APPROVED 7/10/2013

Board of Education Amityville Union Free School District Amityville, NY 11701

Special Meeting Minutes- April 17, 2013

Park Avenue Elementary School - Auditorium - 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School - Auditorium

IN ATTENDANCE: President Juliet Jordon-Thompson 2nd Vice President Ron Moss

Trustee Jeannette Santos

Trustee Michele Sikhrangkur

Trustee Nathan King

BOE ABSENT: Vice President Lisa Johnson

Trustee Mark Epps

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. John R. Williams, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Kathleen Gulbin – Asst. Supt. Curriculum & Instruction Dr. William Fanning-Interim Asst. Supt. Finance & Operations

Dr. Mary Kelly-Asst Supt. Technology

Dr. Stephen Neidell-Interim Asst. Supt. Human Resources

CLERK IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. Judith O'Neill/District Clerk

COMMUNITY: 15 members present

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** by President Jordon-Thompson at 7:05 PM.

A. Emergency Exit, No Smoking Statement

*In the unlikely event of an emergency, you need to Note that exits are clearly marked. Take a moment to Note the exit nearest to where are you are seated. *Smoking is Not allowed on school grounds. *As a courtesy, please turn off cell phones and pagers during the meeting.

B. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> The Board and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Jordon-Thompson called for a moment of silence in memory of the Boston tragedy.

C. Community Input Regarding Board Agenda Items Only

President Jordon-Thompson said that tonight we are meeting to adopt the budget.

Dr. Williams said that prior to adopting the budget, Dr. Fanning will give a brief presentation.

D. PRESENTATIONS -

Dr. Fanning said that we had \$700,000 in new money added by the legislature over what the governor had ordered and we said that that combined with the retirement incentive and the change in staff would allow us to present the Board with a budget that we felt could sustain the FTE's that are in the current year. We have been over this chart, it was in last week's packet and it is exactly the same chart. The tax cap is at the cap level at 3.29%. This is not necessarily the increase in anyone's tax bill. It is the total change in the tax levy, the dollars we will be raising through taxation. We've used \$500,000 of Workers Comp reserves. We used ERS reserve and we discussed the unreserved fund balance. The total revenues come to \$80,838,781. Between last week and this week, I adjusted the line item budget in response to some of the items that the Board raised and in response to the budget requests made by the academic directors and the principals. The final staffing for next year is still under discussion.

Those final decisions are made upon recommendations to the Board. This budget will allow us to move forward.

Ed McDaniels,111 Bayview Ave., Amityville – Mr. McDaniels asked what would happen if the budge fails. Dr. Fanning explained that it is within the cap and if it fails it would be presented to the public a second time. It would be the Board's decision whether to present the same budget or a reduced budget. Mr. McDaniels then asked what would happen if it failed a second time. Dr. Fanning said then we would have a contingency budget and there are parameters to determine what that amount would be.

Bob Claps, ATA – Mr. Claps asked if there was a plan to replace all 16 retirees. Dr. Williams said we have not done staffing at all. Dr. Fanning noted that this budget is constructed as it exists today. Dr. Williams said that it guarantees that no employees will be laid off. Trustee Sikhrangkur said that just because we are at the cap doesn't mean that this is the budget we have to work with next year. It will be a struggle to get the budget passed. Mr. Claps said that he wanted someone to tell him that if it does pass, the plan it to replace the 16 retirees with new teachers. President Jordon-Thompson said that we have been going over this during every budget meeting. If this budget is adopted by the Board, it is the template. They are charged with laying out the areas of need as identified by the administrator in each and your unit. We have to fill the gap and make sure there is a teacher for each class in the fall. It might not be exactly what we had in the past. This is a working plan. The budget vote will be May 21 and if it is passed by the voters, from now until then administration is working on different configurations of how to staff and support the district. That is what they will be doing and will be doing all summer. As the president of the unit, you will be involved where appropriate and applicable in discussion that directly impacts your colleagues.

Mr. Claps reiterated there doesn't seem to be plan for the amount of teachers needed. Dr. Williams said you must recall over the past several years, we have had to endure significant cuts and excessing of employees across the board and your unit has felt this. We're happy that we are able to say that we have a budget that is balanced within the cap and calls for no layoffs. We are one of the very few districts in Suffolk County that is not piercing the cap and does not plan any excessing. Trustee Sikhrangkur said that there is never a plan on the night we adopt the budget because administration does not know what the Board will approve.

President Jordon-Thompson said that we will vote on the amount of the budget tonight but not on how we are going to spend the money.

President Jordon-Thompson asked if there were any other comments or concerns from the community. No one commented.

President Jordon-Thompson then called for a motion to adopt the budget as presented to us. The motion was moved by 2nd Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos.

MOTION CARRIED:	Trustee King	Yes
	President Jordon-Thompson	Yes
	Trustee Sikhrangkur	Yes
	Trustee Santos	Yes
	Trustee Moss	Yes

5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

President Jordon-Thompson thanked Dr. Fanning and Administration and the community.

A discussion followed regarding using Connect Ed to get the word out on the budget. Mr. Steffanetta will be consulted.

2. BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION - None

- A. Approval of Board Minutes
- **B.** Board Policy Committee
- C. Board Action Recommended by Board of Education
- D. Audit Committee

3. **BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT** - None

- A. Superintendent
- B. Personnel
- C. Business and Finance
- D. Monthly Finance Report
- E. CSE & CPSE Action/Meetings/Educational Service Contracts
- F. Curriculum and Instruction
- 4. **REPORTS** None
 - A. Legal Counsel for the District
 - **B.** Superintendent of Schools
 - C. Board of Education

MOTION to ADJOURN special meeting at 7:38 PM made by 2nd Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Motion CARRIED:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

Respectfully submitted,	
Judith O'Neill, District Clerk	