

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 Wednesday, May 21, 2008.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Kenneth Rochon, at 8:04 PM

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

ABSENT: Mrs. Christine Holt

Also Present: Mr. James Parla, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Salvatore Carambia, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Administration; Mrs. Randy Glasser, Chief Legal Counsel; and Mrs. Concetta Carr, District Clerk

Mr. Rochon led the pledge of allegiance to the flag followed by a moment of silence for our troops serving around the world.

PLEDGE

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

MINUTES
APPROVAL

RESOLVED, To approve the following minutes, as presented:

Regular Meeting & Executive Session – April 16, 2008
Minutes of Budget Hearing – May 6, 2008
Committee on Special Education – April 1, 8, 15 29, 30, 2008
Sub-Committee on Special Education – April 3, 28, 29, 30, 2008
Committee on Preschool Special Education – April 3, 10, 16, 27, 29, 2008

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

Matthew Rochon presented his proposed Eagle Scout project to the audience. He is proposing to construct a reflection garden and memorial garden at the Island Trees Memorial Middle School.

EAGLE SCOUT
PROJECT

Ms. Laura Marks, elementary teacher at Sparke School, was the recipient of the New York State English Council Grant for “Multi-Cultural Cinderella,” and the Citibank Success Fund Grant ’08-’09 for “The Lunch Bunch” Program. Dr. Kelly gave a brief speech

TEACHER
RECOGNITION

about Ms. Marks' accomplishments, and stated that a lunch bund reading support group will be set up next year. Ms. Marks students gave a presentation on different Cinderella's from around the world. Mr. Parla and Mr. Rochon presented Ms. Marks with a Certificate of Recognition on behalf of the Board of Education.

A Certificate of Recognition was presented to Jessica Panza, a senior at the high school, for achieving the New York State Individual, All-Around Gymnastics Championship.

**STUDENT
RECOGNITION**

Mr. Rochon, President of the Board of Education, thanked the community for coming out to support the budget.

BOARD PRESIDENT

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent made the following announcements:

**SUPT'S. OPENING
COMMENTS**

1. Two elementary students from Sparke School, Jashan Rai (Grade 2) and Richard Rogers (Grade 4), were Covanta Energy Poster Contest Winners "Recycle for a Better Tomorrow."
2. A fourth grader, Lauren Mannlein, from Sparke School won the Child Abuse Prevention Services Poster Contest, "Steer Clear of Bullies."
3. Elizabeth Watson, a Kindergarten student from Sparke School, was chosen as a statewide winner in a fire safety poster contest sponsored by the Fireman's Association of the State of New York. Her poster will be featured in the 2008-2009 FASNY Calendar.
4. René DeLorenzo, a memorial middle school fifth grader, won Senator Hannon's "There Ought to Be a Law" Contest.
5. Daniel Mulé was the National First Place Winner of the NSBA/Music Educators National Conference Electronic Music Competition. He has been invited to the Seattle, Washington, conference in October.
6. Three groups of students from the memorial middle school were chosen as semi-finalists in the Chistopher Columbus Awards. Eighth graders Michael Ahrens, Andrew Eberlein, Michael Giordano, and Michael Gronenthal won with their device to prevent drowning. Daniel Freeda, Christopher Rogers and Ryan Waterbury created a campaign to educate the community about the dangers of lead poisoning in toys. Amanda Agosta, Emily Cranmer, Jeanna Lewis, Kelly Schulz experimented with a device that could alert passersby that a child or pet was left unattended in an automobile. These students will be recognized at the June meeting.
7. Danny Freeda, Chris Rogers & Ryan Waterbury received the Top

award for team collaboration and communication for the 2008 E-Cybermission Award Contest sponsored by the United States Army. They received a \$2,000 savings bond for their program on the dangers of lead poisoning in toys.

8. Island Trees School District has been designated as a high performance school district for the second year in a row.
9. The district undertook the refinancing of district bonds. Moody's upgraded Island Trees' rating from A2 to A1. The rating upgrade reflects the district's well-managed financial position supported by a history of positive operating results and healthy reserve levels. The A1 rating also incorporates the district's stable tax base and a manageable debt position. Proceeds from the sale will refund bonds originally issued in 1997. The refunding is expected to generate a net present value savings of approximately 6.39% of refunded principal, without extending the maturity of the debt. Mr. Parla thanked Mr. Carambia and the Board of Education for a job well done.

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

CSEA HOLIDAYS

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the CSEA holiday calendar for the 2008-2009 school year, as presented.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

PTSA CULTURAL ARTS DONATION

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accepts the donation by the PTSA at Island Trees Memorial Middle School in the amount of \$1,350 to cover the related expense of a cultural arts assembly program to be presented for students in grades 5-8 on May 15, 2008, entitled "Bash the Trash," increasing budget line 2110.490.12 (BOCES Arts and Education), and directs that a letter be sent from the Board of Education thanking them for their generosity.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

M.F. STOKES PTA CULTURAL ARTS DONATION

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accepts the donation from the Michael F. Stokes PTA in the amount of \$1,600.00 to cover the related expense of a cultural arts program by the Long Island Philhar-

monic presented to all K-4 Stokes students and their parents on April 29, 2008, increasing budget line 2110.490.12 (BOCES Arts in Education), and directs that a letter be sent from the Board of Education thanking them for their generosity.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

On motion of Mr. Buda, and seconded by Mr. Ray,

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accepts the donation by Mrs. Michelle Garbacki and family, 60 Timber Lane, Levittown, NY 11756, of a red maple tree to the J. Fred Sparke School playground, and send a letter from the Board of Education thanking her and her family for their generosity.

**DONATION OF TREE
TO J. FRED SPARKE
SCHOOL**

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

RESOLVED, That the Island Trees Board of Education accepts a \$600 Citi Success Fund Grant from Citibank and the Mentoring Partnership of Long Island on behalf of the J. Fred Sparke Elementary School.

**CITI SUCCESS
FUND GRANT**

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

WHEREAS the New York State Education Department has instituted a Special Education Space Utilization Plan requiring Nassau BOCES to submit an updated plan to the State, outlining how it will reduce the number of special education students in center-based programs, and

**CLASSROOM
RENTAL**

WHEREAS BOCES is working with local districts to encourage them sites and to include space for special education classes whenever possible, and

WHEREAS we have determined that the Island Trees Memorial Middle School will have two rooms that are available for the 2008-2009 school year to rent to BOCES, and

WHEREAS the rental will help Nassau BOCES reduce its percentage of special education students in center-based programs while bringing some revenue to the Island Trees School District. The annual rental fee charged to BOCES for the 2008-2009 school year will be \$11,332.80 plus \$1,310 per year for each student placed by BOCES into any programs at the Island Trees Memorial Middle School

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, To authorize the Island Trees School District to enter into a contract with BOCES to lease two classrooms in the Island Trees Memorial Middle School for the 2008-2009 school year, with such contract subject to review and approval by District Counsel.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

EMERGENCY

UP-H.S. PROP ROOM

WHEREAS, pursuant to lead sampling performed by the EPA on March 20, 2008, it was determined that clean up of the Stage Prop Room and adjoining hallway in the Island Trees High School was required immediately by the EPA, and

WHEREAS, the clean up, and painting of the walls, floor, ceiling and ductwork was necessary to rectify the situation and restore the District property in accordance with EPA guidelines, and

WHEREAS, the required clean up and painting cost \$52,892.25, and

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Education declares that due to the level of lead in dust found in the Stage Prop room and dust particles in the adjoining hallway at the High School, there is an immediate need for such room to be cleaned up and painted, which is an unanticipated emergency and thus an ordinary contingent expense; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the cost of this project to be funded through the use of undesignated, unexpended fund balance from the 2007-2008 budget.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

RESOLVED, To authorize a transfer of funds between Health Insurance (9060.800.96) and Contractual Services (1621.400.98) in the amount of \$52,892 to cover the cost of emergency lead remediation at the Island Trees High School.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS
EMERGENCY LEAD
REMEDICATION AT
HIGH SCHOOL

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

On motion of Mr. Buda, and seconded by Mr. Ray,

RESOLVED, To authorize a transfer of funds between Health Insurance (9060.800.96) and BOCES Occ. Ed. (2280.490.94) in the amount of \$33,000 to cover costs due to the unanticipated increase in enrollment for Occ. Ed. for May and June, 2008.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS -
OCCUPATIONAL
EDUCATION

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the transfer of funds from the employee benefit accrued liability reserve to increase budget appropriation line A9089-800-96 (Termination/Sick Pay) by \$300,000 to fund contractual termination/sick day pay out.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS -
EMPLOYEE LIABILITY
RESERVE

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education supports the request from the High School for an eleventh grade student who attends Barry Tech in a Dental Assistant program to compete in a national competition in Kansas City, Missouri, from June 23 to June 27, 2008. All costs will be paid by BOCES.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION
IN NAT'L. COMPETITION

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

EDUC. DATA

INC. COOPERATIVE BID

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves participation in a Cooperative Bid with Educational Data Services, Inc., subject to review and approval by District Counsel.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

**BOCES COOPERATIVE
BID**

WHEREAS the Board of Education of the Island Trees School District of New York State desires to participate in a Cooperative Bidding Program conducted by the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County for the purchase of various commodities and/or services, and

WHEREAS the Board of Education of the Island Trees School District of New York State is desirous of participating with the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County in the joint bid of the commodities and/or services mentioned below as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-00, and

WHEREAS the Board of Education of the Island Trees School District of New York State has appointed the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County as representative to assume the responsibility for drafting of specification, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids, reporting the results to the Board of Education of the Island Trees School District of New York State and making recommendations thereon

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Island Trees School District of New York State and the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County hereby accepts the appointment of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County to represent it in all matters related above, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Island Trees School District of New York State authorizes the above-mentioned Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County to represent it in all matters regarding the entering into contract for the purchase of the below-mentioned commodities and/or services, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Island Trees School District of New York State agrees to assume its equitable share of the costs incurred as a result of the cooperative bidding, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the School Business Administrator on behalf of the Board of Education of the Island Trees School District of New York State is hereby authorized to participate in cooperative bidding conducted by the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County for various commodities and/or services and if requested, to furnish the Board of Cooperative Educational Services an estimated minimum number of units that will be purchased by the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County. The Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County is hereby authorized to award cooperative bids to the bidder deemed to be the lowest responsible meeting the bid specifications and otherwise complying with Article 5-A of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York relating to public bids and contracts, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That BOCES intends to solicit bids in the name of the Island Trees School District for the following:

Roof Maintenance and Repairs, Ext. 1 (6/07-019x)

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

On motion of Mr. Buda, and seconded by Mr. Ray,

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 2008-2009 school year, and authorizes the Board President to sign such agreement contingent upon review and approval of District counsel.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

RESOLVED, To authorize the Island Trees Board of Education to

CENTRALIZED
TEXTBOOK DISTRIB.
SERVICES

INSTRUCT. SERVICES
CONTRACT
W/GREENBURGH-

enter into a contract with Greenburgh-North Castle UFSD for the UFSD purpose of providing instructional services to children residing in the Island Trees School District during the 2007-2008 school year at the State approved rate, and authorizes the Board President to sign such contract.

NORTH CASTLE

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

VOCATIONAL REHAB
SERVICES CONTRACT
W/THE REHABILITATION
INSTITUTE (TRI)

RESOLVED, To authorize the Island Trees Board of Education to enter into a contract with The Rehabilitation Institute (TRI) for the purpose of providing vocational rehabilitation services to children residing in the Island Trees School District commencing January 7, 2008, through June 30, 2008, at the rates listed in the contract, and authorizes the Board President to sign such contract.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

INSTRUCT. SERVICES
CONTRACT W/WOOD-
WARD CHILDREN'S
CENTER

RESOLVED, To authorize the Island Trees Board of Education to enter into a contract with Woodward Children's Center for the purpose of providing instructional services to children residing in the Island Trees School District for the 2007-2008 school year, at the State approved rate, and authorizes the Board President to sign such contract.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

On a motion of Mr. Ray, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore, the appointment of Mrs. Dana DiCapua as Assistant Superintendent for Business was unanimously accepted.

APPOINTMENT OF
ASSISTANT SUPT.
FOR BUSINESS

Mr. Parla introduced Mrs. DiCapua and welcomed her.

On motion of Mr. Buda, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore, tenure was unanimously granted to Seal Burns, social studies teacher at the memorial middle school.

TENURE RECOM-
MENDATIONS

On motion of Mr. Condela, and seconded by Mr. Buda, tenure was unanimously granted to Corinne Busam, elementary

teacher at the memorial middle school.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, and seconded by Mr. Ray, tenure was unanimously granted to Claudia Connor, English teacher at the high school.

On motion of Mr. Condela, and seconded by Mr. Buda, tenure was unanimously granted to Lisa Guarino, speech teacher at Stokes School.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, and seconded by Mr. Ray, tenure was unanimously granted to Brian Higgins, social studies teacher at the high school.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, and seconded by Mr. Buda, tenure was unanimously granted to Nancy Jannazzo, special education teacher at Stokes School.

On motion of Mr. Buda, and seconded by Mr. Condela, tenure was unanimously granted to Tara Rooney, elementary teacher at Stokes School.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore and seconded by Ms. Mahon, tenure was unanimously granted to Patrick Scanlon, social studies teacher at the memorial middle school.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, and seconded by Mr. Condela, tenure was unanimously granted to Jaclyn Danforth, elementary teacher at Stokes School.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, and seconded by Mr. Ray, tenure was unanimously granted to Sara Sherbach, school counselor at the high school.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, and seconded by Mr. Buda, tenure was unanimously granted to Ryan Vinberg, science teacher at the high school.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, and seconded by Mr. Ray, tenure was unanimously granted to Samantha Sayet, art teacher

Job Fair No Fee

Girl Scouts of Nassau County
Moving Up Ceremony No Fee

Nassau County Lacrosse Coaches Assoc.
Coaches Meeting No Fee

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the Eagle Scout Project by Matthew Rochon, where he is proposing to construct a reflection garden and memorial garden at the Island Trees Memorial Middle School.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

REPORT BY ASST. SUPT. FOR FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

The Board of Education accepted the Financial Reports for March and, April, 2008, as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT REC'D.

None

OLD BUSINESS

Congratulations to the newly tenured faculty were extended by Ms. Karen Olsen (UTIT), Mr. Peter Gibbons (I.T. Administrators Association), Mrs. Vicki DelGiaccio (I.T. PTA Council), and Mr. Kenneth Rochon.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Buda voiced Audit Committee concerns regarding the fiscal impact of the lead issue at the high school from 1999 to present.

Mr. Rochon invited everyone to partake of refreshments hosted by the PTA Council in honor of the newly tenured faculty after the meeting. A thank you was extended to Mrs. Vicki DelGiaccio and the PTACouncil.

On motion of Mr. Bonsignore, seconded by Ms. Mahon, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 9:02 PM.

TO EXEC. SESSION

The following items were addressed in Executive Session:

EXEC. SESSION

1. Legal Matter – Litigation
2. Personnel Issue – Establishment of Chair Position
3. Personnel Issue – Cafeteria Employee
4. Clerical Negotiations
5. Audit Committee and Audit Committee Meetings

On motion of Mr. Condela, and seconded by Mr. Bonsignore and unanimously carried, the members came out of Executive Session at 11:02 PM.

**RETURN TO
REGULAR SESSION**

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

**ADDENDUM TO
H2M CONTRACT**

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby approves an addendum to the contract with Holzmacher, McLendon & Murrell, P.C., (H2M) dated December 12, 2007, to cover H2M’s preparation of a schematic design of the high school pursuant to the direction of Carl Thurneau of the New York State Education Department and as per attached, subject to review and approval by district counsel.

Unanimously carried Ayes 6 Nays 0

On motion of Mr. Buda, and seconded by Ms. Mahon and unanimously carried, the members returned to Executive Session at 11:10 PM.

**RETURN TO
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Concetta Carr
District Clerk

Minutes approved _____