

**Bridgehampton School District**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education**  
**Revised-Minutes**

Date: November 26, 2007  
Meeting: Board of Education Workshop Meeting  
Present: James Walker, Elizabeth Kotz, Joseph Conti, Joseph Berhalter, Susan Hiscock,  
Carol Kalish, Rick Delano  
Dr. Dianne B. Youngblood, Superintendent, Mr. Jack Pryor, Principal, Michelle Romanosky

**I. ROUTINE MATTERS:**

- a) Call to Order by the President upon his/her having ascertained the presence of a Quorum and Roll Call at 7:03 PM
- b) **Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD approves the Proposed BOE Agenda, dated November 26, 2007.

Motion: Hiscock                      Seconded: Kalish                      Vote: 7-0

**II. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

- 1) Audit Committee Report – Mrs. Phyllis Davis, Chairperson of the Audit Committee presented a copy of the Audit Committee’s recommendations and a copy of the District’s Correction Action Plan for the Board to review and approve. Mrs. Davis shared that the Audit Committee responsibilities to meet with the auditor was to ensure that they had correctly interpreted the auditor’s findings and recommendations to rectify any significant deficiencies as well as other matters that negatively impact the District’s financial controls, systems and processes. They also had to meet with the Superintendent to review the District’s Correction Plan which she thought that all responses submitted were satisfactory. Mrs. Davis said that the Audit Committee had approved the report submitted by the Independent Auditor (CFC&D). Mrs. Davis said that it was now up to the Board to consider accepting or rejecting the Audit Committee’s recommendation to accept the audit and approve the District’s Correction Action Plan. The plan had to be submitted to the New York State Education Department no later than December 4, 2007. The Audit Committee recommended to the Board that managements provide monthly updates on the implementation of the requirements and to give written reports on the status of these items at the March 2008 Board Meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD approves the recommendation of the Audit Committee to give a monthly update from Management on the implementation of the requirements until they are fully operational and to give written reports on the status of these items at the March 2008 Board meeting.

Motion: Hiscock                      Seconded: Kalish                      Vote: 7-0

Public Relations Proposals – Mr. Conti reported that he received two proposals, one from Mullen & McCaffrey and one from Zimmerman and Edelson. Mr. Conti said that after speaking with Mullen and McCaffrey he recommended that the Board move to accept their proposal for the remainder of the 2007-08 school year. He added that the District already knew the work of Zimmerman Edelson, so why not try a new firm to see what they may have to offer.

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD accepts the proposal from Mullen and McCaffrey as Public Relations Firm at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 for the remainder of the 2007-08 school year, pending the development of a contract from our school attorney.

Motion: Walker                      Seconded: Kotz                      Vote: 7-0

- 2) Accounting Firm Proposals- Dr. Youngblood gave the Board a copy of the proposal submitted by Herzog & Little, CPA. The Proposal stated the services, terms, objectives and limitations they would provide. Deirdre Herzog, who is presently the District's treasurer is a certified public accountant and partner of Herzog & Little, would become the district's business accountant. The district will hire a new treasurer.

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD accepts the Proposal from Herzog & Little, CPA at a rate of \$175 per hour ( estimate of 170 required hours) at an annual fee of \$29,750. ( If less time is required, the fee will be adjusted accordingly).

- 3) Motion: Walker                      Seconded: Hiscock                      Vote: 7-0

### **FUTURE PROGRAM PLANNING**

- 1) Springs School District – Mr. Walker explained the realization of the Springs discussion and some of the history behind the collaboration. Mr. Walker said that at this point Springs School District still does not know where they are going and have not shared their plans. At this time Bridgehampton has discontinued research and feasibility studies.
- 2) Future Tuition Options – Board member Joe Berhalter presented to the Board his concept of phasing out the high school by tuitioning our students to districts of their choice. Prepared with a written summary and selections from a survey, Mr. Berhalter made his presentation and explained the he believed that this could all happen over a period of three years by phasing out one grade per year beginning with the ninth graders. He stated that his intent for bringing up the discussion was in the best interest of the students of Bridgehampton. Mr. Berhalter felt that the smallness of Bridgehampton High School did not prepare the students emotionally or socially for college. Extracurricular activities were limited due to the small size and there were not enough AP classes offered. The community members present at the meeting response to Mr. Berhalter's suggestion was completely opposite. The parents of several 8<sup>th</sup> graders said that they did not agree and they felt that their children were getting a great education at Bridgehampton School. They liked the fact that their children were in a small school setting. They had many opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities. Some at Bridgehampton and other sports shared with Sag Harbor or East Hampton Schools. Mrs. Kotz, the Vice Board President shared that there were a lot of opportunities for the students at Bridgehampton and the Board was working very hard at being creative at implementing even more. She added that the Dowling College Collaboration was a big step that the District had taken to enhance such things like the curriculum that is being offered in the district. She added that she felt that Bridgehampton had a great future. Mrs. Hochstedler and other parents shared that they did not want to worry about having to think about sending their children to another district and they wanted their children to remain at Bridgehampton to graduate. Mrs. DeGroot, a parent of four children shared her experience of her concerns when she first came to Bridgehampton School and because of all the negative talk in the community about the school, she thought she was doing the wrong thing by bringing her children to Bridgehampton School.



**The Board will meet on Wednesday, November 28, 2007 morning at 8:00 AM for a Special Meeting.**

**(Susan Hiscock returned to the meeting at 9:05)**

**Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Bridgehampton UFSD convenes into an executive session to discuss Personnel at 9:05 p.m.

Motion: Hiscock                      Seconded: Kalish                      Vote: 7-0

**Resolved** that the Board of Education resumes back into public session at 9:55 p.m.

Motion: Hiscock                      Seconded: Kalish                      Vote: 7-0

**Resolved** that the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Motion: Hiscock                      Seconded: Kalish                      Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Crews-Manigo, District Clerk

Revised: December 12, 2007