

BOARD OF EDUCATION - EXECUTIVE SESSION, BUSINESS MEETING, AND ESBOCES VOTE & ELECTION (Tuesday, April 21, 2020)

Generated by Victoria Handy on Thursday, April 23, 2020

Members present

Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Brian DeSesa, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer(6:40 PM), Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

*This meeting was held remotely due to the Covid-19 Virus.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM**1. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Action: 1.1 Convene into Proposed Executive Session

Motion to convene into proposed executive session at 6:00 PM to meet with legal counsel regarding potential litigation and contract negotiation. School Attorney Thomas Volz and Interim Superintendent Jeff Nichols were present during Executive Session.

Susan Schaefer joined the meeting at 6:40 PM.

Brian DeSesa left the Executive Session meeting from 6:15 PM and reentered at 6:25 PM. Mr. DeSesa left the Board of Education meeting at 6:55 PM.

Action: 1.2 Adjourn from Executive Session

Alex Kriegsman motioned, seconded by Susan Schaefer to adjourn from Executive Session at 7:54 PM.

2. MEETING OPENING

Action: 2.1 Call the Meeting to order and Roll Call

Motion to call the Business Meeting to order at 7:59 PM

Motion by Chris Tice, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Presentation: 3.1 Pledge of Allegiance

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Information: 4.1 Guidelines for Public Input

Emails were submitted to the Board of Education prior to the start of this meeting:

Elena Loreto, President of the Noyac Civic Council:

What are the projected enrollment numbers for 2020-2021?

In light of the fact that state aid will decrease for the 2020-2021 Budget, what new spending proposals have been removed from the early drafts?

Answer from Jordana Sobey via email:

Interim Superintendent Jeff Nichols stated that there was an increase in enrollment after 9/11 and so it is possible that we might see the same thing this September; however it is really hard to have any projections at this time.

Regarding the budget, there are many things now in flux, hence the budget workshop portion of last night's meeting being canceled. As you may know, New York State postponed the budget vote (and school board vote) until "at least June 1." I would hope that before the budget vote takes place, all NYS school districts will have more clarity both in relation to reductions in state aid but more importantly, what social distancing rules and regulations will be promulgated for next year's school year.

Another budget workshop will be scheduled for a later date, and at that time, an updated budget draft would be proposed that would take into consideration any new/additional factors that the district anticipates playing a role.

Diane Hewett:

1. Has the Board formed any groups or committees to brainstorm ideas for the future in a prolonged pandemic? Is the Board considering alternative plans to reopen schools in the fall?

2. Can the BOE share a succinct plan regarding the remote learning plan and what is required of staff at this time? How many days/week hold class, office hours, etc. How is the technology of it all working and being worked out? I realize this is difficult and there will be exceptions, but it would be nice to hear what guidelines the district is setting.

3. I am curious how the district handled spring sports and clubs. Were the coaches and club advisors and the like paid full spring stipends?

Answer from Jordana Sobey via email:

Thanks for your email — I just wanted to confirm that I read it during public input last night. To answer your first question, we have not formed any committees. Although at the beginning of the pandemic, schools were making decisions on a district-by-district basis, at this point many of the requirements are coming down from New York State. If at some point it makes sense to have a board committee regarding the pandemic, we will take that into consideration.

Regarding your questions #2 and #3, Jeff answered them live during last night's meeting. The video of the meeting should be uploaded soon if it isn't already, and you can access it in board docs

Elfie Winkle:

Will the District expect full revenue from the sending districts and tuition paying individual students?

Are these amounts likely collectible and when?

I would like an answer to my questions in a timely manner. I am a senior on a fixed income so naturally I need to know what is going on. I am unable to attend regular meetings as I do not drive anymore due to partial blindness in one eye.

Answer from Jordana Sobey via email:

At this time Sag Harbor school district is offering remote learning in compliance with New York State's requirements, and so no changes to tuition are applicable.

Chuck Neuman:

I would still like to have an answer/comment to my last week's question about the potential Superintendent's reaction to the Stella Maris matter; and its effect on all other District issues.

Answer:

I read your below email as well as your email from last week during last night's public input portion of the board meeting. I did not see a question posed in your email from last week, but please rest assured that all superintendent candidates are aware of the Sag Harbor Learning Center bond project.

Jordana Sobey, Board President, read Mr. Neuman's question from last week that he referred to:

As I understand, you are holding an Executive Session tonight, where amount other, you will probably do some planning as to the hiring of a new Superintendent. Please, do not forget to shine a light on the Stella Maris affair; maybe specifically explain to a worthy candidate how you will hang that Stella Maris anchor around his or her neck. Be as descriptive in your presentation as so many of the parents and tax payers would be when they refer to l'affair Stella Maris. Please for the sake of fairness.

Jordana Sobey stated that the Board will do what they can to get back to many of them. Ms. Sobey asked Mr. Neuman to restate his question as she does not see a question in his statement.

Mr. Nichols, Interim Superintendent and Principal of Pierson High School, stated that the enrollment in the District right now is 939 students: 525 students in grades 6-12 and 414 students in Pre-K through 5th grade. The preliminary projections are that enrollment will stay the same but obviously there are a lot of variables as additional students may move out from the city as we saw post 9/11. With regard to remote learning and minimum requirements set forth for faculty and staff, Mr. Nichols discussed the requirement for Pierson Middle/High School and Matt Malone, Principal of the Sag Harbor Elementary School, reviewed the requirements for their faculty. Mr. Nichols addressed what remote learning and school will look like going forward and stated there are unknowns but it will be approached with thoughtful manner and there will be some social distance required but do not know what that will mean at this time and gave possible scenarios. The school is awaiting guidance from state and federal government as to what those guidelines will be. With regard to tuition from sending districts; at this point there is no reason to believe that those schools that we have contracts with are not going to render payments for students that are attending our district. Mr. Nichols also explained that with regard to Spring Sports and clubs coaches, advisors, and employees involved with co-curricular activities that they are only being compensated for services rendered.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Action (Consent), Minutes: 5.1 Approve Minutes - March 18, 2020

Resolution: Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March, 18, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March, 18, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Action (Consent), Minutes: 5.2 Approve Minutes - March 20, 2020

Resolution: Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March 20, 2020 Special Meeting.

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March, 18, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Action (Consent), Minutes: 5.3 Approve Minutes - March 23, 2020

Resolution: Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March 23, 2020 Special Meeting.

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March, 18, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Action (Consent), Minutes: 5.4 Approve Minutes - March 25, 2020

Resolution: Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March 25, 2020 Special Meeting.

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March, 18, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Action (Consent), Minutes: 5.5 Approve Minutes - March 30, 2020

Resolution: Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March 30, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March, 18, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Action (Consent), Minutes: 5.6 Approve Minutes - April 1, 2020

Resolution: Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the April 1, 2020 Special Meeting.

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March, 18, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Action (Consent), Minutes: 5.7 Approve Minutes - April 2, 2020

Resolution: Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the April 2, 2020 Special Meeting.

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March, 18, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Action (Consent), Minutes: 5.8 Approve Minutes - April 6, 2020

Resolution: Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the April 6, 2020 Special Meeting.

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March, 18, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Action (Consent): 5.9 Accept District Treasurer's Report for January 2020.

Resolution: Be it Resolved that the Board of Education accepts the District Treasurer's Report for January 2020.

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March, 18, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Action (Consent): 5.10 Approve Memorandum of Agreement with Teachers Association of Sag Harbor

Resolution: Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the Agreement between the Board of Education of the Sag Harbor Union Free School District and the Teachers Association of Sag Harbor effective April 22, 2020.

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approves the minutes from the March, 18, 2020 Budget Workshop and Business Meeting.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

6. ACTION ITEMS

Action: 6.1 Approve the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Administrative Budget for 2020-2021 school year

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the Sag Harbor Union Free School District approves the Eastern Suffolk Board of Cooperative Educational Services Administrative Budget for the 2020-2021 school year.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Chris Tice.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Action: 6.2 Elect five (5) members for Eastern Suffolk BOCES positions

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education of Sag Harbor Union Free School District elects the five (5) following candidates for the Eastern Suffolk Board of Cooperative Educational Services Board:

Walter Denzler

Susan Lipman

Anne Mackesey

William Miller

Catherine Romano

Motion by Susan Schaefer, second by Diana Kolhoff.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Board Member Chris Tice thanked all the candidates and stated that Anne Mackesey, from Sag Harbor, who has been on the BOCES Board for quite a while and before that had served on the Sag Harbor UFSD School Board for either 16 or 18 years and Sag Harbor is very well represented as a school and community on the BOCES Board.

Jordana Sobey stated that there will be another Budget Workshop in the future before the Budget Vote.

Diana Kolhoff also mentioned that she will not be running again when her term ends at the end of this school year. There will be three seats up for re-election.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION - None

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

9. POTENTIAL ITEMS NOT SCHEDULED - None

10. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action: 10.1 Convene into Proposed Executive Session

Motion to convene into proposed executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment of a particular person at 8:16 PM.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Susan Schaefer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

Action: 10.2 Adjourn from Executive Session

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:23 PM.

Motion by Alex Kriegsman, second by Diana Kolhoff.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

11. ADJOURNMENT

Action: 11.1 Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:24 PM.

Motion by Diana Kolhoff, second by Chris Tice.

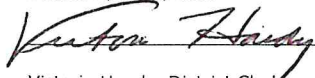
Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Aye: Diana Kolhoff, Jordana Sobey, Alex Kriegsman, Susan Schaefer, Chris Tice, Yorgos Tsibiridis

Not Present at Vote: Brian DeSesa

AFFIRMATION: I, Victoria Handy, District Clerk of the Sag Harbor Union Free School District, do hereby affirm that the minutes of this meeting are true and accurate statements of the proceedings.

Dated: April 23, 2020


Victoria Handy, District Clerk