

**HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, August 21, 2006**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Hastings-on-Hudson Union Free School District, Town of Greenburgh, County of Westchester, N.Y., held in the John J. Russell Lecture Room at the Farragut Complex on Monday evening, August 21, 2006. Present were Trustees Mary Wirth, Eric Sweeting, Eileen Baecher, Caryn Campbell, Lindsey Hicks, Gabrielle Lesser, and Patricia Anne Woods. Also present were Dr. Thomas J. Fazio, Interim Superintendent of Schools; Robert I. Shaps; John L. Chow, Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations & Finance; David Hayes, Assistant District Clerk; and guests.

CALL TO ORDER:

Board of Education President Mary Wirth called the meeting to order at 7:18 PM. Gabrielle Lesser moved to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session to discuss a specific personnel issue. Lindsey Hicks seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote. Following discussion, Patricia Anne Woods moved to reconvene the Regular Meeting. Gabrielle Lesser seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

At 8:16 PM Board President Mary Wirth welcomed all to the Regular Meeting of August 21, 2006.

REPORT FROM THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT:

Dr. Fazio asked for a moment of silence in honor of Skylar Tancredi, a student who would have entered HHS as a freshman on September 7, 2006. Dr. Fazio went on to mention that Skylar passed away on August 12, 2006 and that those who knew Skylar, knew him to be kind, caring and generous of spirit. He was well liked and respected among students, staff and faculty. He was a three-sport athlete as an eighth grader, playing football, basketball and lacrosse. It was also announced that this year's varsity football season, in which skylar would have played as a freshman, will be dedicated in his memory. Dr. Fazio also reported that a memorial service for the community will be held Tuesday, August 29th at 2:00 p.m. at MacEachron Park and that the family has requested, that in honor of Skylar, donations be made to the Hastings Athletic Organization or the Beckett YMCA Camp. Checks may be made payable to Sonn Associates, PC, escrowee, and mailed to 385 Farragut Ave., Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706.

To conclude his report, Dr. Fazio stated that the school district is working closely with the Bereavement Center of Westchester County. Their counselors may be reached at 961-2818. Concerned parents and students may also contact Hastings High School and Farragut Middle School at 478-6250 and 478-6230 respectively.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

August	29	New Teachers/Staff Orientation	8:00 A.M.
August	30	Kindergarten Bus Runs at Hillside	
September	4	Labor Day – Schools and Offices Closed	
September	5	Freshmen Orientation – High School Auditorium	12:00 P.M.
September	5-6	Superintendent's Conference Day	8:00 A.M.
September	7-8	SCHOOLS OPEN – ½ Day for All Students; PM: Staff Development	
September	11	First Full Day of Classes – Grades 1 – 12	
September	11	Board of Education Meeting – John J. Russell Lecture Room	8:00 P.M.
September	13	Grade 9 Breakfast Meeting – Farragut Complex Cafeteria	7:30 A.M.
September	14-15	Peer Leadership Senior Training Retreat – Blue Mountain Reservation	

PERSONNEL:

P.1 Anne Woods moved to approve the following recommendation:

To conditionally appoint Mr. Shaps to the position of Superintendent of Schools for a term commencing August 21, 2006 and ending September 30, 2009; and

WHEREAS the Board of Education of the Hastings-on-Hudson Union Free School District has previously conditionally appointed **Robert I. Shaps** to the position of Superintendent of Schools for a three (3) year term, effective October 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS the parties wish to have Mr. Shaps commence his service to the District on an earlier date; and

WHEREAS the Board of Education and Mr. Shaps have previously entered into an Employment Agreement dated June 8, 2006 (hereinafter the “Agreement”); and

WHEREAS the Board of Education seeks to amend said Agreement to allow Mr. Shaps to commence his position on an earlier date;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the terms and conditions of the Agreement and hereby are amended consistent with the terms of an Amendment to Employment Agreement between the Hastings-on-Hudson Union Free School District and Robert I. Shaps dated August 10, 2006 which Amendment the President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to sign.

Gabrielle Lesser seconded and item P.1 carried by unanimous vote. At this time Board President Mary Wirth spoke of the Superintendent search process as well as Mr. Shaps’s attributes. Then Mr. Shaps thanked the members of the Board of Education as well as Dr. Fazio for serving as Interim Superintendent thus ensuring a smooth transition.

P.2 through P.5: Lindsey Hicks moved to approve the following recommendations:

To accept the resignation of **Marissa Burmaster**, effective August 31, 2006.

AND

To grant a FMLA leave of absence, without pay, to **Katrina Forbes** from May 3, 2007 through June 30, 2007.

AND

To grant a FMLA leave of absence, without pay, to **Nidia Ferrara** from September 5, 2006 through November 27, 2006.

AND

To amend the FMLA leave of absence, without pay, to **Tammie Cecere**, to November 22, 2006 through Febru-

ary 28, 2007, and then parental leave of absence, without pay, from March 1, 2007 through June 30, 2007.

Anne Woods seconded and items P.2 through P.5 carried by unanimous vote.

P.6: Anne Woods moved to approve the following recommendation:

WHEREAS, on August 21, 2006, it was determined that a vacancy exists for a leave replacement Elementary Special Education teacher during the 2006-2007 school year, effective September 1, 2006, which will be integral to Hastings-on-Hudson’s operations in the 2006-2007 school year, and

WHEREAS, the Board has identified **Stefanie Denison** as a qualified candidate and wishes to appoint her to a 1.0 FTE leave replacement position as an Elementary Special Education teacher, effective September 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Stefanie Denison, as a new hire, is required by state law to submit to a background check and obtain clearance from the State Education Department before being eligible for employment; and

WHEREAS, Stefanie Denison has not yet obtained such clearance, but has attested to the fact that she has never been convicted of a crime.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board hereby resolves to conditionally appoint Stefanie Denison on an emergency basis to the 1.0 FTE leave replacement position of Elementary Special Education teacher for the 2006-2007 school year, subject to such limitations as are set forth in Board Policy #6170.
2. Upon receipt of notice from the State Education Department that Stefanie Denison has obtained conditional clearance, her emergency status shall be changed to conditional status. Upon receipt of notice that she has obtained full clearance, her conditional status shall be removed, she shall no longer be subject to Board Policy #6170, and she shall be accorded the same status and seniority as if she had possessed such clearance as of the date of her conditional appointment.
3. In the event that clearance is denied, the Board shall reconvene to ascertain what steps, if any, shall be taken with regard to Stefanie Denison’s continued employment by the Board.

Tenure Area:	
Salary Placement:	MA + 10, Step 4
Date of Commencement of Probationary Service:	n/a
Date of Expiration of Probationary Service:	n/a
Anticipated Tenure Date:	
Certification Status	Provisional

Dr. Fazio spoke of Ms. Denison’s attributes. Eric Sweeting seconded and item P.6 carried by unanimous vote.

P.7 through P.18: Lindsey Hicks moved to approve the following recommendations:

To amend the appointment of **Lauren Dwyer** as a School Psychologist for the 2006-2007 school year, from a .4 FTE to a .6 FTE (.2 FTE has been added as a leave replacement), effective September 1, 2006.

AND

To amend the appointment of **Stephanie Gould** as a School Psychologist for the 2006-2007 school year from a 1.0 FTE to a .8 FTE, effective September 1, 2006.

AND

To appoint **Kevin Kennedy** to a .5 FTE position as a Permanent Substitute teacher for the 2006-2007 school year, effective September 1, 2006.

AND

To rescind the Schedule B appointment of **Ezra Elliott** as Assistant Modified Football Coach for the 2006-2007 school year.

AND

To amend the Schedule B appointment of **Andrew Wendol** as Varsity Boys’ Lacrosse Coach for the 2006-2007 school year from Step 2 to Step 8 with a stipend of \$6,602.

AND

To amend the Schedule B appointment of **Andrew Wendol** as Modified “A” Boys’ Basketball Coach for the 2006-2007 school year from Step 2 to Step 6, with a stipend of \$3,188.

AND

To appoint the following individuals to Schedule B positions for the 2006-2007 school year:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>STEP</u>	
Gisela Dominguez	Elementary Post office	1	\$1,307
Ezra Elliott	Assistant Varsity Football Coach	5	\$4,501
William Otivich	Modified Volleyball Coach	1	\$2,283
Jasminne Paulino	Elementary Post Office	1	\$1,307
Robert Peeples	Assistant Modified Football Coach	1	\$2,667
Arthur Ralston	World of Difference Moderator	1	\$1,489
	MS/HS		

AND

1. To conditionally appoint John Feinstein on an emergency basis to the Schedule B position of Varsity Girls Soccer Coach for the 2006-2007 school year, subject to such limitations as are set forth in Board Policy #6170.
2. Upon receipt of notice from the State Education Department that John Feinstein has obtained conditional clearance, his emergency status shall be changed to conditional status. Upon receipt of notice that he has obtained full clearance, his conditional status shall be removed, he shall no longer be subject to Board Policy #6170, and he shall be accorded the same status and seniority as if he had possessed such clearance as of the date of his conditional appointment.
3. In the event that clearance is denied, the Board shall reconvene to ascertain what steps, if any, shall be taken with regard to John Feinstein’s continued employment by the Board.

AND

To appoint **Alexine Hollocou** to the permanent position of Office Assistant, 12-month, Column IV, Step 5, effective September 1, 2006.

AND

To appoint **Annette Melillo** to the permanent position of Teacher Aide, 10-month, Column III, Step 8, effective September 1, 2006.

AND

To appoint **Marie Frederique** to the 1.0 FTE position of Cleaner, Column I, Step 3, effective August 22, 2006.

AND

To appoint the following to the position of Temporary Summer Employee (Buildings & Grounds) at a pay rate of \$12.00 per hour for 40 hours per week for 10 weeks, effective July 3, 2006:

Juan Villamar

Caryn Campbell seconded and items P.7 through P.18 carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

No comments or questions were raised at this time.

MINUTES

M.1 Through M.3: Lindsey Hicks moved to approve the following recommendations:
To accept the minutes of the July 10, 2006 Reorganization meeting.

AND

To accept the minutes of the July 10, 2006 Regular meeting.

and

To accept the minutes of the August 10, 2006 Special meeting.

Caryn Campbell seconded and items M.1 through M.3 carried by unanimous vote.

BUSINESS

B.1 Through B.16: Lindsey Hicks moved to approve the following recommendations:
Election of one New York State School Boards Association (“NYSSBA”) Board of Director

Candidates:

Thomas Knight Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES

Peggy Zugibe Haverstraw-Stony Point

AND

To approve the proposal submitted by Bena Kallick, Ph.D., for Superintendent Conference Day presentations on September 7, 2006 and March 1, 2007. The fees for Dr. Kallick’s presentations shall be \$5,000.00.

AND

To approve the school staffing agreement with OT Kids of NY, P.C., for the 2006-2007 school year and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute the contract.

AND

To authorize the Superintendent of Schools to approve the proposal submitted by Christine Rosner, Math Consultant, for services provided to Hillside staff grades 2-4 during spring, 2006.

AND

To authorize the Superintendent of Schools to approve the proposal submitted by Anne Schefer of K&E Consulting as Math Consultant for services provided to Hillside staff grades K-2 during spring, 2006.

AND

To rescind the appointment of Heidi McCarthy as 504 Compliance Officer.

AND

To appoint the Superintendent of Schools as the 504 Compliance Officer.

AND

To approve budget transfers for the 2005-2006 school year.

AND

To increase the Reserve for Tax Certiorari by \$175,000.

AND

To adopt the 2006-2007 School Lunch budget in the amount of \$397,565.00.

AND

RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby designated as the person to determine appeals submitted pursuant to the Freedom of Information Law.

AND

To authorize the Superintendent of Schools to execute the client agreement submitted by PhoneReview for an audit of all of the District’s telephone billing charges.

AND

To approve the following Committee on Pre-school Special Education recommendation for the 2005-2006 school year:

#00-017	#01-001	#01-006	#02-001	#01-007
#01-019	#01-009	#01-026	#5879	#02-002
#01-008	#01-002	#01-017	#7117	

AND

To approve the following Committee on Pre-school Special Education recommendation for the 2006-2007 school year:

#5037	#6765	#7114
#6618	#7035	#6980

AND

To approve the following Committee on Special Education recommendations for the 2005-2006 school year:

#90-016	#91-050	#91-019	#95-038	#91-001
#95-045	#98-024	#96-027	#95-017	#93-044
#94-034	#92-044	#95-028	#90-046	#92-011

AND

To approve the following Committee on Special Education recommendations for the 2006-2007 school year:

#94-018	#95-037	#92-050	#95-041	#00-018
#97-004	#98-035	#93-022	#94-021	#6608
#90-043	#96-000	#7002	#92-009	#89-020
#96-039	#6082	#89-011	#92-019	#90-011
#6071	#00-002	#01-016	#91-042	#6717
#99-020	#01-010	#99-016	#92-046	#01-006
#92-001	#92-056	#95-058	#92-013	#1681
#7001	#6922	#88-021	#89-018	#97-022
#92-030	#94-031	#89-055	#6936	#99-008
#00-011	#93-020	#00-015	#92-025	#01-017
#90-041	#96-007	#96-034	#92-015	#95-024
#89-004	#95-063	#95-057	#96-011	#90-024
#91-040	#6697	#97-030	#94-006	#5862
#91-011	#97-023	#95-001	#98-033	#95-031
#94-024	#98-029	#98-030	#92-022	#91-041
#91-031	#01-018	#90-047	#69-68	#00-021
#95-048	#99-021	#92-055	#6935	#98-013
#90-018	#96-030	#95-044	#98-025	#96-023
#5777	#93-014	#96-037	#6821	#99-018
#6961	#6964	#96-036	#6132	#96-021
#94-022	#94-015	#95-033	#93-032	#94-014
#00-017	#6907	#93-000	#96-038	#89-001
#95-050	#5877	#93-027	#02-000	#97-000
#91-052	#97-027	#98-001	#90-009	#97-016
#89-029	#89-042	#90-005	#91-008	#90-031
#91-021	#96-045	#91-013	#93-013	#88-041
#96-041	#95-025	#4561	#97-018	#93-043
#99-015	#00-019	#00-001	#88-031	#98-024

#93-011	#6818	#01-002	#95-022	#93-030
#91-003	#89-041	#01-001	#98-027	#96-022
#99-007	#93-051	#93-045	#93-019	#91-017
#97-017	#90-028	#92-012	#93-006	#95-029
#90-017	#98-009	#91-015	#91-002	#3823
#6678	#92-032	#93-037	#91-045	#93-039
#97-024	#5424	#97-029	#93-001	#93-035
#98-023	#96-031	#93-025	#94-035	#95-049
#92-010	#97-014	#01-026	#98-004	#96-005
#88-002	#95-060	#97-013	#94-037	#91-038
#96-002	#91-027	#91-014	#93-042	#89-060
#01-015	#91-000	#93-029	#90-014	#94-017
#87-048	#6923	#10-001	#5659	#89-036
#93-055	#94-012	#00-013	#96-014	#92-018
#96-010	#91-044	#6903	#95-035	#00-020
#89-013	#89-008	#92-002	#97-028	#91-030
#00-016	#91-029	#6975	#94-029	#90-015
	#89-023	#95-034	#6207	#01-005

Anne Woods seconded and items B.2 through B.16 carried by unanimous vote. Item B.1 - Election of one New York State School Boards Association (“NYSSBA”) Board of Director - was tabled until September 11, 2006 Board Meeting so trustees can review background information regarding the two candidates.

OTHER BUSINESS

Old Business – Board of Education

Board Retreat

A draft of the agenda and possible topics was passed around by Trustee Woods. Trustee Sweeting followed by explaining the case studies chosen for discussion, who formulated them, and how the discussion groups will function. There was also discussion about utilizing the services of a facilitator and the choices were narrowed down to four. The the Board expressed interest in Dick Goodman and/or possibly Charles Fowler. Questions about their fees were raised so Anne Woods and Robert Shaps offered to research the facilitators’ fees and report back to the Board.

Old Business – Audience to Board of Education

Robert Shaps brought up the topic of the new Hillside Schedule being implemented this year. He suggested that at some point an assessment of the impact of the changes, benefits, and communication be completed and a report made to the Board.

New Business – Board of Education

Board Committee/Liaison Assignments

Trustees informed Board president of the various committees and liaison assignments that they would be interested in serving on.

2006-2007 Board of Education Meeting Topics:

It was suggested that Board President, Mary Wirth sit down with incoming Superintendent Robert Shaps to draft a schedule of 06-07 Board Meeting topics and report back to the Board.

New York State School Boards Association (“NYSSBA”) – Annual Business Meeting:
Trustees Hicks and Lesser expressed an interest in attending.

New Business – Audience to Board of Education

No comments or questions were raised at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Board President Mary Wirth adjourned the meeting at 10:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Hayes
Assistant District Clerk