

Regular meeting of the Board of Education of Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen held in the Board Room of the James A. Dever School on Tuesday, March 25, 2008.

<u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>
Trustee Chiachiere Trustee DiSibio Trustee Evans Trustee Greco Jacobs Trustee Stris	Trustee Gorham	Superintendent Lison Asst. Supt. for Business Brosnan Asst. Supt. for Curric. & Instr. Roth Director of Special Services Sells-Asch School District Attorney Frazer* District Clerk Michels Building Principal Capozzoli Building Principal Gruen Building Principal Huplosky Building Principal Zerillo 5 Visitors

Convening

The meeting was convened at 7:02 p.m. by President Stris.

CONVENING

Quorum

Six members being present, a quorum was determined

QUORUM

Executive Session

An Executive Session was held immediately to discuss personnel of a particular person and custodial negotiations on a motion made by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Evans and carried unanimously. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendents were invited to attend. Attorney Frazer arrived at 7:25 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Reconvening

The meeting was reconvened at 8:05 p.m. by President Stris.

RECONVENING

President Stris welcomed all in attendance and pointed out the exits in the Board Room.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Stris requested a moment of silence in remembrance of Diane Huber Thomas, past District Clerk and Superintendent's Secretary of District Thirteen. Mrs. Thomas began her career in Wheeler Avenue School on August 16, 1951 and retired June 1998 after 47 years of dedicated service.

Quorum

Six members being present, a quorum was determined

QUORUM

Approval of the Minutes

Resolution: To approve the minutes of the February 13 and February 26, 2008 meetings.

MINUTES OF 2/13 & 2/26 MEETINGS APPROVED

Moved by Trustee Greco Jacobs, seconded by Trustee DiSibio and carried unanimously.

Correspondence

- A letter was received from BOCES Board President, George Faber, with an attachment of the official response to the Comptroller's Preliminary Draft Findings Report on Nassau BOCES. It details responses to the Executive Summary, Control Environment, Claims Procedures and Claim Processing. The seven-page report is available in the office of the District Clerk for review.
- The Board received a testimony presented at the NYS Commission on Property Tax Relief Public Hearing on 3/5/08 by Mary Jo O'Hagan, Secretary/Treasurer of Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association.
- Two letters were received from United States Senator Charles Schumer (a) regarding Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grant Program and (b) advising that the American Library Assn. is accepting applications for "Picturing America", a new initiative of the Nat'l. Endowment for the Humanities "We the People" program.
- Cathy Subbiondo submitted a letter of resignation read by the Clerk.

CORRESPONDENCE

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Elizabeth Lison

Superintendent Lison reported that the proposed 2008-2009 budget is \$40,427,807 and represents a 5.26% budget-to-budget increase and a 3.99% tax levy increase. This represents the lowest increases in the past six years. This budget allows us to preserve our educational programs and maintain our buildings and grounds. Once the State budget is completed, if we receive additional aide, the amount collected from our taxpayers will decrease accordingly. Howell Road School 1st grade classes were visited by their adoptive Board Member, Trustee Gorham, who read to them and left them with the books she read. The PBIS Committee along with the student council presented street signs for the hallways entitled "Responsible Way", "Respectful Road", "Safety Street", and "Caring Corners". James A. Dever kicked off their Parents As Reading Partners program, and the students in the Gifted & Talented program are working on the Newsday's Kidsday piece with Mr. Rosenfeld and a group of students had the opportunity to interview Dr. Mae Jameson, the first African-American

woman to travel on the Shuttle Endeavor. Willow Road's Fruit Cart kickoff has been a huge success, and the third graders are enjoying video-conferencing and had the opportunity to visit Camden Children's Garden. Wheeler Avenue's 2nd and 3rd graders are also enjoying video-conferencing with the Smithsonian Institute. Matthew Manza, a first grader, was the winner of Reflection in photography and was selected by the NYS judges to represent grade one in the photography category. His photo is in Washington DC waiting for further judging.

Resignation of a Noon Hour Aide

R. AUBEL RESIGNED

To accept the resignation of Roberta Aubel as a Noon Hour Aide at Howell Road School effective February 29, 2008.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

Resignation of a Noon Hour Aide

A. ENG RESIGNED

To accept the resignation of Alison Eng as a Noon Hour Aide at Willow Road School effective March 3, 2008.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Evans and carried unanimously.

Employment of a Noon Hour Aide

S. LATIF EMPLOYED AS A NHA AT WILLOW

To employ Saima Latif as a Noon Hour Aide at Willow Road School effective March 3, 2008 on Step 1 (\$10.10 per hour).

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

Emergency Conditional Employment of a Noon Hour Aide*

M. MCKINLEY EMPLOYED AS A NHA AT HOWELL

To conditionally employ Marianne McKinley as a Noon Hour Aide at Howell Road School effective March 12, 2008 on Step 1 (\$10.10 per hour).

Moved by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Evans and carried unanimously.

Substitute Noon Hour/Classroom Aides*

J. MASON & C. SHELTON ADDED AS SUB NHA/CRA

To conditionally approve the addition of Janet Mason and Catherine Shelton as Substitute Noon Hour/Classroom Aides.

**Awaiting fingerprint clearance*

Moved by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Evans and carried unanimously. Trustee Chiachiere was asked how long fingerprint clearance will take – The Attorney responded, approximately two to four months.

Committee Reports

EDUCATION [F. Chiachiere, D. Evans]

Education Report: Professional Development

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Linda Roth, gave a presentation on Professional Development and explained how it encourages teachers to stay focused on the needs of their students as well as increasing their knowledge.

Resignation of a Special Education Teacher

L. SAVIANO RESIGNED

To accept the resignation of Linda Saviano, Special Education Teacher at Willow Road School, effective June 27, 2008.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

GATE Advancement

L. SMALDON GATE ADVANCEMENT

To approve the recommendation of the Superintendent for the GATE Advancement, according to the Board/VSTA contract, for Lisa Smaldon from Step 14 to Step 15 effective June 16, 2008.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Evans and carried unanimously.

Substitute Teacher List

SUBSTITUTE LIST APPROVED

To approve the Substitute Teacher List for the 2007-2008 school year.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

BUSINESS [J. DiSibio]

Treasurer's Report

TREASURER'S REPORT ACCEPTED

To accept the Treasurer's Report for the month ending February 29, 2008.

Moved by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Chiachiere and carried unanimously.

Fiber Optic Connection Agreement

FIBER OPTIC AGREEMENT

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen hereby approves the Agreement between the District and Nassau BOCES for the design, construction and installation of a fiber-based private network connection and other services in order to participate in the NYSED Plan and Administrative Technology Projects ("Agreement"), and authorizes the Board President to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board has determined that the District's use of the equipment and services, which are the subject of said Agreement, are essential to the District's proper, efficient and economic operation of the education program to be supported by the equipment and services, and is necessary to maintain its educational program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that based on the foregoing, the Board has determined that the costs and expenses incurred in connection with said Agreement are ordinary contingent expenses of the District and that such expenditure is in the best financial interest of the District."

Moved by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

POLICY COMMITTEE [B. Gorham, J. Greco Jacobs]
No report this month

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE [Vice President D. Evans]

Committee on Special Education Reviews

CSE REVIEWS

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Special Education Reviews dated 2/8, 2/11, 2/12, 2/13, 2/15, 2/22, 2/25, 2/26UCP, 2/26D, 2/27H, 2/27Wi, 2/28, 3/3, and 3/10/08.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee DiSibio and carried unanimously.

Committee on Pre-School Special Education Reviews

CPSE REVIEWS

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Pre-School Special Education Reviews dated 2/15 and 2/28/08.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

Impartial Hearing Officer

C. WETTERER REMOVED AS AN IMPARTIAL HEARING OFFICER

To remove Charles Wetterer from the Impartial Hearing Officer list.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

2008 –2009 Proposed Budget (Proposition #1)

PROPOSITION NO. 1 PROPOSED BUDGET APPROVED

That the Board of Education adopt the 2008-2009 Proposed Budget in the amount of \$40,427,807 and that the budget be presented to the voters in our District; and that the District Clerk be directed to place this budget, in the above amount, on the ballot in accordance with previous instructions.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee DiSibio and carried unanimously.

2008-2009 Transportation (Proposition #2)

PROPOSITION NO. 2 TRANSP. APPROVED

That the District Clerk be directed to place Proposition #2, Transportation, on the ballot. To extend its public school transportation eligibility policy for Grade K-3 pupils from the existing half-mile limit to include Grade K-6 pupils in such half-mile limit, to be effective at the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year, thereby increasing the budget contained in Proposition No. 1 by \$267,000.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee DiSibio and carried unanimously. President Stris advised that Proposition #2 is being included on the ballot at the request of the taxpayers.

2008-2009 Proposed Budget for Central High School District (Propositions # 3 and # 4)

VSCHSD PROPOSITIONS NOS. 3 AND 4 APPROVED

That the District Clerk be directed to place the following Propositions on the ballot: Proposition #3, the Central High School District Budget in the amount of \$96,514,147; Proposition #4 for the Central High School Capital Reserve Fund to expend a maximum amount of \$1,600,000.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

Acceptance of a Gift

ACCEPTANCE OF A GIFT

To accept a gift of a Robotics Kit and Accessories from Vex Robotics – Innovation First, Inc., with a \$500 value, for use by the students in the District.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

Report of the Attorney
Florence Frazer

A report was presented on FERPA, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Chiachiere participates in the Intergenerational Reading at Willow Road School, and he learned that District Thirteen has two students, a first grader and a sixth grader at Willow Road School, who won an award for the best story of the month. Their story can be read at www.Sillystories.net.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Brosnan reported on the progress of the solar panel installation at Wheeler Avenue School.

President Stris announced new committee appointments as a result of the resignation of Cathy Subbiondo. Trustee DiSibio will chair the Business Committee with Trustee Gorham; Trustee Gorham will chair Custodial Negotiations with Trustee Chiachiere.

PTA will coordinate a "Meet the Candidates" sometime the end of April.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Evans and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Reconvening

The meeting was reconvened by President Stris at 9:05 p.m. and a quorum was present.

RECONVENING

Calendar 2008-2009 School Year

To approve the Calendar for the 2008-2009 school year.

2008-2009 SCHOOL
CALENDAR APPROVED

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee DiSibio and carried unanimously.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Denise Michels
District Clerk