

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education of the West Babylon Union Free School District, of the Town of Babylon, Suffolk County, New York was held on TUESDAY, April 13, 2010, in the Board Room of the Administration Wing adjacent to the Senior High School.

Those present:

Trustees; Lucy Campasano, Wendy DeGaetano, Patrick M. Farrell, Carmine Galletta, Kathleen Jennings, Diane Klein, Jerry Nocera, Joseph Romano and Diane Thiel

Also present: Mr. Anthony Cacciola, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Dominick Palma, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Student Services; Mr. Mark A. Flower, Assistant Superintendent for Finance; Mrs. Yiendhy Farrelly, Executive Director for Human Resources; Mrs. Amy E. Jones, District Clerk; Mr. William C. Morrell, Attorney; and residents

The President opened the meeting at 7:15 pm and led those present in the Pledge to the Flag.

**Presentation: JFK School SmartBoard in the Art Room**

**Gregg Cunningham, Principal and Janice Dougherty, Art Teacher**

**Students: Hailey Baldauf, Eric Donohue, Ryan Kenney and Carlie Mullin**

Mr. Cacciola welcomed Mr. Cunningham, Mrs. Dougherty and the students. Mr. Cunningham thanked the Board members and administrators and said that Mrs. Dougherty is a phenomenal and enthusiastic art teacher. Mrs. Dougherty thanked Mr. Cunningham and added that she believes that she has the best job in the district. She spoke about her art program and the use of the SmartBoard in the art room more at first for slide shows and PowerPoint. However, she said the students have been using a program called Van Gogh Landscapes which enables the students to draw on top of Van Gogh's paintings in order to show them how to draw the horizon lines and vertical lines. The students demonstrated how the program works. After the demonstration they each showed their beautiful finished art work created through use of the program. A photo was taken.

**District-wide Budget Information Meeting - 7:30 pm**

Mr. Flower said that this is the last chance the trustees have to review the budget before they adopt it this evening. He noted that the budget which maintains all current programs; restores the K-5 summer school program, restores 7th grade sports teams, includes the purchase of two new small buses, and restores equipment purchases. It also includes three major projects (other than South Bay School's renovations, which will have no impact on the budget) 1) refurbish the JHS track 2) replace tiles at the JHS and, 3) install a gas heater in the transportation department garage. These additions to the budget have increased the budget by 2.08% over the last budget draft. The budget to budget increase is only 2%. However, the tax rate will be increased by 7.13% due to the cuts in state aid. Mr. Flower explained the various possibilities if this budget not passed. If the district decides to put the budget up for a revote, the revote will be held on June 15, 2010 from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. Mr. Flower also explained the impact of the increase based on assessed valuation. If the district does not opt for a revote, or the budget is defeated a second time, the contingent tax rate would be 4.4%. Mr. Flower encouraged everyone to exercise their right to vote.

Mr. Cacciola also explained that there may be a teacher retirement incentive to come from the state. Teachers who have reached the age of 55 with 25 years of service could be eligible to retire. He said that this would be an additional \$400,000 impact on the district that was not anticipated. If this were to happen, 9 teachers would need to retire from our district for our district to break even.

Mr. Cacciola and Mr. Flower discussed other impacts that could adversely effect the budget i.e. increases to health insurance that are higher than anticipated. They said that the district will have to watch every penny.

In response to resident Ray Cody's questions, Mr. Flower said that the district will use any ESF money that was allocated to us. Mr. Flower added that there were not any district projects that were "shovel ready" to use ESF.

Dr. Palma noted that in the upcoming Sunday's Newsday, Mr. Cody will likely see the district's test scores and the comparison to other districts' scores.

In response to Resident William Smith's question, Mr. Cacciola said that there would need to be one point seven million dollars in cuts and that at this point the trustees have not determined what will be affected by these cuts. However, Mr. Cacciola said that there would likely be cuts to personnel and equipment. Mr. Cacciola also noted that neighboring districts are eliminating staff and programs to keep the tax increases lower. Trustee

Campanano stated that the community will have to decide on May 18.

Resident Noreen Wood said that she was under the impression, after a meeting a couple of months ago, that there were not enough 7th grade teams in competition to make bringing the 7th grade sports program back. Mr. Flower explained that Mr. Spinelli confirmed with Section II that 7th grade teams are expected to be added in other districts. In response to residents' suggestion that the district bring back the JV-9 sports teams before 7th grade sports Mr. Cacciola and several trustees noted that this topic was discussed at the budget meetings over the last several months and the decision was made based on community request. Tonight is the first time the request for the return of JV-9 was brought to the Board.

South Bay PTA President Diana Doerbecker commended the Board for their work in preparing the budget and making the difficult decisions about programs and staffing. She added that everyone in the community has the opportunity to attend the budget meetings and discuss the budget additions and cuts, and many choose not to attend.

In response to PTA Council President Donna DiMuro's question the money earned through fundraising for South Bay School will be used to cover items that will not be covered by insurance such as enhancements.

Trustee Nocera seconded by trustee Jennings made a motion to go into executive session at 8:25 pm to discuss legal and personnel matters.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

The public portion began at 8:48 pm.

Trustee Thiel seconded by trustee Nocera made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 23, 2010

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

**Statement of the Superintendent and/or Board of Education:**

Mr. Cacciola said that the South Bay benefit concert offered by Fab Faux on Sunday evening was a night to remember. He thanked all involved in the preparations for the evening which was a huge undertaking. He also noted the pre-show concert offered by West Babylon Alumnus Wally Alesse. Mr. Cacciola said that it looks like South Bay School will continue to be held in Our Lady of Grace for 2010-2011. He added that arrangements are being made for a possible move of the playground to Our Lady of Grace. Mr. Cacciola said that it has been determined that South Bay will not be leveled and some areas will be restored. He spoke about certain conditions for the rebuilding such as replacing the wood roof with a steel roof. He said that in the near future the Board will have a meeting to discuss the plans for South Bay. Part of the meeting will be in executive session to discuss the legal portions and part of the meeting will be in public session for the community to understand the plans for rebuilding.

Mr. Cacciola offered a follow-up report regarding concerns about gas leaks in the high school science labs. Mr. Cacciola said he learned through Mr. Graziano and Mr. Layman that tests are performed when they receive any reports of leaks. He explained the process for the tests. Mr. Cacciola said that Mr. Graziano will continue to monitor the situation and will contact Key Span for a thorough test.

Mr. Cacciola shared a memo from Transportation Supervisor Henry Bianco regarding the practice of consolidating team buses as a cost saving measure. Mr. Bianco noted that a review of the past 25 away games showed that on 5 occasions two teams shared buses and only one time did this happen this year. He added that for the remainder of this year there will be separate buses. Mr. Cacciola noted that if the budget for next year does not pass he can not offer the same assurance.

**Statement of West Babylon Teachers Association:** None

**Statement of West Babylon Administrators' Association:** None

**Statement of CSEA Representative:** None

**Statement of Student Association Representative:** None

**Statement of PTA Council Representative:** None

**Statement of Residents:**

Mr. Flower offered clarification to a question regarding reporting of salaries:

*Chapter 474 of the Laws of 1996 required that the State Education Department prepare a statewide compilation of the salaries and other personnel costs of certain school administrators and make it available to all interested parties. School districts must report the salaries, employee benefits and other forms of remuneration for superintendents of schools (TYPE 1) as well as deputy, assistant or associate superintendents (TYPE 2) and just the salaries of any other certified school administrators or supervisors (TYPE 3) who are scheduled to be paid at or above a certain level.*

In response to resident Peter Scarlatos questions, Mr. Cacciola said that the costs for reconstruction to South Bay are covered by insurance. Because the district has opted to work with Belfor for the project instead of taking a payment based on estimated costs to repair, even unforeseen costs will be covered.

Mr. Scarlatos expressed his disappointment with the fees Our Lady of Grace is charging for use of their empty school space. Mr. Cacciola said that the contract is between the district and the Diocese of Rockville Center and their policy sets the fees.

Mr. Scarlatos inquired about making donations to the district baseball team, softball team and fields. The process for donations was explained and Mr. Scarlatos will contact Mr. Flower to make the donation.

In response to Diana Doerbecker's request, Mr. Cacciola said that he will have a Connect Ed message sent to South Bay parents regarding the Board meeting pertaining to South Bay School.

In response to questions regarding retrieval of items such as time capsules, Mr. Cacciola asked that a list be provided of items of concern.

In response to resident Nancy Walsh-Smolenski's question, Mr. Cacciola said that he will ask the environmental firm to investigate regarding issues with asbestos residue.

Resident David Ferro discussed his plan to host an Eagle Scout project at Tanner Park regarding Autism Awareness. He said he has obtained commitments for food vendors, bands, and a bouncing apparatus. He said he needs to raise additional funds for flyers and other items for the event. He requested that he be able to use the Performing Arts Center for a fundraiser and that the fee for the insurance be waived. After some discussion, Mr. Cacciola determined that David would be amiable to using Eagle Hall at the JHS. There were discussions about the costs involved and the issues with waiving insurance. Trustee Galletta said that he played in Battle of the Bands and said he will fund \$500 towards David's project. Mr. Cacciola donated \$250. Resident Ray Cody said he would be willing to donate. Mr. Farrell said that he would assist David, also. Mr. Farrell added that he believed David would be able to reach his goal for his project with the assistance offered this evening.

In response to resident Diane Menke's question, Mr. Cacciola said that the Fire Marshall's report has not yet been released.

In response to resident Maryann Donofrio's inquiry, Mr. Cacciola said that once the Board and administrators know the timeline for completion of the work at South Bay, they will inform the community.

Trustee Campasano seconded by Trustee Galletta made a motion to approve the **Consent Agenda**

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present.

**#BE-1**

**RESOLVED:** that the following school district is approved to provide Special Education Services for West Babylon resident students for the 2009-2010 school year:

Deer Park (district of location)

**#BE-2**

**RESOLVED:** that the following school districts are approved to provide Health and Welfare Services for the 2009-2010 school year to parentally placed West Babylon District resident students with disabilities:

Hicksville School District  
Uniondale School District  
South Huntington School District  
West Islip School District

**#PE-1**

**RESOLVED:** that the following schedules, as attached, are approved:

09-P-18 Professional Personnel  
09-C-17 Civil Service Personnel

**SCHEDULE 09-P-18 Professional Personnel Schedule**

NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/ AREA	STEP/ SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	COMMENTS
------	----------	-----------------	-----------------	------------------	----------

Kimberlein, Alison	Elementary Tchr.	SA		4/5/10 -	Family Medical Leave [date change]
Moran, Eileen	English Tchr.	JH		4/6/10 -	Family Medical Leave

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following professional personnel's probationary term will be extended to 9/1/2012, due to leave of absence:

Anderson, Carolyn	Science	HS			
-------------------	---------	----	--	--	--

**Coach:**

Waldeck, Kristina	Varsity Asst.	Golf(G)	\$0.	2009-2010	[volunteer]
-------------------	---------------	---------	------	-----------	-------------

**Student Teachers/Observers:**

Suthakar, Christina	Science	HS/JH		Spring, 2010	
Yeomans, Nicholas	Special Education	HS			

**SCHEDULE 09-C-17 Civil Service Personnel Schedule**

NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL/ AREA	STEP/ SALARY	BEG/END APPT.	COMMENTS
------	----------	-----------------	-----------------	------------------	----------

Koepfel, Kurt	Custodial Wrkr. I	SB		4/14/10-7/10/10	Leave of Absence [first request]
---------------	-------------------	----	--	-----------------	-------------------------------------

The following clerical position is established effective 4/19/10:

(1.0)	Senior Clerk Typist		Administration	Superintendent's Office	
-------	---------------------	--	----------------	-------------------------	--

Chiappone, Jane	Sr. Clerk Typist	Adm.	Step 4/ \$38,172. (prorate)	4/19/10	Probationary Appt. C.S. PR List #07-0022-215
-----------------	------------------	------	-----------------------------------	---------	---

Chiappone, Jane	Clerk Typist	FA		4/19/10-7/11/10	Leave of Absence
-----------------	--------------	----	--	-----------------	------------------

Fischer, Barbara	Paraprofessional (special ed. aide)	JH	Step 1/ \$12.82/hr.	4/14/10	Probationary Appt.
------------------	--	----	------------------------	---------	--------------------

Haley, Melissa	Paraprofessional (school monitor)	JK	Step 1/ \$12.82/hr.	4/14/10	Probationary Appt.
----------------	--------------------------------------	----	------------------------	---------	--------------------

Brigandi, Darlene	Paraprofessional (school monitor)	TA	Step 1/ \$12.82/hr.	4/14/10	Probationary Appt.
-------------------	--------------------------------------	----	------------------------	---------	--------------------

Mulford, Sheila	Paraprofessional (special ed. aide)	JH	Step 1/ \$12.82/hr	4/14/10	Probationary Appt.
-----------------	--	----	-----------------------	---------	--------------------

**#FI-1**

**RESOLVED:** that the school district budget for the 2010-2011 school year in the amount of **\$94,266,369** proposed by the West Babylon Board of Education, in accordance with Section 1716 of the Education Law, be hereby adopted, and that said budget be voted upon by the residents on May 18, 2010.

**#FI-2**

**RESOLVED:** that the West Babylon Board of Education approves a resolution to participate, for the fiscal year 2010-2011, in RFP #08-104 Tutorial and Special Education Services for Western Suffolk BOCES and Component School Districts.

**POLICY REVIEW - No Review this evening**

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS:**

**STATUS REPORT NEW WEBSITE:**

Mr. Charles Germano offered an update to the district's new website. He demonstrated some of the sites currently being worked on by staff members. Mr. Germano said that June 1st is the anticipated unveiling of the website to the community via a link on the current website.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT(S):**

**Technology Department Program Evaluation - Domenico Squicciarini, Chairperson**

Mr. Squicciarini was introduced and discussed the need for additional room for the robotics teams. He explained that the old print shop had been redesigned into two small rooms for the district's copy center. He said he would like to obtain room 178 back. In response to Trustee Campasano's question, Mr. Squicciarini said that the introduction of new courses could mean the need for additional staff, or the new courses could replace some of the current courses. Mr. Squicciarini also discussed his hope that the district could offer a BOCES type automotive course in house which would allow our students to remain in their home school rather than leave to the BOCES location. He noted that auto repair and auto body repair are the most popular courses in BOCES. Dr. Palma noted that the major concern for doing the courses in district is that the start up cost is prohibitive. Regarding the need for additional space, Mr. Cacciola said that there is a challenge in finding a location for the district-wide maintenance storage and work area. There were discussions about the increase to enrollment in the technology department partly due to the addition of the 9th period enabling students to take electives. In closing Trustee Campasano congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Squicciarini on the birth of their first grandchild.

Trustee Jennings read the report from the April 5, 2010 facilities meeting (on file in the District Clerk's office). There was a discussion about setting up a date for a walk through of the libraries. No date was set.

Policy meeting was scheduled for May 4.

Strategic planning meeting is tomorrow. Time was changed to 10:00 am.

**REQUEST FOR BUS STOP LOCATION CHANGE:**

Trustee DeGaetano seconded by Trustee Thiel made a motion on the following resolution:

**#BE-3**

**RESOLVED:** that, as requested by a resident, the bus stop at the corner of Arnold Avenue and Linton Court be moved to another location.

Prior to voting on the resolution, the trustees discussed their views regarding changing the bus stop location. After the discussion the following vote was taken:

**Voting YES:** Trustees DeGaetano, Galletta, Klein and Thiel

**Voting NO:** Trustees Campasano, Farrell, Jennings, Nocera, and Romano

The motion was **defeated** by a majority of votes.

**STATEMENT OF RESIDENTS:**

April 13, 2010

'09 - 148

In response to resident Raymond Cody's question, the lighting in the gym will be improved through Ameresco's upcoming energy project. In response to resident Diana Doerbecker's question, Mr. Cacciola said that the architect will give a presentation about South Bay School at an upcoming Board meeting.

Mr. Cacciola also noted that the current practice of making food in district and delivering it to the South Bay School students will be continued as the cost to bring the kitchen in OLOG up to health code would be too high.

Trustee Romano seconded by Trustee Klein made a motion to adjourn to executive session for negotiation matters at 10:40 pm.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

Trustee Klein seconded by Trustee Campasano made a motion to adjourn at 11:57 pm.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

Attested to: \_\_\_\_\_  
District Clerk