

Work Session/Business Meeting Minutes – December 4, 2008

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Tina Mackay, President PRESENT
Guy Cohen, Vice President
Trustees Mary Maus, Frank Reale and
Valerie Fitzgerald

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Marc Space, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Barbara Fuchs, Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum and Personnel
Paul Lee, Assistant Superintendent for
Finance and Technology
Jonathan Bryant, High School Principal
Edward Hallisey, Middle School Principal
Jamie Edelman, Elementary School Principal
Natalie Doherty, Director of Special Education and
Student Services

OTHERS: Student Representative to the Board of
Education Elizabeth Regan, Reporter from the Putnam County
News and Recorder, staff from the Putnam Valley School District,
and community members

Ms. Mackay convened the Work Session/Business Meeting at 7:04 p.m. and asked everyone to join her in the Pledge of Allegiance. CONVENE MEETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF GENERAL INTEREST

The Board reviewed the Westchester-Putnam Legislative Priorities for 2008. The Board agreed to retain all for 2009 with the following modifications:

- a. Ease burden on taxpayers should mention pensions
- b. Protect local taxpayers--all employees should contribute to retirement system
- c. Oppose any expansion of non-public school aid to include charter
- d. Save harmless--include tax certioraries
- e. Statewide assessments not countywide
- f. Five-year renewable tenure and not contracts
- g. Basically repeal NCLB, but if not retain current issues

Dr. Space and Ms. Fitzgerald summarized the first meeting of the Citizens Budget Committee. It is the hope that the committee will continue to be able to assist the community in understanding the process, especially setting a budget vs. setting the tax rates: equalization, assessment, STAR rebates. The next meeting is December 15.

Student Board Representative Kevin VanDevelde sent his regrets due to the fact he needed to attend the final dress rehearsal for the Theatreworks production of “All in the Timing” scheduled for the weekend. The report was given by Mr. Cohen: Four of the fall varsity teams qualified for the New York State Team Scholar Athlete Award, Boys Cross Country, Girls Swimming, Girls Soccer and Girls Field Hockey; winter sports have started and noted that Ice Hockey players participate on the JKF team; community encouraged to see the Theatreworks production; College Financial Aid Night to be held on Tuesday, December 9 at 7 p.m. in the PAC; Clarice Proeschel chosen as Junior student representative to the Budget Committee; Sophomore Kristen Weeks selected to attend the Hugh O’Brien Youth Leadership Weekend Camp Program this spring; and the High School currently collecting toys to be donated to Toys For Tots. Mr. Cohen noted that Junior Christine Kemp, attending Skidmore College, made All American Division III in Field Hockey; Kim Kastuk (Field Hockey), Beverly Beladino (Field Hockey) and Katie Kinsley (Soccer) made all-regional teams, noting that many of our athletes continue to succeed in college sports. He also noted that James Hertzell made first team North County News in Cross Country; Ashley Morgan was North County News’ Field Hockey Player of the Year, Toniann Cortina was Field Hockey Coach of the Year and the following girls made North County News Field Hockey first team: Ashley Morgan, Nicole Scott, Megan Warming, Erica Fisher; 2nd Team: Caitlin White and Sara Kastuk; Honorable Mention: Hannah Tavella and Amanda DeChent.

Dr. Space noted that the first item of the December 18 meeting would be an update on the Stormwater Management System.

PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION PERIOD

Ms. Mackay asked the Board and community for any other items for discussion. There was none.

Ms. Mackay announced the Board would move into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and upon their return no new business would be conducted.

At 7:54 p.m., on motion of Ms. Mackay, seconded by Mr. Reale, the Board, along with Dr. Space, Dr. Fuchs and the Building Principals, moved into Executive Session to discuss seven personnel matters. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION
09/140

At 9:20 p.m., on motion of Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Reale, the Board returned from Executive Session and at 9:21 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN
MEETING
09/141

Submitted by
Guy Cohen
Vice President
Board of Education

Submitted by
Linda Pregiato
District Clerk