

Board of Education Meeting Minutes November 18, 2009

1. School Community Session- 6:00 p.m.

- 1.1 Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance-Chairman Hall called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 1.2 Public Participation (*Please refer to Public Participation Guidelines*)
There were no public comments.
- 1.3 Report from student representative- Mr. Meyers stated that student Council representatives will be attending the December Board of Education meeting.
- 1.4 Correspondence: Thank you card from upper school students.
The students sent a thank you card to the Board of Education for the trip to Washington, DC.

2. Consent Agenda (*Business Manager*)

Chairman Hall requested a motion to add additional warrants totaling \$33,945.20 to the consent agenda. Motion made by Janio Spinola, seconded by Maria Frank. Motion carried: 5-0.

2.1	Warrants Payable	Total Amount of Warrants	\$100,875.38
	• Payroll Warrant	#33	\$29,720.84
	• Payroll Warrant	#34	\$28,181.29
	• Multi-fund	#32	\$ 294.00
	• Multi-fund	#36	\$40,759.46
	• Faculty Housing	#35	\$ 1,901.79

Mr. Howard Feivou, Business Manager explained that the IRS has recently suggested that 403 (b) plans which exclude certain employees are unlikely to pass an audit concerning universal availability. Therefore, the Board of Education has resolved that each employee shall be eligible to participate in the plan and elect to have Elective Deferrals made on his or her behalf hereunder immediately upon becoming employed by the Employer.

Sara McLean made a motion to adopt the Resolution to amend the Plan, seconded by Nina Schmid.

Motion carried: 5-0.

- 2.2 Transfers -None
- 2.3 Budget Status Report (*Resource Packet*)
- 2.4 Budget Status Report – Special Aid Fund (*Resource Packet*)
- 2.5 Budget Reconciliation Summary (*Resource Packet*)
- 2.6 Revenue Status Report (*Resource Packet*)
- 2.7 Anticipated Cash Flow Report (*Resource Packet*)
- 2.8 Extra-Curricular Ledger Report (*Resource Packet*)

Nina Schmid made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Sara McLean. Motion carried: 5-0.

3. Action Items: (*Board Chairman*)

- 3.1 Motion: To approve the Minutes of the October 21, 2009 Board of Education Meeting (Resource Packet)
Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 21, 2009 meeting made by Sara McLean, seconded by Janio Spinola.
Motion carried: 4-0.
(Chairman Hall abstained as she was absent from the meeting.)
- 3.2 Motion: To approve the appointment of Cynthia Riley as Director/Drama Coordinator for the spring musical (Resource Packet)
Janio Spinola made a motion to approve the appointment of Cynthia Riley as Director/Drama Coordinator of the spring musical, seconded by Sara McLean.
Motion carried: 5-0.
- 3.3 Motion: To accept the resignation of Timothy Sermak as assistant boys' basketball coach effective November 18, 2009 (Resource Packet)
Motion to accept the resignation of Timothy Sermak as assistant boys' basketball coach made by Janio Spinola, seconded by Nina Schmid.
Motion carried: 5-0.
- 3.4 Motion: to approve the appointment of Carol Giles as assistant boys' and girls' basketball coach for the 2009-2010 season.
Motion made by Janio Spinola, seconded by Maria Frank.
Motion carried: 5-0.

4. Discussion Items (*Superintendent*)

- 4.1 Partnership with the Fishers Island Community Center and the development of a "campus" complex.
Mr. Meyers reported that he has been in conversation with Mere Doyen, Sara McLean, and Gail Cypherd regarding the school's partnership and relationship with the Community Center. The discussion focused on students and faculty being able to utilize the Community Center space and participate in programs there including the fitness center and bowling alley. The cheerleading team will also be using the dance/yoga room for practice. The discussions have centered on a fee that the school would pay to the Community Center for use of the facility. Sara McLean stated that the Community Center Board is meeting over the Thanksgiving weekend, and will further discuss this issue, which would consist of an annual fee that the school would pay to the Community Center. Mr. Meyers will apply for grant money to offset the costs for this year. He stated that there is a grant available from the State Assembly for \$25,000 that could be used for this purpose. Federal stimulus money could also be used to promote after-school programs at the Community Center. In the future, the Board would possibly need to budget for this annual fee.
The discussions between the School and the Community Center are continuing, and progress is being made to establish an appropriate fee.
- 4.2 Cost of the ferry for visiting team athletes (*Resource Packet*)
Mr. Gillan has provided Mr. Meyers with a breakdown of the number of visiting students and coaches for the Cross-Country Meets, Golf Matches, and Basketball games this year. The approximate number of visiting students and coaches is 324, and the approximate amount of revenue to the Ferry District is \$6,000. Mr. Gillan has requested that the Ferry District give visiting teams a discount similar to the discount given to our magnet students. Nina Schmid stated that the Ferry District is

not likely to comply with this request. Janio Spinola commented that if the visiting teams are unable to come over due to the costs, then the ferry would not receive any revenue. Mr. Meyers responded that at this point in time it does not appear that visiting teams are being deterred from coming to the Island based on the costs of the ferry. Discussion ensued, and the issue remains unresolved. Dr. Frank suggested that at a future meeting, members of the PTO should be invited to further explore possible solutions and sources of money. It was also suggested that visiting teams request funding through their own PTO's and Booster Clubs.

Has the School ever made an official written request to the Ferry District?

4.3 Update on Next Steps for Facility Improvements

4.2.1 NYSED Reimbursement- Mr. Meyers reported that he has contacted SBS and they recommended that the School engage an architect. However, there are several steps to be taken before engaging an architect. Mr. Meyers has contacted the State Dept. of Education to determine if we are eligible for reimbursement for renovations for school construction. Mr. Meyers spoke with Deborah Johnson who is the project manager for our area in the Office of Facilities Planning. She manages the State reimbursement for 300 projects underway now. Ms. Johnson stated that we are eligible in the most minimal category which is 10%. Mr. Meyers will send her a copy of the SBS Facilities Plan.

4.2.2 Owner Representative – Request for Qualifications -Mr. Meyers stated that we would benefit from a Project Manager. SBS recommended sending out an RFQ. SBS would be qualified to act as a Project Manager, and are willing to bid. There is money set aside in the budget for a Project Manager.

4.2.3 Capital Improvement Plan – Mr. Meyers and Mr. Feivou will work on a proposition to increase the Capital Reserve Fund, and possibly a proposition to spend Capital Reserve Funds for specific school improvements. These propositions would be voted on at the May budget meeting.

4.4 Reschedule Work Session on Mission and Goals- Mr. Meyers will contact the facilitators from LEARN to find out when they are available to come out again.

5. Superintendent's Report (*Superintendent*)

5.1 Attendance Update & H1N1 Influenza Impact- Mr. Meyers presented the Board with data on attendance for the months of September and October for the last 3 years. The numbers for this year are favorable and the number of unexcused absences is down significantly. Mr. Meyers stated that letters are being sent out to parents when there are too many unexcused absences. The October and November absences daily average has been around 3%. Last week, however, there was a spike in the number of absentees, but this week we are back to more normal numbers.

5.2 Academic Intervention Services (Resource Packet) Mr. Meyers reported that the School has formalized its program for supporting students who score below the NYS standard on state assessments. The two new teacher assistants are currently helping to support students.

6. Adjournment- Stephanie Hall requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sara McLean made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Janio Spinola. Motion carried:5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Name of Recorder: Leslie Tombari

Board of Education Resource Packet

For

**November 18, 2009
Regular Meeting**

“For Your Information”

Additional Materials

For

Board of Education Review

From

Office of Superintendent

November 18, 2009