



General Library Item

Name February 13, 2017

Content

Scarsdale Board of Education Meeting Highlights February 13, 2017

Meeting with Administrators

At 6 p.m. the Board of Education met with Dr. Thomas Hagerman, Superintendent of Schools, Stuart Matthey, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Facilities, and Drew Patrick, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Leadership Development, to review the budget process and timeline.

The Board then entered into Executive Session to discuss matters leading to the appointment of a corporation.

Budget Study Session

At 7 p.m. the Board of Education convened a Budget Study Session at which Stuart Matthey updated previous revenue and expense projections, and reviewed sections of the draft budget covering transportation, debt service, and lease purchases. Mr. Matthey and Drew Patrick also reviewed the details of a revised staffing request. The budget study session may be viewed [here](#).

Business Meeting

At the conclusion of the Budget Study session at 8:15 p.m., Lee Maude, Board of Education President, convened the Business Meeting, reported briefly on the Budget Study Session, and noted that the Board is dedicated to thinking independently and acting collaboratively, and that the Board values community opinion.

Community members were invited to address the Board, and eight did so. Four speakers expressed concerns about plans for the extension of the school day at the High School: Amy Song, 43 Lockwood Road; Suzanne Glazer, 47 Axtell Drive; Eileen Donovan, 62 Tunstall Road; and Kim Miller, 225 Madison Road. Deborah Benzel, 18 Brookby Road, spoke in support of new construction for Greenacres; Harriet Sobol, 10 Claremont Road, urged the Board to speak in opposition to the appointment of Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education; Dan Hochvert, 62 Woods Lane, asked the Board to consider collaborating with the Scarsdale Forum on developing a long-range financial plan for the District; and Bob Harrison, 65 Fox Meadow Road, posed questions about the draft budget and spoke in support of funding for the Teen Center.

The Board approved items on the consent agenda, including a Personnel Report presented by Drew Patrick. Mr. Patrick noted that the District is proposing to eliminate the five elementary Teacher-in-Charge positions, and replace them with Elementary Assistant Principal positions, to better align the title with actual roles and responsibilities. In order to make this change, Mr. Patrick asked the Board to ratify an agreement with the Scarsdale Teachers Association to remove those positions from their collective bargaining unit, and an agreement with the Scarsdale Principals Association to recognize the new title of Elementary Assistant Principal.

During the Information/Discussion portion of the agenda, the Board conducted a lengthy discussion with representatives of the Scarsdale Teen Center concerning continued funding, and discussed the appointment of a new District Architect and its relationship to the development of the Facilities Master Plan. The Board also reviewed a draft

calendar for the 2017-2018 school year; a proposed textbook for the High School; proposed STI courses for Spring, 2017; proposed amendments to the Board policy on independent educational evaluations; and a revision to after school bussing practice.

The Board approved entering into an agreement with a new architectural firm, BBS Architects & Engineers, to complete and implement the District's Facility Master Plan and any future capital projects, including future bond work. The Board also approved the proposed STI courses for Spring, 2017.

The Board accepted a gift from the Greenacres PTA for a new ceramics kiln, and gifts from the Middle School PTA to purchase furniture for the NEST (New Educational Studio for Technology); two outdoor garden work tables; and signs in the lunchrooms and hallways to support the composting and recycling program.

Community members were invited to address the Board during the second Public Comment period, but none came forward.

The Board conducted a wrap-up of the meeting and announced a list of upcoming meeting dates.

The Board then adjourned into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

A video of the Board meeting may be accessed [here](#).