

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

1. CALL TO ORDER (6:11 p.m.)

Call to Order

Board President Victor Correa called a Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:11 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	Marian McKenna
Owen Durney (<i>arrived at 6:20 pm</i>)	Jeannette Mistler (<i>present at 7pm</i>)
Lisa Di Santo Grossman	Julio Morales
Kevin Kirk	Rob Powell
	Barbara Schatzman

Others Present: Interim Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Howard M. Koenig, 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, Building Principals, Bernie Soete, Brian Ginty, Stefanie Rucinski, Travis Davey, School Attorneys Douglas Spencer and Christopher Guercio, other guests and members of the community.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge

Director of Student Support Services, Jack Colombo, led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion (McKenna / Schatzman) to convene to Executive Session at 6:12 pm to discuss a personnel and litigation matter.

Convene to Executive Session

VOTE: *Motion carries.* 7-Yes, 0-No, Absent (Durney, Mistler).

The meeting reconvened at 7:00 pm for the Annual Budget Hearing for 2012-2013.

Reconvene Public Session – Annual Budget Hearing

INTRODUCTION OF CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board President Correa welcomed all and introduced the following candidates running for Trustee seats.

Introduction of Candidates

Scott Augustine	Christopher Picini
Melissa Carson	Robert Powell (incumbent)
Gino Cruz	David Reich
Lisa Di Santo Grossman (incumbent)	

Dr. Koenig announced he would be bringing forth two items of business for the Board to consider prior to the budget presentation.

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

WITHDRAWS Motion for Defense & Indemnification Resolution

RESOLVED, the Board of Education grants the request for defense and indemnification of the employee named in executive session in connection with the appeal and related proceedings with respect to the matter Fishman v the Board of Education, Suffolk County Index No. 29131-2010.

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After a discussion regarding the aforementioned resolution, Trustee Kirk withdrew the motion.

The Special meeting will be resumed after the budget presentation.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Dr. Koenig presented the 2012-2013 budget to the public. He noted that South Country's tax increase of 2.49% is the lowest increase in the Town of Brookhaven out of 120 Districts and is presently the third lowest K-12 increase in Suffolk County. The meeting was then opened for public comment.

**Budget
Presentation**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rocco DeVito (resident): Suggested restructuring budget for non-instructional staff cuts before instructional .

Regina Seltzer (resident): Questioned Board's opportunity for line item adjustments.

Leslie O'Connor (resident): Expressed concerns for budget passing.

Toni Huffine (resident): Commented on budget.

Anne Hayes (resident): Commented on a prior Board action.

Jane Tierney (resident): Commented on current security staffing and expenses.

Michael Bilecki (resident): Commented on more community input.

Mary Jane Cullen (resident): Commented on public participation portion of agenda.

Ron Kinsella (resident): Expressed desire for affordable tax rate.

Anne Martinez (resident): Commented on flag at High School and litigation.

Loretta Drew (resident): Commented on safety issue.

Mary Mojallali (resident): Expressed concerns re budget.

**Public
Participation**

Board President Correa thanked the public for their comments. He announced the following:

Announcements

- Budget Vote May 15th at Bellport Middle School 7am to 9pm.
- Meet the Candidates Night was changed to May 8th, sponsored by the PTA Council.
- Board of Education Meeting scheduled for May 23 is canceled and rescheduled for May 16th.

Trustee McKenna expressed her concerns about the timeliness of mailing out the absentee ballots this year due to the petition process being re-opened.

A motion (Durney / Kirk) to adjourn the budget hearing portion of the meeting at 9:50 pm:

**Budget Hearing
Adjourns**

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously.* 9-Yes, 0-No.

The Budget Hearing concluded at 9:50 pm and the special meeting reconvened.

**Special Meeting
Reconvened**

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

RESOLVED, shall the Board accept and place the following voter proposition before the voters at the Annual Meeting and Election to be held on May 15, 2012:

**Universal Busing
Proposition -
DEFEATED**

‘This is a proposition requesting the South Country School District to reduce its current minimum mileages of ½ to 1 ½ miles (depending on grade) to 0. This proposition directly affects those who are currently deemed “walkers”. The current number of walkers are 430. At least 9 full buses would be required at \$67,740.59 totaling \$609,665.31. The cost to the average homeowner is approximately \$1.11 per \$100 of assessed valuation. All figures are based on School District FOIL information’

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The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Victor Correa	No
Owen Durney	No
Lisa Di Santo Grossman	Abstain
Kevin Kirk	No
Marian McKenna	Abstain
Jeannette Mistler	Abstain
Julio Morales	No
Rob Powell	Abstain
Barbara Schatzman	Abstain

The motion was DEFEATED.

A motion (Durney / Morales) to adjourn the meeting at 9:54 pm:

**Meeting
Adjourns**

VOTE: *Motion carries unanimously. 9-Yes, 0-No.*

Respectfully,

Nancy Poulos

District Clerk

Attachments