

Minutes of the Special Meeting/Budget Discussion 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 Farnedge Road, Levittown, New York, on Wednesday, April 15, 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 (arrived 8:08 PM)
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.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Budget Committee – The Budget Committee was not ready to make their presentation this evening. They wanted to wait until after this meeting to make their final recommendations to the Board.
2. Staffing – Dr. Murphy went over the secondary staffing needs for next year. Some of the changes are: increased 7th and 8th grade section at the middle school, ESL staffing increased by 3.2 FTE, reduced sections in certain subjects at the high school. High school reductions in sections will fill gaps at the middle school. There is no reduction in staffing at this time.
3. Reserves – Dr. Murphy went over what is in our reserve funds. Tax certiorari money, \$800,000, was built up over a three-year period to address the tax certiorari. The law was overturned by the courts, so there was no reason to hold onto the money in

reserves. Some of the money was used to address some capital needs last year (one-shot items) – high school track, Stokes elevator, and ELA program. There is currently \$395,000 remaining in the fund.

The Restricted Reserves – unassigned fund balance, max. 4% (projected about \$2,162,067 for next year) - also known as the rainy day fund.

The Board of Ed. spoke about Zspace for the science department which would cost \$90,000. This could be taken out of the tax certiorari reserves (\$395,000).

4. Final Budget Review – Dr. Murphy went over all the items that are being proposed for next school year (Chromebooks, Art Lab, capital work, music, summer support program, etc.)

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

A resident asked a question about tablets for the elementary schools.
A resident asked a question about the summer program.
A resident asked a question about staffing Spanish classes at the high school.

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION:**

On **Motion** of Mrs. Medellin, seconded by Mr. Fielding, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 7:48 PM to discuss personnel issues and negotiations.

**RETURN TO
REGULAR
SESSION:**

On **Motion** of Mrs. Daum, seconded by Mrs. Medellin, and unanimously carried (6-0), the members came out of Executive Session at 9:08 PM.

ADJOURNED:

On **Motion** of Mr. Giambona, seconded by Mr. Fielding, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr
District Clerk

Minutes approved _____