

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, December 17, 2013.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Trustee Chiachiere
Trustee Douglas
Trustee Evans
Trustee DiSibio
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 Capozzoli
Principal Gruen
Principal Huplosky
Principal Steele
School District Attorneys Frazer and Perna
District Clerk Michels

Approximately 12 Visitors

Convening

The meeting was convened at 7:01 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 personnel history of a particular person on a motion made by Stris, seconded by Trustee DiSibio and carried unanimously. The Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendents, and the attorneys were invited to attend.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:35 p.m. the Assistant Superintendents left Executive Session.

Reconvening

The meeting was reconvened at 8:05 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 November 26, December 7, and December 9, 2013 meetings.

MINUTES OF 11/26, 12/7, AND 12/9/13 MEETINGS APPROVED

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

Correspondence

Frazer & Feldman

- Summary of Remarks – Student Data Collection

Guercio & Guercio

- Districts’ Boycott of State Assessments
- Change to Municipal Law Re: Best Value Contracts
- Senate Report on the Regents Reform Agenda & New Legislative Reports

Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Notice of 2014-2015 Annual Dues

CORRESPONDENCE

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Adrienne Robb-Fund

Superintendent Robb-Fund reported that the students performed at the Malverne and Valley Stream tree lighting ceremonies, the Franklin Square Senior Center, and Franklin General Hospital. Students also performed at District holiday concerts held at each building. American Sign Language students from VS Central HS District performed for our students. They incorporated sign language into the concert. District 13 Students participated in Toys for Tots and donated coats, mittens and food for the needy. Students collected money and items to send to the Philippines for those stricken by the typhoon.

Employment of a Classroom Aide

To employ Dulfay Quintero as a Classroom Aide assigned to Willow Road School on Step 1 (\$16,498) effective December 18, 2013 and unless sooner terminated.

D. QUINTERO EMPLOYED AS A CLASSROOM AIDE

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

Resignation of a Noon Hour Aide

To accept the resignation of Rose-Hardy Cajuste as a Noon Hour Aide at Wheeler Avenue School effective December 6, 2013.

R. HARDY CAJUSTE RESIGNED AS A NOON HOUR AIDE

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

Employment of a Noon Hour Aide

To employ Laleta Muneshwar as a Noon Hour Aide assigned to Wheeler Avenue School on Step 1 (\$10.10 per hour) effective December 18, 2013 and unless sooner terminated.

L. MUNESHWAR EMPLOYED AS
A CLASSROOM AIDE

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

Committee Reports

EDUCATION [F. Chiachiere, T. Pomerantz]

The Education Committee met on December 2 and discussed assessment results, curriculum maps, and parent outreach. They discussed homework regulations, handwriting policies, ELA and Math Modules. The topic of the Scripp's Spelling Bee was discussed. The Superintendent explained that this will begin in January under the guidance of Mr. Richard Rosenfeld with the children in the Gifted and Talented Program (approximately 50 children) throughout the District. They explained the Long Island Consortium for Equity and Excellence (LICEE) which is a partnership established with the University of Pennsylvania to collaborate with school districts throughout Nassau and Western Suffolk Counties.

Education Report: Process for Board Policy Procedures and Review

Superintendent Robb-Fund gave a PowerPoint presentation showing the steps that are taken before a policy is adopted or re-adopted. The Superintendent reported that the Policy Committee is reviewing the entire Policy Manual section-by-section, and the on-line policies are being cross referenced with the Manual.

Salary Gates

To approve the recommendation of the Superintendent for gate increases effective February 1, 2014 according to the Board/VSTA contract:

GATE ADVANCEMENTS
APPROVED

<u>Step 9 to Step 10</u>	<u>Step 14 to Step 15</u>	<u>Step 19 to Step 20</u>
Alyssa Ventura (JAD)	Joanne Mannion (JAD) Elizabeth Sweeny (HRS)	Peter Schwasnick (JAD)

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

Credit for Advanced Study

To approve the credit for advanced study for Lauren Sposito, from 3MA+45 to 3MA+60 effective February 1, 2014 in accordance with the VSTA/Board Agreement.

CREDIT FOR ADVANCED
STUDY APPROVED

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

Establish the Salary for the Assistant Superintendent for Business

To establish the salary for Meredith Brosnan, Assistant Superintendent for Business for the 2013-2014 school year at \$181,963.

SALARY ESTABLISHED FOR
M. BROSANAN 2013-2014

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere and seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs.

A "no" vote being heard, the clerk polled the Board:

Trustee Stris	No	Trustee DiSibio	Yes
Trustee Chiachiere	Yes	Trustee Pomerantz	Yes
Trustee Greco Jacobs	Yes	Trustee Douglas	Yes
Trustee Evans	Yes		

The vote being 6 Yes and 1 No, the motion carries.

In accordance with Policy 2360 Trustee Stris has submitted the following statement:

"I reluctantly vote no due to the fact that I feel management should not have the right to purchase five days. See my statement in the July 5, 2001 Minutes."

Establish the Salary for the Assistant Superintendent for Special Services

To establish the salary for Lisa Sells-Asch, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services for the 2013-2014 school year at \$172,903.

SALARY ESTABLISHED FOR
L. SELLS-ASCH 2013-2014

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere and seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs.

A "no" vote being heard, the clerk polled the Board:

Trustee Stris	No	Trustee DiSibio	Yes
Trustee Chiachiere	Yes	Trustee Pomerantz	Yes
Trustee Greco Jacobs	Yes	Trustee Douglas	Yes
Trustee Evans	Yes		

The vote being 6 Yes and 1 No, the motion carries.

In accordance with Policy 2360 Trustee Stris has submitted the following statement:

"I reluctantly vote no due to the fact that I feel management should not have the right to purchase five days. See my statement in the July 5, 2011 Minutes."

Substitute Teacher List

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

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LISTED
UPDATED AND APPROVED

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

BUSINESS COMMITTEE [J. DiSibio, D. Evans]

The Business Committee met with Assistant Superintendent for Business Brosnan on December 2. They discussed a five-year projection and financial plan.

Treasurer’s Report

No Treasurer’s Report this month.

NO TREASURER’S REPORT
THIS MONTH

Energy Performance Contract Asbestos Abatement ENERGY PERFORMANCE

WHEREAS, an inspection of the District’s school buildings and facilities has revealed the need for additional asbestos abatement in connection with the District’s ongoing energy performance project; and

CONTRACT ASBESTOS
ABATEMENT

WHEREAS, based on the recommendation of the District’s architect and the Assistant Superintendent for Business, the additional asbestos abatement work (“Project”) is an essential prerequisite for undertaking and completing the energy performance project; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District #13 as follows:

The Board of Education hereby declares that the Project is an emergency project essential for the protection of the health and safety of students and staff, and for the protection and preservation of the District’s property, and that the Project constitutes an ordinary contingent expense under NYS Education Law.

The estimated cost of the Project is \$27,706. The Board authorizes the transfer in an amount not to exceed \$27,706 from its existing Capital Fund, which are not required for any other purpose, to pay for the cost of the Project.

The Superintendent of Schools and all officers and employees of the District are hereby authorized and directed to take all steps reasonably necessary or appropriate to carry out the Project in accordance with this resolution, and the Board President is hereby authorized to execute any and all contracts for public work or the purchase of supplies, material or equipment in connection therewith.

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

Budget Transfer

To approve the following budget transfer effective December 18, 2013:

BUDGET TRANSFER

From:

A2250.490.01 Special Ed Tuition-BOCES \$70,000

To:

A2250.470.01 Special Ed Tuition \$70,000

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

Establish the Salary for the Supervisor of Buildings and Operations

To establish the salary for James Daly, Supervisor of Buildings and Operations for the 2013-2014 school year at \$92,720.25 plus a \$1,000 performance bonus.

SALARY ESTABLISHED FOR
J. DALY

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

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

The Policy Committee met on December 11 and reviewed the following policies:

- 4321 Programs for Students with Disabilities
- 9420 NYSSBA Policy on Evaluation of Staff – covered under our policy #0330
- 9420.1 NYSSBA Policy on Building Principal and Classroom Teacher Evaluation

Other District policies were discussed and will be updated and re-adopted at a future Board Meeting.

Policies for 1st Reading

- 1710 Relations with Education Research Agencies
- 1741 Home Instruction

POLICIES FOR 1ST READING

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE [Vice President D. Evans]

Committee on Special Education Reviews

CSE REVIEWS ADOPTED

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Special Education Reviews dated 11/26, 12/3, 12/4D, and 12/4/13Wh.

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

Committee on Pre-school Special Education Review

CPSE REVIEWS ADOPTED

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Pre-school Education Review dated 11/27/13.

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

Impartial Hearing Officers

J. PASSMAN & T. WASSER
ADDED AS IMPARTIAL
HEARING OFFICERS

To add Julie Passman and Tina Wasser to the Impartial Hearing Officers Rotational List.

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

High School Report
Joseph DiSibio

The High School Board met on December 10. The Board recognized fourteen students for their athletic accomplishments in football, soccer, track, tennis, and volleyball. Dr. Tracy Nekulak gave an update on the Residency Committee Meeting held on November 25. She noted that the number of non-resident students attending our schools has declined dramatically since the Residency Advisory Committee was established. This is a result of the strict guidelines for proving residency as well as training school staff. Maureen Henry gave an update on the Wellness Committee’s efforts to educate the community on the dangers of prescription drug and alcohol abuse. The high school building tour is scheduled for January 11, 2014.

Report of the Attorney
Florence Frazer

Attorney Frazer reported on a case whereby a parent notified the school district that their child would be in school on the day the assessments were given, but the child was not going to take the tests. The student was charged with insubordination for refusing to take the test, and the student was not allowed to participate in after-school activities that day. There is no law or regulation permitting students to opt-out of any state or local assessment. Under the No Child Left Behind Act, students must be given annual state assessments in math, ELA, and science.

New Business

President Douglas reported that of the 28 charges given to the Board of Education Committees at the Reorganization Meeting, ten have been completed by the Education, Business, and Policy Committees at this juncture. Three additional charges have been added, one for the Education Committee and two for the Business Committee. These charges are in alignment with the goals established at the October meeting and are listed below:

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.

The Board will meet with a consultant, Dr. Charles Fowler, to create a Strategic Plan for the District to cover the next five years. President Douglas thanked the Board, the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendents, the parents, and the teaching staff for all of the work they do on behalf of our students.

Visitors

Carol Hawkins, former Valley Stream Employee, questioned the salaries established and approved at this meeting.

Executive Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:10 p.m. Trustee Stris made a motion for an Executive Session for the purpose of personnel history of a particular person and legal matters, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously. The Superintendent and the Attorneys were invited to attend.

The Superintendent left the Executive Session at 10:15 p.m.
The Attorneys left the Executive Session at 10:30 p.m.

Reconvening

At 11:06 p.m. the meeting was reconvened by President Douglas.

Adjournment

At 11:06 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Stris, seconded by Trustee Chiachiere and carried unanimously.

RECONVENING

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Michels

Denise Michels
District Clerk