

Board of Education Regular Meeting
 Glen Cove City School District
 High School Auditorium
 Wednesday, November 13, 2019
 Executive Session – 6:00 pm
 Regular Meeting – Board of Education to Convene
 Streamed live at glencove.k12.ny.us

Members Present: Ms. Gail Nedbor-Gross, Ms. Monica Alexandris-Miller, Mr. Robert Field, Ms. Mary Murphy, Ms. Rosemarie Sekelsky, Ms. Lia Leone, Ms. Karen Ferguson

Also Present: Dr. Maria Rianna, Dr. Michael Israel, Ms. Victoria Galante, Chris Venator

Attendees: About 39 members in the audience

On motion to by Trustee Field, seconded by Trustee Alexandris-Miller, the Board unanimously (7/0) entered into executive session at 6:23 pm. On a motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Leone, the Board unanimously (7/0) adjourned executive session at 7:28 pm.

Executive Session

The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Pledge of Allegiance, and a moment of silence to reflect on those that serve our country especially this being Veteran's month. Roll call was taken, as noted above at 7:38 pm.

Roll Call: Call to Order

Approval of Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting - Presented by District Clerk – A motion for approval and discussion was made by Trustee Field, second by Trustee Alexandris-Miller, the Board by a vote of 6 in favor and 1 abstention (6/1 – Trustees Murphy abstained), moved to approve the minutes of October 16, 2019 as amended.

Approval: Minutes of BOE Meeting - 10/16/2019

Committee Reports: Deferred to next meeting.

President Nedbor-Gross asked if we could discuss the education committee at the next meeting.

Superintendent's Report - Updates:

Student Recognition: Family Code/STREAM Night Volunteers – Dr. Rianna stated that each year since she's been here she's realized that so much of the success of the events at the school district have to do with students helping other students. There's a group of students that have volunteered their time in events such as Coding and STREAM Night. This year we had Family STREAM Night with a number of students that volunteered. Dr. Rianna introduced each of those students and presented them certificates and were thanked for taking time away from things they may have been doing for themselves to help support the events in the district. The group also had a photo taken along with the two of the STREAM teachers. This program has grown with not only the students who participate but the teachers who help plan make it a success.

Dr. Rianna stated that she spent her day at a round table discussion regarding foundation aid. Foundation aid makes up a majority of the aid that we get from the state. It's a flawed formula by which we get that money and we were able to meet with a number of senators. Currently the head of the education commission for the senate is Senator Shelly Mayor and she's worked and listened to us as one of the Suburban Harmed Five as well as Dr. Rianna's role in the small city schools association. Today we provided testimony as to how this flawed formula impacts our school district. We are only 50% funded by what foundation aid should be giving us. They're districts that get over 100 or 118% and that's because this formula that was originated many years ago does not distribute the monies equally across the state of New York and particularly on Long Island. We're providing the senate with information as to how this flawed formula impacts our school district and how we can identify the areas of this formula that needs to be upgraded and re-established so that it meets the needs across the district on Long Island. I was in great company at the discussion. Lorraine Deller who's the head of the Suffolk School Boards Association and a great advocate for school funding. Many superintendents from other districts were asked to contribute to the conversation and other provided information to us. I represented Glen Cove as well as all the small city schools and districts with

combined wealth ratio. High poverty, high wealth and based on statistics that is used to come up with our fair share it does not accurately portray the district wealth and our district's needs. Having been involved in this it's been the most productive and significant work to date and it was echoed by others that attended. This is the first time that I spoke to a group of senators that truly understood that there are portions of this formula that really need to be revamped in a way that we'll be able to get our fair share. Since 2007 when the formula was updated and had we gotten all the monies owed us it would be almost \$50M more than we received over twelve years. We can't go back but we're finding a good starting point that will allow us to redistribute the pot in which we're giving by the governor in state aid funding and how reaches us. On Monday I will be speaking with the superintendents of the Suburban Harmed Five and we'll be putting our next phase of advocacy into place and I will let the board and the community know the days in case anyone wants to participate in the lobbying efforts. We need the money, we deserve the money and the monies will be well spent on the needs of our students.

2019 Grade 3-8 ELA & Math Assessment Results – Dr. Israel presented via PowerPoint and went over our state assessment data. Handouts of the presentation were available to all in attendance. Dr. Israel addressed all questions asked by the board.

Public Participation

The following topics were presented during the public participation section on agenda items only. President Nedbor-Gross reminded all in attendance to sign in and state your name and address. We're trying to keep it to three minutes or less and once all your questions are asked please have a seat so that your questions can be answered. President Nedbor-Gross clarified that they would like everyone to be polite, professional and respectful as much as possible for all employees, elected trustees and students. Please don't use names

- *Daniel Rios* – 16 Hendrick Avenue, Glen Cove – what's the general direction from the members of the bond committee going forward? Are there new parties contributing to any new discussions with both bonds not passing? I hope there's new insight and new influences to the bond raising concerns based on how the community has voted.

Dr. Rianna responded that the board is working with administration and the architects to look at the scope of work in the last bond with looking at the most critical items. They are hearing the community and looking for ways for the community to provide additional input and opportunities for additional discussions. The board or the district hadn't received as much formally as we could have. As we're moving forward and choosing the items that should be most immediately addressed the board is also looking for input and we'll have additional opportunities posted.

- *Alexander Juarez*, Continental Court, Glen Cove – would like to hear from the board the education regarding the bond. So far you've had two meetings on two Mondays. One was a work session therefore the community can't give any input. At what point has the community been asked to come to give input? Last time there was a legal requirement that a secondary bond couldn't be put up for about 30-90 days. Are there any legal limitations now to put up a third? I still haven't heard what was spent on the second bond. So many items on the bond have to be addressed because I could swear the architect had said that they were not going to be removing the adjoining section between Deasy and the Middle School and yet the community feels that that will be demolished, is it? I started running numbers through my mind so hypothetically if you were able to move forward and put out a \$20M bond you're still paying the architect 6%. Reducing 6% from the \$20M and 18% for the soft cost how much work are you really doing? Look at what you're doing. I want to hear from the board are there any legal restrictions in putting up another bond, have you done your work on this?

Dr. Rianna responded that there were two work sessions and at this point in time the board is examining the information. They will have opportunities for community input and that will be part of the discussions moving forward. The time period was 90 days from the last vote and any future bonds cannot be within one year of the first bond that was put up which would be the March bond proposal. The board is still looking very closely at the dollar amount and before a final number is reached we would like to get

community input. The board is doing there due diligence in regards to soft costs and architectural costs and any cost outside of the actual work that going to be done. The Deasy link and all the identified work through the bond committee as well as the first bond will be looked at again.

Vice-President Alexandris-Miller responded by saying that the Deasy link originally the proposal was having it removed completely but in looking at that and to reduce the scope as much as possible and focus on the most urgent things the proposal is to wall it off and leaving the two structures in place to meet the safety standard per homeland security.

Instructional Report

On the Recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, made by the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, a motion to approve was made by Trustee Ferguson, seconded by Trustee Murphy. The board unanimously (7-0) moved to approve the following with no discussion needed:

Committee on Special Education

RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education for Initial Placement Programs/Services for cases filed in the office of special education from meetings and approves the authorization of funds to implement the special education programs and services.

Approval: of
Committee
on Special
Education

Business Affairs - Operations

On the Recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools made by the Assistant Superintendent of Business, a motion for approval and discussion was made by Trustee Alexandris-Miller, seconded by Trustee Field. The board unanimously (7/0) moved to approve the following. Discussion items are noted below

SEORA

SEQRA – Resolution for Approval of State Environmental Quality Review Analysis for capital Projects, Type I and Type II Actions

Approval:
SEORA –
Stage Rigging

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Glen Cove City School District desires to embark upon capital improvement projects at the Glen Cove High School:

- The scope of work will include replacement of the existing stage rigging.

WHEREAS, said capital improvement projects are subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, maintenance or repairs involving no substantial changes in existing structures or facilities are classified as Type II Actions under current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQRA Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c) (1)); and

WHEREAS, replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure, facility, in kind on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceed the thresholds in Section 617.4 of this Part are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQRA Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c) (2)); and

WHEREAS, the SEQRA Regulations declare Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQRA; and are classified at Type II Actions, which require no further review under SEQRA pursuant to Section 617.5 (c) (2) of the SEQRA Regulations:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Glen Cove City School District hereby declares itself lead agency in connection with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and hereby determines that the project is a type II action which will not have a significant impact on the environment and is not subject to review

under SEQRA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Glen Cove City School District hereby shall forward an official copy of this Resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement between the New York State Education Department (SED) and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) in connection with its request for approval of the above described projects from the New York State Education Department.

Budget Transfers

RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following 2019 – 2020 budget transfers:

Approval:
Budget Transfers

Amount	From	Description	To	Description
\$44,599.90	A2820 150 03	Salaries – Psych – Connolly	A2820 150 25	Psych Salaries – DW
\$63,647.60	A2821 150 07	Salaries – Psych – MS	A2820 150 08	Salaries – Psych – HS
\$1,719.00	A2821 150 03	Salaries – Psych – Connolly	A2820 150 02	Salaries – Psych – Deasy
\$859.50	A2820 150 03	Salaries – Psych – Connolly	A2820 150 04	Salaries – Psych – Gribbin
\$1,719.00	A2820 150 03	Salaries – Psych – Connolly	A2820 150 05	Salaries – Psych - Landing

*To fund various salary budget codes to cover salaries in correct buildings.

Amount	From	Description	To	Description
\$28,767.14	A1620 161 08	Custodians/Cleaners-HS	A1620 161 02	Custodians/Cleaners- Deasy
\$12,750.25	A1620 160	Summer Help	A1620 161 07	Custodians/Cleaners – MS
\$15,873.72	A1620 161 08	Custodians/Cleaners	A1620 161 07	Custodians/Cleaners – MS

Safety Plan

RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopts the 2019 – 2020 GCS D District-Wide Safety Plan.

Approval:
Safety Plan

Donation – Sound System

RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts, with gratitude, a donation of a Press Box Sound System valued at \$6,980.72, from Glen Cove Junior Soccer.

Acceptance:
Donation – Sound System

Dr. Rianna thanked the above donor.

Discussion:

Trustee Ferguson asked if it is the first time the board is seeing the safety plan. In the future I would appreciate if we could see the revision markings so we know what added.

Dr. Rianna replied that it was posted as a draft and they could accommodate the request for the revision markings.

President Nedbor-Gross stated that she thought we weren't removing from district wide on the budget transfers.

Ms. Galante replied that we have some district wide budget codes still as some employees are district wide. Last year when we had to change all our salary codes to report salaries by building it causes a lot of budget transfers due to the movement of the employees within the district.

PERSONNEL – Certified

On the Recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools made by the Superintendent of Schools, a motion was made to approve and discuss by Trustee Alexandris-Miller, second by Trustee Field. The board unanimously (7/0) moved to approve the following certified matters with no discussion needed:

Appointment of Administrator Leave Replacement

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following named person be appointed as an Administrator Leave Replacement for the Glen Cove City School District as specified below (salary - \$750/day).

Approval: of
Lori Nimmo – Administrator Leave Replacement

Name	Certification Area(s)/Type	Building	Effective
Nimmo, Lori	SDA (permanent) Social Studies 7-9 Ext (permanent) N-6 (permanent)	Gribbin/Connolly	11/6/19-TBD

Comments

Ms. Nimmo is replacing Ms. Santoro, who is going out on medical leave, and then Ms. Mullan who is going out on maternity/childcare leave.

Authorization and Establishment of Club & Appointment of Advisor (Middle School)

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following designated activity be authorized and established for the 2019-2020 school year, and be it further RESOLVED, that the following named person be appointed as advisor of said activity and to be compensated as per the agreement between the Glen Cove City School District and the Glen Cove Teachers' Association, and prorated according to the effective dates.

Approval: of Melissa Nunez – Establishment of Club & Appointment of Middle School Advisor

Club/Activity	Name	Effective
Multicultural Club	Nunez, Melissa	11/1/19-5/29/20

Additional Hours of Employment (Teaching Assistants)

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that three additional hours of employment for the following named persons be approved, for the purpose of CPR training, effective November 5, 2019, as specified below (salary as per contract).

Approval: of Additional House of Teaching Assistants

Names	School
D'Ambrosio, Magdalena DiPaola, Teresa Imbergamo, Claire Lilly, Theresa Markoulis, Anne Martinez, Felicia Pepe, Erin Reynoso, Auly Sharma, Monika	Connolly
Bencivenni, Tina Cullen, Heather Grella, Doreen Marrone, Mary Martinez, Felicia Melfi, Geraldine Vignali, Elizabeth	Deasy
Burns, Patricia Curcio, Alyssa Haukeness-Perez, Deanna Koenig, Rebecca Martinez, Lorraine	Gribbin
Caminiti, Nicole Galante, Lisa Glaviano, Elizabeth Gomez-DelValle, Emma Heloskie-Rosenberg, Susan Husain-Vitale, Bibi LeDonne, Victoria Martinovic, Franka Nandi, Kasturi Reidy, Jamie Stanco, Amely	Landing

Requests for Leaves of Absence

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the requests for a leave of absence for the following named persons be approved as specified below.

Approval: Leave of Absences of Julie Mullan, Francine Santoro

Name	Title	Building	Effective
Mullan, Julie	Elementary Principal	Connolly	12/06/19-o/b 3/19/20
Santoro, Francine	Elementary Principal	Gribbin	11/07/19-11/29/19

Comments

Ms. Mullan is requesting a leave of absence for maternity/childcare purposes.
Ms. Santoro is requesting a leave of absence for medical reasons.

Resignations

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the resignations of the following named persons be approved as specified below.

Acceptance: Resignation of Cruce Abreu-Rodriguez, Lisa Zimmerman

Name	Title	Building	Effective
Abreu-Rodriguez, Cruce	Teaching Assistant	Connolly/Landing	10/31/19
Zimmerman, Lisa	Teaching Assistant	Middle School	11/1/19 (end of day)

PERSONNEL – Classified

On the Recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools made by the Superintendent of Schools, on a motion for approval and discussion by Trustee Ferguson, seconded by Trustee Murphy. The Board unanimously (7/0) moved to approve the following classified matters with no discussion needed:

Appointment of Administrator Leave Replacement

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following named person be appointed as an Administrator Leave Replacement for the Glen Cove City School District as specified below (salary - \$750/day).

Approval:
Administrative
Leave
Replacement -
Lori Nimmo

Name	Certification Area(s)/Type	Building	Effective
Nimmo, Lori	SDA (permanent) Social Studies 7-9 Ext (permanent) N-6 (permanent)	Gribbin/Connolly	11/6/19-TBD

Comments

Ms. Nimmo is replacing Ms. Santoro, who is going out on medical leave, and then Ms. Mullan who is going out on maternity/childcare leave.

Authorization and Establishment of Club & Appointment of Advisor (Middle School)

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the following designated activity be authorized and established for the 2019-2020 school year, and be it further RESOLVED, that the following named person be appointed as advisor of said activity and to be compensated as per the agreement between the Glen Cove City School District and the Glen Cove Teachers' Association, and prorated according to the effective dates.

Approval –
Establishment
of Club &
Appointment
of Middle
School
Advisor –
**Melissa
Nunez**

Club/Activity	Name	Effective
Multicultural Club	Nunez, Melissa	11/1/19-5/29/20

Additional Hours of Employment (Teaching Assistants)

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that three additional hours of employment for the following named persons be approved, for the purpose of CPR training, effective November 5, 2019, as specified below (salary as per contract).

Approval: of
**Additional
Hours of
Employment
of Teaching
Assistants**

Names	School
D'Ambrosio, Magdalena DiPaola, Teresa Imbergamo, Claire Lilly, Theresa Markoulis, Anne Martinez, Felicia Pepe, Erin Reynoso, Auly Sharma, Monika	Connolly
Bencivenni, Tina Cullen, Heather Grella, Doreen Marrone, Mary Martinez, Felicia Melfi, Geraldine Vignali, Elizabeth	Deasy
Burns, Patricia Curcio, Alyssa Haukeness-Perez, Deanna Koenig, Rebecca Martinez, Lorraine	Gribbin
Caminiti, Nicole Galante, Lisa Glaviano, Elizabeth Gomez-DelValle, Emma Heloskie-Rosenberg, Susan Husain-Vitale, Bibi LeDonne, Victoria Martinovic, Franka Nandi, Kasturi Reidy, Jamie Stanco, Amely	Landing

Requests for Leaves of Absence

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the requests for a leave of absence for the following named persons be approved as specified below.

Approval:
Leaves of
Absences of
**Julie Mullan
and Francine**

Name	Title	Building	Effective
Mullan, Julie	Elementary Principal	Connolly	12/06/19-o/b 03/19/20
Santoro, Francine	Elementary Principal	Gribbin	11/07/19-11/29/19

Santoro

Comments

Ms. Mullan is requesting a leave of absence for maternity/childcare purposes.
 Ms. Santoro is requesting a leave of absence for medical reasons.

Resignations

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be it RESOLVED, that the resignations of the following named persons be approved as specified below.

Name	Title	Building	Effective
Abreu-Rodriguez, Cruce	Teaching Assistant	Connolly/Landing	10/31/19
Zimmerman, Lisa	Teaching Assistant	Middle School	11/1/19 (end of day)

Acceptance:
 Resignations
 of Cruce
Abreu-
Rodriguez,
Lisa
Zimmerman

Unfinished Business

Trustee Ferguson asked how effective is the homework free Wednesday or is it interfering with anything in the schools as far as teachers in their pacing calendars and getting work done. I call it torture Tuesday in my house because of no homework on Wednesday. That needs to be looked at. Have the teachers canvased as to if this is working for or against them getting work done with the students. How are other districts incorporating band or chorus into their school day? Another concern is that the kids walking to band or chorus during the zero periods have no crossing guards on the streets at that time if that can be looked at.

Dr. Rianna replied that crossing guards are not under our jurisdictions however I will look into it and find out what time they do get out there. We have looked into some districts and the ones we have looked into are not incorporating it into their school day.

Trustee Field stated that he doesn't recall where they discussed the no homework Wednesday and I think it's real important for families to get together and not have to do homework till 10. It's important to keep and not look into.

President Nedbor-Gross stated that we should send a survey out to the teachers to see how they feel about this.

Trustee Field stated that if you go out to the teachers you need to ask the community as well. I love it and you can ask me as a parent.

Trustee Leone replied that there are some districts with a no homework policy one day a month is ok and I'm a teacher.

New Business

Trustee Ferguson mentioned that there have been some concerns in the community whether our buildings are safe now that the bond didn't pass. I would like some assurance from the superintendent for the community that there's nothing urgent or horrific and that they are safe for our students and staff. It needs to get out there that if there was anything really crucial that it would be addressed.

Dr. Rianna replied that if it was deemed dangerous to that level than they wouldn't have passed the opportunity to keep our buildings open. As a community, as a board that has worked on what you have called critical and essential items there have been many items that have been inspected and that need to be upgraded sooner rather than later. The custodial and maintenance staff does the best job they can and work very hard and put in long hours to ensure that our buildings are clean and safe in every way possible. As you all know there have been situations not necessarily predicted like the high school fire alarm issue last year being beyond repair. The board has moved forward with a bond because of the recognition that things must move forward and be upgraded and made safe and repaired or replaced items that are no longer in working order before it becomes a major issue. Should some of the things in our buildings stop you're talking about not being able to use the buildings. We do everything possible but I'm not going to tell you that it is not without need that we are putting forth bond.

Trustee Ferguson responded that I know we have need I just want people to understand that there's no roof that's going to fall on a child's head.

Vice-President Alexandris-Miller I think it's really important to make the distinction between are the buildings safe now or will they continue to be safe if nothing is done to maintain them properly to replace the things that need to be replaced. We wouldn't be in this building if it were deemed unsafe however there are many parts of the infrastructure in this district that won't be safe if we don't make the necessary repairs and upgrades, that hasn't changed. We quote parents who have written letters so let's quote properly. Parents want to know what we are going to do to keep the schools safe. Are they safe now, yes we're here now but that doesn't mean that we don't have urgent repairs and replacements of infrastructure that need to happen very soon or this is going to become a time where the buildings aren't safe.

Trustee Ferguson replied thank you Monica I wasn't inferring that there wasn't a need. Can the superintendent provide me with the number of students in the PE classes in the middle and high school especially? I'm hearing some very big numbers and would like to see them for myself.

Dr. Rianna stated that she will provide those numbers and will also provide comparisons and would be happy to explain all that to you.

Public Participation

The following items were presented during the public participation section on any items.

- *Christina Braja* – 5 Highland Road, Glen Cove – maybe the entire board of education can go on an annual basis or twice a year tour the buildings with a head custodian to get a better understanding of the state of each building. Now that we have the capital improvement budget has a plan been made for that?

Dr. Rianna replied by saying that this is the first year that we started with the capital reserve and you have to build your capital reserve but it's part of the conversation in moving forward with any repairs that are made.

President Nedbor-Gross made suggestions that the board of education tour the buildings and look at some of the proposed projects with the architect. We don't have to do the whole board or every building. If you have a particular building you want to review. I believe Trustee Ferguson stated she hadn't been on any building tour with the architect and it might be beneficial. We will try to arrange for that.

- *Daniel Rios* – 16 Hendrick Avenue, Glen Cove – I would like the board to re-examine the middle school cell phone policy. I bring it up because technology, applications and how children are affected are changing. At that age and the data shows it clearly that it's not conducive to their learning process. It's a distraction for students and a distraction from teachers. If you create a policy where there's a designated area in the middle school and at specific times. I think there are things that are exploited on the cell phones and goes from student to student as well items that students/children at that age shouldn't be looking at. Sometimes it's accidental and sometimes it's influenced by someone sending information to another student. It could scar a child physiologically depending on what's being done. There's websites like realgore.com where videos are shown of children dying in the most horrific way. I bring this up because this is what's being spread at the middle school. It's an important topic that you really need to discuss. I hope that in the future it changes as well as the policy changes. I hope to hear an update on this with some community input as well. There's people that work in the district that I know and are parents and community members that we need input on but are afraid because of their position that they don't speak up or have a forum to say what they feel and I feel is extremely important in our district. They should have a safe channel where they can express their concerns and that don't come here and rather watch through the internet because they work for the district. *Dr. Rianna* I don't know if you can allow something where they can communicate their concerns and not be affected by it.

Dr. Rianna commented that retaliatory issues is not truthful and we actually even have student input on certain things and will be sitting with some students right before Thanksgiving. Thank you for bringing it to our attention, and if there's other opportunities where I could discuss that for teachers and staff members to feel more

comfortable.

- *Alexander Juarez* – Continental Court, Glen Cove – at the last meeting I had the opportunity to go back and look at some of the transactions or movement of funds and I noticed that there's a big reduction in the tax cert reserves between \$2&3M, where did that money go and how is it being used?

Victoria Galante responded that when the auditors were closing the books in June the tax cert reserve has a law attached to it saying that money that you put in within a certain year has to be used within the four years otherwise it has to go back into your fund balance. We took a good look at our tax cert reserve as we were at that four year mark and we did an analysis. I along with our internal auditors and external auditors did it and we were all in consensus that we should move out about \$2M and put it back into fund balance. All that money plus the funds that were left over from the 18-19 school year are all put into fund balance. The law also says that we can only hold aside an unassigned fund balance of 4%, so we did that and all the extra funds from the close of the books and the tax certs were spread into the other reserves that we have. Whether it is TRS, ERS, unemployment, workman's comp as well as the capital reserve.

- *Alexander Juarez* – Continental Court, Glen Cove – continued by stated that two meetings ago I read a passage from the superintendent's contract regarding being able to attend outside events and having to get permission from the board president. The following day I received a call from the superintendent's office regarding phone calls you had received and someone in the community was thinking that the superintendent is working outside the district. Let me be quite clear so that there's no misunderstanding and everyone understands me perfectly and I will say it in Spanish as well if I need to. If I was served with a subpoena my answer will be the same exact thing. No one ever came to me and said that the superintendent is working out of the district. I have no clue where that started but when I sat on this board I would not allow anyone to misrepresent me or the board of ed. I want to be sure everyone understands this. When it comes to the rest of the contract for the superintendent's position I would like to know if you are enforcing this because you have vacation days that have to be told to you in advance, bereavement days. You have to receive permission from the board president to go to speaking things. Are you guys following this or not and I'm asking the board of ed? It's a public contract and it's on the website.

President Nedbor-Gross responded that they are always mindful of the contract and we work very closely with the superintendent and she has been informing us of when she is out of district for various events.

Trustee Field responded that these are personnel issues and should not be discussed.

Vice-President Alexandris-Miller commented that this is a personnel issues and this is not appropriate.

- *Mr. Juarez* replied that this is a public contract.

President Nedbor-Gross replied that this is a public contract.

Vice-President Alexandris-Miller stated that a public contract is one thing discussing personnel is another. We are not following our process.

- *Mr. Juarez* responded to *Vice-President Alexandris-Miller* you respond for the entire board? You have a lawyer here why don't you ask the lawyer.

President Nedbor-Gross microphone was off and therefore could not hear her exchange with *Vice-President Alexandris-Miller*.

Dr. Rianna asked *Mr. Venator*, school district attorney, if he could represent.

Vice-President Alexandris-Miller tried responding by saying that she's not answering the question instead stating that we're not following the process. Gail, are you telling me that I'm not allowed to speak?

President Nedbor-Gross nodded yes.

Vice-President Alexandris-Miller stated oh you're silencing me, ok.

School District Attorney, Christopher Venator responded however he could not be heard because he didn't speak into the microphone.

- *Mr. Juarez* thanked the attorney and stated that the community has every right to make a comment. Just make sure that you're following that contract. My understanding is that there's a recent ruling for vaping and it's now 21 year of age and older so how does that affect our school district. Can we stop these kids from vaping on our school grounds? I need clarification regarding the bond. You're saying that we cannot put up a third bond request from a year from the very first one that was put up? We're you guys aware of that before the second bond?

Dr Rianna replied that is correct regarding the bond question.

Trustee Field responded that those are all his questions.

Dr. Rianna replied that regarding vaping it is with consequence if a student is found vaping on school grounds and they continue to be so. The policy indicates that there is no use of any electronic smoking devices. If it's 21 or not no one is supposed to be smoking anything on school property. Regarding the bond the board was made aware and they did want to move forward with a bond within 90 days and I believe and won't speak for them but we did it with the understanding that we were hoping to get a bond passed and move forward with the work that was recognized to be done.

President Nedbor-Gross replied that the superintendent answered the question with us having to wait the full calendar year and that's what we're working on. I think she answered the question.

District Clerk, Ida Johnson asked Mr. Juarez to sign-in as its procedure.

- *Mr. Juarez* replied is that legally required than no.

Trustee Leone stated that on the live stream it was noted that people watching couldn't hear what the lawyer said. Could you repeat what you said into the microphone so that everyone could hear it.

School District Attorney, Christopher Venator, stated that he was addressing the concerns that just played out about a board of education and it's response to questions from the public about matters of personnel. What I indicated was that this board and every other board that I'm familiar with and represent as a matter of policy does not talk about and respond to questions about specific items of personnel whether it be the superintendent, teaching staff, administrative staff, custodial staff. As a matter of policy boards do not comment about matters of personnel for a lot of obvious reasons and I said that I would encourage this board not to respond to specific questions about personnel.

President Nedbor-Gross thanked Mr. Venator for clarifying that.

Vice-President Alexandris-Miller requested to have added to our next agenda a discussion of how we run board of education meetings because I was just silenced at a meeting and I've never seen that happen at a board meeting before. There are other people who have gone off about things that were not even on the agenda at almost every meeting and I was just told to stop talking when there was a complete lack of following our procedure and I think that's really inappropriate and I think we need to get back together and figure out how we actually run effective meetings. I will remind everyone again that everyone needs to be polite and follow the rules. That's how you have an effective meeting and we can't make allowance for some speakers and not others and I think the same goes for board members.

President Nedbor-Gross clarified that when the public asks a question addressed to the board president we've always said that the board president answers. If the board

president would like for another member to speak and answer the question whether it be the superintendent or another trustee we have that option. But otherwise they don't address individual board members it's always kept to the one person.

Vice-President Alexandris-Miller replied that she was not answering a question I was pointing out that you were not following what our process is and that's not appropriate and I was also pointing out as our attorney just advised to everyone in the room and on the live stream that it's not appropriate to discuss personnel and that was being allowed to happen and I don't think that inappropriate and I'm not comfortable with that and don't like the liability of that and I was just pointing that out.

President Nedbor-Gross thanked the vice-president and replied that he pointed it out as well. We can put it on the agenda if you'd like and we'll also be doing a board review in January and we can discuss things there to.

Trustee Field replied that he agrees with Monica. Alex knows as a board member that the board does not respond as a whole. Gail does not represent the board when she speaks even as the board president she represents herself, and Maria is supposed to address the public. And if you're not enforcing the way we're supposed to behave in our mannerism then Monica can step in as vice-president and shouldn't be silenced. We all have an equal voice here up at the dais and we should have the opportunity to speak as we see.

President Nedbor-Gross said all I'm saying is that one person answers that's all. We'll discuss it at the next meeting.

On a motion by Trustee Ferguson, seconded by Trustee Murphy,

- *Mr. Juarez* stated that the attorney said at the very end that the community is allowed to make a comment so let's make sure we're clear about that. What I find interesting is that last year when I was vice-president making a comment your sitting vice-president was allowed to say we're publically elected officials so if people want to come here and bash us they can. I'm not here bashing. I'm here concerned what's going on in our district, our monies, our students and our safety. I fought behind closed doors to get more monies for nurses. I wore black every single day supporting my teachers. I fight for students who don't have a voice. I want to thank the board of ed for keeping that back gate open, whatever you guys did thank you for keeping that back open and you finally listened to the community and if you are going to close it at some point than have a public conversation the way you're supposed to not behind closed doors. Good points. I understand RXR met with all of our science teachers at their welcome center at the end of the year. I also understand that RXR gave them monies for the science teachers to get supplies, is that accurate.


Dr. Rianna replied that it is part of the contract that was made with RXR at the time of the deferment of taxes.

- *Mr. Juarez* asked that when I sat on the board I also did positive things, right? So I'm just bringing up positive points that I didn't hear about.

the Board unanimously (7-0) moved to adjourn the public meeting at 9:05 pm. Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2019, High School at 7:30 pm.

Motion:
Adjourn
Meeting

Respectfully submitted,
By Ida Johnson
District Clerk



Ida Johnson, District Clerk

