

Board of Education “Meeting Highlights” December 9, 2014

President’s Report...

BOE President Anthony Paolano’s report included the following:

As we approach the close of 2014, there has been a tremendous amount of hard work that transpires throughout our district. Students are working on final projects in their various subject areas, some are preparing for the SAT exams, artists at work, musicians are practicing their arrangements, some athletes have finished one sport and are beginning another, others are awaiting early decisions from colleges, faculty members are preparing lessons needed to get completed before the winter recess, administrators are finalizing last minute replacements... I could go on and on.

Over the past several meetings, I have called upon our Athletic Director to present to the Board and the community to give us an update of the current student athletes and their teams. Tonight, however, I am actually going to report on an event that took place last month at our high school athletic fields.

The Long Island Championship for Field Hockey is usually held at Adelphi University or Dowling College. Because of a scheduling conflict, both locations were unavailable. However, this was only realized on the Friday before the Sunday Championships were to take place. Barbara Sellers, the President of Section #8, called Mike Bongino, and asked if there was any way possible that CSH could host this event. Mr. Bongino immediately received approval from our Superintendent. In less than 36 hours, Mr. Bongino, Brittany Dougher, our varsity field hockey coach, and our maintenance crew, all stepped up to plate. On Sunday, November 8, Cold Spring Harbor hosted the Long Island Field Hockey Championships for 3 conferences that included over 100 student athletes from 6 teams and approximately 1000 spectators throughout the day. Because of these individuals, giving up their Sunday, it gave CSH a great recognition. Last week, at the annual awards dinner attended by all 20 Nassau High schools field hockey teams, with their parents, Barbara Sellers publicly thanked CSH for hosting this event with less than 36 hours notice!

Last month, we had accepted the resignation of our Director of Guidance, Noreen Cambria, who has truly performed an outstanding job over the past 6 years. The district has been busy interviewing and the Board of Education has interviewed the final 4 candidates over the past two days. I am happy to report, that a candidate has been chosen, and because the candidate has yet to be notified, no further information is available at this time.

Lastly, many residents have read articles about the contribution rate for the New York State Teachers Retirement System may decline next year. Let me give a brief history as it applies to CSH. In the school year 2000/2001, our contribution rate was .43% or a cost of \$56,235.81. By the year 2009/2010, the cost shot up to \$1,475,208. Our current contribution is over \$4,600,000 with a rate of 17.53%. Every school district in the state had to deal with this rising costs to fund TRS pension trust. Next year’s contribution rate is expected to fall between 13 and 13.5% with our district having a potential savings of approximately \$1 million dollars. During the past 15 years, the rising cost of this line

item in our school budget has been the sole burden of our taxpayer through higher school taxes. Therefore, it is only logical, as the rate declines, any cost savings should benefit the community and the taxpayer. The BOE, will analyze, the savings, and ensure that all current programs, including curriculum initiatives, technology, music, art, athletics and updating of our facilities will be within the current tax cap.

At this time of year, in lieu of Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Happy Chanukah or Season Greetings, I received a card last week that was perfect for this time of year; "Merry everything to you and your family!"

Superintendent's Report...

Dr. Judith A. Wilansky's report included the following:

In the life of a school system, every year and every season has its celebrations and challenges. Tonight we enjoy the talents of our students, and the traditional celebrations of the holiday season, which have been highlighted through the continued generosity of our community and the charitable work of students. Our community is a small one but it is not an insular one.

Of note, tonight also marks the last Board meeting for Mrs. Cambria as she takes leave of Cold Spring Harbor for retirement. May your days be filled with the blessings of family and the time to enjoy those that are dear to you. Thank you for your service to our students and families.

Despite the recently touted windfall of decreasing payments into the State retirement funds, challenging times for school districts will continue under the restrictions of the State tax cap. On January 23, representatives all of the component districts of the Western Suffolk BOCES will meet with our State legislators to share the current issues that impact district funding and resources, such as the implementation of the Common Core Standards, the GAP Elimination Adjustment and the Property tax freeze credit cap. I invite you to mark your calendars for January 27th at 7:30p.m. On that evening, Dr. Bernhard, Mrs. Bellino and I will present on the previously mentioned issues. It is also an opportunity for the community to share thoughts related to areas of priority in our school budget.

One last reminder that Dr. Shefali Tsabary will be coming to our Performing Arts Center tomorrow evening to share some very powerful thoughts on the subject of parenting. Please join us at 7:00p.m. for what I am sure will be a memorable evening. May I wish you and your families a memorable holiday season and a joyous New Year!

Recognitions...

New York All-State Music Honors Ensembles

Christine Collins

Timothy Sherlock

John Thomas Sepanski

Emily Gallagher

Daniel Kazenoff

Focus on Teaching and Learning...

High School Chamber Singer's Holiday Performance
Under the Direction of Andrea Galeno

Presentation...

Presentation of Audit Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2014
By Nawrocki & Smith

Board Actions...

Appointments:

Christina Munno - Teacher Aide GHP, Effective Dates: December 1, - June 30, 2015.

Vanessa Escaldi - Leave Replacement Mathematics Teacher HS, Effective September 15, 2014 through December 19, 2014.

Spring Coaching:

That the following spring coaching assignments at CSHHS for the 2014-15 school year be approved as submitted:

B JV Tennis (B) Jennifer Ramsay Erickson
Varsity Lacrosse (B) Dennis Bonn
Varsity Lacrosse Asst. (B) Christian Lynch
JV Lacrosse (B) John Foley
Varsity Baseball (B) Rich Greeney
JV Baseball (B) Mike Wolf
Varsity Spring Track Nick Aurigemma
Varsity Spring Track Gary Franklin
V. Spring Track Asst. Erica Fraiberg
Varsity Softball (G) Steve Cacioppo
Varsity Lacrosse (G) Danielle Skakandi
JV Lacrosse (G) Elizabeth Christiansen
V Crew Jon Mendreski
A V Crew Asst. Melissa Meinel
V Crew Asst. Vincent Natale
V Crew Asst. Lauren Schulz
JV Golf (G) Cyndi Scudieri

Personnel Contracts:

Susan E. Wisla - The Contract for Services between the District and Susan E. Wisla, Athletic Trainer, at an hourly rate of \$40.19 for the 2014-15 school year be approved as submitted.

Donations:

Seahawks Sports Booster Club: The Board of Education accepted the generous donation of \$19,546 from the Seahawks Sports Booster Club for a new batting cage and installation to replace the one currently next to the Varsity baseball field.

Contract Bid Awards:

1. Contracts - Construction

The Board of Education approved a contract with Metro Group of Long Island, Inc. of East Northport, NY for General Construction for the Lloyd Harbor Capital Improvement Program (SED No. 58-04-02-06-0-002-028) in the amount of \$258,500 on the basis of low bid meeting specifications as per the recommendation of the school architect.

2. Contracts - Construction

The Board of Education approved a contract with Maccarone Plumbing of Glen Cove, NY for Plumbing Reconstruction for the Lloyd Harbor Capital Improvement Program (SED No. 58-04-02-06-0-002-028) in the amount of \$23,900 on the basis of low bid meeting specifications as per the recommendation of the school architect.

3. Contracts - Construction

The Board of Education approved a contract with JNS Heating Service of Ronkonkoma, NY for HVAC Reconstruction for the Lloyd Harbor Capital Improvement Program (SED No. 58-04-02-06-0-002-028) in the amount of \$145,500 on the basis of low bid meeting specifications as per the recommendation of the school architect.

4. Contracts - Construction

The Board of Education approve a contract with Locust Valley Electric of Glen Cove, NY for Electrical Reconstruction for the Lloyd Harbor Capital Improvement Program (SED No. 58-04-02-06-0-002-028) in the amount of \$32,450 on the basis of low bid meeting specifications as per the recommendation of the school architect.

5. Contracts - Construction

The Board of Education approved a contract with Locust Valley Electric of Glen Cove, NY for Fire Alarm System Replacement for the Lloyd Harbor Capital Improvement Program (SED No. 58-04-02-06-0-002-028) in the 4 amount of \$88,850 on the basis of low bid meeting specifications as per the recommendation of the school architect.

Change Orders:

1. Change Order - Goosehill Reconstruction

The Board of Education approved change order No. 1 with Locust Valley Electric of Glen Cove, New York, the Electrical Contractor on Goosehill reconstruction project, SED #58-04-02-06-0-003-029, for a reduction in cost of \$7,500, for underutilized allowances in the original contract.

2. Change Order - Cold Spring Harbor Jr./Sr. HS

The Board of Education approved change order No. 2 with Locust Valley Electric of Glen Cove, New York, the Electrical Contractor on Jr./Sr. High School reconstruction project, SED #58-04-02-06-0-007-043, for a reduction in cost of \$2,500, for underutilized allowances in the original contract.

3. Change Order - Lloyd Harbor Elementary

The Board of Education approved change order No. 3 with Locust Valley Electric of Glen Cove, New York, the Electrical Contractor on Lloyd Harbor School reconstruction project, SED #58-04-02-06-0-002-027, for a reduction in cost of \$5,000, for underutilized allowances in the original contract.

4. Audit Report - Internal Risk Assessment

Internal Risk Assessment Audit:

The Board of Education acknowledged receipt of the Internal Risk Assessment Audit of the Cold Spring Harbor Central School District as performed by R. S. Abrams & Co. LLP for the period from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

Audit Response Plan - Independent External Audit:

The Board of Education approved the Audit Response Plan dated November 21, 2014 for the Independent External Audit for the 2013-2014 fiscal year as prepared by Nawrocki Smith LLP.

Field Trip – Revised:

The Field Trip for the High School Band approved at the November 18, 2014 Board Meeting to Six Flags Amusement Park/Great Adventure scheduled for May 22, 2015 reflect that the trip is for members of the 7th and 8th grade band and not members of the High School Band.

Policies:

Policy 1500 - Public Use of Facilities....Second Read and Adoption

Policy 1500-R Public Use of School Facilities Regulation....Second Read and Adoption

Upcoming Meetings...

January 13th - Board of Education Meeting – 8pm

January 27th - Board of Education Community Budget Forum – 7:30pm

Meetings are held at the Francis Roberts Community Center (District Office)
75 Goose Hill Rd., Cold Spring Harbor
District web site – www.csh.k12.ny.us)

For the full Board of Education Agenda, please log onto our website.