
Present: Mr. Charles K. Trainor, President; Mrs. June Monaghan, Vice President;
Mrs. Lisa Tane; Mrs. Stacy Agona; Mrs. Nina Quigley
Dr. Frances Wills, Superintendent; Dr. Bruce Watkins, Asst. Sup't., for Business & Tech.;
Ms. Juanita Brockett, District Clerk

A meeting of the Briarcliff Manor Board of Education was held on Monday, March 31, 2008 in the Middle School Theater and was called to order by Mr. Trainor at 8:05 p.m.

Student Recognition

The girls' varsity basketball team received special recognition for winning the state championship and federation title. They were presented with a proclamation from the Mayor of Briarcliff Manor, Bill Vescio; a congratulatory letter from County Executive, Andy Spano and a certificate of recognition from the Board of Education and Administration.

The following students were also presented with certificates of recognition:

Abigail Jablansky	Qualifying for the National Chemistry Olympiad Exam
Harrison Johnson	Finalist for the Telluride Association Summer Program
Madeline Berkman	Qualified to compete in the Speedo Junior Nat'l Championships in Orlando, Florida
Erica Goldstein	"Poetry Out Loud" Regional Winner, advancing to State Level
Emily Schwartz	BHS Distinguished Student of the Month for February 2008
Steven Montana	" "
Rachel Taffet	" "
Margaret Chalsen	" "
Aaron Marcus	President's Volunteer Service Award
Joshua Brickell	" "
Andrew Lehrman	" "
Andrew Stiffman	" "
Maggie Blair	MVP of the Varsity Girls' Basketball New York State Champions
Savina Reid	Sportsmanship Award/Varsity Girls' Basketball New York State Class B Champions
Shelby Coon	All Tournament Team/Varsity Girls' Basketball New York State Class B Champions
Liz Meyers	Varsity Girls' Basketball New York State Class B Champions
Brianna Reid	" "
Samantha Muratori	" "
Jamie Heyda	" "
Katie Weiner	" "
Kathryn Holland	" "
Kasey Heyda	" "
Taylor Pescetti	" "
Liana Cornacchio	" "
Grace Orr	2nd Place Team at Odyssey of the Mind Competition
Natalie Pucilowski	" "
Kelsey Simpson	" "
Ronald Zampolin	" "
Adin Rinzler	" "
Robert Karp	" "

Kyle Marin	4th Place Team at Odyssey of the Mind Competition	
Rebecca Handsman	"	"
Sloane Bashford	"	"
Blake Elwood	"	"
Natalie Bruel	"	"
Thomas Bruel	"	"
Charlotte Sendek	Regional Winner, PTA Reflections Contest (Visual Arts), advancing to State Finals	
Henry Jones	"	"
Nicole Silberman	"	"
Komal Keerthy	(Literature), advancing to State Finals	
Lena Yavrouian	2008 Elementary All-County Chorus	
Heather Schneck	"	"
Suzannah Bergstein	"	"
Lianna Gangi	"	"
Tiffany Panarese	"	"
Jessica Colton	2008 Intermediate All-County Chorus	
Zarah Kavarana	"	"
Julie Pitter	"	"
Jenny Yang	"	"
Emily Altabef	"	"
Rebecca Chalsen	"	"
Jake Chatzky	"	"
Sadie McMurrin	"	"
Katherine Schwartz	"	"
Nabeed Hassan	"	"
Andrew Horowitz	"	"

Superintendent's Remarks

Dr. Wills congratulated the girls' varsity basketball team and announced that there will be a parade in the village, in their honor on Saturday, April 5 at 12:30.

Board President's Remarks

Mr. Trainor reported on his and Mrs. Tane's meeting with Senator Sandy Galef to address a budget bill on the floor regarding tenure laws.

Budget Presentations

Dr. Frances Wills discussed modifications to the proposed district-wide 2008-09 budget presentation made on March 17th.

Comments and questions were heard from the audience.

On motion by Mrs. Monaghan, seconded by Mrs. Tane and passed 5-0, it was

RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approve the minutes of the Board of Education meetings held on March 17, 2008.

On motion by Mrs. Monaghan, seconded by Mrs. Tane and passed 5-0, it was

RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves the following items on the consent agenda:

- a. Appointment of Melissa Brennan to an additional .25 stipend position as Middle School Technology Coordinator effective September 1, 2007.
- b. Amendment of Lisa Cerrato's March 10, 2008 appointment from Special Education/Reading teacher to Special Education teacher effective September 1, 2007.
- c. Appointment of George LaMar as Head Coach for the modified track program, 2008 spring season.
- d. Conditional appointment of the following substitute teachers: Jeffrey Kessler, Barbara Levine, Andrew Manchisi, Matthew Still, Joan Veteska
- e. Conditional appointment of Nora Wu as substitute nurse
- f. Appointment of leave replacement teacher, Josh Plaice, \$120/per diem effective April 7 through May 14; BA, Step 1 effective May 15 - June 30, 2008.
- g. Amendment of the March 17, 2008 appointment of high school guidance counselor, Nathan Joseph Heltzel, from MA 60, Step 8, to MA45, Step 8 effective September 1, 2008.

Personnel

On motion by Mrs. Monaghan, seconded by Mrs. Tane and passed 5-0, it was

RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves the appointment of Nicole Susa as treasurer of Briarcliff Manor U.F.S.D. at an annual salary of \$90,000 effective July 1, 2008.

On motion by Mrs. Monaghan, seconded by Mrs. Tane and passed 5-0, it was

RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves the appointment of Dr. John Banks as Director of Performing Arts (teacher-on-assignment) for the 2008-09 school year with addition of .2 to current salary.

Action Items

On motion by Mrs. Monaghan, seconded by Mrs. Tane and passed 5-0, it was

RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves payment of the following health services billings:

Harrison Central Schools	\$ 1,798.40
Somers Central Schools	\$ 670.63
Yonkers Public Schools	\$ 560.41

On motion by Mrs. Monaghan, seconded by Mrs. Tane and passed 5-0, it was

RESOLVED, that the Board hereby accepts the Mission Statement on Intolerance drafted by the Chief School Administrators of the Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES. (*Statement is included at the these minutes*)

On motion by Mrs. Monaghan, seconded by Mrs. Tane and passed 5-0, it was

RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves the following:

Section 1. An annual School District meeting of the qualified voters of the Briarcliff Manor Union Free School District, in the County of Westchester, New York, hereinafter called the "District," shall be held at the places and locations specified in the notice of meeting, on the 20th day of May, 2008 at 6:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on said day and as much longer as may be necessary to enable the voters then present to cast their ballots.

Section 2. The business to be acted upon at said Annual School Meeting shall be stated in the notice thereof, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause the Notice of Said Annual District Meeting to be published in The Journal News and Gazette newspapers having general circulation within the District, said publication to be made four (4) times within seven (7) weeks next preceding such Annual District Meeting, the first publication to be at least forty-five days (45) days prior to the date of said Annual Meeting.

Section 3. Said Notice of Annual Meeting shall be in substantially the following form:

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING, BUDGET VOTE AND ELECTION BRIARCLIFF MANOR
UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
TOWNS OF OSSINING AND MT. PLEASANT
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Public Hearing will be held in the Middle School Theater, 444 Pleasantville Road, Briarcliff Manor, New York, in said District on Monday, May 12, 2008 at 8:00 p.m. prevailing time, for the purpose of presentation of the budget document for the school year July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Budget Vote and School Board Election will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, in the Todd Elementary School Gymnasium, 45 Ingham Road, Briarcliff Manor, New York, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine upon the following items:

1. To adopt the annual budget for the School District for the fiscal year 2008-2009 and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.

2. To elect one (1) member to sit on the Board of Education for a term of three (3) years, commencing July 1, 2008 and expiring June 30, 2011.

The following vacancy is to be filled:
Term of Mr. Charles K. Trainor, expiring June 30, 2008

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN THAT the voters shall vote, by voting machine, upon the following proposition:

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Board of Education be authorized to purchase one (1) sixty-six (66) passenger diesel bus at a total estimated cost of Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$95,000) and to vote a tax therefore to be collected in five annual installments and in anticipation of said tax, to issue obligations of the District.
- (2) That the Board of Education is authorized to expend for such purposes an amount not exceeding such total estimated maximum cost.
- (3) That a tax is hereby voted for the foregoing objects or purposes in the following amounts: \$95,000, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and the financing thereof, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts to be determined by the Board of Education.
- (4) That in anticipation of the collection of said taxes, bonds and notes of the District are hereby authorized to be issued at one time or from time to time in the following principal amount: \$95,000, and that a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said obligations when due.

AND PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT THE FOLLOWING PROPOSITIONS will appear on the ballot labels on machines at said Annual District Meeting and election in the following form:

PROPOSITION ONE:

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to construct or install at the Middle School/High School and at the Todd School the following: 1) replacement carpet in the High School library; 2) irrigation of the front practice field at the High School; 3) additional tables and chairs for the High School cafeteria; 4) climate control in the Todd server room; and 5) repair and/or replacement of the Todd boiler, including ancillary and incidental expenses therefore, at a total estimated cost of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000), said sum to be appropriated from the District's general fund without the necessity of additional taxation?

PROPOSITION TWO

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to purchase one (1) sixty-six (66) passenger diesel bus at a total estimated cost of Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$95,000) and to vote a tax therefore to be collected in five annual installments and in anticipation of said tax, to issue obligations of the District?

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required to fund the School District's budget for 2008-2009, exclusive of public monies, may be obtained by any resident of the District during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. prevailing time, on each day other than a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding such vote at the District Office, 45 Ingham Road, Briarcliff Manor, New York, and at each of the following schoolhouses located in Briarcliff Manor, New York: Todd Elementary School, 45 Ingham Road; Briarcliff Middle School and Briarcliff High School, 444 Pleasantville Road.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that petitions nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education shall be filed with the Clerk of the Briarcliff Manor Union Free School District, 45 Ingham Road, District Office, Briarcliff Manor, New York, not later than 5:00 p.m. prevailing time, on Monday, April 21, 2008. Vacancies on the Board of Education are not considered separate, specific offices; candidates run at large. Nominating petitions shall not describe any specific vacancy upon the Board for which the candidate is nominated and must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District; must state the name and residence of each signer and must state the name and residence of the candidate; and shall describe the length of the term of office.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots for the Annual Election and Budget Vote are available at the District Office or on the District web site (www.briarcliffschools.org) for qualified voters of the District. Applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter (May 13, 2008) or the day before the election (May 19, 2008), if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots have been issued will be filed in the Office of the Clerk where it shall be available for public inspection during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) on any day prior to the day of the election. Such list will also be posted at the polling place. Absentee ballots must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 20, 2008.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law no person shall be entitled to vote at the Election and Budget Vote whose name does not appear on the register of the School District, or who does not register as herein provided. Any person who has registered and voted at any annual or special meeting or election during the four (4) calendar years prior to 2008 need not re-register.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Board of Registration will meet on Wednesday, May 14, 2008, between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., at the Todd Elementary School, Main Lobby, 45 Ingham Road, Briarcliff Manor, New York, for the purpose of registering voters for the vote and election to be held on May 20, 2008. Qualified residents may also register for the vote and election by appearing at the Office of the Clerk of the District Office, 45 Ingham Road, Briarcliff Manor, New York, on any day between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., (except Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) up to and including May 15, 2008.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that any person, otherwise qualified to vote, who is currently registered for any general election, pursuant to Section 5-612 of the Election Law, shall be entitled to vote without further registration pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that the register prepared pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law and the Westchester County Voter enrollment list encompassing the School District will be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the District; that same will be open for inspection by any qualified voter for the District between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., on each of the five days prior to the date set for election, except Sunday, and at the polling place on the day of the vote.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that aside from the usual meeting of the Board of Registration as designated above by resolution of the Board of Education, that pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law, the Board of Registration will meet during the annual vote and election at the place where the vote and election is held, for the purpose of preparing a register for any meeting or election held after the annual vote and election.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any proposition or question not requiring official notice in the call of the annual vote and election may be voted upon at said vote and election, providing a petition signed by at least one hundred (100) qualified voters, together with the legal residence of each, is filed with the Clerk of the District no later than thirty (30) days before the vote.

Dated: March 31, 2008

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
BRIARCLIFF MANOR UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Juanita Brockett, District Clerk**

Information/Discussion Items

The Board received and reviewed the Treasurer's Report; Revenue Report and Appropriation Status Report and the Fund Balance Report for February 2008.

The Board discussed attendance at the BOCES Annual Meeting on April 8th.

The Board reviewed and discussed the list of "Open Items".

Mr. Trainor recommended procedures and guidelines be developed for organizations affiliated with the district, such as the Booster Club. It was the consensus of the Board 4-1, to remain with current status.

On motion by Mrs. Monaghan, seconded by Mrs. Tane and passed 5-0, the Board moved to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a particular student issue.

On motion by Mrs. Monaghan, seconded by Mrs. Tane and passed 5-0, the Board moved to return to regular meeting at 10:28 p.m.

On motion by Mrs. Monaghan, seconded by Mrs. Tane and passed 5-0, the Board moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:29 p.m.

Putnam/Northern Westchester Chief School Administrators

In light of hateful incidents that recently have occurred in some of our districts and recognizing that subtler expressions of intolerance persist in each of our communities and our schools, the Chief School Administrators of the Putnam/Northern Westchester region have joined together to forge a common commitment toward addressing this issue both within each of our individual districts and as a region. Our efforts are guided by the following statement:

In the history of our nation and our world, race and religion have been both powerful motivations for progress, as well as a source of conflict and intolerance. In fact, intolerance often extends to perceived abilities, socio-economic status, life style, and beyond.

The superintendents of the Putnam/Northern Westchester region, in concert with the New York State Council of School Superintendents, believe strongly that education is a civil right, which is essential to the achievement of the fundamental, inalienable right of equality.

We believe:

- All students must have access to a rich and challenging educational experience.
- All students must be provided the necessary support to achieve at a level that prepares them to be successful in the 21st century.
- All students should learn and value their roles as citizens in a global society.
- All students should embrace our differences and distinctiveness and understand that those characteristics contribute to the greater good.
- All students, when confronted with issues of intolerance, should challenge such attitudes appropriately.

We believe that as school district leaders, it is our responsibility to:

- Promote and support open and honest discussion about issues of intolerance.
- Create a climate of respect for all.
- Educate our students to appreciate and celebrate differences.