

Regular meeting of the Board of Education of Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen held in the Board Room of the James A. Dever School on Tuesday, May 27, 2008.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Trustee Chiachiere
Trustee DiSibio
Trustee Evans
Trustee Gorham
Trustee Greco Jacobs
Trustee Speranza
Trustee Stris

OTHERS PRESENT

Superintendent Lison
Asst. Supt. for Business Brosnan
Asst. Supt. for Curric. & Instr. Roth
Director of Special Services Sells-Asch
School District Attorney Frazer
District Clerk Michels
Building Principal Capozzoli
Building Principal Gruen
Building Principal Huplosky
Building Principal Zerillo
8 Visitors

Convening

The meeting was convened at 6:31 p.m. by President Stris.

CONVENING

Quorum

Seven members being present, a quorum was determined.

QUORUM

Executive Session

An Executive Session was held immediately to discuss personnel of a particular person on a motion made by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent for Business were invited to attend.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Audit Committee Report

Reconvening

The meeting was reconvened at 8:08 p.m. by President Stris.

RECONVENING

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

Quorum

Seven members being present, a quorum was determined.

QUORUM

Approval of the Minutes

Resolution: To approve the minutes of the April 29 and May 20, 2008 meetings.

MINUTES OF 4/29 & 5/20/08
MEETINGS APPROVED

Moved by Trustee, seconded by Trustee and carried unanimously.

Correspondence

1. Acknowledgement Card was received from Carla Croce for a sympathy card sent
2. Letters of Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement were received from Gail Strauss, Music Teacher at James A. Dever School and Paula Huber, Classroom Teacher at Wheeler Avenue School
3. A letter from Mr. & Mrs. Moreno commending Ms. Sarah Tauber, their daughter's 2nd Grade Teacher at Howell Road School
4. Two letters were received from the law firm:
 - Information for a Budget Re-Vote
 - Wicks Law Amendment and Related Changes

CORRESPONDENCE

President Stris welcomed new Board Member, Thomas Speranza, who took office effective May 20, 2008. He advised Trustee Speranza of the dates for meetings for new board members and advised him that he must participate in six hours of fiscal training in accordance with the Laws of 2005. Trustees Frank Chiachiere and Debra Evans were congratulated on their re-elections. Trustee Chiachiere completed 15 years and Trustee Evans completed 3 years. The Valley Stream #13 budget passed by 57.34%, and the Transportation Proposition failed. The Valley Stream Central HSD budget passed by 56.28%, and the Capital Reserve Proposition passed by 56.84%. President Stris thanked the Budget Ambassadors for their assistance in getting the budget information to the community.

Report of the Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Elizabeth Lison

Superintendent Lison thanked everyone for the community support in passing the budget. The Budget Ambassadors did an impressive job getting the word out to the community and helped to inform parents and the community members about the budget. The students voted for a “Rock – N – Roll” theme day and this will be held in October. She welcomed Thomas Speranza as the new board member. All fifth grade classes enjoyed a trip to Albany to participate in the Mentors & Leaders program sponsored by Assemblymen Alfano and Barra. This summer 400 students will participate in our new Summer Reading Club which will be held at all schools except Howell Road since they will be under construction. Howell Road students will go to Wheeler Avenue School.

Resignation of a Noon Hour Aide

M. ZAMMIT RESIGNED

To accept the resignation of Mary Zammit, Noon Hour Aide at James A. Dever School, effective April 15, 2008.

Moved by Trustee Gorham, seconded by Trustee Chiachiere and carried unanimously.

Resignation of a Noon Hour Aide

C. HOULIHAN RESIGNED

To accept the resignation of Christine Houlihan, Noon Hour Aide at James A. Dever School effective April 25, 2008.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

Resignation of a Noon Hour Aide/Safety Escort

J. BALESTRIERI RESIGNED

To accept the resignation of Joan Balestrieri, Noon Hour Aide and Safety Escort, at Wheeler Avenue School effective May 16, 2008.

Moved by Trustee Greco Jacobs, seconded by Trustee Chiachiere and carried unanimously.

Employment of a Safety Escort

C. MANTA EMPLOYED AS A SAFETY ESCORT

To employ Colleen Manta as a Safety Escort at Wheeler Avenue School effective May 20, 2008 on Step 1 (\$10.10 per hour).

Moved by Trustee Greco Jacobs, seconded by Trustee Gorham and carried unanimously.

Employment of Noon Hour Aide

D. MARTIN EMPLOYED AS A NOON HOUR AIDE

To employ Daisy Martin as a Noon Hour Aide assigned to James A. Dever School effective September 5, 2008 on Step 1 (\$10.10 per hour) and unless sooner terminated.

Moved by Trustee Gorham, seconded by Trustee DiSibio and carried unanimously.

Employment of Noon Hour Aide

C. WEINER EMPLOYED AS A NOON HOUR AIDE

To employ Christine Weiner as a Noon Hour Aide assigned to James A. Dever School effective September 5, 2008 on Step 1 (\$10.10 per hour) and unless sooner terminated.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Speranza and carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

EDUCATION [F. Chiachiere, D. Evans]

Education Report – Highlight on Wellness: Nutrition /Physical Education (L. Sells-Asch)

Director of Special Services, Lisa Sells-Asch, gave a presentation on Wellness and Nutrition. She advised that today, it is no longer just diet and exercise. She explained the different areas used to educate children about health, namely Physical, Intellectual, Civic, Social, Environmental, and Emotional.

Resignation of a Noon Hour Supervisor

H. BULSON RESIGNED

To accept the resignation of Heather Bulson, Noon Hour Supervisor at Willow Road School, effective April 28, 2008.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Gorham and carried unanimously.

Employment of a Noon Hour Supervisor

D. ROSSI EMPLOYED AS A NOON HOUR SUPERVISOR

To employ David Rossi as a Noon Hour Supervisor assigned to Willow Road School, effective April 29, 2008 at \$40 per hour, 2 ½ hours per day.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Gorham and carried unanimously.

Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement

G. STRAUSS RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT ACCEPTED

To accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement (Section 5.9 of the VSTA/Board Contract) for Gail Strauss, Vocal Music Teacher at James A. Dever School, effective July 1, 2008.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, with good wishes, seconded by Trustee Gorham and carried unanimously.

Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement

P. HUBER RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT ACCEPTED

To accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement (Section 5/10 of the

VSTA/Board Contract) for Paula Huber, Classroom Teacher at Wheeler Avenue School, effective July 1, 2008.

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, with good wishes, seconded by Trustee Speranza and carried unanimously.

Substitute Teacher List

To approve the updated Substitute Teacher List for the 2007-2008 school year.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST
UPDATED AND APPROVED

Moved by Trustee Chiachiere, seconded by Trustee Evans and carried unanimously.

BUSINESS [J. DiSibio, B. Gorham]

Treasurer's Report

To accept the Treasurer's Report for the month ending April 30, 2008.

TREASURER'S REPORT
ACCEPTED

Moved by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Gorham and carried unanimously.

Property Tax Report Card

To approve the 2008-2009 Property Tax Report Card.

PROPERTY TAX REPORT
CARD APPROVED

Moved by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

Bid Rejection-- James A. Dever Roof

Whereas the Board of Education of Valley Stream UFSD #13 has solicited bids for the James A. Dever School Roof Rebid:

BIDS REJECTED FOR ROOF
RE-BID AT JAD

Whereas it has been determined, after consultation with the Architect and the Assistant Superintendent for Business, that the bid prices received for these contracts are significantly in excess of the amount originally budgeted for that contract; therefore be it hereby resolved that, in the best interests of the District, the Board hereby rejects all bids received for the above contracts.

Moved by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

BOCES eSchool Student Data Management System Agreement

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen hereby approves the Agreement between the District and Nassau BOCES for the eSchool Data Student Management System, and authorizes the Board President to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Board; and

BOCES ESCHOOL STUDENT
DATA MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM AGREEMENT

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board has determined that the District's use of the equipment and services and its participation in Nassau BOCES' administrative support services, which are the subject of said Agreement, are essential to the District's proper, efficient and economic operation of the education program to be supported by the equipment and services, and is necessary to maintain its educational program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that based on the foregoing, the Board has determined that the costs and expenses incurred in connection with said Agreement are ordinary contingent expenses of the District and that such expenditures are in the best financial interest of the District.

Moved by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

POLICY COMMITTEE [B. Gorham, J. Greco Jacobs]

No report this month

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE [Vice President D. Evans]

Committee on Special Education Reviews

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Special Education Reviews dated 3/18, 3/19, 3/25H, 3/25D, 3/26, 4/1, 4/8, 4/8Wh, 4/8Wi, 4/10, 4/11, 4/14, 4/15, 4/15H, 4/17, 4/18, 4/30, 5/1, 5/1UCP, and 5/13/08.

CSE REVIEWS ADOPTED

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Chiachiere and carried unanimously.

Committee on Pre-School Special Education Reviews

To ratify and adopt the Committee on Pre-School Special Education Reviews dated 3/14D, 3/14, 4/15, 4/17 and 5/14/08.

CPSE REVIEWS ADOPTED

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

Memorandum of Agreement

To approve the Memorandum of Agreement dated May 27, 2008 between the Valley Stream District Thirteen Board of Education and the Council of Elementary Associations (Principals) effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011.

ADMINISTRATOR'S
AGREEMENT APPROVED
7/1/08 – 6/30/11

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

Home Tutoring

HOME TUTORING APPROVED

To approve home tutoring for a student attending Holy Name of Mary School, effective April 1, 2008 for approximately eight (8) weeks, and further approve Tara Lynch as the tutor at \$36.75 per hour, five (5) hours per week.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee DiSibio and carried unanimously.

Impartial Hearing Officer

C. SINGER, IHO, REMOVED

To remove Conrad Singer as an Impartial Hearing Officer effective April 28, 2008.

Moved by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously.

Report of the Attorney
Florence Frazer

Attorney Frazer reported on two separate cases, the first summarized a case whereby the *Appellate Division recently upheld the implementation of a ban on the possession of cell phones by students in New York City schools. The parents challenged the ban arguing it exceeded the district's authority and violated parents' constitutional rights to direct the care, custody and control of their children. According to the court, the ban was within the district's authority to create regulations governing discipline and was not subject to judicial intervention.* The second case summarized the dual home ownership and the right to vote in the school district election. *In Appeal of Klein, an individual who owned two homes, one in the Fire Island School District and another in Westchester County, requested an absentee ballot that would have allowed him to vote on Fire Island's proposed school budget while vacationing out of state. The Commissioner explained that for purposes of voting on a school district election, a person may have only one legal residence or domicile. Evidence showed that Klein claimed a "STAR" exemption on his Westchester County Home, and to be eligible for that exemption, he had to declare that the Westchester home was his primary residence.*

New Business

Trustee Chiachiere participated in the interactive presentation workshop with Laura Robb, Differentiated Reading Instruction, and found it very engaging. He thanked Dr. Lison and Mrs. Roth.

President Stris appointed Trustee DiSibio to chair the Business Committee with newly elected Trustee Speranza as a member until the reorganization meeting in July.

Visitors

Mrs. Pandit asked the Board if they would consider putting the transportation eligibility proposition up for a re-vote for the 2008-2009 school year. President Stris explained that the community spoke by ballot on May 20, 2008 by rejecting the transportation referendum. The school attorney was asked to research the options that the Board of Education has in putting a transportation proposition on the ballot for next year if it is presented to the Board in due form. The entire matter will be discussed at a future board committee meeting.

Executive Session

EXECUTIVE SESSION

After a short recess, a motion for an Executive Session for personnel of a particular person was made at 9:02 p.m. by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Greco Jacobs and carried unanimously. The Superintendent and Attorney were invited to attend.

Reconvening

RECONVENING

The meeting was reconvened at 10:32 p.m. by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Gorham and carried unanimously.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Trustee DiSibio, seconded by Trustee Gorham and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 p.m.

Denise Michels
Denise Michels
District Clerk