

**SMITHTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

March 9, 2010

Held in Joseph M. Barton Bldg.

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Robert Rossi, President of the Board of Education. On motion by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mr. Liguori, the Board voted unanimously to convene in Executive Session to discuss employment and/or appointment of particular persons, and pending litigation.

At 8:05 p.m. Mrs. Waldron moved, Mr. Rossi seconded, and the Board reconvened the Regular Meeting.

Members present:

Neil S. Carlin	Robert Rossi
Theresa Knox	Joseph T. Saggese
Louis Liguori	Gladys M. Waldron
Scott Martella	

Also present:

Edward Ehmann, Superintendent
Mary Cahill, Asst. Supt.
Joan Niles, Asst. Supt.
Karen Ricigliano, Asst. Supt.
Eugene Barnosky, Lindsay Croker, Board Counsel
Visitors
Mary Wilson, District Clerk

OPENING CEREMONY - conducted by Mr. Rossi.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Awards

The Superintendent and Mr. Rossi congratulated the following students and staff on their accomplishments:

Finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program

Francis Pinter, Alexander Spangher, Lucas Spangher

Semi-Finalists in the Intel Science Talent Search

John Dodaro, Reena Glaser, Alexander Spangher

Candidate for the United States Presidential Scholars Program

Eric Caruso

Smithtown High School East winning team that competed on News 12 *The Challenge*

Stephanie Chocko, Zachary Greenberg, Patrick Kelly, Sanjay Palat, Nicole Tchorowski

National Geographic Bee Winner

John Toscanol, Matthew Ostroy, Joseph Feldman

Award in the Suffolk County Regional Reflections Competition

Brooke Pfeffer, Priyanka Mehta, Emily Peterson, Gianna Buttitta, Kaitlyn Gregory, Emily DeAugustino, Victoria Grasso, Kyle Minder, Griffin Reynolds, Sydney Abualy, Sara Leary, Kellie Levens

MINUTES - of the Regular Meetings held February 9 and 23, 2010 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron that the above minutes be approved as presented.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

RECEIPT OF CLAIMS AUDITOR'S REPORT – upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Claims Auditor's Report ending January 31, 2010 in the amount of \$13,973,703.48 be accepted.

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mrs. Knox that the Claims Auditor's Report be accepted.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

COMMUNICATIONS

Section A – Correspondence – The following correspondence was presented for the Board's review.

1. Letter to Mr. Robert Rossi, President of Board of Education (with attachment), from Mrs. Kathleen Jorgensen regarding High School East basketball.
2. Letter to Board of Education (with attachment) from Carolyn and Alfred Napolitano regarding High School East basketball.
3. Letter to Mary Wilson from Irwin S. Izen, Esq., regarding HVAC bid.
4. Letter to Mr. Robert Rossi, President Board of Education, from Mr. Patrick M. Smith regarding invitation to Winter Athletic Awards dinner.
5. Letter to Mr. Robert Rossi, President of the Board of Education, from Danielle Domini regarding adding Russian to foreign language curriculum.
6. Letter to Mr. Robert Rossi, President of Board of Education (with attachment), from Mr. Rory M. Fabian regarding High School East basketball.
7. Letter to Board of Education from S.G. DeFazio regarding letter to the Editor.
8. Letter to Mr. Robert Rossi, President, from Alexis Buckheit regarding Smithtown HS West's *The Bull's Eye*.

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mrs. Knox that the correspondence in Section A, as listed above, be received and the recommendations of the administration (where indicated) be accepted.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

Section B - General Communications – The following general communications were presented for the Board's review.

1. Call for nominations for Distinguished Service and Silver Bullet Award from N-SSBA.

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron that the above general correspondence be accepted.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

OLD BUSINESS

Policy

Mrs. Knox noted that Policy 6710 still needs to have the Purchasing Agent's name included in the policy and the response to the Audit Report makes reference to various policies that the Board should be getting before the end of the school year. A Policy Committee meeting will be scheduled to attend to these items.

Landing Avenue Pool

Mr. Ehmann advised that he had discussion with Mr. Vecchio about the feasibility of combining the interests of the School District and the Town. Mr. Vecchio explained that the Town had researched this topic some years ago and this would not be as economical as our district had thought. Some of the extra costs would be maintenance, locker rooms, diving depths, access to the community and liability.

Natural Gas

Mr. Ehmann advised that a meeting has been set up next week with Mr. Lacasia who works on the Mercantile Exchange.

Recycling

Mr. Ehmann reported that a meeting will be held with Hauppauge and Commack to discuss recycling.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**Business Affairs**

Mr. Saggese reported that a meeting will be held tomorrow, 3/10, with discussion continuing about the budget development process. Mr. Ehmann added that tomorrow's meeting will have presentations about athletics, debt service and the contingency budget number. There is an on-going analysis about the transportation situation.

Facilities

Mr. Liguori reported that there will be a meeting Thursday, 3/11, at 7:00 p.m.

Housing

Mrs. Waldron reported that a meeting was held March 4th. At that meeting Dr. Ain presented our enrollment and our projections from Western Suffolk BOCES. Mrs. Waldron added that at the end of this school year the BOE will probably reestablish the Citizens' Committee on Instruction and Housing to look into any kind of enrollment problems that we might have. Mrs. Cahill noted that Housing Committees are given a charge by the Board of what you want them to study and give you their input on.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT cont'd

B. Updates – The Superintendent brought the Board up-to-date on the following items of interest:

- The following teams are Section XI Outstanding Sportsmanship teams for the winter season: HS West – JV Girls' Basketball; HS East – JV2 Wrestling; Accomsett MS - Boys' Basketball; Great Hollow MS – Girls' Volleyball (Blue Team).'
- This year's school calendar will be revised at the next BOE meeting due to the use of snow days. May 10th will be a regular school day for K-12. May 12th there will be no school for K-12. May 17th there will be no school for K-5 and there will be school for 6-12. May 28th will be a regular school day.

C. Committee on Special Education

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving Committee on Special Education Items 1-2 on a consent motion.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

1. Committee on Special Education - RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education for cases 179468, 303973, 307239, 308550, 309280, 309251, 304229, 310524, 306488, 310862 and 193169 be approved.

2. Sub-Committee on Special Education - RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Special Education for cases 306429, 185319, 301117, 173558, 163440, 200803, 304697, 305052, 304990, 305003, 304160, 201113, 200701, 309272, 201114, 200680, 200244, 184909, 156180, 309182, 184769, 160500, 200679, 301212, 300190, 301299, 301289, 300706, 200948, 200603, 302756, 300806, 301467, 304696 and 200059 be approved.

D. Committee on Preschool Special Education

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving Preschool Special Education Items 1-2 on a consent motion.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

1. Initial Placement for Preschool Special Education Program/Services – RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education for Initial Placement – Program/Services for cases P310952, P310951, P310882, P310905, P310904, P310908 and P310903 be approved.

2. Special Education Preschool Annual IEP Review/Amended IEP – RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education for Annual IEP Review/Amended IEP for cases P309292, P309291, P308551, P308685A, P308685, P310462A, P310462, P309833, P309656, P309905, P310425, P309770A, P309770, P310377A P310377, P310357, P309150, P310496A and P310496 be approved.

E. Calendar for March and April 2010 - The calendars were reviewed by the Board.

F. Litigation - was discussed during the earlier Executive Session.

INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mrs. Knox approving Instructional Overnight Field Trips Items A – B on a consent motion.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

A. Overnight Field Trip Request – Smithtown High School West Science Olympiad Team – March 19-20, 2010 – Science Olympiad State Competition – West Point, NY – upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that permission is granted for 26 students from Smithtown High School West Science Olympiad Team to compete in the Science Olympiad State Competition at West Point, NY. Students will depart March 19, 2010 and return March 20, 2010.

B. Selection Classification Recommendation - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that permission is granted at the request of the Athletic Director to the following Middle School athletes to play on High School Teams. They have been deemed “exceptional” and have passed the Selection/Classification process.

Stephanie Aplin	8 th Grade	Varsity Softball	HS East
Kristina Freshour	8 th Grade	Varsity Girls Lax	HS East
Teresa Staiano	8 th Grade	Varsity Softball	HS West

SECTION C - AUDIENCE

1. Philip D’Amelia questioned what transportation savings the District is looking to make on the public-school side of the budget.

2. Pam Farino stated that in the past the District has not made cuts across the board. She questioned whether the \$5.7 million discussed at the 9/9 Business Affairs meeting goes beyond 2/11. Mrs. Farino also asked what the District had heard about proposed cuts in Regents exams.
3. Lisa Maxson expressed her displeasure with the proposed central pickup.
4. Christine Dolce expressed skepticism with the District's estimate of \$273 thousand savings for centralized pickup. Ms. Dolce volunteered to assist the District in reviewing the figures.
5. Joyce Montgomery stated that she is concerned for the safety of her child being brought to the high school with central pickup.
6. Jim Citera stated that he does not want his parochial school daughter spending more time on a bus.
7. Sharon Harbauer expressed concern about the central pickup proposal, asking what the options are. She asked the BOE to think about bad weather closings and extra cars dropping students off at the high school.
8. John Garvey suggested that the District not look at cutting busing for parochial students.
9. Chris Brogan stated that for safety reasons the District should look at other things to cut than parochial school busing.
10. Shirley Dabalsky asked that the BOE represent all of the students in the district.
11. Maureen Flynn said that parochial school students should not have to take a bus two hours before school starts. Ms. Flynn stated that Smithtown will have to have people watch the parochial students between the two bus rides because St. Anthony's will not let students into their building more than half an hour before school opens. Ms. Flynn asked for a detailed list on how the District will be saving the \$273 thousand.
12. Anne McCormack shared the previous speakers' concerns regarding centralized pickup.
13. Kevin McCrudden brought to the District's attention monetary, safety and liability concerns with the centralized pickup issue. He suggested the District look at the teachers' contract and the bus contract. Mr. McCrudden also suggested the District look at the underuse of busses going to Smithtown public schools.
14. Briana Maggio, a parochial school student, stated that she spends lots of hours on the bus each day.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Finance

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mrs. Knox approving Finance Items 1 – 7 on a consent motion.

Discussion

Item #6 – Mr. Saggese asked for clarification on this item. Ms. Niles explained that each year the District hires our auditors to do a review of the use of the STA Benefit Fund. Contractually the District provides \$400 per teacher and \$200 per part-time teacher a year to this fund.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

1. Financial Reports - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following financial reports for the month(s) indicated are accepted:

- 1 – Revenue Status Report
01/31/10
- 2 – Trial Balance Report
01/31/10
- 3– Summary of Treasurer’s Report
01/31/10
- 4 – Treasurer’s Monthly Report
01/31/10
- 5 – Schedule of Investments
01/31/10
- 6 – Collateralization of Bank Balances
01/31/10
- 7 – Budgetary Transfer Report
01/31/10
- 8 – Budget Status Report
01/31/10
- 9 – Cash Flow Report
01/31/10
- 10 – Report of Claims Auditor
01/31/10
- 11 – Smithtown High School East Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 12 – Smithtown High School West Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 13 – Accomsett Middle School Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 14 – Great Hollow Middle School Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 15 – Nesaquake Middle School Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 16 – Accomsett Elementary School Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 17– Branch Brook Elementary School Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 18– Dogwood Elementary School Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 19 – Mills Pond Elementary School Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 20 – Mt. Pleasant Elementary School Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 21 – St. James Elementary School Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 22 – Smithtown Elementary School Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10
- 23 – Tackan Elementary School Extra Classroom Activity Account
01/31/10

2. Bid Recommendations - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following bid recommendations be approved as submitted herein:

- 05-14 Ext. Pupil Transportation – Request for Proposal (RFP)
- 08-11 Ext. Drivers Education
- 09-20 Coach Buses
- 10-04 Roofing Repairs – Labor Only
- 10-05 Fire Alarm and Clock Systems, Inspection and Maintenance

3. Budget Transfers – upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following budgetary transfers of funds be approved for the 2009-10 school year:

FROM:	See attached list	\$559,228.83
TO:	See attached list	\$559,228.83

4. Grant Disbursement Agreement – Dormitory Authority of the State of New York - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, to provide an Expanding our Children’s Education and Learning program (EXCEL) grant to the Smithtown Central School District for Capital Improvements to various buildings, requiring the signatures of the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools.
5. Extra Classroom Activity Accounts - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education hereby approves the following list of potential donors for Extra Classroom Activity Accounts for the 2009-2010 school year:

<u>School</u>	<u>Potential Donor</u>
Mt. Pleasant Elementary School	Chase Citibank Great American Opportunities Newsday PTA Donations Stop & Shop Target

6. Review of Smithtown Teachers’ Association Benefit Fund - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education acknowledge receipt of the Review of the Smithtown Teachers’ Association Benefit Fund, years ended June 30, 2008 and 2009, submitted by the District’s External Auditor, R.S. Abrams & Company LLP.
7. Independent Audit Report Management Letter Response - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education acknowledge receipt of the response to R.S. Abrams & Company’s Management Letter in regard to the District’s Independent Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 2009.

Operations

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mrs. Knox approving Operations Items 1-2 on a consent motion.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

1. Declaration of Obsolete Items - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following items, due to poor condition and/or obsolescence, are no longer useful to the District, and are hereby declared to be obsolete, and are to be disposed of in a manner that is in the best interest of the Smithtown Central School District:

6 Volleyball Stanchions at Great Hollow Middle School

2. Acceptance of Gifts – upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the acceptance of the following gifts:

	<u>Donated By</u>
\$164.00 to fund field trips for the 2009-2010 school year	Mt. Pleasant Elementary parents
\$1,500.00 for St. Catherine’s Scholarship at High School West	St. Catherine of Siena Medical Staff Fund c/o Medical Staff Affairs Office 50 Route 25A Smithtown, NY 11787-1348

\$25.05 for instructional supplies
at Accomsett Elementary School

Upromise, Inc.
P.O. Box 55555
Boston, MA 02205

PERSONNEL

Certified – The following Certified Personnel Items were presented for the Board’s approval (Attachment XI. A. 1-6):

- 1. Notice of Resignation(s)
- 2. Notice of Retirement(s)
- 3. Increase of Assignment/Additional Classes
- 4. Appointment of Substitute Teachers
- 5. Appointment of Co-Curricular Activities Sponsors
- 6. Coaching Assignments

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving the Certified Personnel Items 1-6, as detailed in the attached resolutions.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

Mrs. Ricigliano recognized the teachers who are retiring.
Mr. Rossi, on behalf of the Board, also congratulated the retirees.

Classified - The following Classified Personnel Items were presented for the Board’s approval (Attachment XI. B. 1-6):

- 1. Appointments
- 2. Appointments – Reason(s)
- 3. Change of Status
- 4. Change of Status – Reason(s)
- 5. Leave of Absence Unpaid
- 6. Leave of Absence – Reason(s)

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving the Classified Personnel Items 1-6, as detailed in the attached resolutions.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

NEW BUSINESS – none.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron that the meeting be adjourned at 9:50 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wilson
District Clerk