

Date: **Tuesday, October 6, 2009**
 Place: Hilltop Board Room
 Kind of Meeting: **Regular Meeting**

Members Present: Amy Applebaum, President
 Thomas LaColla, Vice President
 Claudette Clarke, Secretary
 Michael Lagana, Trustee
 Michael Mark, Trustee
 Chloe Soukas, Student Representative
 (left the meeting at 8:55 PM)

Members Absent: Claudette Jimerson, Trustee

Others Present: Dr. Valencia Douglas, Superintendent
 Walter Woodhouse, Ass't Supt. For Instruction
 Gail Fleur, District Clerk
 Community Members
 Staff Members

President Applebaum called the public meeting to order at 6:09 PM.

Trustee Mark moved and Trustee LaColla seconded to go into Executive Session for discussion of personnel matters.

Motion Approved (6-0)

Trustee Mark moved and Trustee LaColla seconded to adjourn from Executive Session at 7:36 PM and reconvene to Public Session. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion Approved (6-0)

President's Report

President Applebaum thanked the Liberty Elementary School principal Ellen Rechenberger and the school's staff for the excellent handling of the recent emergency lockdown at the school. Also thanked was Director of Curriculum Gina Cappiello, who spent the day assisting at the school. She reported that the Chamber Orchestra performed beautifully at the recent NYS School Boards Conference in NYC. She had also attended the Valley Cottage PTA meeting, which had a standing room only attendance.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Douglas reported:

- The Middle School Earth Science students had participated in the Lamont Doherty Hudson River sampling day for the first time. Their participation was an outgrowth of the curriculum enrichment sub committee composed of community members and staff and it had gone very well.
- Nyack High School students artwork based on the Hudson River Quadricentennial was on exhibit at the Nyack Center this week. It is a collaboration with the Friends of the Nyacks and the Center.
- The Hilltop Art Gallery Exhibit for the next couple of months is a display of staff artwork. She thanked Joe Fusaro and all the staff members that participated for the excellent exhibit.
- Essays by five Nyack High School students on their feelings about living in a river town are in this month's issue of the Nyack Historical Society.
- This Thursday at Nyack Center there will be a Meet the Principal's night for the community. Translators will be present for the Spanish and Creole speaking families.
- At the NYSSBA conference last week Gail Fleur, Communications Director, was honored with an award for the District's Public Relations Marketing Campaign for the Parents That Host Lose the Most program. Dr. Douglas was a panel member for a workshop on Saturday afternoon.

Student Representative Report

Chloe Soukas said during Homecoming Week there will be a different theme for each day. At the Homecoming Dance students will wear bracelets that say I will stay sober.

Board of Education Reports

Trustee Mark said he enjoyed the Nyack Historical Society's Fish and Ships exhibit in which our students took part. He had also attended the Valley Cottage PTA meeting.

Trustee Clarke congratulated Liberty School for its handling of their crisis.

Trustee LaColla said that as a Liberty parent he was grateful for the calm, professional handling of the situation there as well.

Trustee Burrell said he was told by the local police how well the Liberty matter was handled. He said if anyone had interest in the resolutions that were to be brought forth at the NYSSBA Conference to see him, since he was the voting delegate. He mentioned a couple.

Citizens Proposals, Questions and Concerns: There were none.

Recognition:

Benjamin Grange and Adam Straus: National Merit Scholarship 2010 Semi Finalists.

Audit Committee Meeting

At 8 PM Ray Preusser, CPA, the District's Independent Auditor, gave his Report ending for June, 2009 to the Board, which is the Audit Committee. He acknowledged Carleen Millsaps, Assistant Superintendent for Business and her staff for their hard work and cooperation in assisting in preparation of the report and for the resulting clean report that had no material weaknesses just some procedural areas to be tightened. It was an excellent report and it had been a mutual learning year for both the District and himself. He suggested that with Teacher Retirement Rates increasing and the stimulus money ending simultaneously in two years the District should create a three year budget plan.

Trustee Lagana said he would have liked more time to review the report, which is due in Albany on October 15. He was assured that next year it would be available sooner. Mr. Preusser was thanked and the Audit Committee discussion ended at 8:35 PM

WORKSHOP

Tenure Procedures Review: Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, Dr. Winsome Gregory presented an overview of the tenure process: The observation and review process timeline for staff, the Board and the Superintendent were presented. It was decided to have an extra meeting for the Board to review the first and second year staff. Questions on the process would be taken again at a later meeting.

First Read Policies:

Policy#1510: Public Sales on School Property

President Applebaum requested that the line "Fund Drives are never permitted" be removed from the policy.

Trustee Mark moved and Trustee Burrell seconded to remove that line from the policy and dispense with the second reading.

Motion Approved (6-0)

The Board would discuss the policies and then vote at the next meeting.

Policy #1230: Public Participation at Board Meetings: President Applebaum suggested having the public sign in at each meeting to have an idea of how much time citizens' comments might take. Trustee Burrell reminded Board members that a motion can always be made to extend time for any portion of an agenda item. He also said the Board might want to be more explicit about citizens' comments, giving a preference to community residents to speak first. Also, it should be decided how to get an item put on the agenda.

Policy #2350: Board Meeting Procedures: The aim is to revise the Policy to align to what the practice has been. The suggestion was also made to have a separate Business and Workshop meeting. During a Business meeting the business items would be voted on first and vice versus at a Workshop meeting. There might be times when there is a need to have more business on a Workshop evening or vice versus. Trustee Burrell mentioned that the Board of Education Reports should be together with New Business.

ACTION

GENERAL

Appointment of Delegate and Alternate to the NYSSBA Convention

Trustee Lagana moved and Trustee Clarke seconded to appoint Bryan Burrell as the delegate to the NYSSBA Convention.

Motion Approved (6-0)

Trustee Lagana moved and Trustee Mark seconded to approve the following resolutions:

Minutes 8/06/09 and 8/25/09

BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes form August 6 and August 25, 2009 be approved.

Instruction

Textbook Adoption

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Nyack Union Free School District designate the following textbook: Environmental Science, AMSCO Publishing Co, authored by Martin Schacter.

Committees on Special Education

BE IT RESOLVED, that the recommendations of the Committees on Special Education be approved.

BUSINESS

Independent Auditor's Report 2008-09

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby acknowledges receipt of the Response to the Independent Auditor's Comments and Recommendations for the fiscal year end audit report dated June 30, 2009.

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education accepts the independent audit report as submitted, as required by Commissioner's Regulations, Section 170.2r.

E-Rate Compliance

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nyack Board of Education approves Carleen Millsaps, Assistant Superintendent for Business as Purchasing Agent for the Nyack Union Free School District, Authorized Representative for all Federal programs including: E-Rate, and Child Nutrition, for the general fund, building fund, child nutrition fund and all state programs and school programs and activities not listed for the 2009-10 school year.

Motions Approved (6-0)

PERSONNEL

Trustee Mark moved and Trustee Clarke seconded to approve the following:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the Superintendent Schools that **YESENIA POLANCO** be appointed to the Civil Service position of School Community Liaison Assistant (Spanish Speaking), on a probationary basis, effective October 07, 2009 at \$35,000.

Ms. Polanco was present and welcomed into the District.

Motion Approved (5-0)
Trustee Burrell left the room

Trustee LaColla moved and Trustee Mark seconded to table item #28 (Helen Davies Robotic Consultant).

Motion Approved (6-0)

Trustee LaColla moved and Trustee Mark seconded to table item #36 (Laurie Marshall Lauria additional section).

Motion Approved (6-0)

Trustee Mark moved and Trustee LaColla seconded to approve the following personnel items 23, 24, 26, 27 and 29-33.

Rescind Increase of Assignment

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of School, rescind the increase in assignment for **ROXANNA JUAREZ**, Spanish Teacher, Nyack H.S. for an additional section (.2) effective September 22, 2009.

Staff Appointments

BE IT RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools that **DAVID HOCHHEISER** be appointed to the position of English Department Chairperson, Nyack High/Middle School, at a stipend of \$4,418.00*, effective September 9, 2009.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, appoints **VALERIE CLEGG** to the position of Activity Treasurer in the amount of \$1,125 plus \$75 per playoff game for the 2009-2010 school year.

BE IT RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Board of Education and the Superintendent Schools that **BRETT SLOANE** be appointed to the position of Social Worker on a probationary basis, effective October 7, 2009, Scale 6, Step 12, \$81,560.* pro-rated \$71,772.80. Appointee subject to being cleared by the NYS Education Department.

BE IT RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools, that **PATRICIA JACOBSON** be appointed to the position of Lead Teacher at Upper Nyack Elementary School, effective September 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 at a stipend of \$3,839*

BE IT RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools, that **ANNE OAKLEY** be appointed to the position of Lead Teacher at Valley Cottage Elementary School, effective September 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 at a stipend of \$3,839*

BE IT RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools, that **BRIDGET FORKIN** be appointed to the position of Lead Teacher at Liberty Elementary School, effective September 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 at a stipend of \$3,839*

BE IT RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Superintendent Schools that the staff members below be appointed as co-curricular advisors as listed above, effective September 9, 2009

CLUB	ADVISORS	STIPEND
Academic League	Erika Tatti	\$1,193.00
Advanced Placement Coordinator	Mimi Madan	2,094.00
African American Club	Lynn Giles-Harris	647.00
	Deirdre O'Hagan	647.00
Asian Club	Sivitri Singh	1,294.00
ASPIRA	Roxanna Juarez	647.00

	Ariana Lopez	647.00
Drama Coordinator	Kathy Tappenden	2,848.00
Drama Coordinator	Simona Moldovan	2,848.00
Drama Workshop	Joe Egan	3,193.00
English Honor Society*	Simona Moldovan	
	Robin Maslanek	
Family, Career & Community Leaders of America	Wendy Cummings	946.00
Freshmen	Michael Burruano	946.00
Future Business Leaders of America(F.B.L.A)	Kirk Allen	946.00
Gay-Straight Alliance	Christine Gero	473.00
	Robin Maslanek	473.00
Haitian Culture Club of Nyack	Lucia Pichardo	1,294.00
Indianettes	Charlene Weaver	1,655.00
Interact	Shelley Group	1,197.00
Italian Club	Simona Moldovan	946.00
Juniors	Pattiann Orazio	1,062.00
Math League/NY	Deborah Henry	1,193.00
Math League/Rockland	Erika Tatti	1,062.00
Men's Acappella Group	Dru Pluhowski	946.00
Mock Trial Team	Kevin Sullivan	1,193.00
Music Director (Musical)	Kurt Kelley	2,600.00
National Art Honor Society(NAHS)	Kathleen Buckley	1,193.00
National Honor Society	Pattiann Orazio	2,314.00
Nyack Spectrum	Adele Metrakos	7,887.00
S.A.D.D.	Steve D'Auria	1,259.00
SAT/ACT Coordinator	Erika Tatti	1,411.00
	Pat Gavigan	1,411.00
School Store	Beth Sheehan	2,848.00
Science Honor Society	Charlene Weaver	1,193.00
Science Olympiad High School	Tracy Potter	1,246.00
	Marybeth Foisy	1,246.00
Senior Class/G.O. Treasurer	Lydia Holmes	2,094.00
Seniors	Maggie Gershonovitz	3,387.00
Sophomores	James Seifert	946.00
Student Council (G.O.)	Kevin Sullivan	1,540.00
	Marie Hussey	1,539.00
Students Opposing Starvation (SOS)*	Tom Burns	
	Debra Alter	
Tower (business manager)	Lydia Holmes	649.00
Tower (Yearbook)	Debra Alter	7,887.00
Video Club	Kathleen Buckley	1,197.00
WISE Coordinator	Kevin Sullivan	3,386.00
Young Ambassadors	Laurie Lauria	475.00
	Debra Alter	475.00
Youth Against Cancer	Margaret D'Auria	946.00

BE IT RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the individuals named below be appointed to the terms set forth.

ACTIVITY	ADVISOR	STIPEND
Asian Club	Jason Frechette	935
Boys Club	Joseph DePalma	827
	Ethan Smith	828
Chess Club	Mitch Crowne	710
Girls Club	Suzanne Panero	827
	Jeanine Rufo	828
G.O. Advisor	Stephanie Luciani	948
	Lisa Ryder	949
History Club	Jennifer Lorenzo	935
Lab Rats	Lucrisha Addison-Harris	478
	Cathy Van Saun	477
National Junior Honor Society	Jennifer Lorenzo	1,193
Raise Your Sights	Stephen Teshar	935
Robotics Club – 6 th Grade	Ben Turner	935
Robotics Club – 8 th Grade	Art Browne	935
Science Olympiad	Lucrisha Addison-Harris	831
	Art Browne	830
	Cathy Van Saun	831

Ski Club	Mitchell Crowne	1,192
Yearbook	Francesca Garbellano	1,402

Motions Approved (6-0)

Staff Tenure

Trustee Mark moved and Trustee Clarke seconded to approve the following:

Be it Resolved on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that **LARAYNE PETERSON** be awarded tenure in the area of Teaching Assistant effective 09/19/2009. This grant of tenure is conditional and subject to satisfactory completion of the probationary period.

Motion Approved (4-0-2)
Trustees Burrell and Lagana abstained

Trustee Mark moved and Trustee Clarke seconded to approve the following:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the Superintendent Schools that **SEAN CAVANAGH** be appointed to the position of Guidance Counselor, Nyack Middle School, on a probationary basis, effective September 9, 2009 at Scale 8 Step 1, \$57,544*. Appointee subject to being cleared by the NYS Education Department.

Trustee Lagana moved and Trustee Mark seconded to adjourn at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fleur
District Clerk