

March 4, 2010

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns, was held on Thursday, March 4, 2010 in the All Purpose Room at John Paulding School, 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  
Nelly Valentin, District Clerk

**Call to Order**

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

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

**Executive Session**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
No formal action was taken.

7:30PM

**Public Session**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8:06PM

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

**Pledge to the Flag  
Silent Meditation**

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

President Godwin reported that she received a communication from a citizen regarding an error in the Winter 2010 newsletter. A correction will be noted in the next newsletter.

**Communications,  
Petitions &  
Requests from  
Public**

President Godwin welcomed everyone to this evening's meeting and informed the public that the Board has had no discussion regarding the recommendation to close Tappan Hill School. She stated that we are in the beginning stages of the budget process and encouraged citizens to contact the Board with any comments or concerns. President Godwin reminded the public of the Saturday budget work sessions on March 6, 13 & 20. She noted that the March 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting will be a public hearing on the budget and citizens present will break off into small groups for further discussion on the budget.

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CARRIED 5-0-2

Yes: Trustees Godwin, Rode, Lillis, Nadile, Swibold  
Abstain: Trustees Laub, Conklin

**Minutes:**  
**2/11/10**

Trustee Rode moved, seconded by Trustee Nadile, that it be  
RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, having received copies of the minutes of the  
regular meeting of as February 11, 2010 approves as amended.

Dr. Smith reported that the budget focus is on students and what we need to do to continue to  
grow and meet the needs of all students. Due to the economic constraints, measures need to be  
taken to come up with a reasonable balance of what is important. He gave a powerpoint  
presentation on the budget proposal for 2010/2011 that included:

**Superintendent's  
Report:**

**Budget  
Recommendations**

- Economic realities
- Tax Implications of Status Quo Budgets
- Overall Efficiency
- Proposed Cost Savings Theme/Goal
- Self-Supporting Programs
- Budget Summary
- Tax Impact of Budget Proposal
- Program-Based Budget Proposal – Assumes closure of Tappan Hill
- Administration Proposal
- Operations & Maintenance Proposal
- Transportation Proposal
- Core Academic Program Proposal
- Secondary Foreign Language Proposal
- Pupil Personnel Services Proposal
- Remedial, Sp.Ed., ESL Services Proposal
- Summer School Proposal
- Elementary Enrichment Programs Proposal
- Library Media Proposal
- Technology Proposal
- Professional Development Proposal
- MS/HS Band, Orchestra, Chorus & Extra-Curricular Programs Proposal
- Interscholastic Athletics Proposal
- Debt Service Proposal
- Interfund Transfer Proposal
- Summary of Cost Savings Measures Based on Program Budget Analysis
- Budget to Budget Comparison
- Contingency Budget
- Elementary Building Consolidation: Closure of Tappan Hill
- Alternative Savings if Building Consolidation is not Pursued
- Budget Proposal Summary
- Budget Process

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President Godwin thanked Dr. Smith, Dr. Tantillo and Mr. Staiger for all the hard work they've done on the budget. These are very difficult economic times and the Board appreciates their dedication.

Board questions included:

- What is net cost for transition?
- Are state aid figures in jeopardy or are they solid?
- What funds are available for renovations that will need to be made at Morse?
- Why is there more coming out of the elementary budget than the secondary budget?
- What are the class size figures for neighboring districts?
- Which sections will be addressed at this Saturday's budget work session?
- What are implications for the dual language program?
- BOCES budget?
- How are districts coping regionally?
- What assumptions are being made about equipment in the budget?

President Godwin requested that the schedule and topics of discussion be posted on the tv scroll and website.

Citizens' comments included:

- Is the county government aware of situation and can they help in any way
- What is the per pupil cost and cost for special needs children
- What are the average proposed tax increases for neighboring districts
- Is there any potential income from leasing of district owned property
- What are the biggest costs in the budget and how can district control the costs
- Increase school lunch program fees
- Eliminate AP courses
- Charge for the athletics program
- Privatize busing and maintenance departments
- Freeze all salaries, across the board
- Eliminate teaching assistants in the upper grades
- What are roles and responsibilities of the assistant superintendent
- Do not increase class sizes and eliminate teaching assistants at the same time
- Shared principal position for grades 1&2
- Discrepancy in state aid figures
- Eliminate all staff developers
- Hold off on consolidation for another year
- Can the modifications that need to be addressed at WLM be finalized in time for school in September
- How many children of staff members attend our schools, who are not residents of the district
- Morse is developmentally inappropriate for young children
- Administrative contracts
- Itemized budget and contracts posted on the district website

Discussion followed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**STAFF PERSONNEL:**

Trustee Rode moved, seconded by Trustee Lillis, that

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

**Resignation:**  
**J. Ordonez**  
**M. Fitzgerald**

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

Jorge Ordonez, Bus Driver, effective March 8, 2010, after 1½ years of service.  
Meghan Fitzgerald, Principal – W.L. Morse School, effective August 12, 2010, after three years of service.

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

**Retirement Resignations:**

Marian Brunagel, Cleaner – Washington Irving School, effective March 31, 2010, after 22½ years of service.  
Edward Coviello, Special Education Teacher – Sleepy Hollow High School, effective June 30, 2010, after 28 years of service.  
Mary Setness, Mathematics Teacher – Sleepy Hollow Middle School, effective June 30, 2010, after 36.9 years of service.  
Vicky de Barros, Kindergarten Teacher – Tappan Hill School, effective June 30, 2011, after 25 years of service.  
President Godwin recognized the above staff members for all their years of service and noted that the Board would recognize formally at a later meeting.

**M. Brunagel**  
**E. Coviello**  
**M. Setness**  
**V. de Barros**

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:

**Substitute Staff:**

Erin Rauth	Teacher	\$85.00 per diem
Erin Rauth	Teaching Assistant	\$13.00 per hour
Jonathan Telfair	Teacher	\$85.00 per diem
Fine Rodriguez	Long Term Sub Cleaner	\$18.75 per hour effective March 4 through April 2, 2010
Dragan Jukic	Long Term Sub Cleaner	\$18.75 per hour effective March 4 through April 2, 2010
René Henri	Long Term Sub Cleaner	\$18.75 per hour effective March 2 through March 10, 2010
Ronald Smilowitz	Teaching Assistant	\$13.00 per hour

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby extends the unpaid leave of absence for Dolores Billings, teaching assistant – John Paulding School, through March 8, 2010.

**Unpaid LOA:**  
**D. Billings**  
**R. Pichardo**

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby extends the unpaid leave of absence for Rosetta Pichardo, teaching assistant – Tappan Hill School, through March 16, 2010.

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RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following to Spring 2010 athletic stipends, as per the attached list: (Appendix #1)

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following to a Spring 2010 athletic stipend:

Lacrosse JV Coach (Girls)                      Christina Macchia                      \$5,438.00

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby amends the teachers' retirement incentive, as per the attached. (Appendix #2)

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby amends the early notification retirement incentive for all personnel, other than teachers and administrators, as per the attached. (Appendix #3)

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby extends the unpaid leave of absence for Kenny Torres, Health Aide – Sleepy Hollow High School, through March 20, 2010.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby extends the unpaid leave of absence for Sergio Bowen, Custodian – W.L. Morse School, through April 2, 2010.

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

Sergio Bowen, Head Custodial Worker, W.L. Morse School, 8 hours per day, in accordance with Civil Service Rules and Regulations, at a salary of \$57,928 (prorated amount March 4, 2010 through April 2, 2010 will be \$4,605), based on Step 7 of the CSEA salary schedule, effective March 4, 2010 through April 2, 2010. (Leave Replacement)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Rode 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 Student Personnel Motions, as listed:

**STUDENT  
PERSONNEL:  
CSE/CPSE**

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education accepts the recommendations from the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) at its January 21, 25; February 4, 2010, meetings, as attached. (Appendix #4).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Rode 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 Finance & Facilities Motion, as listed:

**FINANCE &  
FACILITIES:**

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RESOLVED: That the Board of Education hereby modifies the 2009-2010 General Fund Budget from \$63,868,741 to \$63,898,284.25 for E-rate funds. Discussion followed.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education hereby modifies the 2009-2010 budget to \$66,493,184, for issuance of serial bonds. Discussion followed.

The Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2010 is attached to these minutes as Appendix #5.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10:40PM

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nelly Valentin  
District Clerk

Appendices:

- #1 Spring 2010 Athletic Stipends
- #2 Teachers' Retirement Incentive Amendment
- #3 Early Notification Incentive Amendment
- #4 CSE/CPSE Reports
- #5 Treasurer's Report: January 2010