

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 Tuesday, April 21, 2009.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Peter Ray, President, at 8:06 PM.

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

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, General Legal Counsel; and Mrs. Concetta 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**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

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

**SUPT'S. OPENING  
COMMENTS**

1. Mr. Parla announced that Island Trees was selected as the recipient of the New York State Rehabilitation Association 2009 Annual School/Community Partnership State Recognition Award. Mr. Parla congratulated Dr. Sage for this accomplishment.
2. Eight Memorial Middle School students placed in the national Ecybermission Awards for their science enrichment projects. Mr. Parla commended the students and their teacher, Ms. Eileen Anderson.

Taryn Antignano, Special Ed. Teacher at the memorial middle school, and Melody Zambriski, speech teacher at Stokes and Sparke, were recognized as receiving tenure.

**TENURE RECOM-  
MENDATIONS**

On motion of Mr. Rochon, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore, tenure was unanimously granted to Pamela Bligh, reading teacher at the high school.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, and seconded by Ms. Mahon, tenure was unanimously granted to Michael Buonomo, math teacher at the high school.

On motion of Ms. Mahon, and seconded by Mr. Condela, tenure was unanimously granted to Emily Colucci, elementary teacher at Sparke School.

On motion of Mr. Condela, and seconded by Mr. Rochon, tenure was unanimously granted to Victoria Firmbach, physical education teacher at the memorial middle school and Sparke School.

On motion of Mr. Rochon, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore, tenure was unanimously granted to Robert Kohl, English teacher at the high school.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, and seconded by Ms. Mahon, tenure was unanimously granted to Cheryl Liebman, home and careers teacher at the high school.

On motion of Ms. Mahon, and seconded by Mr. Condela, tenure was unanimously granted to Laura Martingano, English teacher at the high school.

On motion of Mr. Condela, and seconded by Mr. Rochon, tenure was unanimously granted to Tina Mastrantoni, English teacher at the memorial middle school.

On motion Mr. Rochon, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore, tenure was unanimously granted to Courtney McMills, science teacher at the high school.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, and seconded by Ms. Mahon, tenure was unanimously granted to Elisabetta Razzano, reading teacher at Stokes School.

On motion of Ms. Mahon, and seconded by Mr. Condela, tenure was unanimously granted to Pamela Hostetter, Administrative Assistant at the high school.

Congratulations to the newly tenured faculty were extended by Ms. Karen Olsen (UTIT), Mr. Peter Gibbons (I.T. Administrators Association), Mrs. Kim McDonough (I.T. PTA Council), Mr. Peter

Ray, and Mr. Parla.

Mr. Condela stated that Mr. Parla’s resignation is noted on the Personnel Report. He also stated that he is sorry to see him leave and wishes him luck. Mr. Ray also said a few words. Mr. Parla added that he is going to miss everyone and that Island Trees is a great place.

Mr. Parla thanked the PTA Council for the refreshments that were provided this evening in honor of the newly tenured faculty.

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

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

RESOLVED, To approve, as presented, the Personnel Report dated April 21, 2009, items 1 through 66 inclusive.

*Unanimously carried*                      Ayes    5                      Nays    0

Ms. Lauren Stiles from Toomey, Latham, Shea, Kelley, Dubin And Quartararo, and Mr. Paul Lageraaen from H2M gave an update and answered questions from the audience about the sand tunnel project at the high school.

**SAND TUNNEL  
PROJECT UPDATE**

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

**MINUTES  
APPROVAL**

RESOLVED, To approve the following minutes, as presented:

- Work Session/Special Meeting – February 11, 2009
- Special Meeting/Budget Workshop and Executive Session – March 16, 2009
- Regular Meeting and Executive Session – March 25, 2009
- Committee on Special Education – March 17, 2009
- Sub-Committee on Special Education – March 11, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 2009
- Committee on Preschool Special Education – March 12, 18, 2009

*Unanimously Carried*                      Ayes    5                      Nays    0

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

**BOCES BUDGET**

RESOLVED, That the Nassau BOCES Administrative Operation Budget for the 2009-2010 school year in the amount of seventeen million nine hundred eighty four thousand six hundred dollars (\$17,984,600) be, and hereby is, APPROVED by this Board.

*Unanimously Carried*            Ayes    5            Nays    0

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

**BOCES TRUSTEE  
ELECTION**

RESOLVED, To elect the following **three** candidates to the vacant BOCES seats:

1. Susan Bergtraum  
10 I.U. Willets Road  
Old Westbury, NY 11568  
East Williston UFSD
  
2. Michael Weinick  
245 Frankel Boulevard  
Merrick, NY 11566  
Merrick UFSD  
Bellmore-Merrick CHSD
  
3. Iris Wolfson  
31 Barry Drive  
Westbury, NY 11590  
Hicksville UFSD

*Unanimously Carried*            Ayes    5            Nays    0

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

**2009-2010 SCHOOL  
BUDGET**

RESOLVED, To approve the adoption of the 2009-2010 school year budget to be voted on by the residents of the Island Trees Union Free School District, Town of Hempstead, on May 19, 2009, with total expenditures in the amount of \$56,319,991.

*Unanimously Carried*            Ayes    5            Nays    0

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

**PROPERTY TAX**

WHEREAS New York State amended Part 170 of the Regulations of the Commissioner to require the Board of Education of each school district to annually prepare a Property Tax Report Card and make it publicly available.

**REPORT CARD**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Island Trees Board of Education approves the 2009-2010 Property Tax Report Card prepared by Mrs. Dana DiCapua, Assistant Superintendent for Business, as presented.

*Unanimously Carried*      Ayes    5            Nays    0

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

**CENTRALIZED TEXTBOOK  
DISTRIBUTION SERVICES**

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves participation with Textbook Central, a division of Tel/Logic Inc., for the textbook procurement and distribution services for the 2009-2010 school year, and authorizes the Board President to sign such agreement contingent upon review and approval of District counsel.

*Unanimously Carried*      Ayes    5            Nays    0

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

**OASYS CONTRACT**

RESOLVED, To authorize the Island Trees Board of Education to enter into a contract with the State of New York Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services which supports the funded teacher program for drug prevention in the Island Trees Memorial Middle School and the Island Trees High School, and authorizes the Board President to sign such contract.

*Unanimously carried*      Ayes    5            Nays    0

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

**EMERGENCY REPAIR  
ORDERS**

RESOLVED, To authorize the Island Trees Board of Education to approve payment of the following emergency repair orders:

1. \$1,235.67 to L.I. Power Equipment, 21 East Marie St., Hicksville, NY 11801, for emergency repair to Meyer plow pump.
  
1. \$400.85 to JIMCO Auto Repairs, Inc., 585 Hicksville Rd., Bethpage, NY 11714, for emergency repair to 1990 Ford Bronco and 1995 Chevy Pick Up Truck.

*Unanimously carried*                      Ayes 5                      Nays 0

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

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

RESOLVED, To authorize a transfer of funds in the amount of \$135,000 to cover additional legal fees from code 9710.700.96 to code 1420.400.96

*Unanimously carried*                      Ayes 5                      Nays 0

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

**CHANGE ORDER -  
ELEVATOR RENOVATION**

RESOLVED, To approve the Change Order for elevator renovation at Island Trees High School, SED No. 28-02-26-03-0-003-030, in the amount of \$3,807.00 and authorizes the Board President to sign the required documents.

*Unanimously carried*                      Ayes 5                      Nays 0

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

**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*

Soccer Registration No Fee

*Girl Scouts of Nassau County*

Daisy Flying Up Ceremony No Fee

*J. Fred Sparke PTA*

Book Fair No Fee

*Unanimously carried* Ayes 5 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 March 2009, as presented.

**FINANCIAL  
REPORT REC'D.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

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A resident asked a question regarding the status of the athletic field.

A resident asked a question regarding spending money on another project for the baseball field.

A resident asked when the Memorial Middle School front entrance is going to be taken care of.

A resident had a question about the ventilation system in the high school wrestling room.

A resident had a question about the budget adoption.

A resident asked what the budget to budget and tax levy figures are.

A resident had a question about the YES program.

Two residents had questions about the varsity baseball field.

Several residents had further questions and comments about the YES program.

**NEW BUSINESS**

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It was announced that the time for filing nominating petitions for the office of member of the Board of Education has been extended to May 5, 2009, due to the withdrawal of a petition.

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

**ABOLISHED POSITIONS**

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby abolishes the following positions in the noted tenure areas:

Mathematics	1.0
Art	1.0
Home & Careers	0.5
Social Studies	1.0
Spanish	1.0
Physical Education	1.5
Elementary	2.0
Special Education	2.0

*Unanimously carried*      Ayes 5      Nays 0

A resident announced that he pulled his petition to run as a member of the Board of Education.

On motion of Mr. Condela, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 9:50 PM, to discuss the following items:

**TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Personnel Issue regarding open administrative positions in the district.
2. Legal issues

Executive Session began at 10:14 PM

**EXEC. SESSION**

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, seconded by Ms. Mahon, and  
unanimously carried, the members came out of  
Executive Session at 12:05 AM.

**RETURN TO  
REGULAR SESSION**

On motion of Mr. Rochon, seconded by Ms. Mahon and  
unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 AM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr  
District Clerk

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