

Regular meeting of the Board of Education of Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen held in the Auditorium of the James A. Dever School on Tuesday, October 22, 2013.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Trustee Chiachiere
Trustee DiSibio
Trustee Douglas
Trustee Evans
Trustee Greco Jacobs
Trustee Pomerantz
Trustee Stris

OTHERS PRESENT

Superintendent Robb-Fund
Asst. Supt. for Business Brosnan
Asst. Supt. for Special Services Sells-Asch
Coordinator of Curric. & Assessment Schozer
Principal Gruen
Principal Steele
Principal Capozzoli
School District Attorney Frazer and Perna
District Clerk Michels

Approximately 35 Visitors

Convening

The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m. by President Douglas.

CONVENING

Quorum

Seven members being present, a quorum was determined.

QUORUM

Executive Session

An Executive Session was held immediately to discuss the Internal Audit Report and personnel of a particular person on a motion made by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee DiSibio and carried unanimously. The Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendents, and the Internal Auditor, Mr. Clark were invited to attend. The Attorneys arrived at 7:10 p.m. and the auditor left at 7:20 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Reconvening

The meeting was reconvened at 8:10 p.m. by President Douglas.

RECONVENING

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

Quorum

Seven members being present, a quorum was determined.

QUORUM

Approval of the Minutes

To approve the Minutes of the September 24, October 2, and October 15, 2013 meetings.

MINUTES OF 9/24, 10/2 & 10/15 MEETINGS

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

Correspondence

The Board received the following correspondence:

CORRESPONDENCE

- Frazer & Feldman – Healthcare Reform – Exchange Notice
- Guercio & Guercio – Affordable Care Act- Employee Application for coverage in the Marketplace
- Acknowledgement Card from Nancy Semos for a sympathy card sent.
- Thank you card from Anthony Iadevaio, VS #24 Trustee

With the Boards approval, the Internal Auditor, Chip Clark from D’Arcangelo, LLP, presented the Audit Report for the year ending June 30, 2013. Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen was given a “clean” audit which is the highest level of assurance.

Trustee Chiachiere thanked Assistant Superintendent Brosnan and the Business Office staff.

Report of the Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Adrienne Robb-Fund

Teachers continue to implement the Common Core Modules developed for the NYS schools. Students continue to read, write and apply their strategies in both fiction and non-fiction text. While visiting a fifth grade classroom the superintendent was able to watch students apply these skills during a lesson. Students continue to learn about the aspects of social emotional learning through programs such as PBIS, Fill a Bucket, and Caught being Good. Results of the NWEA testing, as well as math and reading assessments, will be mailed home next week. NYS Board of Regents announced that NYS will not participate in the National PARCC Assessments scheduled to begin during the 2014-2015 school year. The word of the month is “Courage” and the learning strategy is “Making Connections.” All community members are invited to attend Educational Planning on Saturday, November 16 at 8 AM in the Board Room as we begin the budget process.

October is Board Recognition Month. Board Members are volunteers who meet at least twice a month to set policy for the district, and they attend community events and conferences. Ms. Capozzoli and Dr. Steele introduced students Kayla Schimmenti, Grade 5 at Willow Road School and Arianna Picillo, Grade 6 at Wheeler Avenue School. The poem, “Box of Crayons” was read to the Board, and they presented each Board Member with tokens of appreciation.

Resignation of a Noon Hour Aide

To accept the resignation of Tara Casucci as a Noon Hour Aide at James A. Dever School effective October 11, 2013.

T. CASUCCI RESIGNED AS A NHA

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

Resignation of a Classroom Aide

To accept the resignation of Jean Giuliante as a Classroom Aide at Howell Road School effective November 1, 2013.

J. GIULIANTE RESIGNED AS A CRA

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

Employment of a Noon Hour Aide

To employ Susan Parisi as a Noon Hour Aide assigned to James A. Dever School on Step 1 (\$10.10 per hour) effective October 23, 2013 and unless sooner terminated.

S. PARISI EMPLOYED AS A NHA

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

Step Advancements – Classroom Aides

To approve the Step Advancements from Step 5 to Step 6 effective September 1, 2013 for the following Classroom Aides:

STEP ADVANCEMENTS
D. MCDOUGAL
E. MCMAHON

Debora McDougal Willow Road School
Elizabeth McMahan James A. Dever School

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

Substitute Classroom/Noon Hour Aide

To add the following as Substitute Classroom/Noon Hour Aide:
Diane Gonzalez

D. GONZALEZ ADDED AS A SUB NHA/CRA

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

Committee Reports

EDUCATION [F. Chiachiere, T. Pomerantz]

Education Reports

Ray Mohammed presented the Mini Grants for Debora Kalb, Interschool PTA President, who was unable to attend. Grants were awarded to the following teachers in recognition of the Board of Education:

Lauren Sposito and Mairead Dorry, Willow Road School – Poetry Club
Richard Rosenfeld, Wheeler Avenue School – Advanced Strategy
Karen Martorana, Howell Road School – Bailey 16 Mini-Might table top roller
Janis Boremski, James A. Dever School – Paper Making

President Douglas recognized former Board Member Harris Dinkoff who served for 33 years, and Dr. Thomas Lee, a former superintendent for 18 years. He thanked them for their past service and for attending the meeting.

Assemblywoman Solages recognized two students who won an essay contest she sponsored on Black History Month. Zachary Ranftle, a fifth grade student at Howell Road School, wrote an essay about Dr. Martin Luther King; and Thomas Colgan, a fourth grade student at Wheeler Avenue School, wrote an essay about Louis Armstrong.

Trustee Chiachiere commended the students and stated, “This is the upside of the Common Core. The state is raising the bar for students, teachers, and parents.”

Tenure Recommendation – School Social Worker

After reviewing the recommendation of the Building Principal, and conducting classroom lesson observation and portfolio review, the Superintendent recommends Edelma Yashmira Devine, School Social Worker assigned to James A. Dever and Howell Road Schools, be granted tenure effective January 15, 2014.

E. Y. DEVINE GRANTED TENURE

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

At 8:50 p.m. there was a five-minute recess.

Resignation of a Part-time ESL Teacher

To accept the resignation of Jennifer Glatzer, part-time (.5) ESL Teacher at Willow Road School effective November 13, 2013.

J. GLATZER RESIGNED AS A PT ESL TEACHER

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

Resignation of a Noon Hour Supervisor

To accept the resignation of Kristina DePalma as the Noon Hour Supervisor at James A. Dever School effective October 17, 2013.

K. DEPALMA RESIGNED AS A NH SUPERVISOR

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

Substitute Teacher List

To approve the Substitute Teacher List for the 2013-2014 school year.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST UPDATED AND APPROVED

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

Employment of a Technology Teacher

To employ Melissa O’Geary as a classroom teacher for Technology on three years’ probation effective November 6, 2013 and unless sooner terminated, on Step 1 BA+30 (\$62,578) in accordance with the VSTA/Board Contract in effect on the date of employment.

M. O’GEARY EMPLOYED AS A CLASSROOM TEACHER FOR TECHNOLOGY

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

BUSINESS COMMITTEE [J. DiSibio, D. Evans]

Treasurer’s Report

To accept the Treasurer’s Report for the period ending September 30, 2013.

TREASURER’S REPORT ACCEPTED

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

Independent Audit Report

To accept the Independent Audit Report for the year ending June 30, 2013 provided by D’Arcangelo & Company, LLP.

INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT ACCEPTED

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

Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement

To accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement for Violette Maurice, Cleaner at Howell Road School, effective December 31, 2013.

V. MAURICE RESIGNED AS A CLEANER

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

Budget Transfer

To approve the following transfers effective October 23, 2013:

BUDGET TRANSFERS APPROVED

From:

A5540.401.01 Cont. Buses-In-District, Public	\$12,000.00
A5540.405.01 Cont. Buses-Other BOCES	\$39,000.00
A9760.700.01 TAN-Interest	\$24,500.00
A1980.400.01 Refund of Taxes	\$20,987.00

To:

A5540.403.01 Cont. Buses-Other Non-Public	\$21,000.00
A5540.404.01 Cont. Buses-Special Education	\$65,000.00
A2110.473.01 Payments to Charter Schools	\$10,487.00

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

POLICY COMMITTEE [W. Stris, J. Greco Jacobs]

On October 16 the Committee met to discuss four policies sent from New York State School Boards:

- 4321 Programs for Students with Disabilities
- 5153 Student Assignment to Schools and Classes
- 9420 Evaluation of Staff
- 9420.1 Building Principal and Classroom Teacher Evaluation

The Committee will:

- develop and discuss a new Policy Index
- update policies not on the website

The next Policy Committee meeting is on December 11 at 5 p.m. in the Superintendent’s Office and everyone is invited to attend.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE [Vice President D. Evans]

Committee on Special Education Reviews

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Special Education Reviews dated 9/30H, 9/30Wh, 10/2, 10/7, and 10/9/13.

CSE REVIEWS ADOPTED

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

Committee on Pre-school Special Education Review

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Pre-school Education Review dated 9/20/13.

CSPE REVIEWS ADOPTED

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

Response to Intervention Plan

RtI PLAN APPROVED

To approve the Response to Intervention (RtI) Plan for the 2013-2014 school year.

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

Special Education Services Contracts

SPECIAL SERVICES
CONTRACTS APPROVED

To approve the following Special Education Services Contracts for the 2013-2014 school year:

- Corinthian Therapy Management Services
- Hagedorn Little Village School
- Metro Therapy
- North Bellmore UFSD
- NY Therapy

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

Approval of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen Board of Education Goals

VSUFSD #13 BOARD GOALS
APPROVED

To approve the Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen Board of Education Goals for the period 2013-2018:

Goal #1: To increase the extent to which the faculty and staff of the school district are ethnically, linguistically and, in gender, more representative of the student population with whom they work;

Goal #2: To develop a Five-Year Fiscal Plan for the district, updated annually, which identifies anticipated revenues and planned expenditures for staff, facility upkeep, and curricular material purchases;

Goal #3: To enhance staff and public understanding of, and support for, the goals and work of the school district;

Goal #4: To bifurcate the annual development of a Five-Year Facility Plan to bring greater focus to the day-to-day needed maintenance of the facilities, as contrasted with the longer-term, higher cost major maintenance work;

Goal #5: To enhance the effectiveness with which instructional and administrative technology is used within the District;

Goal #6: To ensure that the goals of the instructional program of District #13 not only meet but exceed the standards of the developing Common Core Curriculum of New York State.

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

On the Question: President Douglas advised that the Board of Education and the Superintendent met for several hours on Saturday October 5 to establish short term and long term goals.

Acceptance of a Donation

TARGET DONATION ACCEPTED

To accept a donation from Target from their "Take Charge of Education" Program for the James A. Dever School in the amount of \$189.82 to purchase general school supplies.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Stris with thanks, and carried unanimously.

Acceptance of a Donation

DONATION FROM P. BARNICK
AS THE RECIPIENT OF THE NYS
ENGLISH COUNCIL GRANT

To accept a donation from Paula Barnick, as the recipient of the NYS English Council Grant, to purchase materials for Howell Road Schools' Hispanic Heritage Month.

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

Special Education Contract

To approve a contract between Achieve Beyond and Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen Board of Education for special education evaluations for the 2013-2014 school year.

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

High School Report

Joseph DiSibio

The board meeting was held on October 8, 2013. Students were recognized for their academic achievements. The semi-finalist for the National Merit Scholarship was Ritwik Bhatia from North High School. Samara Ford was recognized as a National Merit Scholarship Commended Scholar, as well as a semi-finalist for the National Achievement Scholarship. The district recognized a record 286 students for their achievements on the Advanced Placement Exams, which is a 70% increase since 2008. Michael Sanky, a North High School student was recognized as a National AP Scholar. South High School was recognized and designated by the State Education Department as a Reward School for the 2013-2014 school year. This classifies South among the highest achieving schools in New York based on high student performance on state assessments and overall academic progress with no significant gaps in student achievement.

Report of the Attorney

1. The Committee on Special Education had no obligation to discuss private placements for a student under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The CSE reached the decision that there were less restrictive public placements that were appropriate for the student.
2. A parent disagreed with the Impartial Hearing Officer's decision, and since her counsel never personally served the district, the State Review Officer rejected the petition.

Visitors

Ms. Hawkins requested that the district look into mailing calendars home to the community.

Ms. Maribel spoke about school security. Superintendent Robb-Fund advised that both Intralogs and BOCES held security checks and our buildings were found to be secure.

Executive Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:15 p.m. Trustee Stris made a motion for Executive Session to discuss the Evaluation of the Superintendent, seconded by Trustee DiSibio and carried unanimously. The attorneys were invited to attend.

The attorneys left the meeting at 10:15 p.m.

Reconvening

RECONVENING

The meeting was reconvened at 10:50 p.m. by President Douglas.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m. on a motion made by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Pomerantz and carried unanimously.

Denise Michels

Denise Michels
District Clerk