

Date: **Tuesday, December 15, 2009**
 Place: Hilltop Board Room
 Kind of Meeting: **Regular Meeting**

Members Present: Amy Applebaum, President
 Thomas LaColla, Vice President
 Bryan Burrell, Trustee
 Claudette Clarke, Secretary
 Michael Lagana, Trustee
 Claudette Jimerson, Trustee
 Michael Mark, Trustee
 Chloe Soukas, Student Representative
 (left at 9:45 PM)

Members Absent: None

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 6:11 PM.

Trustee Burrell moved and Trustee Mark seconded to go into Executive Session for discussion of particular personnel.

Motion Approved (7-0)

Trustee Lagana moved and Trustee Clarke seconded to adjourn from Executive Session at 7 34PM and reconvene to Public Session. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion Approved (7-0)

Accept Agenda

Trustee Clarke moved and Trustee Mark seconded to accept the agenda.

Motion Approved (7-0)

President's Report

President Applebaum stated the new Board rules for Public Participation at meetings. Those wishing to speak during Citizens Comments portion are now asked to sign in so the Board can have an idea of time allotment.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent made announcements. She addressed the issue about some Valley Cottage parents' concerns about how the District dealt with the recent tragic murder in the housing complex near the school.

Student Representative Report

Chloe Soukas reported on school events.

Board of Education Reports/New Business

Trustee Clarke read a statement responding to an accusation made at the last Board meeting about her using an employee's services (see attached).

Response to Prior Issues

Assistant Superintendent for Business, Carleen Millsaps, responded to the concern about the disrepair of the closed tennis courts and what is being done about it.

Citizens Proposals, Questions and Concerns:

Issues Raised:

- Concern about the achievement gap between White and Black students
- Statement read from a group of Valley Cottage parents about the homicide of woman in the housing complex next to Valley Cottage School and dissatisfaction about how it was handled by the District.
- The Nyack Middle School PTA is sponsoring the Hudson Valley Childrens' Chorus as a fundraiser to collect gifts for hospitalized children.

- Concern regarding communication about a long term substitute teacher for an Upper Nyack Spanish teacher.
- Need to use the website to give parents updates on situations.
- Statement in response to Trustee Clarke’s statement read that evening.

ACTION

GENERAL

Second Reading Policy #2360 (Board Minutes)

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nyack Board of Education approve the revisions to the Board minutes policy #2360. (see attached).

Minutes November 10 and 17, 2009

Trustee Clarke moved and Trustee Mark seconded to approve the minutes from November 10 and 17, 2009.

Motions Approved (7-0)

INSTRUCTION

Committees on Special Education

Trustee Burrell moved and Trustee Mark seconded to take off the table student file #157070 from the Committee recommendations.

Motion Approved (7-0)

Trustee Burrell moved and Trustee Mark seconded to approve student file #157070

Motion Approved (7-0)

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

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

Motion Approved (7-0)

BUSINESS

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

Business Functions

BE IT RESOLVED That the Nyack Board of Education approve the Treasurer’s, Budget Status, Revenue Status, Co-Curricular, Budget Transfers and Claims Auditor’s Reports from October 2009.

Disposal of Equipment

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education hereby declares the IBM Selectric III typewriter (inventory #001274) in the Facilities Office obsolete and authorize its disposal as described on the attached Request to Dispose of Equipment/Textbook form.

Refund and Credit of Real Property Taxes

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education approves Applications for Refund and Credit of Real Property Taxes for three properties in the Town of Clarkstown (2009 tax year), and refunds be issued as follows:

<u>Tax Map #</u>	<u>Taxes Paid</u>	<u>Amount of Refund</u>
59.16-1-5./5940	\$ 4,437.89	\$1,166.96
59.16-1-5./9960	\$ 4,957.42	\$1,166.96
59.6-2-18	\$ 7,886.81	\$1,166.96

RFP for Transportation Feasibility Study

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Nyack Union Free School District hereby awards the RFP for the Transportation Feasibility Study to TAS in the amount of \$17,500.00. The Nyack, South Orangetown, Pearl River, and Nanuet School Districts have been awarded a joint Local Government Efficiency Grant to undertake a study to determine the feasibility of consolidating student transportation.

Small Claims Assessment Review Reductions

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education hereby approves the following Small Claims Assessment Review (SCAR) Decision of Hearing Officer and payment of the refund:

Town of Orangetown

Original Assessment:	\$ 210,400
Reduced Assessment:	195,000
Assessment Reductions:	15,400
2009 Orangetown Homestead Tax Rate:	\$40.25259
Total Refund:	\$ 619.89

Clarkstown Landfill Settlement

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education hereby approves the **attached** Settlement Agreement Between Clarkstown Landfill Joint Defense Group and the Nyack Union Free School District for the Clarkstown Town Landfill Site.

**Professional Services for Window Replacement at Valley Cottage School
SED Project**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Nyack Union Free School District hereby appoints Michael Shilale Architects, LLP at a fee of \$42,426 to prepare plans and specifications for submittal to the State Education Department for the window replacement project at Valley Cottage Elementary (SED Project #50-03-04-03-0-001-009 as per voter authorization on May 19, 2009. The fee of \$42,426 covers the design of the project, submittal of plans to the State Education Department and services during the construction period. Further, be it resolved, that the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute a contract, as prepared by District's legal counsel, with Michael Shilale Architects, LLP.

Motions Approved (7-0)

PERSONNEL

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

Staff Appointments

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby appoints **HAL STONE** to the position of Athletic Trainer, districtwide, effective December 16, 2009 through March 1, 2010 at a stipend of \$15,000.*

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, appoints the individuals named herein to the position of Homework Club Advisor, Nyack Middle School, effective December 16, 2009 through June 30, 2010, at the rate of \$34.87 per hour *. Martina Carravetta, Jeanie Pintaudi

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, appoints **JOHN GIARDINO** to the position of Family & Consumer Science Teacher, Nyack Middle School, effective December 16, 2009, at Scale 2, Step 1, base salary of \$47,244.00, pro-rated: \$29,763.72

Change in Staff Assignment

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, accepts the change of assignment for **BEVERLY WOOD**, from Temporary Security Aide to full time Security Aide at Valley Cottage Elementary School, effective December 16, 2009.,

Staff Termination

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, accepts the termination of **JOSEPH FAJAR**, Security Aide at Valley Cottage Elementary School, effective December 16, 2009.

Unpaid Childcare Leave of Absence

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, grants **ANA VAZQUEZ**, Bi-lingual Elementary Teacher, District-Wide, an Unpaid Childcare Leave of Absence effective March 15, 2009 through April 30, 2010.

Motions Approved (7-0)

WORKSHOP

Discussion of Feasibility of Capital Improvement Bond:

Board members discussed all aspects of placing a capital improvement bond up for a public referendum. It was decided that more information was needed, especially about the Tennis Courts, before any further discussion could happen.

Citizen Comment: The idea of putting up a bond in this economic climate was not fair to the community.

Website Discussion of the Parent Portal and the Flu Update: Technology Department members MaryEllen Lydecker and Joanne Ciuccio presented on the above. The Parent Portal is part of the Power School software and allows parents to see all attendance, grading and other aspects of their student's records. The Flu Update on the Homepage of the websites gives all current information about the H1N1 flu and all teacher homework and supplemental materials in case a student is absent. Jay Wulff discussed how the podcasts look on the web and improvements made to navigating them. The team was thanked.

Citizens' Comments:

- There is variation in how much is on different teachers' pages.
- What will we do for people who are not internet connected or don't go on the website. (There will be packets available as well.)

First Reading-Family Medical Leave Act Policy #9520: There were no questions.

First Reading – Medicaid Compliance Policy #6685: There were no questions.

Follow up Questions to the Math & Science Update Discussion: There were no questions.

Follow up Questions to the Earth Science Update Discussion: There were no questions.

Trustee Mark moved and Trustee Lagana seconded to adjourn at 10:27 PM and adjourn.

Motion Approved (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fleur
District Clerk