

January 28, 2010

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns, was held on Thursday, January 28, 2010 in the Board Room of the Administration Building, commencing at 8:00PM.

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

Roll Call

Also present: Howard W. Smith, Superintendent of Schools
Barbarann Tantillo, Assistant Superintendent
John J. Staiger, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Business
Chris Andrews, Representative, Transportation Advisory Services
Mrinalini Rajwar, Director of Technology
Nelly Valentin, District Clerk

Call to Order

President Godwin called the meeting to order at 7:30PM.

Executive Session

Trustee Rode moved, seconded by Trustee Lillis, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board goes into executive session to discuss particular personnel matters. *Note: Trustee Nadile arrived at 7:40PM for executive session.*

Public Session

CARRIED 6-0 7:30PM
No formal action was taken.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8:00PM

Trustee Nadile moved, seconded by Trustee Swibold, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board returns to Public Session.

Silent Meditation

There was a moment of silent meditation, after which the Pledge to the Flag was given.

CARRIED 4-0-3 Yes: Trustees Godwin, Conklin, Lillis, Rode
Abstain: Trustees Laub, Nadile, Swibold

Trustee Rode moved, seconded by Trustee Lillis, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, having received copies of the minutes of the special meeting of December 18, 2009 approves same.

**Minutes:
12/18/09**

CARRIED 5-0-2 Yes: Trustees Godwin, Lillis, Rode, Nadile, Swibold
Abstain: Trustees Conklin, Laub

**Minutes:
1/14/10**

Trustee Nadile moved, seconded by Trustee Rode, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, having received copies of the minutes of the regular meeting of as January 14, 2010 approves same.

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President Godwin recognized Susan Gitlitz-Tucker for her years of service to the District. Her commitment to the families, staff and community is to be commended. Dr. Smith presented Ms. Gitlitz-Tucker with a recognition plaque and thanked her for all the work she has done since 2001. Dr. Smith reported that the District is slated to receive approximately \$300,000, through Congresswoman Nita Lowey, which will be used to extend the work that has been done by Ms. Gitlitz-Tucker, just in a different capacity. Ms. Gitlitz-Tucker thanked the board and administration for their continued support.

Mr. Chris Andrews, consultant from Transportation Advisory Services, gave a brief report on the Transportation Study. He noted that the transportation department appears to be well run, and the students are transported in a safe, reliable manner. Employees in the department are respectful of both the students and the residents in the community. The following recommendations and suggestions were noted:

- Consider a reduction in the number of spare vehicles
- Attempt to stabilize the bus replacement program
- Consider the purchase of bus maintenance software
- The District should provide updated route sheets and bus lists
- The use of recruitment “ABC’s” should be encouraged
- At least one of the mechanics should become ASE certified
- A monthly report should be completed by the Director of Transportation
- The use of non-IEP bus monitors should be eliminated and digital cameras installed
- The District should consider the bell time spread and modify the unofficial ride time policy
- The District should consider an increase in the out of district ride time
- Continue operating in-house transportation, with modifications
- Share transportation services
- Consider partial contracting

Discussion followed.

Dr. Tantillo gave a presentation on Virtual Teaching & Learning. Topics discussed included:

- Charge of the Committee
- New York State
- Committee Members
- Overview of Process
- Resources
- Facts
- Virtual Learning
- Benefits
- Possible Risks
- District Needs
- Programs Investigated
- Sample Log-in screens
- Remaining Work

Discussion followed.

Ms. Rajwar gave a brief update on the Technology Plan and E-Rate/CIPA. The District Technology Committee met to review the current technology plan, make suggestions for change, and evaluate specific district technology initiatives. Goals were developed in the areas of instruction, policy, communication, professional growth, and infrastructure. This work will continue in

Technology Plan

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2009-10 with a review of technology standards and a mapping of the District's current expectations for students in this area. Adoption of the Technology Plan will take place at the February 11th Board of Education meeting.

Ms. Rajwar reported that as part of a federal requirement for E-Rate funds, all school districts must affirm compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). For our technology protection, the District filters its internet content through a program called Surf Control. We filter both on category and discreet site. This software protects against access by adults and minors to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or – with respect to use of computers with Internet access by minors – harmful to minors. The software may be disabled for adults engaged in bona fide research or other lawful purposes. We do allow streaming media sites, however, we do block independent student access to You Tube. Discussion followed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

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

- Barbara Woltmann, teaching assistant – W.L. Morse School, effective February 23, 2010, after 24.4 years of service.
 - Joel Frutkin, teaching assistant – John Paulding School, effective June 30, 2010, after 14 years of service.
 - Dolores Billings, teaching assistant – John Paulding School, effective June 30, 2010, after 24 years of service.
 - Yvonne Dimmie, Health Aide – Tappan Hill/John Paulding School, effective June 25, 2010, after 26 years of service.
- President Godwin thanked the above staff members for all their years of service.

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

Levi Litman, Assistant Principal – Sleepy Hollow Middle School, effective June 30, 2010, after one year of service.

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 2009/2010 school year:

Nicole Goldstein	Teaching Assistant	\$13.00 per hour
Danielle Fontaine	Teaching Assistant	\$13.00 per hour
Jamie Cassermere	Teacher	\$85.00 per diem
Rosanna Capalbo	Long Term Sub Teacher	\$290 per diem effective January 19 through March 15, 2010

Substitute Staff

Brooke Greenberg	Teacher	\$85.00 per diem
Brooke Greenberg	Teaching Assistant	\$13.00 per hour
Rose Mary Frycek	Teaching Assistant	\$13.00 per hour
Valerie Rovins	Teacher	\$85.00 per diem
John Giumarro	Teacher	\$85.00 per diem

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Bethany Ordonez	Teaching Assistant	\$13.00 per hour
Daniel Tocci	Teacher	\$85.00 per diem

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby grants salary transfers to the following staff members, effective February 1, 2010 (as per contractual obligation):

Thomas Rogers	From: MA+15, Step 2 To: MA+30, Step 2
Marni Meyer	From: MA+15, Step 9 To: MA+30, Step 9
Jamie Steiner	From: MA+30, Step 7 To: MA+45, Step 7
Linda Stempel	From: MA+45, Step 15 To: MA+60, Step 15
Darryl Atkinson	From: MA+30, Step 8 To: MA+45, Step 8
Claire Heskestad	From: MA+30, Step 7 To: MA+45, Step 7
Jessica Etman	From: MA+45, Step 10 To: MA+60, Step 10
Ann Winze	From: MA+15, Step 7 To: MA+30, Step 7
Christin Creary	From: MA, Step 13 To: MA+15, Step 13
Michelle DeVivo	From: MA+15, Step 8 To: MA+30, Step 8

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves compensation of \$50.00 per credit hour for credits earned beyond MA+60 to the following staff members, effective February 1, 2010 (as per contractual obligation):

Maureen Massaro	3 credits	\$150.00
Beth Girolamo	3 credits	\$150.00
Christine Newman	3 credits	\$150.00
Elsbeth de Barros	3 credits	\$150.00

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby grants an unpaid leave of absence to Teodora Molina, Bus Attendant, effective February 2, 2010 through March 31, 2010.

Unpaid LOA:
T. Molina
D. McCarl

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of

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Education hereby revises the unpaid childcare leave of absence for Deborah McCarl, Science Teacher – Sleepy Hollow Middle School, effective January 27, 2010 through April 30, 2010.

RESOLVED: That Nelly Valentin is appointed Records Management Officer, at no extra compensation, for the 2009-2010 school year.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby increases the salary of the following staff, due to an additional assignment at Sleepy Hollow High School, effective February 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010:

Peter Lee .2FTE of his salary for additional class labs

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following to a stipend position for the 2009/10 school year:

Orchestra Director Spring Brittney Trenczer \$1,898

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 2009/2010 school year:

Sleepy Hollow Middle/High School		
Barbara Escudero-Zaphire	Teacher	\$35 per hour
Elizabeth Tortu	Teaching Assistant	\$25 per hour

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby decreases the salary of Jason Choi, Science Teacher – Sleepy Hollow High School, by .2FTE effective February 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following to the After School High School Academy, 3 hours per day, at a rate of .1, MA+15, Step 1, of the 2009/10 teacher salary schedule, effective February 22, 2010 through June 23, 2010: (21st Century Grant Funded)

Mary Herrstadt	English Teacher
Michael Frank	Math Teacher
Carlos Matute	Social Studies Teacher
David Ziegler	School Counselor

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

**Revision:
C. Lia**

Catherine Lia, Office Assistant (Automated Systems) – Sleepy Hollow High School, to Office Assistant (Automated Systems) – Business Office, in accordance with Civil Service Rules and

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Regulations, 7 hours per day, 12 months per year, at a salary of \$50,000 (prorated amount February 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010 will be \$20,833), effective February 1, 2010. This position is deemed confidential by the New York State Public Employees Relations Board. (Replacement)

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following instructional/non-instructional staff for the 2009/2010 school year:

Shannon Schlifkin, Registered Professional Nurse – W.L. Morse School, 7 hours per day, probationary, in accordance with Civil Service Rules and Regulations, at a salary of \$44,914 (prorated amount effective February 22, 2010 through June 30, 2010 will be \$19,000.50), based on Step 4 of the CSEA salary schedule, effective February 22, 2010. (Replacement)

Catherine Lia, Deputy District Treasurer, at a stipend of \$2,500.00 (prorated amount February 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010 will be \$1,042.00), effective February 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010. (Replacement)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Nadile 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 Student Personnel Motions, as listed:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education accepts the recommendations from the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) at its December 3, 2009; January 7, 2010 meetings, as attached (Appendix #1).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Swibold moved, seconded by Trustee Lillis, that it be

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

WHEREAS, law suits have been commenced to challenge the assessments on the property owned by Crescent Associates, LLC, having a street address of 155 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, and designated and described as Volume I, Section 2, Sheet 20, Block 2, Lot 2 on the Tax Maps and Assessment Rolls of the Town of Greenburgh for assessment years 2004 through 2009; and

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, numerous discussions and meetings were held with the attorney for the petitioner, the Deputy Town Attorney for the Town of Greenburgh, Village of Tarrytown attorney and counsel for the School District and various settlement proposals were discussed at length prior to arriving at a tentative settlement; and

**Tax Certiorari:
Crescent Associates**

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WHEREAS, the School District's counsel and Deputy Town Attorney 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:

<u>Ass't Year</u>	<u>Original AV</u>	<u>Corrected AV</u>	<u>Reduction</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>Refund</u>
2004	\$332,600.00	\$276,640.00	\$55,960.00	\$497.4868	\$ 27,839.36
2005	\$332,600.00	\$262,860.00	\$69,740.00	\$527.3400	\$ 36,776.69
2006	\$332,600.00	\$247,050.00	\$85,550.00	\$574.4450	\$ 49,143.77
2007	\$332,600.00	\$247,680.00	\$84,920.00	\$628.6296	\$ 53,383.23
2008	\$385,950.00	\$260,480.00	\$125,470.00	\$632.0322	\$ 79,301.08
2009	\$385,950.00	\$251,600.00	\$134,350.00	N/A	\$ 0
				Total	\$246,444.13

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.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby recertify the District Plan for the participation of parents and teachers in school based planning and shared decision making plan, as previously approved by the Commissioner.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education is authorized and empowered to execute an agreement with AmeriPro, Inc., to provide consultant services, to review all subsidies pursuant to the Schools and Library Division, for all allowable years, at a fee of 40% of additional monies claimed.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to enter into a contract with LIFE Center, 32 Beekman Avenue, Sleepy Hollow, NY, to provide early childhood staff and resources, at a rate of \$1,200.00 per month, effective January 4, 2010 through June 30, 2010. (Grant funded) Discussion followed.

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The Treasurer's Report for the month of December 2009 is attached to these minutes as Appendix #2.

Treasurer's Report:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9:40PM

Executive Session

Trustee Nadile moved, seconded by Trustee Swibold, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board goes into executive session to discuss particular personnel matters.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10:25PM

Return to Public

Trustee Rode moved, seconded by Trustee Nadile, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board returns to public session.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10:25PM

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nelly Valentin
District Clerk

Appendices

Appendices:

- #1 CSE/CPSE Reports
- #2 Treasurer's Report: December 2009