

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER (7:10 p.m.)**

Call to Order

Board of Education President Victor Correa, called a meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:10 p.m. The meeting took place at the South Haven School, Montauk Hwy, Brookhaven, NY.

Board of Education Members Present:

Victor Correa	Kevin Kirk
Michelle Cavaleri	Marian McKenna
Owen Durney	Julio Morales
Lisa Di Santo Grossman	Rob Powell
	Barbara Schatzman

Roll Call

Others Present: Superintendent of Schools, Joseph L. Cipp Jr., Asst Superintendent for HR, Nelson Briggs, Asst Superintendent of Educational Services, Stanley Pelech, Assistant Superintendent for Business Alan Phillips, Assistant to the Superintendent of Business Charles Delargy, Director of Student Support Services, Jack Colombo, Principals Kevin O'Connell, Brian Ginty, Linda Rozzi, Stefanie Rucinski, School Attorney Christopher Guercio, BTA President Spencer Stickley, media, other guests and members of the community.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge

Business Administrator, Charles Delargy, leads all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **PUBLIC HEARING**
AMENDMENT TO CODE OF CONDUCT

Public Hearing

Board President Correa read the following, Section VII, Alternative Instruction, of the current Code of Conduct:

SOUTH COUNTRY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CODE OF CONDUCT
SECTION VII. ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION:

When a student of any age is removed from class by a teacher, or a student of compulsory attendance age is suspended from school pursuant to Education Law §3214, the District will take immediate steps to provide alternative means of instruction for the student. Alternative instruction will be provided to all students of compulsory school age suspended from school whether it is In School Suspension or Out of School Suspension. In addition, alternative instruction will be made available to any student over the compulsory attendance age who presents a sincere desire to complete his / her high school education.

The following proposed change to the Code of Conduct, Section VII, Alternative Instruction, was then read:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SOUTH COUNTRY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CODE OF CONDUCT, SECTION VII. ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION:

When a student of any age is removed from class by a teacher, or a student of compulsory attendance age is suspended from school pursuant to Education Law §3214, the District will take immediate steps to provide alternative means of instruction for the student.

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3. DISCUSSION

Discussion

Board President Correa opened the hearing for public discussion, comments or questions.

In response to questions, School Attorney Christopher Guercio, explained that under the current New York State Education Law 3214 & 3205, school districts are obligated to provide alternative instruction to students until the end of the school year in which the student turns 16 years old, which is the compulsory age. Beyond that age they may, but they're not obligated to. The District's current policy self-mandates the Board to provide alternative instruction even to students beyond the compulsory age. The revision to the District's policy, will give the Board the flexibility to provide it on a case by case basis, but they are not obligated beyond the compulsory age. This does not apply to Special Education students.

There being no further comments or questions, the Public Hearing ended at 7:25 pm.

Commendation

4. COMMENDATION

Superintendent Cipp spoke on behalf of Bellport High School Alumni Kenneth Jones and presented him with a certificate in recognition of his dedicated community involvement and outstanding work ethic.

A motion (Kirk/Durney) to convene to Executive Session to discuss legal matters at 7:30 pm.

Convene – Executive Session

Reconvene Public Session 8:10 pm.

Reconvene Public Session

PRESENTATION

Assistant Superintendent for Business, Alan Phillips, gave a presentation to the Board on the 2011-2012 Budget .

Budget Presentation

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public Participation

Board President Correa apologized and noted that the conduct during public participation got out of hand at the last board meeting. He further stated that while the BOE welcomes public comments, they must be appropriate and not involve matters relative to particular employees. Disagreements must be voiced in a civil manner. The Board will not tolerate disruptive behavior. The public has always been given the ability to speak but it is now becoming a problem to conducting business. The Board will continue to enforce a four minute time limit, but the public will be asked to stop speaking or to leave should it become disruptive.

Taylor Lee (BHS student): Spoke on behalf of teacher Mrs.Fanelli (Ms. Sargent).

Brittany Combs (BHS student): Spoke on behalf of Ms. Sargent.

Jean Sargent (BHS teacher): Asked that the Board reconsider her tenure status.

Matthew Kinigson (Teacher): Spoke of his need for a refrigerator in his classroom due to a medical issue.

Toni Huffine (Resident): Questioned evaluations for Building Services Administrator and right to free speech, lack of Bond Committee, request for presentation on Bond Projects, fire alarm system at the High School.

Chris Isaza (CIA Construction): Spoke on behalf of his company who is in litigation with the district.

Board President Correa responded that the Board meeting is not the place to resolve this matter. He then read the following statement:

“In the matter of CIA and the South Country School District:

The South Country School District is being represented by Mr. Charles Segal, of JASPAN SCHLESINGER, Attorneys at Law. Mr. Segal serves as special counsel to the district in relation to construction contract matters.

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We, the South Country School Board, have been advised by our counsel to not release district funds to CIA Construction Group, Inc. Furthermore, we have been advised by our own Asst. Superintendents for Business to also not release funds to CIA.

CIA never executed certain contracts and was unable to provide the required Performance and Payment Bonds. CIA was the only one of over twenty contractors engaged by the District, on its recent construction program, who failed to execute its contracts and provide acceptable bonds. In addition to not acquiring the proper legal documents, our construction managing firm, Park East Construction, has advised us that some of the work done by CIA is unsatisfactory. Furthermore, the District has been contacted twice by the Department of Labor and instructed to withhold \$334,000 to any future payments to CIA.

When all legalities and acceptable work are completed, we expect to resolve our differences with CIA. Until then, as financial stewards of the District, we will continue to follow the advice of counsel, our Business officials, and our construction managing firm.”

Trustee McKenna read a statement expressing her concerns about literature passed out at the last Board meeting by a community member, which contained disparaging comments regarding her children. She stated that while she, in the position of Board member, can expect such comments, she takes exception regarding her children, who have succeeded based on their own merit.

5. BOARD CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. Approval of Minutes, Business Meeting of December 22, 2010.

VOTE: *Motion carries.* 6-Yes, 0-No, 3-Abstain, (Grossman, Morales, Schatzman),.

Approval of
Minutes

6. SUPERINTENDENT CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Treasurer’s Report for December, 2010

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

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

C. **RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the Health and Welfare Service Agreement for the 2010-2011 school year with the Bay Shore Union Free School District at the rate of \$695.47 per student.

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

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

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

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

Approval of
Treasurer’s
Report

Approves Health
& Welfare
Services
Agreement – Bay
Shore School
District 2010-
2011

Approves CSE,
SCSE & CPSE
recommendation.

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

- E. RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the Comprehensive Education Plan for Bellport High School.

**Approves CEP
Plan for BHS**

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

PERSONNEL

A motion (Kirk / Schatzman) to approve the following, moving Items 1108, 1113 and 1151 to Executive Session for discussion, and amending Item #1130 to reflect an effective date of 9/25/10 :

**Approves
Personnel
Agenda
Moving Items
1108, 1113 &
1151 to Exec
Session,
amending Item
1130.**

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

Trustee Powell disclosed that Personnel Agenda Items 1114 & 1116 are his daughter.

VOTE: *Motion carries.* 8-Yes, 0-No, 1- Abstain (Powell).

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

- G. RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby authorizes its attorneys, Guercio & Guercio, LLP, to initiate a proceeding with the New York State Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) to have the following employee designated as confidential:

**Authorizes
PERB
Proceeding –
Confidential EE**

- BN- Clerk Typist

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

H. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Request for future Staff Development plans from Mr. Pelech.
- Congratulations to former graduate, Julie Harrow, currently teaching physics in Milan, Italy.
- Comment on District's impressive financial savings due to Building Services Administrator, Gregory Miglino, as verified by the District's Internal Auditors and Business Officials.
- Including Executive Session on the meeting notice / agenda if known in advance.
- Status of Vocational Internship Program.
- District is doing remarkably well due to the BOE's conservative measures, as noted in the Budget Report.
- Request for a checklist of follow up items discussed at Board meetings.
- Request for CAD files relating to the Bond.

**Board/ Supt
Discussion Items**

A motion (Kirk/Durney) to convene to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters (9:40 pm).

**Convene
Executive
Session**

Reconvene Public Session 12:00 am.

**Reconvene
Public Session**

PERSONNEL

A motion (McKenna / Durney) to approve Personnel Agenda Item #1108:

**Personnel Item
1108**

VOTE: *Motion carries.* 6-Yes, 1-No, (Kirk), 2- Abstain (McKenna, Schatzman).

A motion (Powell / McKenna) to rescind previous vote for Personnel Agenda Item #1108:

VOTE: *Motion carries.* 5-Yes, 1-No, (Cavaleri), 3- Abstain (Correa, Durney, Kirk).

A motion (Schatzman / Cavaleri) to approve Personnel Agenda Item #1108:

**Approves
Personnel
Agenda Item
1108**

VOTE: *Motion carries.* 6-Yes, 1-No, (Powell), 2- Abstain (McKenna, Schatzman).

A motion (McKenna / Kirk) to approve Personnel Agenda Item #1113:

**Approves
Personnel
Agenda Item
1113**

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

A motion (Cavaleri / Durney) to approve Personnel Agenda Item #1151:

**Approves
Personnel
Agenda Item
1151**

VOTE: *Motion carries.* 8-Yes, 0-No, 1- Abstain (Powell).

7. WALK ON RESOLUTION

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

**Denies Appeal –
Affirms Supt
Decision**

RESOLVED, upon consideration of an appeal of the Parents/ Guardians of ---, the Board of Education hereby denies the appeal in its entirety and affirms the decision of the Superintendent of Schools, and further directs that the District Clerk notify the Parents/ Guardians of this determination.

VOTE: *Motion carries.* 7-Yes, 1No, (Powell), 1- Abstain (Morales).

A motion (Durney / Cavaleri) to adjourn (12:20 am).

**Meeting
Adjourned**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Poulos

District Clerk
Attachments