

December 8, 2011

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns, was held on Thursday, December 8, 2011 in the Board Room of the Administration Building, commencing at 8:00PM.

Present: B. Joseph Lillis, President
Vincent Nadile, Vice President
Sheila J. Conklin, Trustee
Mimi Godwin, Trustee
Craig Laub, Trustee
Paul Rode, Trustee
Katharine M. Swibold, Trustee

Roll Call

Also present: Howard W. Smith, Superintendent of Schools
John J. Staiger, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Business
Barbarann Tantillo, Assistant Superintendent
Carol Conklin-Spillane, Principal, Sleepy Hollow High School
Nelly Valentin, District Clerk

Call to Order

Trustee Conklin, moved, seconded by Trustee Rode, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board goes into executive session to discuss particular personnel matters.
Note: Vice President Nadile arrived for executive session at 7:39PM.

Executive Session

CARRIED 6-0 7:35PM
No formal action was taken.

Public Session

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8:05PM
Trustee Godwin moved, seconded by Trustee Swibold, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board returns to Public Session.

**Meditation
Pledge to the Flag**

There was a moment of silent meditation, after which the Pledge to the Flag was given. President Lillis asked that the following be remembered, who recently passed away: John Richard Tornello, Sr., husband of Mafalda Tornello, retired Senior Stenographer from the District.

CARRIED 6-0-1 Yes: Trustees Conklin, Godwin, Laub, Lillis, Nadile, Swibold
Abstain: Trustee Rode

**Minutes:
11/17/2011**

Trustee Swibold moved, seconded by Trustee Nadile, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, having received copies of the minutes of the regular public meeting of November 17, 2011, approves same.

Board Matters

Board Matters: President Lillis reported that the task force partnership had a meeting involving parents, teachers, administrators and BOE representatives. The topic of discussion was to review some of the data that was presented at the November meeting in a conversational format. Kathy Conley, Beth Lopez, and Dr. Smith attended the meeting and reviewed the data. It was a Q&A session and lasted approximately 1½ hours. There is an ongoing interest in organizing tutoring for students and tapping into the expertise of community members to assist with grants. The next meeting of the group is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, December 14th.

Trustee Conklin inquired about the possibility of doing a presentation regarding ELL at a Board meeting.

Trustee Swibold noted that the legislative advocacy session held on December 1st at the high school was informative and it was a very engaging group. The session was presented by Lisa Davis from WPSBA and she spent time talking about how Albany works.

Trustees Nadile and Godwin have worked on drafting a sample policy on public participation at board meetings. A template was distributed and a first reading of the policy will take place at the January 12th meeting. The policy draft was based on Trustee Laub's work.

Carol Conklin-Spillane and several staff members from the high school gave a presentation on the Advanced Placement program at Sleepy Hollow High School. Staff members included: Phoebe Rosenwasser, Jennifer Walsh, Jessica Hunsberger, Micah Sprague, Marni Meyer, Christine Adamo, Leila Madani, David Zeigler, Jason Choi, Leana Peltier, and Judy Kelly. Topics highlighted:

- The College Board: Advanced Placement (AP)
- AP & Open Enrollment
- SHHS: AP Offerings/regional comparison
- Entry points into the curriculum sequences
- Spotlight on AP Programs: European history, English language, music theory, statistics, US government and politics, environmental science
- AP Trends: 13 year participation trends, 3 year enrollment patterns
- 5 year Trend
- 5 year school score summary
- Final average grades: 4 year trend
- Variable that impacts results
- Future directions
- AP & college admissions/responses
- What our graduates are saying

Board discussion included: individualized learning, recourse for struggling students, threshold for enrollment, limiting classes to sophomores and higher, college level affiliations, benchmarks, capacity for growth, sequence, economics course. Discussion followed.

Dr. Smith gave a brief update on the elementary building capacity analysis, which included:

- John Paulding – general education capacity
- JP capacity assumptions
- W.L. Morse – general education capacity
- WLM capacity assumptions
- Washington Irving – general education capacity
- WI capacity assumptions
- Tappan Hill implications

Dr. Smith's recommendation is to pursue a five-year lease term with organizations serving young children. Discussion followed.

A citizen inquired about the AP program and the long-term viability of the program. The Board noted that it supports the AP program and its long term viability.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Godwin moved, seconded by Trustee Conklin, that it be
RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following Staff Personnel Motions, as listed:

**STAFF
PERSONNEL:**

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

**Tenure:
C. Tucci**

Cheryl Tucci Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant
Certification: Teaching Assistant
Effective: January 2, 2012

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby revises the following:

**Revision:
D. DelMonaco**

Diane Del Monaco, school monitor, from probationary to permanent, in accordance with Civil Service Rules and Regulations, effective December 11, 2011.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby revises the unpaid child care leave of absence for Kelly Pangis, Health Teacher – Sleepy Hollow High School, effective December 21, 2011 through January 29, 2012.

**Unpaid LOA:
K. Pangis
B. Bentley
M. Molina
K. Restivo
P. Rubino
C. Caroleo
I. Duran**

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby revises the unpaid child care leave of absence for Bridget Bentley, Elementary Teacher – Washington Irving School, effective December 15, 2011 through January 27, 2012.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby revises the unpaid leave of absence for Mayra Molina – school monitor, Sleepy Hollow High School, effective September 1, 2011 through June 22, 2012.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby revises the unpaid child care leave of absence for Kristen Restivo, elementary teacher – Washington Irving School, effective February 14, 2012 through June 30, 2012.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby grants an unpaid child care leave of absence to Patricia Rubino, elementary teacher – Washington Irving School, effective April 30, 2012 through June 30, 2012.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby grants an unpaid child care leave of absence to Cathleen Caroleo, elementary teacher – Washington Irving School, effective September 25, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby grants an unpaid leave of absence to Isabel Duran, bus driver, effective January 6, 2012 through January 17, 2012.

In accordance with Policy #9020, be it
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 2011/12 school year:

Substitute Staff:

Jenna Goldberg	Teacher	\$95 per diem
Roniel Bencosme	School Monitor	\$14.15 per hour effective December 5 through June 22, 2012
Ann Schwab	Teacher	\$85 per diem
Yesenia Peralta	Long Term Teacher	\$290 per diem effective December 19, 2011 through January 27, 2012
Edwin Ogbu	Teacher	\$85 per diem
David DiLeo	AV Setup	\$35 per hour

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns hereby establishes the following as standard work days for appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based upon the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the District Clerk.

Standard Work Day Appointed Officials

Appointed Officials

Title	Name	Soc. Sec. Number (last 4 digits)	Registration Number	Standard Work Day (Hrs/day)	Term Begins/Ends	Participates in Employer's Time Keeping System (Y/N)	Days/Month (based on record of activities)
District Treasurer	Mathew Kurien	xxxx	xxxxx	7	07/01/2011-06/30/2012	Y	NA
District Clerk	Nelly Valentin	xxxx	xxxxx	7	07/01/2011-06/30/2012	Y	NA

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts the following resignation:

Anu Thomas, leave replacement teaching assistant – Sleepy Hollow Middle School, effective December 12, 2011, after one year of service.

Resignation:
A. Thomas

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following to serve as sporting events supervisors for the 2011-2012 school year:

Ryan Fischer
Anthony Pisacreta

Sporting Events Supervisors

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Rode moved, seconded by Trustee Conklin, that it be
RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following Student Personnel Motion, as listed:

STUDENT PERSONNEL:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education accepts the recommendations from the Committee on Special Education (CSE) at its October 26; November 2, 18, 2011 meetings and the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) at its October 7; November 4, 18, 2011 meetings as attached. (Appendix #1)

CSE/CPSE
Reports:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Conklin moved, seconded by Trustee Rode, that it be
RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the following Finance & Facilities Motions, as listed:

FINANCE &
FACILITIES:

WHEREAS, law suits have been commenced to challenge the 2009 assessments on property owned by the following petitioners:

525 Riverside Drive LLC having a street address of 525 Riverside Drive, Sleepy Hollow, New York; Ana Leroy having a street address of 55 Beekman Avenue, Sleepy Hollow, New York; Ana Leroy having a street address of 35 Beekman Avenue, Sleepy Hollow, New York; EF Corona Realty Corp. having a street address of 174 Cortlandt Street, Sleepy Hollow, New York; and Enrique Siquenza having a street address of 260 North Washington Street, Sleepy Hollow, New York; and

Tax Certioraris:
525 Riverside Dr.
Ana Leroy
EF Corona Realty
Enrique Siquenza

WHEREAS, the tax representative for each of the properties negotiated directly with the Assessor for the Town of Mount Pleasant for all reductions in the 2009 assessments; and

WHEREAS, due to the reduction in the assessments, the Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns is required to refund taxes for each property which have been paid on the original assessments; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that payment of the following refunds is approved:

525 Riverside Drive LLC

Ass't

Year	Original AV	Corrected AV	Reduction	Tax Rate	Refund
2009	\$20,000	\$16,000	\$4,000	\$1,438.18	\$5,752.72

Ana Leroy

Ass't

Year	Original AV	Corrected AV	Reduction	Tax Rate	Refund
2009	\$22,150	\$14,800	\$7,350	\$1,438.18	\$10,570.62
2009	\$12,900	\$7,400	\$5,500	\$1,438.18	\$7,909.99

EF Corona Realty Corp.

Ass't

Year	Original AV	Corrected AV	Reduction	Tax Rate	Refund
2009	\$15,700	\$9,000	\$6,700	\$1,438.18	\$9,635.81

Enrique Siquenza

Ass't

Year	Original AV	Corrected AV	Reduction	Tax Rate	Refund
2009	\$11,450	\$9,500	\$1,950	\$1,438.18	\$2,804.45

WHEREAS, law suits have been commenced to challenge the assessments on property owned by Alexander and Despina Simeoforides, having a street address of 100 Pocantico Street, Sleepy Hollow, New York, and having a Tax ID Number of 115.11-3-84 on the Tax Maps and Assessment Rolls of the Town of Mount Pleasant for assessment years 2008 through 2011; and

**Tax Certiorari:
Simeoforides**

WHEREAS, the Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns (the "School District"), through its attorney, John F. Burkhardt, Esq., appeared in the pending litigation to protect the interests of the School District; and

WHEREAS, several discussions and meetings were held with the attorney for the petitioner, the Town Assessor and counsel for the School District and various settlement proposals were discussed at length prior to arriving at a tentative settlement; and

WHEREAS, the School District's counsel and the Town Assessor recommend approving the tentative settlement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is in the best interests of the School District to settle this law suit with the following reductions in assessed values:

Ass't Year	Original AV	Corrected AV	Reduction	Tax Rate	Refund
2008	\$11,950	\$8,400	\$3,550	\$1,336.8388	\$4,745.78
2009	\$11,950	\$7,800	\$4,150	\$1,438.1800	\$5,968.45
2010	\$11,950	\$9,100	\$2,850	\$1,486.0851	\$4,235.34
2011	\$11,950	\$9,100	\$2,850	N/A	0
				Total Refund	\$14,949.57

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that John F. Burkhardt, Esq. is authorized to execute a Stipulation, Consent Judgment and any other relevant settlement documents consistent with this Resolution on behalf of the respondent-intervenor, the Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby declares the following buses to be surplus and therefore eligible for disposal in accordance with State regulations:

**Surplus
Equipment**

Make	Body	Engine	Vin #	Year	TT #	Mileage
Chevy	Corbeil	Diesel	1GBHG31Y1SF179478	1995	X-176	126314
Chevy	Corbeil	Diesel	1GBHG31Y6SF179489	1995	X-177	157329
GMC	Van Con	Diesel	2GDHG35J7P4505608	1993	X-174	134722

GENERAL:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Godwin moved, seconded by Trustee Conklin, that it be

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

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts, with appreciation, the following gift:

Consolidated Engine Co., No. 1, Inc., of a scholarship, in the amount of \$3,000, in memory of Anthony Ruggiero and John Kelly, to be awarded to a SHHS 2012 graduating senior, on the basis of community service and academic achievement. *President Lillis thanked the above contributor for their generous donation.*

GENERAL:

**Gift/Donation:
Consolidated
Engine Co. No. 1**

Old Business: Trustee Conklin addressed the issue of paperless board meetings. Dr. Smith noted that the District clerk has been researching management software programs.

Old Business

Trustee Rode inquired about assessment information being posted on the parent portal.

Trustee Godwin inquired if the District could put up external signage indicating the location of the SHHS gymnasium.

Adjournment

President Lillis wished the community a relaxing and enjoyable holiday!

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 10:21PM

Trustee Rode moved, seconded by Trustee Swibold, that it be
RESOLVED: That the meeting of the Board be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Appendices

Nelly Valentin
District Clerk

Appendices:

#1 CSE/CPSE Reports