

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, June 19, 2013.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Patricia Mahon, President, at 6:48 PM.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ms. Patricia Mahon, President  
Mr. Kenneth Rochon, Vice President  
Mrs. Kristen Daum (arrived 6:51 PM)  
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  
Mrs. Concetta Carr, District Clerk

**EXECUTIVE:  
SESSION:** On **Motion** of Mr. Storm, seconded by Mr. Rochon, and unanimously carried (7-0), the Board of Education recessed into Executive Session at 6:48 PM to discuss personnel issues regarding a staff member.

The meeting returned from Executive Session at approximately 7:27 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:

Budget Hearing – May 7, 2013  
Work Session & Executive Session – May 15, 2013  
Regular Meeting & Executive Session – May 22, 2013  
Committee on Special Education – May 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 2013  
Sub-Committee on Special Education – May 15, 2013  
Committee on Preschool Special Education – May 9, 14, 2013

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### **RECOGNITION**

1. Audrey Zhang – National Finalist in the Doodle 4 Google competition and Scholastic Award Winner for 2013 - Mr. Robert Harrington, Interim Principal at Stokes School, introduced Audrey and said a few words commending her. Audrey was presented with a Certificate of Recognition from the Board of Education.
2. Island Trees High School Class of 2013 Top 10 Students – Mr. Nicholas Grande introduced the Top 10 seniors and said a few words commending them. They were each presented with a Certificate of Recognition from the Board of Education.
3. Island Trees Softball Team, Nassau County Class A Champions; Thomas Sinclair, Nassau County Wrestling Champion; and Island Trees Varsity Track Athletes, Nassau County Champions, were introduced by Mr. James Cranmer, Director of Athletics. All were commended by Mr. Cranmer and presented with a Certificate of Recognition from the Board of Education.

The Board of Education and Dr. Murphy congratulated all of the students who were recognized.

Mr. Al Nicolino came up to the microphone to announce that he and Mr. Pete Butrico on behalf of Island Trees Wrestling were buying sweatshirts with each athletes name for all of the Nassau County Champions. Mr. Nicolino also made a suggestion that the Board of Education budget \$1,000 a year to be used for purchasing sweatshirts for students who achieve county championships.

### **VISITORS**

**COMMENTS:** None

### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. **Board of Education Approval of “Administrator for Educational Programs, Literacy, and Staff Development” Position**

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 the position of “Administrator for Educational Programs, Literacy, and Staff Development.”

2. **Board of Education Approval of Contract for Administrator for Educational Programs, Literacy, and Staff Development**

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 contract for the appointment of Elizabeth Roemer to the position of Administrator for Educational Programs, Literacy, and Staff Development.

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### **3. Board of Education Ratification of U.T.I.T. Memorandum of Agreement**

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 ratify the Memorandum of Agreement between the U.T.I.T. (United Teachers of Island Trees) and Island Trees Union Free School District dated May 16, 2013.

### **4. Board of Education Approval of Health Service Agreement for 2012-2013 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 hereby approve entering into the Health Service Agreement with the South Huntington UFSD for the 2012-2013 school year, and authorizes the Board President to sign such contract, subject to review and approval by District Counsel.

### **5. Board of Education Approval to Declare Surplus and Dispose of Obsolete Equipment from the Island Trees High School Music Office**

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 to declare surplus and dispose of an IBM Selectric III Typewriter, Island Trees Tag #101568, Serial #4720243, from the Island Trees High School Music Office.

### **6. Board of Education Acceptance of High School Environmental Club Scholarship Donation**

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 accept a donation from the High School Environmental Club in the amount of \$400.00 for the purpose of providing two \$200.00 scholarships in recognition of the efforts of two of the club's graduating seniors, and authorizes the award of said scholarships.

### **7. Board of Education Approval of Summer Transportation Bid Award**

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 the award of transportation contracts, as presented, for summer school special education services as per the SENTCO bid dated May 13, 2013, and authorizes the Board President to sign said contracts when presented.

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Bid Date</b>
Acme	\$0	5/13/2013
WE Transport	\$0	5/13/2013

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**8. Board of Education Approval of Summer Transportation Renewal Contracts**

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 extension of summer transportation contracts as detailed in accordance with the May CPI increase as published by the State Education Department, and authorizes the Board President to sign said contracts when presented.

Contract Information:

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Anticipated 2013 Costs with Additional 4% Maximum Rate Increase</b>	<b>Bid Date</b>
Acme	\$6,856.47	5/13/2004
Acme	\$0.00	5/30/2006
Acme	\$3,087.05	4/17/2008
Any Time	\$0.00	4/17/2008
Suburban	\$5,792.46	4/17/2008
Acme	\$4,875.77	6/23/2009
Any Time	\$11,427.45	6/23/2009
Acme	\$10,350.62	5/6/2010
Acme	\$4,422.30	5/6/2011
Any Time	\$7,772.70	5/6/2011
Acme	\$0.00	6/22/2011
Any Time	\$0.00	6/22/2011
Acme	\$2,981.10	5/8/2012
Any Time	\$0.00	5/8/2012
EBT	\$0.00	5/8/2012
First Student	\$0.00	5/8/2012
Suburban	\$0.00	5/8/2012
WE Transport	\$0.00	5/8/2012

**9. Board of Education Approval of Special Education Services Contract for the 2012-2013 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 the Hicksville U.F.S.D., as prepared by District Counsel, for the 2012-2013 school year, and authorizes the Board President to sign such contract when presented.

**10. Board of Education Approval of Nassau BOCES Lease for Use of Rooms at J. Fred Sparke School**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, a **Motion** was made by

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Mr. Storm, seconded by Mr. Donahue, and unanimously carried (7-0) to approve the lease agreement between Island Trees UFSD and Nassau BOCES for the use of rooms and other facilities at the J. Fred Sparke Elementary School commencing on September 1, 2013, and continuing up to and including June 30, 2014, and authorizes the Board President to sign said lease with a base rent of \$14,364.00 plus a mainstreaming fee of \$1,442.00 per student. Said lease agreement has been approved by District Council.

**11. Board of Education Approval of Budget Transfer – Termination Pay**

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 a budget transfer in the amount of \$150,000.00 as follows to accommodate anticipated termination payments for the 2012-13 school year.

		<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
A9060.800-96	Health Insurance	\$150,000.00	
A9089.800-96	Term/Sick Pay Fund		\$150,000.00

**12. Board of Education Approval of Budget Transfer**

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 presented, to accommodate payments due under contractual agreements with District employees. Said transfers, in the aggregate amount of \$190,750.00, represent no change in the total amount of the District's 2012-2013 operating budget.

**13. Board of Education Approval of BOCES Contract Wireless Upgrade**

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, subject to review and approval by District, to adopt the attached resolution, as proposed by Nassau BOCES, for the approval of Educational Services Project #8-378824 AP, in support of the New York State Education Department's Long Range Plan for Technology in Elementary and Secondary Education in New York State.

**14. Board of Education Approval of Superintendent's Contract**

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 hereby approve the Superintendent's Contract on file with the District Clerk, superseding prior contracts; and authorizes the Board President to execute such contract, and directs that a copy of the contract be attached to the Board meeting minutes.

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**15. Board of Education Approval to Declare Surplus and Dispose of Library Books from the Island Trees Memorial Middle 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 declare surplus and dispose of library books that are obsolete or in poor condition from the Island Trees Memorial Middle School as it sees fit pursuant to the State Education Department's recommended procedures.

**16. Board of Education Approval of Agreement for a District Employee**

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 hereby approve the Agreement, regarding the employee discussed in executive session, and hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute said Agreement on behalf of the Board.

**17. Board of Education Budget Transfers – Fuel and Electric**

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 budget transfers in the amount of \$60,000.00 as presented, Fuel & Gas and Electric codes, to cover the project usage.

		<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
A9060.800-96	Health Insurance	\$47,500.00	
A1620.580-98	Water	\$12,500.00	
A1620.570.98	Electric		\$35,000.00
A1620.560-98	Fuel & Gas		\$25,000.00

**18. Board of Education Approval of Extension Agreement for Interim Principal at Michael F. Stokes Elementary School**

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 Extension Agreement for Robert Harrington, Interim Principal of the Michael F Stokes Elementary School, commencing June 19, 2013, on a per diem basis through July 31, 2013., pursuant to the terms and conditions of the contract on file with the District, which is hereby approved by the Board of Education and the Board President is authorized to sign.

**19. Board of Education Approval of Memorandum of Agreement Regarding United Teachers of Island Trees (U.T.I.T.) Contract Modification**

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 hereby approve the Memorandum of Agreement regarding the United Teachers of Island Trees (U.T.I.T.)

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contract modification for the 2012-2013 school year as presented, and the Board President to sign such agreement.

### **20. Board of Education Acceptance of Scholastic Magazine Literacy Contest Award**

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 accept the award of \$10,000.00 to the Michael F. Stokes School from Scholastic Inc. Said award is made in honor of fourth grade student, Audrey Zhang, who was a national winner of the Scholastic Magazine Literacy Contest for the 2012-13 school year. The funds are to be used for literacy-based improvement within the school.

### **21. Board of Education Acceptance of Revised Policy #6900, Disposal of District Property – First Reading**

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 accept as a first reading the revised Disposal of District Property, Policy #6900, as presented.

### **22. Board of Education Acceptance of Revised Policy #6700 Purchasing, Policy #6700-R Purchasing Regulation, and #6700-E Purchasing Exhibit – First Reading**

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 accept as a first reading the revised Purchasing Policy #6700, Purchasing Policy Regulation #6700-R, and Purchasing Exhibit #6700-E, as presented.

### **23. Board of Education Approval of Personnel Report**

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, as presented, the Personnel Report dated June 19, 2013, 1 through 147 inclusive.

### **24. Board of Education Approval of Use of Buildings**

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 use of buildings or fields by the following community and school organizations for the 2012-2013 school year subject to the limitations of policy and regulation:

Island Trees Youth Council  
Island Trees Post Prom

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**25. Board of Education Approval of Resolution Regarding Overreliance on Standardized Testing a Call to the governor of the State of New York, the New York State Commissioner of Education, the New York State Board of Regents and other Policymakers to Stop the Overreliance on Standardized Tests as a Measure of Student Performance and Principal/Teacher Effectiveness.**

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 resolution:

WHEREAS, every student deserves a quality public education dedicated to preparing engaged citizens, creative and critical thinkers and lifelong learners ready for college and careers; and

WHEREAS, the decline in state aid and support for public schools has forced our district to reduce programs and limited our ability to fully implement new programs mandated by the State such as the Common Core standards thereby creating an uneven rollout of the standards among school districts around the State; and

WHEREAS, while the implementation of the Common Core standards will ultimately help students, teachers and the teaching and learning process, the growing reliance on, and mismanagement of, standardized testing is eroding student learning time, narrowing the curriculum and jeopardizing the rich, meaningful education our students need and deserve; and

WHEREAS, there has been a reliance upon the Common Core standards in the development of state testing despite the fact that students have not been exposed to these standards for a sufficient amount of their school experience; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that research recommends the use of multiple measures to gauge student performance and teacher effectiveness, the State's growing reliance on standardized testing is adversely affecting students across all spectrums and the morale of our educators and is further draining already scarce resources; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act's testing policies fail to appropriately accommodate the unique needs of students with disabilities and English language learners in assessing their academic achievements which results in test scores that do not accurately represent a true measure of the impact of teachers and schools; and

WHEREAS, it is time for policymakers to reconsider the number, duration and appropriate use of standardized tests so that our schools can refocus their efforts on improving student learning outcomes; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we call upon Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, State Education Department Commissioner John B. King, Chancellor of the Board of Regents Meryll Tisch, Chair of the Senate Committee on Education John Flanagan, Senator Jack Martins, Chair of the

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Assembly Committee on Education Catherine Nolan, Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel and other policymakers to reduce the use of, and overreliance on, standardized testing.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Board of Education accepted the Financial Report for April, 2013, as presented.

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

A resident made a comment regarding the music program.  
A resident came up to talk about a music teacher.  
A resident made comments about the music department.  
A resident made a comment about the music program.  
A resident made a comment about a science teacher.  
A resident made a comment about a music teacher.  
A resident made a comment about the music department.  
A resident asked a question about state mandated testing.  
A resident made a comment about the music department and a music teacher.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

On **Motion** of Mrs. Medellin, seconded by Mrs. Daum, and unanimously carried (7-0), the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 9:02 PM to discuss personnel issues regarding a staff member.

### **RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:**

On **Motion** of Mrs. McDonough, seconded by Mr. Storm, and unanimously carried (6-0 – Mr. Donahue left at 9:43 PM ), the Board came out of Executive Session at 9:47 PM.

### **ADJOURNED:**

On **Motion** of Mr. Rochon, seconded by Mr. Storm, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned at 9:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr  
District Clerk

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