

**SMITHTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

October 26, 2010

Held in the Joseph M. Barton Bldg.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Robert Rossi, President of the Board of Education. On motion by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mr. Carlin, the Board voted unanimously to convene in Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining, employment and/or appointment of particular persons, and pending litigation.

At 8:15 p.m. Mrs. Waldron moved, Mr. Liguori seconded, and the Board reconvened the Regular Meeting.

Members present:

Neil S. Carlin	Joseph T. Saggese
Theresa Knox	Robert Rossi
Louis Liguori	Gladys M. Waldron
Scott Martella	

Also present:

Edward Ehmann, Superintendent
Joan Niles, Asst. Supt.
Karen Ricigliano, Asst. Supt.
Eugene Barnosky, Lindsay T. Crocker, Board Counsel
Visitors
Mary Wilson, District Clerk

- I. **OPENING CEREMONY** - conducted by Mr. Rossi. Mr. Rossi suggested that the order of the agenda be changed by moving the student awards and presentation to the beginning of the meeting. The Board agreed with the change in agenda order.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Awards

1. **School Board Recognition Week** – in honor of School Board Recognition Week Mr. Ehmann presented each Board Member a certificate honoring their service.

2. **Student Achievement** – The Superintendent and Mr. Rossi congratulated the following students and staff on their accomplishments.

Regional Finalist in the 2010 Siemens Competition for Math, Science & Technology

Sanjay Palat

Semi-Finalist in the 2010 Siemens Competition for Math, Science & Technology

Angelina Seffens

Awarded a 2011 MIT-InvenTeam Grant

Paige Buzard, Sarah Cacciabaudo, Allie Cohen, Daniel Cykman, Michael Emerson
Ryan Gruber, Eric Guleksen, Tyler Lawrence, Emily Mancini, Neema Patel
Amy Sullivan, Tyler Terbush

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT

A. Science Research Project

Mr. Ehmann announced that this evening's presentation would be on the Science Research Project. Dr. Joanne Figueiredo and the HS West students who won the MIT-based InvenTeam

Grant gave a brief presentation on their project. The project was to create a portable solar tracker for families in Nicaragua. Mr. Rossi, on behalf of the Board of Education, thanked Dr. Figueiredo and the students on their fine accomplishment.

At 8:38 p.m. Mr. Martella joined the meeting.

II. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Correspondence - The following correspondence was presented for the Board's review.

1. Letter to Mr. Robert Rossi from Mr. Peter R. Wunsch, WS BOCES, regarding invitation.
2. Letter to Mrs. Gladys Waldron from Mr. Patrick M. Smith regarding Community Advisory Council Meeting.
3. Letter to School Board President from Michael J. Mensch, Ed.D., regarding WS BOCES accomplishments
4. Letter to Mr. Robert Rossi from Ms. Andrea Hyary regarding outstanding state aid documents.
5. Letter to Mr. Robert Rossi from Ms. Maureen Badillo & Family regarding appreciation for expression of sympathy.
6. Letter to Mr. Robert Rossi from Mr. Paul Graf regarding invitation.

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mrs. Knox that the correspondence in Section A, as listed above, be received and that the recommendations of the administration (where indicated) be accepted.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

B. General Communications – There were no general communications presented for the Board's review.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. District Footprint

Mr. Saggese noted that the Board is waiting for some information from the administration regarding historical numbers of employees and that November 23rd is the expected date to receive the information. Mr. Saggese reminded the Board that at a previous meeting he had discussed shrinking the footprint of the District. He sought to get a consensus from the Board regarding his feeling for a need to start to shrink the footprint of the District. He discussed the problems of declining state aid and larger payments to TRS and ERS. There was much back-and-forth discussion on the hiring of personnel and the Board's role in providing direction to the administration. It was suggested that the Business Affairs Committee might be an appropriate forum for further dialogue on financial discussions. The administration will present the Board with information regarding the District's hiring history over the past several years at the November 23rd Board meeting.

B. Health Insurance

Mr. Rossi noted that at the previous BOE meeting a community member had asked about health insurance and the new health care rules. He asked Ms. Niles if she has any new information on our health insurance situation. Ms. Niles said she did not have anything new to report and that there is a meeting scheduled for Dec. 6th.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Business Affairs

Mr. Saggese reported that a Business Affairs Committee meeting was held on October 20th during which the reserves, the fund balance and state aid were discussed. At the next meeting perhaps we will incorporate the goals – or footprint – that we have been discussing tonight. We will also have the financial report from the District and begin the budget discussions.

With reference to Business Affairs agenda Item #13 – Establishment of School Tax Levy – Mr. Carlin stated that during the budget deliberations a tax levy increase of 1.66% was discussed. Subsequently the assessed valuation went down; we lost approximately \$1.3 million. Ms. Niles stated in addition to the drop in assessment we also lost state aid and a reduction in Star for the District. Mr. Saggese explained that we went into the reserves for \$700,000 to provide the same tax rate levy that was approved in the budget.

With reference to Business Affairs agenda Item #12 – Resolution to Fund Various Reserves – Mr. Saggese gave some background information regarding decisions made to fund reserves. Over \$3 million is being placed into reserves because we know that we are going to need it this year ending 2011. We are parking it in accessible reserves so that we can pull it out at the end of this year. The District estimates that we will not have this surplus at the end of the year. The Board would like to have from the District a three-year projection of the expenses, the fund balance and how much reserves are going to be needed. We cannot drive blindfolded; we have to have a three-year projection. Once we have that from the District you will see how we are going into the reserves systematically year-after-year while trying to avoid a large spike. Ms. Niles responded that the administration will have that projection for the Business Affairs Committee meeting.

Mr. Liguori questioned the \$300,000 going into a Life Insurance Reserve. Ms. Niles responded that we have an insurance reserve and we are adding \$300,000 to that. This is being moved from our deferred revenue account to pay for the cost of an insurance policy.

Mr. Liguori noted that during the Business Affairs meeting discussion was held about potentially putting some more money in the Capital Reserve; he asked for clarification since the District knows that there are about \$30 million worth of projects outstanding. Ms. Niles responded that if we put it into the Capital Reserve in next year's budget you can't appropriate that to offset an expense in the budget. While we would love to have money in the Capital Reserve, if you're going to try to offset expenses in next year's budget with revenue; what you do is you appropriate reserves. Mr. Liguori asked if at a later date some of these monies could be taken out to be used for capital projects. Ms. Niles said no, you cannot shift it out. There is a Transfer to Capital line in the budget that we have not funded for the last two years. That is the way you would get money into the capital fund. The vote to expend it comes within the budget rather than have a separate vote to expend it from the Capital Reserve. The only way that you can get at the Capital Reserve is you need to put a proposition up before the voters. Mr. Liguori stated that the money that is currently in the Capital Reserve is probably all accounted for. Ms. Niles said, no, that is not the case. If you wanted to get at that money you would have to have a plan, you would need to bring that plan to the voters and they would vote on those particular items. Ms. Niles continued that when the community voted it was on \$9 million of then a \$10 million pot that was sitting in the Capital Reserve. We had projects of \$9 million. One year we put some extra money into the Capital Reserve and interest also was put into it. Now we have roughly almost \$4 million that is sitting in the Capital Reserve. Mr. Rossi noted that a lot of the projects came in under budget; that's why we should have money left over. Mr. Ehmann stated that the District must pay attention to the proposition; make sure that the money is used for the purpose for which the community voted and of this 3.9 we believe there is about half left that is unaccounted for. Our next Facilities meeting is to go over the balance sheet, reconcile the numbers with H2M and map out the next phase of projects that we would like to do with any resources that still exist.

B. Facilities

Mr. Liguori reported that a meeting was held October 19th during which the following updates were given:

The turf fields were finished and turned over to HS East this past week.

Projects Ready for Bid
HS West – electrical service upgrade

Projects Currently at SED
District-wide elevator upgrades
HS West gas piping upgrade

Projects Under Design

Tackan – site improvements

Construction Schedule

Mills Pond – building upgrades (windows & unit ventilators)

HS West – fuel tank, kitchen hood & chiller replacement

Projects on Hold

Accompsett MS building upgrades (flooring replacement & ceiling replacement), HS East building upgrades (science lab), HS West student toilet renovation

Mr. Liguori noted that there has been a report of the roof leaking at HS West. That is being evaluated with the contractors; some of the roof is still under warranty. Mr. Ehmann added that this week they are inspecting the roof and discussing what is and is not under warranty.

C. Housing Committee

Mr. Carlin stated that the Committee is waiting for more data and information before scheduling a meeting.

D. Negotiations

The Superintendent noted that discussions have been held with STA President, Rich Forzano. Mrs. Waldron reported that the administration had SSEA negotiations on 10/7 and has meetings scheduled for 10/27 and 11/17.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - continued

B. Updates – The Superintendent brought the Board up-to-date on the following items of interest:

- Last night the District sponsored its fourth district-wide Parent University – Bullying, Drugs, Health and Safety: Smart Choices for Parents and Children. The panel discussion featured information and advice from Dr. Jeffrey Reynolds, Executive Director of LICADD, Mor Keshet, LCAT Coordinator and Dr. Robert Dell'Amore, Founder and Owner of the Healthy Kitchen.
- The Smithtown Elementary School Community hosted a ribbon-cutting today to officially open its new playground.
- Dr. Helio Takai, Senior Physicist at Brookhaven National Laboratory, visited High School East last week to conduct particle physics workshops. Physics students first learned basics about subatomic particles, and then analyzed real data from an actual particle accelerator to determine the probability of different particle “events.” Dr. Takai will run the same workshops at High School West next week.
- High School Accounting students had the opportunity to participate in an Accounting web cast sponsored by the New York State Society of CPAs last week.
- Smithtown High School East Musical Production, *Sweeney Todd*, will be presented on November 10th, 12th and 13th.
- Smithtown High School West Thespian Troupe Production, *Our Town*, will be held on November 10th, 12th and 13th.
- Smithtown High School West has been awarded a 2011 MIT-InvenTeam grant. InvenTeams are teams of high school students, teachers and mentors that receive grants of up to \$10,000 each to invent technological solutions to real-world problems. The students at West are working to design an efficient affordable solar panel system that will allow people living in the developing world to have the energy needed for night-time lighting and charging cell phones. The team members are: Paige Buzard, Sarah Cacciabauda, Allie Cohen, Daniel Cykman, Michael Emerson, Ryan Gruber, Eric Guleksen, Tyler Lawrence, Emily Mancini, Neema Patel, Amy Sullivan and Tyler Terbush.
- For the second year in a row, the Smithtown Athletic Program has been awarded the Sportsmanship Award for Conference II.

- Students from SHS West's Positive Edge Club visited the eighth grade classrooms at Accomsett Middle School and discussed the importance of resisting negative peer pressure and making positive choices through role-playing activities.

Mr. Saggese left the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

C. Committee on Special Education

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving Committee on Special Education Items 1-2 on a consent motion.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

1. Committee on Special Education - RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education for cases 309047, 187449, 175947, 311687, 308914, 304680, 301678, 311754 and 311704 be approved.
2. Sub-Committee on Special Education – RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Special Education for cases 306876, 308143, 311531, 150480, 310741, 304181, 303548, 305445, 187529, 4429, 307998, 301556, 300942, 302689, 308532, 300262, 300273, 177898, 305918 and 300220 be approved.

D. Committee on Preschool Special Education

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving Preschool Special Education Items 1-2 on a consent motion.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

1. Initial Placement for Preschool Special Education Program/Services – RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education for Initial Placement – Program/Services for case P311675 be approved.
2. Special Education Preschool Annual IEP Review/Amended IEP – RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education for Annual IEP Review/Amended IEP for cases P309696, P311341, P309895, P311019, P311527, P310376, P310708, P310475 P310467, P310870, P309710, P311525, P311369, P310234 and P310467 be approved.

E. Appointment of Parent Member to Committee on Special Education

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mrs. Knox be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the appointment of Gloria Stavrakopoulos and Andrea Elsky to serve as parent members to the Committee on Special Education and Sub-Committee for the Smithtown Central School District for the 2010/11 school year.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

F. Tentative Calendar for October and November 2010 - The calendars were reviewed and amended by the Board.

G. Litigation – was discussed during the earlier Executive Session.

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT - continued

B. Overnight Field Trip Request – Smithtown High School East Wrestling – December 27-28, 2010 – Wrestling Tournament – Bloomsburg, PA

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that permission is granted for 30 students from Smithtown High School East Wrestling to compete in the Bob Rohm

Memorial Wrestling Tournament at Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA.
 Students will depart December 27, 2010 and return December 28, 2010.

All aye. Motion carried (6-0).

Mr. Saggese rejoined the meeting at 10:12 p.m.

VII. AUDIENCE

1. Pam Farino thanked the Facilities Committee for beginning to discuss the urgent needs of HS West's roof. Mrs. Farino expressed her concern that the administration has known for several years about certain properties and roofs in our District having serious vandalism and trespassing problems. She suggested that the buildings get security measures before the turf fields.
2. Patty Guilfoyle discussed health and wellness in the school lunch programs and how the District is not following its own guidelines in many areas of the schools.
3. Kim Clarke also discussed health and wellness in our schools.
4. Christine Santori also discussed health and wellness in our schools.
5. Susie Schломann questioned the Employee Deferred Liability Fund and the MTA tax. Ms. Schломann stated that 2009 data shows a decline in personal income; yet government payrolls and state spending are up. She asked the Board not to follow this pattern.

VIII. BUSINESS AFFAIRS

A. Finance

MOTION by Mr. Saggese to separate out Item #8 for a separate vote – did **not** receive a second.

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mrs. Knox approving AMENDED Finance Items 1 – 13 on a consent motion.

Discussion

Item #10 – Mr. Saggese asked for clarification on this Allowance Authorization. Mr. Liguori provided the clarification. Mr. Rossi asked about a concern regarding lacrosse practice poles and netting. Mr. Ehmann said that he is awaiting an answer. Mr. Rossi added that this resolution can be approved tonight, but the total payment is not closed out yet.

Item #4 – Mr. Rossi asked for the total cost. The answer was \$115.00.

Item #5 – Mr. Rossi asked for clarification. Each accompanist will be receiving \$200.

Item #6 – Mr. Rossi asked if counsel had approved this. The answer was yes.

Item #8 – Mr. Rossi stated that the administration is asking for approval for services that have already been performed for the District. Counsel noted that this is not the best practice; but when a contract is omitted inadvertently from the agenda and the work has been performed there is no problem to ratify it. Mr. Rossi stated that this is not typical of how Smithtown does business and the Board is aware of it and it has been discussed.

Item #13 – Mr. Rossi noted that the number had been amended.

VOTE ON MOTION: Mr. Saggese voted No, motion carried (6-1).

1. Budgetary Transfers - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following budgetary transfers of funds be approved for the 2010-11 school year:

FROM: See attached	\$1,896,414.00
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TO:	See attached		\$1,896,414.00
FROM:	5540-490-51-4700	BOCES Services	\$15,000.00
TO:	5540-458-51-4700	Field Trip Transportation	\$15,000.00

2. Agreement with SCOPE Education Services – Before and After School Science Explorations Program 2010-2011 - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute an agreement between the Smithtown Central School District and SCOPE Education Services for the Before and After School Science Explorations Program at each elementary school for the 2010-2011 school year.

3. Bid Recommendations - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following bid recommendations are approved as submitted herein:

06-19 Ext.	Security Alarm Service & Maintenance
10-11RR	Landscaping & Pruning
10-36	Boiler Breeching, Kitchen Exhaust and HVAC Cleaning

4. Contract for Presentation - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute a contract with the following organization, for a presentation on Bullying on GLBT Youth by Wes Nemenz, Safe Schools Coordinator, on Superintendent’s Conference Day, November 2, 2010, for 3 hours, at a cost of \$115.00:

LIGALY
 34 Park Avenue
 Bay Shore, NY 11706

5. Contracts for Piano Accompanists - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute a contract with the following individuals, as Piano Accompanists, for the 2010-11 school year, at a rate of \$200.00 for two rehearsals and one performance:

Jeanette Cooper, 32 Yaphank Road, Yaphank, NY 11980
 Elizabeth DeGennaro, 110 Selden Blvd, Centereach, NY 11720
 Susan Hall, 58 Dorchester Road, Smithtown, NY 11787
 Edward Lesco, 8 Joseph Court, East Northport, NY 11731
 Heidi Margolin, 425 Munsell Road, E. Patchogue, NY 11772
 Doris Ann McMullen, 5 Oakway Drive, Stony Brook, NY 11790
 James Nagle, 196A Jefferson Avenue Apt. 1C, St. James, NY 11780
 Joseph Rishkofski, 711 Hilltop Court, Coram, NY 11727
 Jonathan Riss, 78 Juniper Avenue, Smithtown, NY 11787
 Arlene Russell, 368 Clubhouse Court, Coram, NY 11727
 Roy Sperrazza, 701 Balfour Place, Melville, NY 11747
 Kevin Tims, 111 Hammond Road, Centereach, NY 11720
 John Titman, 50 New York Avenue, West Hempstead, NY 11552

6. Agreement with the Town of Smithtown - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to enter into a Hold Harmless/Indemnity Agreement with the Town of Smithtown regarding its use of School District’s facilities, commencing August 11, 2010 and terminating on August 10, 2011.

7. Agreement Extension with the Research Foundation of SUNY - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute the extension of the agreement between the Smithtown Central School District and the Research Foundation of State University of New York, for the 2010-2011 school year, as part of the grant from the New York State Education Department to carry out a project entitled Teaching American History Program.

8. Contract for ABA Behavioral Consulting Services - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to execute a contract with the following organization/individual, during the 2010-11 school year, to provide ABA Behavioral Consulting Services at the rates listed:

Kids First Behavioral
 Lisa DiFiore-Ridolph
 P.O. Box 206
 Nesconset, NY 11767

\$115.00 per hour ABA Behavioral Consulting Services
 Summer Session (7/1/10 – 8/30/10)
 \$125.00 per hour ABA Behavioral Consulting Services
 School Year (9/1/10 – 6/30/11)

9. Change Order - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the attached change order listed below:

Bid Recommendation #09-46 Awarded on December 5, 2009
Capital Project #58-08-01-06-0-038-021
High School West – Contract T – Tank Replacement and Associated Site Work

CHANGE ORDER #T01 – Amount: (\$4,944.58)
 Contractor: Gemstar Construction Corp.

10. Allowance Authorization – High School East - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education is hereby authorized to sign the following Allowance Authorization:

ALLOWANCE AUTHORIZATION NO. C1
Capital Project #: 58-08-01-06-0-023-025
Project Name: Upgrades 1 – Athletic Field Replacement High School East
Date: September 14, 2010
Contractor: The LandTek Group
Description: Cost associated with all work to remove any unsuitable soil, truck in suitable soil and mix soil in place to achieve proper field drainage.
Amount: \$35,000.00

11. Adjustment of 2010-11 Revenues - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the adjustment in the 2010-11 revenues as attached, and to approve the appropriate transfers to reflect the new schedule:

12. Resolution to Fund Various Reserves - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Smithtown Central School District authorizes the following transfers be made from fund balance:

Workers' Compensation	\$ 343,398
Dental Insurance	\$ 1,000,000
Insurance Reserve (Life Insurance)	\$ 300,000
Retirement (ERS)	\$ 1,379,942
Total	\$ 3,023,340

13. Establishment of School Tax Levy - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the total school tax levy for the 2010-11 school year shall be \$158,508,289, based upon the attached projected revenues, as adjusted.

B. Operations

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mrs. Knox approving Operations Items 1 and 2 on a consent motion

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

1. Acceptance of Gifts – upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the acceptance of the following gifts:

	<u>Donated By</u>
\$7,000.00 donation to Smithtown High School East “Athletes Helping Athletes Program”	The Booster Club P.O. Box 166 Smithtown, NY 11787
\$1,000.00 donation for Smithtown Elementary Library	Patricia & Arthur Faverio 67 New Mill Road Smithtown, NY 11787
22 Arborvitaes, 6 Burning Bushes 1 Pom Pom Evergreen, 6 Boxwoods (2 varieties) and 10 Mums (perennial/ annual) for Nesconset Elementary	Nesconset PTA Beautification Committee
\$5,496.00 to fund field trips for the 2010-2011 school year	St. James Elementary School parents
\$3,056.00 to fund field trips for the 2010-2011 school year	Tackan Elementary School parents

2. Additions to List of Organizations Approved to Use School Facilities, 2010-2011 School Year - upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following organizations, having made formal applications, are hereby approved to use school facilities at the Smithtown Central School District during the 2010-2011 school year, subject to all School District policies, rules and regulations, Standard Uniform Practices, and contract provisions:

Smithtown Center for Rehabilitation & Nursing Care
Windcrest at Galleria HOA, Inc.

IX. PERSONNEL

A. Certified – The following Amended Certified Personnel Items were presented for the Board’s approval:

1. Appointment of Substitute Teachers
2. Appointment of Title IV Grant Instructor and Evaluator
3. Appointment of Probationary Teacher(s)
4. Certifications
5. Appointment of Home Instruction Tutor(s)
6. Appointment of Non-District Event Chaperone(s)
7. Appointment of Part-time Teachers
8. Certifications
9. Coaching Assignment(s)
10. Request for FMLA, Without Pay/Leave of Absence, Without Pay
11. Appointment of Co-Curricular Activities Sponsors
12. Extension Agreement
13. Appointment of Volunteers

Discussion:

Item #12 –Mr. Rossi noted that the Board is happy to announce that this agreement extends Mr. Ehmann’s contract for one additional year – ending June 30, 2012.

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving the Amended Certified Personnel Items 1-13, as detailed in the attached resolutions.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

B. Classified - The following Classified Personnel Items were presented for the Board’s approval:

1. Appointments
2. Appointment – Reason(s)
3. Change of Status
4. Change of Status – Reason(s)
5. Leave of Absence Unpaid
6. Leave of Absence – Reason(s)
7. Resignation

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mrs. Waldron approving the Classified Personnel Items 1-7, as detailed in the attached resolutions.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

X. NEW BUSINESS**A. Committee Meetings**

Mr. Rossi stated that after the last meeting he had asked the Board to consider the idea of having some or all committee meetings held during the Regular BOE meetings. Mr. Carlin stated that he would like to continue to think about it and get back to Mr. Rossi at a later date. Mrs. Waldron stated that she is not in favor of moving the committee meetings. Explaining that she thought the purpose of a committee meeting is to knock around thoughts or learn a little bit more about instruction or business or facilities. At the Facilities meeting the other night we took about an hour and forty-five minutes where the Board Members were able to ask the architects questions. Committee meetings are informational for the most part and I would not want to have a Facilities meeting after this meeting at a quarter to eleven. Mr. Saggese stated that he agreed with Mrs. Waldron. Mr. Liguori said that he also agreed. Mr. Martella said that he does not have a problem with the meetings being on other days. It should be an exchange of ideas and thoughts. Mr. Rossi stated that one of the reasons he brought it up was that some Board Members are concerned about getting things on the record and when you have a committee meeting there is no record.

B. Sale of Parcel of Land

MOTION by Mrs. Waldron, seconded by Mrs. Knox that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent and attorneys for the District to pursue the sale of a parcel of land to St. Patrick’s cemetery.

Discussion

Mr. Saggese stated that the first he had seen this was at 7:30 tonight and he hasn’t had time to look at it; based on that he will vote no.

Mrs. Waldron stated that, for clarification, we have discussed this numerous times and it has been sent to the Board since about September. We also discussed it at Facilities meetings twice.

VOTE ON MOTION: Mr. Saggese voted No. Motion carried (6-1).

C. Suffolk County Police K-9 Unit

Mr. Ehmann stated that he wanted to inform the community that a letter will be going out giving Suffolk County Police K-9 the ability to come into our buildings and sniff lockers while students are in school. The letter is self-explanatory and will be going out this week. Once we get this letter into the hands of our community we become a qualified district to have the police dogs come through our buildings. No students or backpacks will be searched by dogs. The hallways will be sequestered and the lockers are the only items which will be examined by the dogs.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Knox, seconded by Mr. Liguori that the meeting be adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

All aye. Motion carried (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wilson
District Clerk