

APPROVED MINUTES of the Elmont Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 27, 2008

VOLUME XXVII, PAGE 199
ELMONT, NEW YORK

BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Elmont Union Free School District, Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York, held at the Elmont Road School on Wednesday February 27, 2008. This is the rescheduled February 12, 2008 Regular Meeting.

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Pamela Byer, President
Elsy Mecklenbourg-Guibert, Vice President
Lorraine Ferrigno
Michael A. Jaime
Carol Parker-Duncanson
Aubrey Phillips
Frank Ragona

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT:

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Mr. Albert Harper, | Superintendent of Schools |
| Mr. Robert Geras, | Director of Business and Finance |
| Mrs. Barbara Schwartz, | Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Education |
| Dr. Lynne Stucchio, | Director of Curriculum and Instruction |
| Colum P. Nugent, | School Attorney |
| Celestine L. Lloyd, | District Clerk |

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL ABSENT: None

CONSULTANT PRESENT: Mr. Thomas W. Galante

Mrs. Byer called the meeting to order at 8:07 PM.

PUBLIC SESSION

On a motion by Mrs. Mecklenbourg-Guibert, seconded by Mr. Phillips, the Board approved the agenda which was distributed to the audience.

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

Motion Carried Unanimously.

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On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Ragona, the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 15, 2008.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Vote on approving the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 15, 2008:

| | | |
|---------|---|---|
| Yes | - | 6 |
| No | - | 0 |
| Abstain | - | 1 |

On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Parker-Duncanson, the Board approved the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 24, 2008.

Vote on approving the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 24, 2008:

| | | |
|---------|---|---|
| Yes | - | 6 |
| No | - | 0 |
| Abstain | - | 1 |

On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Mecklenbourg-Guibert, the Board approved the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 31, 2008.

Vote on approving the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 31, 2008:

| | | |
|---------|---|---|
| Yes | - | 6 |
| No | - | 0 |
| Abstain | - | 1 |

Motion Carried

INFORMATION REPORT - None

PRESIDENT'S/VICE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President - Mrs. Byer greeted everyone and welcomed them to the Regular Board of Education meeting. She stated that February is the "giving month". Mrs. Byer stressed the need for shelter and food during the inclement weather. Many of the churches in our community are reaching out with food and shelter. Mrs. Byer encouraged those that may not be reaching out to start to do so. She commended the students of the district for their knowledge of giving back.

**PRESIDENT'S/
VICE
PRESIDENT'S
REMARKS**

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Mrs. Byer reported on the mentorship of the 6th grade students of Stewart Manor, Clara H. Carlson and Covert Avenue schools by Sewanhaka High School students. The students shared their musical talents and explained what it takes for a smooth transition into Junior High School.

PRESIDENT'S/
VICE
PRESIDENT'S
REMARKS

Mrs. Byer thanked Dr. Pleta for escorting her to the various classes in session. The presentation of the hibernating bear by the kindergarteners was truly enjoyable.

Mrs. Byer reported on attending the pre-school programs within our community. She stated that the parents are realizing the importance of early learning. Mrs. Byer noted that the students are comfortable in all areas that are in effect at the pre-school.

Many of the students made recitations from memory at an Alden Terrace program, where history was brought alive. It was great to see. Mrs. Byer extended her thanks to Mrs. Buchanan and all teachers on educating the whole child.

Mrs. Byer reported on the District Wide Health and Safety Meeting which she was invited to by Mr. Geras. The committee works in conjunction with principals, PTA, board members, BOCES representatives, insurance representatives and other staff members. Its main focus is on prevention, preparedness, responsiveness, recovery and more. In case of disaster we have so many minds working together to protect our children. Parent's knowledge of this committee should bring comfort to them.

The free Health Fair conducted by Assemblyman Thomas Alfano brought out many residents and was a great success. Mrs. Byer stated that 37 of our students were checked by the NYU dentist and many adult females had mammograms taken.

Vice President - Mrs. Mecklembourg-Guibert greeted and welcomed everyone. She noted the importance of the tasks and work involved in developing the new budget draft and the review. As your representatives, the board will work collectively as the need arises to come up with something that satisfies the community. Mrs. Mecklembourg-Guibert encouraged the audience to ask questions during the monthly meetings to become more in tune with the budget lines. She stated that the board will work with you and answer the questions.

Mrs. Mecklembourg-Guibert stated that February has been a very active and interesting month. She stated she received a thank you letter from Pat Boyle for her attendance at the Gotham GYO Annual Dr. Martin Luther King celebration on January 18th. The children performed dance routines, poetry and singing in tribute to Dr. King.

Mrs. Mecklembourg-Guibert reported on the Elmont Memorial High School Program she attended with Mr. Ragona and Mr. Phillips. Several students from the Saturday

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Enrichment program displayed the process of extracting DNA from strawberries. This was an interesting experience.

PRESIDENT'S /
VICE
PRESIDENT'S
REMARKS

Mrs. Mecklembourg-Guibert stated that with the upcoming activities next month, as well as, throughout the year she would like to invite parent participation and their support.

SEWANHAKA BOARD ITEMS – Mrs. Parker-Duncanson gave an update of the Sewanhaka Central High School District Board meeting.

SEWANHAKA
BOARD ITEMS

Mrs. Parker-Duncanson reported on the Spring Drama productions which are exceptional. March 7 and 8th Les Miserables will be playing at the Elmont Memorial High School. She noted that the banner has been placed on the fence of the school. FAME will be playing at Sewanhaka and she encouraged everyone to come out and support the budding new actors and actresses.

In sports, the only school that made it to the semi-finals of the varsity basketball was Floral Park Memorial. Mrs. Parker-Duncanson hopes they can go on to the county finals.

Mrs. Parker-Duncanson gave a report on items from the High School Principals. She made mention of the students who have been named the valedictorian, Jessy Thomas of Elmont Memorial High School and the salutatorian, Kevin Guinto. Jessy Thomas, a graduate from Dutch Broadway School has a grade point average of 101.9. She plans to pursue a degree in Pharmaceutical studies. Kevin Guinto has a grade point average of 100.57, and was a graduate from Alden Terrace. The valedictorian from Sewanhaka High School was Brandon Witte with a grade point average of 101.4 and he is a graduate from Stewart Manor. He is pursuing a degree in Computer Engineering studies. All these students have demonstrated how to balance academic, music and sports.

Mrs. Parker-Duncanson gave a report on the 2nd Annual awards for Future Foreign Language Teachers. The ceremony was conducted by the Foreign Language Teachers of Tomorrow, held February 5, 2008. It was held at the Laurelton Academy in Queens by Mrs. Luz Del Rosario and Mrs. Josie Iaboni. The presentation was conducted in Spanish and Italian. Visual aids and poetry was recited. Mrs. Parker-Duncanson received a video to view, which was inspiring.

Several students of Elmont moved on to the first round of the Long Island Science and Engineering Fair resulting from the scientific research they were doing. Two Sewanhaka students competed in the Greater NY Auto Dealer Competition. Each student received a \$12K scholarship to Ohio Technical College, \$2000 in tools and an additional \$20K in scholarships. The cosmetology students entered the Metro Association Student competition and received awards. Some fourteen Business students won awards at the Nassau County FBLA Association competition. The students are doing very well.

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SEWANHAKA
BOARD ITEMS

Mrs. Parker-Duncanson shared that as of February 6, 2008, Bilal Butt signed a letter of intent to play football for Lafayette College. He is a senior and an Alden Terrace graduate. Bilal received a \$38K per year scholarship from Lafayette.

Mr. Phillips reported on the Reading 180 Program at Sewanhaka High School. He mentioned a Sewanhaka Scoop article describing how elated an Elmont Memorial teacher was upon seeing the participating students express a desire to continue reading. Mr. Phillips stated that the presentation on February 26, 2008 demonstrated the technical aspects of the program. He also noted how impressive it was to see student discussion of their scores in competition to make each other better. This was very uplifting.

Mr. Phillips referenced the DNA project which Mrs. Mecklembourg-Guibert reported on held at Elmont Memorial High School. He stated that it was great to see children obtaining DNA from strawberries.

Mr. Phillips reported that the Sewanhaka Central High School District Board has conducted its building tours during the last two months. Each building was looked at to determine what the pressing needs are. The last tour was conducted at Sewanhaka High School. Several matters were brought to the attention of the administration for which the High School Board was forceful in their intent to get addressed.

Mr. Phillips also reported on the National Beef Recall which was noted in the papers recently. In the Sewanhaka Central High School District only one school, Elmont Memorial High School had four (4) boxes of the beef. These boxes were handled as per the FDA guidelines. In addition as a precaution, the high school has stopped serving beef as of Monday, February 25, 2008 until the issue is rectified.

Mr. Phillips reported on the opportunity to spend some time at Elmont Memorial High School. The students conducted a program entitled "Ban the "N" Word". It was the first of its kind and there was some tension created for the administration. Mr. Phillips commended Mr. Cappozzi and stated that the program highlighted some of the uses of the word, as well as educating students who may not be aware of its history. The program brought this history to light for 10th and 11th graders. Mr. Phillips felt that the program was appropriate since February was Black History month.

Mr. Phillips, on behalf of the Black History Committee extended thanks to the parents, community and board for attending the Black History program on February 10, 2008. It was a huge success. He congratulated Mr. Rosner again, on the 21st Assembly District Martin Luther King award.

Mr. Phillips reported the pleasure in taking a trip to Albany with Ahkeel Rodney and family. He is an "ace" soccer player as well as one of the youngest athletes on Long

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Island. Ahkeel was honored with the Assembly Proclamation by Assemblyman Thomas Alfano.

SEWANHAKA
BOARD ITEMS

Relative to legal matters, Mr. Phillips reported that the High School District passed a policy that relates to the Governor's mandate that school districts and other municipalities grant a four (4) hour leave to any employee of the district who would like to be screened for breast or prostate cancer. Mr. Phillips encouraged the need for these screenings for early detection.

Mr. Phillips complimented Mr. Harper on the first draft of a .5% increase in the tax levy which is remarkable. He also noted that he is looking forward to working with him in making the budget better.

AUDIENCE ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

CORRESPONDENCE - None

REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY

Mr. Nugent stated that he had one action item for the Board tonight.

REPORT OF THE
ATTORNEY

Mr. Nugent stated that the District Clerk and the School Attorney conduct the annual election to be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2008. It is customary that, during each Regular Meeting the Board of Education in February, the Board approves the Resolution to allow the District to conduct its budget vote and its Board elections.

Voting will be held at all seven election districts from 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM on May 20, 2008.

Three propositions will be voted upon: The Elmont District Budget, the Sewanhaka Central High School District Budget and the Elmont Public Library Budget.

Two Elmont Union Free School District Board of Education seats will be voted upon: one seat for a term of three years to succeed ELSY MECKLEMBOURG-GUIBERT, whose term expires June 30, 2008; and one seat to succeed AUBREY PHILLIPS, whose term expires June 30, 2008.

Voters of the District will also vote for one member of the Board of Library Trustees; for a term of five years to succeed MARIA GREGORI, whose term expires June 30, 2008, and one member for a term of five years to succeed MICHAEL ROTHSTEIN, whose term expires June 30, 2008.

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**REPORT OF THE
ATTORNEY**

In order to register to vote one needs to be 18 years of age, a resident of the District for more than 30 days, and a citizen of the United States. Registration to vote may take place at the office of the school within the resident's election district on any day that school is in session from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, up to Tuesday, May 13, 2008. There is one evening registration to be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at the Elmont Road School only, between the hours of 4:00 PM and 9:00 PM. That is the last day a resident can register to vote.

The District Clerk is directed to publish the election four times within seven weeks preceding such annual election, the first publication to be at least forty-five days before the said election. In the Resolution, Mr. Nugent named the newspapers that the Board had voted on at its Reorganization meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Mecklembourg-Guibert the Board approved *The Franklin Square/Elmont Herald* and *Three Village Times* for the publication of the election.

Vote on the approval of the selection of newspapers for publication are:

| | | |
|---------|---|---|
| Yes | - | 6 |
| No | - | 1 |
| Abstain | - | 0 |

Absentee ballots will be available in the Office of the District Clerk in the Superintendent's Office at Elmont Road School. Applications for absentee ballots for voting must be returned to the District Clerk, completed, at least seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be picked up by the voter. The last day to contact the office for an absentee ballot is May 19, 2008, which is the day before the election. Absentee ballots can be returned up until 5:00 PM on May 20, 2008 which is the day of the election.

Absentee ballots for the permanently disabled will be forwarded via US Mail from the list the District has.

Complete boundaries for the seven election district are listed in the Resolution. This will be published in the newspapers, as required by law.

A resident who wishes to be a candidate for a Board seat can obtain a petition in the District Clerk's office. A candidate will need signatures of 50 qualified voters of the District this year. Petitions must be returned to the District Clerk's office by 5:00 PM on Monday, April 21, 2008.

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Sections 5, 6 and 7 of the Resolution indicate the qualified voters who are appointed as District Election Chairmen, Inspectors and Clerks.

**REPORT OF THE
ATTORNEY**

Dolores Spagnola has been designated as the Coordinator for the annual district election.

The resolution for the Annual Election was put to a vote on a motion by Mrs. Mecklembourg-Guibert, seconded by Mrs. Parker-Duncanson:

**ANNUAL
ELECTION
RESOLUTION
ADOPTION**

| | | |
|---------|---|---|
| Yes | - | 7 |
| No | - | 0 |
| Abstain | - | 0 |

Motion Carried Unanimously
Resolution was Adopted

Mr. Nugent stated that this concludes this portion of the report, but requested a motion for an Executive Session to be held immediately following the Regular Meeting to discuss matters appropriate to Executive Session.

**REQUEST FOR
APPROVAL OF
EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Carol Parker-Duncanson, the Board approved an Executive Session, as per Mr. Nugent's request, to be held immediately following the Regular Meeting to discuss matters appropriate to Executive Session.

Motion Carried Unanimously

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

**REPORT OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT**

Mr. Harper stated that he would try to be brief. He reported and referenced Mr. Phillips report on the districts involvement in the beef recall. As of Monday, February 25, 2008, Mrs. Cavalluzzo met to discuss if the district had any tainted beef. It was found that the district did not have any. Mr. Harper also thanked Mrs. Buchanan for her participation. This information was placed on the website as well as communicated to the all the building principals.

Mr. Harper thanked everyone and the Board of Education for the cooperation in the cancellation and rescheduling of the February 12, 2008 Regular Board of Education Meeting. He also stated that the district strives to keep the community's best interest and safety at heart.

Mr. Harper also reminded everyone that today was the anniversary of Greg Petrocelli's passing. He stated that he is in contact with the family and they are doing well. Mr. Harper encouraged everyone to keep them embraced in their hearts.

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Over the last ten (10) days there have been reports on the relationship of attorneys serving the school district. Mr. Harper proceeded to read his statement to the public at this time. Mr. Harper proceeded with his report.

REPORT OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT

On a motion by Ms. Ferrigno, seconded by Mr. Phillips, the Board approved the following professional leaves of absence:

PROFESSIONAL
LEAVES OF
ABSENCE

BACHRACH, MEREDITH, Speech Teacher at Gotham Avenue School, effective 12/6/07, duration of leave 12/6/07 – 8/31/08, unpaid*, reason: District Child Rearing Leave; Service to District: 4 years.

*Includes Family and Medical Leave from 12/6/07 – 3/14/08.

HERBERT-MUNLIN, RAISSA, Elementary Teacher at Clara H. Carlson School, effective 3/13/08, duration of leave 3/13/08 – 4/29/08, unpaid*, reason: District Child Rearing Leave; Service to District: 1 year.

*Includes Family and Medical Leave from 3/13/08 – 4/29/08.

DZELALIJA, JENNIFER, Special Education Teacher at Covert Avenue School, effective 4/7/08, duration of leave 4/7/08 – 8/31/08, unpaid, reason: District Child Rearing Leave; Service to District: 5 months.

MURRAY, LAURA, Elementary Teacher at Covert Avenue School, effective 1/2/08, duration of leave 1/2/08 – 8/31/08, unpaid*, reason: District Child Rearing Leave, Service to District: 5 years, 6 months.

*Includes Family and Medical Leave from 1/2/08 – 4/1/08.

FISHER, THERESA, Elementary Teacher at Stewart Manor School, effective 6/20/08, duration of leave 6/20/08 – 8/31/08, unpaid, reason: District Child Rearing Leave, Service to District: 4 years, 6 months.

The Board also approved the following amendment to a leave of absence:

PROFESSIONAL
LEAVE OF
ABSENCE
AMENDMENT

AULL, CHRISTINA, Elementary Teacher at Clara H. Carlson School, effective:

From: 2/25/08 – 8/31/08, unpaid

To: 2/25/08 – 5/22/08, unpaid*

Reason: District Child Rearing Leave

*Includes Family and Medical Leave from 2/25/08 – 5/22/08

Note: Leave of Absence was originally approved by the Board on 12/18/07.

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The Board further approved the following professional appointments:

**PROFESSIONAL
APPOINTMENTS**

BULLOCK, SHARON, Permanent Substitute (School Social Worker), Initial Assignment: Alden Terrace at a salary of \$26, 288.04 (pro-rated from \$55,932 MA Step 1), effective 2/11/08 – 6/30/08 (pending medical approval), no probation and no tenure involved. Certification: School Social Worker (Provisional).

The Board also approved the following teachers to be employed as per diem substitute teachers for the 2007-2008 school year. Not eligible for probation/tenure.

**PROFESSIONAL
PER DIEM
SUBSTITUTES**

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Area of Certification</u> |
|-------------|---|
| Ali, Anisa | Childhood Education 1-6 (Initial Pending) |

The Board further approved the following teacher to be employed as per diem conditional substitute teacher for the 2007-2008 school year. Not eligible for probation/tenure.

**PROFESSIONAL
PER DIEM
CONDITIONAL
SUBSTITUTE**

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Area of Certification</u> |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Flemming, Winifred | Common Branches |

The Board also approved the extension of conditional appointments for the following employees:

**PROFESSIONAL
EXTENSION OF
CONDITIONAL
APPOINTMENTS**

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Conneely, Jaclyn | Per Diem Substitute |
| Rozen, Mindy | Per Diem Substitute |

The Board also approved the following teacher to be employed as per diem substitute teacher for the 2007-2008 school year. Not eligible for probation/tenure.

**PROFESSIONAL
PER DIEM
SUBSTITUTE**

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Area of Certification</u> |
|------------------|---|
| *Fletcher, Kaity | Childhood Education 1-6 (Initial Pending) |

*Pending medical approval.

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The foregoing motions were put to a roll call with the following results:

Motion Carried Unanimously

On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Ragona, the Board approved the employment of the following civil service personnel:

CIVIL SERVICE
APPOINTMENTS

MIDGETTE, MARGARET, Account Clerk 12-month, at a salary of \$33,037 annual, effective 2/11/08 pending civil service, medical approval, 26 weeks from civil service approval, replacing Nancy Zoufaly.

STEBNER, JANET, Account Clerk 12 month, at a salary of \$33,037 annual, effective 2/11/08 pending civil service, medical & fingerprint approval, 26 weeks from civil service approval, replacing Kathleen Ackermann.

The Board also approved the extension of conditional appointments for the following employees:

CIVIL SERVICE
EXTENSION OF
CONDITIONAL
APPOINTMENTS

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Lucia Asari- | Food Service Helper Part-time Substitute |
| Devlon Caldwell- | Cleaner Part-time Substitute |
| Eon Pilgrim- | Cleaner Part-time Substitute |
| Roberto Rios- | Cleaner Part-time Substitute |
| Freddie Ricks- | Cleaner Part-time Substitute |
| Gerald Seltzer- | Cleaner Part-time Substitute |
| Issac Cameron- | Cleaner Part-time Substitute |
| Peggy Regis- | Bus Attendant Part-Time Substitute |
| Ingrid Garrido- | Food Service Helper Part-time Substitute |
| Marie Villareal- | Food Service Helper Part-time Substitute |
| Shameka Whitehead- | Food Service Helper Part-time Substitute |
| Leeshe Smith- | Teacher Aide Part-time Substitute |
| Mary Aguilar- | Bus Attendant Part-time Substitute |
| | Food Service Helper Part-time Substitute |

The Board further approved the following civil service employees who will complete their probationary period for permanent status on the dates indicated:

CIVIL SERVICE
CHANGE IN
STATUS

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Classification</u> | <u>End Probation</u> | <u>Effective</u> |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Dwight Jones | Maintainer | 2/18/08 | 2/19/08 |

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On a motion by, seconded by, the Board approved the termination of the following Civil Service employees effective 2/13/08 due to no recent service to the District:

CIVIL SERVICE
TERMINATIONS

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Richard Geed | Cleaner Part-time Substitute |
| Lucy Calomathi | Cleaner Part-time Substitute |
| Madelyn Sierra | Food Service Helper Part-time Substitute |
| Dierdre Harper | Typist Clerk Part-time Substitute |
| Leslie St. Louis | Bus Driver Part-time Substitute |
| Patricia Fleming Jackson | Teacher Aide Part-time Substitute |

CIVIL SERVICE
RESIGNATIONS

The Board also approved the resignation of the following civil service employees:

JOHNSTON, LISA, Teacher Aide Part-time Substitute, District wide, effective 10/25/07, service to district: 4 months, reason: Appointed to Typist Clerk in district.

The foregoing motions were put to a roll call with the following results:

Motion Carried Unanimously

On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Parker-Duncanson, the Board received the Committee on Special Education and Preschool Special Education designations and program placements for the Evaluation Placements, Reviews of Program and I.E.P. Modifications of students.

COMMITTEE ON
SPECIAL
EDUCATION AND
PRE-SCHOOL
SPECIAL
EDUCATION

On a motion by Mrs. Parker-Duncanson, seconded by Mr. Jaime, the Board approved the following items:

The Board approved the addition of Hector Miranda as a parent member of the Committee on Special Education and the Preschool Special Education for the 2007-2008 school year.

COMMITTEE ON
SPECIAL
EDUCATION AND
PRE-SCHOOL
SPECIAL
EDUCATION
PARENT MEMBER

The Board also approved the Pre-Kindergarten Teacher Job Description Administrative Circular #17. See backup pages contained in the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

ADMINISTRATIVE
CIRCULAR #17
PRE-K TEACHER
JOB DESCRIPTION

The following item was **TABLED**:

Re-entry - Second Reading - Revised Policy # 3600 Staff Use of Cellular Phones.

TABLED -
REVISED POLICY
#3600 STAFF USE
OF CELLULAR
PHONES

This policy is contained in the backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

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Ms. Ferrigno requested clarification on when the review of information related to the usage of the cell phones in conjunction with beeper use occurred. Mr. Phillips responded that the Board concluded to go forward with the policy; however he was unsure if Ms. Ferrigno was present. Mr. Harper stated the request for additional information was forwarded to the Board and he was in no receipt of any additional questions from the Board. Mr. Ragona confirmed that the additional information had been received in a board packet and there was no occurrence of Ms. Ferrigno being absent from such discussion. However, Ms. Ferrigno stated that she felt additional discussion was needed to properly review the policy.

**TABLED-
REVISED POLICY
#3600 STAFF USE
OF CELLULAR
PHONES**

On a motion by Ms. Ferrigno, seconded by Mr. Ragona, the Staff Use of Cellular Phones Policy for second reading was **TABLED**.

Vote on the **TABLED** item is as follows:

| | | |
|---------|---|---|
| Yes | - | 5 |
| No | - | 2 |
| Abstain | - | 0 |

Motion Carried

On a motion by Mrs. Parker-Duncanson, seconded by Mr. Jaime, the Board approved a donation of two (2) half-moon tables to the District for use at the Covert Avenue School. See backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008 containing information about the donation.

**GIFTS TO THE
DISTRICT**

The Board also approved a donation of \$1.00 from Verizon to the District for use at the Dutch Broadway School. See backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008 containing information about the donation.

The Board further approved a donation of \$750.00 from the Verizon Foundation to the District for use at the Alden Terrace School. See backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008 containing information about the donation.

The Board also approved the **SECOND READING: NEW POLICY #3150-FIXED ASSET INVENTORY & CONTROL.**

**SECOND
READING - NEW
POLICY #3150
FIXED ASSET
INVENTORY &
CONTROL**

This policy is contained in the backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008. (There is a regulation associated with this policy for your reference, which is also contained in the backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

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The foregoing motions were put to a role call with the following results:

Motion Carried Unanimously

The following policy was presented to the Board for a first reading: **REVISED NEW POLICY #3800 - COMPUTER CONTROL.**

**FIRST READING-
REVISED NEW
POLICY #3800
COMPUTER
CONTROL**

The policy is contained in the backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008. (There is a Regulation associated with this policy for your reference, which is also contained in the backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008.)

ITEMS NOTED FOR THE MINUTES

**ITEMS NOTED
FOR THE
MINUTES**

Use of Facilities

**USE OF
FACILITIES**

Requests for Use of the Facilities that have been approved by the Superintendent of Schools since the last Board Meeting are enclosed in the backup pages in the back of the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

Worker's Compensation

**WORKER'S
COMPENSATION**

The following employees are on a leave of absence due to Worker's Compensation case still pending:

Eileen Palumbo, Teacher Aide
Chris Chisolm, Sub-Cleaner
Barbara Nimmo, Food Service

Family and Medical Leave of Absence

**FAMILY &
MEDICAL LEAVE**

The following employee is on a leave of absence under the Family and Medical Leave Act:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|----------------|--------------|
| Woitko, Sharon | 4 weeks |

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On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Parker-Duncanson, the Board received the backup booklet entitled "Schedule of Disbursements and Warrants," which is filed in the "bulky" document file.

**SCHEDULE OF
DISBURSEMENTS
AND WARRANTS**

The Board also received the Report of the Treasurer for the General Fund, Capital Fund, the Lunch Fund, the Trust and Agency Fund, Payroll, Special Aid Fund and Capital Bond Fund as of December 2007.

**TREASURER'S
REPORT**

Motion Carried Unanimously

On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Ragona, the Board approved the Audit Committee appointment of Nawrocki Smith LLP to provide Independent Auditing services for fiscal year July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 at a fee of \$35,500 and in accordance with backup pages in the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

**APPOINTMENT OF
NAWROCKI
SMITH LLP**

On a motion by Mr. Jaime, seconded by Ms. Ferrigno, the Board adopted the resolution authorizing refunding of Series 2000 Bonds, as per backup pages in the Board Book of February 12, 2008. Adoption requires at least two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the Board of Education.

**REFUNDING OF
2000 BOND
RESOLUTION
ADOPTION**

On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Mecklenbourg-Guibert the Board approved the authorization to solicit underwriters for proposed "Refunding Bond," as per backup pages in the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

**REFUNDING
BOND**

On a motion by Mrs. Parker-Duncanson, seconded by Mrs. Mecklenbourg-Guibert the Board also approved the disposal of obsolete/beyond repair computer hardware equipment at Gotham Avenue School, as per backup pages in the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

**DISPOAL OF
OBSOLETE/
BEYOND REPAIR
EQUIPMENT**

Mr. Phillips inquired if the hard drives are cleaned prior to disposal and it was confirmed that they are.

The Board also approved the disposal of obsolete/beyond repair cafeteria table at Stewart Manor School, as per backup pages in the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

Motions Carried Unanimously

The following items are noted for the minutes. Additional information on any of these items may be found in the backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008, filed in the "bulky" document file.

**ITEMS NOTED
FOR THE
MINUTES**

Analysis of Revenue – for the month of December 2007

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General Fund Schedule of Receivables - General Fund Schedule of Receivables for the month of August 2007 appears in the backup pages in the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

**ITEMS NOTED
FOR THE
MINUTES**

Monthly Budget Status Report

Monthly Budget Status Report – as of December 31, 2007 appear in the backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

School Meals Profit and Loss Statement

School Lunch Profit and Loss Statement for the month of December, 2007 appear in the backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

Custodial/Transportation Overtime

Breakdown Custodial/Transportation Overtime:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Cust./Trans. Overtime – January, 2008 | \$ 11,682.70 |
| Overtime paid Year to Date | \$ 73,678.02 |
| Cust./Trans.Overtime - July, 2006 - June 2007 | \$ 88,018.79 |

VANDALISM TALLIES FOR JANUARY 2008 - \$ 131

**VANDALISM
TALLIES**

Year-to-Date \$ 219

Previous Year-to-Date \$ 395

Mr. Harper presented a newspaper article from Newsday, February 27 featuring the districts participation in the Futurecorps events. The Elmont's Dad's Club along with the Marching Band visited the St. Albans Veteran's Hospital. The marching band performed beautifully, the children distributed Valentine's Day Card to the veterans. The district received good press. Mr. Harper stated that the district does not seek publicity at all; we do this because we want to and will continue to do this. The district tries to instill in the children the action of helping others. Mr. Harper stated how proud we are of our children and hope this type of service will be followed by other districts. This was the conclusion of his report.

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COMMITTEE AND
INFORMATION
ITEMS

Mr. Ragona thanked Mr. Harper on this event and also acknowledged Mr. Dennis Cowan who orchestrates many of the activities conducted by the Dad's Club. He thanked Mr. Harper for bringing the idea of the "Dad's Club" to the Elmont Community.

At this portion of the meeting Mr. Geras presented the School Facility Report Card as required by New York State Education Department. This information is contained in the backup pages of the Board Book of February 12, 2008.

Mr. Geras stated that all eight (8) of our buildings have earned scores of "good" with no system, component or building found to be unsatisfactory. The district is in full compliance with SED requirements.

Mr. Harper thanked Mr. Geras along with the building maintenance and custodian staff. He also stated that the move has been completed to the New Pupil Personnel Offices, located on Hempstead Turnpike which went well. The work was all performed internally with a tremendous cost savings. The space is beautiful and we should be proud of it. Mr. Harper stated that we are also proud of the space and work that the maintenance crew has done.

Mr. Ragona commented on the opportunity he had to stop in to the new Pupil Personnel Offices while schools were on break and stated that the space was beautiful.

Mr. Geras acknowledged Mr. Polizzi, Facilities, and Mr. DeBartolo, Technology for the team effort demonstrated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

Mr. Ragona reported on the second District wide School Safety Meeting on February 6, 2008. The meeting was facilitated by Mr. DeBartolo. He noted the members of the committee which are cross sectional. The committee covered a variety of issues concerning the health and safety in our district, from lockouts, lockdowns to the use of badges. There is a schedule of table top exercises for different scenarios set up for all of our schools safety teams as well as fire drills and evacuations. We look forward to receiving input from the community as well. Mr. Ragona thanked Mr. DeBartolo for all of his support and hard work.

OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Phillips requested a motion for the nominations for re-election of Mr. Steve Witt and Mr. Eric Shultz for the Nassau BOCES Board Election.

Mr. Ragona made an inquiry if anyone else was running for the seats. Mr. Phillips stated that there was no one else was running.

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The motion for the nominees noted above was moved by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Parker-Duncanson.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Ferrigno stated that upon review of the resume for Mr. Steven Witt, it reflected typographical errors. She also expressed her concerns and encouraged the board to consider such. Ms. Ferrigno noted how this type of presentation reflects upon the individual's life and conduct as a Board member. Mrs. Byer said this information would be noted.

Motion Carried

Mr. Phillips brought fourth an item that was omitted from the Sewanhaka Central High School District report. He stated that the high school board learned that Ms. Kathleen Sottile, Principal of Floral Park Memorial was the recipient of the Pathfinder award by the town. The Board would like to congratulate her on this award.

**PATHFINDER
AWARD**

NEW BUSINESS - None

LEGISLATIVE ITEMS

**LEGISLATIVE
ITEMS**

Mr. Phillips informed everyone of the NYSSBA State Legislative Network Conference to be held on March 2nd - 8th, 2008. He stated that he would be attending this conference with Ms. Jean Fichtl and Ms. Patricia Rudd of the High School Board. They would be driving up to Albany for this event. Mr. Phillips stated that last year's conference help with the tax levy. Mr. Phillips hopes they may return with news of some additional help for the current year.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION - None

AUDIENCE ITEMS

AUDIENCE ITEMS

Ms. Barbara Reynolds questioned Mr. Harper, relative to the Dad's Club; whose liability insurance are the children traveling on?

Mr. Harper stated the Dad's Club has separate insurance. Mr. Ragona further supported and explained the type of insurance.

Mrs. Coleen Mockenhaupt attempted to receive clarification on her question regarding the "alleged attacks" from the Elmont Herald. She explained the reason of her absence from the recent Board meetings. Mrs. Mockenhaupt directed her inquiry to Mr. Phillips and referenced the October meeting with regard to the assumption that they were in

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agreement. She stated that the assumption was incorrect. Mrs. Mockenhaupt requested an explanation from Mr. Phillips.

AUDIENCE ITEMS

Mr. Phillips did not respond to the question.

NEXT MEETING

NEXT MEETING

Mrs. Byer announced that the next Regular Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 18, 2008 at the Elmont Road School at 8:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT
TO EXECUTIVE
SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mrs. Ferrigno, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 9:33 PM.

Motion Carried Unanimously

PUBLIC SESSION

PUBLIC SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Ragona the Board reconvened into Public Session at 10:10 PM.

Board Members Absent: Lorraine Ferrigno

Mrs. Byer presided.

HEARING
OFFICER
APPOINTMENT

WHEREAS, on February 27, 2008, charges of misconduct and conduct unbecoming a Bus Driver were filed against Nathaniel Burgess Pursuant to Section 75 of the New York State Civil Service Law; and

WHEREAS, a hearing is necessary to determine said charges.

NOW, THEREFORE, I move that Michael Deodati, Esq. be appointed as Hearing Officer to hear and determine said charges and make recommendation to the Board of Education.

MOTION BY: Aubrey Phillips
SECONDED BY: Michael A. Jaime

| | | |
|---------|---|---|
| Yes | - | 6 |
| No | - | 0 |
| Abstain | - | 0 |

The resolution was declared unanimously adopted.

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Motion to reconvene in Executive Session at 10:18 PM was moved by Mr. Phillips,
seconded by Mr. Jaime.

**ADJOURNMENT
TO EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

On a motion by Mrs. Parker-Duncanson, seconded by Mr. Phillips the Board reconvened
into Public Session at 10:20 PM.

PUBLIC SESSION

Motion Carried Unanimously

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:00 PM on a
motion by Mrs. Mecklembourg-Guibert, seconded by Mr. Ragona.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Submitted by,

March 18, 2008
Date Approved

Celestine L. Lloyd
District Clerk