

May 14, 2019

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Huntington Union Free School District was held on May, 14, 2019, in the Leadership Conference Room of the James Kaden Administrative Offices, 60 Weston Street, Huntington Station, NY 11746

**Present:**      **Board Members:**

President  
Vice President

Mr. Ciappetta  
Mrs. Carey  
Mr. Bronson  
Mrs. DeGaetano  
Mr. Sidney 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 Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Joyner, be it Resolved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss an employee matter.  
Motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Ciappetta opened the Business Meeting at 7:35 p.m. and Girl Scout Troop 954 led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Foster Grandparent Program:**

Mr. Ciappetta shared with the audience that the Foster Grandparent Program was a national program established in 1965 for the purpose of pairing senior citizens with students to enhance the quality of life of children in public school settings. He added that the grandparents involved possessed a caring manner that provides just the right amount of motivation to a student, together with a warm smile and tender words that can make the difference between a sad day and a happy one. Mr. Ciappetta shared that tonight five “grandmas” will be recognized who provide support in reading, assistance with projects and games and assist with daily classroom routines. Mr. Ciappetta added that the Board and the administrative team were most grateful to these caring citizens for providing encouragement, help and support as only a grandparent can do. Personnel Administrator Frank Fallon spoke on behalf of each grandparent—Patricia Ciesielski, Barbara Mead,

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Diane Vinci, Mary Butler Harvey and Penny Riley, and Mr. Ciappetta and Mrs. Carey presented each with a Certificate of Appreciation and a framed photograph of each “grandma” with their class. A group photograph was taken with the entire Board of Education, and the audience provided the “grandmas” with a round of applause.

**Girl Scout Troop 61  
Silver Award  
Presentation:**

Troop Leaders Jean Lewin and Marcella Finochio introduced the five girl scouts from Troop 61 receiving the Silver Award—Emily Lewin, Gabby Finochio, Violet Palina, Maggie Lahm, and Ally Gudiatis. The girls spoke of their Silver Award project that dealt with assistance provided to those who suffer domestic abuse. Each girl shared how they contributed to the Domestic Abuse shelter, such as building a book case for the shelter, securing both adult and children’s books, collecting various toiletries for the shelter, as well as providing the shelter with donations and gift cards to be used as needed. The girls were presented the Silver Award by the leaders, and a group photograph was taken with the entire Board of Education, and the audience provided the girls scouts with a round of applause.

Troop Leader Josephine Todaro from Troop 955 introduced her daughter, Angelina Todaro. Angelina spoke of her Silver Award project that dealt with a massive book drive for children’s books to be used in Winthrop’s Children’s Hospital. One thousand books were collected. Additionally, Angelina added she conducted a lollipop drive whereby 10,000 lollipops were collected and donated to the hospital for their waiting room. Angelina was very empathetic to the children who struggle with Cancer and hoped that her efforts would assist in reducing their anxiety and stress. She further shared that this cause was very personal and close to the heart as her cousin, Anthony, has passed away in 2007. Her mother provided Angelina with the Silver Award, and a photograph was taken with the entire Board of Education, and the audience provided Angelina with a round of applause.

**Girl Scout Plaque  
Presentation:**

From the podium, Mr. Ciappetta stated that the South Huntington School District was proud of their rich scouting tradition with our Eagle Scouts and Girl Scouts. Continuing, Mr. Ciappetta added that the highest Girl Scout award was created in 1916 and had gone through many changes since that time. In 1980 the Gold Award was developed representing the most prestigious honor in the Girl Scout organization, of which only 5.4% of eligible girl scouts successfully earn. Once achieved, he added, it was a symbol to colleges, employers and the community that these girl scouts were committed to changing the world for the better. Mr. Ciappetta shared that Ms. Yvonne Grant, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Suffolk County Girl Scout Organization, was present, and he asked for Ms. Grant to address the audience. Ms. Grant expressed her gratitude to the Board of Education for recognizing the Gold Award recipients in this manner, and added that the event was all about the Girl Scouts who achieved this prestigious and respected award. Mr. Ciappetta unveiled the Gold Award Girl Scout plaque containing 72 names of girl scouts from Walt Whitman High School who attained this honor from 1988 to present. A round of

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applause was provided, and a group picture was taken to commemorate the moment.

- Adoption of Agenda:** Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the revised agenda be adopted.  
Motion carried unanimously.
- Public Hearing of the 2019/2020 Budget:** Dr. Bennardo began the Public Hearing by stating that in South Huntington, we do not sacrifice excellence—rather we help those most needy among us, and we rise to the top—increasing the excellence. Dr. Bennardo and Dr. Centamore reviewed the PowerPoint presentation, a copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1401. An overview provided the total budget of \$173,351,959, with a budget-to-budget increase of 1.67% and a tax levy increase of 2.87% (tax levy cap compliant). At the conclusion, Mr. Ciappetta asked if the public had any questions, none were posed. Mr. Ciappetta then thanked the administrative team for the hard work and effort that went into the budget development process, and stated that a compliant tax cap was a great accomplishment—this budget would keep expenses down and increase our standards. The Public Hearing was declared closed.
- Motion on Minutes through Schedule of Bills (Warrants):** Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mr. Bronson, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approve the following items:
- Schedule of Investment Accounts:** Schedule of Investment Accounts, as of March 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1402.
- Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's Report, March 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1403.
- Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation:** Monthly Trial Balance and Bank Reconciliation, March 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1404-1421.
- Monthly Collateral Reconciliation:** Monthly Collateral Reconciliation, as of March, 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1422.
- Revenue Status Report, General Fund:** Revenue Status Report, General Fund, for March, 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1423.
- Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund:** Revenue Status Report, School Lunch Fund, March 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1424.

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<b>Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Special Aid Fund, March 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1425.		
<b>Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund:</b>	Revenue Status Report, Capital Fund, March 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1426.		
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) General Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), General Fund, for March 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1427-1434.		
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) School Lunch Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), School Lunch Fund, for March, 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1435.		
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Special Aid Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Special Aid Fund, for March, 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1436-1437.		
<b>Budget Status Report (Expenditures) Capital Fund:</b>	Budget Status Report (Expenditures), Capital Fund, for March, 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1438.		
<b>Budgetary Transfer Report:</b>	Budgetary Transfer Report, for March, 2019, copies made part of these legal minutes, p. 1439.		
<b>Tax Levy Schedule:</b>	Tax Levy Schedule, March, 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1440.		
<b>Library Tax Levy:</b>	Library Tax Levy, March 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, p. 1440.		
<b>Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report:</b>	Extra-classroom Activity Fund Report, April 2019, copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1441-1448.		
<b>Schedule of Bills (Warrants):</b>	General	Warrant 118	\$130,779.00
		Dental 119	\$11,666.67
		120	\$367,315.47
		121	\$4,757.34
		122	\$7,881.26
	School Lunch	Warrant 49	\$34,166.55
	Special Aid (F)	Warrant 43	\$33,211.87

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Approved – Weekly Packet of May 3, 2019

General	Warrant 114	\$2,023,415.98
	115	\$4,804.48
	116	\$4,909.38
	117	\$3,321.46
	V115	-\$4,804.48
School Lunch	Warrant 47	\$22,602.15
	48	\$112.49
Special Aid (F)	Warrant 42	\$68,688.71

**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.

**Communications:**

1. Letter of Appreciation to N. Ciappetta from Chief Operating Officer Michael Flynn of WS BOCES re Successful Budget Vote/Elections
2. Family Service League Invitation to South Huntington Universal Pre-K Graduation

**Girl Scout Troop 954 Scratch Out Hunger Week**

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

**Be it Resolved**, that Girl Scout Troop 954 is desirous of coordinating and sustaining a district-wide food drive to be offered to families in need during the summer months when school is not in session when district free/reduced meals are not available;

**Be it Resolved**, that Girl Scout Troop 954 wishes this fundraising effort to be a perpetual event occurring the first week of June and published in the printed and electronic district calendar formats as “Scratch Out Hunger Week, as well as Superintendent communications via Weekly Wrap-Up call notification and Superintendent Newsletter publication;

**Be it Further Resolved**, that the Board of Education of the South Huntington U.F.S.D. approves the request for the establishment of “Scratch Out Hunger Week” as a perpetual event to be identified in district calendar formats with support of Weekly Wrap-Up calls and Superintendent Newsletter notification.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of SHTA Mini-Grants:**

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 six SHTA Mini-Grant Applications, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1449-1464, amounting to \$9,330.66, for the 2019/2020 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

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**Donation from  
Bethpage Federal  
Credit Union:**

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 \$2,000 donation from the Bethpage Federal Credit Union, to be used exclusively for the Parent University and Health & Wellness Fair that took place on May 2, 2019;

Be it Further Resolved, as the donation was made for a specific purpose, the budget code for same to be increased accordingly.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Board of Education  
Meeting Dates for  
2019/2020:**

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 Notice of Board of Education Meeting Dates for the 2019/2020 school year, a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1465-1469.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Proposal for Public  
Information Services,  
Bond Referendum:**

Motion by Mrs. Carey, seconded by Mrs. LaCara, be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the South Huntington Union Free School District hereby approves the proposal for Public Information Services regarding the Bond Referendum from Zimmerman/Edelson, Inc., a copy made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1470-1481.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Donation from  
National Grid:**

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 donation of \$2,500 from National Grid to co-sponsor the May 22<sup>nd</sup> "STEAM Engineering Design Challenge;"

Be it Further Resolved, as the donation was made for a student-specific purpose, the budget code for same to be increased accordingly.  
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 March 18, 19, 20, 27, 28, 29, April 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 29, 30, May 1, 3, 4, 2019, and the Committee on Preschool Special Education dated March 27, April 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 16, 29, May 2, 3, 2019, 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. 1482-1496.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Personnel:**

Motion by Mr. Bronson, seconded by Mrs. DeGaetano, 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

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followed, and thereby accepts those recommendations as set forth in schedules made part of these legal minutes, pp. 1497-1514, and authorizes implementation thereof:

- Schedule 6: Summer School Appointments (Instructional)
  - Schedule 9: Coaching/Extracurricular Appointments (Instructional)
  - Schedule 10: Tenure Appointments
  - Schedule 11: Terminations (Instructional)
  - Schedule 16: Terminations (Non-Instructional)
  - Schedule 19: Temporary/Seasonal Appointment (Non-Instructional)
  - Schedule 22: Substitute Employee appointments (Inst./Non-Inst.)
- Motion carried unanimously.

**Information and Reports:**

1. NAACP Meet the Candidates at SHPL, May 16, 7-9 p.m.
2. Invitation to the 2019 Gold Key Scholarship and Hall of Fame Dinner
3. Personnel Postings
4. Ingerman Smith re Time Allowed for Employees to Vote
5. Parent Letter re Student Schedules for 2019/2020 from Principal Murphy
6. Countrywood Chronicle, May 2019

Information Sent to Board Week Ending May 3, 2019:

1. Facilities Committee Agenda for May 8, 2019
2. Audit Committee Agenda for May 7, 2019
3. Congratulatory Letter re SC Youth Award from Superintendent
4. Congratulatory Letter re SC Interfaith Anti-Bias Task Force
5. Personnel Postings
6. Enrollment Report as of April 30, 2019
7. Sympathy Card from Michelle Davis and Family
8. NEWSDAY - WWHS Aniyal Walters Eye on the Prize Article
9. SHTA Retirement Party, June 11, Crest Hollow Country Club
10. Countrywood Retirement Party, June 18, Fox Hollow Country Club

**Committee Updates:**

Mr. Nitkewicz shared that the Audit Committee met on May 7, 2019, and the transactions of the district were reviewed, including the district credit card payments and overtime. He reported that being a member of the Audit Committee was a great experience.

Mr. Ciappetta reported that at the last Facilities Committee meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup> two proposals were considered regarding the bond. Mr. Ciappetta commented that the passing of the bond would bring the district to the next level, and it has been 18 months of hard work for the Facilities Committee. Mr. Ciappetta thanked Board Members Michele DeGaetano and Linda LaCara for the extensive number of hours each has served on the Committee.

**Comments from Board Members and Staff:**

Mr. Nitkewicz took the opportunity to thank the South Huntington learning community for attending the recent Autism Speaks event—the support of Board members, teachers, and paras was appreciated. Of the \$140,000 raised from the gala, 85% of that came from our learning family, and for that, Mr. Nitkewicz was proud beyond measure. Mr. Ciappetta agreed that it

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was a beautiful and great event, as always.

**Voice of the Residents:**

Visitors were invited to participate.

**Adjournment:**

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

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:36 p.m.



Nicholas R. Ciappetta, J.D., President



Laura McLean, District Clerk

Attachments made part of these legal minutes, pages 1401 through 1514.