

# **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

August 28, 2008 – District Office  
President George Smith, Presiding

PRESENT: MRS. BIESELIN, MR. BLOOM (arrived at 7:45 p.m.), MR. GELLAR,  
MRS. LAROSA, MR. G. SMITH, MR. W. SMITH (arrived at 7:50 p.m.),  
MR. ULRICH

ABSENT: NONE

Administrators: Dr. Blau, Mrs. Duffy, Mr. Stern, Mr. Zocchia

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m., followed by the Pledge.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Dr. Blau reported that through the effort of John Mullins, the district was able to secure the COMPASS grant again for one year in the amount of \$125,000. Dr. Blau also reported that the test scores printed in Newsday last week were for the 2006-2007 school year and only included 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade results. Dr. Blau summarized the increase in scores that occurred in 2007-2008. A discussion was held about Abercrombie & Fitch approaching members of the varsity boys lacrosse team about appearing in a video ad. Dr. Blau shared a letter sent to players informing them that the district has nothing to do with this project and any player who accepts anything for participating in the project could jeopardize his athletic eligibility. Dr. Blau also indicated that the district's attorney had sent the producer of the video a letter informing him of this and that the use of West Islip's name or logo is prohibited.

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve **ADMINISTRATIVE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT:** Salvatore Alaimo, Assistant Principal; effective August 29, 2008 – August 28, 2011 (\$84,744 annual salary; Udall Road Middle School).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve **TEACHING: RESIGNATIONS:** Elizabeth Walsh-Bulger, Teacher-Dean; effective August 22, 2008 (High School).

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve **TEACHING: RESIGNATIONS:** Salvatore Alaimo, Elementary Teacher; effective August 28, 2008 (Captree).

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mrs. Biesel, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve **TEACHING: RECALL OF EXCESSED ELEMENTARY TEACHER:** Fran Coiro, Probationary Elementary Teacher; effective September 2, 2008 (Paul J. Bellew; Step 4<sup>4</sup>; recall due to resignation of Sal Alaimo).

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Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: PART-TIME APPOINTMENTS: Pamela Cirasole, Music Teacher; effective September 2, 2008 to June 30, 2009 (Oquenock; Step 7<sup>6</sup>; prorated at .7 continuing position {change in status}).

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-BEARING LEAVES OF ABSENCE (paid): Josephine Hassett, Physical Education Teacher; effective July 25, 2008 (High School).

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-BEARING LEAVES OF ABSENCE (paid): Liza Hunt, Elementary Teacher; effective July 31, 2008 (Captree).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-BEARING LEAVES OF ABSENCE (paid): Andrea Miller-Mastrogiovanni, Elementary Teacher; effective September 2, 2008 (Beach Street Middle School).

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-BEARING LEAVES OF ABSENCE (paid): Elyse Patti-McDonald, Foreign Language Teacher; effective September 2, 2008 (Udall Road Middle School).

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-BEARING LEAVES OF ABSENCE (paid): Amy Novak, Special Education Teacher; effective August 22, 2008 (Beach Street Middle School).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: REGULAR SUBSTITUTE APPOINTMENT: MaryBeth Qualliotine, Elementary Teacher; effective September 2, 2008 to June 30, 2009 (Captree; Step 2<sup>4</sup>; replacing C. Evans).

Motion was made by Mrs. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANT: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS: Alyssa Acquafredda; effective September 2, 2008 to September 1, 2011 (Captree; Step 3; newly budgeted position {flow-through funds}).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Biesel, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANT: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS: Ronald Ardito; effective September 2, 2008 to September 1, 2011 (High School; Step 3; newly budgeted position {flow-through funds}).

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Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: PART-TIME FOOD SERVICE WORKER: Carolina Pozzini, Part-Time Food Service Worker; effective September 4, 2008 (Step 1; Beach Street; replacing D. Guiffre who is now a custodial worker; she replaced D. Newman who resigned).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: RESIGNATIONS: Donna DellaMorte, Cafeteria Aide; effective August 22, 2008 (Udall; DOE 09/25/06).

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: RESIGNATIONS: Catherine Koon, Teacher Aide; effective August 20, 2008 (Manetuck; DOE 08/30/01).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: RESIGNATIONS: Timothy McCarthy, Head Custodian; effective August 29, 2008 (Captree; DOE 02/10/98).

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS: Diane McKeon, Part-Time Teacher Aide; effective September 2, 2008 (Step 1; Oquenock; flow-through funds).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS: Jacqueline Sarle, Part-Time Cafeteria Aide; effective September 2, 2008 (Step 1; Oquenock; replacing B. Susajlo who is now a special education aide).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS: Debbie Ognibene, Teacher Aide; effective September 2, 2008 (Step 1; Manetuck; replacing C. Koon who resigned).

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS: \*Kerri Nicolosi, Teacher Aide; effective September 2, 2008 (Step 1; Captree; flow-through funds).

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS: Eileen Magaraci, Teacher Aide; effective September 2, 2008 (Step 1; Captree; flow-through funds).

\*Conditional Pending Fingerprint Clearance

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENTS: Christina Lapreziosa, Teacher Aide; effective September 2, 2008 (Step 1; Captree; flow-through funds).

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: REGULAR SUBSTITUTE: Kellie Neglia, Teacher Aide; effective September 4, 2008 (Step 1; Udall; flow-through funds).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: LEAVE OF ABSENCE (Pursuant to Family Medical Leave Act of 1993 – 12 Weeks Continuous Medical Coverage): Theresa Careri, School Nurse; effective September 2, 2008 through September 15, 2008 (DOE 08/29/03; Beach Street/Udall Middle School).

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: CHANGE IN TITLE: Andrew Moschetto, Acting Head Custodian; effective August 26, 2008 (Captree; change from Maintenance Mechanic III).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: SUBSTITUTE FOOD SERVICE WORKERS (\$9.75/HR): \*Andrea Imbo, effective September 4, 2008; Maryann McSweeney, effective September 4, 2008.

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. W. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: SCHOOL NURSE (subject to Memorandum of Agreement specifying Terms of Employment): John Hummel, Nurse; effective September 4, 2008 (Udall; as per IEP; flow-through funds).

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. W. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS (\$100 per diem): Lindsey Aitkin, effective September 2, 2008; Laura Burke, effective September 2, 2008; Christina de la Vega, effective September 4, 2008; Ashley Warren, effective September 2, 2008.

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL – September 8, 2008 – June 30, 2009: Dawn Morrison, Coordinator (two nights; \$19,626 annual salary); Thomas Vitti, Coordinator (two nights; \$19,626 annual salary); Laura Tramantano, Secretary. ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL FACULTY \$8,079 per full year class: Nicole Cifelli, American Sign Language; Maria Meyer, Art; Nicole Cifelli, English; Jeffrey O'Hare, English; Paul Vecchione, English; Nicole Delaney, Health; Anne Marie DiVenti, Mathematics; (continued on next page)

\*Conditional Pending Fingerprint Clearance

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Brian Cameron, Physical Education; Joseph Nicolosi, Physical Education; Wendy Loddigs, School Counselor; Virginia Mullins, School Counselor; Robert Matuozzi, School Psychologist; Teresa Stecker, School Psychologist; Nicole Delaney, Science; John Hulsman, Science; Michael Hazelton, Social Studies; Eric Rao, Social Studies; Robert Timpson, Social Studies; Dennis Montalto, Special Education.

The following agenda items were discussed, with no objection: New York State Committee of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Terms and Conditions of the Assistant to the Superintendent for Elementary Curriculum and Instruction.

A discussion was held regarding approval of the Masera Lease. No action was taken at this time.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION: Mr. Gellar reported that PTA and NYSUT are trying to fight the proposed tax cap. Mr. Gellar also reported that he will be on the Board for REFIT this year.

Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 9:25 p.m. on motion by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

A discussion was held concerning the condition of the right field on the varsity baseball field, necessary repairs, and how football team practice on the field impacts the condition and timing of repairs.

Meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m. on motion by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted by

Nicole M. Schiano  
District Clerk

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