

AMENDED
February 15, 2011

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A SPECIAL MEETING of the Board of Education of the West Babylon Union Free School District, of the Town of Babylon, Suffolk County, New York was held on Tuesday, February 15, 2011, in the Board Room of the Administration Wing adjacent to the Senior High School.

Those present: Trustees Lucy Campasano, Wendy DeGaetano, Patrick M. Farrell, Carmine Galletta, Kathleen Jennings, Diane Klein, Jerry Nocera
Peter Scarlatos and Diane Thiel

No Trustees were absent

Also present: Mr. Anthony Cacciola, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Dominick Palma, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Student Services; Mrs. Yiendhy Farrelly, Executive Director for Human Resources and Mr. Arthur Williams, Executive Director for Finance and Operations; Mrs. Amy E. Jones, District Clerk; Mr. William C. Morrell, Attorney; and residents.

The president opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and led those present in the Pledge to the Flag.

SOUTH BAY SCHOOL UPDATE:

Cara Lisa and Tracy, Representatives of BBS Architects presented an update to the reconstruction of South Bay School. Cara Lisa noted that things are moving along as scheduled. Lighting is consistent with the other buildings. In response to Mr. Cacciola, Cara Lisa said it is her understanding that the windows are on schedule. Colors for the classrooms, library, cafeteria and offices were shared with the trustees and community. In response to trustee Campasano's question Mr. Graziano said that there is 24 hour security for the building.

BUDGET PRESENTATION:

Mr. Anthony Cacciola and Mr. Arthur Williams offered a review of the instructional portion of the budget to both Board members and community members.

Questions about the various budget lines were addressed. A line by line explanation of each of the items listed as possibilities for cuts was provided. Mr. Cacciola suggested that due to time constraints with publicizing a vote and explaining the implications, the trustees consider putting a proposition on the May 17, 2011 vote to address transportation going to state limits. He said the proposition would affect the budget for 2012-2013. The trustees discussed the various options. No decision was made. Several trustees want to wait until after hearing community input at the March 1 budget presentation to make any decision on the impending cuts. The Budget Presentation will be held on March 1, 2011 in the JHS Cafeteria B at 7:30 followed by a Workshop Meeting at 8:30.

Trustee Scarlatos made the following statement for the record:

"As a School Board member and also a community member it has come to my attention that the most recent posting and hiring by the West Babylon School District is being perceived as being done outside our accepted hiring procedures. When our district posts a job stating a certificate is required and changes the rules midstream, it is unfair to the many qualified teachers who were unable to apply and it is this that concerns me. More importantly, my concerns are for our children, and when administration doesn't act accordingly it sets a poor example for our children and negatively affects their future. As most of you know, I have a big heart and a good conscience and it is because of this that I don't want to be part of an entity that is perceived to not play fair. It is at the very least that we as a school board look to keep our hiring procedures consistent for everyone."

Trustee Nocera seconded by Trustee Scarlatos made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters at 10:30 p.m.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

Trustee Galletta seconded by Trustee Jennings made a motion to adjourn at 11:15 p.m.

The motion was **CARRIED** by all present

Attested to: _____

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