

October 21, 2010

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns, was held on Thursday, October 21, 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  
Vincent Nadile, Trustee  
Katharine M. Swibold, Trustee

Absent: B. Joseph Lillis, Trustee

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

**Executive Session**

CARRIED 6-0 7:45PM  
No formal action was taken.

CARRIED 6-0 8:03PM

**Public Session**

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

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:  
Karen Giordano, the wife of James Giordano, social studies teacher at Sleepy Hollow High School.

**Pledge to the Flag  
Silent Meditation**

President Godwin reported that Trustee Lillis is not in attendance due to a business commitment.

**Call of the Roll**

President Godwin indicated that the Board received the following communications: 1) a letter from Pat Brady, Recreation Director of Tarrytown Hall Care Center, thanking the SHHS football team, staff and coaches for their visit on October 1<sup>st</sup>; 2) an email from Laura Laub inviting the Board to the Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> EPTA meeting on cyberbullying; 3) a letter from Paul Feiner, Town of Greenburgh Supervisor, regarding the Board's position on tax reassessments.

**Communications,  
Petitions &  
Requests from the  
Public**

President Godwin congratulated Cathleen Caroleo and family who welcomed a new baby boy on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Cathleen is a third grade teacher at Washington Irving School.

**Minutes: 10/7/10**

CARRIED 5-0-1

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

Trustee Laub 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 October 7, 2010 approves same. Trustee Nadile asked that two corrections be made.

President Godwin reported that several Board members will be unable to attend the November 4<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting, as they will be attending their childrens' All State Music Concert. As a result of the lack of a quorum, the meeting has been cancelled. The next Board of Education meeting will take place on Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. President Godwin congratulated the students and their parents on this accomplishment.

The Board briefly discussed the nine resolutions being recommended for adoption by NYSSBA at the annual conference this weekend. Vice President Rode will be attending the business meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Discussion followed.

President Godwin reported that the Board received a letter from Paul Feiner, Town of Greenburgh Supervisor, regarding the Board's position on property reassessments. Vice President Rode indicated that this is a result of the work that was done by the Real Property Tax Commission. Discussion followed.

Dr. Smith announced the following good news items:

- The following students were selected to perform in the Area All-State Music Festival ensembles: Catherine Lillis-Orchestra; Victoria Nadile-Band; Hannah Becker, Robert Dondiego, Andrew Eagan and Ben Slaw for Mixed Chorus; Johanna Rosen for Womens Chorus. Each student will rehearse with other county members and perform a concert on Thursday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM at SUNY Purchase.
- Hannah Becker, Thomas Carraro, and Benjamin Slaw, members of the Class of 2011 at Sleepy Hollow High School, are among the 34,000 seniors nationally to be named Commended Students in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program
- Kassandra Brito and Anabel Perez, members of the Class of 2011 at Sleepy Hollow High School, have been awarded \$1,000 scholarships by the Westchester Chapter of 100 Hispanic Women
- Sleepy Hollow High School's Digital News Report has won Reel Teens Best News Magazine Award for the second consecutive year. No other school or organization has been able to achieve this distinction in the ten years that Reel Teens has been running its festival.
- SHHS students of the month: Adam Caspari – Library Media; Nicholas Arduino, Jennifer Onwe – Physical Education; Esther Perez, Nicholas Greige – Foreign Language; Rosalinda Ramirez, Jose Pacheco – Social Studies; Maria Amay – Special Eduation; Melissa Alvarez, Erica Jimenez, Elizabeth Pisapia, Brenda Diaz – Mathematics; Victoria Lopez, Bernardo Rodriguez – English; Layla Fassa, Carl Robinson – Science; Rahidy Rodriguez, Ailin Xiao – ESL; Grace Carr, Cristian Pasato – Fine Arts
- SHMS students of the month: Gr. 6 - Melanie Alberto, Gabriel Brown; Gr. 7 – Joshua Alvarez-Loyola, Johnny Diez; Gr. 8 – Juliet McAdam, Daniel Moriarty; ESL – Edward Perez

Dr. Smith gave a preliminary 2011/2012 budget report. Topics included:

- Presentation Topics

**Superintendent's  
Report:  
Preliminary  
Budget**

- 2010-11 vs 2009-10 Budget Summary
- Tax Impact of Budget Proposal
- Summary of Cost Savings Measures Based on Program Budget Analysis
- Major Cost Reduction Measures
- Staff Reductions
- Cost Per Pupil
- Status Quo Expense Assumptions 2011 - 2012
- Status Quo Budget Increases 2011 - 2012
- Revenue Scenarios
- Status Quo Revenue Increases 2011 - 2012
- Budget Scenarios (Existing Law)
- Tax Cap Scenarios
- “Discretionary” Spending Areas
- Revenue Enhancement Options
- Next Steps

Discussion followed.

A citizen commented on class sizes, teacher assignments, and STAR exemptions.

A citizen inquired about the use of Tappan Hill School, salary freezes, privatizing cleaning services and the total number of enrolled students in the District from the towns of Mt. Pleasant and Greenburgh.

CARRIED 6-0

Trustee Nadile 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:

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 2010/11 school year:

Francisca Alvarez	Bilingual Spanish Translator	\$25 per hour
Rosanna Capalbo	Long Term Sub. Teacher	\$290 per diem effective October 18 through November 1, 2010
Kasie Lambertson	Teacher	\$85 per diem
Kelly Anniccherico	Long-Term Sub Teaching Asst.	\$18.49 per hour effective September 20 through October 22, 2010
Francisca Alvarez	Long Term Sub Teacher	\$290 per diem effective October 25, 2010 through March 15, 2011
Andreana Robichaud	Bus Attendant	\$14.04 per hour
Rekha Dewan	Teacher	\$85 per diem
Johanna Fortugno	Teaching Assistant	\$13.00 per hour

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby grants an unpaid leave of absence to Rosanna Capalbo, teaching assistant – Sleepy Hollow Middle School, effective October 18, 2010 through November 1, 2010.

Unpaid LOA:  
A. Lawton  
E. Guerra  
F. Alvarez

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby extends the unpaid medical leave of absence for Anthony Lawton, School Monitor – Sleepy Hollow High School, effective October 15, 2010 through November 19, 2010.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby grants an unpaid medical leave of absence to Elizabeth Guerra, teaching assistant – W.L. Morse School, effective October 20, 2010 through October 22, 2010.

RESOLVED: That, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby grants an unpaid leave of absence to Francisca Alvarez, teaching assistant – Sleepy Hollow Middle School, effective October 25, 2010 through March 15, 2011.

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 2010/2011 school year: (Grant Funded)

Washington Irving School		
Lyn Dalton	Teacher	\$35 per hour
John Paulding School		
Jessica Ore	Teacher	\$35 per hour
Karen Garibaldi	Teacher	\$35 per hour
Darlene Kapica	Teacher	\$35 per hour
Athena Farlekas	Teacher	\$35 per hour
Kathia Javier	Teacher	\$35 per hour
Rosetta Pichardo	Teaching Assistant	\$25 per hour
Stephanie Keeney	Teaching Assistant	\$25 per hour

CARRIED 6-0

Trustee Conklin 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 Finance & Facilities Motions, as listed:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education adjusts the 2010-2011 General Fund Budget from \$63,440,147 to \$63,460,049, for E-rate funds.

**WHEREAS**, law suits have been commenced to challenge the assessments on the property owned by Dari Realty Corp., Inc., having a street address of 76 Beekman Avenue, Sleepy Hollow, and designated and described as Section 115.1 I, Block 5, Lot 9 on the Tax Maps and Assessment Rolls of the Town of Mount Pleasant for assessment years 2000 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 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 recommends 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>
2000	\$13,500.00	\$13,500.00	\$0.00	\$723.8993	\$0
2001	\$13,500.00	\$13,500.00	\$0.00	\$778.6547	\$0
2002	\$13,500.00	\$10,400.00	\$3,100.00	\$872.8012	\$2,705.68
2003	\$13,500.00	\$10,200.00	\$3,300.00	\$986.4400	\$3,255.25
2004	\$13,500.00	\$9,700.00	\$3,800.00	\$1,058.0020	\$4,020.41
2005	\$13,500.00	\$9,250.00	\$4,250.00	\$1,153.4200	\$4,902.04
2006	\$13,500.00	\$8,900.00	\$4,600.00	\$1,251.0200	\$5,754.69
2007	\$13,500.00	\$9,050.00	\$4,450.00	\$1,293.1124	\$5,754.35
2008	\$13,500.00	\$9,450.00	\$4,050.00	\$1,336.8388	\$5,414.20
2009	\$13,500.00	\$9,200.00	\$4,300.00	\$1,438.1800	\$6,184.17
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$37,990.79</b>

**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.

**WHEREAS**, law suits have been commenced to challenge the assessments on the property owned by 146-148 Cortlandt Street, LLC, Inc., having street addresses of 146 and 148 Cortlandt Street, Sleepy Hollow, and designated and described as Section 115.15, Block 2, Lots 72 and 73 on the Tax Maps and Assessment Rolls of the Town of Mount Pleasant for assessment years 2002 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 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 recommends 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:

**146 Cortlandt Street**

<u>Ass't Year</u>	<u>Original AV</u>	<u>Corrected AV</u>	<u>Reduction</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>Refund</u>
2002	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$0.00	\$872.8012	\$0
2003	\$13,000.00	\$11,700.00	\$1,300.00	\$986.4400	\$1,282.37
2004	\$13,000.00	\$11,700.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,058.0020	\$1,375.40
2005	\$13,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,153.4200	\$2,306.84
2006	\$13,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,251.0200	\$2,502.04
2007	\$13,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,293.1124	\$2,586.22
2008	\$13,000.00	\$10,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,336.8388	\$3,342.10
2009	\$13,000.00	\$10,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,438.1800	\$3,595.45
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$16,990.42</b>

**148 Cortlandt Street**

<u>Ass't Year</u>	<u>Original AV</u>	<u>Corrected AV</u>	<u>Reduction</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>Refund</u>
2002	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$0.00	\$872.8012	\$0
2003	\$13,000.00	\$11,700.00	\$1,300.00	\$986.4400	\$1,282.37
2004	\$13,000.00	\$11,700.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,058.0020	\$1,375.40
2005	\$13,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,153.4200	\$2,306.84
2006	\$13,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,251.0200	\$2,502.04
2007	\$13,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,293.1124	\$2,586.22
2008	\$13,000.00	\$10,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,336.8388	\$3,342.10
2009	\$13,000.00	\$10,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,438.1800	\$3,595.45
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$16,990.42</b>

**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.

**WHEREAS**, law suits have been commenced to challenge the assessments on the property owned by Biombo, Inc., having a street address of 85-87 Cortlandt Street, Sleepy Hollow, and designated and described as Section 115.15, Block 1, Lot 72 on the Tax Maps and Assessment Rolls of the Town of Mount Pleasant for assessment years 2000 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 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 recommends 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>Orig. AV</u>	<u>Corrected AV</u>	<u>Reduction</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>Refund</u>
2000	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$723.8993	\$0
2001	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$778.6547	\$0
2002	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$872.8012	\$0
2003	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$986.4400	\$0
2004	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,058.0020	\$0
2005	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,153.4200	\$0
2006	\$20,000.00	\$17,550.00	\$2,450.00	\$1,251.0200	\$3,065.00
2007	\$20,000.00	\$17,750.00	\$2,250.00	\$1,293.1124	\$2,909.50
2008	\$20,000.00	\$17,750.00	\$2,250.00	\$1,336.8388	\$3,007.89
2009	\$20,000.00	\$17,700.00	\$2,300.00	\$1,438.1800	\$3,307.81
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$12,290.20</b>

**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 item to be surplus and, therefore, eligible for disposal in accordance with State regulations:

1 FM Auditory System

**WHEREAS** it is the desire of the participating school districts of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Putnam/Northern Westchester Counties, adopting this resolution to jointly request bids for Auto Replacement Parts by the Superintendent of this school district from December 1, 2010 through November 30, 2011.

Now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that The Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns hereby agrees to participate with other school districts of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Putnam/Northern Westchester Counties, New York in the joint bidding of Auto Replacement Parts to be requested by the school district Purchasing Agent and approved by the Superintendent; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the specifications as prepared by a Steering Committee of participating school districts and presented to this Board of Education will be used and that this Board, if it desires to purchase these Auto Replacement Parts, agrees to purchase said commodities at the lowest bid price recommended by the Steering Committee of the joint school districts; provided, however, that each participating Board of Education in exercising its legal responsibilities, has the right to reject and/or modify the recommendation of the Steering Committee in the awarding of the bid; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the invitation to bid will be advertised by BOCES in the Journal News in accordance with the provisions of Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

CARRIED 6-0

Trustee Nadile 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:

BE IT RESOLVED that the President of the Board of Education is authorized and empowered to execute an energy performance contract with Ameresco, Inc., 11 Speen Street, Suite 410, Framingham, MA, 01701.

The Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2010 is attached to these minutes as Appendix #1.

President Godwin reminded the community that the November 4<sup>th</sup> Board of Education Meeting has been canceled. The next meeting will take place at 8PM on Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.

A citizen recommended that the time allotted for citizens' comments during Board meetings be changed to four (4) minutes. Discussion followed.

Citizens'  
Comments

CARRIED 6-0

9:20PM

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nelly Valentin  
District Clerk

Appendices:

#1 Treasurer's Report: September 2010