

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

April 14, 2009

Held in Joseph M. Barton Bldg.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Carl Gianino, President of the Board of Education.

Members present:

Neil S. Carlin	Robert Rossi
Carl E. Gianino	Joseph T. Saggese
Theresa Knox	Gladys M. Waldron
Louis Liguori	

Also present:

Edward Ehmann, Superintendent
Mary Cahill, Asst. Supt.
Joan Niles, Asst. Supt.
Karen Ricigliano, Asst. Supt.
Peter G. Albert, Board Counsel
Visitors
Mary Wilson, District Clerk

OPENING CEREMONY - conducted by Mr. Gianino. On motion by Mr. Carlin, seconded by Mr. Rossi, the Board voted unanimously to convene in Executive Session to discuss Particular Personnel, Real Estate and Litigation.

At 8:13 p.m. Mrs. Waldron moved, Mr. Liguori seconded, and the Board reconvened the Regular Meeting.

MINUTES - of the Regular Meetings held, March 10 and March 24, 2009 were presented for approval.

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mr. Rossi 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 February 28, 2009 in the amount of \$11,967,403.43 be accepted.

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mr. Rossi 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 Board of Education and Audit Committee from Coughlin, Foundotos, Cullen & Danowski, LLP, regarding confirmation of services.
2. Letter to Mr. Carl Gianino from NYSSBA regarding how to lobby.
3. Letter to Mr. Carl Gianino, President of the Board of Education, from Ms. Harriet Pasca-Ortgies regarding invitation.
4. Letter to Mr. Carl Gianino, President of Board of Education, from Ms. Carol Molack regarding enrichment program.

5. Letter to Members of the Board of Education from Ms. Zina Weingart, Smithtown College Scholarship Committee, regarding thank you.
6. Letter to Members of the Board of Education from John Dolan and Edwin Thompson regarding graduation.
7. Letter to Mr. Carl Gianino and Members of the Board of Education from Ms. Cathy Hein and family regarding appreciation for expression of sympathy.
8. Letter to Ms. Mary Wilson, District Clerk, from Joan Johnson, District Clerk, regarding WS BOCES vote.

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mr. Rossi 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. Minutes N-SSBA Executive Committee Meeting of March 19, 2009.
2. WS BOCES Minutes of March 10, 2009

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

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

OLD BUSINESS – none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business Affairs

Mr. Carlin reported that there will be a Business Affairs Committee meeting tomorrow night, April 15th at 7:00 p.m.

Facilities

Mr. Liguori reported that there will be a Facilities Committee meeting April 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

“Thinking Outside the Bulb”

The Superintendent announced that DECA students would give a presentation regarding “Thinking Outside the Bulb”. The students gave an informative presentation on their campaign to inform residents about the District’s undertaking in energy savings. All were encouraged to visit DECA’s website Smithtownenergy.org for more information.

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

- SHS East student Valentine Esposito and SHS West student Kelly Prudente have been selected as Semi-Finalists in the prestigious Young Epidemiology Scholars (YES) Competition. The YES Competition awards college scholarships each year to high school juniors and seniors who conduct outstanding research projects that apply epidemiological methods of analysis to a health-related issue.
- John Nolan was recently named the Model Schools Administrator of the Year for his commitment to promoting the growth instructional technology in 2008/2009.
- Dogwood Elementary librarian Shelia Cavooris is an award winner of a grant titled, *We the People* “Picturing America” Bookshelf.

- Branch Brook Elementary teacher Victor Collaco is the winner of a Western Suffolk BOCES Model Schools Teacher Integration Award.
- For the third time in five years, the Nesaquake Middle School Trivia Team took first place in the Middle School Division of the Suffolk County United Cerebral Palsy Trivia Contest.
- Members of the Smithtown High School East's Honor Society recently visited after school with the patients at the Smithtown Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing Care. The residents were treated to a fantastic concert by Brian Harte, Caitlin Marsh, Jennifer Cohen, Emily Hittner, Mitchell Feinberg and Diane Cho.
- Two SHS East ninth graders, Alissa Cutrone and Taylor Trentadue were awarded Honorable Mention at an Italian Poetry Contest at Stony Brook University.
- The Great Hollow Middle School Mock Trial team recently competed in the 26th Annual Mock Trial Tournament at Dowling College under the direction of advisor Richard Restifo.
- Accomsett Elementary School hosted its Annual Fairy Tale Ball. The Ball is a culminating event for the Fairy Tale unit of study. The second grade students read fairy tales, composed their own fairy-tales, retold Jack and the Beanstalk from the Giant's point-of-view. The children also enjoyed a Cinderella Rap and a Fairy Tale Jingle.
- Great Hollow and Nesaquake Middle Schools recently placed at Regional Science Olympiad Competition. Both schools earned medals for their achievements and have been invited to compete at the NYS competition.
- The Mills Pond Civics Club has received a grant from Newsday's Future Corps for the fifth year in a row. The grant will be used to purchase flats of flowers for their annual St. James Healthcare Facility Spring Planting Day. The students assist the seniors in beautifying their courtyard.
- Mills Pond Elementary teacher Tara McCluskey's fifth grade class has been chosen by *Newsday's Kidsday* to develop a week-long series for the month of July. This opportunity will include celebrity interviews, taste tests, testing age appropriate toys and video games, restaurant reviews, school wide polls, and articles of interest, to name a few. The Kidsday editor, Patrick Mulooly, will be visiting the class several times and working closely with each student on developing their pieces.

Update on Budget

The Superintendent noted that the administration has incorporated some of the suggestions from the Citizens' Budget Advisory Committee into the latest budget proposal.

Ms. Cahill invited the Citizens' Budget Advisory Committee Members to speak.

Mr. Meyers expressed deep concern that the Appropriated Fund Balance and Reserves are being used to balance this budget. Looking ahead to next year and the year after our taxes will go up significantly. Mr. Meyers stated that the athletic program is oversized. Mr. Saggese responded that at this time the net effect on the reserves is less than \$1.5 million and agreed that next year is going to be a very difficult year.

Mr. Rossi presented a citizen's concern about the JV9 teams. Mr. Ehmann responded that the JV9 teams give students who do not make the JV or Varsity an opportunity to participate. All of the JV9's are back because at this time we do not know what the turnout will be next fall. We have a commitment from the Athletic Director that if the enrollment for a team is not worthy of the team having a coach, etc. we won't create that team.

Mr. Carlin noted that this budgeting process is not running a one-year number. We have projections out to 2012/13 which we presented at Business Affairs meetings that show the use of reserves, projected balances, anticipated revenues and State aid. There has been considerable thought given to future years.

Mr. Ehmann explained that things are being done a little differently here in Smithtown as to how we monitor our expenditures and how we budget. Three, four, five years ago the budgeting process led to surpluses which went into the reserves. We are not building reserves right now; we are getting as close to our actual expenditures as we can get. We are basically recycling any surplus that was left.

Mr. Liguori noted that a community member had questioned the appropriateness of cutting back on security at the high schools to save \$46,000. Mr. Ehmann responded that the District would not eliminate a post unless it felt that it was covered either through camera surveillance or by changing the roving assignments and making sure we supplement the cameras with human beings and vice versa. Our security director has said that we can eliminate these two posts.

Ms. Ehrlich questioned whether the anticipated tax rate for 2012-13 is still projected to be 10%. Mr. Ehmann responded that the research was done on numbers that we know and we used some assumptions in the projections. Our goal is to keep the tax rate at a number that the community will support. Mr. Carlin added that the ten percent increase for 2012-13 is a worst case scenario with less State aid, no more revenue from the reserves or the fund balance, no increase in assessment and expenditure increases at the present rate. That worst case scenario makes about five or six assumptions and is without any reduction of expenditures and that our expenses increase at the same rate that they have. Some members believe those increases are not sustainable. Mr. Gianino suggested that this discussion be continued at tomorrow night's Business Affairs Committee meeting.

The Superintendent then used a PowerPoint presentation to provide an update on the 2009-2010 budget.

Mr. Carlin questioned the proposed provision for teacher training in place of the staff developer. He asked if the District has contractual obligations for training and development. Ms. Cahill responded contractually the teachers have access to the Professional Development Fund which gives them opportunities to select staff development (attendance at conferences or workshops). There is also the Teacher Center, which is not part of the contract it is a grant that comes through the State. We are obligated to provide a certain amount of curriculum development and staff development through State regulations. Mr. Carlin questioned the dollar amount that the District is contractually required to spend for professional development. Ms. Cahill responded that the Professional Development Fund in the contract which the teachers self-select totals \$130,000. Mr. Carlin noted the additional \$20,000 for training, which was in the PowerPoint, is in addition to the amount in the contract. Ms. Cahill stated that her obligation is to make sure that the teachers in this school district have training in any of the new curriculum writing that takes place on an annual basis, and have training in using something such as the SMART Boards. Mr. Carlin questioned whether it would make sense to dovetail the contracted portion with what you are trying to accomplish so we would not have to have an extra item; after all we are spending \$130,000 contractually. If it overlapped what you are suggesting that you are trying to accomplish, we wouldn't use the money we are already contracted to spend. Are there lines other than the \$130,000 and the proposed \$20,000 that are also professional development dollars spent for training for teachers? Ms. Cahill responded, yes. There are lines that we cut significantly in the budget, that's why we asked for the \$20,000 back. Mr. Carlin clarified, not what we cut; what we are spending. Ms. Cahill stated that she cut over \$50,000 out of the Curriculum budget for those activities that are attached to curriculum writing and in-service. Mr. Carlin clarified that he is not looking for what has been cut; but what we are spending. Ms. Cahill added that we also use grant money for staff development. Mr. Ehmann summed up by saying that the information will be supplied at the following night's Business Affairs Committee meeting. This money was specifically to change the manner in which staff development happens in the building. Ms. Cahill added that there is also money in the budget for the mentoring of new teachers as per NY State regulation.

Mr. Saggese asked if Ms. Niles believes that this budget of \$211 million is a doable budget under the actual-to-budget scenario. Ms. Niles responded that she is a little concerned, not necessarily on the expenditure side, but on the revenue side due to the interest rates going down. Mr. Saggese stated that in the 2008-09 year the District spent almost \$13 million and it is proposing to spend \$8.5 million next year. Ms. Niles stated that the cuts that were made were everything other than salaries. Mr. Ehmann explained that we have cut expenditures to the bone on the operational side. We feel we can do this for the next year or two. The unappropriated fund balance is there to insulate the District from any issues. Mr. Gianino suggested that this discussion should be continued at tomorrow evening's Business Affairs Committee meeting.

Committee on Special Education

MOTION by Mr. Rossi seconded by Mrs. Waldron that the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education for cases 306283, 308217, 308443, 306140, 301759, 309289, 195139, 306070, 305339, 310365, 309460, 305299, 308096, 306749, 308706, 309460, 309202, 307955, 307702, 309255, 309391, 309423, 310065, 309527, 307344 and 309437 be approved.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

Sub-Committee on Special Education

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mrs. Waldron that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Special Education for cases 304271, 309465, 150880, 200982, 152050, 153950, 305627, 305268, 304494, 308532, 305830, 308058, 307409, 306765, 187209, 184439, 185159, 178447, 172516, 180766, 304499, 308643, 308633, 308634, 305653, 306430, 305253, 303739, 301623, 305573, 302075, 304036, 304033, 302079, 302046, 306189, 305713, 306684, 306911, 309346, 305997, 300148, 308471, 304692, 303272, 308454, 308455, 305605, 307040, 306862, 307141, 307281, 309776, 309408, 308620, 309220, 180736, 185929, 182398, 301617, 303934, 305687, 307033, 309775, 310320, 308629, 309721, 180718, 306158, 300637, 300555, 310670, 301667, 301669, 301668, 904175, 305423 and 309642 be approved.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

Committee on Preschool Special Education

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mrs. Waldron that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education for Initial Placement – Program/Services for cases P310334A, P310334, P310308, P310163, P309929, P310116, P310305, P310094, P310297, P309834, P310017 and P310212 be approved.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mrs. Waldron that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education for Annual IEP Review/Amended IEP for cases P309692, P309245, P307265, P307298, P308204, P307367, P309476, P309648, P307376, P309658A, P309658, P308182, P308822, P308134, P307386A, P307386, P308508, P309225, P308918, P308831, P308822, P308251, P309691, P308533, P309490, P309251A, P309251, P308308, P309280A, P309280, P308879, P309352A, P309532, P309374A, P309374, P309453, P308065, P309237, P308550A, P308550, P308559, P309236A, P309236, P307702A, P307702, P309255, P307955, P309391, P308525, P307320, P309437, P308491, P308596, P308516, P309238, P307344, P309257, P308531 and P308558 be approved.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

Calendar for April and May 2009 - The calendars were reviewed and amended by the Board.

Litigation - was discussed during the earlier Executive Session.

INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT

MOTION by Mr. Liguori, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving Instructional Items A – C on a consent motion.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

A. Overnight Field Trip Request – Smithtown High School East Model UN – May 14-16, 2009 – UNA-USA High School Model UN Conference – New York, NY - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that permission is granted for 14 students from Smithtown High School East Model UN to participate in the UNA-USA Model UN Conference at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York, NY. The students will depart May 14, 2009 and return May 16, 2009.

B. Overnight Field Trip Request – Great Hollow and Nesaquake Middle School Science Olympiad – April 17-18, 2009 – Science Olympiad State Competition – Mohonk Preserve, New Paltz, NY - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that permission is granted for 35 students from Great Hollow and Nesaquake Middle School to compete in the Science Olympiad State Competition at Mohonk Preserve in New Paltz, NY. The students will depart April 17, 2009 and return April 18, 2009.

C. Overnight Field Trip Request – Smithtown High School East Girls’ Track Team – April 17-18, 2009 – Red Raider Relays Track Meet – Thiells, NY - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that permission is granted for 5 students from Smithtown High School East Girls’ Track Team to compete in the Red Raider Relays Track meet at North Rockland High School in Thiells, NY. Students will depart April 17, 2009 and return April 18, 2009.

SECTION C - AUDIENCE - Mr. Gianino welcomed the members of the audience and called speakers to the podium from the sign-in sheet.

1. Ms. Farino expressed concern that the District did not have a Test of Written Language available to test a student. Ms. Farino stated that AIS is not offered before or after school. Ms. Farino also questioned the availability of an athletic trainer for female athletes and the inequity of use of fields for female athletes.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Finance

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mr. Rossi approving Finance Items 1 – 9 on a consent motion.

Discussion – With regard to Item #6 Mr. Saggese explained that this had been a request from the administration, not the Audit Committee. Mr. Rossi asked for further clarification on the dollar amount. Ms. Niles supplied the justification for the increase.

Mr. Rossi discussed the authority that the District uses to purchase large items such as vehicles without Board approval or notification. Mr. Ehmann responded that if the Board wants to hear about major purchases, the administration would be happy to provide that information. Explaining that when one van broke it was irreparable and we have 15 maintenance vans that drive all over the District; some of them are eighteen years old. If the Board would like to see the information that has gone into the decision making process, we will provide that. Mr. Saggese stated that he would also like to understand the flow.

Mr. Carlin asked for clarification on Item #5. Mr. Albert clarified the purpose of the resolution referencing Child Find rules.

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
01/31/09

- 2 – Trial Balance Report
01/31/09
- 3– Summary of Treasurer’s Report
01/31/09
- 4 – Schedule of Investments
01/31/09
- 5 – Collateralization of Bank Balances
01/31/09
- 6 – Budgetary Transfer Report
01/31/09
- 7 – Budget Status Report
01/31/09
- 8 – Cash Flow Report
01/31/09
- 9 – Report of Claims Auditor
01/31/09
- 10 – Smithtown High School East Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 11 – Smithtown High School West Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 12 – Accomsett Middle School Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 13 – Great Hollow Middle School Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 14 – Nesaquake Middle School Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 15 – Accomsett Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 16– Branch Brook Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 17– Dogwood Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 18 – Mills Pond Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 19 – Mt. Pleasant Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 20 – St. James Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 21 – Smithtown Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/31/09
- 22 – Tackan Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account
01/19/09

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

07-06	Ext.	Coach Buses
09-01		General Supplies

3. Budget Transfers – upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following budgetary transfers of funds be approved for the 2008-09 school year:

FROM:	See attached	\$32,000.00
TO:	See attached	\$32,000.00
FROM:	See attached	\$145,635.53
TO:	See attached	\$145,635.53

- 4. Contract for Consultation, Evaluation, Training and Intervention Planning - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute a contract with the following individual during the 2008-09 school year, to provide Consultation, Evaluation, Training and Intervention Planning on Asperger's, for 10 hours @ \$200.00 per hour:

Lynda Geller
Asperger Center for Education and Training
19 West 34th Street
New York, NY 10001

- 5. Contract for Special Education Teacher Participation at CSE Meetings - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute a contract with the following organization for the 2008-09 school year, to provide Special Education Teacher participation at CSE meetings for non-resident dual enrollment students, at the rate of \$90.00 per hour:

New York Therapy Placement
5225 Nesconset Highway
Pt. Jefferson, NY 11776

- 6. Increase of Equipment Dollar Limit - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to approve the increase of the equipment dollar limit from \$500.00 to \$2,500.00, effective 7/1/09, as per the recommendation of the Audit Committee.

- 7. Contract for Presentation - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute a contract with the following individual, for the 2008-2009 school year, to present "Dance Around the World" to the District's Physical Education teachers at a cost of \$500.00:

Sylvia Jamison
Queens Integrated Service Center
28-11 Queens Plaza North 4th Floor
Long Island City, NY 11101

- 8. External Auditor's Report of Smithtown Schools Employees' Association Welfare and Benefit Fund - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education acknowledge receipt of the Audit Report of the Smithtown Schools Employees' Association Welfare and Benefit Fund, year ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, submitted by the District's External Auditor, R.S. Abrams & Company LLP.

- 9. Contract for Health and Health-Related Services - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute a contract for the 2008-09 school year with the school district listed below to provide health and health-related services for Smithtown students attending private and parochial schools in the school district indicated, pursuant to Section 912 of the New York State Education Law:

Comsewogue Union Free School District

Operations

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving Operations Items 1-3 on a consent motion.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

- 1. 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:

Donated By

\$6,785.25 to fund the 5 th Grade field trip on May 26, 2009	Mt. Pleasant Elementary's Extraclassroom Activity Club
\$5,710.00 to fund field trips for the 2008-09 school year	St. James Elementary parents
Garden surrounding the flagpole at Accomsett Elementary School for an Eagle Scout project.	Thomas Slee 14 Ramondo Lane Smithtown, NY 11787
\$2,504.00 for student participation in the Middle Country School District 2009 All-State NYSSMA Solo Festival	Smithtown School District parents
\$533.46 for Accomsett Elementary	Target Take Charge of Education Mail Stop 2A-O P.O. Box 59214 Minneapolis, MN 55459-0214
\$1,086.50 to fund sheet music at Smithtown Middle Schools	Tri-M Music Honor Society

2. Additions to List of Organizations Approved to Use School Facilities, 2008-09 and 2009-2010 School Years –upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following organizations, having made formal application, are hereby approved for applying to use school facilities of the Smithtown Central School District during the 2008-09 and 2009-2010 school years, subject to all school district policies, rules and regulations, Standard Uniform Practices and contract provisions.

2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR

St. James Athletic Association and Smithtown Jr. Golf League

2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

Long Island Volleyball Club (LIVBC)

3. 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:

Risograph machine at Dogwood Elementary, model # TR1510, Serial # 03588
Attached list of items from St. James Elementary School
125 student desks and 8 round tables at St. James Elementary School

PERSONNEL

Certified – The following AMENDED Certified Personnel Items were presented for the Board's approval (Attachment XI.A.1-9):

1. Particular Personnel – Executive Session
2. Appointment of Regular Substitute Teacher
3. Administrative Tenure List – Information for the Board of Education
4. Request for FMLA, Without Pay/Leave of Absence, Without Pay
5. Appointment of Substitute Teacher(s)

6. Appointment of Home Instruction Tutor
7. Appointment of Co-Curricular Activities Sponsors
8. Increase of Assignment/Change of Status
9. Notice of Resignation

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving the Certified Personnel Items 1-9, as detailed in the attached resolutions.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

Classified - The following Classified Personnel Items were presented for the Board's approval (Attachment XI.B.1-4):

1. Change of Status
2. Leave of Absence Unpaid
3. Leave of Absence - Reason(s)
4. Conditional Fingerprint Clearance

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving the Classified Personnel Items 1-4, as detailed in the attached resolutions.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

NEW BUSINESS

AIS

Mr. Carlin asked when the AIS Plan would start to be rewritten. Ms. Cahill responded it will be submitted next school year. Mr. Carlin requested that there be meetings on this and that the District obtain AIS Plans from comparable districts and these be part of the presentation. Having read several districts' plans he recommended that the administration present a written plan that reduces the expenditure from this year by 20%, and how the administration would implement that if it had to. Mrs. Knox suggested that this would be an appropriate topic for Instructional Services Committee meetings. Mr. Carlin explained that he is making this request at a Board Meeting so that his request will appear in the minutes of the meeting. Mr. Gianino stated that certain topics do lend themselves to committees of the Board. After those committee meetings are held, committee chairpersons report back to the entire Board and the public at Board Meetings. Mr. Carlin stated that he wanted to give the administration as much lead time as possible. Mr. Ehmann explained that the State requires various contingencies to be represented on the committee that works on the AIS Plan. According to regulations, they create an AIS Plan for our District which is then presented to the BOE. If the Board requires, the financial piece of that discussion will be part of the presentation. Once we create the plan it will be based on the criteria that we are using to define whether a student is entitled to the services or not. If the Board says that it wants that to be less expensive; that will be something we will take under advisement and try to create to those parameters. We will do the Instructional Service research, we will do the presentation, the Board will hear it either at the Instructional Services meeting, or if you don't make it you'll get a report here. And you will have to ultimately decide what you want to do. Mr. Carlin further stated that he does not control when the administration is going to present this information to the Board and it might be presented with four weeks before it has to go to NY State. At that point the Board does not have a lot of time to look at different proposals and think it through. Mr. Carlin stated that he is looking to get ahead of this, not react to it. He has looked at various models from other districts that provide a comparable level of education. We know what is coming in the next three or four years, that's why he is asking for this. Ms. Cahill asked if Mr. Carlin could let her know which plans he has looked at so that when she responds she can be aware of what he has familiarized himself with in order to be able to make the proper comparison. Ms. Cahill stated that AIS is given to children either identified through State or local testing or other criteria as designed by the plan to receive service. Mr. Carlin responded that is the critical element – other criteria as designed by the plan. Ms. Cahill stated that passing the State Assessment is a minimum level of competency that the State requires. We do not strive for minimum accomplishments. Mr. Gianino summed up by stating that when

Board Members sit on a committee they call meetings as often as they want and they continue to push forward the agenda items of the committee. At the Organizational meeting in July it will be established which Board members are on the Instructional Services Committee. If this year's chairs want to start having those meetings now, they may. If the committee members are concerned about something, it is up to the committee members to continue to move the process forward.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Saggese asked for further clarification on the Liability Reserves. He also asked for clarification regarding pricing of school lunch as opposed to school snacks, the a la carte portion of the lunch program. Mr. Ehmann responded that in September the possibility of raising school lunch prices was discussed and the Board had requested further information. The a la carte portion is under the auspices of the School Lunch Director. We will get the details to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mr. Rossi that the meeting be adjourned at 10:12 p.m.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wilson
District Clerk