

Board of Education “Meeting Highlights”

April 12, 2016

President’s Report...

BOE President Robert C. Hughes’ report included the following:

Tonight, the Board will consider approval of a proposed budget for the 2016-17 school year. The proposed budget includes a tax levy increase of less than 1% and about a quarter percent under our tax cap limit. We are able to maintain our programs and initiatives even with such a historically low tax increase. This enviable financial position is due not only to the increase in state aid this year, but also to the careful fiscal oversight exercised by our administrators, in particular our assistant superintendent for business Bill Bernhard. The budget will be discussed in greater detail at the budget hearing on May 10.

When it comes time to administer the new budget, there will be at least two new faces here at the front of the room. The Board is in the final stages of the Superintendent search process and anticipates making an announcement on who the next Superintendent will be in the very near future. One other new face will be a member of the Board of Education. As I said last month, I am not seeking another term on the Board. Petitions to fill that vacancy are due in the district office by 5:00 next Monday.

Last month I spoke about some of our students’ athletic successes. It is only appropriate this month to congratulate the Cyber Hawks, our high school robotics team. The team, partnering with the Patchogue-Medford team, reached the finals at the FIRST robotics tournament at Hofstra two weekends ago.

Despite the name, this was not our team’s first competition, it wasn’t even the first competition of its kind, it was the 17th FIRST competition. FIRST stands for “For Inspiration & Recognition of Science & Technology.” We are happy to see this young team do so well. The robotics program at Cold Spring Harbor started in 2008 and has grown each year. The budget this year includes funding to extend robotics to the elementary schools. A parent reports that the competition was an incredibly exciting experience for our students. The Board thanks Mr. Salvia and other mentors who have helped our children succeed in this challenging competition.

Superintendent’s Report...

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

The past month has included a brief vacation period - which was essential when one considers the amount of activity that has taken place outside the classroom. It reminds me of the time when a nephew enrolled in a semester at sea for the spring semester of his junior year at college. His travels took him to Vietnam, Thailand, India and along the Northern coast of Africa. When it came time to return to school for his senior year and I asked him if he was looking forward to returning to college, he answered that it seemed unlikely to him that he could learn anything sitting in a classroom in the Lehigh Valley. To put it simply, sometimes the most important learning takes place outside the nine period or seven-hour day.

This past month we have enjoyed the exuberant Jr. HS performance of Peter Pan as well as the 6th grade blockbuster presentation of “Mary Poppins.” Theatrical performances give students the opportunity to explore talents that are not always readily drawn upon in academic subjects; however, through experiences in acting or being a member of the stage crew, the skills of creativity, self-expression, and collaboration are ones that will serve students well throughout their lives.

Two weeks ago our Robotics Team “The Cyberhawks” went all the way to the finals under the expert and enthusiastic advisorship of Mr. Salvia, the district systems engineer. Although the team lost in a heartbreaking tie-breaker round – their performance was testimony to the mission of the FIRST Robotics event – which is to exude “gracious professionalism.” This competition also draws on myriad skills of collaboration, engineering design, ingenuity, art and teamwork. Congratulations to our team, Mr. Salvia and to our volunteer mentors, Mr. Nordemann, Mr. Jay and alumnus and prior generation Cyberhawk Kevin Merola. It was the team’s best performance to date!

Through the efforts of our Citizens Faculty Association, a group of HS students attended this year’s sold-out literary luncheon at the Huntington Country Club where they enjoyed Laura Schroff’s remarks regarding her NY Times bestselling memoir of “An Invisible Thread.” Ms. Schroff’s story is an inspiring tale of how one person’s simple efforts have the power to change the course of another’s life.

And finally, it is not only our students but our teachers who actively engage in learning. I am so pleased to welcome Mr. Kevin Craine, Mrs. Jane DeRosa, Mrs. Kathryn Dopico and Mrs. Kristen Sewell to share their instruction in literacy with students. Thank you to Dr. Bellino for her never-ending efforts to bring the best practices of professional development to Cold Spring Harbor.

If you haven’t heard, and I can’t imagine that you haven’t, our Girls Varsity lacrosse team prevailed in a match against Garden City last week – and the win was formidable. We have gone back in history as best we can and this seems to be a first for our Seahawks. I can now retire happily. Congratulations to the team and Coach Castellane.

I invite you to attend the Board’s work session next Tuesday evening at 7:30p.m. where we will be reporting out to the Board on the District goals related to assessment literacy and personalized learning through the use of technology.

Just a note that the relatively temperate weather has enabled us to fulfill the school calendar obligations, so we will be enjoying a spring recess beginning on April 22 through April 29th. The students will be returning to school when it is officially the month of May and then the race to the end of the year officially begins.

Focus on Teaching and Learning...

Small Group Instruction Across the Curriculum

Dr. Lydia Bellino

Kevin Craine

Jane DeRosa

Kathryn Dopico

Kristen Sewell

Board Actions...

Resignations:

[JoAnn Barbara](#): the resignation for the purpose of retirement of JoAnn Barbara, FSW, GH, was accepted effective April 29, 2016 with appreciation for her many years of service to the District.

Appointments:

[Kristen Wilkens](#) was appointed Varsity Spring Track Asst. Coach at CSHHS.

[Giuseppe Alviano](#) and [Louis Santoli](#) were appointed Weight Lifting (Spring) Coaches at CSHHS for the 2015-16 school year

[Alyson Storck](#) was appointed per-diem School Psychologist working three days per week (T/W/Th) beginning April 5, 2016 with an end date TBD.

[Lorie Siegel](#) was appointed part time ESL Teacher at GHP effective April 4, 2016 through June 30, 2016 at a per diem rate.

[Dr. Beth Chase-Schuman](#) was appointed per-diem School Psychologist working five days per week beginning April 6, 2016 at a per-diem rate with an end date TBD. This is an increase from three days per week noted on the January 12, 2016 Agenda to five days per week.

Donations:

[GPFA](#): The Board of Education accepted the generous donation of \$24,000 from the Goosehill Parent Faculty Association (GPFA) to be used to create a sport court area as an extension of the school playground.

[LHSA](#): The Board of Education accepted a generous donation of Mamba Gaga Pit valued at \$4,500 from the Lloyd Harbor School Parent Association (PTG)

Health Services Contracts:

1. South Huntington UFSD: The Board of Education approved the contract with the South Huntington UFSD for health services for 23 students attending St. Anthony's High School and 8 students attending Long Island School for the Gifted during the 2015- 16 school year.
2. Jericho: The Board of Education approved the contract with Jericho UFSD for health services for 6 students attending private schools in the 2015/16 school year.

Personnel Contracts:

[Dr. Judith A. Wilansky](#): Contract Amendment - the Board approved a Contract Amendment for the 2015-16 school year as submitted.

Budget Transfers:

The Board of Education approved the budget line transfers, within the Students with Disabilities code, for the 2015-2016 school year in the amount of \$85,000 from the regular tuition appropriations to the BOCES tuition appropriations based on the placement of students.

Policies:

1. Policy 1120 - School District Records Second Read & Adoption
2. Policy 1120-R Second Read & Adoption
3. Policy 4710 - Grading Systems Second Read & Adoption
4. Policy 6610 - Fund Balance Policy Second Read & Adoption
5. Policy 6900 - Disposal of District Property Second Read & Adoption
6. Policy 9150 - Non Fraternalization First Read

Additional Business Matters:

1. [JOINT MUNICIPAL COOPERATIVE BIDDING PROGRAM \(2016-2017\)](#)
The Board of Education approved a resolution for the Cold Spring Harbor School District to participate in the joint Bidding Cooperative with other Long Island school districts for the 2016-2017 school year.
2. [Lease Agreement – BOCES](#): The Board of Education, subject to approval of the 2016/2017 school budget, approved a five year lease agreement with Western Suffolk BOCES not to exceed a five year total cost of \$290,004 for the purchase of computer and technology equipment as outlined in the Cold Spring Harbor School District technology plan
3. [Disposal of Obsolete Equipment](#): The Board of Education declared obsolete a color printer, HP Laserjet 4600, Serial No. JPCKC29280, located at Goosehill Elementary, that is beyond reasonable repair and has no salvage value.
4. [Disposal of Obsolete Equipment](#): The Board of Education declared obsolete 2 pianos, Baldwin upright model #179122 and model #179211, located at Lloyd Harbor School.
5. [Adoption of 2016-17 Budget and Property Tax Report Card](#): The Board of Education approved the adoption of the 2016-2017 Cold Spring Harbor District Budget in the amount of \$64,985,279 and the Board approved the 2016-2017 Property Tax Report Card.

Other Matters:[Appointment of Election Officials](#)

The following were appointed to the Budget Vote on May 17, 2016:

Chief Inspector: Dr. William Bernhard

Inspectors and/or Clerks:

1. Betty (Candy) Bertuccio
2. Thomas Booton
3. Joyce Inzerillo

4. Lily Montalbano
5. Arthur Parsons

Upcoming Meetings...

- Board of Education Work Session April 19th 7:30PM
- Board of Education Meeting – 7:30pm

UPCOMING BUDGET DATES:

- April 18 – Last day for BOE candidates to submit petition (up until 5pm)**
- May 2 – Meet the Candidates Night**
- May 10 – Budget Hearing**
- May 11 – Voter Registration**
- May 17 –School Budget VOTE and Board election**

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)