

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ALTERNATIVE TAX EXEMPTION FOR VETERANS  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
September 11, 2014 – High School**

PRESENT: Mr. Gellar, Mr. Brady, Mr. Maginniss, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Ulrich (arrived 7:50 p.m.)

ABSENT: Mrs. LaRosa, Mr. Zotto

ADMINISTRATORS: Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Duffy, Dr. Rullan

ABSENT: None

ATTORNEY: Mr. Volz

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Public Hearing was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

Mr. Gellar presented an overview on the Alternative Tax Exemption for Veterans.

The Public Hearing ended at 7:45 p.m.

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Meeting was called to order at 8:01 p.m.

Motion was made by Kevin O'Connor, seconded by Ron Maginniss, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2014 Planning Session.

**PERSONNEL:**

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-BEARING LEAVE OF ABSENCE (paid): Melissa Senatore, Music, effective September 10, 2014 (High School).

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHANGE IN STATUS (.6 part-time position to .7 part-time position): Pamela Cirasole, Music, effective September 12, 2014 – June 30, 2015 (Step 13<sup>6</sup> {pro-rated at .7}).

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANT: REGULAR SUBSTITUTE: Susan Lombardi, Special Education, effective September 8, 2014 – June 30, 2015 (High School; replacing L. Sluszka {LoA}).

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED (CIVIL SERVICE): RESIGNATION: Francine Couillard, Cafeteria Aide, effective September 1, 2014 (Bayview).

Motion was made by Kevin O'Connor, seconded by Ron Maginniss and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED (CIVIL SERVICE): RESIGNATION: Ellen Kazemier, Part-Time Teacher Aide, effective September 24, 2014 (Beach Street).

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED (CIVIL SERVICE): CHANGE IN STATUS: Helen Akley, Cafeteria Aide, effective September 8, 2014 (Bayview; change from a regular substitute; replacing F. Couillard {resigned}).

Motion was made by Kevin O'Connor, seconded by Scott Brady and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED (CIVIL SERVICE): LEAVE OF ABSENCE (unpaid): (Pursuant to the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993): Catherine Georgio, Teacher Aide, effective October 24, 2014 through January 16, 2015 (Manetuck).

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED (CIVIL SERVICE): AMEND LEAVE OF ABSENCE (unpaid): Kim Santangelo, Cafeteria Aide, effective September 5, 2014 through October 17, 2014 (Beach Street).

Motion was made by Scott Brady, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED (CIVIL SERVICE): AMEND RETIREMENT: Lawrence Armetta, Custodial Worker I, effective February 20, 2015 (High School; change from September 26, 2014).

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED (CIVIL SERVICE): PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Shari Marano, Special Education Aide, effective September 12, 2014 (Bayview; Step 1; replacing B. Reilly).

Motion was made by Scott Brady, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED (CIVIL SERVICE): PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Gianna Sciortino, Special Education Aide, effective September 12, 2014, (High School; Step 1; new position).

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: ADULT EDUCATION COORDINATOR 2014-2015: Philip DePompeo, Coordinator - \$7,591.

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: ADULT EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS FALL 2014: Susan Batzar (Excel) \$35/hr.; Lenny Butler (Community CPR, First Aide) \$30.00/hr.; Jake Caramico (How Money Works) no cost to West Islip; David Conroy (Circuit Training) \$30.00/hr.; Steve Cottral (About Boating Safety) no cost to West Islip; Kim Crichton (Pilates, Qigong, Iyengar Yoga, Fitness Mix) \$30.00/hr.; Phyllis Hintze (Ballroom Dancing) \$30.00/hr.; Bruce Lieberman (Defensive Driving) no cost to West Islip; Kerry McCarthy (Acting) \$30.00/hr.; Frank Olish (Volleyball) \$30.00/hr.; Melissa Spinelli (Zumba) \$30.00/hr.; Robert Watts (Introduction to Guitar/Piano) \$30.00/hr.; Roberta Woolsey (Aquacise) \$30.00/hr.

Motion was made by Kevin O'Connor, seconded by Scott Brady and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS FALL 2014. **(As listed on original 9/11/2014 Personnel Agenda)**: Dennis Adams, Science, 1 section/full year; Francine Ahearn, Social Worker, .25 section/full year; Brian Cameron, Physical Education, .5 section/full year; Aron Chizik, Social Studies, 1 section/full year; Nicole Cifelli, Public Speaking, 1 section/full year; Alexandra Dolce, Science, 1 section/full year; James Grover, Math, 2 sections/full year; Michael Hazelton, Social Studies, 1 section/full year; Edward Jablonski, Social Studies, 1 section/full year; Wendy Loddigs, School Counselor, 1 section/full year; Robert Matuozzi, Psychologist, 2 sections/full year; Dennis Montalto, Special Education, 1 section/full year; Virginia Mullins, School Counselor, 1 section/full year; Joseph Nicolosi, Physical Education, .5 section/full year; Jeffrey O'Hare, English, 1 section/full year; Eric Rao, Social Studies, 1 section/full year; Teresa Stecker, Psychologist, 1 section/full year; Paul Vecchione, English, 1 section/full year; Anthony Yuli, Health, 1 section/full year.

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: ENRICHMENT INSTRUCTORS FALL 2014: Denise Campasano (Legos I and II) \$275 per session; Lorri Clifford (Babysitting & Hand Sewing) \$275 per session; Edward Ermanovics (Dragster Design & Super Delta Dart) \$275.00 per session; Tami Lombardi (Frozen Fun I and II) \$275.00 per session; \*Melissa Spinelli (Zumbatomic) \$275.00 per session; Robert Watts (Piano & Guitar) \$275.00 per session.

Motion was made by Scott Brady, seconded by Kevin O'Connor and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: INSTRUCTIONAL SWIM AND FAMILY SWIM PROGRAMS 2014-2015: LIFEGUARD (\$10/hr.): Kayla LaRosa; Lauren Coll.

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Scott Brady and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: 2014 MIDDLE SCHOOL COACHES: CHEERLEADING: Kristina Moon, 7-8 Udall Coach; Jillian Schneller, 7-8 Beach Coach.

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Scott Brady and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: SUBSTITUTE TEACHER (\$100 per diem): Louis M. Zocchia, Jr., effective September 4, 2014.

#### CURRICULUM UPDATE:

Dr. Rullan thanked all the veterans for their service to our country and for attending the board meeting. Dr. Rullan then gave a presentation regarding district standardized assessment. Dr. Rullan explained that the assessments are a measure of students' knowledge and mastery of specific skills. All assessment results will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of instructional programs so each child leaves the district with the skills to be college and career ready.

#### REPORT OF BOARD COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee: Bob Ulrich reported on the meeting held on 9/9/14. Items reviewed included the July treasurer's report, July payroll summary, internal claims audit report and system manager audit trail. Warrants, July financial statements, budget transfers, donations from West Islip Soccer Club and Target, 2014-2015 Special Education Contracts and TAN results were reviewed.

Education Committee: Scott Brady reported on the meeting that was held 9/11/14. Some of the items on which the committee was updated included the testing results, Superintendent's Conference Days, Response to Intervention Plan, Summer Investigations Program and the professional development calendar.

Buildings and Grounds: Bob Ulrich reported on the meeting held on 9/9/14. Some of the items reviewed were facilities status after the 8/13/14 heavy rain, weeds on the turf field, donation of construction costs associated with field access to Maseria bathroom, a \$230,000 grant secured by Senator Phil Boyle for district security improvements, the Bridges lease amendment and BCBA removal of boxing ring.

Committee on Special Education/Preschool Special Education: Ron Maginniss reported on the meeting that took place on 9/10/14. The beginning of the school year got off to a good start. CSE and CPSE recommendations for the month were reviewed.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

The treasurer's report for July was presented. Beginning balance as of June 30, 2014: \$12,068,322.18; ending balance as of July 31, 2014 \$7,338,120.27.

Motion was made by Scott Brady, seconded by Kevin O'Connor, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2013-2014 Budget Transfers 3150-3153 and 2014-2015 Budget Transfers 3152-3154.

Motion was made by Kevin O'Connor, seconded by Ron Maginniss, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following 2014-2015 Special Education Contracts: Developmental Disabilities Institute/Medford, Sachem CSD, United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater Suffolk, Inc.

Motion was made by Kevin O'Connor, seconded by Scott Brady, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve the following donations: West Islip Soccer Club/West Islip Public Schools – four training goals and new nets - \$3,000 (approximate value); West Islip Soccer Club/West Islip Public Schools – construction costs for outside access to bathroom at Masera (subject to conditional approval of plans), Target/Bayview - \$744.29; Target/Oquenock - \$1,330.53.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Gellar thanked all the veterans for their service to our country.

Motion was made by Scott Brady, seconded by Ron Maginniss, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Resolution re: Qualifying Veterans' Exemption with statutory basic maximums.

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Scott Brady, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Resolution re: Qualifying Gold Star Parents' Exemption with statutory basic maximums.

Motion was made by Ron Maginniss, seconded by Kevin O'Connor, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve 2014-2015 Goals and Objectives. The Goals and Objectives will be posted on the school website.

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Scott Brady, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Bridges Lease Amendment.

Motion was made by Kevin O'Connor, seconded by Scott Brady, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Memorandum of Agreement re: Non-Represented Retirement Incentive.

Motion was made by Bob Ulrich, seconded by Kevin O'Connor, and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve Memorandum of Agreement re: Emergency Use of Herbicide.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mrs. Burns informed the audience that students returned to school and teachers and staff attended Superintendent Conference Days. There is a total enrollment of 4,619 for 2014-2015, 194 less students than last year. High school enrollment has been hit the hardest since the 2014 graduating class was very large. Mrs. Burns also spoke about a \$230,000 grant obtained by Senator Phil Boyle for school security cameras, upgrading school door access and public address systems.

NOTICES/REMINDERS:

Mr. Gellar reminded the audience that the Board meetings will be held at Beach Street Middle School from October 2014 through May 2015.

OTHER ITEMS:

Mr. Gellar announced that a West Islip graduate, Nick Tropeano, is the first West Islip baseball player to pitch in the major league.

The following residents wished to speak during an "Invitation to the Public":

Commander Greg Buck, 22 Crag Court, West Islip – Commander Buck on behalf of American Legion 1738 and all of their members from different forces, thanked the Board for approving the Veterans' Tax Exemption and Gold Star Parents' Exemption.

Mrs. M. O'Connell, 133 Tahlulah Lane, West Islip – Mrs. O'Connell inquired about Regents scores, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Assessment results, science scores and AP scores. Mrs. O'Connell wanted to know what the district is doing to prepare students to perform better. Dr. Rullan explained that there was a high percentage of students who refused to take the assessments that impacted district grades 3-8 results. The district is currently screening for a Director of Science.

Mr. Thomas Rentz, 61 Boulevard Avenue, West Islip – Mr. Rentz is a West Islip resident for 43 years and had concerns regarding the test scores recently published in *Newsday* comparing all Long Island districts. Mr. Rentz felt that the proficiency scores for West Islip were not what they should be and wanted to know what was being done to improve them. Mrs. Burns informed Mr. Rentz that West Islip has a 97% graduation rate and the administration is looking closely at the curriculum and working toward capitalizing on areas of opportunity that will increase student achievement.

Mr. Craig Miller, 41 Evelyn Road, West Islip – Mr. Miller had concerns regarding class size at Paul J. Bellew. Mr. Miller has a son in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. Gellar explained that due to budgetary constraints and student enrollment from year to year class size can vary. Mrs. Burns explained that the elementary class size for all four schools range from 21.7 to 22.9 students. Manetuck and Paul J. Bellew are slightly higher in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades.

Motion was made by Kevin O'Connor, seconded by Ron Maginniss and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 10:09 p.m. on motion by Scott Brady, seconded by Bob Ulrich and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Motion was made by Scott Brady, seconded by Bob Ulrich and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve attendance waiver for student Olivia B.

Regular Meeting  
September 11, 2014

Motion was made by Scott Brady, seconded by Bob Ulrich and carried when all Board members present voted in favor to approve \$0.50 per hour salary increase for security guards effective 9/15/14.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m. on a motion by Scott Brady, seconded by Bob Ulrich and carried when all Board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Hock".

Mary Hock  
District Clerk

All correspondence, reports or related materials referred to in these minutes are on file in the District Office.