

AGENDA - REGULAR MEETING

DATE: Thursday, December 14, 2006

TIME: 7:15PM – Public Session
Executive Session
8:00PM - Public Session

PLACE: Administration Building
200 North Broadway
Sleepy Hollow, NY

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLVED: That the Board goes into executive session to discuss recommendations from the Committee on Special Education, Committee on Preschool Special Education, particular personnel matters and matters related to negotiations.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____ TIME _____

3. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

RESOLVED: That the Board returns to public session.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____ TIME _____

4. SILENT MEDITATION

5. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

6. CALL OF THE ROLL

7. COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC

8. CITIZENS' COMMENTS (four minutes)

9. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, having received copies of the minutes of the regular meeting of November 16, 2006, approves as amended.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

10. BOARD MATTERS

11. EDUCATIONAL/SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

1. Superintendent's Report
2. Turf Feasibility Report
3. Sleepy Hollow and Washington Irving School Construction Project Update
4. Board Resolutions

12. CITIZENS' COMMENTS (four minutes)

13. BOARD ACTION

A. Staff Personnel

CONSENT AGENDA – The use of a Consent Agenda permits the Board of Education to make more effective use of its time by adopting a single motion to cover those relatively routine matters which are included. Any member of the Board who wishes to discuss individually a particular piece of business on the consent agenda may so indicate and that item will be transferred to the Regular Agenda for consideration and a separate vote, thus preserving the right of all Board Members to be heard on any issue.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following Personnel Motions, as listed:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

1. RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following probationary staff members to tenure:

- a. Jean O'Brien Tenure Area: Elementary
 Certification: N-6
 Effective: December 8, 2006
- b. Deborah McCarl Tenure Area: Biology
 Certification: Biology 7-12
 Effective: January 5, 2007

In accordance with Policy #9020, be it

2. RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following to the After School Program for the 2006/2007 school year (21st Century Grant funded):

Tappan Hill School		
Melissa Yanch	Sub. Teaching Assistant	\$25 per hour
John Paulding School		
Melissa Yanch	Sub. Teaching Assistant	\$25 per hour

W.L. Morse School
Melissa Yanch Sub. Teaching Assistant \$25 per hour

Washington Irving
Luz Cruz Teacher \$35 per hour
Melissa Yanch Sub. Teaching Assistant \$25 per hour

Sleepy Hollow Middle School
Jeanne Marie Healy Teacher \$35 per hour

Sleepy Hollow High School
Stephen Armstrong Teacher \$35 per hour

3. RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following to stipend positions for the 2006/2007 school year:

Teacher Mentor Alice Sharkey \$756 (prorated amount)

Washington Irving School
Intramural (Swimming) Clare Carr \$2,255

Sleepy Hollow High School
Intramural (Weight Training) Joseph Bruno \$2,255

4. RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following instructional/non-instructional substitute staff for the 2006/2007 school year:

a.	Melissa Yanch	Teacher	\$80 per diem
b.	Seham Zidan	Teacher	\$80 per diem
c.	Angie Garcia-Guerra	Teacher	\$80.00 per diem
d.	Melissa Yanch	Teaching Assistant	\$13.00 per hour
e.	Katrina Chulla	Teaching Assistant	\$13.00 per hour
f.	Angie Garcia-Guerra	Long Term Sub. Teacher	\$150 per diem (1 st 30 working days) \$250 per diem (after 30 working days)
g.	Samantha Lucas	Clerical	\$13.27 per hour
h.	Dana Rodriguez	Bus Driver	\$18.36 per hour

5. RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following instructional/non-instructional staff for the 2006/2007 school year:

a. James Quinn, English Teacher – SHHS, effective January 8, 2007 through February 28, 2007, at a salary of DR, Step 15 + 23 credits.

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- 6. RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education is authorized to offer an early notification incentive of \$3,000 for certified teachers and \$2,000 for all other personnel who submit a letter of resignation for purposes of retirement on or before January 26, 2007, with an effective date no later than August 31, 2007.

B. Student Personnel

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following Student Personnel Motion, as listed:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

- 1. RESOLVED: That the Board of Education accepts the recommendations from the Committee on Special Education (CSE) at its November 8, 20, 29, 2006 meetings, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) at its November 3, 2006 meeting, as attached (Appendix #).

C. Finance and Facilities

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following Finance and Facilities Motions, as listed:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

- 1. RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the issuance of serial bonds in the amount of \$69,933.80 for tax certiorari judgments pursuant to the Consent Judgment of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Westchester, dated October 13, 2006, in the Matter of the Application of Nicholas A. Bruno., v. Assessor for the Town of Greenburgh, Board of Assessment Review for the Town of Greenburgh, and the Town of Greenburgh and In the Matter of the Application of Bruno’s Realty Management and/or Nicholas A. Bruno v. Assessor for the Town of Greenburgh, the Board of Assessment Review for the Town of Greenburgh, and the Town of Greenburgh (Index Nos. 15710/03, 15476/04 and 16076/05), in the amount of \$69,933.80; as per the attached detailed resolution (Appendix #), as recommended and approved by our bonding attorney Hawkins, Delafield & Wood.
- 2. RESOLVED: That, the Board of Education authorizes the District to sell 1400 shares of The Hanover Group (formerly All American Financial Corporation) acquired at no cost by the District upon the conversion of our dental insurance company from a mutual life insurance company to a stockholder owned company.
- 3. RESOLVED: That the Board of Education hereby approves the addition of the Gay-Straight Alliance Club to the Sleepy Hollow High School Extra-Classroom Club Accounts.
- 4. RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Accume Partners, 80 Broad Street, 34th Floor, New York, New York 10004, as internal auditor at a fee of \$13,750.00 for completing the risk assessment and developing the audit plan, and \$110.00 per hour for conducting approved internal audits.

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D. General

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following General Motions, as listed:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

1. RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the merger of the Sleepy Hollow, Edgemont and Irvington High Schools Girls' Swimming Team for the 2007-2008 school year and authorizes the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools to sign the appropriate Section One merger form.
2. RESOLVED: That the Board of Education is authorized and empowered to execute an agreement with Adelia DaSilva, Bilingual Speech Therapist, at a rate of \$800.00 per evaluation, not to exceed \$1,600, for the 2006/07 school year.
3. RESOLVED: That the Board of Education adopts "Position Paper on the Changes to NCLB Policy and English Language Testing for English Language Learners/Limited English Proficient Students."

WHEREAS, threatened by the loss of federal dollars in administrative aid, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) announced in August 2006 that New York's English Language Learners (ELL)/Limited English Proficient (LEP) children who are beyond their first year of enrollment in United States schools must complete the regular Elementary and Intermediate/Middle Level (grades 3-8) English Language Arts Assessments taken by children who have grown up speaking, listening, reading, and writing English as their first language; and

WHEREAS, these same children will be completing the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) in the spring to determine English language proficiency thereby experiencing double testing in English; and

WHEREAS, the research on second language acquisition demonstrates that five to seven years of experience in English as a second language are needed to compete effectively with native English language speakers; and

WHEREAS, the Elementary and Intermediate/Middle Level English Language Arts Assessments were not field tested for validity and reliability on a population of English language learners/limited English proficient students who had been learning English for fewer than three years, and certainly not for children who had been learning English for only one year; and

WHEREAS, the consequences of the new mandate for children, schools, districts, and communities would undermine the goal of educating English language learners/limited English proficient students to high standards as outlined in the "Position Paper on the Changes to NCLB Policy on English Language Testing for Limited English Proficient Students" dated 20 November 2006; and

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WHEREAS, a short-term solution and long term solution to address the issues have been proposed as solutions and recommendations within the position paper identified above and attached to this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns supports the concept, essence, and content of the “Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents’ Position Paper on the Changes to NCLB Policy on English Language Testing for Limited English Proficient Students”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the District Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution and the position statement adopted by the Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents to Congressional representatives to lobby the United States Department of Education to postpone the upcoming Elementary and Intermediate/Middle Level English Language Arts Assessments for limited English proficient students until an appropriate, valid, and reliable assessment is available and to forward this resolution to the Board of Regents to advocate for the development of appropriate, valid, and reliable tests for limited English proficient students.

4. **WHEREAS**, the property tax burden in New York State has been ranked as the 4th highest in the country, and

WHEREAS, the median property tax bill in Westchester County has been ranked the highest in the country, and

WHEREAS, application of the provisions of real property tax law are contributing to a decline in total assessed property value in the Tarrytowns school district, which in turn is contributing to increases in tax rates, and

WHEREAS, there are significant inequities in the distribution of the property tax burden, and

WHEREAS, there is little or no relationship between an owner’s income-based capacity to pay their property tax bill and their actual property tax bill, particularly if that owner is a retiree on a fixed income,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education supports an act by the State Legislature that would establish a Blue Ribbon Commission on property tax reform to examine the current real property tax system and local education financing system in New York State.

5. **RESOLVED**: That the Board of Education is authorized and empowered to execute an agreement with Custom Computer Specialists, Inc., at a fee of \$136,349.28, effective December 15, 2006 through December 14, 2007 and \$44,749.28 effective December 15, 2007 through December 14, 2008 and December 15, 2008 through December 14, 2009.

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14. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Treasurer's Report – October 2006
- B. Warrant Reports
- C. Use of Facilities

15. OLD BUSINESS

16. NEW BUSINESS

17. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Agenda/Conferences

A. Agenda

1/11/07 Board of Education Meeting – Executive Session: 7:30PM;
Public Session: 8:00PM

Elementary Report Card Review
Mid-year Tenure Recognition

B. Noteworthy Conferences/Meetings

12/15 WLM Winter Concert
9:30AM – Grade 3; 1:30PM – Grade 2

12/16 SHHS Holiday Wrestling Tournament

12/18 SHMS/HS Interims Mailed

12/18 SHMS Winter Concert 7:30PM – Washington Irving

12/19 SHHS Winter Concert 7:30PM – Washington Irving

12/20 SHMS Winter Concert Snow Date

12/21 SHHS Winter Concert Snow Date

12/25-1/1 Holiday Recess – Schools Closed

1/8 WI Winter Intramurals Begin

1/8-9 Grade 5 ELA Exam

1/9 EPTA Exec. Committee Meeting 9:30AM Administration Bldg.

1/9-10 Grade 3 ELA Exam

1/10-12 Grade 4 ELA Exam

1/10 SHHS College Night for Juniors 7:30PM – Cafeteria

18. CITIZENS' COMMENTS (four minutes)

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLVED: That the Board goes into executive session to discuss particular personnel matters.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____ TIME _____

20. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

RESOLVED: That the Board returns to public session.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____ TIME _____

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21. ADJOURNMENT

RESOLVED: That the meeting of the Board be adjourned.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____ TIME _____

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USE OF FACILITIES

11/18-12/30	Sleepy Hollow Hockey Boosters Corp. Sign to advertise annual game Washington Irving School Fence
12/14	Sleepy Hollow Jazz Band Dress Rehearsal 7:00PM – 9:00PM Washington Irving School Auditorium
12/19	Even Start Program Holiday Celebration 5:30PM – 8:30PM John Paulding School All Purpose Room
3/9	Sleepy Hollow HS Sophomore Class Talent Show 7:00PM – 10:00PM Washington Irving School Auditorium
5/20	Marymount College – Fordham University Graduation Ceremony parking overflow 9:00AM-2:00PM Tappan Hill School parking lot