

April 15, 2010

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns, was held on Thursday, April 15, 2010 in the Board Room of the Administration Building, commencing at 8:00PM.

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

Absent: Paul Rode, Vice President

Also present: Howard W. Smith, Superintendent of Schools
Barbarann Tantillo, Assistant Superintendent
John J. Staiger, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Business
Nelly Valentin, District Clerk

Roll Call

Call to Order

President Godwin called the meeting to order at 7:45PM.

Trustee Conklin 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 for executive session at 7:47PM.*

Executive Session

CARRIED 5-0 7:45PM
No formal action was taken.

Public Session

CARRIED 6-0 8:00PM

Trustee Swibold moved, seconded by Trustee Nadile, 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 asked that the following be remembered, who recently passed away:
Raphy Anthony Hidalgo, former student of Sleepy Hollow and the son of Milagros Hidalgo, Bus Attendant; Arthur E. Smith, husband of Miriam Smith, teaching assistant at Sleepy Hollow High School.

President Godwin reported that she received several emails regarding the budget and also received an email regarding the drainage at the bottom of the hill of the middle/high school building. This issue is being addressed.

**Communications,
Petitions &
Requests from
Public**

April 15, 2010

Several citizens commented on the budget, budget cuts, salary increases, busing, sports, and extracurricular activities.

**Citizens'
Comments**

CARRIED 6-0

Trustee Swibold moved, seconded by Trustee Nadile, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, having received copies of the minutes of the Budget work session of March 13, 2010 approves same.

**Minutes:
3/13/10
3/18/10
3/20/10**

CARRIED 6-0

Trustee Nadile moved, seconded by Trustee Swibold, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, having received copies of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 18, 2010 approves as amended.

CARRIED 6-0

Trustee Nadile moved, seconded by Trustee Swibold, that it be
RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, having received copies of the minutes of the budget work session of March 20, 2010 approves same.

**Superintendent's
Report**

Dr. Smith reported the following Good News Items:

- Congratulations to Sleepy Hollow High School Junior, Brittany Brand, for winning the Jazz Fest poster design contest. Her design will be used on the program cover, t-shirts, and posters promoting the event on Friday, April 16th.
- The EPTA, in conjunction with several organizations and Open Door Family Medical Center, hosted a toy collection drive during the holidays. In total, 2562 gifts were collected.
- Elyssa Swanson, Sleepy Hollow High School Senior, earned 1st Place in the Behavioral Science category in the poster division at the Junior Science & Humanities Symposium in Albany on March 22-23.
- Justin Best, Sleepy Hollow High School Senior, earned All-Section honors at the Westchester County Basketball Coaches Association's Banquet on March 23rd. Justin was one of 35 players in Westchester, Rockland & Putnam Counties to be so recognized.
- Joseph Scarpati, Sleepy Hollow High School Senior, earned Honorable Mention for the Westchester County Basketball Coaches Associations' Court of Excellence Award. Joe was among the top 20 scholar-athletes participating in boys' basketball this past season.
- Adam Fry, Sleepy Hollow High School Senior, has been selected to present his research on green roofs at the International Sustainable World Energy Engineering Environment Project Olympiad in Houston, Texas from April 14-19th.
- Students of the month: Christopher Fahey – Physical Education; Rosalinda Ramirez and Christian Berenguer – Mathematics
- The District has been able to recover additional state aid, totaling \$793,587, as a result of work done by the consultant.

April 15, 2010

Dr. Smith gave a Powerpoint presentation on the 2010-2011 school budget. Topics included:

- Budget Summary
- Tax Impact of Budget Proposal
- Tax Rate Determination
- Regional Efficiency Rankings
- Budget to Budget Comparison
- Self-Supporting Programs
- Summary of Cost Savings Measures Based on Program Budget Analysis
- Major Cost Reduction Measures
- Elementary Building Consolidation: Closure of Tappan Hill
- Tappan Hill Closure
- Elementary School Hours
- Proposition to Increase WI Walking Distance from .3 miles to .5 miles
- Class Size & Teacher Assistant Ratios
- Major Cost Reduction Measures
- Staff Reductions
- Contingency Budget
- Budget Dates

Mr. Staiger gave a brief update on the energy management project. He reported that the District counsel is working with the energy performance company to finalize the contract. The original proposal that the District was going to do was a \$2.6 million project. A lot of the work being done at Tappan Hill is quick payback items, which allows us to do 3,600 square feet of roof work at Washington Irving School. If we eliminate project at Tappan Hill, we will no longer be able to do the roof at Washington Irving. The anticipated timeline is to have the contract approved by June, send project to State Education by October 2010, with work to begin in Summer 2011. Discussion followed.

Comments & questions included:

- How do we finance additional buses and drivers if grade 3 walking distance proposition is not approved
- Pay to Play concept
- What happens if budget doesn't pass
- Leasing of Tappan Hill
- Costs for field trips
- What is the number of special education students in the District
- Where are the boundaries for the proposed .5 mileage walking distance
- Foreign language program
- Sports program implications
- Impact of new starting and ending times for the elementary schools
- Administrative salaries, teachers' contract and additional concessions
- State aid amount – is there a plan if additional monies are secured
- Why are we disposing of buses now? What happens if the walking distance proposition doesn't pass?

April 15, 2010

Dr. Smith gave a brief update on the long range planning. The process started out this year with hiring a consultant. A workshop was held with approximately 80 people, including teachers, administrators, staff members, parents and community members. The purpose was to identify some variables for consideration to frame our thinking along long range planning. We came up with a scenario framework; next step was getting together smaller groups flushing out what the scenario would look like. We came up with four scenario quadrants, then narrowed them down to one scenario that would be used as a framework for developing our mission statement. The mission statement would lead to a long range planning initiative. We are now looking for people to work on the scenarios. Unfortunately, we have not been successful in recruiting people for the next steps and going forward. Discussion followed and it was agreed to proceed with the mission statement development process even if the scenario process needs to be modified.

**Long Range
Planning**

Citizens' Comments

Citizens commented on the increase in student population, contribution rates for the teachers and employees retirement systems, number of special education students, Pay to Play, elementary foreign language, unemployment insurance, liability insurance for Tappan Hill.

President Godwin thanked the community for all their support and patience through a very difficult budget process. She thanked the central office administrators for their time, energy, compassion and continued hard work on the budget. Many positions had to be cut and we will continue to be challenged in the years to come.

**Policy #4240
Policy #4240R
Policy #6700R**

Dr. Smith thanked the community for their understanding and valuable feedback during the entire process.

The Board had a first reading of Policy #4240 - Revised Policy Raising and Management of Student Funds through Extra-Classroom Activities. Discussion followed.

The Board had a first reading of Policy #4240R Extra Classroom Activities Funds Management Regulations. Discussion followed.

The Board had a first reading of Policy #6700R – Purchasing Regulation, Revised Policy. Discussion followed.

CARRIED 6-0

Trustee Swibold moved, seconded by Trustee Conklin, that
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 accepts the following resignations:

**Resignations:
D. Carela
M. Ribreau**

Daniel Carela, Teaching Assistant – Sleepy Hollow Middle School, effective April 5, 2010, after 1 year and 7 months of service.

Monica Ribreau, Teaching Assistant, Washington Irving School, effective June 30, 2010, after two years of service.

**Resignations:
L. Filomio
S. McQuade
E. Rinaldi**

April 15, 2010

Louis Filomio, part-time School Monitor and part-time Cleaner, Sleepy Hollow High School, effective April 12, 2010, after one year of service.

Stephanie McQuade, Science Teacher – Sleepy Hollow High School, effective August 31, 2010, after two years of service.

Eric Rinaldi, Science Teacher – Sleepy Hollow High School, effective June 30, 2010, after 3 years 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:

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Dorothy Farley | Teacher | \$85.00 per diem |
| Mariana Molina | Teaching Assistant | \$13.00 per hour |
| Amanda Rimm-Hewitt | Long Term Sub Teacher | \$290.00 per diem, effective April 5 through June 25, 2010 |
| Vincenza D'Ippolito | Teaching Assistant | \$13.00 per hour |
| Vincenza D'Ippolito | Teacher | \$85.00 per diem |
| Brittney Secreto | Teacher | \$85.00 per diem |
| April Best | Long Term Teacher Aide | \$16.16 per hour effective April 6 through June 25, 2010 |
| Rafael Bencosme | Long Term Teaching Assistant | \$18.49 per hour effective April 27 through June 25, 2010 |

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following instructional/non-instructional staff for the 2010/2011 school year:

Michael Scarantino, Assistant Principal

Assignment: Sleepy Hollow Middle School

Appointment Type: Probationary

Probationary Dates: July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013

Tenure Area: Assistant Principal

Certification: New York State Initial Certification: School Building Leader

New York State Permanent Certification: Special Education

Education: Columbia University, Teacher's College, NY, NY - MEd

City University of New York, Hunter College, NY - MA

City University of New York, Baruch College, NY - BS

Experience: New York City Department of Education, New York, NY

Technology Integration Coordinator, 1 year

Special Education Teacher/Administrative Intern, 2 years

Mentor/Classroom Teacher, 10 years

Salary: \$124,000 (Replacement)

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby grants an unpaid childcare leave of absence for Kenny Torres, Health Aide – Sleepy Hollow High School, effective March 22, 2010 through May 14, 2010.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby revises the unpaid childcare leave of absence for Alexa Gonzalez, Elementary Teacher – Washington Irving School, effective May 6, 2010 through June 25, 2010.

WHEREAS, by Board of Education action taken on August 27, 2009, Nicole Abbondanza was

**Reinstatement of
special education
teacher:
N. Abbondanza**

April 15, 2010

terminated from her position as a Special Education Teacher due to a reduction in force; and

WHEREAS, Nicole Abbondanza was placed on a preferred eligible list pursuant to Section 3013 of the New York State Education Law; and

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy in the position of Special Education Teacher, a position similar to the one that Nicole Abbondanza filled prior to her reduction in force; and

WHEREAS, Nicole Abbondanza is the person with the most seniority eligible to fill such a position; and

WHEREAS, Nicole Abbondanza has expressed an interest in such position;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that Nicole Abbondanza be appointed to the position of Special Education Teacher, effective September 1, 2010, without a reduction in the salary or increment previously provided in her excess position.

CARRIED 6-0

Trustee Laub moved, seconded by Trustee Nadile, 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 February 25; March 1, 2, 9, 2010 meetings and the Committee on Special Education at its January 13, 27; February 24; March 10, 15, 16, 17, 25; April 7, 2010 meetings, as attached. (Appendix #1).

CARRIED 6-0

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 Finance & Facilities Motions, as listed:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education will place the following propositions on the ballot for this year's Annual Election and Budget Vote to be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2010:

Shall the Board of Education of this school district be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the 2010-2011 annual budget in the amount of \$63,440,147 and to levy the necessary tax thereof?

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to change the mileage limitation for the transportation of students in the third grade from .3 miles from the school which they attend to .5 miles from the school which they attend, with an approximate cost savings of \$100,000?

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the UFSD of the Tarrytowns, adopts the attached 2010-2011 Real Property Tax Report Card and authorizes the Superintendent to publish it in accordance with law.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education extends the contract for District-Wide Boiler Repair and Maintenance to: 1st Heating

Bid Awards:
1st Heating
Solutions

Bid Award:
Con-Tech
Construction

April 15, 2010

Solutions, 619 Oakside Road, Yorktown Heights, NY, 10598, as per the attached rate sheet.
(Appendix #2)

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education awards the bid for the Washington Irving Field Restoration to Con-Tech Construction Technology, Inc., 28 Lakeview Drive, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598, in the amount of \$129,785.

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:

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1993 International Bus | VIN# 1HVBBPNN7PH476221 |
| 1996 International Bus | VIN# 1HVBBAANXTH341991 |
| 1996 International Bus | VIN# 1HVBBAAN1TH341992 |
| 1997 International Bus | VIN# 1HVBBAAN9VH497829 |
| 1997 International Bus | VIN# 1HVBBAAN5VH497830 |

CARRIED 6-0

Trustee Nadile 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 Motions, as listed:

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

Linda and Patrick Studley, 157 Merlin Avenue, Sleepy Hollow, NY, of a full-size violin with case and bow, to be used in the Fine Arts Department at Sleepy Hollow High School.
Paul Wood, 3 Hanford Place, Tarrytown, NY, of a full-size violin with case and bow, to be used in the Fine Arts Department at Sleepy Hollow High School.
Ann Marie Savino, 26 Fremont Road, Sleepy Hollow, NY, of ten gallons of paint, to be used by the Fine Arts Department at Sleepy Hollow High School.

President Godwin thanked the above contributors for their generous donations.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education is authorized and empowered to amend the agreement with Andrea Eckerle, Speech Language Pathologist, 54 Washington Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570, to provide speech/language services, at a rate of \$160.00 per hour, not to exceed \$38,000 for the 2009/2010 school year.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education is authorized and empowered to execute an agreement with ECG Engineering, LLC., to provide RESCUE Compliance Services (Engineering Proposal), for the 2010/2011 school year, as per the attached. (Appendix #3)

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education is authorized and empowered to execute an agreement with Alison Paul Grantwriting and Consulting, to serve as Summer Arts Camp Director, effective March 15, 2010 through August 1, 2010, at a fee of \$5,500, funded by registration fees.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education is authorized and empowered to execute an agreement with Maureen Massaro, to serve as Challenge Summer Institute Director, effective April 15, 2010 through August 30, 2010, at a fee of \$4,500, funded by registration fees.

**M. Massaro
Swimming Merger**

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

April 15, 2010

Education hereby approves the merger of the Sleepy Hollow, Edgemont and Irvington High Schools Girls' Swimming Team for the 2010-2011 school year and authorizes the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools to sign the appropriate Section One merger form.

CARRIED 6-0

10:15PM

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nelly Valentin
District Clerk

Appendices:

- #1 CSE/CPSE Reports
- #2 Boiler Rate Sheet
- #3 Engineering Proposal