

**REGULAR BUDGET MEETING
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
HUNTINGTON U.F.S.D.**

March 14, 2011

The Regular Budget Meeting of the Board of Education of the Huntington Union Free School District was held on Monday, March 14, 2011 at Jack Abrams School, Lowndes Avenue, Huntington Station, New York. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL

There were present Board of Education Members: Dwyer, Black, Benè, Brown, McGrath, Paci, Rogan; Christopher Guercio, Esq., Superintendent Finello, Mr. Grackin, Dr. Giani, Dr. Card and Mrs. Troffa.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Bené and seconded by Mr. McGrath to go into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations.

MOTION carried 7-0.

At 7:50 p.m. Mr. Dwyer reconvened the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Dwyer led the Board of Education and those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

Mr. Dwyer discussed the exits to be used in the event of any emergency.

SMOKE-FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mr. Dwyer announced that the Huntington Union Free School District is a smoke-free district and smoking is prohibited in all buildings and on school grounds. Mr. Dwyer also requested that all cell phones be turned off or silenced so as not to disturb the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Rogan and seconded by Mrs. Black to approve the Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of March 7, 2011.

AYES:	6	Mrs. Black Mrs. Brown Mr. Dwyer Mr. McGrath Mr. Paci Mrs. Rogan
NOES:	0	0
ABSTAIN:	1	Mrs. Bené

MOTION carried 6-0.

Mrs. Bené abstained from voting because she was absent from the meeting of March 7, 2011.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Rogan attended Science Pride Awards at Huntington High School. Mr. McGrath, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Rogan attended the annual Dual Language Dinner at Jack Abrams School. Both these events were a great success.

Mrs. Black announced the winners of the History Day contest and thanked Mr. Leavy and Lauren Desiderio in addition to the students for their hard work.

Mrs. Bené, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Rogan went on a facilities tour over the past couple of weeks. They remarked on the enthusiasm of teachers and students and how everyone has risen to the occasion regarding the larger class sizes.

CHANGE IN ORDER OF AGENDA

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Mr. Paci to modify the order of the agenda for this night's meeting in order to present the budget presentation before the *Public Commentary* section and to combine both *Public Commentary* sections in order to allow one hour that will occur following *Items for Discussion/Action*. Mr. Dwyer indicated that public commentary would be more of a give and take and administration would try to answer questions directly related to the budget that would not identify anyone in particular.

MOTION carried 7-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

2011-2012 Budget

Mr. Finello reviewed the budget presentation from last week and he and Mr. Grackin presented details on a 3.5 percent tax rate increase and the comparisons between 2 percent and 3.5 percent. Discussion followed.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Members of the community were given the opportunity to address the Board of Education on items on the agenda. Commentary began at 8:10 p.m. and ended at 9:10 p.m. Administration responded to questions asked by the public. Discussion occurred on various topics throughout this portion of the meeting.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Approval of CSE and CPSE Minutes

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Rogan to authorize administration to arrange for the provision of appropriate special education programs and services for students as enumerated in the CSE and CPSE minutes:

CSE	CPSE	AR (Annual Reviews) CSE
25162	25162	27298
27983	27983	24808
21889	21889	25134
27754	27754	27842
27827	27827	
27867	27867	

MOTION carried 7-0.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Approval of Stipulation of Settlement

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Rogan to approve the Stipulation of Settlement per the attached Confidential Schedule “A”.

(See attached)

MOTION carried 7-0.

CLOSING REMARKS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Rogan brought up the topic of bus transportation as this topic was being widely discussed on the social networks. Mrs. Rogan wanted to make it known that extensive research had already been done by Dr. Giani regarding changing the mileage limits in order to potentially save money. Dr. Giani discussed the state guidelines.

MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Black and seconded by Mrs. Rogan to go into Executive Session to discuss the superintendent search.

MOTION carried 7-0.

At 9:15 p.m. the Board went into Executive Session.

At 10:02 p.m. Mr. Dwyer reconvened the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Black to adjourn the meeting.

At 10:03 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Troffa
District Clerk