

Minutes of the Special 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, January 14, 2009.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Peter Ray, President, at 7:00 PM.

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

PLEDGE

Discussion took place between the Board and Mr. Steve Latham, Attorney at Law, with Twomey, Latham, Shea, Kelley, Dubin & Quartararo, LLP, before the resolution was presented and voted on.

**J.R. HOLZMACHER
CONTRACT**

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

**J.R. HOLZMACHER
CONTRACT**

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby approves the contract with J.R. Holzmacher P.E., LLC to provide engineering/consultant services for the sand tunnel and surrounding areas at the District's High School, and authorizes the Board president to sign such contract, subject to review and approval of District counsel.

Not Carried Ayes 3 Nays 3 (J. Buda, P. Mahon
K. Rochon)

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

RESOLVED, To secure RFP's from firms that provide engineering/consultant services to finalize the sand tunnel project at the District's High School.

Not Carried Ayes 3 Nays 3 (C. Bonsignore,
R. Condela, P. Ray)

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

RESOLVED, To retest the ducts tomorrow to see if there is any lead trace at the high school.

Not Carried Ayes 3 Nays 3 (C. Bonsignore,
R. Condela, P. Ray)

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

**THE PRINCETON
REVIEW COURSE
AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has previously adopted and entered into a Services Agreement with OMNI Financial Group (“OMNI”) as a third-party administrator (TPA) to implement and administer the District’s 403(b) plan; and

WHEREAS, as a result of continued negotiations between OMNI and Guercio & Guercio LLP regarding the Service Agreement, a revised Services Agreement has been proposed which more closely conforms to the District’s Request for Proposal; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the District to adopt the revised Services Agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the revised Services Agreement and authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute said Services Agreement.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

**JOINT APPLICATION FOR
A LOCAL GOVERNMENT
EFFICIENCY GRANT**

WHEREAS, Nassau County, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) of Nassau County, the Island Trees School District, and other school districts within the county desire to create and implement plans for consolidation of school district support services to improve operating efficiencies and save tax dollars, and to seek to implement such plans as may as having great potential for saving tax dollars, and

WHEREAS, it is understood that, notwithstanding the approval of this resolution in support of a grant application, the participation of any school district in any portion of this effort to consolidate support services will be strictly voluntary, and

WHEREAS, the Island Trees School District would like to join in submitting an application for a Twenty-First Century Demonstration Project Grant under the New York State Local Government Efficiency Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows that the Board of Education of the Island Trees School District (“the Board”):

1. Authorizes the lead applicant contact person to submit an application on behalf of the Board for financial assistance to the 2008-09 Local Government Efficiency Grant Program, and to execute all financial and administrative processes and instruments relating to the grant program.
2. Authorizes BOCES of Nassau County to act as the “Lead Applicant” for the grant application, and Tom Stokes, Deputy County Executive for Budget and Finance, to act as the “Lead Applicant Contact Person” on the grant application form.
3. Agrees to act as a “Co-Applicant” and hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute all financial and administrative processes and instruments relating to the grant program. Other co-applicants will include Nassau County, Nassau BOCES and a majority of the school districts within Nassau County. A list of all participating school districts will be included in the grant application.
4. Joins in a grant application to be submitted for a Local Government Efficiency Grant award that would enable the applicant and co-applicants to identify and implement cooperative back office functions that allow school districts to save money while maintaining high quality educational programs. The project will provide for shared or consolidated back office functions in several areas, including information technology and telecommunications, cooperative purchasing, audit services, and non-public pupil transportation. The project name is the “Nassau School and Municipal Savings Initiative.”
5. Agrees that the amount of the grant applied for shall not exceed \$1,000,000, with a maximum local match of up to \$111,111.

6. Understands that it is anticipated that the local match sum referenced in Item 5, above, will be funded via already-existing grant funds, and if such funds should for any reason not become available, the maximum local match to be requested from the Board, for participation in the grant activities, shall not exceed \$1,000 and such sum shall not be due and payable unless the Board shall pass an enabling resolution.

7. Will work with the lead applicant and other co-applicants to prepare and execute any necessary intermunicipal agreements setting forth individual responsibilities related to Nassau School and Municipal Support Services Partnership.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, seconded by Mr. Condela and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 8:14 PM.

**TO EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

Executive Session began at 8:30 PM

EXEC. SESSION

The following items were addressed in Executive Session:

1. Legal Issue – Insurance Coverage; Article 78
2. Superintendent Evaluation
3. Abuse of Presidential Powers

Mr. Buda recused himself from Executive Session during the discussion of the legal issue.

On motion of Mr. Condela, seconded by Ms. Mahon, and carried by a vote of 5-0 (Mr. Buda not present), the members came out of Executive Session at 9:14 PM.

**RETURN TO
REGULAR SESSION**

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

**ENVIRONMENTAL
ATTORNEY**

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education appoints Twomey, Latham, Shea, Kelly, Dubin & Quartararo LLP to serve as special counsel for the District for the litigation discussed in Executive Session at a rate of \$275 per hour, and authorizes the Board President to sign the letter of

engagement regarding same.

Carried Ayes 5 Nays 0 Abstentions 1 (J. Buda)

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

**ENVIRONMENTAL
ATTORNEY**

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education appoints Twomey, Latham, Shea, Kelly, Dubin & Quartararo LLP to serve as special counsel for the District in the NYSIR matter discussed in Executive Session at a rate of \$275 per hour, and authorizes the Board President to sign the letter of engagement regarding same.

Carried Ayes 5 Nays 0 Abstentions 1 (J. Buda)

On motion of Mr. Condela, seconded by Ms. Mahon, and carried by a vote of 6-0, the members returned to Executive Session at 9:17 PM.

**RETURN TO
EXEC. SESSION**

The meeting adourned at 11 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr
District Clerk

Minutes approved _____