

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

December 11, 2007

Held in Joseph M. Barton Bldg.

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Carl Gianino, President of the Board of Education.

Members present:

Carl E. Gianino	Kalervo Raustiala
Theresa Knox	Robert Rossi
Louis Liguori	Joseph T. Saggese

Members absent:

Gladys M. Waldron

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. Gianino, seconded by Mr. Liguori, the Board voted unanimously to convene in Executive Session to discuss Negotiations, Particular Personnel and Litigation.

At 8:03 p.m. Mrs. Knox moved, Mr. Raustiala seconded, and the Board reconvened the Regular Meeting.

Mr. Gianino took the opportunity to make the following statement:

Before our meeting is called to order, I would like to remind everyone present that the District's Code of Conduct and Robert's Rules of Order requires that board meetings be conducted in a professional, respectful and courteous manner. As role models for our children, we must all contribute to a civil and thoughtful dialogue – Thank You.

MINUTES - of the Regular Meetings held November 13 and 27, 2007 were presented for approval.

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

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

RECEIPT OF CLAIMS AUDITOR'S REPORT - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Claims Auditor's Report ending October 31, 2007 in the amount of \$16,581,376.76 be accepted.

Discussion – Mr. Saggese questioned a \$185 thousand manual check. Ms. Niles responded that she would get back to him with an answer.

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

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

COMMUNICATIONS

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

1. Letter to Mrs. Gladys Waldron from Mr. Patrick Smith regarding AIDS Advisory Council.
2. Letter to Members of the Board of Education from Construction Data Company News regarding advertising of construction projects.
3. Letter to Mr. Carl Gianino, President, from Adrienne Greenbaum, LILT, regarding thank you for use of facilities.

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Raustiala 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 (6-0).

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

1. N-SSBA Minutes – November 15, 2007

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

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

OLD BUSINESS**Independent Audit Report for Year Ended June 30, 2007**

MOTION by Mr. Raustiala seconded by Mr. Rossi that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education receive the Report on Audit for the Year Ended June 30, 2007, including the OMB Circular A-133 Supplementary Financial Report (Federal Fund) and the Extraclassroom Activity Funds – Report on Audit, prepared and submitted by the District's Independent Auditor, R.S. Abrams and Company.

Discussion

Marianne Van Duyne of R. S. Abrams and Company presented the results of the audit report to the Board of Education. In accordance with the new procedures the auditors had met with the Audit Committee two months ago to discuss the audit report. Smithtown is fortunate to have two people who are familiar with governmental and school district audits. Another change this year is that school districts had to demonstrate to the auditors that they understood the financial statements. Previously the auditors prepared the financial statements and then the school district reviewed them after the fact; this year the change was that the auditors had to evaluate the district on their capability of doing those financial statements. Smithtown's business officials attended the auditors' training sessions and they did a good job of preparing the financial statements. This new requirement was a large undertaking and Smithtown is fortunate to have a CPA on staff so that it did not have to outsource the preparation as some other districts had to do. Ms. Van Duyne gave an overview of the audit process. The auditors not only issue a financial statement audit they also look at the district's internal controls. Three separate audits were done – one was the GASB Financials, an Audit of the Extraclassroom Funds and an Audit of the district's grants. In all three cases the district received an unqualified opinion, which is the best opinion that you could ask for. As part of the process the auditors also include a management letter which is constructive suggestions on how to improve the controls that districts already have in place. The auditors said that there were no significant deficiencies, no material weaknesses and most of the recommendations from last year were implemented. A few of the recommendations are in the process of being worked on now so they should be implemented by the following year. The

District has been very proactive in implementing the auditors' recommendations from the previous year.

Since the district's revenues are over \$100 million, it is required to implement the SAS 112 and the GASB 45 this year, June 30, 2008. Given that the District is part of the health insurance consortium, it will not have to go out and do an RFP for an actuary; the consortium will be doing the actuarial analysis. They will tell you what your liability is as part of that consortium. That liability will be on the District's financial statements next year. You are not required to fund it but you are required to put a funding policy in place on what the Board is planning on doing as far as the funding policy.

As far as financially this year, the District had a very good year; your balance sheet is very strong which will help when the District goes out for borrowing. Your interest rates will be more favorable because you do have a strong balance sheet. One change this year is that districts are now allowed to maintain 3% of your next year's budget. Previously you were allowed to maintain 2% of your next year's budget. Next year the percent goes up to 4%. Right now the District has a very strong balance sheet and you are prepared for the long term. Ms. Van Duyne stated that from what she has heard the State Aid projections are not very good for next year, so the District will be prepared for the impact because you do have long-term planning in place and this should definitely help.

Mr. Saggese thanked Ms. Van Duyne for her informative summary and commended the Board of Education and the school district on these results. Mr. Saggese discussed an item from the "Financial Highlights" section of the audit report. The item read: The District's total net assets, as reflected in the district-wide financial statements, increased by \$13,033,485. This was due to an excess of revenues over expenses based on the accrual basis of accounting. Mr. Saggese said that it appears that out of a budget of \$201 million we have \$11 million left over. Ms. Van Duyne responded that in instruction money was left over due to the change in the FMLA. The employee benefits costs were lower due to your change in your health plan. Because your salaries were lower your Social Securities expenses, your TRS, any of the employee benefits associated with those salaries were lower. Mr. Saggese noted that we spent less than we budgeted. Mr. Saggese asked where he could find the \$13 million revenue in the balance sheet. Ms. Van Duyne explained that \$6.5 million went into Reserves; \$3.8 was appropriated for taxes for the next year resulting in an unreserved-undesignated of the \$6 million which is 3% of your next year's budget. Mr. Saggese mentioned that another district had been cited by the Comptroller for poor budgeting practices and asked if she saw any similarity with Smithtown's situation. Ms. Van Duyne explained that the Comptroller wants all districts to look at fund balance projections.

Mr. Gianino mentioned that Ms. Van Duyne had made the statement that the District was in a very good position to absorb a potential State Aid hit because of our fiscal conservativeness in stocking the reserves in the way we have. That is a very key fact that we need to focus on especially with the monies that are left over here; because if things don't come from Albany, it is a real feather in our cap that we took a very conservative approach last year in getting ready for next year. Ms. Van Duyne noted that the purpose of reserves is for long-term planning so if you do have an issue with State Aid, you can utilize your reserves. You want to weigh your short-term needs and your long-term needs. The District did that, so when your State Aid comes in lower you can utilize your reserves when you do your budgeting.

Mr. Gianino thanked Ms. Van Duyne for her report and stated that it is a pleasure to be serving in a district that has such a stellar report. Mr. Gianino noted that part of the audit report states that the Board should begin to receive monthly cash fund balance projections starting in February. Ms. Niles responded that the cash flow projections are currently in your packet. You will be getting the February fund balance projection the first meeting in March. Mr. Gianino asked who is currently preparing the policy on computer controls. Ms. Niles responded that John Nolan is doing that. Mr. Gianino asked about the funding of the preschool and summer school handicapped programs. Ms. Niles responded that there has been discussion about STAC forms being submitted, that is being looked into. With regard to the summer school program that we handle through BOCES the BOCES rates have not been set for the summer so they used estimated rates. However, the State is reimbursing BOCES at a very low rate so we were told to expect that instead of a 20% co-pay we would probably have about 40% co-pay on the services that we get from BOCES. Mr. Gianino stated that it is noted that the school lunch fund continues to have an operating deficit. Ms. Niles responded that this year the District did raise the rates somewhat. That program was also hit this year with the contract settlement; so it is a year and a

half worth of contract settlement that she has no control over. Hopefully they will be at a break-even point. It is believed that the lunch program lost revenue due to restrictions from the State's "Healthy Schools" program regarding snacks that we are allowed to sell. Mr. Gianino mentioned that the audit report again noted invoices predating purchase orders. Ms. Niles responded that we have cut down on them considerably and if that happens it actually has to go to the Superintendent for authorization for payment with a letter acknowledging that they made a mistake.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Facilities

Mr. Rossi reported that during the last two meetings architects were interviewed for future work in the District. Tonight the Board will be voting on a resolution to hire one of those firms.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

- Today Dr. Ain represented the Smithtown Schools at a multi-district press conference that was held at Centereach High School. Thirty-five school districts came together to make their public statement to the Governor about the importance of funding the entire island equitably in this upcoming budget cycle. Senator Flanagan has taken the lead in this regard. We will be posting a letter to Governor Spitzer on our website.
- Central registration for the 2008-2009 kindergarten class will take place in January at the Joseph M. Barton Administration Building. Check the School District Calendar and website for further information.
- Smithtown was one of only five districts in New York State whose high school students' performance on the ACT Science Test exceeded the performance of students in high schools nationwide.
- The Smithtown School of Business Twelfth Annual Business Olympics will be held on Wednesday, December 12th at Smithtown High School West. The topic for this year's competition is "A Reconnect with Smithtown Alumni." The teams will be working on a marketing plan to reconnect and actively partner the Smithtown alumni with Smithtown School District.
- Paul Graf celebrated 20 years as Principal of Smithtown Elementary School this month. The school's PTA presented him with a plaque in recognition of his dedicated service to students, staff and the community.
- SHS East sophomore Victoria Loza and SHS West sophomore Mariana DeMarco have been selected by the Seiskaya Ballet as featured ballerinas in their production of the Nutcracker at the Stony Brook University's Staller Center for the Arts.
- Accomsett Middle School stressed the theme of kindness through integrated classroom activities during "Cool To Be Kind" week. Activities included classroom presentations, lunch time activities, and daily "Spirit Week" activities. Through the efforts of the National Junior Honor Society and social studies classes, staff, students, and families were extremely generous in donating almost 1,000 pounds of food to the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry.
- Great Hollow Middle School had a very successful holiday food drive. With the help of several clubs, such as The Sixth Grade Student Council, The Crochet Club, Creative Computer Club, and The Friends of Rachel Club, the school was able to donate 3,000 pounds of food to *LI Cares*, an organization that helps to provide food for families in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.
- Thomas Gomes, Nesconset Elementary fifth grader, received second place in a math poster contest sponsored by the Association of Math Teachers of New York State. His poster will be displayed in the legislative building in Albany in February.
- Branch Brook first graders participated in a Global Education Project where they made and exchanged holiday cards with students in Canada, England, Australia, and Lebanon.

- Second Graders at Mills Pond Elementary School enjoyed visiting the Long Island Museum at Stony Brook. They learned how children lived during the early 1800's.

Committee on Special Education

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mr. Raustiala that the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education for cases 300322, 305671, 304615, 308490, 308193, 175388, 179706, 0001, 000003894, 307593, 302655, 308434, 179695, 183817, 304704, 179388, 308390, 305263, 307211, 173008, 304781, 303485, 308494, 304990, 308025, 301120, 152360, 306817 and 303793 be approved.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

Sub-Committee on Special Education

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mr. Raustiala that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Special Education for cases 159870, 303838, 3300, 301174, 173848 and 191859 be approved.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

Committee on Preschool Special Education

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mrs. Knox 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 P308491, P308098, P307991, P308449 and P307598 be approved.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mrs. Knox 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 P306698, P306760, P305687, P307938, P307349, P306957, P306030, P306052, P306053 and P308443 be approved.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

Appointment of Designate to Initiate Referral to Committee on Special Education

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mr. Rossi that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education designates Principals or Assistant Principals as the District representative(s) with authority to initiate referrals to the Committee on Special Education pursuant to NYS Education Law 4401-a(1). All other professional staff shall be authorized to request a referral to the Principals or Assistant Principals which shall be made on the form approved by the Administrator of Special Education for the 2007-08 school year.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

Calendar for December 2007 and January 2008 - The calendars were reviewed and amended by the Board.

Litigation - was discussed during the earlier Executive Session.

Rescind Appointment/Appointment of Hearing Officer

Rescind Appointment of Hearing Officer

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mr. Rossi that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the appointment of the following as Hearing Officers in the matters of Impartial Hearing Cases as listed.

Lynn Almeleh Case #IHO-168 RECUSED

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

Appointment of Hearing Officer

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mr. Rossi that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the appointment of the following as Hearing Officers in the matters of Impartial Hearing Cases as listed.

Sharyn Finkelstein Case #IHO-168

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT

Overnight Field Trip Request – Smithtown High School East Wrestling Team – December 28-29, 2007 - Wrestling Tournament – Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Raustiala that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that permission is granted for 15 students from Smithtown High School East Wrestling Team to participate in the Wrestling Tournament at Bloomsburg University in Bloomsburg, PA. Students will depart December 28, 2007 and return December 29, 2007.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

Overnight Field Trip Request – High School West Jazz Choir – April 10 -14, 2008 – Performance at Disney World – Orlando, Florida

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Raustiala that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that permission is granted for 19 students from Smithtown High School West Jazz Choir to perform at Disney World in Orlando, Florida. Students will depart April 10, 2008 and return April 14, 2008.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

Overnight Field Trip Request –High School East Girls' Winter Track Team – Dartmouth College Invitational Track Meet – January 11-12, 2008 – Hanover, NH

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Raustiala that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that permission is granted for 25 students from Smithtown High School East Girls' Winter Track Team to participate in the Dartmouth College Invitational Track Meet in Hanover, NH. Students will depart January 11, 2008 and return January 12, 2008.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

Overnight Field Trip Request –High School East Varsity Cheerleading – February 8-11, 2008 – National Cheerleading Competition – Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Raustiala that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it **RESOLVED**, that permission is granted for 18 students from Smithtown High School East Varsity Cheerleading to participate in the National Cheerleading Competition, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio. Students will depart on February 8, 2008 and return February 11, 2008.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

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

1. Kathy Sullivan thanked the Board and administration for the wonderful experience she and her child had at the All State Music Program in Rochester.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Finance

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mr. Rossi approving Amended Finance Items 1 – 10 on a consent motion.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

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
10/31/07
- 2 – Trial Balance Report
10/31/07
- 3– Summary of Treasurer’s Report
10/31/07
- 4 – Schedule of Investments
10/31/07
- 5 – Collateralization of Bank Balances
10/31/07
- 6 – Budgetary Transfer Report
10/31/07
- 7 – Budget Status Report
10/31/07
- 8 – Cash Flow Report
10/31/07
- 9 – Smithtown High School East Extraclassroom Activity Account
10/31/07
- 10 – Smithtown High School West Extraclassroom Activity Account
10/31/07
- 11 – Accomsett Middle School Extraclassroom Activity Account
10/31/07
- 12 – Great Hollow Middle School Extraclassroom Activity Account
10/31/07
- 13 – Nesaquake Middle School Extraclassroom Activity Account
10/31/07
- 14 – Accomsett Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account
10/31/07
- 15– Branch Brook Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account
10/31/07
- 16– Dogwood Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account
10/31/07
- 17 – Mt. Pleasant Elementary School Extraclassroom Activity Account

contractor for Special Needs Program services for a child with autism, during the 2007-08 school year, at a rate of \$321.00 per month:

Suffolk Y Jewish Community Center
74 Hauppauge Road
Commack, NY 11725

- 8. Resolution to Accept Proposals for the Refunding of Bonds - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education is hereby authorized to adopt the resolution of the Smithtown Central School District, New York, on December 11, 2007, announcing the intention of the School District to accept proposals for the refunding of bonds of said School District.*

*Entire resolution attached

- 9. Refunding Bond Resolution - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education is hereby authorized to adopt the Refunding Bond resolution of the Smithtown Central School District, New York, on December 11, 2007, authorizing the refunding of all or a portion of certain outstanding serial bonds of said District, stating the plan of refunding, appropriating an amount not to exceed \$22,000,000 therefore, authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$22,000,000 refunding serial bonds of the District to finance said appropriation, and making certain other determinations all relative thereto.*

*Entire resolution attached

- 10. Participation in Cooperative Bids - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to approve the participation of the Smithtown Central School District in the New York Skilled Trades Time & Material Bid, with the Clarkstown Central School District acting as the lead agency, using the following organization, at the rate of \$1500.00 per year, effective April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009:

Educational Data Services, Inc.
236 Midland Avenue
Saddle Brook, NJ 07663

Operations

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Raustiala approving Operations Items 1-2 on a consent motion.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

- 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

\$3,180.00 to fund field trips for the 2007-08 school year	Mt. Pleasant Elementary School
\$220.00 to fund field trips for the 2007-08 school year	Smithtown High School East
\$620.00 to fund field trips for the 2007-08 school year	Smithtown High School West
\$2,883.70 to fund field trips for the 2007-08 school year	Tackan Elementary

3 printers and wooden computer desks, Toshiba copier with supporting cabinet, 2 metal storage cabinets, 5 wooden book-cases, 2 wooden desks, several folding, stacking and cushioned chairs, children's table and chairs, sofa, CCTV security system (camera and 2 monitors), 2 folding tables and other office supply items (binders, envelopes, etc.)

Dr. Ronald R. Liteanu, M.D., PC
323 E. Main Street
Suite 2
Smithtown, NY 11787

3 copies of Wee Sing in Sillyville and attached list of books.*

Diane Trupia, Principal
Mt. Pleasant Elementary School

*List available upon request.

2. Additions to List of Organizations Approved to Use School Facilities, 2007-08 School Year – 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 2007-08 school year, subject to all school district policies, rules and regulations, Standard Uniform Practices and contract provisions.

Long Island Dance Xtreme New York

PERSONNEL

Certified – The following Certified Personnel Items were presented for the Board's approval:

1. Appointment of Regular Substitute Teachers
2. Approval for Compensation for STEP After School Program Teacher
3. Non-Aligned Personnel Annual Cost of Living Adjustment to Base Salary
4. Central Office Administrators Salary Increase
 - a. Non-Aligned, Non-Instructional Personnel Salary Increase
5. Appointment of Co-Curricular Activities Sponsors
6. Appointment of Home Instruction Tutor(s)
7. Approval of Emergency Conditional Fingerprint Clearance
8. Appointment of Substitute Teachers
9. Notice of Resignation
10. Appointment of Volunteers
11. Coaching Assignments – 2007-08
12. Appointment of Event Chaperones
13. Approval of Extension of Administrative Substitute
14. Tenure Recommendation – Teachers

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Raustiala approving the Amended Certified Personnel Items 1-14, as detailed in the attached resolutions.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

Mrs. Ricigliano congratulated the teachers on receiving tenure.

Mr. Gianino, on behalf of the Board, also congratulated the teachers on receiving tenure.

Classified - The following Classified Personnel Items were presented for the Board's approval:

1. Appointments

2. Change of Status
3. Non-Aligned Supervisors Personnel Annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to Base Salary
 - a. Non-Aligned Supervisors
4. Leave of Absence
5. Terminations
6. Emergency Conditional Fingerprint Clearance

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

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

NEW BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECT

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Raustiala that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby appoints H2M Group as District Architect, and that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute a contract with said group, the terms of which shall be determined.

YES Mr. Liguori, Mr. Saggese, Mr. Raustiala, Mr. Rossi, Mr. Gianino
 ABSTAIN Mrs. Knox

Motion carried (5-0-1).

Budget Cycle

Mr. Saggese requested that during the up-coming budget cycle the Board be given all relevant documents in a more timely fashion than was done last year.

Mr. Saggese cautioned that he is not comfortable with having approximately \$10 million extra in the school budget and suggested that the Board keep their eye on such situations.

Mr. Rossi stated that he believed that any extra money in the budget is because of the Board's diligent work and savings.

Mr. Gianino stated that the Board is working with a different set of players this year; there have been in-depth discussions with the Superintendent on the budget process going forward this year. Starting February the monthly cash flow projections will help the Board in looking forward to the fund balance and projections. There is also a concerted effort to put the District in a particular financial position with the reserve funds and monies that have been set aside for these funds; which we have authorized limits up to the maximums. Mr. Gianino agreed that the events leading up to the eleventh hour last year were unfortunate and he wished that we could have done a better job with that. He stated that he is very confident and is looking forward to the process this year.

Mr. Saggese respectfully disagreed that there was a conscious effort of policy to put the money that is now there in reserves for unknown items. We never discussed that; that was never put out there even as a brief discussion. When we ended up with this money it was then said it can be used for a rainy day. Mr. Saggese asked that this not be repeated in the next budget cycle. Mr. Gianino agreed that last year the Board was asking for the projections; asking what are we going to end up with. One of the biggest problems I had last year was that we were not able to say in March – what is the surplus that we are going to see at the end of June. Now we will be getting that information. That is a major step forward in helping the budget process.

Mr. Ehmann stated that the first thing that must be emphasized is the auditors said that out of 40 LI school districts we received one of the strongest auditors' evaluations that you can get because of the financial planning that has gone into building this budget. Many of the balances that you are asking about – the Budget Advisory Committee is going to be meeting over the next six

weeks, they are going to be going over every line in the budget. The fund balances will always have people who agree to disagree philosophically. Some people prefer to bring those fund balances down so they can get a present tense break. Many of those districts have run into big-time problems because they didn't have the fund balance to offset unpredictable State revenues. We have no idea what our State Aid picture is going to be and we won't know it until the budget is passed, and often times they don't pass the budget until July. Everyone should remember that when you build a budget it is like sailing a ship through the fog. We are very confident in the abilities of our people to give us their best professional judgment. There will always be disagreement and that is healthy. But we can never put out to the community that we are not totally in control of the numbers and that we are not totally in control of how we feel we should build a strong foundation for the future. My recommendation to you and any other citizen of Smithtown is to ask for the information, we will get it to you and you will have the time to process it. If the Governor's budget doesn't come down in a timely fashion and our State Aid picture is not clear, we are going to be waiting for it as long as you.

Mr. Saggese said that he agreed with everything Mr. Ehmann said one hundred percent except one thing – if we are going to put this in there it has to be communicated openly in the budget. I guarantee you if we were going to put in the budget last year that we want to keep \$10 million for the reserves for a rainy day, that budget would not have passed.

Mr. Ehmann said it is not for a rainy day, they are allocated for specific things.

Branch Brook

Mr. Gianino asked for an update on the status of Branch Brook. Ms. Niles responded that the District was not able to go out for bid until it received the approval from SED. We now have the approval and the bid is out and will be opened in January.

Cell Phones in Schools

Mr. Saggese spoke of an article in the *Faculty Focus* regarding cell phones in classrooms. Mr. Saggese suggested that the District ban the use of cell phones in classrooms. Mr. Ehmann responded that right now the school policy is that cell phones are not to be visible from 7:15 to 2:00 p.m. That if a student needs it after school to get access to their family – fine. We tell students that there are tons of phones around school; if you need to make a phone call, you can go to an office and make the call. Mr. Ehmann agreed that it is very important to ban the use in classrooms. He agreed to speak to Mr. Dolan and Mr. Thompson about emphasizing the importance of reinforcing the policy that we already have. Mr. Ehmann noted that the key is with the parents, if we get cooperation with the parents to work with us we can get a lot done. We will bring that up and make sure it is being enforced.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Rossi, seconded by Mr. Liguori that the meeting be adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wilson
District Clerk

ATTACHMENTS

XI. PERSONNEL

A. CERTIFIED

1. Appointment of Regular Substitute Teachers

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following named person(s) who is or will be properly certified, be appointed as a regular substitute teacher as specified below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Assign.</u>	<u>%age</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
DeSario, Gregory	Physical Education	GHMS (for C. McKillop)	100%	1- MA	\$51,929	11/26/07- 6/30/08
LoBiondo, Janet	Social Worker	AMS/Smith.El. (for C. Taibi)	100%	1-MA	\$51,929	12/12/07- 3/7/08

If applicable, employment contingent upon fingerprinting clearance by OSPRA

2. Approval for Compensation for STEP After School Program Teacher

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following named person(s) be compensated at the rate of \$70.00 per hour for providing ABA services for the STEP After-School Program at St. James Elementary School, two hours per day, three days per week:

Elizabeth Friedel

This position will be effective January 2, 2008 through June 30, 2008.

3. Non-Aligned Supervisors Personnel Annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to Base Salary

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that commencing on July 1, 2007 and annually on each July 1st thereafter, a Cost of Living Adjustment shall be granted but in no event shall increases exceed the regional consumer price index increase for the New York, New York – Northeastern, New Jersey area, based upon the index of all urban consumers (CPI-U) during the preceding twelve (12) month period (such period beginning January 1st of the previous year and ending December 31st) or 4% whichever is lower.

The Superintendent shall retain the right to deny or decrease the COLA to any administrator in the event that such administrator performs less than satisfactorily during the preceding school year.

4. Central Office Administrators Salary Increase

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the agreed upon annual salaries for each of the managerial/confidential Central Office administrators of the Smithtown Central School District, effective as of 7/1/07 be approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Ain, Meryl	Assistant to the Superintendent for General Administration & Planning	\$102,223
Bradshaw, Jennifer	Director of Curriculum	\$124,129
Cahill, Mary	Assistant Superintendent for Instruction & Administration	\$171,105
Niles,	Assistant Superintendent for Finance &	\$171,105

Joan Operations

4.a Non-Aligned, Non-Instructional Personnel Salary Increase

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the agreed upon annual salary for the following Non-aligned, Non-Instructional Personnel of the Smithtown Central School District, effective as of 7/1/07 be approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Epstein, Steven	Coordinator of Budget & Capital Projects	\$84,005

5. Appointment of Co-Curricular Activities Sponsors

WHEREAS, the faculty and administration of the various schools have, in committee, determined what co-curricular activities should be conducted and designated sponsors for each, now therefore, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it

RESOLVED, that the following designated activities be authorized and established for the school year 2007-2008 and be it further

RESOLVED, that the following named individuals be appointed as sponsors of the activities indicated, to be compensated in accordance with Article XX C of the Board/STA contract:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
<u>Nesapeake Middle School</u> Director/Musical Director/ Producer/Set Designer/ Choreographer Sound Technician	Elizabeth DeGennaro Gregory Cipkin	\$6,192.00 500.00
<u>High School West</u> Academic Quiz Bowl	Rosalind Antoniazzi (Addition of Sponsor) Jeffrey Cohn (Change of Compensation)	1,004.66 1,004.66
Thespian Troupe 2035	Michele Siano (Change of Sponsor) Betsy Nixon (Change of Sponsor)	765.46 765.46
Winter Drama Director	Betsy Nixon (Change of Compensation)	765.46
Tri-Music Honor Society	Ian Kanakaris (Second Semester Only)	167.45
Fiddle Club	Ian Kanakaris (Second Semester Only)	167.45

6. Appointment of Home Instruction Tutors

Upon recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools be it RESOLVED, that the following teachers(s) and tutor(s), be appointed as Home Instruction Tutor(s) at the approved rate of \$44.26 per hour, effective for the 2007-2008 school year:

Nanci Hennes

7. Approval of Emergency Conditional Fingerprint Clearance

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following certified employees of the Smithtown Central School District, Smithtown, NY are approved, to work on an emergency conditional basis pending final fingerprint clearance:

Fingerprinting Status
12/11/07

Name

- Noreen Berger (chaperone/cheerleading)
- Carol Cashmore (chaperone/cheerleading)
- Joseph Castiglie
- Stephen Costello, Jr. (coach)
- Shawn DeLuca
- Ira Dressler
- Tara Foglia (coach)
- Christine Gordon
- Edward Jermusyk
- Michael Kaminicki (coach)
- Holly Meek (co-curricular)
- Jeannine Noce (chaperone)
- Annie O'Brien (coach)
- Judith Quagliano
- Michael Shelley
- Meagan Slotnick (coach)
- Jean Wesnofske (co-curricular)

8. Appointment of Substitute Teachers

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the person(s) listed below be appointed as per diem substitutes at the Board approved rates:

1	Anastasia, Diane	Childhood Ed., Grades N-6	A
2	Cheung, Linda	General Science, Grades 7-12	P
2		Biology, Grades 7-12	P
2		Chemistry, Grades 7-12	P
1	Haegele, Suzanne M.	Literacy, Birth-Grade 6	I
1		Childhood Education, Grade 1-6	I
12	Kvam, Sarah	Music, Grades K-12	P
12	LoBiondo, Janet	School Social Worker	A
2	Masi, Craig	Biology, Grades 7-12	P
12	Noke, Theresa	Special Education	A
2	Shin, Matthew	Biology, Grades 7-12	P

A- Permanent Certification – Valid for life unless revoked by SED

B - Provisional Certification – Issued upon employment; valid for 5 years from effective date

B/Renewal – Provisional Renewal – Renewal of Provisional valid for 5 years from effective date

B/Extension – Valid from 6 months to 2 years per certificate

C - Certificate of Qualification – Initial Certificate valid for 5 years from effective date whether

or not employed

CP- Conditional Provisional Certificate – Issued for out of state certified personnel valid for 2 years

*I - Initial Certification – Valid for 5 years

*CI- Conditional Initial – Valid for 2 years – Issued for out of state certified personnel valid for 2 years

*I/Extension – Valid for 1 year

*PRO/Professional Certification – Permanently valid, validity maintained through completion of professional development requirements

P - Pending – Letter from College or BOCES stating all SED requirements are completed

01 - Elementary

02 - Secondary

12 - Elementary/Secondary

9. Notice of Resignation

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the notice of resignation of the following person(s) be accepted as indicated below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective with the Close of Business</u>
Brucculeri, James	Science	HSE	12/25/07

10. Appointment of Volunteers

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the persons listed below be appointed as Volunteers, effective for the 2007-2008 school year:

Tom Cucciniello	High School East Wrestling
Josh Levy	High School East Wrestling

11. Coaching Assignments 2007-2008

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the person(s) listed on the following pages be appointed to coaching position(s) as specified for the 2007-2008 school year, and compensated in accordance with the agreement between the STA and the Smithtown Central School District:

Giugliano	James	Baseball JH	AMS MSSS	Step D-1 \$4,755.74
MarGraf	Kurt	Winter Track Asst.	HSW HSWS	Step C-1 \$5,464.15
Scholz	Joseph	JV2 Baseball (Rescinds previous approval 7/31 for JH Baseball at AMS)	HSW HSSS	Step C-2 \$5,910.00

Budgeted Positions

12. Appointment of Event Chaperones

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the persons listed below be appointed as possible Event Chaperones, effective for the 2006-2007 school year;

Stephen Costello

Weight Room Supervisor High School East

13. Approval of Extension of Administrative Substitute

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following person, who is or will be properly certified, be approved as an Administrative Substitute to provide administrative assistance to the Special Education Department for the Smithtown Central School District as indicated below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assign.</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Gatto, Karen	Administration/ Special Education	\$500 per diem	1/1/08-Further Notice*

*approved on 11/13/07 agenda for 11/1/07-12/31/07

14. Tenure Recommendation – Teachers

WHEREAS, the following teachers as listed on the following pages have thus far successfully completed the probationary period, and WHEREAS, their supervisors have carefully evaluated the performance during the probationary period and recommend that they be appointed on tenure in the respective area, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, they be appointed on tenure on the date indicated, unless otherwise noted, on condition of the successful completion of the remainder of the probationary period, and passing the required physical examination:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Duffy, Colleen	Mathematics	AMS	1/3/08
Miller, Tara	English	HSE	1/6/08

B. CLASSIFIED

1. Appointments

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following are appointed as Civil Service employees of the Smithtown Central School District, Smithtown, NY, as specified below, providing the appointee meet the required qualifications for the job:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE AND LOCATION</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1.	Aprile, Diane	Prob. P/T School Monitor Tackan Elementary	\$12.49/hr.	12/12/07
2.	McGrath, Colin	Temp./Pk. CWI District	\$11.00/hr.	12/12/07
3.	Ries, Theresa	Temp./Pk. School Monitor District	\$10.00/hr.	12/12/07
4.	Sokoloff, Antonia	Temp./Pk. School Monitor District	\$10.00/hr.	12/12/07
5.	Stura, Stanley	Temp./Pk. CWI	\$11.00/hr.	12/12/07

District

2. Change of Status

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the change of status of the following Civil Service employees of the Smithtown Central School District, Smithtown, NY are approved, providing the employee meets the required qualifications:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE AND LOCATION</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1. Campbell, Sheryl	To: Prob. P/T Dup. Machine Operator I Central Administration From: P/T FSW Nesapeake Middle School	\$18.81/hr. 3.5 hrs. da. \$13.68/hr. 4 hrs.da.	12/12/07
2. Daley, Monique	To: Perm. P/T Special Ed. Aide Non Public Parochial From: Prob. P/T Special Ed. Aide Non Public Parochial	\$16.46/hr. 3 hrs. da. \$16.46/hr. 3 hrs. da.	12/20/07
3. D'Amico, Caterina	To: Perm. P/T Special Ed. Aide Accompsett Middle School From: Prob. P/T Special Ed. Aide Accompsett Middle School	\$15.77/hr. 3 hrs. da. \$15.77/hr. 3 hrs. da.	12/20/07
4. Downey, Susan	To: Perm. P/T School Monitor Dogwood Elementary From: Prob. P/T School Monitor Dogwood Elementary	\$12.49/hr. 2 hrs. da. \$12.49/hr. 2 hrs. da.	12/6/07
5. Ferris, Cheryl	To: Perm. P/T Special Ed. Aide Tackan Elementary From: Prob. P/T Special Ed. Aide Tackan Elementary	\$16.46/hr. 3.9 hrs. da. \$16.46/hr. 3.9 hrs. da.	12/20/07
6. Giaimis, Laurie	To: Perm. Clerk Typist Mills Pond Elementary From: Prob. Clerk Typist Mills Pond Elementary	\$23,239.33/yr. 196/6 \$23,239.33/yr. 196/6	12/6/07
7. Grunenberg, Fawn	To: Prob. P/T Account Clerk Middle Schools (AMS,GHMS,NMS) From: Temp./Pk. School Monitor District	\$15.72/hr. 3.5 hrs. da. \$10.00/hr	12/12/07
8. Lopinto, Christina	To: Perm. P/T School Monitor Accompsett Elementary From: Prob. P/T School Monitor Accompsett Elementary	\$12.49/hr. 2 hrs. da. \$12.49/hr. 2 hrs. da.	12/20/07
9. Martucci, Michael	To: Storekeeper (Grade 24) Warehouse From: Storekeeper (Grade 23) Warehouse	\$76,753/yr. 12 months \$73,842/yr. 12 months	12/12/07
10. Scholz, Janet	To: Perm. Off. Applications Specialist Central Administration From: Prob. Off. Applications Special. Central Administration	\$46,937/yr. 11 months \$46,937/yr.	12/7/07

3. Non-Aligned Supervisors Personnel Annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to Base Salary

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that commencing on July 1, 2007 and annually on each July 1st thereafter, a Cost of Living Adjustment shall be granted but in no event shall increases exceed the regional consumer price index increase for the New York, New York – Northeastern New Jersey area, based upon the index of all urban consumers (CPI-U) during the preceding twelve (12) month period (such period beginning January 1st of the previous year and ending December 31st) or 4% which ever is lower.

The Superintendent shall retain the right to deny or decrease the COLA to any managerial employee in the event that such employee performs less than satisfactorily during the preceding school year.

3.a Non-Aligned Supervisors

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the agreed upon annual salaries for each of the following managerial employees of the Smithtown Central School District effective 7/1/07, be approved:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
1.	Mary Augugliaro	Transportation Supervisor	\$94,798/yr.
2.	Regina Dunne	School Lunch Director	\$98,011/yr.
3.	Daniel Fandrey	Management Information Systems Specialist	\$63,655/yr.
4.	Neil Goldman	Purchasing Agent	\$91,261/yr.
5.	Ann Marie Leodis	Senior Accountant	\$84,204/yr.
6.	Peter Mastrangelo	Network & Systems Spec.	\$85,099/yr.
7.	John Nolan	Network & Systems Coor.	\$121,767/yr.
8.	Joseph Piro	Plant Facilities Admin.	\$142,836/yr.

4. Leave of Absence

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the request for an unpaid leave of absence by the following employees of the Smithtown Central School District, Smithtown, NY, be approved providing the employee meets the required qualifications:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE AND LOCATION</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1.	Edwards, Allison	Senior Clerk Typist (11mo.) Central Administration	\$45,721.67/yr.	12/1/07- 12/31/07

Ms. Edwards is requesting an extension to her unpaid leave of absence (8/1/07 to 12/31/07) for personal reasons. She is an employee of the district and leave is recommended by her supervisor.

5. Terminations

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the termination of the following Civil Service Employees of the Smithtown Central School District, Smithtown, NY, be approved as specified below:

NAME	TITLE AND LOCATION	SALARY	DATE
1. Burke, Kaitlin	P/T Special Ed. Aide District-Special Programs	\$18.91/hr.	12/12/07
2. Charles, Annette	P/T Special Ed. Aide District-Special Programs	\$18.91/hr.	12/12/07

6. Emergency Conditional Fingerprint Clearance

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following Civil Service employees of the Smithtown Central School District, Smithtown, NY are approved, to work on an emergency conditional basis pending final fingerprint clearance:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Hire</i>	<i>As of December 11, 2007</i>
Scott, Elizabeth	11/15/06	
Marinello, Jennifer	2/14/07	
Gerien, Catherine	6/13/07	
Harnisch, April	8/22/07	
Foti, Janine	8/29/07	
Colon, Laura	9/12/07	
Aprile, Diane	9/26/07	
DiAgostino, Francesca	9/26/07	
Hettler, Debora	9/26/07	
Kordic, Venka	9/26/07	
Leto, Diane	9/26/07	
Piliere, Rosemarie	9/26/07	
Porciello, Collette	9/26/07	
Zeller, Patricia	9/26/07	
Basuino, Christine	10/10/07	
Barash, Elena	10/10/07	
Corace, Kimberly	10/10/07	
Cozzolino, Vivian	10/10/07	
Cravotta, Elizabeth	10/10/07	
Dhom, Cheryl	10/10/07	
DiVagno, Veronica	10/10/07	
Dombkowski, Jane	10/10/07	
Gruber, Elaine	10/10/07	
Horner, Donna	10/10/07	
Robinson, Eileen	10/10/07	
Schillero, Valerie	10/10/07	
Stewart, Dawn	10/10/07	
Striano, Lisa	10/10/07	
Winter, Janis	10/10/07	
Costidis, Linda	10/24/07	
Figueroa, Christine	10/24/07	
Muller, Maureen	10/24/07	
Murphy, Corinne	10/24/07	
Smith, Barbara	10/24/07	
Tenaglia, Donna	10/24/07	
Geringer, Diane	11/14/07	
Golder, Maria	11/14/07	
Mathusek, Lisa	11/14/07	
O'Hara, Patricia	11/14/07	
Salatas, Irene	11/14/07	
Elster, Lisa	11/28/07	
Henry, Anthony	11/28/07	
Sciortino, Debra	11/28/07	
Triolo, Kathleen	11/28/07	
Zirimis, Diane	11/28/07	

Reis, Theresa
Stura, Stanley

12/12/07
12/12/07