

Minutes of the Budget Hearing 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, Tuesday, May 6, 2014.

The meeting was called to order by the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Charles Murphy, at 7:30 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Kristen Daum, Vice President
Mr. Daniel Donahue
Ms. Patricia Mahon
Mrs. Barbara Medellin
Mr. George Storm

ABSENT: Mr. Kenneth Rochon, President
Mrs. Kim McDonough

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

BUDGET HEARING

Dr. Murphy began by stating that this was an easy budget compared to past years. The district got a slight increase in state aid. Low settlements for the bargaining units kept the budget down. This helped keep costs and expenses down. He stated that there will be no reductions in staff, programs will be maintained, and class sizes will remain the same. Clubs will remain the same, and there will be an addition to the Robotics Club at the Memorial Middle School. Everything is basically the same from this year going into next year. Dr. Murphy continued by explaining that the Nassau County Guaranty lawsuit failed this year, and we are able to take money from reserves that was put aside for tax certioraris. The money will be used for capital projects, along with money from state aid for projects. The capital projects planned are: new high school track, renovation of high school little theater, new emergency generator for the Memorial Middle School, addition of an elevator at Stokes, and door replacement at the high school. In technology, 15 interactive whiteboards will be installed in Sparke school. This year, whiteboards will be in all the academic classes. Fifty Chromebooks will be added to the high school and twenty-five Chromebooks will be added to the

Stokes library.. Twenty new computers will be provided district-wide. With regard to the Go Math program K-8, teachers felt students were better prepared for the New York State assessments this year compared to last year. The new Common Core English language arts series will be rolled out next year.

The budget-to-budget increase is 1.89%, and the tax levy is 0%.

COMMENTS

FROM VISITORS: A resident asked a question regarding rent paid by the Island Trees Public Library and SCOPE preschool program.

A resident asked a question regarding Nassau County taxes.

A resident asked a question about Chromebooks.

A resident asked a question about reserve accounts.

A resident asked a question about AP classes.

A resident asked a question about BOCES courses.

At this evening's budget hearing the following information was available for public review:

- Proposed 2014-2015 Budget in Three Part Format
- District Administrators' Salaries
- Exemption Report
- Property Tax Report Card
- District School Report Cards

These printouts have been available in the Business Office since April 29, 2014, and will be available until the budget vote on May 20, 2014.

ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr
District Clerk

Minutes approved _____