

January 9, 2019

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on January 9, 2019, in the Leadership Conference Room of the James Kaden Administrative Offices, 60 Weston Street, 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 & District Operations

Asst. Supt. for Instruction & Curriculum

Asst. Supt. for Student Services

Personnel Administrator

District Clerk

Dr. Bennardo

Dr. Centamore

Dr. Bloom

Mrs. Poprilo

Mr. Fallon

Mrs. McLean

Call to Order: Mr. Ciappetta opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Executive Session: Motion by Mr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Bronson, be it Resolved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular person.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Executive Session be adjourned.
Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ciappetta opened the Business Meeting at 7:30 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Stimson Middle School Dance Team Presentation: Mr. Ciappetta welcomed the audience to the first meeting of 2019 and expressed his hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday. Mr. Ciappetta added that introducing the Stimson Middle School Dance Team was a great way to start the New Year.

The dance team performed, and despite the challenge of dancing within a confined area, did an absolutely splendid job. Their enthusiasm was contagious, and soon everyone was tapping to the beat of the music. After the performance, Mr. Ciappetta thanked the team, Coach Ashley Corcoran and asked that a photograph be taken with the entire Board of Education and the Stimson Middle School Dance Team.

January 9, 2019

**NYS Dance
Education
Association's 2018
Outstanding Dance
Educator - Susan
Turner Radin:**

Mr. Ciappetta shared how appreciative he was to recognize this very special individual tonight, Mrs. Susan Turner Radin. Mrs. Radin has been the District's dance teacher since 2003. Mr. Ciappetta stated that through the years, Mrs. Radin brought the dance program to new heights; she had and continued to do an outstanding job. Mr. Ciappetta provided credit to Mrs. Radin for the musical theatre and drama programs, and added how grateful he was to provide recognition to Mrs. Radin's selection as the NYS Dance Education Association's 2018 Outstanding Dance Educator. Mr. Ciappetta and Mrs. Carey presented Mrs. Radin with a certificate to commemorate the event, as well as a bouquet of flowers.

Mrs. Radin expressed her appreciation to Anita Feldman of Hofstra University for nominating her for this award, as well as the administration and staff at Walt Whitman High School who supported the application. Mrs. Radin also complimented Dr. Bennardo, Mr. Ciappetta and Mrs. Carey—without their support, shared Mrs. Radin, she could not do the things that she loved to do. Mrs. Radin spoke of her parents and what their support had meant, and also her husband, James. Her sons, Quinn and Reece were present, and Mrs. Radin expressed how fortunate she was to have such a supportive family. A photograph was taken to commemorate the event.

**Adoption of
Agenda:**

Motion by Mr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Nitkewicz, be it Resolved that the revised agenda be adopted.
Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion on Minutes
through Schedule
of Bills (Warrants):**

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 approve the following items:

Minutes:

Minutes of Board meeting held on November 28, 2018.

**Schedule of
Investment
Accounts:**

Schedule of Investment Accounts, as of October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 841.

**Treasurer's
Report:**

Treasurer's Report, October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 842.

**Monthly Trial
Balance and Bank
Reconciliation:**

Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation, October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 843-861.

**Monthly Collateral
Reconciliation:**

Monthly Collateral Reconciliation, as of October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 862.

January 9, 2019

Revenue Status Report, General Fund:	Revenue Status Report, General Fund, for October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 863.
Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund:	Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund, October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 864.
Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund:	Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund, October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 865.
Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund:	Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund, October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 866.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) General Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), General Fund, for October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 867-874.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) School Lunch Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), School Lunch Fund, for October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 875.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Special Aid Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Special Aid Fund, for October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 876-877.
Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Capital Fund:	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Capital Fund, for October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 878.
Budgetary Transfer Report:	Budgetary Transfer Report, for October 2018, copies made part of these legal minutes, p. 879.
Tax Levy Schedule:	Tax Levy Schedule, October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 880.
Library Tax Levy:	Library Tax Levy, October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 880.
Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report:	Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report, October 2018, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 881-889.

January 9, 2019

Schedule of Bills (Warrants):	<u>Schedule of Bills (Warrants)</u>		
	General (A)	Schedule 66	\$463,867.80
		67	\$805,000.00
		68	\$63,949.26
		69	\$97.38
		70	\$898.43
		V065	(\$2,000.00)
	School Lunch	Schedule 28	\$800.10
	Special Aid (F)	Schedule 26	\$14,000.00
	Capital Checking	Schedule 15	\$106,970.90
	 <u>Approved – Board Packet of December 21, 2018</u>		
	General (A)	Schedule 64	\$396,384.38
		65	\$109,245.51
	School Lunch	Schedule 27	\$14,398.83
	Special Aid (F)	Schedule 25	\$3,714.96
Capital Checking	Schedule 14	\$588.20	
 <u>Approved – Board Packet of December 14, 2018</u>			
General (A)	Schedule 59	\$3,534.00	
	60	\$617,680.40	
	61	\$11,666.67	
	62	\$40,227.79	
School Lunch	Schedule 26	\$66,438.66	
	VO26	(\$211.82)	
Special Aid (F)	Schedule 24	\$5,893.80	
Capital Checking	Schedule 12	\$550.40	
	13	\$24,062.17	

Vote on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants): 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.

Approval of Purchase & Authorization to Sign Any and All Documents: Mr. Joyner offered the following resolution, and Mrs. DeGaetano moved its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trustees of the South Huntington Union Free School District, at the meeting held on January 9, 2019 with a quorum present, approved the purchase in the amount of \$365,000.00 of certain real property known by street address 441 Oakwood Road, Huntington Station, New York 11746, and designated as District 0400 Section 135.00 Block 02.00 Lot 006.000, from 441 Holdings LLC, as per the vote held on May 15, 2018, whereby the qualified voters of the South Huntington Union Free School District approved said purchase. The President of the Board of Trustees of the South Huntington Union Free School District is authorized by the Board of Trustees of the District to sign any and all transfer documents necessary to effectuate the purchase of the property designated as District 0400 Section 135.00 Block 02.00 Lot 006.000. Motion carried unanimously.

January 9, 2019

**Reallocation of
Assignment of
Funds and
Approval of
Increase to the
2018/19 Budget:**

Mrs. DeGaetano offered the following resolution, and Mr. Bronson moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, that the Trustees of the South Huntington Union Free School District, with a quorum present, hereby approves the purchase in the amount of \$365,000.00 of certain real property known by street address 441 Oakwood Road, Huntington Station, New York 11746, and designated as District 0400 Section 135.00 Block 02.00 Lot 006.000, from 441 Holdings LLC, as per the vote held on May 15, 2018, whereby the qualified voters of the South Huntington Union Free School District approved said purchase.

BE IT RESOLVED, that there be a reallocation of assignment of funds in the amount of \$215,000 from the Assigned Unappropriated Fund Balance (Other Post-Employment Benefits) to the Assigned Unappropriated Fund Balance (Land Purchase).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there be an increase in the 2018/19 budget in the amount of \$365,000. The budget revision will be an increase to budget code 1940-13-BOF-400 (Purchase of Land) and an increase of \$150,000 in the Revenue Budget 980.2660 (Sale of Real Property) from the sale of Depot Road and Thompson Place property as well as \$215,000 from Assigned Unappropriated Fund Balance 915.01 (Land Purchase).

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ciappetta explained to the audience that this and the previous resolution addressed the purchase of the Oakwood Road property, which will enable the District to own the property directly next to Stimson. This purchase was, continued Mr. Ciappetta, approved by the voters at the May 15th budget vote. Mr. Ciappetta shared that work on a bond was being conducted that would include plans for this property—certainly additional parking—which was very much needed.

**Approval of the
Medicaid
Compliance
Plan:**

Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Bronson, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the Medicaid Compliance Plan.
Motion carried unanimously.

**Donation from
Huntington
Honda:**

Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mrs. Carey, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the \$2,000 donation from Huntington Honda to be utilized for the January 19th Regional Dance Team Competition. Be it Further Resolved, as the donation was made for a student-specific purpose, the budget code for same to be increased accordingly.

January 9, 2019

Paraprofessional Standard Work Day: Mrs. Carey offered the following resolution, and Mr. Nitkewicz moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, by way of resolution adopted on January 21, 2009, the Board of Education established the standard work day for various non-certificated positions for reporting purposes to the New York State Employees Retirement System ("ERS"), including the position of Paraprofessionals; and

WHEREAS, due to a change in circumstances in the configuration of personnel, the District is desirous of modifying the standard work day of Paraprofessionals so as to be aligned with the position of Teacher Assistants, which position was formally established by the District in 2017;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that effective July 1, 2019, the Board of Education hereby establishes the standard work day of five days per week, six hours per day, as the official measure of reporting work days to ERS for Paraprofessionals in the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that District personnel are to take such other and further action to report his modification of the standard work day of Paraprofessionals to ERS, and to complete all required documentation to effectuate this modification.

Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Field Trip for Other Than School Hours: Motion by Mr. Bronson, seconded by Mr. Joyner, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the field trip to Alaska scheduled for June 28 through July 3, 2020 for 32 students and 4 chaperones.
Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Bloom shared that while the trip is scheduled in 2020, advance approval was sought so that ample time for fundraising can be coordinated and completed.

Approval of Field Trip: 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 field trip for the Varsity Cheerleading team to travel to the National High School Cheerleading Championships from February 7 through 11, 2019, in Orlando, Florida.
Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Field Trip: Motion by Mr. Joyner, seconded by Mr. Bronson, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the field trip for the WWHS Winterguard to travel to the WGI International Winter Guard Competition on Saturday, January 26, 2019, to West Orange, New Jersey.
Motion carried unanimously.

January 9, 2019

- Approval of Field Trip:** 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 field trip for the WWHS Wrestling team to travel to the Eastern States Wrestling Tournament on January 11 through 12, 2019, in Loch Sheldrake, New York.
Motion carried unanimously.
- Recommendations for Placement by CSE/CPSE:** Motion by Mr. Nitkewicz, seconded by Mr. Joyner, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District, having reviewed minutes of the Committee on Special Education dated November 5, 19, 21, 27, 28, 29, 30, December 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 2018, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated October 2, November 8, 16, 29, December 5, 10, 13, 18, 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. 890-902.
Motion carried unanimously.
- Personnel:** Motion by Mrs. LaCara, seconded by Mr. Bronson, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington School District, having reviewed the recommendations of the Chief School Administrator, is satisfied that the provisions of Section 3012 of Education Law were followed, and thereby accepts those recommendations as set forth in schedules made part of these legal minutes, pp. 903-912, and authorizes implementation thereof:
Schedule 7: Temporary Replacement Appointments (Instructional)
Schedule 8: Re-Employment to Positions (Instructional)
Schedule 9: Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)
Schedule 11: Terminations (Instructional)
Schedule 12: Leaves of Absence; Ext. of Sick Leave
Schedule 16: Terminations (Non-Instructional)
Schedule 17: Leaves of Absence (Non-Instructional)
Schedule 19: Temporary/Seasonal Appointment (Non-Instructional)
Schedule 20: Re-Appointments (Non-Instructional)
Schedule 22: Substitute Employee appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)
Motion carried unanimously.
- Information and Reports:**
1. The Effective Teaching Series Catalog 2019 Prepared by Bob Cangero, Coordinator of the New Teacher Mentor Program and Maureen Damm, Director of the South Huntington Teacher Center
 2. Enrollment Report for Period Ending December 31, 2018
 3. Personnel Postings
 4. The Long-Islander, January 3, 2019, re Wildcat Youth Wrestling Program
- Information Sent to Board Week Ending December 21, 2018:
1. Facility Committee Meeting Minutes from December 13, 2018
 2. January 12, 2019, Effective Advocacy SCSSA Workshop
 3. Andrew Peer's Tournament Letter to Finalists from Superintendent
 4. Sponsorship Thank You for Cheerleading Championship from Superintendent

January 9, 2019

5. WWHS Students of the Month Letter
6. Blood Drive Success Letter to Whitman Officers from Superintendent
7. Personnel Postings
8. Oakwood Calendar for January, 2019, and Principal's Newsletter

Information Sent to Board Week Ending December 14, 2018:

1. SHTA Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting, December 10, 2018
2. Mid-Year Examination Letter to Parents/Students from Principal Murphy
3. Personnel Postings
4. Congratulatory Letter re Fall Athletic Season

**Comments
from Board
Members and
Staff:**

Mr. Ciappetta announced the exciting news that Senior Jack Poplawski received the News12 Scholar-Athlete distinction. Mr. Ciappetta shared how rare this honor was, and added that the News12 video-clip was very impressive.

Mr. Ciappetta then shared the news that Board Trustee Edward Nitkewicz will be honored by the Spirit of Huntington Art Center on March 2nd at Coindre Hall from 7 to 11 p.m. This honor recognized the advocacy work Mr. Nitkewicz has done for Special Education students.

Mr. Nitkewicz thanked Mr. Ciappetta for announcing the event, and stated that the Spirit of Huntington Art Center provided a great art program for students with Autism. The student projects were amazing and range in many different art forms. Mr. Nitkewicz shared that as a Board Trustee and a father of a son with Autism, he personally appreciated the work the Art Center does for students with special needs.

Mr. Nitkewicz also shared that he was the Chairperson for Autism Speaks, and on May 2, 2019, their annual comedy night will take place, and he hoped that members of the South Huntington learning family could attend this fundraiser—it was quite entertaining and the proceeds go to a great cause. Mr. Nitkewicz proudly communicated that here at South Huntington, there was a great standard with our special education program. He thanked everyone present for their continued support.

Dr. Bennardo provided credit to Principal Murphy and Dr. Muller and the high school team as they will be presenting at two different diversity conferences on increasing the numbers of diverse students in advanced placement courses. This increase was a goal of the District's for the past seven years. Dr. Bennardo added that our classes should mirror the diversity of our District, and this accomplishment spoke volumes of our advanced placement teachers.

Mr. Ciappetta thanked Board Trustee Linda LaCara and Mrs. McLean for coordinating the Board of Education Leadership plaque that was hung in the Leadership Conference Room. The plaque identifies the history of all presidents and vice presidents of the Boards of Education from 1926 to present.

January 9, 2019

Voice of the Residents:

Resident Helen Boxwill introduced herself and added that she was a resident for the past 35 years. She was here this evening to articulate her thoughts on the School Resource Officer (SRO) and provide support for a Memorandum of Understanding that would clearly outline what the SRO can and cannot do for the South Huntington School District. Accompanying her this evening were three residents, who also wished to speak—namely, Mr. Osman Canales, Mrs. Judi Gardner and Dr. Steve Burby. Ms. Boxwill stated that immigrants in the District live in fear—fear that the SRO may report them as a gang member to Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents (ICE). Ms. Boxwill stated that only 0.1% of immigrant youth were gang associated, and our immigrant student population feared being deported as was the situation in the Huntington School District. Ms. Boxwill asked the Board what will be done in South Huntington to avoid this from happening and shared that schools should be a safe haven for students. In closing, Ms. Boxwill asked that consideration be provided to a MOU that would protect the immigrant youth of the District.

Resident Osman Canales introduced himself and shared that he graduated from Walt Whitman High School and while there, formed a club for less affluent immigrant students. He stated that this situation was very personal to him—he had come to this country for a better life, and was very proud to share that he was the first in his family with a college degree. He articulated his concern for “Alex,” a student who had attended Huntington High School and was deported back to his home country of Honduras after the SRO allegedly reported his “perceived” MS gang affiliation to ICE. He urged the Board to consider the List of Demands for South Huntington School District regarding the Treatment of Immigrant Students dated January 9, 2019, and provided copies to the District Clerk for distribution to Board members. Mr. Canales read Pages 1 and 2 of the List of Demands, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 913-916.

Resident Judi Gardner introduced herself and stated that she raised two daughters who attended school within the District, and she herself was a retired middle school teacher. She added that she held the District in very high esteem. She urged understanding for students who do “dumb things” and felt that it was necessary to know where everyone was coming from. Mrs. Gardner emphasized the importance of the SRO’s understanding of what the District’s expectations were with respect to student behavior. Mrs. Gardner read Page 3 of the List of Demands.

Resident Dr. Steve Burby introduced himself and added that he was a resident for the past 25 years and both of his daughters attended school within the District. He shared that he taught at the Brentwood School District and had the pleasure of working with Principal Murphy when he was employed there. Dr. Burby read Page 4 of the List of Demands and expressed appreciation for Mr. Canales, Mrs. Boxwill, and Mrs. Gardner for their support with this matter.

Mr. Ciappetta thanked the residents.

January 9, 2019

Assistant Principal Michele Davis expressed her appreciation for the support of staff members with the recent passing of her father. She added that she does not take for granted the compassion and humanity that was expressed and demonstrated to her.

Mr. Jim McGoldrick expressed his support of the District, and shared that the situation with the SRO in the Huntington School District was simply that a “fall guy” was needed. Mr. McGoldrick stated that Officer Drew was respected by the school staff members and the students. He expressed his concern that our District and the other districts within the Huntington Township not follow what the Huntington School District may or may not do based upon the situation that occurred in their district. He emphasized that it was not District 13 in the newspapers, and the reason for that rests with our Board of Education and administration. Mr. McGoldrick complimented the Board and administration for the fine work they have and continue to do for our District. With respect to the situation in the Huntington School District, Mr. McGoldrick stated that “Alex” may or may not have been a gang member, however, despite our not having all the facts, “Alex” was deported. Mr. McGoldrick explained that the deportation process does not deport students for wearing blue sneakers, writing 504 on a cell phone, or drawing devils with horns—there would need to be more serious offences for deportation. Mr. McGoldrick added that we need to continue to work together. In closing, Mr. McGoldrick shared that Officer Drew was a valuable asset to our District, and he urged prudence in our decision making.

Mr. Ciappetta stated to the audience that our South Huntington School District was a diverse district, and we were proud of it. We succeed because of our diversity. We will continue to be a great district and work together.

Adjournment: Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Bronson, be it Resolved that the meeting be adjourned.
Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 9 p.m.



Nicholas R. Ciappetta, J.D., President



Laura McLean, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 841 through 916.