

**BRIARCLIFF MANOR BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MEETING MINUTES**

**May 21, 2012**

---

Present: Mr. Guy Rotondo, President; Mrs. Rosella Ranno, Vice President;  
Mr. Eric Bashford, Mr. Sal Maglietta, Mrs. Jennifer Rosen

Absent: Mr. John Alecci, Student Board Rep.

Also Present: Mr. Neal Miller, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Stuart Matthey, Asst.  
Superintendent for Business & Technology; Mr. David Shaw, School Attorney;  
Mr. Michael Bogin, Mr. Michael Musso, Mr. Marc Scharf, Juanita Brockett,  
District Clerk

---

The Board of Education held a meeting on Monday, May 21, 2012 and was called to order by Mr. Rotondo at 6:32pm.

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mr. Maglietta and passed 4-0, the Board moved to adjourn into executive session at 6:33pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person, potential litigation matters and to seek legal advice.

Mrs. Rosen arrived at 6:35pm

Mr. Bashford departed executive session at 8:05pm and did not stay for the public meeting.

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen, and passed 4-0, the Board moved to returned to public session at 8:12pm.

**Certificate of Achievements were given to:**

Youth Ambassador for the Tourette Syndrome Association; :  
Julia Gottlieb

Finalist in the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Greenburgh Poetry Contest  
Lauren Tannenbaum

Winner of Longines Future Tennis Aces U.S. Tournament at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows, NY. Will represent the U.S. in the Tournament World Championships at the French Open in November:  
Rachel Lim

Competing in 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Quebec International PeeWee Hockey Tournament in February 2012:  
Nolan Moyle (NY Rangers)  
Giancarlo Romano (Wilkesbarre PA)

Won the Andrew Jenks Award and the Best Drama Award for his film "Fix," at the Hendrick Hudson Film Festival on April 20, 2012; and Won the Creative Category and Grand Prize for his film, "Addiction," at the Greenwich Youth Film Festival 2012  
Benjamin Adler

Won Best Documentary for his film, "The Seventh String: The Life and Tales of Bucky Pizzarelli," at the Hendrick Hudson Film Festival  
Lukas Arbogast

**CONFERRAL OF TENURE**

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education does hereby confers tenure on Dr. Yiqing Shen in the tenure area of Science, effective September 1, 2012.

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education does hereby confers tenure on Brendan Coxen in the tenure area of Physical Education, effective September 1, 2012.

The Board took a 10 minute break to congratulate newly tenured teachers. A reception hosted by the Briarcliff Teachers ' Association (BTA), was held in the Middle School Cafeteria for family and friends.

Public meeting resumed at 8:45pm.

Mr. Michael Musso (HDR) & Mr. Michael Bogin (Sive, Paget & Riesel) provided an update on fields related topics.

Ms. Julie Hendrickson of AKRF gave a presentation on the Stormwater Management Program.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0,

- a. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the minutes of the March 26, 2012 Board of Education meeting as presented.

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0,

- b. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the minutes of the April 9 2012 Board of Education meeting as amended.

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0,

- c. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the minutes of the special meeting held on April 12, 2012 Board of Education meeting as presented.

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0,

- d. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the minutes of the April 16, 2012 Board of Education meeting as presented.

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0,

- e. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby accept the District Clerk's documentation of the April 24, 2012 Board of Education meeting that was cancelled.

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0,

- f. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on May 7, 2012 as amended.

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0,

- g. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the minutes of the Public Budget Hearing held on May 7, 2012 as presented.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0, the Board moved to approve the following consent agenda items excluding item "f".

- a. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby accept, with thanks, the following BMEF Teacher's Institute grants:

Nancy Kress	Attendance at New York State Association of Foreign Language Teachers (NYSAFLT) - October 2012	\$699.00
Annmarie O'Brien	Online Advanced statistics course - June 2012	\$374.00
Marc Tartell	Attendance at Instrumental Music Conference – July 2012	\$350.00

- b. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of Christina Pecorino, School Lunch Monitor, effective April 30, 2012.
- c. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of Patricia Hooker, School Lunch Monitor, effective May 1, 2012.
- d. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the unpaid child care leave of Marcelle Albano-Fumusa from May 14, 2012 until June 30, 2012.
- e. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the appointment of John Cipollina as short term leave replacement teacher at the rate of \$120 per day for the period May 15, 2012 to June 22, 2012.

- f. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the appointment of Donald Hamlin as Volunteer Coach for Open Gym for girls basketball for the 2012-2013 school year. *(this item was removed from the consent agenda)*
- g. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the appointment of Cassandra Gordon as substitute teacher.
- h. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby accept the Claim Audit report for February and March 2012.
- i. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the Health Services Contract with the Katonah-Lewisboro School District in the amount of \$3,066.00 for 3 Briarcliff students attending private schools in that district.
- j. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the Health Services Contract with the White Plains City School District in the amount of \$5,035.14 for 6 Briarcliff students attending private schools in that district.
- k. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the Health Services Contract with the Greenburgh Central School District in the amount of \$846.37 for 1 Briarcliff students attending private school in that district.
- l. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the Special Education Tuition Contract with The Devereux Foundation for the 2012-2013 school year.
- m. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$15,000 to cover legal services.
- n. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$76,307.81 to cover payroll expenses through June 30, 2012.
- o. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby declare the list of items appended to these minutes as surplus and obsolete and hereby directs the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Technology to sell these items for fair market value.
- p. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the non-resident tuition application submitted in May 2012 for one elementary student and one middle school student.
- q. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby authorize the Superintendent to execute settlement agreement involving student ID 91000274.

**3. ACTION ITEMS**

*Appointment of Guidance Counselor Positions*

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mr. Maglietta, and passed 4-0, resolutions 1 thru 3 were TABLED.

- 1) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby creates a .6 Guidance Counselor/.4 Director of Guidance position effective September 1, 2012.
- 2) RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the probationary appointment of Meredith Negrin-Safer to the position of .6 Guidance Counselor and .4 Director of Guidance, in the Guidance Counselor tenure area, effective September 1, 2012 at the salary rate of MA 75 Step 8 (pending review of transcripts) plus .20 stipend for Director of Guidance. Mrs. Safer is certified as a School Counselor and her School Building Leader, School District Leader certification is pending. Her tenure date is August 31, 2014.
- 3) RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the appointment of Meredith Negrin-Safer for summer work not to exceed two weeks at 1/200<sup>th</sup> of the base pay per day.

*Certification of the May 15, 2012 Voting Results*

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby affirm the results of School Board Budget & Capital Project vote and Board Elections held on May 15, 2012 as referenced within the minutes of this meeting.

*Policy on Title VI Civil Rights Act Non-Discrimination & Anti-Harassment in Schools*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

On motion by Mr. Rotondo, seconded by Mrs. Ranno, this resolution was TABLED for further discussion at the next Board of Education work session meeting of June 4, 2012.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby adopt the Policy on Title VI Civil Rights Act Non-Discrimination & Anti-Harassment in Schools as written.

*Release and Settlement Agreement*

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0,

RESOLVED that the Board of Education does hereby approve the terms of the Release and Settlement Agreement involving Student Number 91000274 a copy of

---

which shall be incorporated by reference in the minutes of this meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education does hereby authorize the Superintendent of Schools to execute such Release and Settlement Agreement on behalf of the District.

*PNW BOCES Cooperative Bid*

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0,

WHEREAS it is the desire of the participating school districts of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Putnam/Northern Westchester Counties, adopting this resolution to jointly request bids for certain commodities to be determined by the Superintendent of this school district from time to time for the 2012-2013 school year.

NOW, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Briarcliff Manor UFSD hereby agrees to participate with other school districts of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Putnam/Northern Counties, New York, in the joint bidding of commodities to be requested by the school district Purchasing Agent and approved by the Superintendent; and be it further

RESOLVED that the specifications as prepared by a Steering Committee of participating school districts and presented to this Board of Education will be used and that this Board, if it desires to purchase these commodities agrees to purchase said commodities at the lowest bid price recommended by the Steering Committee of the joint school districts; provided, however, that each participating Board of Education in exercising its legal responsibilities, has the right to reject and/or modify the recommendation of the Steering Committee in the awarding of the bid; and be it further

RESOLVED that the invitation to bid will be advertised by BOCES in the Journal News in accordance with the provisions of Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

*Tax Certiorari ID # 98-10-2-34*

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen, and passed 4-0, it is

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby authorize the refund of taxes due for the property with tax identification number 98.10-2-34, as required by the terms of the Consent Judgment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve an increase to budget line A1930.400 (Judgment and Claims) in the amount of \$97,665.97.

This expenditure represents tax certiorari refunds due for the 2007/08 through 2011/12 school tax years in accordance with the terms of the Consent Judgment and will be funded from the Tax Certiorari Reserve.

*Tax Certiorari ID # 98-10-2 32*

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen, and passed 4-0, it is

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby authorize the refund of taxes due for the property with tax identification number 98.10-2-32 as required by the terms of the Consent Judgment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve an increase to budget line A1930.400 (Judgment and Claims) in the amount of \$10,488.59.

This expenditure represents tax certiorari refunds due for the 2007-08 through 2011-12 school tax years in accordance with the terms of the Consent Judgment and will be funded from the Tax Certiorari Reserve.

*HDR Proposal*

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen, and passed 4-0, it is

WHEREAS, the District's Environmental Consultant, Henningson, Durham & Richardson (HDR), has been retained by the District to meet the requirements of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (NYSDEC) order on consent #20010816-113, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to continue with its field remediation activities related to the order on consent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts HDR's proposal to prepare conceptual drawings for the remediation of the practice and softball fields, as set forth in detail in HDR's May 17, 2012 letter, at an estimated cost of \$8,500. A copy of this letter is incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Assistant Superintendent for Business to transfer the sum of up to and including \$8,500 from the Property Loss Reserve Fund to the general fund to pay for the costs associated with District's continued field remediation activities.

*WPSBA Executive Board Member Nomination*

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mr. Maglietta and passed 4-0, it is

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, does hereby nominate Mrs. Jennifer Rosen to fill a vacancy on the Westchester Putnam School Boards Association for the term expiring in 2015.

On motion by Mrs. Ranno, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0, the Board adjourned into executive session at 9:50pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person.

On motion by Mr. Maglietta, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0, the Board moved to appoint Mr. Rotondo as Clerk Pro Tem.

On motion by Mr. Maglietta, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0 the Board moved to adjourn executive session and re-enter public session at 10:15pm.

On motion by Mr. Maglietta, seconded by Mrs. Rosen and passed 4-0 the Board moved to adjourn public session at 10:16pm.