. McDonough, and unanimously carried (6-0), the members came out of Executive Session at 8:15 PM.

ADJOURNED:

On **Motion** of Mr. Giambona, seconded by Mr. Fielding, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr
District Clerk

Minutes approved _____