

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 25, 2009.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Peter Ray, President, at 8:00 PM.

PRESENT: Mr. Peter Ray, President  
Mr. Carl Bonsignore, Vice President  
Mr. Joseph Buda  
Mr. Robert M. Condela  
Mrs. Christine Holt  
Ms. Patricia Mahon  
Mr. Kenneth Rochon

Also Present: Mr. James Parla, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Arlene Genden Sage, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education; Ms. Dana DiCapua, Assistant Superintendent for Business; Mr. Richard Guercio and Mrs. Randy Glasser, General Legal Counsel; and Mrs. Connie Carr, District Clerk.

Mr. Ray led the pledge of allegiance to the flag followed by a moment of silence to honor our soldiers and veterans.

**PLEDGE**

Mr. Parla accepted a street sign in honor of Daniel Fuentes from the Fuentes family. Mrs. Lyons, Social Worker from the high school, said a few words in memory of Daniel and brought in a plaque that will hang in the high school. She also mentioned that a memorial scholarship fund has been set up by his family in Daniel's name because Island Trees meant so much to him. We are so very proud and grateful to the Fuentes family.

**ACCEPTANCE OF  
DANIEL FUENTES  
STREET SIGN**

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

**MINUTES  
APPROVAL**

RESOLVED, To approve the following minutes, as presented:

Special Meeting and Executive Session – January 14, 2009  
Regular Meeting and Executive Session – January 28, 2009  
Committee on Special Education – January 13, 20, 27, February 3, 4, 2009  
Committee on Preschool Special Education – January 23 & February 3, 2009

*Carried* Ayes 6 Nays 1 (J. Buda)

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

James Parla, Superintendent of Schools, commented on the following:

**SUPT'S. OPENING  
COMMENTS**

1. A number of talented art students will have their artwork displayed

- at the Nassau All-County Art Exhibition at Adelphi University on Sunday, March 22, in the Ruth S. Harley University Center.
2. High school drama production of “*Into the Woods*” on March 20 and 21 at 7 PM in the high school auditorium.
  3. Long Island Education and Taxpayer Rally for increased state aid on Saturday, February 28, at 11 AM at Ellsworth W. Allen Park on Motor Ave. in Farmingdale.
  4. The high school is hosting an informational meeting about the heroin problem in Nassau County on Wednesday, March 11, at 7 PM It is important for elementary and middle school parents, as well as high school parents, to attend this meeting. Students are also welcome to attend.

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

**H.S. SCIENCE DEPT.  
PHYSICS DAY FIELD  
TRIP**

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education supports and agrees to sponsor the trip of the Island Trees High School physics students to Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, New Jersey, for Physics Day on Friday, May 1, 2009, at a cost of \$68 per student.

*Unanimously Carried*            Ayes    7            Nays    0

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

**H.S. MUSIC DEPT.  
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education supports the request from the Island Trees High School Music Dept. Chamber Orchestra to sponsor a four-day trip to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on March 5, 6, 7 and 8, 2009, at a cost of \$485 per student.

*Unanimously Carried*            Ayes    7            Nays    0

On motion of Mr. Condela, and seconded by Mrs. Holt,

**M.F. STOKES PTA  
CULTURAL ARTS  
DONATION**

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accepts the donation from the Michael F. Stokes PTA in the amount of \$2,500 to cover the related expense of the cultural arts program entitled “Stone Soup” by the Push Cart Players, increasing budget line 2110.490.12 (BOCES Arts in Education), and directs that a letter be sent from the Board of Education thanking them for their generosity.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes    7            Nays    0

On motion of Mrs. Holt, and seconded by Mr. Condela,

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

RESOLVED, To authorize a transfer of funds to cover additional project expenses between budget code 1620.160.98 and 1621.500.98 in the amount of \$75,000.

*Carried*                                      Ayes    6                      Nays    1 (J. Buda)

Mr. Buda asked how much of the transferred funds is going towards the cleanup of the lead.

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

**LEGAL NOTICE**

RESOLVED, that the annual school district election of the Island Trees Union Free School District, Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York shall be held in the Michael F. Stokes School, for the purposes set forth in the annexed notice, the form of which is hereby approved, and it is further

RESOLVED that said notice be published four times within seven weeks preceeding the election, the first publication to be made April 3, 2009 in the Levittown Tribune and in Newsday, two newspapers having general circulation in the District, and it is further

RESOLVED that Concetta Carr is designated as a permanent chairperson of election in accordance with Section 2025 of the Education Law, and it is further

RESOLVED, that inspectors of election be appointed more than ten days prior to the voting date.

*Unanimously carried*                      Ayes    7                      Nays    0

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

**PROVIDER AGENCY  
SERVICES CONTRACT  
2008-09 SCHOOL YEAR**

RESOLVED, To authorize the Island Trees Board of Education to enter into a provider agency services contract for the 2008-2009 school year with Eden II School for Autistic Children, Inc. d/b/a Eden II/Genesis Programs which was reviewed and approved by District Counsel, and authorizes the Board President to sign such contract

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

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

**SPECIAL ED. SERVICES**  
**CONTRACT 2008-09**  
**SCHOOL YEAR**

RESOLVED, To authorize the Island Trees Board of Education to enter into a contract with Eden II School for Autistic Children, Inc. d/b/a Eden II/Genesis Programs which was reviewed and approved by District Counsel for the purpose of providing instructional services to children residing in the Island Trees School District during the 2008-2009 school year at the State approved rate, and authorizes the Board President to sign such contract.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 7            Nays 0

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

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

RESOLVED, To approve, as presented, the Personnel Report dated February 25, 2009, items 1 through 85 inclusive.

*Unanimously carried*            Ayes 6            Abstentions 1 (J. Buda)

On motion of Mr. Condela, and seconded by Mrs. Holt,

**USE OF BUILDINGS**

WHEREAS community and school organizations have applied for use of district facilities for the 2008-2009 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.

*Island Trees Soccer Club*

First Aid Training Course No Fee

*Island Trees Little League Baseball*  
Board/General Meeting  
Baseball Draft No Fee

*J. Fred Sparke PTA*  
Family Brain Show Event No Fee

*Island Trees Key Club*  
Key Club Divisional Meeting No Fee

*Levittown Fire Dept. – Ladder Co. 6*  
Seminar No Fee

*Unanimously carried* Ayes 7 Nays 0

Mr. Buda made a recommendation that since the baseball field at Stokes was not fixed this year, we should let teams use the baseball field at the high school.

**REPORT BY ASST. SUPT. FOR BUSINESS**

The Board of Education accepted the Financial Report for January 2009, as presented.

**FINANCIAL**  
**REPORT REC'D.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**OLD BUSINESS**

A resident asked several questions regarding the sand tunnel at the high school.

A resident had a question regarding investigating the lead issue.

A resident had a question regarding reallocation of school funds and how it will affect projects, such as the football field.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

A resident had a question about the personnel report.

A resident asked when the information for the budget will be out.

A resident asked about use of the baseball field.

Mr. Buda asked about the breakdown of legal fees. He asked for a breakdown of all money spent this year on the lead project.

A resident asked how much has the whole lead issue cost the residents of Island Trees.

On motion of Ms. Mahon, and seconded by Mr. Condela and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 8:45 PM to discuss negotiations.

**TO EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

Executive Session began at 9:02 PM

**EXEC. SESSION**

Due to an emergency situation, the meeting was ended at 9:38 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr  
District Clerk

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