

May 15, 2018

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District was held on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, in the Performing Arts Center at Walt Whitman High School, 301 West Hills Road, Huntington Station, New York.

**Present:**        **Board Members:**

President  
Vice President

Mr. Ciappetta  
Mrs. Carey  
Mr. Bronson  
Mrs. DeGaetano  
Mr. Joyner  
Mrs. LaCara  
Mr. Nitkewicz

**Staff:**

Superintendent of Schools  
Asst. Supt. for Business and District Operations  
Asst. Supt. for Instruction and Curriculum  
Personnel Administrator  
Deputy District Clerk

Dr. Bennardo  
Dr. Centamore  
Dr. Bloom  
Mr. Fallon  
Mrs. Ferranti

**Absent:**        Deputy Superintendent  
District Clerk

Mrs. Harris  
Mrs. McLean

**Call to Order:**        Mr. Ciappetta opened the meeting at 7:43 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Presentation of Girl Scout Gold Award:**        Dr. Bennardo introduced Ms. Danielle Henneborn, Troop 2849, who presented to the Board and the audience her Girl Scout Gold Award Art project mural to be created for the Art wing at Walt Whitman High School.

**Presentation of Eagle Scout Project:**        Dr. Bennardo then introduced Mr. Michael Pinelli, Troop 708, who explained how he was going to build a bench and a path to an existing garden at Walt Whitman High School.

**Retirement Recognition:**        Dr. Bennardo welcomed and thanked the audience and expressed how this was an opportunity for us to recognize the best of our South Huntington teachers and staff. Dr. Bennardo spoke of recognizing our long-standing teachers as they retire, our new staff members receiving tenure and our newly created staff recognition. He then shared that we will honor our Student Leaders and Principal List recipients, who were the brightest and the best and who worked tirelessly between the staff and students. Congratulations were expressed to all.

Mr. Fallon paid tribute to those teachers who, on a day-to-day basis, addressed the needs of our great students, created families along with support staff and nurtured them throughout the years. Among the seven instructional retirees to be honored, there was a total of 184 years of dedication and service to the South Huntington UFSD. Mr. Fallon called each retiree to the podium to receive their certificate.

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Mr. Fallon was honored and privileged to recognize our non-instructional personnel who were dedicated and committed to the South Huntington UFSD each and every day. Each retiree in attendance was called to the podium to receive their certificate and thanks.

**Tenure  
Recognition:**

Mr. Fallon spoke about how our newly tenured teachers are hard-working and have excellent character. He expressed how it is not easy to be hired in a public school, to withstand the rigors of teaching and stand out in the crowd. These tenured teachers are greatly accomplished and have had tremendous success. They are all role models and will impact the district for decades to come. Each teacher was called to the podium with resounding applause.

**Staff Recognition:**

Mr. Fallon expressed his ambition to build skills and to honor those people you may not hear about behind the scenes in all our schools. Each employee being honored fulfills the district's mission, and it was a privilege to speak about each one individually. All the staff being recognized were called to the podium, and Mr. Fallon warmly acknowledged each and every one and thanked them for all their work above and beyond the normal school hour day.

Mr. Ciappetta warmly acknowledged Mr. Mark Natale, one of our district employee's and an American patriot, who passed away with an illness relative to toxins at Ground Zero. Mr. Natale was an outstanding, kind, warm, and loving individual, who came to work each day and did so much for our students at Walt Whitman High School. He certainly went above and beyond his call to duty in his life. Mrs. Natale and one of her daughters approached the podium to a standing ovation from the audience in honor of her husband.

**Student Leadership  
Awards:**

Dr. Bennardo spoke of how the evening took a different twist on the night. We honor incredible students and now we had the opportunity to see the South Huntington family and thank them for what they do every day. We thank our retirees, newly tenured teachers, and the parents of our superior students. We know what it takes to raise a child in this 21<sup>st</sup> Century, 100 mile per hour schedule on the refrigerator. The product in front of you is your labor of love, and we thank you for giving us your children.

Dr. Bennardo introduced Mr. John Murphy to segue into the student leadership awards and he began by calling up Mr. Smith and Mr. Oblatz to begin with our middle school leaders.

Mr. Oblatz, associate principal of Silas Wood, thanked and congratulated all the retirees and newly tenured teachers and staff for their recognition this evening. Mr. Oblatz introduced Ms. Kristin Bernard and Ms. Carol Kelly, class advisors for the student leaders. Ms. Bernard spoke about the student leaders favorably, and how she was very fortunate to have this group of officers to thank for all their hard work and community service they were dedicated to sustain.

Mr. Smith, principal of Stimson Middle School, thanked and congratulated all the retirees and newly tenured teachers. He also congratulated the students to be recognized. Mr. Smith then introduced Mrs. Sharon Smith, the Student Council

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advisor. Mrs. Smith was very pleased with this group of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade officers. From the very first day of school they hit the ground running, involving themselves in every activity and community service event. Mrs. Smith articulated that these students were true models for our schools. They were “on call” and up to any task presented to them. They worked as a team and were kind and thoughtful to one another at all times. It was an honor to work with them.

Mr. Keith Goldman, freshmen class advisor, introduced each officer and thanked them for putting in 48 hours of work in a 24-hour day. He thanked their families for creating such amazing children.

Ms. Melissa Papianou, sophomore class advisor, stated that it was a pleasure working with these dedicated, meticulous students and thanked them for their hard work and diligence each and every day throughout the year. Each officer came forward for recognition.

Mr. Thomas Donlon, the junior class advisor, recognized the 11<sup>th</sup> grade officers and referred to them as the backbone of Walt Whitman. Each student officer was introduced and came forward to be recognized.

Mrs. Diane Langhorst-Zamow, the senior class advisor, recognized her Student Council officers, and stated that all together they are the definition of leadership in our schools. They were truly remarkable athletes, musicians, performers and high achievers in the classroom. This group will face challenges and be successful with whatever path they choose. Mrs. Zamow announced where each student will attend college.

Ms. Elizabeth Leogrande introduced all the GSO officers and spoke of their many accomplishments throughout the year. They worked very well with each other, and were over-achievers throughout the year. She thanked all the seniors and officers for their creativity and hard work. Ms. Leogrande introduced the officers and announced the college the seniors will attend in the fall.

**Principal’s List:**

Mr. Murphy thanked the Board of Education, Administrative Office and the parents that gave him the opportunity to present these awards. Mr. Murphy expressed sincere, bittersweet feelings towards this group, as he watched them grow into adults from the beginning of his high school career. Mr. Murphy stated that this group can take on the world, they are well-rounded human beings, and he will miss them. The Principal’s List plaque was revealed and will be proudly hung in the South Cafeteria of Walt Whitman High School, a long-standing tradition. This year Mr. Murphy was particularly proud of the total of 84 students on this list, which had overwhelmingly increased this year, including the Co-Valedictorians. Mr. Murphy thanked each parent and spoke briefly of each student’s individual high school accomplishments and honors, and concluded each presentation with the student’s college choice for the fall.

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<b>Adoption of Agenda:</b>	Motion by Mr. Bronson, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the revised agenda be adopted.  Motion carried unanimously.
<b>Motion on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants):</b>	Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Bronson, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District approve the following items:
<b>Minutes:</b>	Minutes of Board meeting held on April 18, 2018.
<b>Schedule of Investment Accounts:</b>	Schedule of Investment Accounts, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1531.
<b>Treasurer's Report:</b>	Treasurer's Report, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1532.
<b>Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1533-1551.
<b>Monthly Collateral Reconciliation:</b>	Monthly Collateral Reconciliation, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1552.
<b>Revenue Status Report, General Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, General Fund, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1553.
<b>Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1554.
<b>Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1555.
<b>Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1556.
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) General Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), General Fund, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1557-1564.

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<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) School Lunch Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), School Lunch Fund, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1565.		
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Special Aid Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Special Aid Fund, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1566-1567.		
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Capital Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Capital Fund, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1568.		
<b>Budgetary Transfer Report:</b>	Budgetary Transfer Report, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1569.		
<b>Tax Levy Schedule:</b>	Tax Levy Schedule, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1570.		
<b>Library Tax Levy:</b>	Library Tax Levy, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1570.		
<b>Extraclassroom Activity Report:</b>	Extraclassroom Activity Report, as of March, 2018, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1571-1579..		
<b>Schedule of Bills (Warrants):</b>	<u>Schedule of Bills (Warrants)</u>		
	General (A)	Schedule 104	\$1,174,716.65
		105	\$11,666.67
		106	\$23,443.60
		V091	(\$43,472.00)
	School Lunch	Schedule 44	\$54,689.48
		044	(\$96.12)
	Special Aid (F)	Schedule 45	\$29,300.83
	Scholarship (TE)	Schedule 2	\$700.00
	Capital Checking (H)	Schedule 29	\$44,662.58
<b>Vote on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants):</b>	Mr. Ciappetta asked for any additional comments or questions on the above items, and then called for a vote on the motion.		
	Motion carried unanimously.		

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**Tax Anticipation  
Notes for  
2018/2019:**

Edward J. Nitkewicz offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SOUTH HUNTINGTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Tax Anticipation Notes (herein called "Notes") of South Huntington Union Free School District, in the County of Suffolk, New York (herein called "District"), in the principal amount of not to exceed \$32,000,000, and any notes in renewal thereof, are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the provisions of Sections 24.00 and 39.00 of the Local Finance Law, constituting Chapter 33-a of the Consolidated Laws of the State of New York (herein called "Law").

Section 2. The following additional matters are hereby determined and declared:

(a) The Notes shall be issued in anticipation of the collection of real estate taxes to be levied for school purposes for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019, and the proceeds of the Notes shall be used only for the purposes for which said taxes are levied.

(b) The Notes shall mature within the period of one year from the date of their issuance.

(c) The Notes are not issued in renewal of other notes.

(d) The total amount of such taxes remains uncollected at the date of adoption of this resolution.

Section 3. The Notes hereby authorized shall contain the recital of validity prescribed by Section 52.00 of the Law and shall be general obligations of the District, and the faith and credit of the District are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the Notes and unless the Notes are otherwise paid or payment provided for, an amount sufficient for such payment shall be inserted in the budget of the District and a tax sufficient to provide for the payment thereof shall be levied and collected.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of this resolution and the Law, and pursuant to Sections 50.00, 56.00, 60.00 and 61.00 of the Law, the power to sell and issue the Notes authorized pursuant hereto, or any renewals thereof, and to determine the terms, form and contents, including the manner of execution, of such Notes, and to execute tax certifications relative thereto, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer of the District.

Section 5. The Notes shall be executed in the name of the District by the manual signature of the President of the Board of Education, the Vice President of the Board of Education, the District Treasurer, the District Clerk, or such other officer of the District as shall be designated by the chief

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fiscal officer of the District, and shall have the corporate seal of the District impressed or imprinted thereon which corporate seal may be attested by the manual signature of the District Clerk.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Board Member Andrew Bronson.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Donation from  
Park Shore  
Country Day  
Camp:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby accepts the donation from Park Shore Day Camp in the amount of \$5,000 to be used for the May 23<sup>rd</sup> STEAM Competition. Be it Further Resolved, that the budget code for this purpose will be increased accordingly.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Attendance to May  
24<sup>th</sup> Scholarship  
Luncheon:**

Motion by Mr. Bronson, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the Superintendent's attendance to the May 24<sup>th</sup> Scholarship Luncheon for WWHS student Katie Latko, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1580.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Attendance to May  
30<sup>th</sup> NSSBA 59<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Dinner  
Meeting:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the attendance to the May 30<sup>th</sup> NSSBA 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Meeting for the Superintendent, Board President and three Board Members, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p.1581.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Attendance to June  
5<sup>th</sup> Gold Key and  
Hall of Fame  
Dinner:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the attendance to the June 5<sup>th</sup> Gold Key and Hall of Fame Dinner for the Board President, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1582.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Senior Class of  
2018 Gift to  
District:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby accepts the Senior Class of 2018 gift to the district, an asphalt walkway from the northern-side gate to the driveway.

Motion carried unanimously.

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**Resolution re Lease Agreement:** Mrs. Carey offered the following resolution and Mr. Nitkewicz moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, on or about August 27, 2013, the South Huntington Union Free School District entered into a Lease Agreement with Tenants, New Media Marketing and Spirit of Huntington Art Center for the lease of a portion of the premises located at 2 Melville Road for the term of September 1, 2013, through August 31, 2015 (the "Lease Agreement"); which term was thereafter extended;

WHEREAS, on or about December 10, 2014, the parties amended the Lease Agreement to reduce the rental amounts and modify the other consideration provided by Tenant, Spirit of Huntington, to the School District;

WHEREAS, on or about August 17, 2016, the parties amended the Lease Agreement to reduce the rental amount due and owing to Landlord for the period of September 1, 2015, through August 31, 2017, modify the other consideration provided by Tenant, Spirit of Huntington, to the School District and establish a payment schedule for rent in arrears;

WHEREAS, on or about August 23, 2017, the parties amended the Lease Agreement to address the overdue and unpaid rent due to School District for the term of the Lease (the "Third Amendment");

WHEREAS, the Third Amendment extended the term of the Lease Agreement through August 31, 2019, established a rental amount for the extended term, and set forth a payment schedule for the overdue rent;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Lease Agreement, as amended, Tenants are obligated to pay annual rent in monthly installments plus utilities together with monthly installments of overdue rent;

WHEREAS, Tenants have substantially breached their contractual obligations to the School District, including but not limited to their failure to pay rent and overdue rent when due under the Lease Agreement;

WHEREAS, Tenants have failed to take the necessary steps to bring itself into compliance with its contractual obligations to perform its obligations under the Lease Agreement in a timely manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby terminates the Lease Agreement with New Media Marketing and Spirit of Huntington Art Center effective at 5 p.m. on Monday, April 30, 2018, without prejudice to any right or remedy which the School District has pursuant to law by contract, or in equity.

Motion carried unanimously.



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**Settlement Agreement with Spirit of Huntington/New Media:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Joyner, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the Settlement Agreement between the South Huntington School District and the Spirit of Huntington, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1583-1589.

Motion carried unanimously.

**License Agreement with Spirit of Huntington:**

Motion by Mr. Bronson, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the License Agreement with the Spirit of Huntington, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1590-1595.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Wildcat Booster Club Scholarships:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Joyner, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the following scholarships from the Wildcat Booster Club: Coach Altebrando Humanitarian Scholarship (2) to be awarded to a male and female student; \$750 each. Minimum GPA of 70%, paramount is a person of good character, who is kind and giving. Principal's Athlete Award, to be awarded to one student for \$750 chosen by the Walt Whitman Principal.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Recommendations for Placement of Students by the Committee on Special Education:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District, having reviewed minutes of the Committee on Special Education dated March 19, 20, 23, April 6, 11, 18, 23, 25, 26, May 2, 3, 4, 7, 2018, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated March 15, 20, 26, April 19, May 3, 2018, is satisfied that the procedures of Chapter 853 of the Education Law were followed and accepts the recommendations for placement set forth, copies made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1596-1610.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Certification of Election Results:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, WHEREAS, the Annual District Elections of the South Huntington Union Free School District of the Town of Huntington, New York, was duly called to be held on May 15, 2018, and was held on said date within said School District for the purpose of voting on the Proposition and Elections set forth in the notice calling said Annual District Election; now therefore,

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby determines that said election was held in all respects in the manner prescribed by Education Law of the State of New York and accepts the results as declared by Chairperson Lori Pirozzi:

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Proposition No. 1 – School Budget	1,107 Yes	398 No
Proposition No. 2 – Sale of Depot Road Property	1,149 Yes	324 No
Proposition No. 3 – Purchase of Oakwood Road Property	1,112 Yes	361 No

The vote for School Board Trustees was as follows for three, three-year terms of office:

Edward Nitkewicz	Received 1,001 Votes
Michele DeGaetano	Received 1,084 Votes
Linda LaCara	Received 1,046 Votes
Solange Rich	Received 752 Votes

Motion carried unanimously.

**Personnel:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District, having reviewed the Chief School Administrator's recommendations contained within, is satisfied that the provisions of Section 3012 of Education Law were followed and thereby accepts the recommendations as set forth in schedules made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1611-1619, and authorizes implementation thereof:

- Schedule 6: Summer School Appointments (Instructional)
- Schedule 9: Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)
- Schedule 11: Terminations (Instructional)
- Schedule 12: Leaves of Absence; Ext. of Sick Leave
- Schedule 13: Salary Change (Instructional)
- Schedule 16: Terminations (Non-Instructional)
- Schedule 17: Leaves of Absence (Non-Instructional)
- Schedule 20: Re-Appointments (Non-Instructional)
- Schedule 22: Substitute Employee appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)

Motion carried unanimously.

**Information and Reports:**

1. Wildcat Booster Gold Key Scholarship & Hall of Fame Dinner Invitation, Tuesday, June 5, 2018, 6 p.m., Woodbury Country Club
2. SHTA Retirement Party Invitation, Tuesday, June 12, 2018, 4 p.m. at the Crest Hollow Country Club
3. Personnel Postings
4. Special Education Information Fair Flyer, May 24, 5-9 p.m., Walt Whitman High School
5. Countrywood's "Alice in Wonderland" Invitation to Attend, May 22, 23, and 24, all performances at 9 a.m. (7 p.m. on May 24)
6. Congratulatory Student Letters re American Association of Teachers of French Poetry Contest
7. School Grade Enrollment Report Ending April 30, 2018

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**Comments by  
Board Members:**

Mr. Ciappetta congratulated the district's resounding success. All the propositions passed, voters had good faith and support for the district moving forward. This was a hard fought race. It was a pleasure working with each of you over the last few years.

Mr. Nitkewicz thanked the community for coming out to vote and appreciated the confidence the community had in our Board and district.

Mr. Bronson congratulated all Board members re-elected and was looking forward to working with them over the years.

**Voice of the  
Residents:**

None provided

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, be it Resolved that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 10:34 p.m.

  
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Nicholas R. Ciappetta, J.D., President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Elaine Ferranti, Deputy District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 1531 through 1619.