

VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT THIRTY

BOARD OF EDUCATION

These are the official minutes of the regular meeting of the Valley Stream UFSD #30 Board of Education.

Date: March 31, 2008

Location of Meeting: Shaw Avenue School

Board Members Present:

M. Fletcher, K. Cummings, E. Antonelli
T. Egbuchulam, J. DiGaetano

Board Members Absent:

None.

Staff Members Present:

A. Singe, Interim Superintendent of Schools
E. Cullen, Assistant Superintendent for Business
P. Burns, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
H. Rabinowitz, Director of Special Education
R. Meloni, Director of Technology
G. Abbate, Director of Facilities
H. Mazer, A. Sinanis, T. Scrocco, Building Principals
A. D'Agostino, Attorney
A. Rosa-McDonald, Clerk

Staff Members Absent:

A. Cedrone, Treasurer

Others in Attendance:

K. White, D. Annunziata, D. Cerrone, J. Lavery, K. Lavery, M. Haley, C. Riccobono, L. Kessler,
M. Schweigert, N. Bart, M. Lauro, J. Innella, M. Vera, C. Kaye, S. Stewart, C. Stewart, G. Jean-Pierre,
M. Douglas, D. Ruffo, D. Jean-Baptiste, J. Alcalá, H. Colbert, et al.

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 8:07 p.m.

I. Superintendent's Report

- a. Dr. Singe reported that the Board has reviewed the proposed Technology Plan. He stated that the plan sets a forward vision for using technology for instructional purposes, which builds on the strengths of our current integrated practices. He noted that it is a six-year plan, is financially prudent and is based on a reallocation of existing resources within the framework of the proposed budget.
- b. Dr. Singe's report was submitted and placed on file.
- c. Dr. Singe asked that the Board entertain a motion to enter into an Executive Session at the end of the public session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. On a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, a motion to enter into Executive Session at the end of the public session was approved.

II. President's Report

- a. Update on Superintendent Search – Dr. Fletcher updated those present on the status of the search for a new Superintendent of Schools. She stated that the search consultants reported that more than 60 applications were received. They have interviewed twenty individuals who they feel met the criteria for what our district is looking for. Of those twenty, six are being recommended for interview by the Board. These interviews will take place on April 5 and 6. She stated that the Board hopes to narrow the field to at least two candidates.

II. President's Report (continued)

These applicants will visit our district on April 9 and 10, tour our schools. Dr. Fletcher explained that letters have been sent to all constituency groups inviting them to send representatives to meet with the candidates in a roundtable discussion. A team leader will be selected to report the results of these discussions to the Board. It is our hope that by the end of the two days, we will have selected a finalist. The Board and community representatives will then do a site visit to the finalist's current district.

Dr. Fletcher explained that the Board hopes to enter into negotiations with the successful candidate and make an appointment on April 28, 2008, with the new superintendent starting on July 1, 2008.

- b. Board of Education Election – Dr. Fletcher reported that on May 20, the community will be voting on the budget and for two seats on the Board of Education. The first is the seat currently held by Trustee Antonelli, who will be running for another term. The second seat is currently held by Jennifer DiGaetano, who has announced that she will not seek reelection. Dr. Fletcher encouraged anyone interested in running for the Board to file the appropriate petition with the District Clerk.
- c. Proposed 2008-09 Budget – Dr. Fletcher announced that the proposed budget totals \$29.2 million, an increase of 4.90% over the current budget, which results in a tax levy increase of 4.42% or \$98 per year. She stated that the budget maintains all existing programs and services and includes the first phase of the comprehensive Technology Plan. The budget will be presented in more detail at the April 16 Board meeting.
- d. She also announced that the Technology Plan will be presented in detail at a future Board meeting.

Dr. Fletcher then opened the meeting to questions from the public on the budget. Several questions were asked regarding whether the school attorney was on the district's payroll. Dr. Fletcher stated that since 2000 the district has contracted with a legal firm, who is appointed each year at the Reorganizational Meeting, on an annual retainer basis. She emphasized that since 2000 no payments have been made directly to any attorney. She stated that the district is cooperating with an inquiry by the State Attorney General and the Board will await their findings

III. Correspondence

The District Clerk announced that a letter had been received from the clerical unit regarding individuals to serve on the Superintendent search roundtable.

IV. Approval of Minutes

- a. Reading/Adoption of Minutes
 1. On a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the regular board meeting of February 25, 2008 and the work session of March 17, 2008.
 2. On a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education accepted the minutes of the regular board meeting of February 25, 2008 and the work session of March 17, 2008

V. Education Committee – New Business

a. Committee on Special Education

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education agreed to provide programs and services for the special education students as indicated.

b. Committee on Preschool Special Education

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Preschool Special Education, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education agreed to provide programs and services for the preschool special education children as indicated.

c. Tenure – Administrator

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education awarded tenure to Edward Cullen, Assistant Superintendent for Business, whose services have, in the Superintendent's opinion, been competent, efficient and satisfactory. Tenure is to take effect on July 1, 2008.

d. Tenure – Administrator

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education awarded tenure to Harriet Rabinowitz, Director of Special Education, whose services have, in the Superintendent's opinion, been competent, efficient and satisfactory. Tenure is to take effect on September 1, 2008.

e. Tenure – Faculty

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education awarded tenure to Margaret Lauro, Elementary Classroom Teacher, whose services have, in the Superintendent's opinion, been competent, efficient and satisfactory. Tenure is to take effect on June 8, 2008.

f. Retirement – Faculty

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education accepted the resignation of Carl Riccobono from Valley Stream UFSD #30, for retirement purposes, and approved the request for a leave of absence with pay prior to retirement as indicated in Mr. Riccobono's letter of February 11, 2008 and in conformance with the provisions of the current Agreement between Valley Stream Teachers' Association, Local 1633, and the Valley Stream UFSD #30 Board of Education, effective July 1, 2008.

g. Retirement – Faculty

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education accepted the resignation of Linda Kessler from Valley Stream UFSD #30, for retirement purposes, and approved the request for a leave of absence with pay prior to retirement as indicated in Ms. Kessler's letter of March 10, 2008 and in conformance with the provisions of the current Agreement between Valley Stream Teachers' Association, Local 1633, and the Valley Stream UFSD #30 Board of Education, effective July 1, 2008.

V. Education Committee – New Business (continued)

h. Resignation – Administrator, Shaw Avenue School

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education accepted, with regret, Mary Louise Haley’s letter of resignation from the position of Assistant Principal of Shaw Avenue School effective close of business June 30, 2008.

i. Resignation – Contract Substitute Teacher, Shaw Avenue School

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education accepted Tara Massa’s letter of resignation from the position of 2-day contract substitute teacher at Shaw Avenue School effective April 4, 2008.

j. Autism Feasibility Study

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education accepted the Autism Feasibility Study as submitted.

k. Appointment – Club Sponsors

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education retroactively appointed the following faculty as club sponsors for the 2007/2008 school year, as funded through Title III grant as follows:

<u>Faculty</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Level</u>
Julie Levine	Language Arts and Research Club	C-3
Maria Neckonoff	ESL and Technology Club	C-1
Mary Hevia & } Roni Kunstler }	Gr.4 Games Club	C-1
Erica Heumann Gr.1	ESL Literacy Club	C-3
Gina Lombardo Gr.2	ESL Literacy Club	C-2
Consuelo Fusaro	ESL Literacy Club	C-2

l. Membership – ASCD

On a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education approved District 30’s comprehensive membership in the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, at a cost not-to-exceed of \$79 for Anthony L. Singe.

m. Student Teachers/Observers/Student Participant Observers

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education retroactively authorized the placement of the following student teachers^{1/}, observers^{2/}, and participant observers^{3/} in the schools of the district as indicated.

<u>Hofstra University</u>	<u>Shaw Ave. School</u>	<u>Dates/Duration</u>
Shana Lawson ^{1/}	Paul Farinacci, Art	4/1/08-5/9/08
<u>St. Joseph’s College</u>	<u>Clear Stream Ave. School</u>	<u>Dates/Duration</u>
Kelly Martin ^{2/}	Sharon Schulman, Speech	3/12/08 (1 hour)
<u>Adelphi University</u>	<u>Clear Stream Ave. School</u>	<u>Dates/Duration</u>
Christine Torentino ^{1/}	Vickey Zapelli, Gr.2	1/23/08-3/14/08
<u>Molloy College</u>	<u>Clear Stream Ave. School</u>	<u>Dates/Duration</u>
Maria Albanese ^{2/}	Jonathan Greiss, PE	04/08 (1 period)
<u>Nassau Comm. Coll.</u>	<u>Forest Road School</u>	<u>Dates/Duration</u>
Maureen Meekins ^{2/}	Lisa Freisem, Life Skills	Beginning 3/25/08 (30 hours)
<u>St. John’s University</u>	<u>Shaw Ave. School</u>	<u>Dates/Duration</u>
Young ja Na ^{2/}	Maria Dove, ESL	Beginning 3/12/08 (4 days)

V. Education Committee – New Business (continued)

n. School Calendar – 2008/2009

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education accepted and approved the attached calendar for the 2008/2009 school year. The Valley Stream Superintendents and the Valley Stream Teachers' Association, Local 1633, agreed upon this calendar.

o. Technology Plan

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education approved the district's Technology Plan, which was presented to and reviewed by the Board of Education (on February 11, 2008). This Plan will serve as a framework for the district's future technology improvements and budgeting; the implementation of the plan will be evaluated annually and a written report shall be submitted to the Board of Education.

p. Psychology Intern – Shaw Ave. School

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Cummings, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the Board of Education retroactively approved the placement of Pace University psychology intern, Nora Torres, to work with Dr. John Comcowich on Wednesdays starting March 5, 2008 for 10 weeks.

VIII. Business Committee – New Business

a. Extra Pay for Extra Services

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education retroactively approved extra pay for extra service in accordance with Attachment A.

b. BOCES Diversity Recruitment Fair - Extra Pay for Extra Services

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education retroactively authorized payment to Patricia Burns, Antony Sinanis and Carolyn Reser for attending the BOCES Diversity Recruitment Fair on Saturday, March 8, 2008 in accordance with the attached document.

c. District Clerk Transition Period

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education retroactively authorized Annette Rosa-McDonald to assist in the district clerk responsibilities for the month of March 2008, and retroactively approved a one month prorated stipend.

d. Extra Pay for Extra Service

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education retroactively approved, not-to-exceed, 15 additional hours of pay for Annette Rosa-McDonald for the month of March 2008 for the purposes of curriculum/instruction work.

e. Resignation – Joanne Novello

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education retroactively accepted the resignation of Joanne Novello, effective March 28, 2008. Ms. Novello was a Teacher/Security Aide at the Clear Stream Avenue School.

VIII. Business Committee – New Business (continued)

f. Student Nurse

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee *Antonelli*, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education retroactively approved the placement of the following student nurse, as delineated below.

St. Joseph's College
Christana Akinyemi

Shaw Ave. School
S. Lombardo, R.N.
Wednesdays, 2/13/08 to 4/30/08

g. Flexible Spending Accounts

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education accepted and approved the attached proposal from J.J. Stanis for the administration of the flexible spending accounts.

h. Online Order Entry System

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education accepted and approved the attached proposal from Educational Data Services for the online order entry system at a not-to-exceed cost of \$900.

i. Operations and Maintenance Bid

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education approved the attached Educational Data Services time and material bid enrollment form for New York Skilled Trades Time & Material Bid for the period from April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009 at the cost of \$1,600.

j. 403(b) Administrator

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education approved the participation in a purchasing consortium with Valley Stream UFSD #13 and #24 for the purposes of recommending a 403(b) administrator.

k. Health and Welfare Service Agreements

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education approved the health and welfare services agreements for the Baldwin UFSD, Lynbrook UFSD and East Rockaway UFSD and authorized the execution and payment of such.

l. Security Camera System – Clear Stream Ave. School

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education authorized an increase of \$54,565.78 in the Nassau BOCES letter of intent to furnish and install an exterior security camera system at the Clear Stream Avenue School.

m. NYSASBO Annual Meeting

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education approved Edward A. Cullen to attend the 2008 New York State Association of School Business Officials Annual Meeting.

VIII. Business Committee – New Business (continued)

n. Write On! Preparation

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Egbuchulam, seconded by Trustee Antonelli, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education approved, not-to-exceed, 80 additional hours of pay for Paula DiLorenzo for the purposes of the preparation of the Write On! Magazine.

IX. Finance Committee – New Business

a. Treasurer’s Report

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Antonelli, seconded by Trustee Cummings, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education accepted and approved the attached Treasurer’s Report for the month ending February 2008.

b. Revenue & Expenditure Reports

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Antonelli, seconded by Trustee Cummings, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education accepted and approved the 2007-08 Revenue and Expenditure Reports (both through February 29, 2008) as attached.

c. Transfers Between Accounts

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Antonelli, seconded by Trustee Cummings, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education approved the transfers between accounts for the 2007-08 school year as delineated in the attached sheet.

d. Receipt and Expenditures

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Antonelli, seconded by Trustee Cummings, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education retroactively approved the receipt and expenditures of \$353.62 in the general fund. Please note that the general fund budget will increase by said amount. Please see the attached documents.

e. Vouchers

On a motion by Trustee Antonelli, seconded by Trustee Cummings, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education authorized payment of vouchers as summarized below.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Warrant #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A-General	18A	02/28/08	\$255,895.20
A-General	19A	03/13/08	\$206,892.14
F-Federal	8F	02/28/08	\$3,850.68
T-Trust & Agency	17T	02/28/08	\$128,325.95
T-Trust & Agency	18T	03/14/08	\$114,998.93
<u>Electronic Fund Transfers</u>			
Board Share FICA & Medicare P/R 16			\$48,673.30
Board Share FICA & Medicare P/R 17			\$51,360.72
<u>Wire Transfers</u>			
Payroll 16			\$697,863.86
Payroll 17			\$682,618.27

IX. Finance Committee – New Business (continued)

f. R.S. Abrams

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Antonelli, seconded by Trustee Cummings, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education adopted the internal claim audit finding of R. S. Abrams for their February 5, February 15 and March 4, 2008 visits. Please note that 678 items were reviewed and there were 8 non-conformances (99% in conformance). Please see the attached documents.

X. Buildings & Grounds Committee – New Business

a. Cooperative Bidding

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee DiGaetano, seconded by Trustee Cummings, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education authorize Valley Stream Union Free School District #30 to enter into cooperative bids with the School Districts indicated below for products and services rendered for the 2008/2009 school year in accordance with General Municipal Law.

Floor Sanding & Refinishing	West Hempstead
Custodial Supplies	Rockville Centre
Plumbing Supplies	Rockville Centre
Lumber and Related Material	Rockville Centre
Painting	Hewlett – Woodmere
Paint & Supplies	North Bellmore
Pump & Motor Repair	Hewlett - Woodmere
Plumbing Services	East Rockaway
Venetian Blinds & Shades	Seaford
Tree cutting & Pruning	Manhasset
Fuel Tank Alarm Repairs	West Hempstead
Fuel Tank Pressure Testing	Roosevelt
Carpet, Tile & Installation	Bethpage
Suspended Ceiling Installation	Baldwin
Parking Lot Sweeping	Elmont
Electrical Service	Hewlett – Woodmere
Electrical Supplies	Rockville Centre
Field Maintenance*	Jericho*
Fence Installation & Repair	Elmont
Fire Extinguisher Service	Lynbrook
Geese/Dog Service	East Rockaway
Pneumatic System Service	Syosset
Roof Repair	Baldwin
AC & Refrigeration Service	Bethpage
Asphalt / Concrete Repair	Lynbrook
Dumpsters	N. Bellmore
Irrigation System Repair	Mineola
PA/Intercom & Clocks	Syosset
Wireless Clock Systems	Rockville Centre

*Organic pest & weed control

b. Cooperative Bidding – Locust Valley

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, on a motion by Trustee Antonelli, seconded by Trustee Cummings, and unanimously carried, the Board of Education authorized Valley Stream Union Free School District #30 to enter into a cooperative bid with the Locust Valley Central School District for services for the 2008/2009 school year in accordance with General Municipal Law.

Refuse Removal
Street Sweeping
Storm Water Drainage System Maintenance

X. Public Comment

- A parent requested that a public report be presented on the BOCES Diversity Recruitment Fair. Dr. Singe replied that the second part of the Fair will be held in June. If the Board would like, a report could be presented following the June Recruitment Fair. The Board requested such a report.
- A request was made that the resumes of the finalists for the position of Superintendent be posted on the website. Dr. Fletcher stated that, while she would ask the search consultant, she did not believe that was possible due to confidentiality issues. Once a finalist has been selected, his/her vita can be posted.
- A resident asked if the superintendent interviews were open to the public. Dr. Fletcher stated that they are not, due to confidentiality.

XI. Executive Session

The public session of the meeting was concluded at 8:55 p.m.

XII. Oath of Office – District Clerk

The meeting of the Board of Education was reconvened at 9:07 p.m. The Oath of Office was administered to the newly appointed District Clerk, Linda Steel.

XIII. Executive Session

- a. The public session of the meeting was concluded at 9:08 p.m. The Board of Education went into Executive Session at 9:10 p.m.

Executive Session

Board Members Present

M. Fletcher, K. Cummings, E. Antonelli
T. Egbuchulam, J. DiGaetano

Staff Members Present:

A. Singe, Interim Superintendent
E. Cullen, Asst. Supt. for Business
P. Burns, Asst. Supt. for Instruction
A. D’Agostino, Attorney

- b. On a motion by Trustee Antonelli, seconded by Trustee Egbuchulam and unanimously carried, the regular meeting of the Board of Education was adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward A. Cullen
Deputy District Clerk