

SOUTH COUNTRY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
189 No. Dunton Avenue, East Patchogue, New York 11772
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER (6:08 p.m.)

Call to Order

Board President Victor Correa called a Business Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:08 p.m. The meeting took place at the Bellport Middle School Auditorium, 35 Kreamer Street, Bellport, NY.

Board of Education Members Present:

Roll Call

Victor Correa	Jeannette Mistler (<i>present at 7:46 pm</i>).
Owen Durney	Julio Morales
Kevin Kirk	Rob Powell
Marian McKenna	Barbara Schatzman (<i>present at 7:46 pm</i>).

Board Members Absent: Lisa Di Santo Grossman

Others Present: Asst Superintendent for HR, Nelson Briggs, Asst Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Technology, Linda Rozzi, Asst Superintendent for Business, Alan Phillips, Business Administrator, Charles Delargy, Director of Student Support Services, Jack Colombo, Assistant Director Theresa McGuire, Athletic Director Robert McIntyre, Principals Bernie Soete, Brian Ginty, Stefanie Rucinski, Travis Davey, Kathleen Munisteri, Sean Clark, BTA President Wayne White, CSEA President Peter Maddalone, other guests and members of the community.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge

Trustee Owen Durney leads all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion (Durney / Kirk) to convene to Executive Session at 6:09 pm to discuss a confidential personnel matter:

Convene to Executive Session

VOTE: *Motion carries.* 6-Yes, 0-No, Absent (Grossman, Mistler, Schatzman) .

Reconvene Public Session

Meeting reconvened at 7:46 pm.

Trustees Mistler and Schatzman were present when the meeting reconvened.

BOE President Correa advised the public that the Board would be voting on the following resolutions, prior to the Public Participation portion of the meeting.

Board Trustees, McKenna, Kirk, Durney, Schatzman, Morales and Correa, each spoke to explain the reason for their vote on the following resolution. They have listened to weeks and weeks of discussion, phone calls, and emails and it was not an easy decision for anyone on the Board. Many factors were taken into consideration and their decisions were weighed against the stark reality of this year's budget. Board members expressed their concerns over the fiscal climate and their wish to do the right thing for the community.

A motion (Kirk / Durney) to approve the following:

Approves Settlement Agreement

P. RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves a settlement agreement with the employee named in executive session and authorizes the President of the Board to execute same:

VOTE: *Motion carries.* 5-Yes, 3-No (Mistler, Morales, Powell), Absent (Grossman).

Board President Correa read the following statement:

“Tonight, the Board of Education announces that it has reached a settlement with the Superintendent of Schools that will result in his resignation effective May 2, 2012. Pending the effective date of his resignation, the Superintendent will be reassigned to other duties as determined by the Board. In exchange for his resignation, the Board has agreed to honor the terms of the Superintendent’s contract through May 2, 2014 only, approximately fourteen months prior to its expiration. In agreeing to the settlement, the Board recognizes that it involves substantial costs to the District. However, we have been informed that the costs associated with litigation are likely to be well in excess of one million dollars when legal fees associated with the Hearing Officer, certified court reporter, the Superintendent’s salary during the pendency of a proceeding that could take as much as two years to complete, and the salary of his replacement, are considered. Under such circumstances, a majority of the Board believes that this settlement is in the best interest of the students and taxpayers of South Country.”

**Statement -
Superintendent
Settlement**

A motion (Durney / Schatzman) to approve the following:

Q. RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby ratifies the Memorandum of Agreement with the Bellport Teachers Association for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2015 and authorizes the Superintendent and the President of the Board of Education to execute a collective bargaining agreement in accordance with said Memorandum of Agreement.

**Ratifies MOA
with BTA**

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No , Absent (Grossman).

A motion (Kirk / Schatzman) to approve the following:

R. RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby appoints Howard Koenig as Acting Superintendent of Schools, effective immediately, through and including May 2, 2012, and thereafter as Interim Superintendent, subject to a mutually acceptable employment agreement.

**Appoints
Howard Koenig
Acting Supt of
Schools**

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No, Absent (Grossman).

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Sean Clark (Principal Kreamer St Elementary): Invited all to hear the Kreamer St Third Grade Chorus sing “America the Beautiful” at the NY Islander Game on March 31st during the 2nd period intermission.

**Public
Participation**

Rita Gross & Greg Murdoch (Student Council Officers): Asked for permission for Bellport HS Senior Trip to be restored.

Joseph Milano (Custodian / resident): Spoke on behalf of CSEA and effects of possible cuts.

Peter Maddalone (CSEA President): Spoke on behalf of CSEA membership and dedication to District.

Loretta Drew(resident): Commented on vehicle costs for Superintendent of Schools.

Wayne White (BTA President): Spoke of the importance of education and to consider teacher concessions when making budget decisions.

Vincent Marino (CSEA member): Spoke on behalf of CSEA members and job cuts.

Deborah Gurney(resident): Questioned source of money from Superintendent settlement agreement.

John Delaney (CSEA member): Commented on importance of CSEA members and their contributions to education for students and staff.

Anne Hayes (resident): Commented on Open Meetings Law, creation of District Committees for input, budget matters and curriculum vitae of new Superintendent.

Regina Seltzer (resident): Questioned Superintendent settlement and related costs.

Antoinette Huffine (resident): Commented on new Superintendent, community input, investigation and budget matters.

Michael Bilecki (resident): Questioned Superintendent settlement and time frame for Building Services hearing.

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Claudia VanFlorcke (resident): Commented on security, BSA judgement, investigative report and security.

Kerri Wilson (resident): Questioned a rumor regarding a school board member’s son.

Leslie O’Connor (resident): Stated she will be presenting a petition to reduce number of board members and commented on academic qualities of our District.

Robert Garito (resident): Commented on Superintendent settlement and future actions regarding investigation.

Valida Spellman (resident): Expressed concerns for the minority community, safety matters and Superintendent Cipp.

Lynn Leistman (resident): Commented on investigative report, community concerns and Superintendent matter.

Sheryl Moodt (resident): Expressed concerns about confidential information being released and support for Superintendent and community divide.

John Rogers (resident): Expressed concerns regarding possible budget cuts.

Kevin Wilson (resident): Spoke of community divide, security and Superintendent Cipp.

Lawrence Hoff (resident): Spoke regarding community input on the Budget process and availability of investigative report.

Edward Carson (resident): Commented on community divide, disappointment with Board’s actions on investigative matter not being done under oath.

Lisa Rene (resident): Commented on safety in schools and need for security.

4. BOARD CONSENT AGENDA

A motion (Kirk / Durney) to approve the following:

A. Approval of minutes - Budget Workshop Meeting of February 29, 2012

B. Approval of minutes - Workshop Meeting of March 7, 2012

Approval
Minutes

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No, Absent (Grossman).

5. SUPERINTENDENT CONSENT AGENDA

A motion (Kirk / Durney) to approve the following:

A. FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. Treasurer’s Report for February, 2012

2. Budget Transfer Request.

Approval of
Treasurer’s
Report &
Budget
Transfer
Request

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No , Absent (Grossman).

A motion (Kirk / Schatzman) to approve the following:

B. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation of \$500 to the Brookhaven Elementary PTA Scholarship fund.

Accepts
donation to
Brookhaven
PTA
Scholarship
Fund

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No , Absent (Grossman).

An omnibus motion (Kirk / Schatzman) to approve Superintendent Consent Agenda Items #C through E:

C. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the final change order with Watral Brothers for site renovation at Brookhaven Elementary School (WA#0931D2) in the amount of \$2,800.00.

Approves
Change Orders
C – E
Watal
Brothers

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D. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the final change order with Watral Brothers for site renovation at Verne W. Critz Elementary School (WA#0931E2) in the credit amount of (\$14,394.00).

E. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the final change order with Watral Brothers for site renovation at Kreamer Street Elementary School (WA#0931F2) in the credit amount of (\$87,512.00)

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No , Absent (Grossman).

An omnibus motion (Durney / Kirk) to approve Superintendent Consent Agenda Items #F through J:

F. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the service provider contract with Eastport South Manor Central School District for the 2011-2012 school year at the approximate rate of \$64,000 per student.

Service
Provider
Contract
Eastport South
Manor School

G. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education (CSE) Sub-Committee on Special Education (SCSE) & Committee on Preschool Education (CPSE).

Approves CSE,
SCSE & CPSE

H. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the Contract Modification Request with Eastern Suffolk BOCES for on-site scoring of grades 3-8 New York State ELA and Mathematics assessments at the daily rate of \$1,170.91 for ELA and \$1,317.27 for math. (Funded through Race To The Top funding.)

Contract
Modification
Request ES
BOCES

I. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the field trip for the senior class of Bellport High School to go to Pocono Valley Resort in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania on May 23, 2012 and return on May 25, 2012.

Approves Field
Trip BHS
Senior Class –
Pocono Valley

J. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the consultant services contract for the 2011-2012 school year with Bridges Data and Professional Development; Bridges to provide Mathematics and ELA data reports based on a scheduled Mathematics and ELA benchmark test this spring for an additional cost of \$7,360. (Funded through Race To The Top funding.)

Approves
Consultant
Services –
Bridges Data

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No , Absent (Grossman).

A motion (Durney / Kirk) to approve the following as amended:

K. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the 2012-2013 Board of Education meeting schedule.

Approves
Amended BOE
Meeting
Schedule
2012-2013

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No , Absent (Grossman).

An omnibus motion (Kirk / Durney) to approve Superintendent Consent Agenda Items #L through M:

L. RESOLVED, that pursuant to law, notice of the Annual District Meeting and Election must be published four (4) times within the seven weeks preceding the date of the meeting and election, in two newspapers having “general circulation” with the first occurring 45 days before the date of the Annual Meeting and Election;

Approves
Items L
through M

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the legal notice will appear on the South Shore Press on the following dates: March 28, 2012, April 11, 2012, April 25, 2012 and May 9, 2012 and the Long Island Advance on the following dates: March 29, 2012, April 12, 2012, April 26, 2012 and May 10, 2012.

**Notice of
Annual Meeting /
Election
South Shore
Press, Long
Island Advance**

M. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves to renew the contract for the 2012-2013 school year with Jason Crane Landscaping at the same price, terms and conditions in accordance with the existing contract.

**Approves
Contract
Renewal Jason
Crane
Landscaping**

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No , Absent (Grossman).

A motion (Kirk / Durney) to approve the following:

N. RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves to renew the contract for the 2012-2013 school year with Hall Enterprises Inc. at the same price, terms and conditions in accordance with the existing contract.

**Approves
Contract
Renewal Hall
Enterprises**

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No , Absent (Grossman).

A motion (Kirk / Durney) to approve the following:

PERSONNEL

O. RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the resignations, terminations, leaves of absence, position abolitions, employment appointments, tenure appointments, and salary changes in accordance with applicable provisions of Education Law and Civil Service Law, as cited in the Personnel Changes attachment.

**Approves
Personnel
Changes**

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No , Absent (Grossman).

A motion (Schatzman / Morales) to approve the following:

S. RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby appoints Ingerman-Smith, LLP as special counsel to the Board in connection with a student disciplinary matter discussed in Executive Session at a rate of \$245 per hour.

**Approves
Ingerman-Smith
Special Counsel
Student
Disciplinary
Matter**

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No, Absent (Grossman).

6. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Replenishment of reserve funds.

A motion (Schatzman / Durney) to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 pm:

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 8-Yes, 0-No , Absent (Grossman).

**Meeting
Adjourned**

Respectfully,

Nancy Poulos

District Clerk
Attachments