

**ROSLYN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Meeting of the Board of Education**

Thursday, March 31, 2011

8:30 p.m.

Held in the Administration Building Board Room

MINUTES

Meryl W. Ben-Levy, President
Clifford Saffron, Vice President
Dani E. Kline
Adam Haber
David Seinfeld
Stanley D. Stern

ALSO PRESENT

Dan Brenner, Ph.D
Allison Brown
Joseph C. Dragone
Edward A. Salina, Jr., Ed.D

Cathie L. Britt

Superintendent
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum &
Assistant Superintendent for Business
Assistant Superintendent for Administration
Instruction
District Clerk

ABSENT

Bruce G. Valauri
Nicole Berman

Student Delegate

7:30 p.m.-Executive Session

Pursuant to Public Officers Law, Section 105, it was duly moved, seconded and carried by a vote of 6-0 (Dr. Valauri absent) that the Board of Education adjourns to Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.

The Executive Session adjourned at 8:35 p.m. and the Board reconvened in Public Session in the Administration Building Board Meeting at 8:40 p.m.

8:30 p.m.-Board of Education Meeting

Preliminary Announcements
Emergency Procedures
Cell Phones

Pledge of Allegiance

Recommendation to accept check warrants for January 2011 (reviewed by Mr. Saffron).
[Tabled from 3/17/11]

Ms. Kline moved, seconded by Mr. Stern and it was carried by a vote of 6-0 (Dr. Valauri absent) to accept the check warrants for January 2011.

Board President's Comments

Ms. Ben-Levy encouraged all to attend the upcoming performance of Eclectic Electric at the high school on April 30, 2011. She acknowledged the beautiful artwork in the board room provided by the students from Harbor Hill School.

Mr. Haber spoke about his attendance at the State Issues Conference where he felt it was a good opportunity for districts to lobby together, however, the general feeling was that the state's agenda was fixed. He met with Senator Martins who shared with him that the state aid, which is the largest state aid cut in history, will not be given back and it is anticipated the budget will pass, which it subsequently did. He tried to meet with Senator Skelos, but was greeted by and met with his aide. He spoke with Assemblywoman Schimel and felt she gets it and cares, but ultimately he concluded he, along with the other districts, weren't there to change things but rather to make a presence. Mr. Haber thanked the board for giving him the opportunity to attend this conference. Ms. Kline echoed Mr. Haber comments and felt the same level of frustration when she attended the Federal Relations Network (FRN) conference in Washington, DC. It was clear they both felt neither had a chance to bring about change, but felt strongly that the district should be represented and attend these conferences.

Mr. Seinfeld asked if the DASNY grants were reinstated; Dr. Brenner responded he hasn't heard that. Mr. Saffron spoke that conversations with Senator Martins regarding the Bulldog Boosters grant continue and that the possibility still exists that the grant will be received.

Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Brenner spoke about the high school performance of the original musical, "Airheart", which was covered by MSG this past weekend. A 5-minute video clip prepared by MSG was shown.

Student Delegate's Comments

Ms. Berman was not present at this meeting.

Discussion Item(s):

1. Budget Presentation
 - a. Tax Levy / Revenue

Mr. Dragone gave a presentation on the projected fund balance as of June 30, 2011.

He presented a line-by-line review and stated the unreserved and undesignated fund (also referred to as the "4% fund") is \$3,772,741. As of June 30, 2010, the total fund balance was \$22,599,421, less the appropriated fund balance of \$2,400,000, which resulted in a total fund balance as of July 1, 2010 of \$20,199, 421. As it stands right now, the district will receive approximately \$180,000 back from the MTA tax. He explained revenue projections are expected to be a little more than \$1,000,000 as compared to budget, however, he noted this amount will be reduced by \$60,000 for the property tax levy (including STAR). Therefore, net total revenue is \$966,000. He explained the net variance of revenue and expenditures is \$3,872,202, which will get added to the \$20 million.

The board inquired about establishing a tax certiorari reserve fund this year. Mr. Dragone explained the district will not incur this liability until 2013-14, and therefore, the earliest a fund reserve could be established would be the end of next year. He stressed the district is in unchartered territory and this matter should be closely monitored as litigation continues.

Mr. Saffron emphasized the financial health of the district will be the envy of every New York school district and he spoke we are accomplishing all of this while maintaining reserves and not cutting a single program. It is nothing short of remarkable and he suggested that we need to do a better job communicating this to the community.

Mr. Haber commended Dr. Brenner for being open to any idea and praised him for his entrepreneurial spirit. Dr. Brenner thanked Mr. Haber for his comments and suggested the challenge the district faces in terms of communicating the district's healthy financial position this year is that people do not want to hear a good story. He highlighted the average budget to budget increase is 2.5% and we're coming in at 1.9%. The average tax levy is 3.9% and the district is talking about coming in less than 2%. Ms. Ben-Levy spoke this just didn't happen, but rather it is a direct result of all the hard work and intense scrutiny that has lead us to be in this enviable position. Mr. Haber cautioned against cutting too close this year until we know where we stand in the future.

Mr. Dragone presented total revenue sources add up to \$5,935,972 and he is proposing \$2,300,000 to the fund balance and \$1,773,914 to applied reserves. He presented a line-by-line review of his best revenue projections at this time and highlighted the following:

Pilot:	Unchanged at \$650,000
Adult Ed:	Raised to \$300,000; budgeted as close to actuals as possible
Interest & Earnings:	Lowered to \$250,000
Recovery:	One-time litigation settlement of \$24,000, plus ongoing recovery
Medicaid:	Unchanged
ERS and Debt:	Unchanged
Basic State Aid:	\$3,886,972; reduced from 4.4% to 3.8% year over year

Mr. Dragone stated the message to the community is clear: The district respects the position our residents are in and we want to hold the tax levy as low as possible at 1.93%. Mr. Dragone also noted this does not mean a homeowners' tax will increase by 1.93% and explained the impact of the adjusted base proportion, which for 2011-12 has yet to be adopted by the Nassau County Legislature as recommended by the Nassau County Assessor. In addition, Mr. Dragone presented a 5-year plan and he projects over the next five years it will become increasingly more difficult and projects budget to budget increases of 3%, with a tax levy equivalent to approximately 3.6% which he noted would exceed the 2% tax cap if adopted.

Dr. Brenner asked the board for their direction and approval to present a budget to budget increase of 1.9%. He explained the question before the board this evening is whether to authorize the approval of the budget to budget increase and not the tax levy.

Ms. Ben-Levy polled the board and it was unanimously agreed by a vote of 6-0 (Dr. Valauri absent) to approve a budget to budget increase of 1.9%. She also thanked the administration and all the members of the board for all their hard work.

2. 2011 Capital Reserve Language

Dr. Brenner explained to the board the proposed language changes for proposition #3 and #4 as presented under Board of Education agenda item numbered BOE.3.

PUBLIC COMMENT #1 Limited to Agenda Items ONLY

(Will be limited to ½ hour, no more than 2 minutes per speaker).

Though not required by law, the Roslyn Board of Education invites public comment during its meetings. Citizens will be recognized by the presiding officer. Please state your name and address before speaking and direct all comments to the Board. This is not a time for citizen to citizen exchanges. We ask that comments not include the names of students or staff members, and comments are not permitted with respect to confidential matters. Please also be reminded that Board meetings are designed by law to facilitate the school district's business and provide for public Board deliberations. Thank you

ACTION ITEMS

Action may be taken for each individual resolution or by the titled subgroups. Bracketed information following resolutions is not part of the Board's official action and does not become part of the official record.

The following items were discussed during public comments: a resident thanked the board for tonight's presentation and spoke the figures presented are budgeted and not actuals, and therefore, there is substantial room in the future.

PERSONNEL:

ALL PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS LISTED ARE FUNDED IN THE CURRENT BUDGET UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

P.1. It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Roslyn Board of Education approves the appointments,

resignations, terminations, elimination of positions, transfers, and leaves of absence as detailed in the Personnel Action Reports attached as **(Attachment P.1 Professional)**.

Dr. Salina moved from the floor to amend Item #1, Personnel P.2 (Classified), the appointment of Marie Desir to revise the "From" date from ~~4/4/11~~ to 3/28/11.

P.2. It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Roslyn Board of Education approves the appointments, resignations, terminations, elimination of positions, transfers, and leaves of absence as detailed in the Personnel Action Reports attached as **(Attachment P.2 Classified)**

Mr. Saffron moved, seconded by Mr. Stern and it was carried by a vote of 6-0 (Dr. Valauri absent) to approve Agenda Item numbered P.1 and P.2 as amended.

BUSINESS/FINANCE:

ALL ITEMS ON THE BUSINESS/FINANCE PORTION OF THE AGENDA ARE WITHIN THE BUDGET UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

B.1. Recommendation to approve the following contract and to authorize the Board of Education President to execute (those contracts marked with an asterisk have been prepared pursuant to a previous award of an RFP.)

(i) Contractor: Jericho Public Schools
Services: Health & welfare services for 14 Roslyn residents attending private school in Jericho school district for 2010-2011 school year
Fees: \$931.65 per student
Total estimated to be \$13,043.10

(ii) Contractor: Westbury Union Free School District
Services: Health & welfare services for 2 Roslyn residents attending private school in district for 2010-2011 school year
Fees: \$869.32 per student
Total estimated to be \$1,738.64

Mr. Dragone moved from the floor to amend Agenda Item numbered B.2 as follows.

B.2. Recommendation to approve the following resolution regarding the inter-municipal cooperative agreement:

WHEREAS, a number of public school districts located in the Northwest Quadrant of Nassau County wish to jointly solicit proposals for pupil transportation services and for parts and supplies for transportation vehicles for the 2011-12 school year (and any renewal period) in accordance with the applicable provisions of General Municipal Law;

WHEREAS, the public school districts have agreed to form a Cooperative (the "Cooperative") for these purposes;

WHEREAS, the School District, is desirous of participating in the Cooperative for joint solicitation of proposals for pupil transportation services and the procurement of parts and supplies for transportation vehicles as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Transportation Agreement attached hereto; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the School District to participate in the Cooperative.

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Agreement attached hereto and authorizes the Board President to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.~~

- B.3.** Recommendation that, pursuant to receipt of a gift in the amount of \$485.74 from the Harbor Hill Parent Teacher Association, the board of education hereby, accepts the gift, approves the expenditure of funds for the purpose of purchasing 2 custom doormats, and increases the appropriation in A1620-450-07-9000-310 (Custodial Supplies / HH) by \$485.74 with the understanding that this increase in appropriations is the result of unanticipated revenue and therefore will result in no impact on the tax levy.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Ms. Ben-Levy thanked the Harbor Hill Parent Teacher Association for their generosity and hard work on behalf of the school.

- B.4.** Recommendation to approve a payment in the amount of \$15,634.01 to Ingerman Smith LLP for legal services rendered to the district for the period ending 2/28/11.
- B.5.** Recommendation to approve a budget appropriation transfer request in the amount of \$137.86 from 2020.450.08.9000.801 (Supervision Supplies HS – prior balance \$10,218.84) to 2110.450.08.2200.801 (Teaching Supplies HS Science - prior balance \$-137.86) [To pay for balance of supplies needed for science labs].
- B.6.** Recommendation to approve a budget appropriation transfer request in the amount of \$80,308.88 from 2630.430.03.1100.311 (Other Contractual Services - prior balance \$80,308.88) to 2630.450.03.1100.311 (Computer Supplies (District) - prior balance \$28,498.82) [To cover cost of printing supplies for district-wide use].
- B.7.** Recommendation to approve the attached capital appropriation transfer. [To transfer monies in the 2010-2011 fiscal year capital budget] **(Attachment B.7.)**
- B.8.** Recommendation to approve an agreement between the Roslyn UFSD and Skyline Cruise Lines, Inc. to provide services for the 8th grade class trip on June 8, 2011 as summarized in the attached contract. [Contract has been reviewed and is in accordance with counsel recommendations. There is no cost to the district for this trip].

Mr. Dragone moved from the floor to add the following Agenda Items numbered B.9, B.10 and B.11.

- B.9. Recommendation to approve transportation for one special education student who will be attending the BOCES Seaman Neck School in Seaford for the period of 4/1/11 thru 6/23/11 at an additional cost to the district of \$974.66 per month. [Total estimated cost to be \$2,923.98].**
- B.10 Recommendation to approve a payment of \$24,490.18 to Kaeyer, Garment & Davidson Architects, P.C. for Architects Services rendered to the district pertaining to the Roslyn High School Cafeteria [Funds will be deducted from the 2010-2011 Capital Budget Code [H2110.245.08.1102]**
- B.11 Recommendation to approve the attached capital appropriation transfer. [To transfer monies in the 2010-2011 fiscal year capital budget]. (Attachment B.11)**

Mr. Saffron moved, seconded by Mr. Stern and it was carried by a vote of 6-0 (Dr. Valauri absent) to approve Agenda Items numbered B.1, B.2 as amended, B.3, B.4, B.5, B.6, B.7, B.8 and the addition of B.9, B.10 and B.11.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

- C&I.1** Recommendation to accept the confidential stipulations of the CPSE for the dates listed below as well as the implementation plans for the corresponding special education programs, services and parent notification as previously approved by the Committee on March 9, 2011 and March 15, 2011.
- C&I.2** Recommendation to accept the confidential stipulations of the CSE for the dates listed below as well as the implementation plans for the corresponding special education programs, services and parent notification as previously approved by the Committee on February 28, 2011; March 1, 2011; March 2, 2011; March 3, 2011 and March 22, 2011.
- C&I.3** Recommendation to approve Allyson Weseley and one student to attend the Young Epidemiology Scholars Competition in Washington, DC from April 15 through 17, 2011 at an estimated cost to the district of \$2,111.16.
- C&I.4** Recommendation to approve Allyson Weseley and one student to attend the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles, California from May 8 through May 13, 2011 at an estimated cost to the district of \$4,100.36.
- C&I.5** Recommendation that the following individuals be appointed to the Committee on Preschool Special Education for the 2010-2011 school year:

Parent Member(s):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Samers, Robin	123 Milburn Lane, East Hills, NY 11577
Adler, Deborah	50 Peacock Drive, Roslyn, NY 11576

Mr. Stern moved, seconded by Ms. Kline and it was carried by a vote of 6-0 (Dr. Valauri

absent) to approve Agenda items numbered C&I.1, C&I.2, C&I.3, C&I.4 and C&I.5.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOE.1 Recommendation to approve the attendance of Meryl Waxman Ben-Levy at the NYSSBA Spring Law Conference to be held on May 5, 2011 at the Courtyard by Marriott, 5000 Express Drive, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779 at an estimated cost to the district of \$130.00 per person.

BOE.2 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Agreement between the Board of Education and SCOPE Education Services for the purpose of the operation of an Employee Day Care Program in accordance with the terms and conditions of the attached hereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute said Amendment on behalf of the Board of Education.

[TABLED]

BOE.3 WHEREAS, the Board of Education authorized Proposition No. 3 (expenditure from Capital Reserve Fund) to be included on the ballot at the Annual Meeting on May 17, 2011 at its public meeting held on March 17, 2011;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education authorized Proposition No. 4 (establishment of 2011 Capital Reserve Fund) to be included on the ballot at the Annual Meeting on May 17, 2011 at its public meeting held on March 17, 2011;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to amend Proposition No. 3 and Proposition No. 4 and the corresponding Board Resolutions as follows:

Proposition #3:

To expend out of the capital reserve fund established on May 15, 2007 a sum not to exceed \$3,500,000 for the purpose of completing capital improvements including district-wide security camera system installations; district-wide fence replacements; district-wide heating & ventilation reconstruction; district-wide toilet room reconstruction; district-wide masonry reconstruction; district-wide window and door replacements and repairs; district-wide site and parking lot reconstruction; roofing reconstruction at the Heights Elementary School and the Transportation Building; gas service installations at Harbor Hills and East Hills Elementary Schools; fire alarm system installation at the Administration Building; installation of a new partition at the Roslyn Middle School gymnasium; electrical/mechanical upgrades to the wood shop and surrounding areas, wrestling equipment installations, exterior wall flood remediation work, tennis court reconstruction and generator installation at the Roslyn High School including all labor, materials, equipment, apparatus, and incidental costs thereof.

Proposition #4: 2011 Capital Reserve Fund

RESOLVED that pursuant to Education Law Section 3651, the Board of Education of the School District is hereby authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund ("2011 Construction Capital Reserve Fund") for the purpose of masonry renovation, plumbing

upgrades, electrical upgrades, mechanical upgrades, technology upgrades, telephone upgrades, roof replacement on District buildings, door replacement, window replacement, site work, renovation/reconstruction of interior and exterior instructional spaces and/or the purchase of furnishings/equipment. The ultimate amount of the aforesaid Capital Reserve Fund is \$5,000,000 and the probable term is to be ten (10) years; the funds are to be transferred from surplus monies remaining in the general fund including a sum not to exceed \$2,000,000 from the 2010-2011 budget and thereafter in an annual amount of not more than \$1,000,000 for each remaining year of the probable term.

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee is hereby directed to deposit monies of this reserve fund in a separate bank account to be known as the "2011 Construction Capital Reserve Fund."

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby amends Proposition No. 3 and Proposition No. 4 as set forth above;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the amended Propositions Nos. 3 and 4 to be included on the ballot at its Annual Meeting on May 17, 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legal Notice shall be amended in accordance herewith.

Mr. Saffron moved, seconded by Ms. Kline and it was carried by a vote of 6-0 (Dr. Valauri absent) to TABLE Agenda Item numbered BOE.2.

Mr. Stern moved, seconded by Mr. Haber and it was carried by a vote of 6-0 (Dr. Valauri absent) to approve Agenda Item numbered BOE.1 and BOE.3.

Public Comments #2

The following items were discussed during public comments: RTA president, Eleanor Russell spoke about teacher layoffs due to student enrollment, the rally held at Hofstra University and the tax cap .

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, Mr. Saffron moved, seconded by Mr. Stern and it was carried by a vote of 6-0 (Dr. Valauri absent) to adjourn at 10:24p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathie L. Britt

**Cathie L. Britt
District Clerk**