

MAHOPAC CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, **August 8, 2006**  
Lakeview Elementary School, 8:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

1. CALL OF THE ROLL

PRESENT: Ralph Anker, Sandra Calvi-Muscente, Giulio Cefaloni, Rose Fabiano,  
William Hines, Penny Swift, Vinnie Trinchitella

ABSENT: Patricia Greenwood-O'Keefe, Elaine Simone

STAFF: Robert J. Reidy, Superintendent; Assistant Superintendents: David Chapman,  
Vincent Quartararo; Assistants to the Superintendent: Barbara Walkley, Donald  
Beverly and Dorothy Gilroy, District Clerk.

CONVENE: At 7:07 p.m., President Cefaloni called the meeting to order in Room 17 of the  
Lakeview Elementary School and moved immediately to executive session for the  
purpose of discussing a particular contract negotiations issue and a personnel issue.

**Moved by Mrs. Fabiano, seconded by Mrs. Swift, carried unanimously.**

2. PUBLIC At 8:10 p.m. the board returned to public session in the Auditorium of the Lakeview  
SESSION: Elementary School with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

OTHERS: Approximately 50 people were in attendance.

3. RESIDENT COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - None

4. COMMUNICATIONS - None

5. ACCEPTANCE OF WARRANTS

GENERAL 'A' FUND WARRANTS:

# 76,	CHECKS # 108543 TO 108750,	06/30/06,	\$ 551,442.77
# 02,	CHECKS # 108631 TO 108636,	07/12/06,	\$ 565,536.50
# 03,	CHECKS # 108683 TO 108706,	07/18/06,	\$ 713,036.04
# 05,	CHECKS # 108550 TO 108874,	07/31/06,	\$ 313,524.10

CAPITAL PROJECT 'H' FUND WARRANTS:

# 18,	CHECKS # 2004,	06/30/06,	\$ 6,861.75
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TRUST & AGENCY 'T' FUND WARRANTS:

# 01,	CHECKS # 616, 7351 TO 7397,	07/12/06,	\$ 7,798.47
# 02,	CHECKS # 985, 7398 TO 7406, 7370107,	07/31/06,	\$ 36,648.83

6. TREASURER'S REPORT - Received for Filing, **June, 2006**

**Acceptance of the above-mentioned Warrants and Treasurer's Report was moved by Mrs. Swift, seconded by Mr. Anker, carried unanimously.**

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

7/11/06 - Re-organizational Board Meeting

**Moved by Mrs. Trinchitella, seconded by Mrs. Fabiano, carried unanimously.**

7/11/06 - Regular Monthly Board Meeting

**Moved by Mrs. Fabiano, seconded by Mrs. Trinchitella, carried unanimously.**

7/19/06 - Special Board of Education Meeting

**Moved by Mrs. Calvi-Muscente, seconded by Mr. Ankier, carried 5 ayes, 2 abstentions (Mr. Hines & Mrs. Swift).**

8. STUDENT REPORTS - None

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS - Board of Education Chairpersons

Activities Coalition - Mr. Ankier reported that approximately 20 to 25 students are registering everyday with the Coalition, in the hopes that they will meet the first payment date in mid August. He reported that the Coalition has received a \$100,000 donation from Mr. Paul Camarda, which has jumpstarted the program and took this opportunity to publicly thank him. Mr. Ankier reported on the organization of fundraiser events such as a road race, golf outing on Columbus Day, alumni mailing, New Year's Eve Gala or a Casino Night. He reported that programs are moving along and urged anyone to contact the Coalition by e-mailing them at [MSASPORTS.ORG](mailto:MSASPORTS.ORG). The Coalition meets the last Monday of every month at the MSA Room at the Mahopac Falls School at 7:00 p.m., for anyone interested in volunteering.

Mrs. Fabiano piggybacked on the Coalition Report, reporting that Jim Tompkins Garbage & Recycling Disposal (Mahopac graduate) has offered to contribute \$5.00 to the Coalition for every new customer. President Cefaloni stated that the district is not advertising for this company but announcing the company's contribution.

Transportation - Mrs. Fabiano reported that the Annual School Bus Drivers Meeting will be held on August 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at Austin Road School and the Transportation Department is working on their two-hour training meeting.

Mrs. Fabiano reported that she attended a Town Board Work Session where they talked about the fact that the Town is landlocked, with little commercial land available. The Town is being proactive to see what kind of available land is left in the community and will try to attract businesses to the area. They discussed a sports complex, which may bring in \$100,000 to \$180,000 a year to help with the tax burden and to offset residents' taxes.

Legislative - Mrs. Swift reported that she is working on a document for community residents to send to legislative officials pleading to reduce property taxes in our district. A printout of the sample letter is available this evening for the public. The board is asking the community to conduct a massive letter writing campaign for school tax reform and to help reduce the tax burden. Sample letters are also available on the district's website and at the district office.

Special Education - Mrs. Swift reported on a follow-up from last meeting announcing that the Eastern PTA meets the first Saturday of each month. She has the President's name and e-mail for anyone interested and these meetings are open to all parents. The Special Education Committee met this evening and Items #18.A through #18.F. & 18.S. are recommended for approval.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – continued

Special Education - continued

Mrs. Swift reported that there are a number of new NYS performance policies that tie into Special Education under new Federal Regulations. There are 14 policies that we must adhere to. Our district currently has 11 policies in effect. Mrs. Swift reported that Dr. LaVigne is developing the other three policies according to federal regulations.

Technology – Mr. Cefaloni reported that one of our servers overheated at Austin Road School. Fortunately, during the network rebuild last year, the network was designed to have a backup domain at the MS and no data was lost. The staff is currently looking into an automated shutdown of the servers based on temperature. Although there was elimination of our summer help, which affected our Technology Department, Mr. Cefaloni believes that we will be ready for opening day, none the less.

Audit - Mr. Hines reported that the State has finished their audit and we have received a verbal report. They will set up an interview with our Board Audit Committee and speak about their findings. Mr. Chapman reported that the process has gone pretty smoothly. Now the district is working with external auditors who started this week. There are three audit processes going on now, looking at our district as well as every school district with the commitment to keep house in order and receiving recommendations to make things better.

Community Communications - Mr. Hines reported on real good news. This committee is putting on a major effort this year to get information back and forth to the community. The committee's goals are to ensure that all groups in the community are receiving timely and accurate district-related information; to establish a vehicle for exchange of information between the district and the community and to ensure that the community has an avenue for communication and feedback. Mr. Hines discussed the make-up of the Community Communications Advisory Committee and a number of school and community contacts. He discussed the communication set-up, the types of information with set agendas; and types of communication. Mr. Hines reported that during the first year, the Advisory Committee will be gathering information for the committee. He asked volunteers to step up to volunteer their time, with the first meeting to be held at the end of the month.

President Cefaloni reported that Mr. Hines has put a lot of work into this major effort for this district. The committee will be preparing an execution plan to present to the full board and the administration.

## 10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Reidy reported that he has been attending meetings of the Activities Coalition and wanted to publicly thank them for their efforts on behalf of our children and community, being very proud to be a part of them.

### CONSENT AGENDA BEGINS

- Items removed for further discussion:  
[#18.K](#), [#18.Q](#), [#18.W](#), [#18.S](#).

#18.K - Mr. Chapman clarified that Harbor Lane, at the Lakeview School road must be closed for a 24 hours period to maintain the private road status.

#18.Q.- Mr. Hines questioned the one bidder response on this project and asked for clarification on the amount. Mr. Hines requested that we re-open the bid to see if we can do better on this amount. Mr. Hines was not comfortable with this bid.

Mr. Chapman responded that last year there were only two bids on the same but we will go out for another bid.

- Items removed for further discussion, continued

#18.W. - Mr. Hines questioned Section 5 of the Attendance Policy which should address chronic late problems. Mr. Beverly will go back to the committee to review this Section. Mr. Hines checked with other districts and two have addressed this issue with 2 late absences equaling one absence.

Mr. Beverly reported that review of this policy took almost one year with a committee. Dr. Reidy thanked Don Beverly and his committee for all their work and that this policy went through much iteration.

Mrs. Swift reported that this Attendance Policy mirrors the State requirements of this policy.

Mrs. Fabiano questioned our incentives for perfect attendance. Mr. Beverly stated that each our schools have attendance awards. Mrs. Fabiano would like to see more weight put to this. Mr. Beverly stated that we have looked at other districts and will investigate further.

#18.S. - Mrs. Swift explained that this item cannot be discussed in public due to confidentiality of a student. Mrs. Calvi-Muscente stated that this was briefly discussed already in executive session and had no objection to the board moving on this recommendation this evening, but without her approval.

11. RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS - Recommendation of the superintendent of schools:

A. Administrative

**John Carlough**, Principal, Fulmar Road Elementary School, effective 7/20/07.

B. Non-Instructional

**William Normile**, monitor, Mahopac High School, effective 6/23/06.

12. RESIGNATIONS - Recommendation of the superintendent of schools:

A. Instructional

1. **Andrea Wheeland**, English as a Second Language teacher, Mahopac Middle School/Austin Road Elementary Schools, effective 7/31/06.
2. **Stephen Bell**, technology teacher, Mahopac Middle School, effective 8/31/06.
3. **Arlene Fischetti**, music teacher, Austin/Fulmar/Lakeview Elementary Schools, effective 8/31/06.

B. Non-Instructional

1. **Providenza Sottile**, school bus aide, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 1/3/06.
2. **Maria Bernhardt**, teacher aide, Lakeview Elementary School, effective 6/30/06.
3. **Eugene Macchia**, per diem bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/5/06.
4. **Kathleen Sweet**, per diem bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/5/06.
5. **Susan Arnold**, per diem bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/5/06.
6. **Laura Zamparelli**, per diem bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/5/06.
7. **William Owsiany**, per diem bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/5/06.

13. TERMINATIONS - None

14. LEAVES OF ABSENCE – Recommendation of the superintendent of schools:

A. Instructional

1. **Diane D'Alessandro**, elementary teacher, Lakeview Elementary School, unpaid leave of absence, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07.
2. **Karen Kellogg**, elementary teacher, Lakeview Elementary School, unpaid leave, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07.
3. **Aneta Lacerte**, teaching assistant, Lakeview Elementary School, unpaid leave, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07.
4. **Kris Edwards**, teaching assistant, Mahopac Middle School, unpaid leave, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07.
5. **Jeanette Coniglio**, English teacher, Mahopac High School, unpaid childcare leave, effective 9/16/06-11/28/06.
6. **Alice Shaughnessy**, special education teacher, Austin Road Elementary School, unpaid childcare leave, effective 10/11/06-11/28/06.
7. **Jessica Gustin**, special education teacher, Fulmar Road Elementary School, unpaid childcare leave, effective 11/25/06-2/23/07.
8. **Kristina Suozzo**, special education teacher, Mahopac High School, unpaid childcare leave, effective 10/5/06-10/10/06.
9. **Lisa Morrison**, teaching assistant, Mahopac Middle school, unpaid leave, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07.
10. **Lisa Robinson**, teaching assistant, Mahopac Middle School, unpaid leave, effective 9/1/06-1/1/07.
11. **REVISION: Eileen Geller**, unpaid childcare leave revised *from* 11/1/06-1/31/07 *to* 11/11/06-1/31/07.

B. Non-Instructional

1. **Melanie Partelow**, teacher aide, Mahopac Falls School, unpaid childcare leave, 9/01/06 through 9/21/06.
2. **Carrie Reyes**, teacher aide, Lakeview Elementary School, unpaid leave, 9/1/06 through 6/30/07.

15. ABOLISHMENT OF POSITIONS - None

16. CREATION OF POSITIONS - Recommendation of the superintendent of schools:

A. Instructional

One (1) – Teaching Assistant

17. APPOINTMENTS - Recommendation of the superintendent of schools:

A. Instructional

1. Candidate: ConnieMarie Rao  
Tenure Area: Music  
Probationary Period: 9/1/06-6/30/07  
Certification Area: Provisional  
Salary: Step 4, BA+24

17. APPOINTMENTS – continued

A. Instructional

2. Candidate: Robert Molfetta  
Tenure Area: Technology  
Probationary Period: 9/1/06-6/30/09  
Certification Area: Initial  
Salary: Step 4, BA+37+MA

3. Candidate: Jaclyn Antonucci  
Tenure Area: Foreign Language  
Probationary Period: 9/1/06-11/30/08  
Certification Area: Supplementary  
Salary: Step 2, BA+39+MA

4. **Maureen DiMaiolo**, part-time physical education teacher (60%), effective 9/1/06. Step 7, BA+21 (pro-rata) of the contract between the Mahopac Teachers' Association and the District. Ms. DiMaiolo holds a New York State Provisional Renewal Certificate in physical education.

**Term Appointments:**

5. **Joyce Intervallo**, *term substitute* elementary teacher for Dona Martirano, Fulmar Road Elementary School, effective 9/1/06-1/31/07 or until Ms. Martirano returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 4 BA+27 (pro-rata)

6. **Michelle Faella**, *term substitute* elementary teacher for Elizabeth Merriam, Fulmar Road Elementary School, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07 or until Ms. Merriam returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 2, BA+36+MA

7. **Christina D'Amore**, *term substitute* special education teacher for Jessica Gustin, Fulmar Road Elementary School, effective 10/2/06-2/23/07 or until Ms. Gustin returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 2, BA+45+MA (pro-rata)

8. **Stephen Salese**, *term substitute* social studies teacher for Christine Honohan Zeolla, Mahopac High School, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07 or until Ms. Honohan Zeolla returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 3, BA+30+MA

9. **Aneta Lacerte**, *term substitute* special education teacher for Ms. Sharon Baranowski, Mahopac Middle School, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07 or until Ms. Baranowski returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 3, BA+45+MA

10. **Kris Edwards**, *term substitute* elementary teacher for Ms. Karen Farris, Mahopac Middle School, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07 or until Ms. Farris returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 2, BA+43+MA

11. **Matthew Horvitz**, *term substitute* teaching assistant for Ms. Teresa Curtin, Mahopac Middle School, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07 or until Ms. Curtin returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 2 of the Teaching Assistants' Contract.

17. APPOINTMENTS – continued

A. Instructional

12. **Sarah Stefanak**, *term substitute* elementary teacher for Ms. Karen Kellogg, Lakeview Elementary School, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07 or until Ms. Kellogg returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 3, BA+45+MA
13. **Maryanne Courtney**, *term substitute* elementary teacher for Ms. Diane D’Alessandro, Lakeview Elementary School, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07 or until Ms. D’Alessandro returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 6, BA+36+MA
14. **Alicia Battista**, *term substitute* special education teacher for Ms. Alice Shaughnessy, Austin Road Elementary School, effective 9/1/06-11/28/06 or until Ms. Shaughnessy returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 5, BA+36+MA
15. **Julie P. Panzer**, *term substitute* foreign language teacher for Ms. April Ljumic, Mahopac High School, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07 or until Ms. Ljumic returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 2, BA+30+MA

16. Chairperson Appointments for the 2006/07 School Year:  
**Social Studies - Catherine O’Connell**

*Stipends in accordance with agreement between the District and MTA*

17. 2006/07 Substitute Teacher/Teaching Assistant/Nurse List:  
*See Attached.*

B. Non-Instructional

1. **Matthew Addato**, per diem bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/6/06. Salary as per USWOM Contract.
  2. **Robert Mayo**, per diem bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/6/06. Salary as per USWOM Contract.
  3. **Eugene Macchia**, part-time bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/6/06. Salary as per USWOM Contract.
  4. **Kathleen Sweet**, part-time bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/6/06. Salary as per USWOM Contract.
  5. **Susan Arnold**, part-time bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/6/06. Salary as per USWOM Contract.
  6. **Laura Zamparelli**, part-time bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/6/06. Salary as per USWOM Contract.
  7. **William Owsiany**, part-time bus driver, Mahopac Bus Garage, effective 9/6/06. Salary as per USWOM Contract.
  8. **Jacqueline Azadian**, *term substitute* teacher aide for Ms. Carrie Reyes, Lakeview Elementary School, effective 9/1/06 through 6/30/07, or until Ms. Reyes returns, whichever comes first. Salary as per CSEA contract.
- Summer Helpers:**
9. **Noelle Lofaro**, student summer helper, Mahopac Falls School, \$10/hour, effective 7/5/06-8/15/06.
  10. **Stephanie Righetti**, student summer helper, Mahopac Falls School, \$10/hour, effective 7/5/06-8/15/06.
  11. **Gabrielle Morales**, student summer helper, Lakeview Elementary School, \$10/hour, effective 7/5/06 – 8/15/06.
  12. **Angela Ruggiero**, student summer helper, Lakeview Elementary School, \$10/hour, effective 7/5/06 – 8/15/06.

17. **APPOINTMENTS – continued**

**B. Non-Instructional**

13. **Dustin Horvath**, student summer helper, Lakeview Elementary School, \$10/hour, effective 7/5/06-8/15/06.
14. **Danielle Oliveri**, student summer helper, Mahopac Falls School, \$10/hour, effective 7/5/06 – 8/15/06.
15. **Monique Morales**, student summer helper, Lakeview Elementary School, \$10/hour, effective 7/5/06 – 8/15/06.
16. **Regina Sangalli**, student summer helper, Lakeview Elementary School, \$10/hour, effective 7/5/06-8/15/06.
16. **Kevin D’Angelo**, student summer helper, Mahopac High School, \$10/hour, effective 7/5/06 – 8/15/06.
17. **Kristen Reyes**, student summer helper, Mahopac High School, \$10/hour, effective 7/5/06 – 8/15/06.
18. **Nicole Righetti**, student summer helper, Mahopac Falls School, \$10/hour, effective 7/5/06-8/15/06.
  
20. **2006/07 substitute clerical/ monitor/teacher aide/library aide list:**  
*See Attached.*
  
21. **2006/07 substitute cleaner/maintenance list:**  
*See Attached.*

18. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- A. **SPECIAL STUDENT PLACEMENTS/HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION**  
Recommendation of the Committee for Special Education for approval of the special student placements, **as attached.**
  
- B. **2006-2007 COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION**  
Recommendation of the superintendent of schools, as forwarded by Education Support Services, for approval of the Committee on Special Education for the 2005-06 school year, **as attached.**
  
- C. **2006-07 COMMITTEE ON PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION**  
Recommendation of the superintendent of schools, as forwarded by Education Support Services for approval of the list of members to the Committee on Preschool Special Education, **as per the attached.**
  
- D. **2005-06 ANNUAL REVIEWS**  
Recommendation of the superintendent of schools, as forwarded by the Committee on Special Education and Sub-Committee on Special Education to classify, place and provide related services as a result of the Annual Review and as described in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) for previously placed students in the district.
  
- E. **2006-07 COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**  
Recommendation of the superintendent of schools, as forwarded by Student Services, for adoption of CSE Meetings. The Committee meets regularly to assess, review and evaluate students with special needs. Additional meetings for annual reviews will be added as needed.

18. RECOMMENDATIONS - continued

F. **IMPARTIAL HEARING REPORTING SYSTEM (IHRS)**

RESOLVED, that the Mahopac Central School District will use the district specific list as maintained by the IHRS (Impartial Hearing Reporting System) provided by the NYS Education Department as required in Section 200.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education. This change became effective July 9, 2004.

G. **APPOINTMENT OF HEARING OFFICER**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools, as forwarded by the District Clerk, to appoint Mr. Eric Nachman, as Impartial Hearing Officer for the Mahopac Central School District, according to the New York State Impartial Hearing Officer Rotational List.

H. **AUTHORIZATION TO APPOINT NEW STAFF**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for authorization to commit new staff for the new school year, prior to the *September 12, 2006* Regular Board Meeting.

I. **2006/2007 SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools, as forwarded by the Administrative Board Committee, for approval of the 2006/2007 Board of Education Sub-Committees, as per the attached.

J. **INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES, FREE/REDUCED PRICE MEALS**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the income eligibility guidelines for free and reduced price school meals, recommended by the State Education Department, effective 7/1/2006 – 6/30/2007, **as per the attached.**

K. **RESOLUTION RE ROAD CLOSING**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in order to maintain the franchise of the district's private road on the north side of Lakeview School, known as Harbor Lane, connecting McAlpin Avenue and See Avenue, and the district's lot on the west side of Route 6 and Croton Falls Road, opposite the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Mahopac Central School District authorizes the closing, for 24 hours, on the fourth Tuesday of August, namely, **August 22, 2006**, the above-named property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District Clerk be authorized to publish legal notice of these closings.

L. **HEALTH SERVICE CONTRACT**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the following health service contract for the 2005/06 school year; with authorization for the president and district clerk to sign same:

**Yonkers Public School District**, 1 student @ \$489.68

M. **INCREASE IN LUNCH PRICES**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of lunch prices as follows, which represents an increase of \$0.10 per school.

High School/Middle School - \$1.90

Elementary Schools - \$1.80

18. RECOMMENDATIONS - continued

N. **PROPERTY LOSS AND LIABILITY RESERVE**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the following resolution

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education establish a Property Loss and Liability Reserve in the amount of \$ 1,000,000 for the 2006-07 school year.

O. **2006/2007 TAX LEVY**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the adoption of the **2006-07** tax levy in the amount of **\$ 69,171,852** based on the revenue estimates and consistent with changes in the tax levying process as a result of Section 1307 of the Real Property Tax Law; and to authorize the superintendent of schools to issue a certificate to the Chief Fiscal Officer of each town stating the amount due; and further, to execute tax warrants to Robert Rizzo, Tax Collector for the Town of Putnam Valley and Mary Kristensen, Tax Collector for the Town of Carmel, in the following amounts:

Carmel -	<b>\$ 34.074694</b> per \$1,000 assessed valuation
Putnam Valley -	<b>\$ 16.270603</b> per \$1,000 assessed valuation

P. **2005/06 FINAL CONTRACT OF SERVICES WITH PNW BOCES**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the 2005/2006 Final Contract of Services with Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES with authorization for District and Board President to sign same, **as per the attached.**

Q. **BID AWARDS**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the bid awards for the following bid awards to the lowest responsible bidder, meeting the specifications, AS PER THE ATTACHED.

1. **WATER TREATMENT**

2. **CURTIS & STEVE WALKER**

**#18.Q.2. - bid rejected**

**Item #18.Q.1. was moved by Mr. Hines, seconded by Mr. Ankier, carried unanimously.**

**Item #18.Q.2. was rejected by Mr. Hines, seconded by Mr. Ankier, carried unanimously.**

R. **SALE OF SURPLUS VEHICLES**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the sale of surplus vehicles, no longer of use to the district, to the highest bidder, as per the attached.

S. **STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to sign on behalf of the District a certain Stipulation of Settlement in the matter of the due process impartial hearing involving student ID number 9474139, a copy of which Stipulation has been reviewed previously by the members of the Board of Education.

**Item #18.S. was moved by Mrs. Trinchitella, seconded by Mr. Ankier, carried 6 ayes, 1 nay, (Mrs. Calvi-Muscente ).**

18. RECOMMENDATIONS – continued

T. ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of a \$200 mini-grant obtained for art work in the Mahopac High School regarding multi-cultural issues from Ulster County BOCES, New Paltz, NY.

U. BUS PROPOSITION

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the following proposition for placement on the ballot at the Bus Proposition Vote to be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2006.

PROPOSITION - Bus & Van Purchases

"Shall the Board of Education of the Mahopac Central School District be authorized to finance the cost of the acquisition of school buses and/or school bus vans at a cost not to exceed **\$ 800,000** and to authorize and issue serial bonds in the principal amount of **\$ 800,000** and to levy the necessary real estate taxes for such purpose. **This borrowing will have no added impact to the budget.** The principal and interest on borrowings are already included within the budget number.

V. RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for the Board of Education to adopt the following list of approved Religious Holidays for the 2006-2007 school year.

2006-2007

9/24/2006	Ramadan Begins
10/7-8/2006	Sukkott
10/14/2006	Shemini Atzeret
11/1/2006	All Saints Day
	Feast of the Immaculate
12/8/2006	Conception
12/15/2006	First Day of Hanukkah
12/25/2006	Christmas
12/31/2006	Eid-ul-Adha
1/6/2007	Armenian Christmas
2/20/2007	Strove Tuesday
2/21/2007	Ash Wednesday
3/4/2007	Purim-Feast of Lots
3/3-4/2007	First two days of Passover
4/6/2007	GoodFriday
4/9-10/2007	Last two days of Passover
4/21/2007	First Day of Ridvan
5/25/2007	Ascension Day

W. POLICY REVISION - ATTENDANCE POLICY #5100

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the revision of Board of Education STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY - #5100, as per the attached.

Recommendation is made to waive the second reading of policy being adopted by the board of education.

18. RECOMMENDATIONS – continued

X. **CERTIORARI RESERVE**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education increase the Certiorari reserve to maintain the current reserve levels at (75%) for the 2006-07 school year.

**CONSENT AGENDA CONCLUDES**

**The Consent Agenda was moved by Mrs. Trinchitella, seconded by Mr. Ankier, carried unanimously with the exception of Items # 18.Q. and #18.S. (see page 10).**

19. RESIDENT COMMENTS  
Scheduled & Unscheduled

*Harvey Teplitsky* questioned Administrative matters in the Mahopac Central School District and suggested better communication between the district and the community, imperative to get school budgets passed. He stated that many of his concerns have already been answered this evening.

Dr. Reidy explained that, given the situation that the district was in at the end of the year, we could not afford to hire people. Under normal circumstances, we would certainly have conducted a search for a middle school administrator. Having qualified people on our staff, he explained that the district could save ½ million dollars by moving staff into administrative positions. President Cefaloni stated that these people are extremely qualified people and the board has every confidence in their appointments.

*Diane Belkevich* questioned the music teacher resignation and what will happen to MESCO and who will take her place. Dr. Reidy explained that Connie Rao will replace the teacher and that the program has been reinstated.

*Margaret Rogers* questioned how she could contact the Communications Committee.

Mr. Hines suggested that anyone see Mrs. Gilroy after the meeting and leave their e-mail address.

*Luisa Winogradoff*, LS PTO President, asked for clarification of the new Lakeview Principal and asked questions of the fee schedule.

Dr. Reidy responded that Mrs. Pontillo is the Principal and that the fee schedule includes all costs involved in building use.

*Jane Corace* asked how the community will be informed of the next meeting of the Communications Committee.

Mr. Hines explained that this committee meeting, as well as all others, is advertised on the District's Website, Channel 22; all Building postings; sent to the press and message to the Key Communicators.

19. RESIDENTS COMMENTS - continued

*Suzie McDonough* reiterated that the district needs a good public relations person and would like to know what the board is doing to get the budget passed next year. She's hearing very disturbing comments from young parents who are not supporting the budget until their children are in the secondary level. She suggested that we bring the campaign letters to all back-to-school nights.

Mr. Ankier stated that next year there will be no Coalition and young parents should be reminded that the High School students are the role models for our young people.

Mrs. Swift attended some coffee cloche meetings and responded to them that we live in a community and everything we do is for all our children. The cycle being that someone before her raised money and now her children are reaping the benefits and we must remind all that this is part of our community.

Dr. Reidy stated that the district did tremendous work last year, holding eleven public budget forums, and this year we will do more with long range planning. Youth development is absolutely critical for our students and we can't afford to lose this balance in our schools. In response to young parents, it would be helpful to remind them that if the next generation takes the same attitude when their children are in this position, their children will suffer.

President Cefaloni stated that the community needs to help; to speak to people to help the school board; next year the Coalition will not be in place and we need to enlist your help to speak to the young people to come here and get facts.

Mrs. Trinchitella added that it is a very dangerous mindset for parents to not want to vote for the school budget.

*Elsa Petix* stated that if one half of the parents in our schools voted for the budget, we would not have this Coalition in existence this year and that the parents should save us.

Sandra Calvi-Muscente stated that we are in a very precarious situation and the board is very grateful for the Coalition; we will do what's best for our children and that this is a community effort. She felt that this is just a band aid for one year and we must worry about the children.

20. NEXT MEETING - September 12, 2006, Lakeview School

21. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:35 p.m., the board moved to executive session for the purpose of discussing a particular MTA negotiation matter and personnel issues.

**Moved by Mrs. Calvi-Muscente, seconded by Mr. Ankier, carried unanimously.**

At 11:10 p.m., the board returned to public session at which time the meeting was adjourned.

**Moved by Mrs. Trinchitella, seconded by Mrs. Fabiano, carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy A. Gilroy, District Clerk

Note: Attachments to Agenda Items that are **not** available on the District's Website, may be obtained and/or viewed at the Administration Office by calling 628-3415, ext. 350 or by e-mailing Dorothy Gilroy @ [Gilroyd@mahopac.k12.ny.us](mailto:Gilroyd@mahopac.k12.ny.us)