

Board of Education “Meeting Highlights” February 14, 2017

President’s Report...

BOE President Amelia Brogan’s report included the following:

I hope everyone enjoyed their surprise 4-day weekend and has shoveled out from under all of this snow. We are already into our third marking period. It is hard to believe the school year is half over! Goosehill will be celebrating its 100 days shortly. I want to thank Mr. Margolies and his team for the great job they have done keeping our buildings clear of snow and operational. They are here early, stay late and work in difficult conditions. Thank you all for a superb job.

I would also like to acknowledge Mr. Bongino for his efforts organizing and hosting the Nassau Div. 11 County Championship in Wrestling on Saturday. Although he encountered some challenges that day, including the landing of a medivac helicopter (unrelated to school activities) on our field, the day was a great success. Two of our wrestlers qualified for States!

Much has happened since last month. We saw the defeat of our bond referendum. Although very disappointing, it has started a dialogue with our community members. Our job, as the Board of Education, is to listen to our school and community members, and then to figure out the best ways to serve the needs of our students, while staying within the confines of our fiduciary duty to our taxpayers. As we continue over the next weeks and months to listen and explore options on how best to proceed, we will continue to take input from everyone. The importance of health in everyone’s lives is indisputable. Physical education is a necessity for all of our students and we will continue to look for the best ways to deliver this instruction. Thank you to Mr. Fenter, Dr. Bernhard and Mr. Bongino for all of your time and effort making these bond presentations.

It is that time of year again when the Budget process begins. The Board of Education will begin the task of carefully looking at and assessing all school budgets. School budgets will be reviewed line by line with each school leader or administrator responsible for preparing it. These meetings are open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend. The dates and times of these presentations are listed on our district website. Changes to a budget are only made after due deliberation and input from all necessary parties. The Board of Education takes very seriously its responsibility in producing a balanced budget that both reflects the needs of the students and staff while fulfilling its fiduciary responsibility to our taxpayers. The proposed budget will be adopted at our April meeting.

In furtherance of budget preparation, we held our Community Budget Forum in District Office on January 31, 2017. Although lightly attended, Dr. Bernhard and Mr. Fenter did a superb job in their presentations to the community giving an overview of budget issues and unfunded mandates, as well as answered questions. Thank you both for your time and effort in putting your presentations together. Both were excellent. I am only sorry that more people were not there to see it.

Although our proposed budget remains within the allowable tax cap which prevents us from raising our tax levy above the CPI or 2% whichever is lower, it was a challenge to do so in light of the 12% increase in our contributions for health insurance premiums, an increase in Social Security and Medicare costs as well as increases in our contractual obligations. Some of these costs have been offset by a reduction in our retirement contributions to the Employee retirement

system and Teachers Retirement System as well as an increase in state aid and employee and teacher retirements. However, we are happy to report that our proposed budget maintains current class sizes, preserves programming at all levels, and continues with our roll out of the 1:1 chrome book initiative. The proposed budget also supports enhancement of our science research as well as provides additional curriculum support for grades K-12 through the implementation of a director's model in STEM and Humanities. Thank you Dr. Bernhard for your leadership in crafting a proposed budget that is both fiscally sound and academically rich in these challenging times.

Lastly, I hope you were able to see the Sr. High School musical production, "Mary Poppins". It was a spectacular show and very well attended. Ms. Galeno did a fabulous job directing her first play for Cold Spring Harbor! I also want to thank Karen Spehler for posting video of the performance on facebook so people could see what a fabulous job our students do.

Superintendent's Report...

Robert C. Fenter's report included the following:

I don't know how many people in the room have had the experience of navigating the college search process with your child. As I am at the tail end of this process for the second and last time, I would have to say that the experience is one that is best defined as a marathon, but a marathon in which obstacles seem to be placed in the pathway of an easy or likely decision. Often, it seems, that in addition to these obstacles, it feels as though weights are placed on the ankles of both the child and parent as the journey becomes even more challenging. Can you tell that I am starting to feel like I need this process to end??? But aside from these challenges that are a natural part of the college search process, is the amazing opportunity to spend many hours in a car where one can connect with their child, now a young adult. This past weekend found my son and I driving to New Hampshire and back for an Accepted Student's Day for a small private college outside Manchester. As we drove for the total of 11 hours back and forth, we weighed the pros and cons of each of the 10 schools he applied to-we even made a spreadsheet. We also talked about what he hoped to accomplish-what impact did he want to have on the world? What did he want to do? How he could make his mark? And, amazingly, the long car ride of the college search process allowed those moments, when both the child and parent fall silent, where both can reflect on life, both personally and professionally. During that time, I was able to reflect on this very special phase of my life as I realize that my youngest child is about to leave me, but I also had the time to reflect on the most amazing nine months of my professional career, the opportunity to serve the Cold Spring Harbor School District as it's superintendent.

Over the course of the past several months, I have been involved in many conversations about the direction of our school district. Among my favorite discussions have been those that revolved around teaching and learning. At its core, school districts are established to focus their energy on the experiences of our students in the classroom. With the many talented teachers that we possess on our staff and our hard-working leaders and supportive community and Board of Education, we know that we are doing powerful things for our kids each and every day.

Developing ideas as to how we can make a great place even better is what has driven me over these past months. Some questions that have been generated by some of my discussions include:

*How can we create **learning spaces** that are dynamic in their design, and that provide success for students with varying learning styles?*

*How can we establish high and consistent **expectations in research**, not only in our science research program, but in all classes and grade levels, to support our students' need to examine important issues in a journey to better understand the world in which they live?*

*How can we foster even more **student-centered learning experience** through the use of technology, such as in our 1:1 Chromebook initiative, that connects students to the world around them, and to each other, as they explore the meaning of that which they are learning?*

I believe that these are exciting times to be an educator. The technology that our students enjoy is at a point that serves as a critical resource for learning and for success in the world in which they will be working in just a few short years. We have new learning standards in science and social studies that are designed to provide thoughtful experiences for our students and teachers to explore together.

Yes, as I make the long drive during rush hour traffic this Friday evening toward the University of Delaware for our next Accepted Student's Day, I will be reminded that the coming months and years will be filled with amazing opportunities, borne out of our strong belief in our students' ability to learn and persevere, as well as the ability of our teachers and leaders to help our students grow.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Education for their tremendous support and guidance, as well as the hard work of our teachers and leaders, and the support of our community as we continue the important work of making a great place even better.

Cold Spring Harbor Student Government Reports...

Olivia Howell, President of the Senior Class
Amanda Lauro, Vice-President of the Senior Class

Focus on Teaching and Learning...

Blue Ribbon Conference Report

Valerie Massimo, Principal Lloyd Harbor School

Kurt Simon, Principal West Side School

Board Actions...

Resignations:

1) Francoise Gaertner

The resignation for the purpose of retirement of Francoise Gaertner, LOTE Teacher, CSHJSHS, was accepted with deep appreciation for her many years of service to the District, effective June 30, 2017.

- 2) **Annette DiPietro**
The resignation for the purpose of retirement of Annette DiPietro, Sr. Clerk Typist, CSHJSHS, effective September 30, 2017 was accepted with appreciation for her years of service to the District.
- 3) **Kevin. Purrone**
The resignation for the purpose of retirement of Dr. Kevin Purrone, Guidance Counselor, CSHJSHS, effective June 30, 2017 was accepted with appreciation for his years of service to the District.
- 4) **James Farmer**
The resignation for the purpose of retirement of James K. Farmer, Elementary Teacher, was accepted effective June 30, 2017 with deep appreciation for his many years of service to the District.
- 5) **Timothy Jenks**
The resignation for the purpose of retirement of Timothy Jenks, Music Teacher, was accepted effective June 30, 2017 with deep appreciation for his many years of service to the District.
- 6) **Christine Parent**
The resignation for the purpose of retirement of Christine Parent, Health Teacher, effective June 30, 2017 was accepted with deep appreciation for her many years of service to the District.
- 7) **Bonnie Dawkins**
The resignation for the purpose of retirement of Dr. Bonnie U. Dawkins, Elementary Teacher, effective July 10, 2017 was accepted with deep appreciation for her many years of service to the District.

Appointments:

The following spring 2017 coaching assignments at CSHJSHS be approved:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Employee</u>
Varsity Tennis (B)	Bruce Moodnik
JV Tennis (B)	Scott Kurtis
Varsity Lacrosse (B)	Dennis Bonn
Varsity Lacrosse Asst. (B)	Christian Lynch
JV Lacrosse (B)	Tom Walsh
JV Lacrosse Asst (B)	Paul McDermott
Varsity Baseball (B)	Rich Greeney
Varsity Baseball Asst. (B)	Joe Del Gais
JV Baseball (B)	Steve Forbes
Varsity Spring Track	Nick Aurigemma
Varsity Spring Track	Gary Franklin
V. Spring Track Asst.	Kristen Wilkens
V. Spring Track Asst.	Elizabeth Manning
Varsity Softball (G)	Steve Cacioppo

Varsity Softball Asst. (G)	Jay Murphy
Varsity Lacrosse (G)	Danielle Castellane
V Lacrosse Asst. (G)	Elizabeth Burkhard
JV Lacrosse (G)	Melanie Raso
JV Lacrosse Asst. (G)	Lou Santoli
V Crew	Jon Mendreski
V Crew Asst.	Michelle Forte
V Crew Asst.	Vincent Natale
V Crew Asst.	Kelly Boyle
V Crew Asst.	Lauren Schulz
V Golf (G)	Robert Colascione
JV Golf (G)	Cyndi Scudieri
Weight lifting (spring)	Giuseppe Alviano

Beth Chase-Schumann – Leave Replacement School Psychologist, CSHJSHS

Dr. Chase-Schuman was previously appointed as Leave Replacement for the first semester of the 2016-17 school year. *In the event the Psychologist on leave returns prior to June 30, 2017 annual salary for Dr. Chase-Schuman will be prorated accordingly.

Personnel Contracts:

- 1) **Robert Peterson**
The Contract for Services between the District and Robert Peterson, JHS Musical Vocal Director for the 2016-17 school year was approved as submitted.
- 2) **Distinctive Educator's Institute; Amendment**
The Amendment to the Contract for Services between the District and Distinctive Educator's Institute for Teacher Professional Development (Reading K-2) for four additional days of professional development for the 2016-17 school year was approved as submitted.
- 3) **Brian Cohen**
The Contract for Services between the District and Brian Cohen, Presenter of *Instructional Mathematical Discussions Likely to Increase Student Learning* to the staff of the District for the 2016-17 school year was approved as submitted.
- 4) **sb Educational Consultants, Inc.**
The Contract for Services between the District and sb Educational Consultants, Inc., provider of *Mentor/Mentee Training* to the staff of the District for the 2016-17 school year was approved as submitted.

Business Recommendations: Health Services Contracts

1. **Health Services - Hempstead**
The Board of Education approved the agreement between Hempstead UFSD and the Cold Spring Harbor CSD to offer health services to resident students attending private schools in the Hempstead UFSD in the 2016-17 school year.
2. **Health Services - Huntington UFSD**
The Board of Education approved the agreement between Huntington UFSD and the Cold Spring Harbor CSD to offer health services to resident students attending private schools in the Huntington UFSD in the 2016-17 school year.

3. **Health Services - Uniondale UFSD**

The Board of Education approved the agreement between the Uniondale UFSD and the Cold Spring Harbor CSD to offer health services to resident students attending private schools in the Uniondale UFSD in the 2016-17 school year.

Policies: First Read--

1. Policy 5405 - Student Wellness
2. Policy 5405-R - Student Wellness Regulation
3. Policy 5420 - Student Health Services
4. Policy 8130 - School Safety Plans and Teams
5. Policy 8414.5 - Alcohol and Drug Testing of Drivers

Policies - Deletion--

1. Policy 8414.5-R Alcohol and Drug-Testing of Drivers Regulation
2. Policy 8414.5 -E Alcohol and Drug Testing Program Acknowledgement Form

Additional Business Matters:

1. **Establishment of Standard Work Days for Retirement Systems**

The Cold Spring Harbor Board of Education, hereby established the following as standard work days for its employees and will report days worked to the New York State and Local Employee's Retirement System based on the time keeping system or the records of activities maintained and submitted by these members to the clerk of this body:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Standard Work Day (Hrs/day)</u>
Cook	7.5
Food Service Worker	6.0
7.5 Hour Food Service Worker	7.5
Security Guard	8.0
Nurse	7.0

2. **Professional Services Agreement - Munistat**

The Board of Education authorized the President of the Board of Education to execute a professional services agreement with Munistat Services, Inc. to provide services relative to the issuance of the District's Tax Anticipation Notes to be issued for the 2017-2018 school year and the filing of the Annual Information Statement as required by SEC Rule 15c2-12 at an inclusive fee of \$9,600 for all services.

3. **Professional Services Agreement - External Audit**

The Board of Education authorized the President of the Board of Education to execute the attached professional services agreement with Nawrocki Smith, LLP, Certified Public Accountants to conduct the external audit of the Financial Statements of the Cold Spring Harbor School District for fiscal year ended June 30, 2017 at an annual fee of \$47,000. In the event that the District is not subject to the provisions of the Uniform Guidance (Federal Audit), such fee will be \$44,000.

4. **Facilities Program Certifications**

The Board of Education authorized the President of the Board of Education to execute the State and Municipal Facilities Program Certifications for grants for the District-Wide Security Upgrades (Project ID: 6651) in the amount of \$50,000 and for the ADA and Safety Upgrades (Project ID: 7531) in the amount of \$119,000.

For the full Agenda – please visit the Board of Education on the website

Upcoming Meetings...

March 14th –Board of Education Meeting – 8pm

March 28th – Board of Education Work Session – 6:30pm

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)