

# REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

January 8, 2009 – Captree Elementary School  
President George Smith, Presiding

PRESENT: MRS. BIESELIN, MR. BLOOM, MR. GELLAR, MRS. LAROSA,  
MR. G. SMITH, MR. W. SMITH, MR. ULRICH

ABSENT: NONE

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

Attorney: Mr. Volz

Meeting was called to order at 8:04 p.m., followed by the Pledge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Dr. Blau announced the winner of the pre-prom raffle: Allison M..

No one wished to speak during an "Invitation to the Public."

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mr. W. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 11, 2008.

STUDENT RECOGNITION: Girls Varsity Gymnastics – Courtney Von B. and Kristen S.: All County. Girls Varsity Soccer – Kasey E. and Jackie M.: All County; Rebecca G. and Jackie M.: All County Academic; Scholar Athlete Team Award. Boys Varsity Soccer – Billy K. and Jerry N.: All County; Nick D.: All County Academic; Ed Pieron: League II Coach of the Year. Boys Varsity Volleyball – Paul E.: All County; Chris C., Anthony M., Corey M. and Jeff G.: All County Academic. Girls Varsity Volleyball – Mary C.: All County All Tournament Team; Scholar/Athlete Team. Girls Varsity Tennis – Kevin Lewis: Coach of the Year; Scholar Athlete Team Award. Varsity Football – Ian B., Kyle G., Dan M. and Scott M.: All County; Tim Horan: Division II Coach of the Year; Scholar/Athlete Team Award, Big Four Champions and County Finalists. Varsity Field Hockey – Taylor T.: All County.

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve ADMINISTRATIVE: CHANGE IN TITLE: Joanne Huscilowitc; Director of Instructional Technology and Student Information; effective December 8, 2008.

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: Alyssa Acquafredda, Special Education Teacher; effective January 26, 2009 (Captree; Step 1<sup>1</sup>; replacing S. Mott).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. W. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-REARING LEAVES OF ABSENCE (unpaid) (Pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993): Christina Cregan, Reading Teacher; effective January 5, 2009 to April 2, 2009 (Manetuck).

Motion was made by Mrs. LaRosa, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-REARING LEAVES OF ABSENCE (unpaid) (Pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993): Catherine Olson, Elementary Teacher; effective January 5, 2009 to April 2, 2009 (Manetuck).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING: CHILD-REARING LEAVES OF ABSENCE (unpaid) (Pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993): Maria Simeone, Foreign Language Teacher; effective January 5, 2009 to February 6, 2009 (Beach).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. W. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANT: RESIGNATION: Alyssa Acquafredda, Teaching Assistant; effective January 5, 2009 (Captree).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve TEACHING ASSISTANT: REGULAR SUBSTITUTE APPOINTMENT: Catherine Borello-Lang; effective January 5, 2009 to June 30, 2009 (Captree; Step 3; replacing A. Acquafredda).

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. W. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: RESIGNATION: JoAnn Horyczun, Part-Time Food Service Worker; effective December 9, 2008 (Oquenock).

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. W. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: SUBSTITUTE CLERK TYPIST (\$38.00/HR). Mr. W. Smith asked how many resumes have been received and when the position will be filled by a permanent employee. After a brief discussion, motion was carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE: SUBSTITUTE CLERK TYPIST (\$38.00/HR): Marie Alleva, substitute Internal Claims Auditor; effective December 29, 2008.

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 CUSTODIAN (\$9.75/HR): Johnathan Hirsch, effective December 8, 2008.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. W. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS (\$100 per diem): Alyssa Acquafredda, effective January 5, 2009; Matthew Barrera, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; Michael Buonaspina, effective January 28, 2009, student teacher; Crysti Busching,

effective March 16, 2009; Frederick Delgiorno, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; Danielle Demaio, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; Marc Frontino, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; Kristin Fiabane, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; Kimberly Fullam, effective January 22, 2009, student teacher; Kelly Honerkamp, effective January 5, 2009; Valerie Johnson, effective January 28, 2009, student teacher; Jeanine Klages, effective January 22, 2009, student teacher; Tiffany Lando, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; Sharon Lindell, effective January 28, 2009, student teacher; Nicole Marshall, effective January 20, 2009, student teacher; Heather McKiel, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; Anthony Mallia, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; Jessica Micucci, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; \*Coleen Nicolosi, effective January 22, 2009, student teacher; \*Gerilyn Richard, effective January 22, 2009, student teacher; William Sasso, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; \*Rachael Smagala, effective January 22, 2009, student teacher; Michael Stearns, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; Michael Tavitian, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher; Kyle Valentine, effective January 26, 2009, student teacher.

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: SUBSTITUTE TEACHING ASSISTANT (\$85 per diem): Catherine Borello-Lang, effective December 23, 2008.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL: Robert Weiss, Social Studies Teacher; effective February 2, 2009 (Budgeted for Spring assignment).

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve OTHER: ADVISORS/CLUBS 2008 – 2009 SCHOOL YEAR: High School: Frank Franzone, A.V. Coordinator (1/2 year due to J. Sparacio's resignation). PAUL J. BELLEW: Christine Maniscalco, Battle of the Books (full advisor).

CURRICULUM UPDATE: Mr. Stern is pleased to report that we have received the results of the New York State Grade 5 Social Studies Test that was given in November 2008, and 98.99% of the students scored on Level 3 and 4. Letters are being mailed to parents of all students in the district regarding the Parent Portal of Infinite Campus, which allows parents to access student information by logging in via the district website.

REPORT OF BOARD COMMITTEES: Mr. W. Smith reported on the Finance Committee meeting of 1/6/09. Mr. Gellar responded to the recent article in Newsday concerning the alleged violations contained in the State Comptroller's Report. Mr. Gellar reported on the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting of 1/6/09. The Legislative Action Committee did not meet; however, Mr. Gellar discussed Governor Paterson's proposed deficit reduction plan. In response, information regarding a letter writing campaign is currently available on the district website.

Mrs. LaRosa reported on the Education meeting of 1/6/09, and the Committee on Special Education/Preschool Special Education meeting of 1/6/09 and recommendations re: classification/placement/I.E.P. modifications of students as delineated. Mrs. LaRosa also reported on the COMPASS Committee meeting of 12/17/08 and announced the following events: COMPASS Bully Prevention Workshop on January 14; COMPASS Day at the New York Islanders on January 17; Internet Safety Presentation by Detective Connolly of the Suffolk County Police Department on February 12; Alcohol and Drug Survey of the 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students in March. Mrs. LaRosa discussed the Bullying Awareness Task Force meeting of 12/18/08 and reported that a number of community volunteers participated; the next meeting will be held on January 29, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the District Office.

The following committees did not meet: Policy Committee, School Board/Student Liaison Committee, Public Relations Committee, Audit Committee, Legislative Action Committee, and Health and Wellness Committee.

The Treasurer's Report for November 2008 was presented. Beginning balance as of October 31, 2008 – \$12,366,270.53; ending balance as of November 30, 2008 – \$5,166,708.84.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. W. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve budget transfers, as recommended by the Finance Committee.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. W. Smith, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the following donations, with thanks: Allstate Insurance to Girls Lacrosse Team for \$1,000.00; Manetuck PTA to Arts in Education for \$825.00; Lowe's to P.J. Bellew School for \$1,306.95.

Motion was made by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mrs. LaRosa, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve Special Education payment to Sachem Central School District for \$6,367.12.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve 2008-2009 Special Education Contract with Half Hollow Hills School District.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the following Health Service Payments: Lindenhurst Public Schools (Our Lady of Perpetual Help) (3 students @ \$902.00 = \$2,706.00); East Islip School District (St. Mary's School) (5 students @ \$669.42 = \$3,347.00).

Motion was made by Mr. W. Smith, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve the following bids: Athletic Uniforms – awarded to Port Jefferson Sports for \$8,080.20.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Mr. G. Smith wished everyone a happy new year. Mr. G. Smith addressed the issue of mandatory fiscal oversight training for all board members that was raised at last month's meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Motion was made by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. Gellar, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve closing the district buildings on Fridays during the summer from July 10 through August 28.

NOTICES/REMINDERS: Mrs. LaRosa announced that the PAWS Dinner Dance will be held on March 13, 2009.

Two residents wished to speak during an "Invitation to the Public." Subjects of concern have been recorded in the public participation log.

Motion was made by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:07 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel, negotiations, and/or litigation.

Meeting reconvened at 10:35 p.m. on motion by Mr. Gellar, seconded by Mrs. Bieselin, and carried when all board members present voted in favor.

Motion was made by Mr. W. Smith, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, and carried when all board members present voted in favor to approve attendance zone exception for Paul J. Bellew student named in Executive Session for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m. on motion by Mrs. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, 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.